



# LOUISIANA DRUG GUARD

The Counterdrug Task Force Newsletter of the Louisiana National Guard

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*Sgt. Richard Landry inspects bricks of cocaine. Photo by Sgt. Belinda Medina*

NEW ORLEANS--The National Guard assigned to the U.S. Customs/H.I.D.T.A. and C.E.T. (U.S.C.S. Inspectors) assisted in the search and seizure of narcotics and the arrest of two Colombian stowaways

## Customs discover stowaways, narcotics in ship hidaway

in September.

The vessel originating in Barranquilla, Colombia and bound for Houston, Texas was diverted and headed for a New Orleans port where supposedly the two stowaways would unload the narcotics and head for their delivery location.

After a routine sweep of the vessel, National Guard personnel assisted Customs Agents and Inspectors focus their search on the rudder compartment, which is located in the bottom of the aft section of the vessel.

After opening the hatch leading to the rudder compartment, large amounts of bricks containing the suspected cocaine and marijuana on board were discovered. In the same area, the two stowaways attempted to flee through an opening along side of the rudder. They were quickly apprehended and arrested

by Customs officials who were waiting in two boats that were docked along both sides of the rudder.

As a result of the information and search, 29 bricks of marijuana weighing 58.25 kg (128.15 lbs.) and 18 bricks of cocaine weighing 19.85 kg (43.67 lbs.) were seized. Sgt. 1st Class Carlos Torres provided language support to the operation. The two Hispanics, both Colombian nationals were arrested and no control delivery was made.

Other supporting agencies that participated in the operation were agents from the U.S.C.S. Marine Unit, U.S.C.S. K-9, Harbor Police Department, and Immigration and Naturalization Service. *The National Guard assigned to U.S.C.S./H.I.D.T.A. is Sgt. Richard Landry and (U.S.C.S.) C.E.T. Sgt. 1st Class Carlos Torres and Staff Sgt. Simmie Brown*

## Police charge 3 in drug seizure, local trafficking

HAMMOND---Local police say they stopped an alleged major narcotics supplier to numerous Hammond nightclubs and seized drugs, laboratory components and cash late last week.

After a month long investigation by the Hammond police narcotics division to stop narcotics trafficking in the area, agents arrested three people and seized various drugs, drug components, cash

and numerous firearms.

During the investigation, narcotics agents worked with street level drug traffic and dealers which led back to the alleged supplier. The police department, assisted by the Drug Enforcement Agency, the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, Tri-Parish Narcotics and the Kenner Police Department, arrested the suspects in Kenner Thursday and charged

them with possession of Schedule 1 narcotics with intent to distribute and illegal possession of firearms.

Officers seized GHB, the date rape drug, laboratory components, one-half gallon of GHB, 139 doses of Ecstasy, \$5,542 and numerous firearms including a illegal sawed-off shotgun and 9 mm pistols. *Staff Sgt. Ronald Mays supports the Hammond Police Dept. Narcotics Division.*

## State Highlights

NEW ORLEANS---On October 28, the DEFY Program kicked off its Phase II at the New Orleans Airshow held in Belle Chasse.

The kids toured the area and were given a class on peer pressure and how to identify and use resistance skills in their everyday life.

Eighteen participants from the Weed & Seed Treme area participated in the event and five 1/141 FA mentors escorted the kids. Staff Sgt. Debra Williams and Staff Sgt Steve Haynes led the event and did a great job in the logistics and presentation.

The next Phase II event is scheduled for November 19, at the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi. *Submitted by Lt. Donna C. Jones*

KENNER---Several agents with the Kenner Police Department Narcotics Division executed a search warrant that resulted in the confiscation of more than 253 grams of marijuana. The warrant was for a female who resided at the target residence. She was arrested on prior charges and for illegal possession and intent to distribute marijuana. *Senior Amn Lanitra Reed supports Kenner PD*

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](mailto:Shyobro@aol.com) or fax 337-262-6647

## La Guardsmen build Drug Policy Website

BATON ROUGE---In addition to many operational and support duties that the Louisiana National Guard Counterdrug Task Force does for the Louisiana Drug Policy Board, we also designed and manage their website at [www.ladrugpolicy.org](http://www.ladrugpolicy.org).

The website is designed to be a clearinghouse of information relating to the drug problem. While parts of the site are still under construction, the best feature is its Resource Center.

The center is updated daily with national news related to drugs and al-

cohol, it is interactive and fully searchable with over 50,000 documents in its archives. It can also be used to track down funding and program ideas for any organization wanting to get involved in the drug fight.

The Drug Policy Board has been wanting to have such a clearinghouse for over ten years, but it was not until the LA CD TF took over the project that it became a reality. *Story submitted by Capt John-Michael Wells, Drug Demand Reduction Administrator*

## Police find \$1 million worth of drugs in vehicle

SULPHUR---A Georgia woman was arrested Saturday after a trooper found an estimated \$1 million worth of marijuana and cocaine inside her vehicle, state police said.

After the woman was stopped on Interstate 10 by a trooper two miles west of Sulphur for careless operation, state police spokesman Sgt. Chris Guillory said. "It all started when he saw her switching lanes erratically. She then put the brakes on right in front of

him," Guillory said. She was stopped by Trooper Kevin Miller who smelled marijuana inside her vehicle, Guillory said.

Miller found 429.3 pounds of marijuana and 16 kilograms of cocaine in bags in the vehicle, he said. "This is the biggest narcotics stop of the year for us here in the Troop D area," Guillory said. The woman was booked into the Calcasieu Correctional Center on drug charges.

*Staff Sgt. Leo Davis supports LSP West District Narcotics*

## Round up wraps up with numerous arrests

LAPLACE---Four months of undercover work by the Narcotics Bureau of the St. John the Baptist Parish Sheriff's Office netted 21 drug dealers from around the parish. One of those arrested was a 15-year-old Laplace boy charged with distribution of marijuana.

The arrests were the result of two

ongoing investigations know as Operation 504 and 497. Armed with 67 arrest warrants, deputies swooped down on houses in Lucy, Edgard, Wallace, Vacherie, Garyville, Reserve and Laplace. Most of the suspects were categorized as street level and mid-level dealers. *Spec. Darryl F. Vizzini, Jr., supports St. John S/O*

*True or False? Each military driver of a privately owned motorcycle or moped is required to complete an Army-approved motorcycle safety course, must have headlights turned on at all times, will wear a properly fastened, approved helmet when-ever and wherever (on or off post) they operate or ride a motorcycle, will wear eye protection, full-fingered gloves, long trousers, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, high-visibility garments (bright color for day and retroreflective for night), and leather boots or over-the-ankle shoes whenever and wherever they operate or ride a motorcycle or moped regardless of state law.*

*Brought to you by Sgt. 1st Class Robert Leonard, Safety NCO*