Drug cartels – Placard M

A drug cartel is an illicit drug organization formed to control the production and distribution of narcotic drugs. Drug cartels sometimes finance terrorist activities. There are drug cartels in many countries throughout the world today. The rise of drug cartels caused major foreign policy disputes between the United States, Colombia, Bolivia, and Peru. With an estimated 2.7 million drug users, Americans spent $49 billion on illegal drugs. The Mexican drug cartels as well as others cause lots of violence, including bombings and assassinations of government officials (Encyclopedia Britannica, 2009). The major countries involved in the Drug Cartel are Mexico, the U.S., Thailand, Colombia, Peru, and Asia. Cargo ships sent from Bangkok, Thailand had drugs from Southeast Asia hidden inside the ships. Once ship had 1,071 pounds of heroin valued at about $2.5 billion (Cooper, 1993).

The impact of drug cartels is tremendous. Cartels grew to a point of serious national security threats for many countries like the United States. US border crossings are packed with security in hopes of preventing the smuggling drugs across the border of the U.S. Too many people get addicted to drugs and need treatment; this causes problems in most countries of the world. Almost all of the recent killings in Mexico have been linked to drug cartels. About 90% of murders had something if not everything to do with the drug trafficking. The other 10% were policemen, soldiers, and a small amount of citizens. Some of the police officers and soldiers are even involved in drug trafficking themselves.



