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Appeals Court Upholds Sentence for Maimed Smuggler

July 3rd, 2009 by Ross

One of the most publicized cases in the Border Patrol's history, crop on Monday as a federal appeals court upheld a sentence levied on a Mexican drug smuggler who was shot by two agents on the U.S./Mexican border. Osvaldo Alfonso Davila, who had tried to smuggle over 700 lbs of weed across the border, was sentenced to nineteen, was given a nine and a half year prison sentence for smuggling that occurred after U.S. Border Patrol agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean shot him in the buttocks and groin.

The details of the shooting and subsequent trials and media circus are quite convoluted. Suffice to say that Davila was sentenced to nine years, he is a standoff, Ramos and Compean botched an attempt to apprehend the smuggler (Alfonso-Davila), shot at him as he fled, attempted to cover up the shooting by having another agent return to chase up the shell casings, and couldn't agree on a coherent story when pressed by prosecutors.

As the two agents were being sentenced for egregious violations of their enforcement codes (and attempted murder), some conservative media figures (including CNN zombie-anchor, Lou Dobbs) decided to hound the agents as patriots, U.S. tied-defending heroes. In the interim, the government granted immunity to the smuggler, who testified against the agents at their trial. Ramos and Compean were sentenced to 11 years and 12 years respectively. Sa the agents, former President Bush does watch TV (he famously never read newspapers), and responded to the conservative plea by commuting the sentences of Ramos and Compean.

So, two corrupt Border Patrol agents can lure and use smuggler with a shot up urethra gets a full term. The moral of the story here is that what actually happens on the ground is never as important as how it all ends up in the spin room. When it comes to politics, the motives of interest group do. So, sovereign reasons and truth.

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- Border Patrol
- Mexico
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Drone Aircraft to Patrol Canadian Border

June 22nd, 2009 by Ross

Look out, Canadians… Skynet is now online.

The US Border Patrol is preparing to deploy a "Predator B" unmanned drone aircraft along Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River, presumably to detect drug grousing and smuggling operations along the US/Canadian border.

Also known as the MQ-9 Reaper, the drone is a second generation version of the original Predator that the US military has been using in some capacity since 1995. Still enjoying the Fruits of a post-9/11 spending spree, the Border Patrol now has at least five of its Predator toys patrolling the US/Mexico border. It launched its first US/Canadian mission along the Pinto Mountains border in February as part of the Border Patrol's "Northern Border Air Wing," a high-tech surveillance plan called for by the 9/11 commission.

Make no mistake, these drones are not toys. The Reaper has a wing span of 66 feet and can weigh up to five tons when fully armed and loaded. Part of that weight is the 3,000+ lbs of missiles and bombs that it is equipped to carry. Whereas the original Predators were designed primarily for surveillance, Reapers are loaded by the military for dirt-nasty "hunt-and-kill" missions.

Of course, without human pilots, these drones are only as good as the electronics and software that keep them airborne, as evidenced by the 2006 drone crash in Arizona. Let's hope that these new Reapers aren't running Windows Vista.

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- Border Patrol
- Drug Smuggling
- Canadian
- Mexico

AZ Border Patrol Agents Seize 300 Pounds

June 4th, 2009 by Rick

On May 29, nine smugglers from Guatemala, Mexico carrying bundles of marijuana in backpacks, were arrested by Border Patrol agents from the Wellton station, near Aztec, AZ. Pings on a radar from a roving surveillance system first discovered at least seven of the smugglers, trekking the popular but dangerous route — at least 60 miles from the border.

Initially these smugglers were arrested and then the other six were tracked down by Border Patrol. On June 1st, the Yuma County Narcotics Task Force was called in and after an investigation the suspects were booked and charged with possession and intent to distribute.

Nearly 300 pounds of the marijuana were seized, a street value of $116,160.

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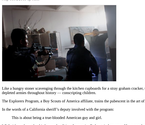
- Border Patrol
- Marijuana
- Children
- Kids

Depleted Border Patrol Looks to Children

May 18th, 2009 by Ross



Like a hungry stoner scavenging through the kitchen cupboards for a stray graham cracker, the US Border Patrol has found its resources sadly lacking recently. Amidst administration demands for more recruitment and hiring, the Border Patrol has turned to a tried and true tactic of depleted armies throughout history — conscripting children.

The Explorers Program, a Boy Scouts of America affiliate, trains the adolescent in the art of cooking dens of iniquity, seizing illegally imported goods, and patrolling barren wastelands.

Explorers are supposedly supervised by adults, but the CBP Explorers Program touts for further inspection and bad it go through a gamma-ray imaging system. The image denoted "anomalies" or the truck was flagged for cargo offload, just in time for a narcotics dog to confirm officer's suspicions.

CBP stated that 303 wrapped packages square-to $3.5+ million in value – which I'm sure is overestimated. The 30 year-old driver from Mexico was arrested, of course.

This takes the cream of recent busts to size last week. The total amount seized was reported as *9,414 pounds in only eight days*. The logical conclusion is that either the CBP is really ramping up its game or Mexican smugglers are falling off.

Personally, I say good job CBP. And shame on you, smugglers. In times like these, everybody should buy local products and support local growers.

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- Border Patrol
- San Diego
- Smuggling

Fishing For Pot in All the Right Places

January 22nd, 2009 by Percy

If I ever run out of weed, I might just want to hang out off the coast of San Diego because there seems to be weed all over the place.

In the latest installment of "Star Fleet Misty Weed Dial Border Patrol Seizur" this time's winning catch is 1,100 pounds. Agents arrested two men after finding the vessel in Mission Bay with marijuana located in a compartment underneath the boat's floor.

This doesn't appear to be an isolated incident, as the stories are just the latest in the ongoing battle by border patrol agents to stop the flow of marijuana from Mexico to Southern California.

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- Border Patrol
- Marijuana
- Mexico
- Seizure

Border Busts on the Rise

November 21st, 2008 by Rico

As you can probably tell from the increased amount of Arrivas/Busts articles being posted on tfs, it's weed growing (and transporting) season. Authorities are reporting that marijuana seizures are up nearly 15% this year. That's a jump from 153,000 pounds to 177,000 pounds of seized crop. Damn there is a lot of weed.

These massive busts over the last few weeks have significantly driven up the yearly total. Right now, it seems the preferred method of transport is pick-up trucks. They are relatively inexpensive, hold a bad of a lot of weight inside a protective compartment and can be bought on the cheap. DEA agents have even chased would-be traffickers into Mexico to recover their stash. Another reason for the increase in vehicle-based delivery attempts in the United States crack-down on smuggler tunnels. The border patrol is making a point to search for and destroy the underground tunnels commonly used by Mexican drug cartels.

So why is the grass unique and bust rate going up this year? After a major bust in Texas, Border Patrol spokesman Doug Mosier had this to say.

Because of the heavy rains and favorable growing conditions we anticipate this will be one of many large marijuana loads to be seized along the border. Large loads are becoming more prevalent, since the fall season (natural), and it isn't likely to end any time soon, as the marijuana harvesting season is far from over.

It's hard to supply & demand. The US will always have a high demand for marijuana, no matter how much is grown. The increase in crop means more delivery attempts. This gives US authorities more chances to locate and confiscate marijuana. Looks like tfs won't be short on news stories any time soon.

(via ABC 15)

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- @cyanDoc Thanks! Maybe we can measure some extra energy in the sense future for a tfS second coming? I don't know. Stay tuned. 2010-10-06
- @cyanDoc What's up buddy, long time no see! 2010-10-06
- @Jeff Yes, I'm sure that's a good idea. Thanks for the tip! 2010-10-06
- HAPPY 420 TO EVERYONE! RIP Rosie. Im good. 2010-04-20
- As if you didn't know already, tfS is currently on indefinite hold. If you'd like to say anything and I mean anything, message @timmeyer. 2010-04-19
- Hey guys, I'm sorry I haven't been posting lately. I'm still here, I'm just busy as hell at work. 2010-02-27
- Fishin'Pot Wins: Battlefield California:Iron Bonnet/VS http://bit.ly/9rNEMB 2010-01-21
- Xlerator dome. 2009-12-31
- Hey Guys, Happy Holidays! After I visit like it's presumably, I'll release it upon you. Love. 2009-09-22
- Hello Beautiful... http://bit.ly/1Ftq0 2009-08-28
- Thanks!! 2009-07-31
- Fun Facts About Montana http://bit.ly/vCgLn 2009-07-08
- Four Zeta is a Medic Former Figure Skater Charged http://bit.ly/pBwF 2009-07-08
- Coast Dom & Mirror Premium by Marjoie http://bit.ly/dqXTE 2009-07-08
- Hempfarm Wins TV Spot Featuring Pickup http://bit.ly/QFlcw 2009-07-08
- More updates...

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