



## ***INFLUENCE OPERATIONS (IO)***

***Special Warfare Techniques Adapted for Use by the  
Sinaloa Cartel Teams***

## **On Intelligence Failures (Cognitive Biases) and Preposterous Truths**

The senior military intelligence officer in Vietnam at the time of the Tet offensive later declared, "Even had I known exactly what was to take place, it was so preposterous that I probably would have been unable to sell it." <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Jack Shulimson, TET—1968 (New York: Bantam Books) p. 45. See also Don Oberdorfer, ret! (New York: Da Capo Press, 1984) pp. 117–121

## The Sinaloa Cartel Teams Embrace Innovative Techniques

### The Perfect Crime

What I am starting to detail will be Netflix Narcos the Next Generation because all you watching that show are watching what occurred decades ago.

The Sinaloa Cartel which emerged out of the Guadalajara Cartel and has become one of, if not, the world's most powerful transnational organized crime groups in history, due in part to its embrace of innovative techniques. Unlike one of the mantras of the United States Marine Corps, the Sinaloa Cartel does not adapt to survive, it adapts and overcomes to lead so it can flourish in a highly competitive space.

This article's primary purpose is to inform readers that the cartel teams are using cognitive anchors and triggers to support an influence (intimidation) campaign. The cartel has gone all-in information warfare and integrated the weaponization of everything into their practices.

This article serves as a preview to several articles which will demonstrate exactly what the Sinaloa cartel teams are doing and how they are doing it.<sup>2</sup> I will do it using original content demonstrating a influence campaign composed of multiple operations and the subdomain of cognitive warfare.<sup>3</sup>

Eventually, I will show you the Sinaloa cartel teams use of other innovative methods to dominate the battlespace in its quest to maintain global dominance to increase market share and spread its influence.<sup>4</sup> This includes the use of memes to communicate and harass cartel targets as well as the use of innovative development group like tools used in conjunction with widely known tools and techniques that in combination represent the present and future of information

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<sup>2</sup> My reference to the Sinaloa teams is a take-off of the reference to US Navy SEAL teams which are known as "The Teams." This is because I can identify SEAL teams members involved with Sinaloa Cartel operations and witnessed it first-hand. The Sinaloa Teams includes influence operations professionals (Psychological Warfare, Cyber Warfare (hackers) and Electronic Warfare) along with human intelligence professionals, drone pilots, others trained in clandestine beach insertions, and other intelligence functions.

<sup>3</sup> PsyOp the primary driver behind an influence operation is a force multiplier.



warfare. These tools allow for a carefully synchronized information warfare campaign between the digital, physical, and cognitive spaces.

They have established a network of assets capable of carrying out influence operations not only targeting individuals but groups like law enforcement agencies.

### **The Sinaloa Cartel Teams Influence Campaign: *Pulling a Gallagher***

#### **Influence Operation and Cognitive Warfare**

It is well established albeit relatively unknown in most circles that the Sinaloa cartel and other cartels engage in information operations.<sup>5</sup> To understand an influence operation or a cognitive operation specific to an individual target, you need to put yourself into the shoes and mind of the individual target and see the “battlefield” as it has been prepared for the target by the teams.

The ASU Threatcasting Lab’s report states this very clearly:

“Conversely, in the 21st century, the global population’s exponential adoption of powerful information technologies is causing cognitive effects that force military thinkers to approach conflict using a quantum perspective in which multiple states of conflict exist simultaneously from interactions across the digital, cognitive, and physical domains.

To comprehend the future [present] of conflict, it is necessary to move from a binary or Newtonian way of thinking and adopt Quantum state approaches where the nation can be both at war and at peace at the same time. **The state of war or peace depends upon the observer, the circumstances, and context under which observations are made.”**<sup>6</sup>

If you do not understand the context, timing, frequency from the viewpoint of the observer then the battlefield (crime scene) otherwise appears to be completely harmless. If this cannot be accomplished by a member of law enforcement, then it will be basically impossible to detect an influence operation and nearly impossible to develop a case involving such charges as intimidation, threats, stalking, harassment, and obstruction of justice charges specific to the use of influence operations.

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<sup>5</sup> [The Mexican Cartels' employment of Inform and Influence Activities \(IIA\) as tools of asymmetrical warfare | IEEE Conference Publication](#)

<sup>6</sup> Information Warfare and the Future of Conflict. (2019) The ASU Threatcasting Lab. Technical Report by Brian David Johnson, Alida Draudt, Jason C. Brown, Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Ross, Ph.D. Threatcasting Workshop hosted at Arizona State University produced by Cyndi Coon. Sponsored by United States Army Cyber Institute at West Point and ASU School for the future of innovation in Society and Applied research. (These folks are on point).

## The Influence Operation / Cognitive Warfare Teams

The Sinaloa Cartel's embrace of innovative techniques includes the adoption of information warfare. What is information warfare: in short it is comprised of cyber warfare (hackers), electronic warfare professionals and psychological warfare professionals (social engineering, intimidation, plausible deniability built into operations, and non-kinetic actions) serve as the core.<sup>789101112131415</sup>

The Sinaloa Teams are employing modern and not widely known unconventional warfare techniques against individuals like witnesses, groups (like federal law enforcement) and states like the United States. They use these techniques to harass and intimidate individual cartel targets and ensure their agenda.

If you are unfamiliar with how influence operations. You should immerse yourself in the basics of how these are conducted on a practical level. Not much is out in the public domain for how-to-guides, but I am drafting one so you can understand.<sup>16</sup>

I will be releasing an updated overview on influence operations are conducted, why they are conducted, the tools used, and why this is the present and future of modern warfare. So, this current document is a bit like putting the cart before the horse, if you do not have a clear understanding of influence operations and how they are conducted. Sinaloa Teams shape the battlefield and outcomes by using these techniques to obstruct justice.

These cognitive operations include disinformation and discredit campaigns, deception, and steering individual targets and groups. To support and carry out these operations they engaged in intelligence-gathering operations or target surveillance in the digital space. This is supplemented with traditional HUMINT guide campaign development and adjustments.<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> [NATO countering Cognitive Warfare](#)

<sup>8</sup> NATO affiliated [Innovation Hub](#), Cognitive Warfare: Complexity and Simplicity

<sup>9</sup> NATO affiliated Innovation Hub's [The Cognitive Warfare Concept](#)

<sup>10</sup> NATO affiliated Innovation Hub's [Cognitive Warfare An Attack on Truth and Thought](#)

<sup>11</sup> See Martin C. Libicki's now mostly dated but still has useful information. What are [Information Operations](#).

<sup>12</sup> Special Operation Command [4<sup>th</sup> Psychological Operations Group](#)

<sup>13</sup> [NATO Cognitive Warfare a Battle for the Brain](#)

<sup>14</sup> [https://www.doctrine.af.mil/Portals/61/documents/AFDP\\_3-13/3-13-AFDP-INFO-OPS.pdf](https://www.doctrine.af.mil/Portals/61/documents/AFDP_3-13/3-13-AFDP-INFO-OPS.pdf)

<sup>15</sup> <https://jamestown.org/program/cognitive-domain-operations-the-plas-new-holistic-concept-for-influence-operations/>

<sup>16</sup> Influence Operations: A Practical Guide to the Sinaloa Teams tactics and tools (forthcoming).

<sup>17</sup> Human Intelligence (HUMINT) is intelligence gathered by means of interpersonal contact, a category of intelligence derived from information collected and provided by human sources. (NATO Glossary of Terms).

## The Goals of an Influence Operation (IO) <sup>18</sup>

No.	Goal	Cartel Teams Goals
1	Directed towards specific targets including individuals, specific groups, or the general public.	Targeted Witnesses and Law Enforcement
2	Use the most effective information channels to reach the targets. <i>The most effective medium is the medium that reaches the target.</i>	If targets walk use items on street. If drives vehicle, then (RIAB) and fake plates and bumper stickers etc.
3	Understand targets characteristics, strengths and weaknesses, attitudes and beliefs that affect their willingness to be influenced	Target analysis via (HUMINT) and data exfiltration
4	Are designed to influence targets before they decide to engage in “negative” or “unwanted” behaviors (from the attackers’ perspective)	Prevent contacting press, FBI, Europol, Interpol etc. Break target, discredit target <sup>19</sup> Discredit witness to prevent task force action.
5	Use messages whose content, format, cognitive, and emotions appeal will most resonate with the targets conscious and subconscious.	See Target Analysis

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<sup>18</sup> Use messages whose content, format, cognitive, and emotions appeal will most resonate with the targets conscious and subconscious.

<sup>19</sup> The influence operations campaign goals were stated in the July 2020 threat placed on my vehicle when I was a member of law enforcement. **“Our groups shame, harass, litigate, sue [...] beat people to death with their bare hands or concealed weapons. They conduct home-invasion robberies and takeover robberies of businesses. They are paid to rape the daughters, wives, girlfriends, and mistresses of any powerful men (you can see some of the implied threats online directed at people close to me) who are on our Enemies list to create fear and force obedience from the men. “We have ways of hurting you that you know nothing of and cannot even imagine (influence operation techniques). Always remember that anybody can be got. Do not call the news agencies, the police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation [...] because we watch everyone, we own everyone, and we give orders to all of them backed up by all the steps we can take against them that you have been reading about here and by additional steps. [...] Do not tell anyone what you read here because we will tell everyone that you wrote this, and you are mentally ill (discredit operation is component of an influence operation) and you will be institutionalized for life. There is no escape.”**

An influence operation constructed as I will describe, is the epitome of working in plain sight which is what smugglers do all the time (the cartel's core business) which is why one would see this has so much appeal for implementation by the cartel teams.<sup>20</sup>

## Using Cognitive Anchors in the Influence Operation

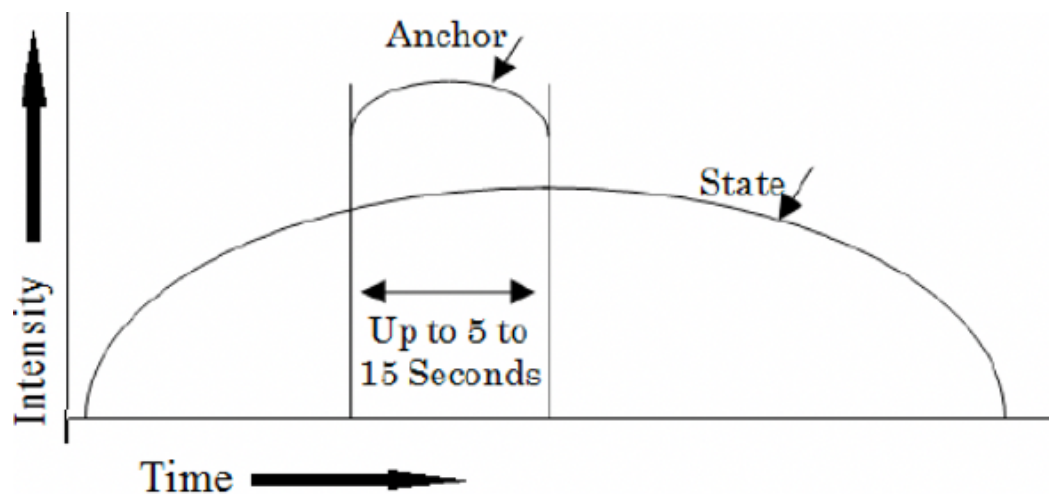
### *Establishing the Cognitive Anchor*

Use Triggers and Anchors to create behavior or emotional change.

- An anchor is created when an emotional state is linked to an object, person, sound, smell, place, color, etc. (this is the weaponization of everything).
- A Trigger (event) then invokes an (Anchor) (emotional state) to influence cognitive changes in the Target.

Example: The use of a story/meme to create a desired emotional state (angry, happy, fear) then subject the person to stimulus until the emotion becomes linked/anchored to it.

Whatever event/object the person was exposed to during the anchoring process becomes a trigger for that emotion.



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<sup>20</sup> This is the present and future of warfare. Some of cartel leadership has institutional memory like the El Azul clan undoubtedly. El Azul was imprisoned after the torture and murder of Kiki Camarena. Non-kinetic means seem to have a logical appeal and are consistent with Sinaloa policy of keep violence to a minimum in the United States.

## **The Weaponization of Everything**

One can turn anything or any image into a cognitive anchor: a sound, person, smell, place, color, etc. The Sinaloa cartel teams have utilized the full range weaponizing everything you can think of to harass and intimidate targets.<sup>21</sup> A cough, a song, a music verse, and colors like red.

I am only going to focus on the use of clothing and accessories and establishing the related brand, logo or cartoon character as a cognitive anchor tied to fear. The goal is to create fear as that is seemingly the strongest emotion and the one the cartel teams want individual targets to feel. If you can place a target in a constant state of fear, you are going to influence the targets thinking, physiology and actions.

The goal of the cartel teams is to keep targets scared 24/7 and to put them in state of wherein it is difficult to engage in critical thinking or function with the goal of breaking the target they attempt to push a discredit information disinformation while pursuing the actual attempt to break a target. And if the target attempt to report it, the target is placed in the kook category. This is a bit like the snake eating its tail or a catch 22. I believe in prison it is known as a cross.

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<sup>21</sup> Mark Galeotti [The Weaponisation of Everything: A Field Guide to the New Way of War, 2022](#)



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<sup>22</sup> Hezbollah use of social services as a source of power found at <https://jsoupublic.socom.mil>. See Sinaloa Cartel use of social services during the pandemic. The Sinaloa cartel teams (Bloods +) use of social services (clothing donations to perpetrate an influence operation (information warfare) - intimidation operation. Give clothes to refugee centers (clothing banks) all tied to cognitive anchors to establish triggers. These are preparation of the environment activities. See Boudry SEM Baz clothing donations and Stadt Berlin Mission clothing donations specific to identified cognitive anchors.

Some Examples of Established Cognitive Anchors Used by Cartel Teams



***From Left to Right (Top to Bottom). Cognitive Anchors and Triggers.***

***These are the triggers and anchors initially used.***

- 1. Chicago Bulls is typical Blood gang wear.*
- 2. Death Row Records: Founding CEO associated with Compton Mob Pirus.*
- 3. Boston Red Sox (Bloods) seem to like this hat. (B) is for Bloods*
- 4. Compton (Brompton) where Bloods / Pirus originated and original sets involved*
- 5. Los Angeles Lakers. They pulled a lot of use out of this one in Europe. LA reference and the Lakers, I think, used to be located in Inglewood.*
- 6. LA hat or Los Angeles references becomes a reference to the Los Angeles crews.*

Los Angeles



***From Left to Right (Top to Bottom). Cognitive Anchors and Triggers***

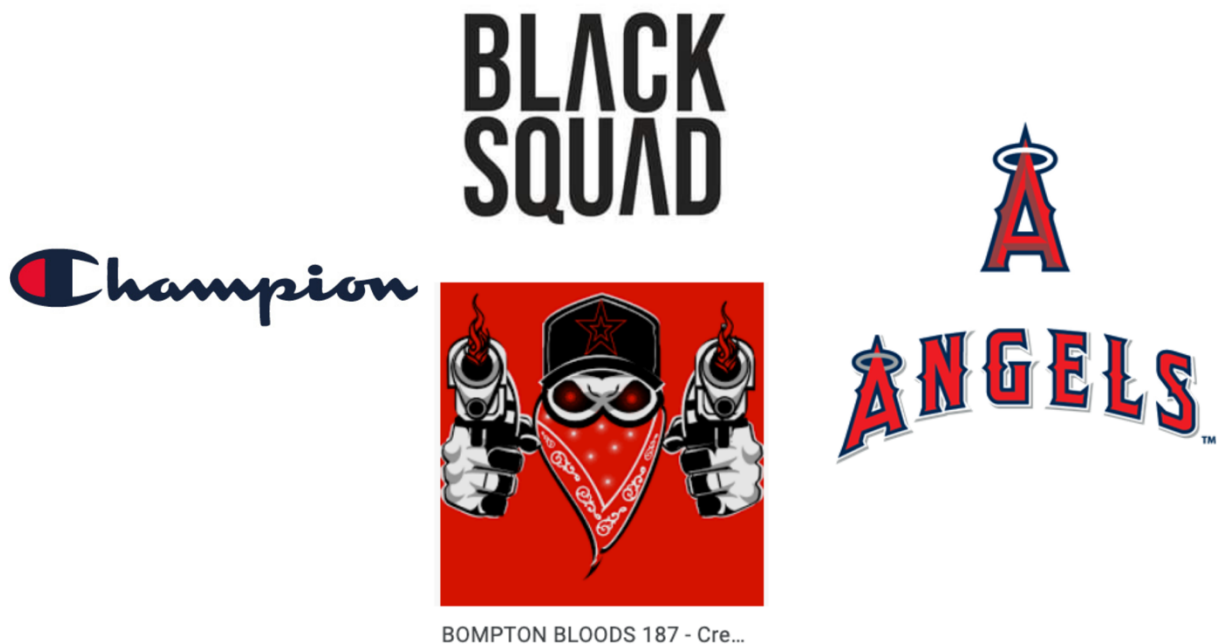
7. *Los Angeles is the originating city of the Bloods and Pirus*
8. *Dracula (Vampire) Bloods making the Blood gang sign with fingers*
9. *Mickey Mouses' hands making the Blood gang sign*
10. *The 5-point Pentagram is a typical Blood emblem or 5-pointed crown<sup>23 24</sup>*
11. *Mickey mouse and other cartoon characters are adopted by the Bloods*

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<sup>23</sup> [Blood Street Gang Intelligence Report](#) (very much outdated) and [Wikipedia Bloods](#). You read the report and start asking, how the Bloods became so adept at counterintelligence, the use of spyware, and got in the ransomware and influence operations. Not so complicated.

<sup>24</sup> Bloods members identify themselves through various indicators, such as colors, clothing, symbols, tattoos, jewelry, graffiti, language, and hand signs. The Bloods' gang color is red. They like to wear sports clothing, including jackets that show their gang color. The most commonly used Bloods symbols include the number "5", the five-pointed star, and the five-pointed crown. These symbols are meant to show the Bloods' affiliation with the [People Nation](#), a large coalition of affiliates created to protect alliance members in federal and state prison. These symbols may be seen in the tattoos, jewelry, and clothing gang members wear as well as the gang graffiti with which Bloods mark their territory. Such graffiti can include gang names, nicknames, declaration of loyalty, threats against rival gangs, or descriptions of criminal acts in which the gang has been involved. Standard poisoning-the-well tactics. This has the added advantage of a large multiplier effect to create cartel presence without having cartel participants or even actively participating participants.





***From Left to Right (Top to Bottom). Cognitive Anchors and Triggers***

12. *Champion refers to Inglewood nickname “City of Champions,” which is a Blood /Piru town adjacent to Los Angeles and adjacent LAX airport.<sup>25</sup>*
13. *Black Squad is a clothing company and has been coopted to refer to Bloods (Pirus) being on the scene.*
14. *Angels (Anaheim Angeles) in Southern California whose clothing some Bloods wear. Angels also refers to Los Angeles the City of Angels.*
15. *Blood imagery shows a Blood figure with the Blood 5-pointed star, red bandana out for murder (187). The red bandana is a well-known Blood anchor / trigger. Bompton refers to Compton.<sup>26</sup>*

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<sup>25</sup> [City of Inglewood](#)

<sup>26</sup> [Facebook Blood PIRU 187 Homepage](#)



16. *United States Navy SEAL Team 6 Unofficial Logo*
17. *United States Flag a reference to the United States military forces*
18. *Anchor is another reference to the United States Navy*<sup>27</sup>
19. *Uncle Sam is a reference to the United States government*
20. *Camouflage is a reference to the United States military*

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<sup>27</sup> August 1, 2022, at approximately 13:45, I walk out of the apartment to the lunchroom downstairs and cross paths with a dozen people. A Russian woman is standing with a bag with a big anchor at the bottom of the stairs as I go back up. This is how it works everyday with all these anchors. However, the flood seems to have diminished after I started working on this document about two weeks ago. A ships anchor was listed as a trigger about two months ago, when I started a version of this document.



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21. Team Kuku a clothing company reference to me (Blood insult) and fear mongering to reemphasize their attempt to discredit me. Like I am a kook.
22. Camp David reference the presidential retreat. This is meant to communicate the US government is corrupted. It is not a great anchor for reasons I will explain later, but they like to use it because it is widely sold and bolsters the plausible deniability aspect. There are obviously corrupt elements of government involved with the cartel teams.
23. 187 is the California Penal Code Section for murder and known as a murder threat or reference to homicide/murder.
24. Ghetto Sport with a quasi-look alike USA flag. Ghetto Sport refers to the Bloods intimidation operation like Black Squad

## ***Establishing Cognitive Anchors and Triggers***

The Sinaloa teams establish a cognitive anchor. A general example, for a single day in (Germany), the cartel target (the witness) is surrounded in multiple locations by individuals wearing Los Angeles Lakers shirts. At first perhaps its men like a group of Africans (likely Nigerians) but they have a diverse team and as you will see children are used.

By way of another example, with spyware on target devices this is very easy to do. The cartel teams see the target has been working on Blood symbology like Mikey Mouse and this anchors ties to PIRU 187 threats. So, when the target steps out of his apartment the crew orchestrating the intimidation campaign have a guy walk by him with a Mickey Mouse hat. Literally right when he walks down the stairs to his building (and still is in the interior). Next the cartel target goes into a lunchroom downstairs of 10 people and there is a man with a Mickey Mouse sweatshirt.

The messengers are one -off proxy who has no discoverable attachments to an OCG. One might have absolutely no knowledge. Rather they were a recipient of a piece of clothing provided via the OCGs - “benevolent” donations to the Stadt Mission or Boudry SEM BAZ (as was the case in Switzerland). However, the one who walks by the target right as he exits his apartment in a Mickey Mouse hat could very well be a knowing participant given the timing. This is a common tactic used by these crews.

Next the targets sits down to eat lunch and a few people on the street walk by the window to the exterior street where he sits. A dark-skinned man with a white woman and toddler in a Minnie Mouse shirt stops at his windows. The toddler stares at him. The cognitive anchor (s) has been established and is now a trigger delivered by an unwitting toddler put in motion.

The above is the move from the digital space (Mickey mouse and Blood symbology research, to the physical space (a guy in a hat, another in a sweatshirt then a toddler) to the cognitive battlefield (evoking fear now every time the trigger is seen no matter who delivers it).<sup>28</sup>

The establishment of the cognitive anchor took a few instances of exposure (supplemented with demonstrating the attack team has been monitoring the targets online work). The trigger all of a few instances of exposure. When the target leaves his home and is on the street and a little child who has nothing do with the cartel is wearing the trigger like a Mickey Mouse (or Minnie Mouse) shirt the cartel intimidation teams enjoy the effects of this force multiplier. The teams have effectively weaponized something that has in the case of Mickey Mouse meant to

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<sup>28</sup> Information Warfare and the Future of Conflict. The ASU Threatcasting Lab. Technical Report by Brian David Johnson, Alida Draudt, Jason C. Brown, Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Ross, Ph.D. From 2019 Threatcasting Workshop hosted at Arizona State University produced by Cyndi Coon. Sponsored by United States Army Cyber Institute at West Point and ASU School for the future of innovation in Society and Applied research. (These folks are on point).

spread joy now spreads fear. In doing so, and using children, the Pirus have essentially created their own children of the corn.<sup>29</sup>

### ***Confirmation the Cognitive Anchor Has Been Accepted***

To confirm the trigger has been accepted, they surveil the target. This process repeats as necessary until the team identifies the target anchor has been accepted.

Perhaps the observation by a cartel associate (halcones) like a Nigerian street crew or a teenager (could be anyone female or male of any background) that the target has now started photographing the individuals surrounding him in Los Angeles Lakers shirts or Mickey Mouse shirts whatever the trigger is they are attempting to establish. After confirmation, they know the cognitive anchor is fixed and make liberal use of it.

### ***A Force Multiplier***

Napoleon is well known for his comment, "The moral is to the physical as three to one." [6] Former United States Secretary of State and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Colin Powell has said: "Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier." Morale, training, and ethos have long been known to result in disproportionate effects on the battlefield.

Psychological warfare can target the morale, politics, and values of enemy soldiers and their supporters to effectively neutralize them in a conflict.

Meaning anyone wearing the Los Angeles Lakers gear becomes part of the Sinaloa cartel's team's campaign multiplier effect.<sup>30</sup> The Laker's fan in Germany unwittingly becomes a cognitive anchor or trigger of fear for the targeted witness, or a Minnie Mouse toddler who has no part in the cartel games -eliciting fear in the target that the cartel's OCG is omnipresent.<sup>31</sup>

### ***Social Engineering the Target to Be a Participant of His Own Discredit Narrative***

If the target was willing to act and report to law enforcement, he could find himself in a difficult situation if he accidentally fingered one of these unwitting participants to the influence operation.

This is part of the multi-fold purpose of an influence operation: get the target into a state of fear, keep the target there which impacts the target's cognitive functioning and pushes them to

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<sup>29</sup> This is a reference to a Steven King movie, Children of the Corn.

<sup>30</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Force\\_multiplication](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Force_multiplication)

<sup>31</sup> In part this principal of hiding in the pack is somewhat the same principal as using legitimate of vehicles within North American nationwide trucking fleets of Knight, Estes (cross border) and Prime to hide within larger fleets in the United States.

act making a false report. This is the use of deception which is a primary element of influence operations.

### **Real Examples of Use of Cognitive Anchors, Triggers to Intimidate**

#### ***Berlin, Germany to Vienna, Austria***

***US shirt red masked Bandana worn by Black male sat facing me.***

This is an easy one to recognize because red and the Bloods (historically an African American Street gang (but today includes Asians and Mexicans) is well known with USA. This is from August 15, 2021, in Germany to Vienna and probably a fake Blood proxy (deception).

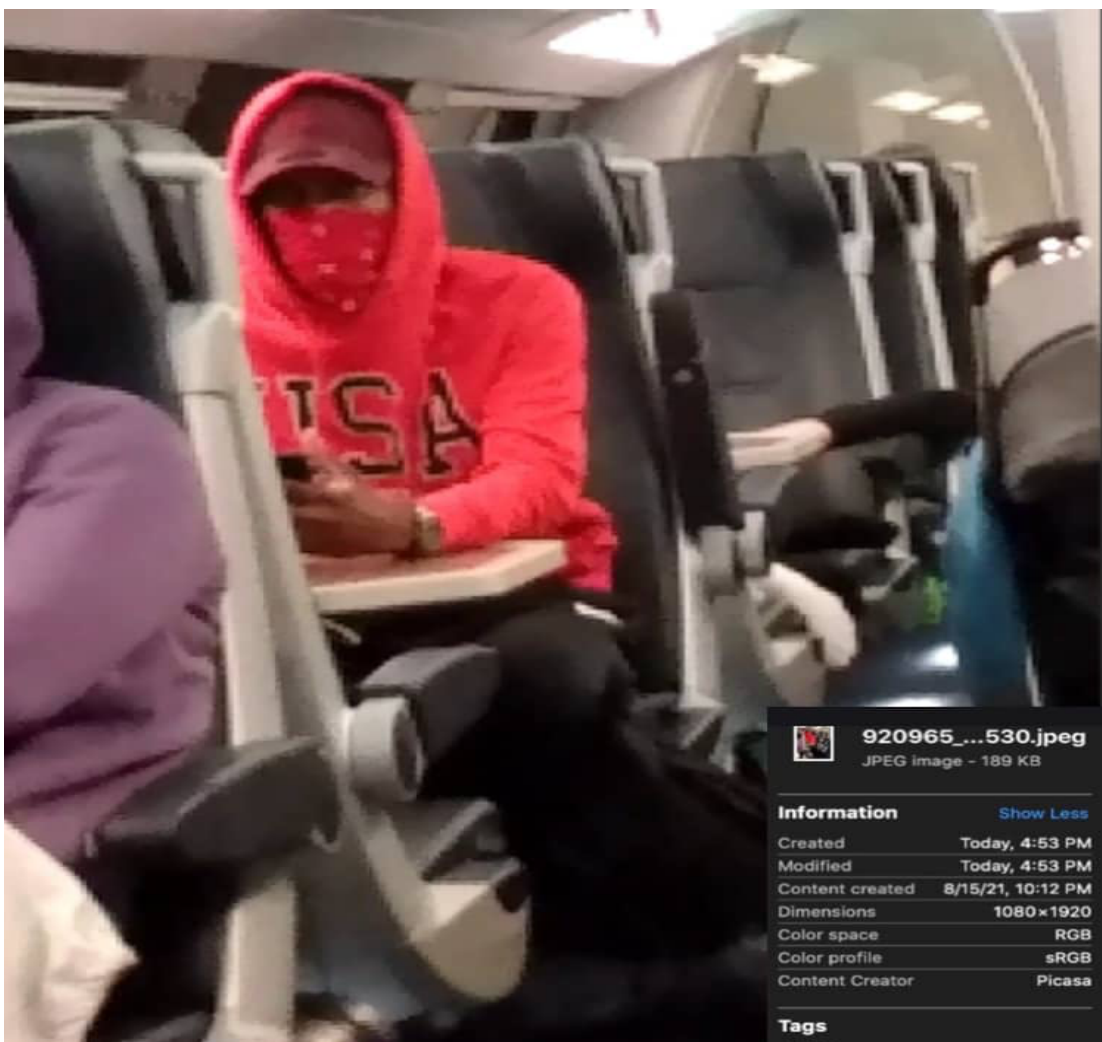


Photo: Christian Duke August 15, 2021



## From Zurich, Switzerland to Vienna Austria

### *“Los Angeles” and “New York” as Cognitive Anchors with Civil Family*

The next day after the Blood proxy in red on train into Vienna (one of many. When I arrived in Zurich I turned backed around and went back to Vienna. There were several Black men at the Zurich train station shadowing me.

I boarded a train to return to Vienna. Outside the car in the aisle, a white male around 20 years old in appearance stood in the way and next to me with a Biggie Smalls shirt (trigger) while I attempted to get into the train car from the aisle. Mob Piru out of Compton is thought to have been involved in the murder of Biggie Smalls and Mob Pirus seemingly were one of the sets involved at least in handling my intimidation. I have received so many murder threats at this point this is just the same like outside the Embassy a few weeks before.

This guy with his Biggie shirt is part of their game to establish constant presence using proxies to engage in intimidation. I have been down this road enough to know the nuances.

I sat down and the man in this photo, his wife and three or four other children were in the car with me. They were Afghani immigrants living in Vienna. The prior month the crew had already established “New York” as a cognitive anchor. I brushed it aside. Many people simply wear New York clothing and there was no way to discern. I was not interested in playing the game.

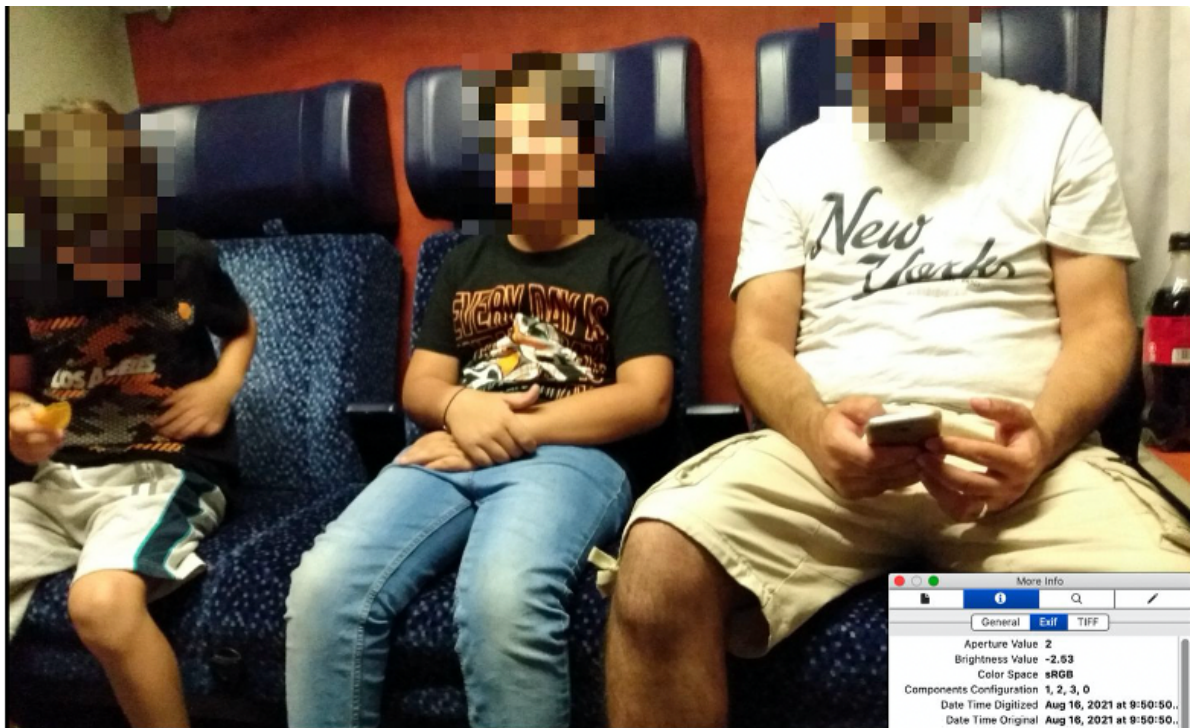


Figure 1. Photo: Christian Duke August 16, 2021, at 21:50 (night train). Zurich to Vienna.

The boys sitting in front of me in the photo above had on jackets on when they entered. At one point the mother announced that that boys should take off their jackets now. I thought to myself -here we go. Both took off their jackets and the younger one on the left had on a Los Angeles T-Shirt. I was so tired of the Blood games I never looked closely at the center boy's shirt. New York has been established at a cognitive anchor somewhere around Istanbul.

In a matter-of-fact tone, I said to the father sitting in front of me and his wife who sat to my left out of frame: "I see that you met my friends, and they gave you some shirts." I intentionally put it out there knowing one of the boys might say something. I asked so how does it work; do they simply come and give you t-shirts and pay your tickets? The boy sitting in across in the "Los Angeles" shirt replied, and looked at his dad and said, "He knows." The father said nothing. The boy took the queue from his father and said nothing more about it.

I said to the parents, I am a former law enforcement official being intimidated by members of organized crime and you are acting as their proxies. The father said nothing and then sat staring into his phone. After some time, the mother made small chat. I did not press the issue. The family was courtesy but for being coopted as billboards. These are the civility of terror tactics, and this is a billionaire's sponsored game to harass and intimidate a witness. Ride in a train for some hours with what they hope is a trigger to create fear to lead the target to having a breakdown. This was after all what was promised in the threat note delivered to my windshield while a member of law enforcement.

### **Background about Cartel Use of Children**

See these references below if you are unfamiliar of the cartel use of children as (halcones) lookouts, to kill, smuggle drugs, and now as intimidation messengers with cognitive triggers.<sup>32</sup>

### **Children Used as Lookouts**

In September 2021, the Network for Children's Rights in Mexico (REDIM is its Spanish acronym) released a new study estimating that 30,000 children were already working for the cartels by 2019 as lookouts, street-level drug dealers, or sicarios, and another 250,000 were at risk of being recruited.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> Newsweek article: [Mexican non-profit finds kids as young as 13 recruited to drug cartels some kill.](#)

<sup>33</sup> [REDIM study](#)



## Children Used to Smuggle



For smuggling see [children as decoys](#), [diversions](#) and here is an image of a 12 year old whose mother used her to [smuggle cocaine](#) (see image), and a [dead baby](#) in a Mexican prison or a woman who intentionally induced a miscarriage at 8 months to [use the baby's body to smuggle drugs](#). See [Children reportedly being used as drug mules in Eastern Cape](#).

Also see [Mother and daughter arrested in Bogota who tried to smuggle 20 kilos of cocaine](#). The cartel has a long history of using families including children and their babies accessories to deceive law enforcement.<sup>3435</sup>

[According to authorities](#), families traveling overseas with drugs in their luggage is one of the new forms through which drug cartels try to mislead the police at ten international airports in the country. “With the use of this strategy, traffickers try to fool the authorities into thinking that they are **just harmless families traveling abroad**; they are people who do not generate suspicion,” read a statement by the Ministry of Defense from September.

Colonel William Valero, head of the Port State Control of the Narcotics Department of the National Police at the airport, reported incidents of family groups of up to five people, two or three of whom smuggle drugs.”

## Children used by Parents to Display Cognitive Anchors

If the cartel can get partners to use their children to smuggle drugs, they certainly can get them to use their children to participate in an influence operation. The job: act as a billboard to support the overall campaign. They will deliver triggers to intimidate witnesses. This is the natural evolution of cartel tactics. Information warfare is the future (and) present. This is an aspect of it being utilized by the Sinaloa cartel teams.

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<sup>34</sup> [Mother and daughter caught smuggling 45 lbs. of cocaine at Colombian airport.](#)

<sup>35</sup> Mother uses baby seat and car stroller to smuggle

Consider the threshold to getting parent(s) to have their children fitted with a cognitive anchor. A cognitive anchor would be an article of clothing or accessory to intimidate a witness must be much lower than perhaps finding someone to strap two pounds of cocaine to their daughters back to mule it across the border.

The pool of willing takers is quite big for being cognitive anchors, I have seen their operations and will show some of one below.

Why do it? It seems preposterous on its face.

Let us play out the scenario, you can undoubtedly break a target using these tactics. They claim to have done it before in the threat note they left on my vehicle when I was a member of United States law enforcement. And consider reporting this method of intimidation.

“Officer I am a former law enforcement official; this child is wearing a t-shirt along with his brother and father given to them by the cartel teams.” Officer responds to targeted witness (former law enforcement official), “the person is wearing a t-shirt? So, they are intimidating you. Are you kidding me?” The officer goes to the database and sees corrupt officers falsified field contact report about the witness and now the victim becomes the focus of an inquiry rather than the cartel lackeys.

The cartel is hoping for that outcome to feed the discredit narrative, so the targeted witness become the person of interest by seemingly making a preposterous allegation.

As the title page states, you’ve just been fucked by psyops because physical wounds heal.

This is not the Narcos Netflix you all know or the image of gang bangers rolling around with vehicles with no plates looking for trouble. Narcos Netflix was prior to the rise of the Sinaloa Cartel. Was AOL even around back then? The information warfare domain only started becoming a focal point in around 1996. Here we are 26 years later, and the Sinaloa Cartel has established itself as a global leader and is all in on information warfare. Look what happened to the Guadalajara cartel after they tortured and killed Kiki Camarena. The cartel quickly learns, adapts, and improves. Non-kinetic warfare outside of Latin America has been the answer.

## The Pentagram (The 5-Pointed Star): A Blood Symbol

### Not too far from Valle de Cauca Colombia

Let us cut back to early 2020 when this all began to get underway.

Below is an image of a woman whom I met online (via an intruded device) while living in Tijuana, Mexico working as a member of United States law enforcement.

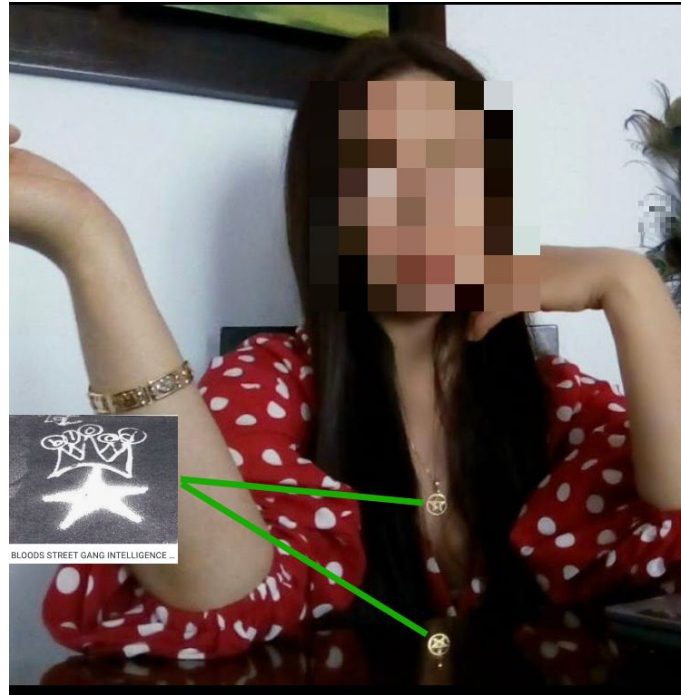


Figure 2 Early 2020. Columbiana lives near Valle de Cauca

This photo was sent to me early 2020 by the woman. August 10, 2020, on my way out of San Diego County, I spoke with her. She asked me where I was going and had a curious question. She asked me if I was alone. Soon after the team of OCG members showed up, in force, as I was exiting California.<sup>36</sup> Later events confirmed her involvement. Look at the photo below of what

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<sup>36</sup> She has a Colombian brother-and-law that seems affluent who has family in the United States, and he travels to the United States - not sure if relevant. However, she absolutely had an active role in criminal operations that are tied to the Sinaloa Cartel and Bloods and is probably tied to a Colombian cartel. I do not care how many layers they have created to cover it up at this point. It is all subterfuge. I have her full name, passport number and more. I would not believe one thing she says. I will provide Interpol if interested in more information.

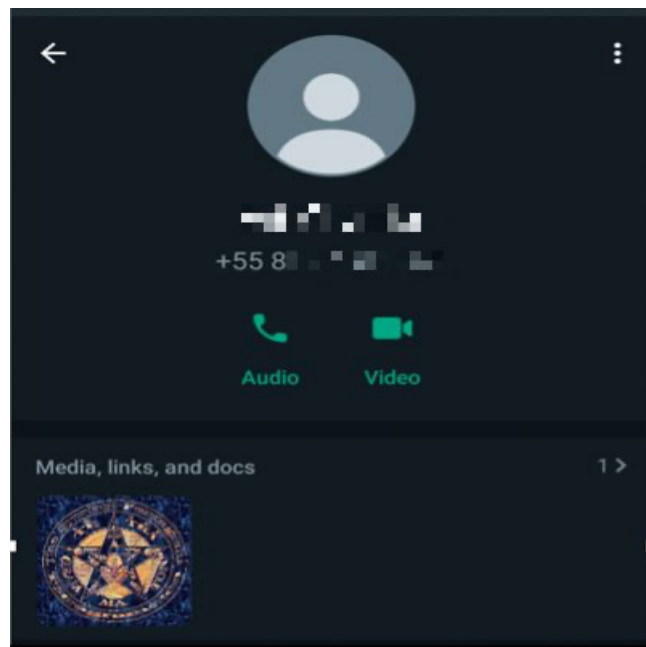
she is wearing: a 5-pointed star which is a typical Blood symbol. This was not done to intimidate me. I think it was the Bloods having a laugh thinking I would not uncover what I did.

**Pernambuco, Brazil.**

This other woman sent me a 5-pointed star file size (87kb) then had the compulsion to tell me the time was 18:27 (187). See the image below. Her name and phone number has been pixelated.

This is Sinaloa cartel teams full use of information warfare to dominate the information streams of the target witness to essentially attempt to cause a breakdown with multi-channel streams.<sup>37</sup>

I find them to be completely pathetic. What you must ask yourself how did the Sinaloa Cartel obtain these abilities? Who are the professionals designing and implementing these campaigns. They must be United States Department of Defense trained. Only Russia, China and the United States have advanced tools and training that I will describe.




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<sup>37</sup> For purposes of this paper never mind the social engineering aspect and how they are able to connect with targets (that is quite easy).

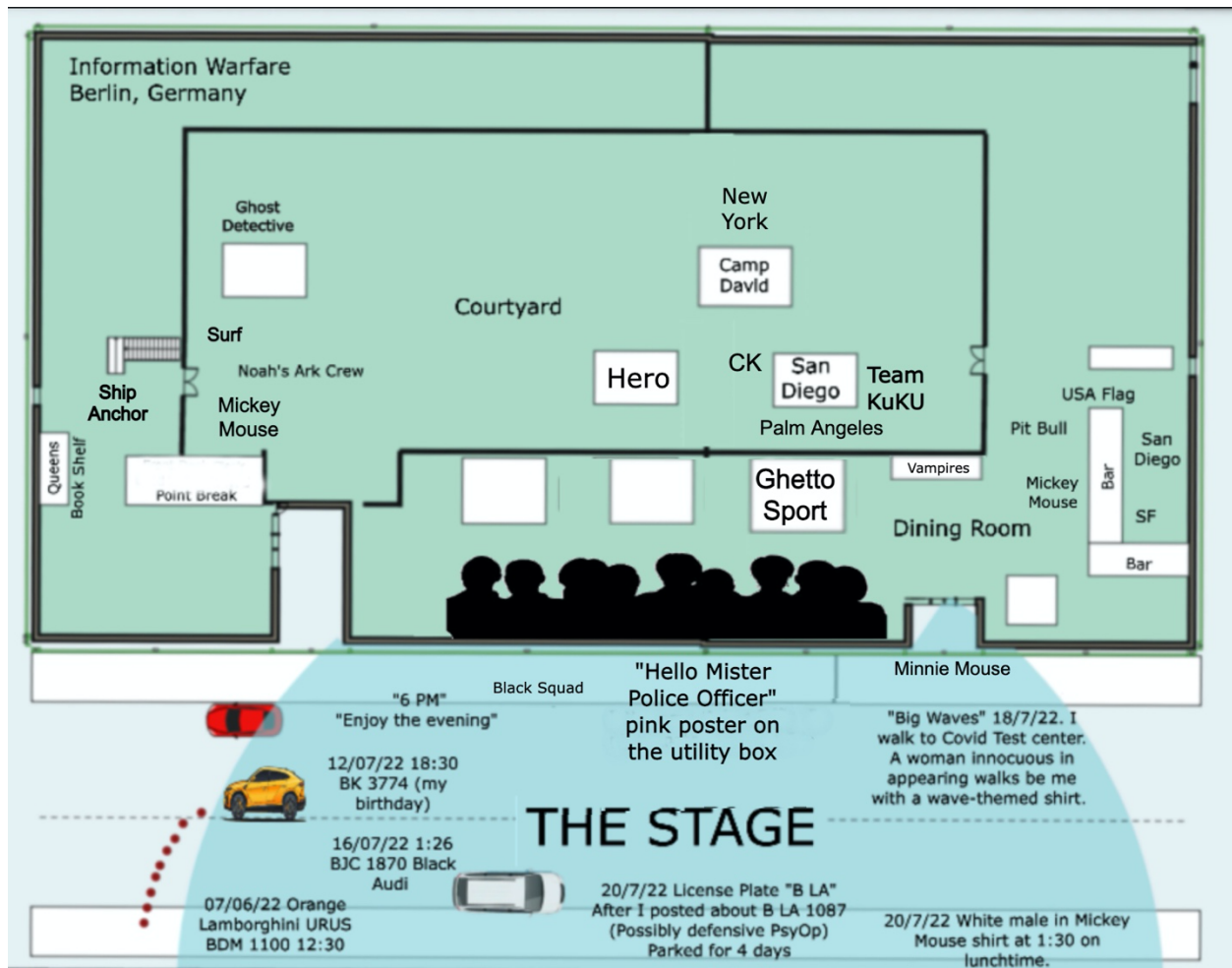
Next up

GHOSTS IN THE MACHINE: PSYWAR



AND ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

## The Berlin Stage: Enlarge for some details (not nearly finished)



- Hotel Transylvania: Attempting to drown a target in triggers 24/7 to attempt to create a breakdown and maintain a state of fear.
- Context, timing, dates and narrative for the above stage and anchors
- Historical PsyOp tools to modern PsyOp tools
- Online, Physical and Cognitive Synchronicity
- Tools and resources need for information warfare within a confined space and street
- Hezbollah social services as source of power and Sinaloa Teams "Social Services," adoption and "Piru Love"
- Targeting vulnerable populations and street people to enable influence operations; Using one-off proxies to enable the intimidation
- Anonymous communication channels with targeted witnesses
- Counter PsyOp (Defensive PsyOp to counter reports about IO activities). Pivoting and increasing frequency to attempt to throw off any potential law enforcement.