

Organization Attributes Sheet: South Pacific Cartel

Author: Guillermo Vazquez del Mercado

Review: Phil Williams

A. When the organization was formed + brief history
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The organization is the strongest splinter of what used to be called the Beltran Leyva Organization which was once part of The Federation, but seceded in 2008 after the arrest of Alfredo.¹• It is headed by Hector Beltran Leyva (AKA: “El H”) who is the only Beltran Leyva brother who is still performing criminal activities (Arturo AKA: “El Barbas” was killed in December 2009 in operation headed by the Mexican Navy that attempted to arrest him and Alfredo AKA: “El Mochomo” was arrested in January 2008)• It gained relevance after the arrests of Sergio Villareal Barragan (AKA: “El Grande”) and Edgar Valdez Villarreal (AKA: “La Barbie”), who were disputing the leadership of the organization after Arturo Beltran was killed. The arrests made it easier for Hector to rebuild the organization without his leadership being challenged and routes being disputed any longer.²• This organization is also known for the reckless violence their hit man groups (teenagers and under age boys) generate in those areas under its control or disputed by other organizations.
B. Types of illegal activities engaged in,
a. In general
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The organization’s recent creation makes it difficult to determine precisely what their illicit activities are, but it can be presumed that it is still engaging in the activities familiar to the Beltran Leyva Organization: smuggling cocaine, marijuana and heroin, as well as people trafficking, money laundering, extortion, kidnapping, contract hits and arms trafficking.³
b. <i>Specific detail: types of illicit trafficking activities engaged in</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found beyond the above.
C. Scope and Size
a. Estimated size of network and membership
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.
b. Countries / regions group is known to have operated in. (i.e. the group’s operating area)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acapulco in the State of Guerrero, Morelos State and Sonora State.
D. Leader Characteristics
a. Who is/are the leader(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hector Beltran Leyva (AKA: “El H” or “El Ingeniero”).⁴• Francisco Hernandez Garcia (AKA: “El Panchillo”).⁵• Jesus Radilla (AKA: “El Negro”) (arrested May 25th, 2011).⁶• Mario Miguel Reyna Ortega (AKA: “El Chistin”).⁷
b. Leadership timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.
c. Leadership style (autocratic, diffuse, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Now that his brothers are either dead or in jail, and those who disputed his leadership have also been arrested, Hector runs this organization with the aid of operatives like “El Panchillo” and hit men leaders as “El Negro”.⁸• Francisco Hernandez, who is the only other high-ranking former member of the Beltran Leyva Organization still operating, focuses on mediating alliances with the Juarez and Gulf organizations to continue operations and contain Los Zetas.⁹

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.

All research conducted according to the project manual.

- Jesus Radilla and Mario Miguel Reyna are both in charge of leading hit man squads consisting mainly of teenagers and underage boys who are coerced into committing murders to enforce agreements and defend smuggling routes and territories.¹⁰

E. Organizational Structure

a. Topology (cellular, hierarchical, etc.)

- The organization is layered, with groups, cells, and sections that fulfill certain duties in a more horizontal operational scheme and with compartmentalized information. This operational structure allows independent actions without affecting the rest of its operation.¹¹

b. Membership – is there formal or informal membership in the organization or network? What role do informal or nonmembers play in trafficking and other criminal activities?

- Information not found.

c. Command and Control (decentralized or centralized)

- Centralized.

F. Resources

a. Financial

- Information not found.

b. Human

- This organization relies heavily on recruiting teenagers who are trained to be violent and reckless. They are paid between \$2,500 and \$3,000 to kill enemies of the organization, but will kill innocent people as well just to get paid.¹²

c. Logistical

i. Forgery, safe-houses, etc.

- The group is known to have safe houses through its territory for logistics and to torture and kill enemies.

ii. Key routes

- Information not found.

d. Transportation

i. Land

- Information not found.

ii. Sea

- Information not found.

iii. Air

- Information not found.

iv. Intermodal container

- Information not found.

G. Trafficking Methods and Modalities

a. Corruption

- Given that the Beltran Leyva Organization was among the most deeply entrenched in all levels of the country's police forces, it can be presumed that this organization is relying on some of the same corruption structures to operate.¹³

b. Concealment

- Information not found.

c. Deception

- Information not found.

d. Circumvention (avoiding border entry points)

- Information not found.

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.
All research conducted according to the project manual.

H. Prior / Existing Relationships	
a.	Other criminal organizations (cooperative and conflictual) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The restructuring process this organization is going through requires forging alliances with other organizations. To do so, Hector Beltran is relying on Francisco Hernandez to mediate support from the Juarez and Gulf organizations and on Jesus Radilla and Mario Reyna to repel attacks from other organizations such as La Familia Michoacana or its successors.
b.	Corrupt politicians, law enforcement , political parties and other state entities, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The organization is known to rely on local police forces to get information about federal operations being done in its territory. In May the Chief of Police of the City of Cuernavaca was detained by the army amid allegations that he had provided this organization with information regarding federal law enforcement activities in exchange for \$1,200 a month.¹⁴
c.	<i>Specific detail: Any alliances / past dealings with terrorist groups.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> So far no indication has been found that this organization has had a connection with a terrorist organization
I. Ideological / Ethnic / Familial Orientation (if any)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
J. Technical Sophistication	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
K. Penchant for Innovation	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
L. Activities in United States	
a.	Includes both criminal and non-criminal activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
b.	<i>Specific detail: trafficking activities ; logistical activities</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
c.	Linkages with US groups <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Market/transaction links <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found. Stable supplier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found. Franchise arrangement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found. HQ and Branch office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
M. Evaluations	
a.	Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The corruption and violent enforcement methods that typified the Beltran Leyva Organization are an asset for this organization as it seeks to rebuild.
b.	Weaknesses and vulnerabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The violent behavior the organization is using to enforce its activities without much law enforcement response, might encourage riskier activities.
c.	Additional insights <ul style="list-style-type: none">
Other Notes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.
All research conducted according to the project manual.

¹ Beltran Leyva Organization, Insightcrime, <http://insightcrime.org/criminal-groups/mexico/beltran-leyva-org/item/81-beltran-leyva-organization>.

² Medellin, Jorge Alejandro, "Mexico: Beltran Leyva Cartel Regroups After Arrest of 'El Grande'", (Internet Version-WWW in Spanish), September 19th 2010, OSC: FEA20101006010085

³ EFE, "Federal Police Arrests Nine Beltran Leyva Cartel Members" (Internet Version-WWW in Spanish), June 29th, 2010, OSC: LAP20100629071003

⁴ According to the Department of State, he is charged in a 2004 indictment in the District of Columbia and is also indicted out of the Eastern District of New York in 2009. Narcotics Rewards Program: Hector Beltran Leyva, Department of State, <http://www.state.gov/p/inl/narc/rewards/133311.htm>

⁵ Medellin, Op Cit,

⁶ Borderlandbeat, "Julio de Jesus Radilla, "El Negro", arrested in killing of Poet's son, Mexican police say", May 25th 2011, <http://www.borderlandbeat.com/2011/05/jesus-de-jesus-radilla-el-negro.html>

⁷ El Universal TV, "Los Dominios del Negro Radilla", <http://www.eluniversaltv.com.mx/detalle.php?d=22986> , April 17th, 2011

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Medellin, Op Cit.

¹⁰ "Los Dominios del Negro Radilla" Op Cit

¹¹ Medellin, Op Cit.

¹² "El Ponchis y sus Fuertes declaraciones", December 3rd, 2010, <http://www.metatube.com/en/videos/43195/El-Ponchis-y-sus-fuertes-declaraciones/>

¹³ Medellin, Op Cit.

¹⁴ Monroy, David, "Jefe de la policía de Cuernavaca daba pitazo a Cartel del Pacífico Sur", Milenio Diario, May 19th, 2011, <http://www.milenio.com/node/722644>