



# LOUISIANA DRUG GUARD

The Counterdrug Task Force Newsletter of the Louisiana National Guard

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## Agents discover marijuana in Garden District



*The Garden District of New Orleans lived up to its name when narcotic agents unveil over 100 marijuana plants growing there.*

NEW ORLEANS - Agents from the Louisiana State Police and the New Orleans Police Department's Second District initiated an investigation into the cultivation of Marijuana in Orleans Parish.

Agents received information from a cooperating individual that a subject was currently conducting a substantial indoor marijuana grow in his residence at

4320 Coliseum St.

Agents conducted numerous surveillance operations at the residence and of the target subject during the investigation.

During this time agents were also conducting utility checks, CI debriefs, ISS analysis and other investigative techniques to establish probable cause for an eventual search

of the residence.

A search warrant was prepared and obtained through the Orleans Parish Magistrate authorizing the search of the subjects residence.

As a result of this search agents located and seized 101 marijuana plants, approximately 10 grams of processed marijuana, an extensive amount of growing equipment, (i.e., lights, timers, fans, etc.), a scale and numerous pieces of cultivation literature.

After his arrest, the subject supplied agents with a videotaped documentary of his operation and a detailed explanation of how the process was accomplished. The subject was transported to the Orleans Parish Central Lockup where he was booked accordingly.

The Louisiana State Police Crime Lab supplied two technicians who processed the scene and secured the narcotics evidence at the Crime Lab in Baton Rouge. The non-drug evidence was collected from the scene by agents and logged at the New Orleans Police Departments Central Evidence and Property.

**Sgt. Christopher Trenticosta**, HHC 1/244th AVN works with HIDTA, and **Staff Sgt. Mike Plaiscia**, BTRY B 1/141 FA, works with NOPD.

**Guard Matters**

**With gratitude the Abraham family deeply appreciates all of the kindness, love and prayers they received from their military family. Without this support, they express how difficult it would have been getting through the early times of their grief. Sincerely, Joey, James, Kristen and Robbie**

**Use it or lose it...Reminder to maintain your annual leave status to reflect no more than 15 days on October 1, 2002. Anyone exceeding this limit must have a letter from Maj. Pete Schneider authorizing the excess.**

Left, left, left right left was the order of the day when **Staff Sgt. Leo Davis III, Staff Sgt. Peggy Miguez, and Tech Sgt. Suzanne Chaillot** visited the Evangeline Council of the Girl Scouts on their Military Appreciation day. More than 73 girls scouts listened to war tales and recieved marching lessons. Much to everyone's amazement, Davis had the girls doing a counter march before the session was over.



## Yes Tell Motels

Members from the Natchitoches Police Department and Natchitoches Multi Jurisdictional Drug Task Force arrested two men on felony drug charges following a tip from a local hotel employee. These arrests resulted when an observant hotel employee contacted the authorities after discovering a bag which contained what they believed to be marijuana. The agents seized approximately seven pounds of marijuana from the hotel room. The next day another hotel employee, from a different hotel, notified the

authorities when they observed what they believed to be illicit drugs in plain view. Agents conducted surveillance on the hotel and arrested two individuals when they attempted entry into the room.. As a result 29 pounds of marijuana and over 10 thousand in cash, a 2000 Toyota Camry and liquid codeine was seized. The task force expresses gratitude to these alert employees. **Sgt. Chad McNeal, Co B 769th Engineers,** supports the Natchitoches Multi Jurisdictional Task Force.

## Marijuana coming and going

The Terrebonne Parish Narcotics Task Force received an anonymous call about marijuana plants growing in the backyard of an apartment complex.

Agents located and removed 44 marijuana plants from that area. No arrest was made.

Later in the week, the Task Force received a call from a New Orleans postal inspector that intercepted a certified mail package with approximately six pounds of marijuana coming from Texas and going to a residence in

Terrebonne Parish. The next day the task force delivered the package to the resident. The suspect was not home, but his mother signed for the package. Agents then execute a search warrant on the home.

Agents located the package with seven pounds of marijuana, along with six weapons The mother and son were arrested. **Tech Sgt. John Fos,** 159th Fighter Wing, supports the Terrebonne Parish Narcotics Task Force