



LOUISIANA DRUG GUARD

The Counterdrug Task Force Newsletter of the Louisiana National Guard

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Slammer time in the city

MONROE---Ouachita Parish Metro Narcotics put the "SLAMMER" on street dealers this November, in a sting that used local, state and federal agents.

Operation Street Level Arrests Mobilization Methodical Enforcement Response (SLAMMER) comprised of 75 officers from the Metro Narcotics Unit, the Monroe and West Monroe Police Departments, the Louisiana State Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Louisiana National Guard Counter Drug Task Force.

Areas identified as high drug traffic areas were targeted for this undercover drug interdiction program. Agents participated in buy bust transactions.

Some went smooth, others didn't. Seconds after one suspect sold drugs to an undercover buyer, agents moved in but the suspect took off in a blue Crown Victoria automobile. During the chase, he stopped his vehicle and fled on foot. An agent followed the suspect over a 4-foot fence and brought the suspect down.

Another suspect who attempted to flee from arrest hid behind apartments close by. With the help of the Louisiana Air National Guard RAID pilot and helicopter, the suspect had a spotlight tracking him, making him easier to find.

As of midnight on the day of the slam fest, 12 arrests had been made and all suspects were charged with possession and/or distribution of drugs.

Sgt. First Class Chris Maxwell support Metro narcotics and Sgt. Shane Pipes support West Monroe Police Department.

Agents "ring in" holidays with arrests

HAMMOND---A local man was one of three men arrested Wednesday for allegedly being part of what deputies say was a "marijuana distribution ring."

He was charged with possession with intent to distribute five pounds of marijuana. Two men from Bogalusa, are accused of being his accomplices. Agents say the two Bogalusa men brought marijuana from Texas into Louisiana and distributed it in Washington and Tangipahoa parishes. A surveillance team allegedly saw the two deliver marijuana to the

Hammond man.

Agents followed the two suspects to a Baton Rouge apartment complex where officers arrested them on charges of possession with intent to distribute marijuana. Agents seized 39 pounds of marijuana, \$14,500 in cash and a 1993 Lexus car.

Back in Hammond, officers watched the local suspect leave the "drop off" site in a Ford Explorer. Deputies placed a road block on Hewitt Drive. After a brief foot pursuit, officers and deputies caught him.

Before stopping at the road

block, the fleeing individual allegedly threw a bright yellow bag out of his Ford Explorer's window. Officers later found five pounds of marijuana in that tossed bag.

Tri-Parish Narcotics Task Force, Ponchatoula, Hammond, Denham Springs and Baton Rouge Police Departments, Louisiana State Police and Livingston Parish Sheriff's officers assisted the sheriff's deputies. *Staff Sgt. Ronald Mays supports Hammond PD.* Information taken in part from the Daily Star 2000

**Merry Christmas
and a safe and
Happy New Year**

State Highlights

NEW ORLEANS---In November, the DEFY Program continued its Phase II with a trip to the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi.

The kids toured the area and learned about the NASA missions and viewed actual rockets and external fuel boosters that propel the space shuttle into orbit.

Special thanks goes to **Staff Sgt. Debra Williams** for leading the event and doing a great job in the logistics and presentations. *Submitted by Lt. Donna C. Jones*

It's A Girl!!!

Peggy and Tony Migues are the proud parents of a beautiful baby girl. **Faith Carolyn Migues** was born November 2, at 6:56 pm in New Iberia. She weighed 8 lbs and 13 oz. The entire task force welcomes Faith into the world. Staff Sgt. Peggy Migues works with the Vermilion Parish S/O

Congratulations to John Michael Wells on his recent promotion to Major.

This monthly newsletter is published by the Louisiana National Guard Counterdrug Task Force. Send all submissions to Tech. Sgt. Suzanne Chaillot at Shyobro@aol.com or fax 337-262-6647

LSP Highway Patrol interrupt traffickers

Interstates humming with drug carriers

Bossier Parish - 135 pounds of marijuana, one vehicle, three arrests. Louisiana State Police conducted a traffic stop on a North Carolina vehicle registered to a known drug dealer from the same state. After discovering the vehicle was involved with a prior seizure of 179 pounds of marijuana earlier in the fall, a consensual search disclosed another 35 pounds of marijuana in the trunk. *Sgt. Anna Keifer supports LSP North District Narcotics*

Calcasieu Parish - 150 pounds of marijuana, one vehicle, one pistol and 2 arrests. Louisiana State Police stopped a 1989 GMC pickup truck with Virginia plates on Interstate 10 for a traffic violation. The occupants of the vehicle were residents of Virginia. A consensual search of the truck disclosed 150 pounds of marijuana hidden inside a false compartment under the truck bed and a .380 caliber pistol in the passenger compartment. *Sgt. Marco DeLeon supports LSP West District Narcotics*

St. Martin Parish - 16.7 pounds of methamphetamine, three vehicles, three arrests. Louisiana State Police stopped a 1995 Dodge Pickup Truck with Florida registration, towing a trailer with Oregon plates, transporting a 1998 Audi with Florida plates. The occupants of the truck were all residents of Florida. A consensual search of the vehicles disclose 16.7 pounds of methamphetamine hidden inside a compartment behind the back seat of the Audi.

St. Martin Parish - 5.3 pounds of cocaine, one vehicle, two arrests. Louisiana State Police stopped a Chevrolet Tahoe towing a U-Haul trailer with a 1969 Impala, with New Mexico plates. The occupants of the vehicle were from Albuquerque and the owner was from New Mexico and New Jersey. The owner would not disclose their travel itinerary so a consensual search of the vehicle disclosed 5.3 pounds of cocaine and a small amount of crack cocaine in the Impala. The cocaine was packaged in several bundles and hidden inside a TV set on the rear seat of the vehicle in tow. The crack was found under the front seat. The individuals were arrested and the cocaine and Impala were seized. *Staff Sgt. Leo Davis supports LSP West District Narcotics*

HIDTA mobile team on a roll

The HIDTA Mobile Deployment Team recently wrapped up a long term investigation in St. John Parish. During this investigation, agents utilized undercover agents, confidential sources, and surveillance to obtain evidence on targeted narcotics traffickers in St. John, Jefferson, and Orleans Parishes. During the course of this eight month investigation, agents from DEA,

Louisiana State Police, U.S. Customs, St. John Parish, and Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office spent over \$18,000.00 and purchased over 900 grams of crack cocaine, and 132 grams of powder cocaine. Federal arrest warrants were issued and executed for five subjects with more to follow. *HIDTA is supported by Staff Sgt. Chris Trenticosta*

The answer to last months safety quiz is TRUE

If you own and ride a motorcycle or moped, check last months issue for requirements. For questions related to this or any other safety issue, contact Sgt. 1st Class Robert Leonard, Safety NCO at LeonardJ3@aol.com