

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL

TO : William H. Foege, M.D. DATE: November 28, 1980
Director, Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
Through: Philip S. Brachman, M.D.
Director, Bureau of Epidemiology (BE) *PSB*

FROM : Jack C. Smith, M.S., Chief
Charles W. Warren, Ph.D., Statistician/Demographer
Statistical Services Branch
Family Planning Evaluation Division, BE

SUBJECT: Foreign Trip Report (AID/RSSA): U.S.-Mexico Border Survey - Mexico City,
Mexico, October 21-23, 1980*

SUMMARY

- I. DATES AND PLACES OF TRAVEL
- II. PURPOSE
- III. CHIEF PERSONS CONTACTED
- IV. BACKGROUND
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SUMMARY

CDC has a contract with PAHO (No. 200-79-0942) to provide specific data from the 1979 Mexican National Survey of Family Planning and Maternal and Child Health conducted by the Coordinacion del Programa Nacional de Planificacion Familiar of Mexico. These data will include fertility estimates, contraceptive prevalence data, and information on levels of maternal and child health services for the 6 northern border states. We have received the first 2 reports specified under our contractual arrangement.

We have worked closely with Pepe Garcia Nuñez and his staff and with Alan Keller of PAHO to develop a plan for a comprehensive collaborative report for the U.S.-Mexico Border based on data from the U.S.-Mexico Border Survey conducted by CDC in portions of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California and data from the Mexican National Survey which is specific to the 6 northern Mexican border states. We have agreed on a set of tabulations to be produced by Mexico. These are specified in TAB F which is attached to the November 27, 1979 foreign trip report.

Because of major organizational changes within the Mexican national health structure new personnel have assumed positions formerly held by persons with whom CDC had established working relations. Further, in the reorganization existing personnel with whom we had worked have had their roles and responsibilities redefined. These changes necessitated a trip to establish new contacts and re-establish old contacts related to the fulfillment of the CDC/PAHO contract.

*See Addendum.

As a result of our trip, we were assured by new and old contacts in Mexico that every effort would be made to complete the contractual agreement. We offered to provide additional technical assistance in the form of travel and per diem for Pepe Garcia Nuñez and staff to come to Atlanta when all data tapes are clean so that CDC computer facilities might be used to produce the tabulations required by the contract.

It is anticipated that the tabulations from the Mexican National Survey together with data from the U.S.-Mexico Border Survey conducted by CDC will form the basis of a bi-national monograph to be published under the auspices of the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Association and presented in part at the Association's annual meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona June 1981.

I. DATES AND PLACES OF TRAVEL

October 21-23, 1980 - Mexico City, Mexico

II. PURPOSE

- A. To meet with Tom Donnelly regarding organizational changes in the Mexican national health structure which affected the evaluation efforts of family planning within the country.
- B. To meet with Pepe Garcia Nuñez and Alan Keller regarding steps necessary to complete CDC/PAHO contract number 200-79-0942
- C. To discuss with statisticians, demographers, and programmers working on the data from the Mexican national survey the technical aspects of producing previously specified tabulations in fulfillment of the contract.
- D. To ascertain what technical assistance would be required from CDC to assure completion of the contract
- E. To meet with persons identified as important to the contract's completion based on the substantial reorganizational changes which have occurred

III. CHIEF PERSONS CONTACTED

- A. Tom Donnelly, Jr., AID Population Officer
- B. Rafael Vara, Assistant to AID Population Officer
- C. Jose (Pepe) Garcia Nuñez, Jefe del Departamento de Encuestas, Jefatura de Servicios de Planificación Familiar, Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social
- D. Alan Keller, Ph.D., PAHO

- E. Dr. Juan Manuel Septien, Director, Office of Coordinacion del Programa Nacional de Planificacion Familiar de Mexico
- F. Carlos Walther Meade, Direccion General de Salud Materno Infantil y Planificacion de Familiar
- G. Roberto Fierro Benavides, Supervisor de proyectos, Departamento de Informática Médica, Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social
- H. Leopoldo Nuñez, Staff Demographer

IV. BACKGROUND

At the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Association Meeting in 1978 a technical resolution was adopted supporting a collaborative effort between PAHO and U.S. and Mexican health officials to collect information along the U.S.-Mexico border needed to more precisely specify family planning and MCH policies and goals and to better allocate public resources to resolve social, economic, and health problems resulting from inadequate services. Household probability surveys on both sides of the border are being used to assess current use and needs for contraceptive and MCH services. CDC was given responsibility for conducting a survey on the U.S. side of the border and for collaborating with the Mexican government on technical aspects of the survey conducted by Mexico on their side of the border.

The U.S.-Mexico Border Survey conducted by CDC is now in its analysis stage. Preliminary results have been published by CDC in the MMWR (April 25, 1980, Volume 29, No. 16), an Advanced Report, and presented at the 1980 annual meeting of the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Association.

A nationwide Mexican survey of fertility, mortality, contraceptive use and MCH services is being used as the basic mechanism for collecting data on the Mexican side of the U.S.-Mexico border. However, the national survey lacked an adequate sample size to provide realistic estimates for the border area, so CDC has contracted through PAHO to double the sample size in the northern border states to obtain adequate data to prepare an analytical report of findings relative to the objectives set forth in the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Association technical resolution of 1978.

In order to maintain communications, monitor the contract, and provide technical assistance related to the production of tabulations of data, previous trips have been made to meet with our Mexican counterparts. (See Foreign Trip Reports, November 27, 1979 and February 19, 1980.)

Additionally, in July Roberto Fierro Benavides brought a data tape with the MCH data to CDC. We, with the assistance of Jerry Bailey of PAHO Washington, provided programming and computer assistance.

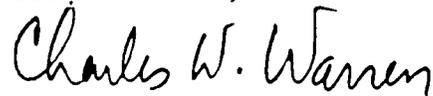
V. RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

- A. We met and discussed the contract with the new director of the Coordinacion, Dr. Juan Manuel Septien (position formerly held by Jorge Manautou) and received strong support for its completion.
- B. We met and discussed the contract with the new director of Maternal and Child Health, Dr. Carlos Walther Meade (position formerly held by Dr. Sergio Carreau Azcona). He recognized the contractual agreement as needing to be completed.
- C. We met with Pepe Garcia Nuñez and Alan Keller to discuss technical problems and needs for additional support from CDC. It was agreed:
 1. That Pepe would remain as our statistical counterpart on the Mexican National Survey data
 2. That sometime early in November Pepe, Roberto Fierro Benavides, Ricardo Cesar Aparicio Jimenez, and Jerry Bailey would come to CDC to use our computer facilities to produce tabulations required by our contract
 3. That we will purchase the necessary OSIRIS IV software packet to produce tabulations from both the MCH data tape and the prevalence data tape. The OSIRIS IV software will also be used for production of variance estimates from the data.
 4. That we will provide travel and per diem for Pepe and Roberto for approximately one week
 5. That we will provide per diem for Ricardo for approximately one week
 6. That Pepe will bring with him a copy of the clean finalized raw data tape with prevalence information and the clean finalized analysis tape with MCH information
 7. The "2s" (coding indication of crossers into the United States for family planning services) will be ready to add to the data tape. There are 40 "2s" (Attachment 1).
 8. That we would produce at CDC the tabs for the 6 northern Mexican border states and border strip, both prevalence and MCH, required by the contract
- D. We met with Tom Donnelly and concluded that at a future date CDC personnel should return to Mexico to discuss the content of the monograph with a yet to be determined Mexican health official who would represent Mexico at the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Association meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona in June 1981.
- E. We learned that Ramón Alvarez-Gutiérrez is now back in the position he formerly held as Director of International Affairs for the Ministry of Health.

VI. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

- A. Technical assistance to be provided to our Mexican counterparts at CDC in early November in order to produce tabs required by the contract.
- B. Review and evaluate the tabulations of data produced as a result of the technical assistance for their statistical appropriateness.
- C. Suggest to Mexican counterparts our ideas regarding content and analysis of data for monograph.
- D. Meet in Mexico with appropriate Mexican officials regarding Mexico's contribution of data to the proposed bi-national monograph and regarding representation at the annual meeting in June of the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Association.


Jack C. Smith, M.S.


Charles W. Warren, Ph.D.

Attachment

***Addendum**

The technical assistance to be provided to our Mexican counterparts at CDC in early November did not occur. Jose (Pepe) Garcia Nuñez called on October 31 to inform us that for a variety of reasons internal to the Mexican Ministry of Health he and designated staff members would not be able to accept CDC's offer of technical assistance which had been arranged at the time of our trip to Mexico City (October 21-23).

Subsequent to that telephone call, Pepe informed us that he would be in Washington the week of November 16 and would come through Atlanta on his return to Mexico City. On Friday, November 21, Pepe visited CDC briefly. At that time we (Smith and Warren) reviewed with Pepe a number of tabulations which his group had produced for the 6 northern Mexican border states.

He left with us the tabulations for our perusal. It appears that the tabulations in general will provide much of the information which we had requested for the 6 northern Mexican border states. It was agreed that we would, after a thorough review of the tabs, inform him as to additional tabs that we would want for the 6 northern Mexican border states. Additionally, we will inform Pepe of which of the tabs would be appropriate to run for the bordering municipalities. There still are no "2s", indicating women who crossed the border from Mexico into the U.S. for family planning services. This will continue to have to wait until an analysis tape is built using the programs written by Jerry Bailey of PAHO.

In addition to discussion of the data, the 3 of us discussed at some length the U.S. and Mexican contributions to the proposed bi-national monograph to be published under the auspices of the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Association. It was agreed that CDC would write a letter to Pepe outlining the general content of the monograph. The letter further would indicate our understanding that Pepe was to serve as our counterpart in the production of this monograph. The concept of Mexico and the U.S. having independent reports within the monograph was agreed to in principle. Although the reports would be independently produced, there would be collaboration on content including topical areas, categorization of variables, and format.

We discussed also the proposed plenary session for the June meeting of the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Association. It was agreed that a draft of the monograph to include both the U.S. and the Mexico contribution to the report would be ready for review by the end of April 1981.

Obtención de Método en Zona Fronteriza.

Entidad.	Municipio	Número de Entrevistas Individuales.	Con 2 en la Tabla
Baja California Norte.	Tijuana	249	8
	Mexicali	272	6
Tamaulipas	Matamoros	133	4
	Nuevo Laredo	91	6
	Reynosa	96	5
	Río Bravo	240	2
Chihuahua.	Juárez.	203	5
Sonora.*	Naco	99	1
	Nacozi de García	132	2
	Fronteras.	39	1
	Bacoachi	36	0
	T.	1590	40

* los 4 lugares se trabajaron como 1 municipio.