



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

Narcotics Rewards Program: Ignacio Coronel-Villareal

BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AFFAIRS

DECEASED



Date of Birth: February 1, 1954
Place of Birth: Veracruz, Mexico
Height: 5'3 to 5'5
Weight: 145 pounds
Build: Medium
Nationality: Mexican
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Brown
Complexion: Light/Medium
Sex: Male

Race: White/Hispanic

Remarks: Believed to have had plastic surgery

Ignacio Coronel-Villareal, also known as "Nacho Coronel," was responsible for moving multi-ton quantities of cocaine via fishing vessels from Colombia to Mexico and on to Texas and Arizona during the past ten years. In Mexico he was known as the "King of Crystal" for his domination of Crystal methamphetamine production and trafficking, and the Mexican Government had an outstanding arrest warrant for Coronel-Villareal. In connection with an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force investigation named "Operation Baja Kings," several significant seizures of cocaine and d-methamphetamine hydrochloride ("crystal ice") were made in the U.S. -- one of the seizures of "crystal ice" weighted approximately 80 pounds and had a purity of 90% -- and is considered one of the largest single seizures of "crystal ice" by U.S. law enforcement. In December 2003, a Federal Grand Jury in the Western District of Texas issued a sealed indictment charging Coronel-Villareal with violations of Title 21 U.S.C. Section 963, conspiracy to import a controlled substance; Title 21 U.S.C. Sections 841 and 846, conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance.

The indictment was unsealed on October 27, 2004 and an arrest warrant issued for Ignacio Coronel-Villareal. Ignacio Coronel-Villareal died during an operation conducted by the Government of Mexico.