

With escape of El Chapo's son, Mexico suffers a stunning defeat

Joaquin Guzmán Loera, the drug lord known as El Chapo, eluded the grasp of the government numerous times — in tunnels, behind closets, beneath **bathtubs** and through steep **ravines** in the remote mountains of Sinaloa. He even managed to escape prison, twice.

bathtub 浴缸

ravine 山涧; 峡谷

The latest family member to escape **apprehension** — El Chapo's son, Ovidio Guzmán Lopez — managed his own **feat** of government **humiliation** this week, when **cartel henchmen** forced a patrol of armed forces to release him after he had been captured.

apprehension 理解; 逮捕; 恐惧

feat 壮举; 功绩

humiliation 丢脸; 耻辱

cartel 卡特尔; 垄断联盟

henchman 亲信; 追随者

stunning 震耳欲聋的; 使人晕倒的

The **stunning surrender** — with Mexican forces badly outmatched, taken **hostage** by **outlaws** and forced to let loose a prominent suspect in their **custody** — began with a **siege** on the city of Culiacán on Thursday. Videos of fierce gun battles in the street, armed men blocking roads, residents fleeing to safety and clouds of black smoke rising from burning vehicles **swamped** social media.

surrender 投降

hostage 人质

outlaw 罪犯; 歹徒

custody 拘留; 保管

siege 围攻; 围城

swamp 淹没; 沼泽

Reports swirled that after the capture of the younger Guzmán, his cartel mounted a fierce assault to win his freedom and prevent his **extradition** to the United States.

extradition 引渡

The cartel's victory offered a frightening glimpse into the power wielded by organized crime in Mexico, *distilling* in a single, eight-hour stretch the extent to which the nation is held captive by criminal networks — without a plan to combat the *scourge* of violence that has brought the country to its deadliest point in decades.

distil 蒸馏；提炼

scourge 折磨；灾祸