1. SUMMARY: NEW FEDERAL COMMISSIONER FOR JUAREZ MURDERS HAS LIMITED POWERS AND IS UNDERFUNDED. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) AT A BREAKFAST MEETING IN EARLY DECEMBER WITH POLOFF AND WHA/MEX DESK OFFICER, THE NEW FEDERAL COMMISSIONER FOR THE CIUDAD JUAREZ MURDERS, GUADALUPE MORFIN, GAVE A CANDID ACCOUNT OF HER VIEWS. MORFIN SAID SHE HAS BEEN ASKED BY SECRETARIO DE GOBERNACION SANTIAGO CREEL TO PRODUCE BY JANUARY 15 YET ANOTHER REPORT ON THE MURDERS AND DISAPPEARANCES. SHE HAS A STAFF OF 12, BUT NOT ENOUGH COMPUTERS OR COPIERS, AND HER TELEPHONE LINES WERE NOT WORKING PROPERLY. IT IS APPARENT THAT HER OFFICE IS UNDERFUNDED. SHE HINTED THAT ANY ASSISTANCE USG COULD PROVIDE BY WAY OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT WOULD BE WELCOME. OTHER THAN PRODUCING A REPORT, HER RESPONSIBILITIES REMAIN UNCLEAR. SHE WILL PROBABLY CONCENTRATE ON DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN JUAREZ TO ENHANCE WOMEN'S STATUS, AND MAY FOCUS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROJECTS.

3. (C)

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
6. (C) COMMENT: MORFIN CUTS A FINE PRESENCE. NOT ONLY IS SHE PERSONABLE, SHE IS ALSO ARTICULATE AND EVIDENTLY A SEASONED PROFESSIONAL.

GARZA

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