



# LOUISIANA DRUG GUARD

August 2004

The Counterdrug Task Force Newsletter of the Louisiana National Guard

Number 8

## RAID assists in discovering marijuana grow

On July 21, 2004, LSP Narcotics Agents, Allen Parish Deputies and the Louisiana National Guard RAID team were conducting a Marijuana Eradication Survey of Allen Parish.



Just before noon an agent observed a large marijuana plot concealed behind an abandoned overgrown residence north of La 10.

The ground crew converged on the location and discovered a man covered in dirt and sweating profusely coming from the area of the plot.

The agents and deputies detained the man and discovered 112 marijuana plants growing in planting pots behind an abandoned wood frame home.

The gardener admitted to cultivation and directed agents to addi-

tional plants and growing paraphernalia.

Agents also discovered an additional 146 plants he had just pulled and concealed in a plastic bag while the La.National Guard RAID helicopter was circling the area.

Agents located a drying area in the abandoned residence and recovered an additional two hundred marijuana plants. The RAID team is led by *Maj. Dallas Jones*. *Staff Sgt. Leo Davis* and *Sgt. Nintendo Do* support the LSP Bureau of Narcotics in Lafayette.

### Counter Drug website wants your inputs

Chief Master Sgt. John Harris wants to know what you would like to have available on the Counter Drug Website. The plans are in place to add items such as forms, data, Ropes training calendars, and available training for members of the CDTF. If you would like to offer ideas, suggestions or otherwise, please email Chief at [john.harris@lanewo.ang.af.mil](mailto:john.harris@lanewo.ang.af.mil)

### Make like a tree and leave

This is a reminder to start using your leave and manage your leave appropriately. It is not a service to your employer (LEA) to not take much leave all year and then take the most of the last month off. You need to take leave throughout the Fiscal Year and especially around the holidays when there is very little going on at most agencies anyway. Most LEA's are closing out cases for the calendar year during the Christmas.

The only way to carry more than 15 days of leave to the new fiscal year is to get authorization from the Counterdrug Coordinator in writing. The Counterdrug Coordinator will authorize more than 15 days to be carried over to the new FY with good reason only.

**You must have a control number before going on leave.**

For more information, contact your Team Leader.

---Staff Sgt. Todd Stremlau

# Highway Interdiction rolling over traffickers

**East Baton Rouge Parish** - East Baton Rouge Police stopped a 1999 Peterbilt tractor trailer for a traffic violation. The rig was registered to a corporation out of Humble, Texas. The registered owner and driver of the tractor trailer claimed to be on his way to Atlanta from Houston. A narcotic detector canine alert and a consensual search of the rig revealed a metal false compartment mounted between the I beams underneath the flat bed trailer. The compartment measured 3'x8' and contained 435.6 pounds of cocaine. The driver was arrested and the cocaine and rig were seized. A follow up investigation resulted in the additional arrests of three individuals and the additional seizure of \$15,000.00. **Staff Sgt. Barbara Roche** and **Sgt. James Spurlin** support DEA in Baton Rouge.

**St. Tammany** - LSP trooper stopped a 1997 freightliner tractor bearing a Texas registration tag. The driver and registered owner of the rig was a recorded drug violator and a citizen of Mexico residing in Houston. The driver claimed to be on his way to Mobile from Houston. A consensual search of the tractor revealed 727 pounds of marijuana in the sleeper compartment. **Sgt. 1st Class Shelby Thomas** supports LSP South District Narcotics

**Acadia Parish** - A deputy with the Acadia parish Sheriff's office stopped a Nissan Sentra with Texas plates on Interstate 10 for a traffic violation. The occupants of the rental vehicle were on their way to Fort Hood from Mobile. The passenger claimed to be a soldier stationed there. A consensual search of the car revealed 21 pounds of marijuana packed in two bundles on the back seat. The driver claimed ownership of the marijuana and was arrested. The soldier and the vehicle were released. **Sgt. 1st Class Peter Leger** supports Acadia Parish S/O



**Webster Parish** - A LSP Trooper stopped a 1996 Lincoln Town Car for a traffic violation. The driver of the car, a citizen of Mexico and lived in Atlanta, claimed to be returning to Atlanta from Houston. A consensual search of the vehicle revealed 13.2 pounds of cocaine hidden in the firewall of the car. **Staff Sgt. Ana Baca** supports LSP North District Narcotics.



**Pointe Coupee Parish** - A Delta Drug Task Force agent stopped a pickup truck with Texas plates for a traffic violation. A consensual search revealed 20 pounds of marijuana concealed inside luggage in the passenger compartment of the truck. **Staff Sgt. Christine Jarreau** supports the Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriff's Office.

**Ouachita Parish** - A La. Sheriff's deputy conducted a traffic stop on a 1991 Buick. The passengers claimed to be traveling to Homestead Fla. from California via El Paso. One subject stated they traveled by bus to El Paso and picked up the vehicle from a subject there. A narcotic detector canine alerted on a vehicle and led to the discovery of 98 pounds of marijuana concealed inside the gas tank. The marijuana left space for only two gallons of gas in the tank. **Sgt. Reggie Nolan** and **Private First Class Carlton Thomas** support the Ouachita Metro Narcotic Task Force. **Sgt. 1st Class Cary Grant** supports Monroe Police Dept.

**Ouachita Parish** - A LSP Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a 2002 Ford Ranger. The occupants claimed to be en route to Mississippi or Alabama from Dallas. A consensual search of the vehicle revealed a total of 115 pounds of marijuana concealed inside two spare tires. **Spec. Floyd Knighten** supports LSP North District Narcotics

**West Baton Rouge Parish** - A LSP trooper stopped a 1996 Nissan Sentra. The registered owner of the vehicle was not present. The occupants of the vehicle said they were going to Atlanta from Houston. A consensual search of the vehicle disclosed a total of 10 pounds of cocaine inside a natural void in the fender wells on both sides of the Nissan. **First Sgt. Jack Toney, Pvt. Kristy Bankston, Sgt. Stephen Gomez** and **Staff Sgt. Russell Graham** support LSP Baton Rouge.

**Lafayette Parish** - A routine traffic stop in Acadia Parish landed two Houston men behind bars. Officers were able to confiscate over 12 pounds of methamphetamines in the battery of a vehicle. An officer made a stop and noticed something wrong with the battery after obtaining consent to search. The officer took the Nissan Exterra to the criminal investigation division, where the battery was taken out. With a street value of \$240,000, the six blocks of meth were wrapped in black tape and stashed in the lower-half of the battery. One officer was splashed in the eye by acid while trying to remove the bags of crystal meth. **Sgt. 1st Class Robert Leonard** and **Tech. Sgt. Suzanne Chaillot** support the DEA in Lafayette. **Sgt. 1st Class Peter Leger** supports The Acadia Parish S/O.

