



Rio de Janeiro, September 20th, 2017

SECURITY NOTE

Recent armed conflicts in Rocinha and Juramento communities

Due to their strategic locations, importance for transportation throughout Rio, sizes and the dimensions of the conflicts that took place inside them, it appeared to us necessary to share some information with our clients concerning the deterioration of the public security conditions in Rocinha, Rio South Zone, and Juramento, Rio North Zone.

Rocinha



In the morning of September 17th, an intense armed conflict took place in Rio's largest community, Rocinha. This community and its neighbor, Vidigal, are dominated by the faction Amigo dos Amigos (A.D.A.) that was divided by an internal conflict for the leadership of Rocinha.

This dispute erupted from a clash of interests between the local drug trafficking manager, Rogério Avelino da Silva, known as Rogério 157, and the community's official drug leader, Antonio Francisco Bonfim Lopes, also known as Nem da Rocinha, who has been arrested in 2011. In an attempt to take complete control over Rocinha, Rogério 157 has assassinated several key gang members faithful to Nem, which responded by sending an invasion force of around 100 men to retake the area with the support of local accomplices still loyal to him, culminating in the shootout of last Sunday morning.

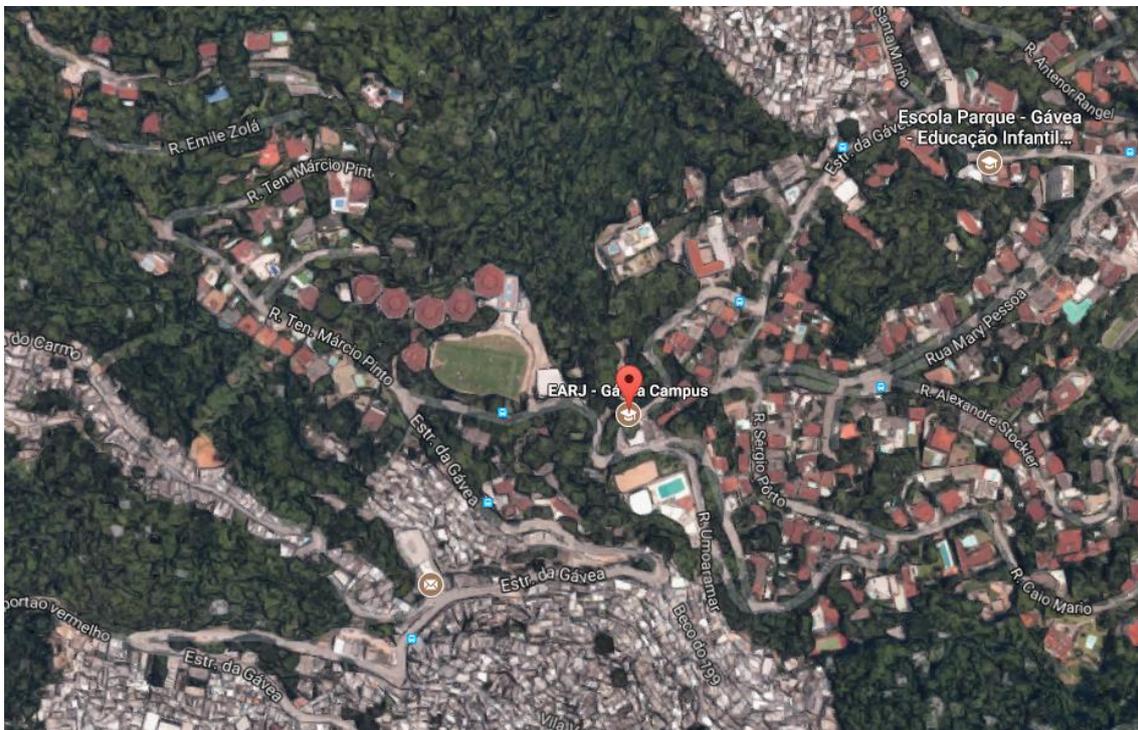


According to different sources, the invasion was successful and Nem managed to reassure his command over Rocinha, meaning that at least a temporary stability has been achieved.

However, considering the general trend for the public security in Rio, the present bad shape of Rio's public security forces, its proximity to Vidigal, its size and the area of forest around it, which provide a great structure for hiding people and weapons, it is possible that Rocinha does not return to the state of stability seen in the last 5 years, after the arrest of Nem, in 2011. It's also probable that the police will increase its operations, for reinstating order, since 51,6%¹ of the community's area is now strongly dominated by drug traffickers, preventing the Pacification Police (UPP) to circulate without having to face armed resistance.

American School of Rio de Janeiro

The main road "Estrada da Gávea" is the only way to access directly to the top of Rocinha from the wealthy neighborhood Gavea. We did not have the opportunity to assess the security level of the school itself. The entrance of the school is located approximately at 300 meters from the beginning of Rocinha. Therefore, there is a concern regarding the access to the school. Incidents could happen near the school entrance while children are taken to or from the school. We recommend to our clients to use our Hotline in case of incident or if they have reasons to believe that the transportation from or to the school is dangerous.



¹ Data provided by the Public Security Institute (Instituto de Segurança Pública – ISP).



Juramento



Another worth noting conflict between drug gangs in Rio happened on Friday 15th, in Vicente de Carvalho, when around 100 men from Comando Vermelho (C.V.) attempted to conquer Juramento community, an area also dominated by Amigos dos Amigos. During the invasion, the shootout between the opposing forces lasted until the morning of the next day.

The C.V. invading forces came from a relatively close community, the Complexo da Penha, C.V.'s headquarters, posing a constant threat to the security conditions of this region, which is already in precarious situation, since it concentrates some of the highest rates of crimes in Rio and the most dangerous street in the city: Pastor Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.

Friday's conflict not only disturbed the circulation of buses and cars on the main streets in and around the neighborhood of Vicente de Carvalho, but also interrupted the metro service as a woman inside the metro station was struck by a stray bullet.

General trend

These events exposed, along with blatant conflicts already ongoing in other communities (Pavão-Pavãozinho/Cantagalo; Chapéu-Mangueira/Babilônia, Complexo da Maré; Complexo de Santa Teresa; and several other in Rio North Zone), the growing trend of degradation in Rio's Public Security, allowing large actions like these to surface again as they were around 2007, before the Pacification Program (UPP).