



LOUISIANA DRUG GUARD

The Counterdrug Task Force Newsletter of the Louisiana National Guard



March 2001

VOLUME X

NUMBER 3

Cocaine lord brought down with capture in LA

SHREVEPORT, La. (AP) _ The alleged leader of a gang that made hundreds of thousands of dollars from crack cocaine sales in Shreveport has been captured near Los Angeles, authorities said.

The highly sought fugitive directed a ring that pumped more crack cocaine onto Shreveport's streets in the past four years than any other narcotics-trafficking operation, some agents said.

Authorities maintain the fugitive called the shots for a ring that shipped more than 114 pounds of crack cocaine from Los Angeles to Shreveport

since the late 1990s for sale. The actual quantity may have been considerably higher, agents said Tuesday.

Much of the more than \$1.5 million derived from the sales was sent back to Los Angeles where the ring-leader and most of the ring's other key players lived, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office in Shreveport.

This individual had been one of Louisiana's most wanted U.S. fugitives since he was indicted last year by a federal grand jury in Shreveport on charges including conspiracy to

possess with intent to distribute cocaine.

The investigation into the ring was led by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force. The task force include representatives of the DEA, Shreveport and Bossier City police, Internal Revenue Service's criminal investigative division, U.S. Customs Service, Caddo Sheriff's Office and Louisiana State Police.

Sgt. Regina Strong and Sgt. Nicole Wilkinson support Shreveport PD, Sgt. Anna Baca supports LSP North District Narcotics.

The Louisiana Sheriffs' Association Violent Crime and Information Network (LSA Net II) is having it's annual Narcotics Training Seminar the week of March 12-16, 2001. This year, it will be held at the Holiday Inn Central (Holidome) in Lafayette. This training is open to all federal, state and local law enforcement agencies within the state. There will be a registration fee of \$200 which will cover all training materials, hotel room based on double occupancy, and lunch and supper meals. For more information or to register, contact **Sgt. 1st Class Travis Stelly** @ (337) 788-8763 or travis@lsaii.org or visit our web site at <http://www.lsaaii.org/>.

Bunny mixes carrots and marijuana

On February 1st, 2001, a 1993 Freightliner Tractor Trailer was stopped on Interstate 20 in Webster Parish, Louisiana for a traffic violation.

Circumstances at the scene dictated that a search of the tractor trailer be conducted. Located in the trailer were several pallets of carrots which were destined for Tewksberry, Massachusetts.

Approximately 1/4 of the way into the load were 39 brown u-haul boxes containing 56 cellophane wrapped

bundles of marijuana weighing approximately 1,048.9 pounds which resulted in three arrests.

The marijuana was to be delivered to a subject by the name of "Bunny" in Toledo, Ohio. Subjects cooperated with Law Enforcement Agents in a controlled delivery to Toledo, Ohio.

Subject "Bunny" never showed and the operation was terminated.

LSP North District Narcotics is supported by Sgt. Anna Baca.

Got to LAV it

Members of the Counter Drug Task Force conducted a two-day Light Armored Vehicle (LAV) training at Camp Villere in February.

The training, conducted by *1st Sgt. Joey Abraham, Sgt. 1st Class Mike Plascia, and Sgt. 1st Class Carlos Torres*, included driver's training, operator maintenance and mission capability.

Currently, LAV mission requests are minimal however the LAV is piece of equip-

ment that could save a life if called upon to do so.

That was the case when Plascia and Staff Sgt. David Scher supported N.O.P.D. in assisting with the extraction of a levy patrol officer who was cornered by an armed gunman at the Lakefront in January (see February Drug Guard for story).

The following people completed the two-day LAV training: Sgt. Paul Hooper, Staff Sgt. Perry Jackson, Sgt. Jason Prieto and Staff Sgt. David Scher. *Article submitted by Lt. Donna C. Jones.*

Seven "cookies" send agents to Texas for more

It started out as an interdiction stop in Lake Charles.

It ended up in Houston with more cocaine and arrests, thanks to the clever operations of the Louisiana State Police, West District Narcotics and *Sgt. Marco DeLeon* with the Counter Drug Task Force.

When seven ounces of crack cocaine

were intercepted and one arrested in Lake Charles, the suspect made the decision to take it right back to where he got it from...Houston. Once there, the connections were made and two more suspects were arrested and 43 crack cookies, close to a kilo of cocaine, were confiscated in the takedown. *DeLeon supports LSP WDN*

A Military Police Investigator with the 91st Military Police Detachment and Evidence Custodian for the Office of the Provost Marshal at Ft. Polk, La. was arrested with 3.3 grams of marijuana, numerous firearms, including two stolen handguns from the evidence room at Ft. Polk MPI Station following an investigation by agents with LSP North District Narcotics, Vernon Parish Drug Task Force and the Criminal Investigation Division, Ft. Polk. *Staff Sgt. Patrick Deshautelle supports LSP North District Narcotics*

The Third District Narcotics Enforcement Team (TDNET) along with LSP, DEA, the Lincoln Parish S/O Tactical Unit and the Ruston PD Tactical Unit conducted a search warrant on the residence of a suspected illegal drug distributor. The search netted more than 12 pounds of marijuana, 18 grams of cocaine, numerous weapons and paraphernalia. Investigators also seized financial records, and four vehicles. *Staff Sgt. Rob Cowan supports TDNET*

Agents with Terrebonne Narcotics Task Force seize thousands of dollars worth of drugs in Bayou Blue after an afternoon search of a local residence. Narcotic agents raided the house after an undercover officer bought marijuana from the location earlier. More than 12 pounds of marijuana and \$4000 in cash were seized. *Tech Sgt. John Fos supports Terrebonne NTF*

Interstate breakdown of drugs confiscated by LSP criminal patrol:
Feb 6 - St. Martin Parish - 21.5 pounds of marijuana
Feb 6 - St. Martin Parish - 101 pounds marijuana
Feb 9 - Jeff Davis Parish - 16.9 pounds of marijuana, 174 Vicaden tablets
Feb 11 - St. Martin Parish - 422 pounds of cocaine
Feb 11 - St. Martin Parish - 110 pounds of marijuana, 2.2 pounds of cocaine
Feb 12 - Iberville Parish - 109 pounds of marijuana
Feb 13 - Acadia Parish - 2800 pounds of marijuana
Staff Sgt. Leo Davis III and Sgt. Marco DeLeon support LSP WDN

Warrants Mentioning

Spring Conference

The annual Counter Drug Task Force Conference will be held April 10-12 at the Hotel Acadiana in Lafayette. Reminder to all who need to brush up on your, perhaps seldom worn, Class B uniforms...you may contact your supply sergeant or access the military clothing store website at AAFES.com to update your uniform.

Computer Woes

If your computer has crashed and you don't know what to do...who ya gonna call....Byte Busters. If you have questions from computer repair, software issues, database creation, to networking computers, even data recovery and virus removal, *Senior Master Sgt. John Harris* is the person for you. He can also instruct classes on Windows 95, 98, 2000, ME, NT 4.0, Photoshop, Microsoft Office Programs, Internet, and Network Administration. Call CDTF HQ for more information.

Happy
St. Patrick's
Day



Exercise your writes
Send all submissions to Tech. Sgt. Suzanne Chailot at Shyobro@aol.com or fax 337-262-6647. This monthly newsletter is published by the Louisiana National Guard Counter Drug Task Force.