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Summary of the meeting of 2004-01-07
Project CUBE

The meeting was held at the Best Western Hotel in St-Jerome from 2 pm to 5 pm

People present:

Inspector, Andre Roy Bre M.L.L.L.
Inspector, Gilles Martin DECM
Pierre Fournier, Mtl RCMP Superintendent
James Gabriel
Terry Isaac, Listiguj police chief
Larry Ross, former police chief of Kanesatake
Clarence Simon, Kanesatake police portfolio

The meeting was organized by the SQ in order to clarify the situation and to make the SQ's position and preoccupations with this operation known as well as to discuss alternative strategies.

Duly noted that Mr.Gabriel joined other participants at 15:00

The meeting happened in the following fashion:

- Introduction of the participants
- Presentation of the meeting objectives by Inspector Roy.
- James Gabriel explains the current situation in Kanesatake
- Different participants share their commentary

Summary:

- The current chief of the Kanesatake police is incapable of adequately applying the law, given the influence of some people or groups that would exercise pressure on him and the grand chief associates with organized crime
- Certain members of the Kanesatake police commission are believed to be directly or indirectly related to the criminalized persons and are believed to put pressure on the chief and the members of the police force.
- Criminal activity on the territory is on the increase.
- The current police force does not intervene with the criminalized groups. In the past there was more than 8 million dollars seized in drugs, as opposed to this year, where only one case is open with unknown result.
- James Gabriel wants to replace Tracy Cross, the current chief of police with Terry Isaac. Mr.Cross would resume his patrolling activity with the KMP. Larry Ross would replace the associated chief and Mark Chene would be the new investigations supervisor.
- The current investigations supervisor, Jason Bennett has only 5 years of experience with the police force.
- Two members of the KMP would be suspended with pay, namely Mark Delisle and Mark Dupont.

- Mr. Gabriel informed us that a group of 30 to 40 people came to see him in the municipal building. According to him,, these were people implicated in the cigarette trade and they were unhappy about the rumours of a future operation against their installations. They wanted to know the agreement between Mr. Gabriel and the government regarding the operation, there was provocation and threats that any operation would result in a war.
- Robert Gabriel mentions that they are satisfied with the work of the current chief of police and that people patrol the territory to prevent interventions.
- Tracy Cross' brother operates a cigarette shack
- James Gabriel mentioned having received many phone calls from citizens complaining about the criminality situation on the territory and about the police work.
- James Gabriel is blamed by certain individuals in interfering with police work
- According to Mr. Gabriel, the nature and the risks of the situation justify having many police officers protecting the station.
- James Gabriel mentions that different approaches could be used to change the chief of police, but they would take too long and would be subject to interference.
- James Gabriel mentions that the situation that exists in Kanehsatake is translating into other communities and that there should be some quick action.
- Following interventions conducted by different police forces against the bikers, organized crime found refuge in Kanehsatake.
- Currently there are 12 members of KMP
- James Gabriel mentions having received necessary funds from the federal government and having discussed the situation with minister Chagnon.
- He mentions that he is surprised at our position, especially in light of an article that came out a few days earlier when the intention to fight organised crime was announced by the new SQ director, Norman Proulx.
- James Gabriel mentions that if the current KMP force is incapable of fighting organized crime and if he doesn't receive necessary support, he will abolish the police force and the SQ will have to intervene.
- James Gabriel mentions that the current chief of police gave orders to his members to arrest Terry Isaac if he is seen on the territory and to escort him out.
- Larry Ross made his comments of the operation as well as our concerns but mentioned that even though he respected our opinion he would never change his views on ways to intervene.
- Mr. Fournier de la GRC mentioned the importance of having relevant information in order to fight organised crime, the importance to identify targets and follow up with the detailed investigation. There is no point in shutting down cigarette shaks if all participants are not well identified, that would have little impact on the organised crime.

We discussed with different participants the alternative solutions and less heavy ways of intervention but the grand chief maintained his position. He mentions that he has the power to make the desired changes and if he needs help he will call on the SQ and that we are legally obliged to assist him.

Inspector Roy arranged to maintain contacts with Terry Isaac for the follow up.