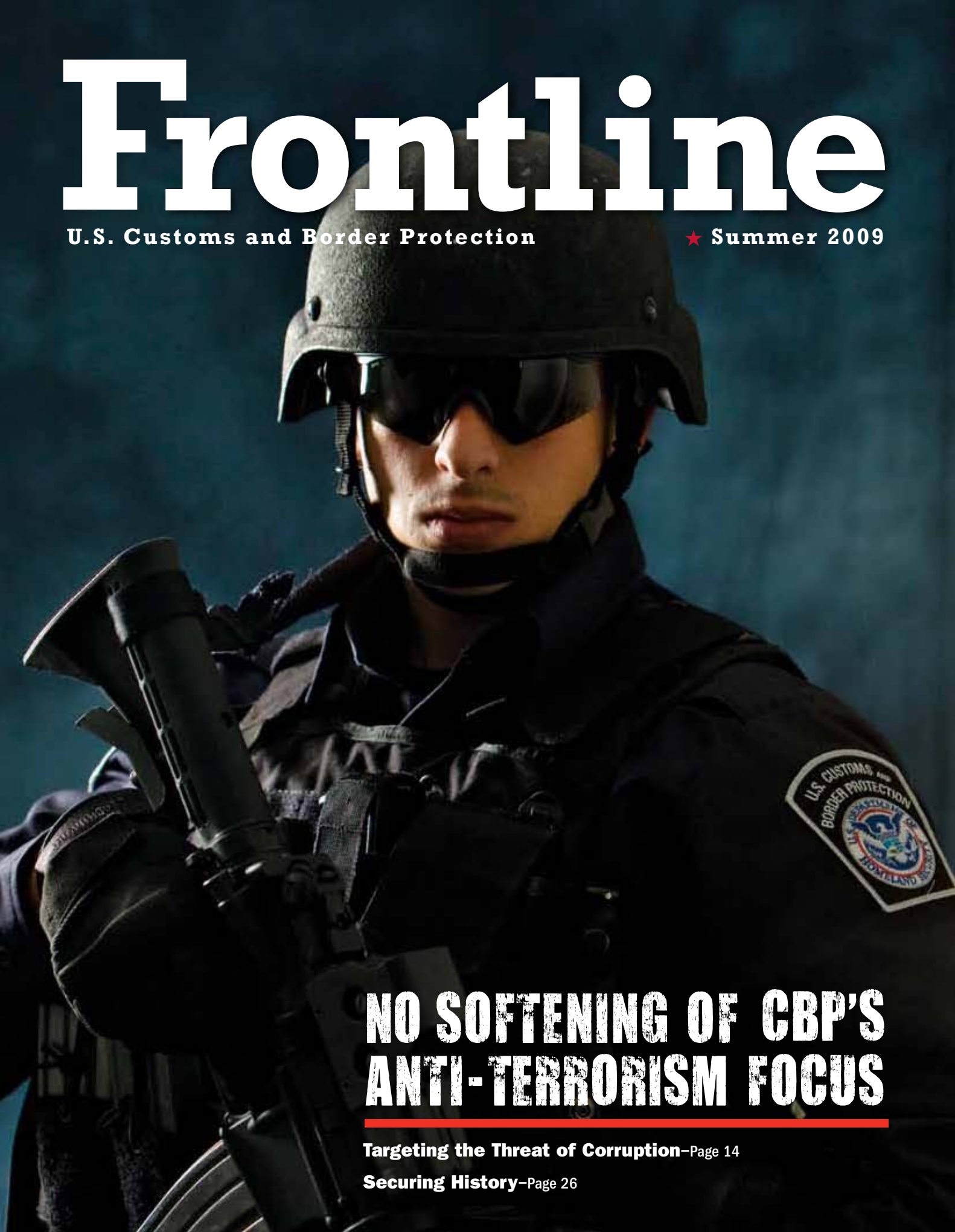


# Frontline

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

★ Summer 2009



## NO SOFTENING OF CBP'S ANTI-TERRORISM FOCUS

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Targeting the Threat of Corruption—Page 14

Securing History—Page 26



# CBP

Photo by: James Tourrelotte



## Testing the Waters

This latest vessel in CBP's arsenal actually is a floating laboratory. It is designed as a technology demonstrator, a marine interceptor with all the latest equipment for evaluation in CBP's varied marine interdiction environment. Besides the latest in optical sensors, video recording, shock-mitigating seats and more, the vessel has four outboard engines that combine for 1,400 horsepower pushing it to speeds up to 75 miles per hour.

SUMMER 2009

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## ★ ON THE COVER

On the cover: A member of CBP's special response team, a trained team of officers that provides immediate tactical responses to U.S. ports during national security threats, natural disaster and other specialized missions as directed by the Department of Homeland Security and Customs and Border Protection.

Photo by: James Tourtellotte

# ACTING COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE



On March 1, 2009, following the retirement of Commissioner Ralph Basham, I undertook the duties of Acting Commissioner, and on that day, I asked for your continued support as we go about the serious business of protecting our nation from a large variety of threats. It was an honor to serve as Commissioner Basham's Deputy, and to have the privilege of leading this outstanding organization during this transition period is an even greater honor—and responsibility.

Before Commissioner Basham left office, he asked that this farewell message be printed in Frontline:

*"This is my last Frontline message as your Commissioner, and I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support and hard work over the past three years. I came to CBP in June 2006, not fully comprehending the enormous job you undertake each day in so many areas—immigration, agriculture, anti-terrorism, and trade. All this adds up to the huge and complicated mission of securing our borders and protecting our economy. I leave with a tremendous respect for CBP and all of you who make up this magnificent agency. Never before have I seen such dedication and courage, and so many accomplishments, against enormous odds.*

*Before I came to CBP, you had already conceived and put in place a risk-based strategy to protect our nation. You were receiving advance information on cargo and passengers and targeting that information for risk of terrorism. You had installed the most sophisticated technology at our seaports and land borders. You were modernizing our commercial operations, and working with our trade partners to secure our nation and to keep commerce flowing. You were working with other countries to secure the global shipping lanes and with the World Customs Organization to internationalize our strategy. And you were working with Congress to draft the SAFE Port Act, which codified our strategy into law. All of this you accomplished in a short period of time.*

*But you didn't stop there. When I came on board you were moving forward on the Secure Border Initiative and on the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative. Together, you worked to implement my priorities—a focus on integrity, intelligence, and partnerships. We established an Office of International Trade to work more closely with our trade partners on our traditional trade mission. We created an Internal Affairs Office to protect ourselves from corruption from within and without, and we created the Office of Intelligence and Operations Coordination to better integrate these two areas. We accomplished all this while still continuing to integrate our different cultures, addressing infrastructure problems, and moving forward on such issues as 10+2 and 100% scanning.*

*But nothing I've listed could have been created without you, the men and women of CBP. I am enormously proud of having had the honor of working with you, of learning from the best, and of witnessing the heroism and courage you display every day all across this nation and around the world. Many have commented with some certainty that the high point of my career must have been serving as Director of the Secret Service, an agency I served for 31 years. And as proud as I am of my time with the Secret Service, the truth is CBP is really the pinnacle of my career. The mission of this agency is the security of our entire homeland. That's a huge mandate and it's a particularly unforgiving responsibility. It's one you undertake every day in our ports of entry, between our ports of entry, in the air and on the sea, and in countries around the world. I have the utmost respect for the strength and commitment you display every day. I am proud of all of you and proud to have been a small part of this important organization.*

*Even though I am stepping off the national stage, you can be sure that I will be cheering you on from the sidelines and will take every opportunity to tell the world what an honor it was to have been part of CBP. Thank you for your support and your service. May God bless you and keep you safe until we meet again."*

*Sincerely,  
W. Ralph Basham*

During this interim period between Commissioners, you've heard me say that CBP will not be marking time. We will continue to move forward on the programs that are vital to our national security and our economy. We will continue conducting our duties with the same professionalism, vigilance, and integrity that we've displayed in the past. We are, after all, America's Frontline.

Jayson P. Ahern  
Acting Commissioner



# Frontline

Summer 2009

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Janet Napolitano

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CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION  
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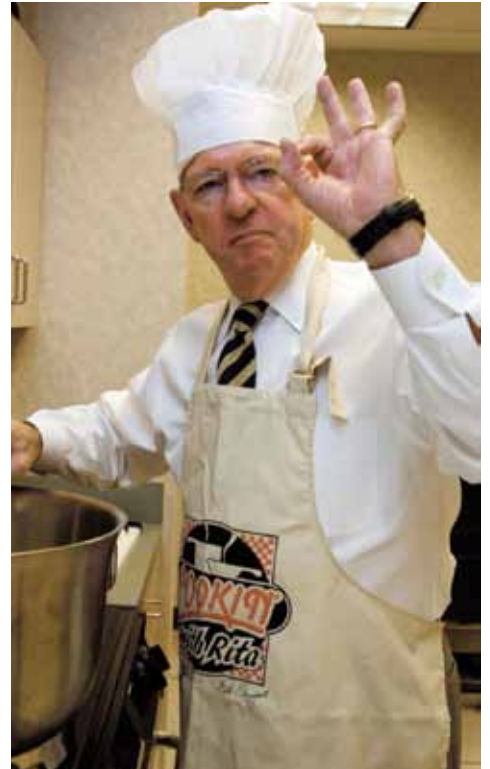
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**Clarification:**  
In the last issue of Frontline we addressed policies concerning traveling with monetary instruments, currency, checks, etc. We want to be clear that CBP does not collect duty on currency. However, travelers leaving or entering the United States are required to report monetary instruments valued in excess of \$10,000 on a "Report of International Transportation of Currency or Monetary Instruments," which is known as FinCEN form 105. Failure to declare currency of amounts in excess of \$10,000 can result in its seizure

# Commissioner's Tribute

Photos by James Tourneillette, Gerald L. Nino, Charles Csavossy



Former Commissioner W. Ralph Basham recently retired, ending 39 years of federal law enforcement service. He was a unique and warm personality who had impact throughout the agency, as these photos show. Basham was a landmark leader in the start-up of the Department of Homeland Security, having held senior leadership positions in four different DHS agencies: Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Transportation Security Administration, Secret Service and CBP. His last official duty at CBP was aiding the transition of incoming Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, shown below.



# Violence Rises Along with Border Security

Border Patrol agents take brunt of increasing attacks by frustrated smugglers



★ Agents seize more than a ton of marijuana discarded as smugglers tried to flee in Tucson, Ariz.

Whereas narcotics trafficking and the smuggling of illegal immigrants have long accounted for the majority of illegal activity there, many of these operations are being shut down. Criminals and smuggling organizations are failing to deliver their loads into the U.S., and they are taking their frustrations out on the cause of their failure: Border Patrol agents.

Nothing illustrates this increase in violence more tragically than the fatal attack of January 19, 2008 against Border Patrol Agent Luis Aguilar. That day, Agent Aguilar, of the Yuma, Ariz. station was deploying a tire deflation device to stop a suspected smuggler who was attempting to evade interception and escape into Mexico across the Imperial Sand Dunes near Yuma.

The suspect, who was driving a Hummer, accelerated his vehicle and

**V**iolence against Border Patrol agents on the southwest border has nearly tripled during the past three years, and CBP is fighting back.

Statistics show that on a typical day three Border Patrol agents are physically assaulted at the nation's southern border, with the majority of attacks located in California and Arizona. The San Diego sector has seen the largest increase in assaults this year and is now the most violent sector nationwide.

"Violence has always been an inherent part of the job that the men and women of the Border Patrol perform," said national Chief David V. Aguilar. "Given the gains that have been made in managing our nation's borders, smugglers, criminal organizations and those who would exploit a chaotic border are now more desperate

in carrying out their illicit activities. This desperation too often translates unacceptably to violence against our officers. The message must go out that we will not tolerate any acts of violence against our agents."

The cause of attacks is no mystery: Smuggling organizations are growing more desperate as the Border Patrol increases its operational control over the border.



★ A semi-automatic weapon, assault rifle magazines and ammunition were discovered by Tucson Border Patrol agents in May. Frustrated smugglers encounter more resistance from CBP and are arming themselves with more dangerous weapons.





★ A burnt out vehicle illustrates the everyday challenges facing the CBP Border Patrol. Violence against border patrol agents on the southwest border has nearly tripled during the past three years.

intentionally swerved into Agent Aguilar, who died on the scene. His death sent shockwaves through the Yuma community and brought a swift and unequivocal reaction from CBP and Homeland Security leadership. A suspect in the case was indicted on second degree murder charges.

#### **Safety Initiatives on Both Sides of Border**

A strong partnership exists between the Mexican and U.S. governments, which include two programs to improve border security and safety. Operation Against Smugglers Initiative on Safety and Security is a bi-national effort designed

to increase the ability of the U.S. and Mexican governments to prosecute alien smugglers and human traffickers on both sides of the border. Also, the Border Patrol International Liaison Unit seeks to create and maintain positive working relationships and foster alliances with Mexican counterparts.

The Border Patrol is constantly seeking means to better equip its agents against all threats. In addition to collapsible steel batons and pepper spray, which agents currently carry, new less-than-lethal tools are available to deter aggressive behavior. Agents now have a pepper ball launching system and, in select sectors, the FN-303, a

projectile launcher to turn back aggressive behavior from afar. New tools available also include a taser electric shock device and the canine program, both of which will add to agent safety.

With a bi-national partnership with Mexico in place as well as increased defensive measures for agents, CBP is sending the message to border criminals that violence is unacceptable, and attacks on frontline personnel will be forcefully addressed, Chief Aguilar said. With the safety and well-being of both the individual and the community in mind, the agency will continue to work to stem violence as well as illegality along the border. ■

*By Cameron Hardesty*

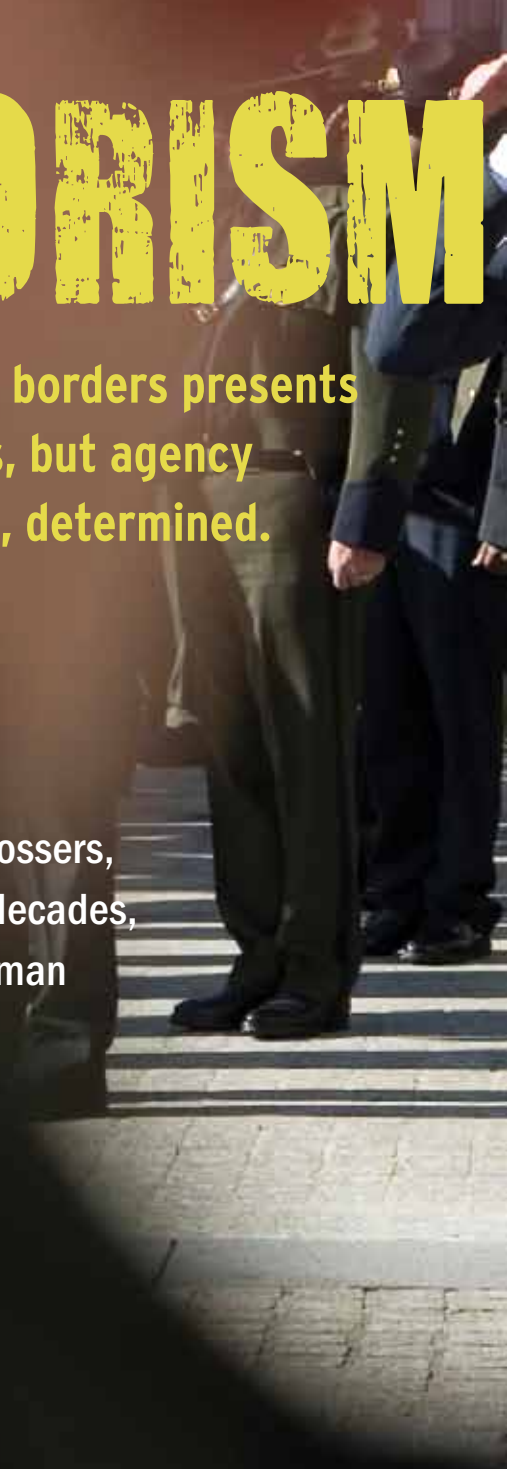
# NO SOFTENING OF CBP'S ANTI-TERRORISM FOCUS

Securing America's borders presents complex challenges, but agency remains aggressive, determined.

Until that day it was business as usual.

At the nation's ports of entry, inspectors met travelers and shipments. Along our borders, agents intercepted illegal crossers, many drawn by the lure of a better salary. As they had for decades, these agency officials identified the enemy as drug and human traffickers, import-duty violators, and pest-laden produce.

And then there was September 11.





Every year, CBP employees, uniformed and not, gather to pay tribute to the victims of 9/11. The memory of those who lost their lives serves as a constant reminder that America can never afford to let down its guard.

# “Our nation has put in place critical tools **that have improved our ability to identify terrorist threats...**”

*(continued from page 8)*

While terrorism prevention was part of border enforcement before the fall of 2001, it was not a national imperative. All of that changed with the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security after the attacks. Its charge: Manage all aspects of the terrorist threat, from prevention to recovery.

With the creation of DHS came a shift in the perception of border enforcement. Suddenly, the border was the center of domestic anti-terrorism efforts. “The moment of greatest vulnerability for the terrorists,” said former DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff, “is when they encounter law enforcement officials. And that is most likely to happen at a border.”

## **The Stakes Increase**

Fighting terrorism at the border required a unified approach, and so U.S. Customs and Border Protection was established, integrating the legacy border enforcement

agencies and their traditional missions but with anti-terrorism as the priority. The traditional border missions took on a whole new meaning—every person encountered and piece of cargo presented for entry in the areas between the official border-crossing points had to be viewed as a potential threat of mass destruction. “The criticality of our mission has increased significantly,” said David V. Aguilar, Chief of the Border Patrol.

The central issue surrounding border management has always been “balancing security and facilitation,” or reconciling the imperative to safeguard the U.S. while not screeching commerce to a halt.

On the security side, the pressure became more intense: Miss a terrorist and millions of people could lose their lives or the U.S. economy could be devastated. Keeping bad people and bad things out of the country is not as simple as it sounds. “Bioweapons [can be]disguised as common materials, such as baby formula, or concealed

in small vials,” said Michael Orazo, director of CBP’s agricultural bioterror countermeasures program.

At the same time, particularly at air, land and sea ports, CBP is the facilitator of an enormous amount of international travel and commerce. Officers welcome more than a million people each day at these ports. And according to a recent report published by an interagency working group on import safety, America imports about \$2 trillion worth of products every year and could increase 300 percent by 2015. CBP port security officers, who perform customs, immigration and agriculture inspection functions, are called upon to safeguard the homeland while keeping commerce and tourism vibrant.

## **Vision and Strategy**

From the inception of the agency, CBP leaders were aware of the central issue and, in line with the overall Homeland Security approach, developed a two-pronged plan of attack: Rely

## **CONNECTING THE DOTS...**

... A South African woman was arrested by Border Patrol agents at McAllen International Airport. The woman’s passport had several pages torn out of it, and she did not possess paperwork showing legal entry to the U.S. The South African government, during this timeframe, issued a warning that al-Qaeda militants and other terrorists traveling through Europe had obtained South African passports, and authorities believe they got the passports from crime syndicates operating inside the government agency that issues the documents.

... In December 2008, CBP officers in Buffalo, N.Y., apprehended an individual with an outstanding FBI warrant for conspiring to act as an agent of a foreign government (Iraq). The individual was turned over to the FBI for prosecution. Based on a criminal complaint filed by a U.S. Attorney, the United States military had obtained confidential Iraqi documents establishing that the individual – a Canadian citizen born in Iraq – provided information to officials of the government of Iraq and Iraqi intelligence officers.

on many methods of interception rather than just one, and focus primarily on those who pose the greatest danger—what former Secretary Chertoff has summarized as “layering and risk management.”

The result became strategies and programs that, very broadly, includes:

improved “targeting” (identifying persons or shipments that pose a security risk), technology, “pushing the borders outward,” facilitating low-risk or pre-screened travelers and cargo, building private and public partnerships, increasing the amount and training of law

enforcement personnel, and infrastructure enhancements.

Developing the overall approach to border management, together with the underlying strategies, resulted in measurable progress. However, actually implementing these strategies has not been quick or easy.



Photo by James Tourtellotte

★ The New York City attack was not an abstract event for some in CBP. Here personnel for the then Customs Service assess damage to offices near the World Trade Center.

• • • Border Patrol agents at the Sarita, Texas checkpoint north of Harlingen intercepted wanted Irish fugitive Pol Brennan, a former Irish Republican Army operative who fled a Northern Ireland prison 24 years ago. At the time of his escape in 1983 he had been serving a 23-year sentence for possessing a bomb and a firearm.

• • • A citizen of a Middle Eastern nation arrived in the United States from Amsterdam. Research and analysis at CBP’s passenger targeting center revealed the subject had associated with known or suspected terrorists. Additional research also revealed an association to an alleged drug smuggler. The targeting center worked with the U.S. Department of State consular affairs watch to revoke this traveler’s visa. The traveler was found inadmissible to the U.S. and processed for expedited removal.

## Focusing on the Threat

CBP is a large federal agency, with a massive scope of responsibility, and its work touches the lives of many millions of people from around the globe. Accordingly, CBP leaders are deeply aware of the need to be cognizant of the impact of their actions. “We have no time to waste in combating the threat,” said former CBP Commissioner W. Ralph Basham, “but we also understand that we have to balance a rapid response with actions that are measured.”

“What we’re trying to do,” says Rodney Snyder, CBP assistant commissioner for intelligence and operations coordination, “is to automate the process of weeding out those who really do need scrutiny, from the masses of travelers who don’t.”

CBP actually has put in place two targeting operations, one for passengers and another for cargo. Analysts provide around-the-clock support for CBP’s national and international law enforcement personnel. These analysts work closely with international law enforcement operations, including Interpol, and are a key component of the recently adopted Electronic System for Travel Authorization, a tool to pre-approve international travelers from our closest ally countries before they board planes.

Snyder estimates that far less than 1 percent of travelers or cargo attempting to enter the U.S. warrant enhanced scrutiny.

# “The criticality of our mission has increased significantly.”

David V. Aguilar,  
Chief, Border Patrol

But he also points out that on a typical day, one traveler is denied entry into the U.S. on terror-related suspicions.

Preventing terrorism while assuring that America remains a welcoming, economically vibrant country is a delicate balancing act. But it is a challenge CBP embraces each day as it literally makes millions of important decisions.

“Our nation has put in place critical tools that have improved our ability to identify terrorist threats to our homeland, detect and disrupt terrorist plots, and prevent terrorists from crossing our borders,” Basham said. “This is our priority mission today, tomorrow and into the future.”

## CBP’s Layers of Anti-Terror Strategies

- **Improved targeting:** Collecting new information, enhancing the analysis of information and pushing out the right

information to the right people at the right time to identify potentially high-risk travelers and cargo.

- **Technology:** Deploying computerized information systems, unmanned aircraft systems, handheld radiation detectors, surveillance cameras and other automated intelligence tools to detect and interdict illegitimate border activity.
- **Pushing U.S. borders outward:** Stopping threats before they arrive at U.S. ports of entry by inspecting cargo prior to its being laden on ships, and by targeting passengers before they board planes bound for the United States.
- **Facilitating the flow of low-risk travelers and cargo:** Establishing programs through which travelers and trade entities can

*(continued from page 11)*

... CBP identified a citizen of the United Kingdom preparing to travel from London to the United States. Targeting center determined the traveler to be a potential threat to national security, and further research revealed the traveler was the subject of an ongoing federal financial investigation. Records indicated a history of commercial fraud, violating Department of Treasury foreign assets control requirements, as well as financing terrorism. Airline representatives were notified, and the subject was denied boarding.

... A citizen of a European nation arrived at an airport in the United States. He was refused admission to the U.S. as a possible threat to national security because the subject was listed on a terrorist watch list. The subject was permitted to withdraw the application for admission and was returned to Europe on the next available flight.

... A citizen of a Middle Eastern nation arrived in the United States on a flight from the Caribbean. CBP’s targeting center verified that the subject’s visa had been revoked by the U.S. Department of State on national security grounds. He was found inadmissible to the U.S. and was processed for expedited removal.

demonstrate their adherence to high-level security criteria so that officers can process them for entry faster.

- **Partnerships:** Working with a wide range of federal, state, local and tribal partners, establishing partnerships internationally as well as with the private sector, to pool information and advance mutual interests.
- **Personnel increases:** Hiring more frontline law enforcement personnel and appropriate mission support employees.
- **Infrastructure enhancements:** Building tactical infrastructure, such as lighting, pedestrian fencing, vehicle barriers and access roads along the border to deter and prevent illegal entry; upgrading ports of entry to accommodate homeland security tasks and safeguard travelers and officers. ■



★ CBP's targeting center serves as a global resource for assessing the appropriateness of passengers and cargo for admissibility to the United States.



★ CBP's Air and Marine operations use high-tech surveillance aircraft to maintain situational awareness of U.S. borders and other critical areas.

• • • A foreign student sought entry to the U.S. upon arrival at a U.S. international airport. Inspection of his laptop computer revealed numerous terrorist-related images and videos (including explosives, terrorist activities against U.S. military). The subject was turned over to another federal agency and was subsequently convicted of visa fraud and removed from the U.S.



# CBP Targets the T

Prevention, detection





# Threat of Corruption

n, investigation seen as key weapons in assuring integrity of work force

**C**orruption — an ugly word that conjures destructive images of scoundrels with bad intentions.

The dictionary defines it as “perversion or destruction of integrity in the discharge of public duties by bribery or favor.” But that intellectualizes it and strips away the raw emotion that such acts of blatant betrayal stir in the men and women who serve as the guardians of the United States borders.

With 40,000 law enforcement officers and agents stationed around the country and overseas, U.S. Customs and Border Protection is the largest law enforcement agency in the country. But with such large resources comes great challenges.

“We work in one of the most demanding threat environments for corruption in this country,” said acting CBP Commissioner Jayson P. Ahern.

Border Patrol agents work alone in remote surroundings with little oversight of their daily duties. Smugglers, who make their money off of countless desperate immigrants looking for illegal entry into the country or from drug cartels looking to market their

within the agency.” Tomscheck said he seeks a cooperative partnership with all CBP entities, uniformed and support, to enable excellence in performance. Internal affairs role in this partnership is a comprehensive integrity strategy based on prevention, detection and investigation.

The first step is making sure that CBP employees are aware of their responsibilities. Starting at basic training academies, ethics and integrity training are provided for all frontline employees. CBP’s Code of Ethical Conduct is required reading for all new hires. In addition, employees receive periodic integrity awareness training designed to prevent employee corruption and misconduct.

Keeping integrity at the forefront also is the goal of using the CBP internal Web site for listing examples of behavior that betrays the conduct expected of employees, including details of criminal prosecutions. “Trust Betrayed” content reminds employees



# The first step is making sure that every CBP

latest load of dope, will gladly pay big bucks for an agent to look the other way. CBP officers at our ports of entry face the same enticements. Don’t stop, don’t look and don’t ask, just collect the money.

## **Fostering integrity**

In the face of such economic incentives, what is Customs and Border Protection doing to ensure that it can uphold the core values of “vigilance, service to country and integrity?” The answer is... a lot.

It starts by establishing a culture of integrity from the top down. After being named assistant commissioner for CBP’s internal affairs office, James Tomscheck said that his professional goal was “to continue to foster and build a culture of integrity

that “CBP’s employees operate in an environment in which even a single corrupt act of commission or omission represents a potential threat to national security. These examples of criminal misconduct by CBP employees offer a clear reminder of the personal and professional costs associated with integrity failures.”

## **Assuring Suitable Job Applicants**

CBP is working to make sure that its employees have personal values and behavior in sync with the values of the organization—that they are suitable for employment with the federal government. The personnel security division initiates background investigations that are quite thorough and can include a criminal history check, records

checks, verification of previous employment, education and military claims, credit review and interviews with family and associates and other checks. Additional interviews will be conducted, as needed, to resolve any inconsistencies or developed issues.

The process is designed to ensure that candidates are reliable, trustworthy, of good conduct and character and suitable for employment. Suitability is always a consideration for federal employment.

Applicants next are referred to the credibility assessment division for possible polygraph screening. Those who stay in the pool can be referred to a contractor or to a CBP background investigative unit.

Once a final report of investigation is complete it is referred back to CBP to decide

# INTEGRITY

employee is aware of their responsibilities.

if an applicant is suitable for employment based on the information gathered. Adjudicators decide on suitability based on specific guidelines drawn from laws, executive orders and Office of Personnel Management regulations.

The volume is daunting. During fiscal year 2007, more than 19,000 investigations were initiated, more than 18,000 were closed and more than 13,500 were cleared.

“The best predictor of future behavior is past behavior — people who fail to pay bills, shoplift, etc., show more concern for themselves than the safety or well-being of citizens or society,” said John Schwartz, director of the credibility assessment division.

CBP investigators also identify potential vulnerabilities and do assessments

of documented cases of corruption to determine what factors may have caused the situation.

#### Promoting Performance

The eye of suspicion is difficult and presents challenges. Leadership within the management inspection division sees its contribution as promoting CBP performance by emphasizing accountability, integrity and compliance through employee development. The division seeks to assist CBP in identifying opportunities to strengthen operations and management by providing timely, independent and objective analysis.

Employees are required to report alleged corruption and misconduct. However, the idea of turning in a peer goes against very

powerful social conventions. It isn't just law enforcement's “code of silence,” but a cultural notion that starts at an early age. Children are told to “stop telling on your sister,” or “don't be a tattler.” Students have long ignored a classmate cheating off someone else's assignment. No one wants to be thought of as a snitch, but saying or doing nothing, in the case of law enforcement, is unacceptable. If wrongdoing goes unreported, the person “looking the other way” is sacrificing their integrity.

When it comes to assuring the integrity of the CBP work force, Tomsheck said, “Silence is complicity.” ■

---

by *Linda Kane*

A person is shown in silhouette, looking out of a window. The background shows a building with a grid of windows and a tiled roof. The lighting is soft, suggesting an indoor setting with natural light coming from the window.

# *Heeding a Silent*

CBP takes stand against human



# Cry

trafficking

*Illegal* human trafficking and enslavement is a world-wide problem that has spread to the United States. This woman, in her early 20s, was trafficked into a blue jean sweatshop in Bangkok, Thailand where she and other young women were locked in and made to work 20 hours a day, sleeping on the floor, with little to eat and no pay. She managed to escape and was brought to a shelter. After a few days, when she felt safe enough to tell her story to the director, the police were informed and they raided the sweatshop, freeing 38 girls, ages 14-26. CBP is working to identify individuals entering the U.S. that may be victims of such enslavement.

**Human smuggling:** a crime involving the movement of a person across a country's border illegally.

**Human trafficking:** any situation where someone is induced by force, fraud or coercion to work for little or no pay or to engage in a commercial sexual act.



Photos by Kay Chernush for the U.S. State Department

**D**esperate for work and a better life, a family travels from Peru to the United States by paying a smuggling organization for illegal visas. These dreams are quickly shattered, however, when the family falls victim to the smugglers and is trapped in a seeming no-way-out nightmare.

Once they arrived in the U.S., their illegal visas were taken by the criminal smuggling organization and they are told that they must work as house cleaners to pay back \$6,000-\$13,000 in new smuggling fees, or else they'll be turned in to the authorities. They receive \$50 per week to "support" the entire family and are forced to live and sleep in a room filled with 10 people and only one mattress.

While the family voluntarily participated in being illegally smuggled across the U.S. border, when they were threatened with the prospect of being arrested if they did not work, they became victims of a worldwide scourge known as human trafficking.

This disturbing scenario is all too real. While most people who enter the United

States illegally are not forced to work against their will, a U.S. government study estimates that as many as 800,000 people are trafficked across national borders each year and 17,500 people are trafficked into the United States from another country.

CBP officers and Border Patrol agents routinely encounter incidents of human smuggling and human trafficking, and it's important to distinguish between them.

#### **Smuggling vs. Trafficking**

An individual may be smuggled and trafficked, just smuggled, or just trafficked—and the CBP officers and agents must distinguish between them.

- **Human smuggling** is a crime involving the movement of a person across a country's border illegally.
- **In human trafficking**, exploitation is the key, not movement. Trafficking can be defined as any situation where someone is induced by force, fraud or coercion to work for little or no pay or to engage in a

commercial sexual act.

"By warning potential victims about human trafficking and educating them about their rights before the exploitation begins, we can save lives," said CBP Commissioner W. Ralph Basham.

Numerous agencies within the U.S. government are engaged in combating human trafficking, most notably Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of State, the Department of Labor, the Department of Defense and the Department of Justice, but CBP plays a unique role because of its position at the borders.

Frontline CBP employees often are the first people to encounter potential trafficking victims as they enter the country. Some who enter the country may not know they are at risk of being enslaved at the time that they cross the border, but CBP employees can educate potential victims about their rights in the United States and can keep an eye out for warning signs.



...In trafficking, exploitation is the key, not movement... defined as any situation where someone is induced by force, fraud or coercion to work for little or no pay...

As part of a new awareness campaign, CBP employees are attempting to inform travelers who seem like they might be vulnerable to trafficking. CBP is also working to educate the general public to recognize the indicators of human trafficking.

Additional outreach and training activities include the development of an online training course for all CBP employees on identifying human trafficking and information available on the CBP.gov Web site on combating this horrible offense. Each of these tools will better equip CBP employees to identify potential human trafficking victims and to stop the exploitation before it starts.

Law enforcement typically focuses on catching criminals, but CBP is focusing as much on helping victims as on putting the traffickers in jail. This victim-centered approach combined with the agency's role

as the securers of the border give CBP a unique approach to combating modern day slavery. ■

by Laurie Weeks


From left clockwise:

- Much of the world is plagued by the enslavement of children and young adults. In south Asia, entire families can be trapped into a life as carpet weavers when a family member falls into debt.
- Young people looking for a better life in the fishing industry can actually be sold to greedy ship captains.
- State Department estimates are that millions are trapped as sexual slaves worldwide and that they live in such fear they are afraid to seek help.
- Children such as this young girl are prized by exploiters in the carpet industry for their small, fast fingers.









Every day, an army of “quiet professionals” protects the U.S. border against incursions by terrorists and other criminals. These professionals were largely unknown to the American public. But a reality show from ABC Entertainment, “Homeland Security USA,” is changing that.

# Ready for **PRIME TIME**

**CBP takes center stage in ABC reality show**



★ Camera and audio crews from ABC followed officers from several Homeland Security agencies, including CBP. Several scenes of often surprising discoveries of smuggling attempts were featured prominently on *Homeland Security USA*.

The success of a television series entitled “Border Security: Australia’s Front Line” prompted ABC Entertainment to secure the rights for the United States and begin a search for the right producer to handle it. They didn’t have to look very hard to find Arnold Shapiro, an Oscar and multiple Emmy winner and the driving force behind “Scared Straight” and “Rescue 911,” who took the helm and brought the project to fruition.

“Homeland Security USA” ostensibly is about a variety of Department of Homeland Security component agencies—not only CBP but also the Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Coast Guard, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, the Secret Service, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement—but CBP enforcement activities garner much of the spotlight.

#### New Appreciation

Walking into the project, Shapiro was acutely aware of the challenges DHS faced in getting its success stories out to a skeptical public. In May he told the *Hollywood Reporter*, “You hear about every problem that the Department of

Homeland Security is having; you never hear about what they’re doing that’s good.” And indeed, “Homeland Security USA” addresses that. Adds Shapiro, “I love investigative journalism, but that’s not what “Homeland Security USA” is doing. This show is meant to be heartening. It makes you appreciate what people are doing to protect us.”

The experience left Shapiro, who started out with an appreciation for DHS overall, with a new admiration for CBP’s mission in particular. “I don’t think there is a single person on my staff who left a location without a new understanding of what CBP employees are doing to keep all of us secure. We all were impressed with the dedication and professionalism that these men and women have in carrying out their responsibilities.”

Despite his desire to show the positive aspects of CBP’s work, Shapiro studiously avoided any attempt to create an image on behalf of the agency. Rather, all he did, after securing permission from DHS and its components, was let the cameras roll. His team followed the work force around, showed what they do and let them explain how and why they do it. Both Shapiro and

CBP were careful at all times not to give away any law enforcement secrets. The result is an unrehearsed look at what the agency does day in and day out.

#### The Weight of the Nation

The spontaneous nature of the show, together with its focus on the deliberative process of CBP employees as they go through their day, is what ultimately delivers the drama. The decisions that CBP frontline employees must make every day are awesome in their gravity; each

**The spontaneous nature of the show, together with its focus on the deliberative process of CBP employees as they go through their day, is what ultimately delivers the drama.**



★ A key component of the shows was interviews with frontline officers, who not only described what they were doing but why they were doing it.

and every one knows that the weight of national security bears down on them personally.

Not only that, but they must also keep travelers and trade moving; they cannot just stop everything and everyone or our economy and way of life would come to a screeching halt. So a viewer may watch and measure how they would handle a potential risk that comes through the borders. What would you do if you were them? How would you handle it?

The fast-moving show does not go out of its way to spotlight any particular activity on the part of CBP, although one episode does include a depiction of CBP officers denying

entry on the basis of terrorist ties. Filming at airports, sea ports and land border crossings, or on rugged, desolate stretches of border, the crews worked 12-hour shifts to capture a glimpse of what occurs on the thousands of miles of frontier and shoreline that CBP is responsible to protect. In the vast arena “Homeland Security USA” had to operate within, there were sometimes long waits before a story came together.

#### How and Why

In order to secure the footage and the diversity that was needed to produce each one-hour segment, Shapiro hired crews who shot at CBP locations from

Hawaii to Alaska to Puerto Rico, and just about everywhere in between. And CBP responded by welcoming the crews, understanding that this program had the potential to show the American people not only what they do and how they do it, but also, more importantly, why they do it and how very important their jobs are.

“The CBP public affairs officers were really busy during the past year, but we all share the opinion that this project is vital to explaining our mission to the widest possible audience,” says Robert Jacksta, acting assistant commissioner for public affairs at CBP. “And the beauty of this series is that it is about the frontlines of CBP as told by officers and agents directly to the viewing audience. Never before has our work been showcased so dramatically, so directly and so passionately.”

CBP employees diligently continue their law enforcement work, knowing that the true measure of success is that the American people realize they are safer because CBP is on the job.

Unfortunately, the CBP-dominated “Homeland Security USA” appears not to have overcome the juggernaut in its time slot, “American Idol.” It is expected that ABC will only air five remaining episodes this summer. But other primetime series focusing only on CBP are in production. ■



★ Dramatic footage was gathered of CBP Border Patrol apprehensions on the southern border, of air operations in the Caribbean and of activities at ports of entry, but it was the results of drug apprehensions that provided high drama for the show.

by *Bill Anthony*

# Securing

# H





# g History

## CBP officers, agents play key security role at historic inaugural events

A PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION occurs only once every four years but when then-President-elect Barack Obama and Vice President-elect Joe Biden decided to make a whistle-stop tour on their way to the capitol city, the occasion became even more special for thousands of citizens along the train's path to Washington. It also created new challenges for the men and women responsible for security during the inaugural celebration for the U.S.'s 44th president.

The U.S. Secret Service was tasked with leading security efforts. Customs and Border Protection, played a significant supporting role. In all, about 100 CBP officers from the ports of Philadelphia, Wilmington, Del., Baltimore and Washington participated in presidential security details.

Agents from CBP's Air and Marine office and Border Patrol, including mounted agents, provided security support throughout the week-long events.

The sight of the President-elect, peeking out from a 1939 Pullman Standard train car on Jan. 17, presented an opportunity for tens of thousands of spectators to celebrate with the first African-American to be elected president in U.S. history.

Federal, state and local law enforcement worked overtime to secure the 10-car Amtrak train's 137-mile journey from Philadelphia to Washington. The train's route passed through open, unincorporated areas, over major waterways and through urban centers.

During the whistle-stop tour, CBP officers staffed command and operation centers in Philadelphia and Baltimore, conducted waterside security details and roving security patrols at seaports along the train route and participated in the procession down I-495 to Wilmington.

CBP officers also played a critical role in protecting the estimated 1.6 million spectators who crammed the National Mall to witness the historic swearing-in ceremony and Inaugural Parade.

During the inauguration, Baltimore CBP officers stood watch at security checkpoints and conducted perimeter security patrols at the Lincoln Memorial, the U.S. Capital and the National Mall. They also participated in Inaugural Parade security.

Additionally, officers scanned nearly 130 delivery vehicles entering security zones in Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

"The officers all reported that the almost 20-hour day in the freezing cold was difficult, but among the most rewarding events of their career," said James Swanson, CBP director for the Port of Baltimore. ■



Photo by James Tourtellotte

# A last chance to *touch the sky*

**T**he end was nearing for 10-year-old Dustin Cobb. The fight was long and hard, but brain cancer was winning. Dustin was tired.

Dustin suffered from a rare form of cancer called neuroblastoma that affects young children. He had traveled to Vermont from his home in Loganville, Ga. outside of Atlanta to participate in a clinical trial by Dr. Giselle Sholler, a pediatric oncologist. He worked hard to beat the disease, to aid in research and to raise funds for a cure. But the end was nearing.

His family, though, was looking forward. Was there an unfulfilled dream of Dustin's that could be honored in his last days? Dustin always was fascinated with the sky. He dreamed of flying.

The call came to CBP's Plattsburgh, N.Y. Air Branch with little time to spare. Could they make this last dream come true? Authorization came quickly and Director of Air Operations Mike Johnson and Air Interdiction Agent Rob Lazzaro took off in a helicopter July 16 and sped to nearby Fletcher Allen Children's Hospital in Burlington, Vt.

Dustin's mother Barbara, Dr. Sholler and support staff at the hospital met the CBP pilots at the helipad. An ambulance crew at the hospital transported Dustin, and he was placed in the back seat next to his mom and Dr. Sholler. Soon the helicopter took off, soaring over a spectacular Lake Champlain sunset.

Dr. Sholler was at his side and reported that Dustin was able to take

in his experience. He was quiet and thoughtful, a sign that he knew that this was special. Although a brief flight, approximately 15 minutes, she also reported that the higher elevation actually relieved some of the pain Dustin had been feeling in his bones. The mission was accomplished.

After the flight, a tired Dustin was presented with a certificate making him an honorary CBP pilot and with Air and Marine patches, lapel pin wings and a toy helicopter. Dustin and team gratefully returned to his hospital room.

Honorary U.S. Customs and Border Protection Pilot Dustin Cobb, having touched the sky courtesy of his new comrades at CBP, died the next morning. ■



★ Dustin's Cobb's mom Barbara congratulates him after completion of his first flight as a CBP honorary pilot.

## FIGHTING NEUROBLASTOMA

Dustin Cobb worked hard to assist in the fight against neuroblastoma, making bracelets from his hospital bed while undergoing chemotherapy. He raised \$3,000 to fight the disease through the Penelope and Sam Fund for Neuroblastoma research at the University of Vermont.

Information can be obtained at the Children's Neuroblastoma Cancer Foundation Web site: [www.nbhope.org](http://www.nbhope.org)

# Agents Rescue Man after 40-Foot Drop from Cliff

**B**order Patrol search and rescue agents from the Del Rio, Texas sector rescued a Mexican national after he plunged off a 40-foot cliff, sustaining multiple serious injuries. The man was stabilized, transported from the desolate area by boat and then rushed to a hospital where he spent several days in intensive care before being stabilized.

Just before noon on March 4, agents discovered a 28-year-old Mexican national seriously injured in a remote area 20 miles west of Comstock, Texas. By tracing the last visible footprints, agents believe the man fell 40 feet off of a cliff he attempted to climb along the Rio Grande River.

He sustained multiple injuries to his leg and hip. The Border Patrol search, trauma and rescue unit, a highly trained specialized medical unit within Border Patrol, was called for assistance along with assets from CBP Air and Marine.

CBP personnel combined efforts to get the man to safety from the remote scene. The subject was transported by boat to a landing on the Pecos River, where local emergency personnel were standing by with an ambulance.

The individual initially was taken to Val Verde Regional Medical Center in Del Rio and was later airlifted to Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio. He has multiple broken bones and damaged organs, but appeared to be out of danger a week after the incident. ■



★ Rescue personnel from the Border Patrol attempt to stabilize a Mexican man who apparently had fallen from a 40-foot cliff near Comstock, Texas. The agents are bracing his extremities and providing intravenous fluids in preparation for removing him from this remote riverbank and transporting him to a nearby hospital.



★ Having managed to safely remove the man from the riverbank, agents managed to transport the man to a nearby boat and take him to a landing where local emergency crews awaited. The man was reported to be out of danger after about a week in intensive care.

# EX-NFL PLAYER

## Opts for CBP Career



★ Border Patrol Agent Jamaal Green has traded the helmets and pads of pro football for a badge and a gun as he secures the U.S. near El Paso, Texas.

**T**he dream career for some people would be to play football for the Philadelphia Eagles, Chicago Bears or the Washington Redskins.

For Jamaal Green, who once was a defensive end for all three teams, his dream was to one day work in law enforcement. His dream became a reality on Feb. 17 when he became a U.S. Border Patrol agent in the El Paso area.

“A lot of kids look up to professional athletes as heroes,” said Green, who currently works at the Border Patrol checkpoint on Montana Avenue heading towards Carlsbad. “Me, I looked up to law enforcement officers as heroes.”

Green, who was born and raised in Camden, N.J., said it was never his boyhood dream to play football. He started playing football during his junior year at Woodrow Wilson High School at the urging of one of the team’s coaches.

“He saw I had some kind of athletic ability and he saw how big I was,” said the 6-foot-3-inch former athlete. “I picked up the game pretty well.”

Green was so successful on his team, he was named to the New Jersey All-State first team. His success also earned him a full scholarship to the University of Miami, where

he lead his team in sacks and helped win a national championship in 2001 during the Rose Bowl game against Nebraska.

But after he was picked during the fourth round of the 2003 NFL draft by the Philadelphia Eagles, he was plagued by a rash of preseason injuries.

“I was five minutes away from where I grew up. It was my hometown team and everybody was excited,” Green said. “During my third preseason game, I broke my right fibula and I tore a ligament. I have a plate and seven screws in my leg right now. That injury caused me to miss my whole first season in the NFL.”

Green was heartbroken but determined to come back in time for the next season, but was injured again during the preseason.

“I was fortunate enough to come back and have three good games in a row,” Green said. “I was projected to be one of the starters (in the next year).”

Those expectations were shattered when Green was injured again during the preseason. After earning an NFC Championship ring with the Eagles, he was released and picked up by the Chicago Bears, but after yet another preseason injury, he was released and joined the Washington Redskins.

It was during a home game with the Redskins that, during a pregame show, Green discovered the U.S. Border Patrol.

“The Border Patrol was at the game doing a pregame show with the National Anthem. They were saluting at the game, and that was the first time I’ve ever seen the Border Patrol,” Green said.

Green, who majored in criminology at the University of Miami, said his wife, Nailah, knew about the agency and once thought about applying there.

“I looked up the Border Patrol and found out what they wanted to accomplish,” Green said.



★ Green had been the long arm of the law for scrambling quarterbacks, but looked at law enforcement officers as heroic.



continued from page 30

After growing up in Camden and seeing first-hand how drugs and gangs could destroy families, Green said he could make a difference in combating those problems by becoming a Border Patrol agent.

"It's one thing to be talking about it, and another thing to do something and prevent it," Green said.

Moving to El Paso has also given the Green family a better opportunity at a safer upbringing. Green and his wife have two children, a son Jahaan, 2, and a daughter Jahzara, 1.

"It's great being a lot further away from places like (Camden) to raise kids," Green said. "It's a good thing to be able to move out here to a safer city

and have a better chance at a decent life. It's a lot better."

At least three Camden natives have had the same idea. Green said he's run into three people in El Paso who also attended Woodrow Wilson High School.

Many of Green's coworkers have asked Green why he gave up the glamorous life of an NFL player to become an agent. While at the Border Patrol academy, Green said he received calls from the Oakland Raiders and the Houston Texans with offers to join their respective practice squads, but Green declined.

"They (co-workers) said 'That's crazy that you would do that, leave your dream to come to the Border Patrol,'" Green said. "I tell them that was never my dream. It was a quick

way for me to earn a free ride to school. I stayed in football long enough to get out of there safe. In my position (as defensive end), it's so brutal that by the age of 45 you might not be able to walk straight. My health is more important than the extra money."

For the most part, Green has been welcomed with open arms by his fellow agents and his superiors.

"Agent Green is representative of our expanded recruitment efforts that continue to be conducted throughout the nation," said El Paso Sector Chief Patrol Agent Victor M. Manjarrez Jr. "His background speaks highly of the quality of our employees and the varied work experiences that support our national strategy of protecting our nation's borders." ■

Reprinted with permission from the El Paso Times, January 12, 2009. Written by Adriana M. Chávez.

# CBP advisors provide expertise and assistance abroad

**M**uch publicity has been focused recently on CBP's efforts to tighten America's borders. CBP is hiring more law enforcement personnel, building more border fencing and employing more sophisticated technology to detect and deter illegal aliens, smugglers, and terrorists.

But far beyond the spotlight of U.S. borders, CBP advisors are deployed abroad where they provide training, technical assistance, and expert advice to foreign customs administrations and border control agencies. The Office of International Affairs and Trade Relations is responsible for managing these advisory programs.

CBP advisors quickly learn they must deal with complex and sensitive issues, typically having widespread political, economic and legal implications, to accomplish their mission.

Difficult situations often arise. Such as in a remote part of Peru, where a dog and

his handler were cautiously making their way through a coca field. Behind them, workers were pulling up plants, engaged in the government's campaign to destroy the illicit crops of drug producers. But when the dog quietly sat down, everyone stopped.

The dog and his handler, recent graduates of a CBP canine explosive detection training program, discovered an improvised explosive device hidden as a booby trap. Thanks to the CBP training, the story had a safe ending for those risking their lives in the struggle against drug smuggling.

CBP advisor Saul Hernandez, a former canine enforcement officer, played a leading role in establishing the canine training program that the director of the Narcotics Affairs Section at the U.S. Embassy in Lima has called "the best explosives canine program in Peru and [one that is] imperative to support ongoing eradication efforts." Drawing on his own experience,

Hernandez was the chief architect in creating a self-sustaining canine unit for Peruvian Customs.

Hernandez also played a pivotal part in building a model counter-narcotics program at the Jorge Chavez International Airport in Lima, fully linking for the first time a joint effort of Peruvian Customs, Immigration and National Police officers that has resulted in the seizure of over 2,000 kilograms of cocaine, 8 kilograms of heroin and the arrest of 400 smugglers in 2006. Hernandez spearheaded the narcotics section's airport program, which accounted for the seizure of almost as many drugs in the first three months of 2007 as were seized during the entire year of 2005 — before narcotics section involvement and support.

Hernandez and others like him go far beyond the borders of the United States to help keep America safe. ■

# CBP PERSONNEL ADVISING on Afghanistan border security strategy



★ CBP Officers Gene Protiogiannis (second from left) and Ed Cassidy (far right) with government officials from Afghanistan.

CBP personnel are part of the Afghanistan Border Management Task Force that is operating under the U.S. Embassy in Kabul and the U.S. Department of Defense to help Afghanistan determine how best to secure its borders.

CBP officers Ed Cassidy and Gene Protiogiannis are temporarily detailed to the task force in Kabul to work collaboratively with other government and non-government agencies to assist the Afghan Customs Department with border security strategy.

Cassidy is serving as the task force's acting director and Protiogiannis is the acting customs coordinator. They arrived in Kabul last fall and since their arrival they have continued to coordinate with other U.S. government agencies including the

Department of Defense, the United Nations International Security Assistance Force, the host government of Afghanistan and the governments of other countries donating funds.

Among the task force's successes is an agreement negotiated on training courses for the Afghan Customs Department with the Deputy Minister of Finance and Director General of Afghan Customs.

CBP's training for Afghan Customs has already resulted in improved detection of illegal merchandise. An Afghan inspector trained by CBP was able to detect a false compartment in a bus after CBP training. The bus driver who was detained admitted he had used the compartment for five years and had never been caught by Afghan Customs until now.

The task force has four core focus areas :

- **Mentor Operations:** The task force fields contract mentors that are stationed at the two highest volume ports of entry in Afghanistan - Islam Qalah on the Iranian border and Torkham at the Khyber Pass on the Pakistan border.
- **Equipment and Infrastructure:** The task force provides assistance in improving and developing infrastructure at border crossing points and supplies equipment such as high-tech scanners, vehicles, tools, cargo handling equipment, furniture, office equipment, computers, etc.
- **Border Security Strategy:** The task force coordinates with the government of Afghanistan, the Department of State, Department of Defense, other U.S. Agencies and the International Security Assistance Force in developing border control and border security strategies.
- **Donor Coordination:** The task force co-founded a customs donor coordination organization with the European Commission. The organization seeks to coordinate multinational efforts in the areas of equipment, infrastructure development, training and legislative reform. Members of the organization include the Border Management Task Force, USAID, European Commission, Canada, Japan and the World Bank. ■



- ★ Top: Cargo is transferred at an Afghanistan scale facility.
- ★ Left: Border Patrol Agent Mike Paxton outside a truck-scale facility in Afghanistan.
- ★ Bottom Right: Ret. CBP Officer Darryl Essing checks to make sure a truck arriving from Iran is properly sealed.

# Agency rolls out emergency notification for trade community

The trade community has repeatedly stressed that rapid notification is essential to minimize operational disruption, therefore, in coordination with the Commercial Operations Advisory Committee, or COAC, and other members of the trade community, CBP developed the Unified Business Resumption Message.

This message is available on CBP.gov, through a ListServ and also through an RSS feed. The message is activated when a Port of Entry shuts down commercial operations. The messaging is available for the northern border, southern border, rail and maritime.

The UBRM has been used consistently for events as large as hurricanes or much smaller disruptive events – anything shutting down commercial operations.

CBP's Unified Business Resumption Message was developed in response to the Security & Prosperity Partnership Initiative 9.2. This agreement calls for communication and coordination protocols between the U.S. and Canada and the U.S. and Mexico to be activated during a disaster, event or incident affecting the flow of trade and travel. ■

## Expanded ACE Capabilities Slated for 2009

CBP's commercial trade processing system, the Automated Commercial Environment, is on track to expand its capabilities to include entry summary and electronic rail and sea manifest processing by mid-2009. Once deployed, CBP will use the enhanced ACE capabilities to process rail and sea cargo and to conduct basic entry summary transactions.

CBP will begin to modernize the entry summary process with the deployment of ACE initial entry summary capabilities. Following deployment, nearly 96 percent of all entry summaries will be filed in ACE, increasing communications between CBP and the trade community.

A new census warning process will enable the trade community to electronically override census warnings, eliminating the use of paper forms and CBP's need to review and store the paper entry summary package. Initial entry summary processing capabilities will also provide national visibility of forms, rejects, team reviews and other actions. Sharing information port-to-port through ACE is part of CBP's shift toward an account-based business approach and will support consistent implementation of trade policy and procedures.

CBP will also be replacing current rail and sea automated manifest systems with ACE. Once deployed, ACE account holders will be able to electronically check bill of lading status, confirm CBP receipt of manifest data, add or change vessel codes and identify authorized custodial



Photo by James Tourtellotte

■ CBP will use enhanced ACE capabilities to conduct basic entry summary transactions while processing rail and sea cargo

bond users. Sea carriers will also be able to update lists of vessels, chartered or owned, in ACE rather than e-mailing CBP to make the necessary changes.

For companies that process in-bond cargo, ACE will allow account holders to input and maintain a list of entities authorized to use their custodial bond, restrict usage between specific ports and impose an optional expiration date on bond usage terms. ■

# Border security partners target fake, dangerous goods

**U**.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement recently announced that it had increased seizures of counterfeit and pirated goods that might pose a health or safety risk to consumers or threaten the security of the United States.

“The dedicated men and women of CBP and ICE will continue to stop potentially dangerous products from reaching our store shelves. In today’s global trading environment, CBP must be even more vigilant in targeting dangerous counterfeit products such as electrical goods, pharmaceuticals and computer hardware,” said CBP’s Assistant Commissioner for International Trade, Daniel Baldwin.

Last year CBP seized items such as electrical articles, semiconductors, computer network hardware, sunglasses, pharmaceuticals and perfume. In December, for example, CBP seized more than 30,000 counterfeit Christmas lights that may have posed a safety risk to consumers. The goods had a domestic value of over \$300,000 and were imported from China.

CBP’s targeting and risk analysis allow CBP to focus on these types of goods and interdict shipments efficiently and accurately. CBP defends over 300 ports and processes millions of entries annually and works with the trade partners and with other government agencies.

## Operation Guardian Eyes Harmful Goods

CBP and ICE are also working together to combat dangerous products, including dangerous counterfeit products through an initiative known as Operation Guardian. The program, which began in 2007, is designed

to coordinate the work of not only CBP and ICE but also other government agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration Office of Criminal Investigations, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the Department of Justice Computer Crimes & Intellectual

Property Section, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Operation Guardian has stopped more than \$6 million in harmful products, some of which are also counterfeit, from entering the country during its first year of operation.

During fiscal year 2008, the domestic value of seized products for intellectual property rights violations that might also pose health, safety or security risks increased more than 120 percent.

In fiscal year 2007, CBP and ICE made 1,295 seizures of potentially dangerous counterfeit goods valued at almost \$28 million.

Overall seizures of pirated and counterfeit merchandise totaled more than \$272 million in fiscal year 2008, which ended October 31, 2008.

In fiscal year 2008, CBP seized \$62.5 million worth of products for intellectual property rights violations that might pose health, safety or security risks. ■



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# Travel Tips

## Q&A

### Who is eligible for the Visa Waiver program?

To participate in the Visa Waiver program (VWP) you must be a citizen of a participating VWP country. The 27 countries participating in the VWP are:

Andorra	Norway	France	Switzerland
Monaco	Brunei	Slovenia	Italy
Australia	Portugal	Germany	Japan
Netherlands	Denmark	Spain	Liechtenstein
Austria	San Marino	Iceland	Luxembourg
New Zealand	Finland	Sweden	United Kingdom*
Belgium	Singapore	Ireland	

*\*British citizens only with the unrestricted right of abode in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.*

- Each applicant (including infants) must be in possession of a passport from a VWP country valid for six months beyond the period of your intended stay, or essentially nine months (90 day + 6 months). Passports issued before October 26, 2005, must be machine-readable.
- Passports issued on or after October 26, 2005, and before October 26, 2006, must contain a digital photo.
- Passports issued on or after October 26, 2006, must be an "E-passport", which must contain an integrated chip that stores biographic data, a digitized photo, and other biographic information. Applicants must be entering only as a visitor for business (WB) or pleasure (WT). Applicants cannot be admitted for more than 90 days.
- Applicants must present a signed and completed Form I-94W.
- Applicants arriving by air or sea must arrive on a carrier that is signatory to the VWP.
- Applicants arriving by air or sea must possess a ticket, valid for at least one year, to any foreign place/port other than Canada or Mexico or an adjacent island unless you permanently reside there.
- Applicants arriving at land borders are required to prove economic solvency and a foreign residence to which they intend to return.

### What should I do if I am not approved for travel to the U.S. through the Electronic System for Travel Authorization?

If an Electronic System for Travel Authorization, or ESTA, application is denied and the traveler wishes to continue with the trip, the traveler will be required to apply for a nonimmigrant visa at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate. Please visit [www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov) for further assistance on visa applications.

If you would like to find out the reason for your ESTA denial - visit [www.dhs.gov/trip](http://www.dhs.gov/trip) and file a redress through the DHS Travel Redress Inquiry Program.

You may reapply for an approval 10 days after denial, but please note that unless your circumstances have changed, you will not qualify for an ESTA and will need to apply for a nonimmigrant visa. In addition, reapplying with false information for the purposes of qualifying for an ESTA could make you permanently ineligible for travel to the U.S.

### Can you please give me advice on how to be prepared for my return to the United States?

When you return, you will need to declare everything you brought back that you did not take with you when you left the United States. If you are traveling by air or sea, you may be asked to fill out a CBP declaration form. This form is almost always provided by the airline or cruise ship. You will probably find it easier and faster to fill out your declaration form and clear CBP if you do the following:

- Keep your sales slips.
- Try to pack the things you'll need to declare separately.

# Moving on Up

Unmanned plane arrives to patrol northern border



Photo by Juan A. Muñoz-Torres

**C**BP Air and Marine relocated one of its five unmanned aircraft from Sierra Vista, Ariz., to Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D. This relocation was the result of a three-year effort to expand the use of CBP Unmanned Aircraft Systems to the northern border.

The seven-hour flight demonstrated the advances that Air and Marine has made in expanding its unmanned program from one aircraft flown by contractor pilots in 2005 along 400 miles of the Arizona-Mexico border to a fleet of five aircraft flown by trained CBP pilots capable of performing cross-country flights.

Like the addition of other technology along the border, the UAS is a key component of CBP's border security strategy, acting as a force multiplier to air

and marine interdiction agents operating in their respective environments and Border Patrol agents on the land borders. Expanding the program to the northern border will help address the unique challenges along the nearly 4,000 miles of shared border with Canada.

The beginning of the northern border operations was marked this past February with a dedication ceremony at the operation center at Grand Forks. The ceremony was attended by CBP leadership in addition to federal, state and local representatives.

In addition to border security operations, the aircraft has the capability to support cross border operations, interior enforcement, maritime security and critical incident response.

The remotely piloted aircraft, capable

of flying up to 20 operational hours at a time at altitudes up to 50,000 feet, enables CBP to provide reconnaissance, intelligence, surveillance, tracking and acquisition capabilities in areas that are difficult to access or otherwise considered too high-risk for manned aircraft or CBP personnel on the ground.

In order to make the program operationally successful, CBP will work in full partnership with other law enforcement entities, military personnel, as well as Canadian counterparts to share information that is valuable in all of our roles of keeping bad things and bad people out of the country. The aircraft, which are not armed, will be employed mostly at night along remote areas on the land border to help detect, identify and classify illegal cross-border activity. ■



# A&M to launch **11** new marine units

**C**BP's Office of Air and Marine will improve the agency's intelligence and response to maritime threats by establishing 11 new Marine Units.

Much of CBP's maritime interdiction efforts to date have concentrated on the Florida Keys, the west coast of Florida and the eastern Caribbean, where America faces the threats of drug traffic and illegal immigration from South America, Mexico, Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

The location and strength of the new marine units is based on the latest intelligence of maritime threats and the operational assessments of CBP field commanders. The sites selected provide the coverage to obtain needed intelligence on illegal activities in the region and the response capabilities to interdict vessels attempting to approach our shores within the most likely transit corridors.

CBP has been working since 2007 to acquire the resources for the new marine units. To provide an appropriate blend of expertise at the new sites, CBP Air and Marine has recruited new marine interdiction agents and promoted and reassigned personnel from within its existing workforce. A total of 34 marine vessels are being acquired to support the new marine units; 26 interceptors and 8 coastal enforcement class vessels. ■



Photo by Juan A. Muñoz-Torres

• New marine units will provide the coverage necessary to obtain intelligence on illegal activities within likely illegal trafficking corridors.

## CBP Joins Efforts to Secure Super Bowl

**T**oday's major sporting and cultural events might be seen as a ripe target for a terrorist strike. To deter this, CBP joins an array of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to safeguard important venues, such as the Raymond James Stadium, site of the 2009 Super Bowl. CBP's air assets play an important part in maintaining air space closures, patrolling the area and providing high-level surveillance, assuring that a way of life is maintained.

After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the approach to security planning for public events of national importance, such as the 2002 Winter Olympics, national conventions of political parties and the Super Bowl changed dramatically. Until then, the security for these events was primarily the responsibility of local and state law enforcement organizations. Today these operations have become the responsibility of interagency task forces that begin to meet and plan many months and even years ahead of time.

Since those Winter Olympic Games, CBP has been asked to assist in the planning and implementation of the security operations for a number of National Special Security Events. CBP Air and Marine continues to improve and increase this support by adapting new technologies and evolving new practices in the field of air support and security operations. Examples of this were the participation earlier this year during the Presidential Inauguration in Washington and Super Bowl XLIII in Tampa, Fla. During these two events, CBP helped maximize partner agencies' law enforcement capabilities by providing air and maritime surveillance. CBP Air and Marine deployed several types of platforms, facilitated microwave video downlink capability at the request of its interagency partners and provided command, control and coordination for non-defense assets. ■



Photo by Gerald L. Nino

• CBP air assets played an important role in maintaining air space closures and providing surveillance during Super Bowl XLIII in Tampa, Fla.

# CBP helps stem impact of H1N1 flu outbreak

U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel played a key role in the U.S. response to the H1N1 flu outbreak this spring, screening passengers for illness while keeping the borders open, allowing the appropriate flow of people and goods into the country.

After years of preparatory drills and training on pandemic response, officers and agents were ready when the flu hit. Travelers with signs of illness were isolated and referred to health officials and steps were taken to prevent spread to CBP personnel or among travelers.

CBP Acting Commissioner Jayson P. Ahern addressed personnel during early news of the outbreak, asking them to be vigilant in facing this fast-changing challenge. “The

security and welfare of the American people depend upon your ability to carry out your duties,” Ahern wrote.

CBP’s Office of Intelligence and Operations Coordination oversaw an incident response center dedicated to information exchange between the Department of Homeland Security, CBP

headquarters and field locations. Encounters with potentially sick individuals, reports of sick employees and any confirmation of H1N1 infection were recorded. Operations at ports of entry throughout the nation continued to be smooth.

CBP also took part in DHS operations center activities. DHS was the lead federal agency coordinating a federal response, working closely with Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This outbreak required full effort on behalf of many federal, state and local entities, particularly during early stages.

As medical professionals and epidemiologists analyzed the never-before seen H1N1 strain and determined its virulence, operations soon returned to normal. Officers and agents always are on alert for ill individuals and have standard response protocols in place, including referral to health professionals.

While securing the nation against terrorism and upholding hundreds of border-related laws remain CBP’s primary missions, it joins its DHS brethren in responding to all incidents that threaten the American people. ■



Photo credit: Barry Bahler

★ Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, right, addresses federal response to the H1N1 flu outbreak during an April 29 briefing. Napolitano stressed that the federal government was taking multiple steps throughout the nation to assess and control the outbreak. Also providing guidance was Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, center, and Rear Adm. Anne Schuchat of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

# CBP actions help protect ozone layer

CBP personnel are trained to intercept all threats that may be introduced through the border into the United States. Threats can be weapons of mass destruction, or a colorless, odorless gas that harms the environment.

CFC Refrigerant R-12, also known as Freon, was used as refrigerant in air conditioners and refrigerators until being phased out in 1996 under the U.S. Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. CFCs have been determined to be one of the causes of ozone depletion and are regulated internationally by the Montreal Protocol.

One of CBP's major responsibilities is to enforce regulations and decisions of other federal agencies. So in the case of these banned and dangerous products, CBP reached out to the Environmental Protection Agency and other concerned agencies on how best to manage and dispose of seized and forfeited R-12.

The Department of Defense through its Defense Supply Center in Richmond, Va., the Department of Homeland Security and CBP have worked together since 1995 on a program to provide expert management of CBP-seized ozone depleting substances, primarily refrigerant R-12. In accordance with the Montreal Protocol and the U.S. Clean Air Act, only companies with EPA allowances and permits could import specific ozone depleting substances into the United States after January 1, 1996.

CBP's fines, penalties and forfeiture division, under the direction of Dennis A. McKenzie, established a program that featured coordination among the agencies and also brought together the Internal Revenue Service, Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the departments of Justice, State and Treasury to ensure successful, legal processing and final disposition of forfeited substances that were brought into the U.S. illegally.

## Handle with care

CBP and the partners came up with a solution for the logistics issues, which included product identification techniques, specialized storage procedures and monitoring for any potential leaks of products during the long-term storage period and final disposition of the forfeited material.

"This program has proven to be a premier example of cooperation and execution between federal agencies that resulted in cost savings and positive environmental results through protection of the earth's stratospheric ozone layer," said CBP director McKenzie. "Above all it shows that partnership matters and that by working together we can create a government that 'works better and costs less.'"

Mutual benefits of this multi-agency program included substantial savings to the Defense Department, CBP and other federal agencies. In lieu of procurements, Defense was able to make use of several thousand pounds of R-12 seized prior to the 1996 import ban, saving thousands of dollars for acquisitions from commercial sources. Utilizing the Defense Department's knowledge and experience in handling and destroying these chemicals, CBP and other agencies benefited from substantial savings on storage costs. Moreover, they were confident that the substance was properly stored and monitored.

The R-12 seized after the 1996 import ban was later destroyed by a licensed Plasma Arc destruction facility and EPA-certified reclaimer in Bowling Green, Ohio in accordance with applicable emission guidelines. This technology was chosen because of its ability to monitor emissions on a real-time basis. Its high performance destruction system tested at 99.9999 percent effective.

"Our Plasma Arc System is designed to handle a 100 percent halocarbon load resulting in the complete destruction of halocarbons that is not possible with most other high temperature thermal technologies" said destruction contractor President Richard Marcus of RemTec International. "Unlike incineration, the only material fed into the process is CFCs, which facilitates accurate measuring of destruction efficiency during stack emissions testing."

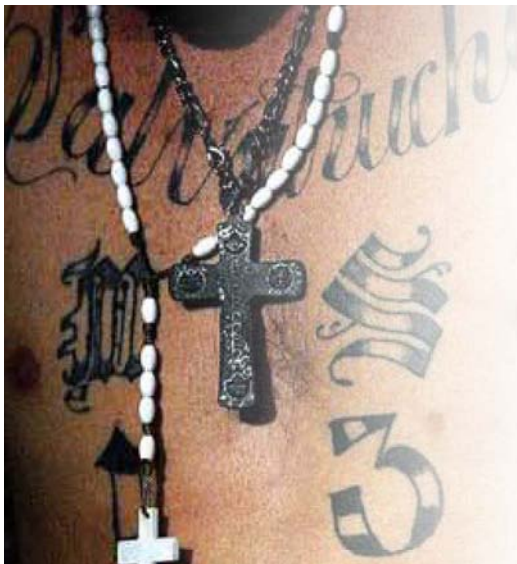
Recently CBP representatives McKenzie and William A. Calnan, the program manager, traveled to Richmond Va. to attend the presentation of CBP silver plaques by Brigadier General Busch, commander of the Defense Supply Center, to four staff members instrumental in making the management of R-12 a success.



## Next challenge

CBP's fines, penalties and forfeitures division is again reaching out to all concerned agencies for the next phase that involves HCFC-22 or R-22, a refrigerant gas used in small air conditioning units in the U.S. HCFC-22 is also an ozone-depleting substance, and since 2003 its production or importation has been restricted by EPA, with the goal of eventually eliminating its production and importation entirely by the year 2020.

With significant reductions in allowances scheduled in 2010 and even more in 2015, there already are importation bans for this product. CBP has seized thousands of pounds of R-22, which shows the ever increasing complexity and volume of trade, and is again coordinating with EPA and other agencies on how best to manage and dispose of seized and forfeited HCFC-22. ■



# FIGHTING GANGS

CBP joins national effort to target activities near borders

The Department of Justice's National Gang Intelligence Center is a multi-agency effort that integrates gang intelligence developed by federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement entities. Although it is a relatively new partner in this effort, CBP is providing actionable intelligence about gang activity related to the U.S. border.

CBP is staffing the center, located in Northern Virginia, with representatives from the offices of intelligence and operations coordination, field operations and Border Patrol.

Agencies participating in the center along with CBP include U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement,

the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the National Drug Intelligence Center, Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, U.S. Marshals Service and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

The mission of the center is to support law enforcement agencies through timely and accurate information sharing and strategic/tactical analysis of law enforcement information focusing on the growth, migration and criminal activities of gangs that pose a significant threat to communities throughout the United States.

CBP's work with the center will also enhance its capabilities to secure the nation's borders. ■

**\*\*The *Frontline* staff sincerely apologizes to any of our readers who were offended by this photograph of a gang member wearing a Christian cross and rosary that accompanied the article. As a matter of CBP policy, *Frontline* magazine and its staff does not associate criminal activity with any race, creed, religious or ethnic group.\*\***



# Unified Intelligence Center Breaks Ground in Tucson

CBP leaders recently gathered in Tucson, Ariz., at the site of what is to be the first newly constructed Intelligence and Operations Coordination Center.

The 25,000 square-foot facility will be located adjacent to Border Patrol sector headquarters and will house the most current technology to help CBP better perform its missions. In addition, when completed, the Tucson coordination center will be staffed

by highly trained and experienced operators, analysts and support personnel from all three CBP frontline operational components.

One of former CBP Commissioner W. Ralph Basham's priorities was to transform CBP into a fully integrated, intelligence-driven organization. Basham saw the unique position CBP is in to leverage 30,000-plus frontline officers and agents, both to gain information that can be used to strengthen our nation's security and to act upon

intelligence that will help meet critical border security mission.

Basham combined CBP's Office of Intelligence, Office of Antiterrorism and elements from other offices within CBP into the new Office of Intelligence and Operations Coordination, whose purpose is to make CBP a more fully integrated, intelligence-driven organization. ■

# Vigilance

Photo by James Tourtellote

## WE ARE THE GUARDIANS OF OUR NATION'S BORDER

A CBP Blackhawk swoops down on suspected  
illegal activity near the southwest border of the U.S.



**CBP**

[www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov)

# CBP Participates in Targeting **FOOT-AND-MOUTH** Disease

**F**oot-and-mouth disease is highly contagious and can destroy entire herds of livestock around the world. It also can severely damage a region's agriculture vitality and harm a nation's economy.

Federal, state and local authorities have long believed that foot-and-mouth disease, introduced deliberately, could have effects similar to weapons of mass destruction and have developed plans to deal with a potential outbreak. No fewer than 32 federal, state and local government agencies and universities descended upon three Philadelphia area venues last fall to test existing plans.

"Recent events have shown that the United States is not impervious to acts of terrorism," said Chief Customs and Border Protection Agriculture Specialist Hal Fingerman, CBP's lead planner for the exercise. "Agro-terrorism represents a class of non-traditional terrorism that poses new challenges to law enforcement and to regulatory agencies."

The exercise was carried out in three venues, the Chester County Emergency Operations Center, the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine in Kennett Square, Pa., and the Philadelphia Naval Business Center.

All three sites tested response management, communications, collection

and preservation of evidence and decontamination procedures. The University of Pennsylvania site also tested epidemiology response and management.

CBP participated in the exercise, demonstrating how potentially critical a role the agency might play in a real world agro-terrorism event. A significant element of the exercise involved a "report" that authorities had linked a merchant seaman, aboard a commercial vessel moored at Philadelphia, to a deliberate foot and mouth disease outbreak on the West Coast.

"CBP field operations' primary role was to return to the vessel, secure the vessel and all crew, identify the target crewman and obtain his true identity," said Edward Moriarty, Philadelphia assistant port director for tactical operations.

Had this sailor been permitted shore leave, he would have undoubtedly introduced foot-and-mouth disease to livestock on the East Coast as well.

Moriarty, the Philadelphia assistant port director for tactical operations, considered CBP's participation a success.

"CBP field ops worked well with all 32 participating federal, state and local entities," said Moriarty. "CBP demonstrated its ability to bring significant resources quickly and



efficiently to help stabilize the incident; our ability to share vessel boarding and search history helped facilitate the entry's complex mission. And our ability to quickly identify the target crewman as a terrorist was instrumental to the investigation." ■

## Past Outbreaks

U.S. livestock producers suffered nine outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease between 1905 and 1925. The most serious occurred in 1914, when 3,500 livestock herds with more than 170,000 cattle, sheep and swine were infected. That outbreak cost taxpayers \$4.5 million in 1914 U.S. dollars. Fortunately, the U.S. has been free of foot and mouth disease since 1929.

# Delaware CBP outruns invasive Mile-a-Minute Weed

**C**ustoms and Border Protection agriculture specialists at the Port of Wilmington, Del. had to be quick in late March when they corralled an invasive weed species known as the Mile-a-Minute Weed, banned in the United States.

A U.S. Department of Agriculture botanist identified a weed seed, discovered during a CBP inspection of pineapples that arrived aboard a ship from Costa Rica, as the noxious weed so named because it can grow as much as three inches in 24 hours, crowding out native species.

"Our agriculture specialists immediately recognized this weed seed discovery as a potential threat to American agriculture and asked the Department of Agriculture for an urgent identification," said Zachary Pillarelli, CBP supervisory agriculture specialist for the Port of Wilmington.

When suspicions were confirmed, the shipment was not allowed to enter the U.S. ■

# Agriculture Specialists Discover '1ST IN NATION' PESTS

U.S. Customs and Border Protection agriculture specialists at Newark Liberty International Airport and the Port of Buffalo recently make two first-ever identifications of pests before they were allowed into the United States.

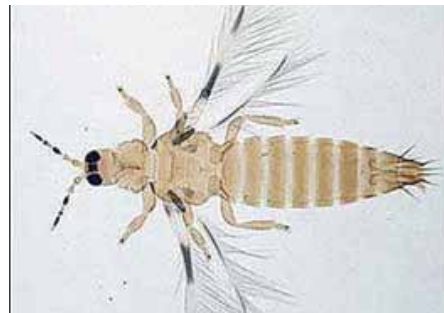
On March 10, a Newark CBP agriculture specialist discovered a plant bug, *Hallodapus* sp (Miridae), on a commercial importation of thyme from Israel. This species was described as a quarantine pest that had the potential to cause economic damage to the trillion dollar U.S. agriculture industry. The plant bug was forwarded to the USDA laboratory for identification and a final report was forwarded that confirmed CBP's identification of the pest.

Agriculture specialists were inspecting cut flowers at the Rainbow Bridge border crossing in Niagara Falls, N.Y. when they intercepted a suspected pathogen and forwarded it to the U.S. Department of Agriculture laboratory for identification. In January, a final report identified the pathogen as *Pleurophomopsis salicina*. Until this interception, this pathogen was known to occur only in central Europe.

This follows another "first in the nation" interception in Buffalo in 2008. A traveler at the border crossing declared langsat, a prohibited fruit. During a detailed inspection of the fruit, specialists discovered an adult insect and sent it to the Department of Agriculture laboratory that identified the pest as *Isonidothrips serangga Kudo* (Thripidae). This pest reportedly has the capability to cause damage to the American agriculture industry.

The Thripidae insect intercepted was determined to be a first time interception of this species in the United States. This Thripidae is native to India and has spread to other countries such as Malaysia. This species was only discovered 16 years ago and very little is known about it.

"The U.S.-Canadian border serves as a potential pathway for the potential entry of devastating exotic agricultural pests and diseases," said James T. Engleman, CBP director of field operations for the Buffalo field office. "CBP agriculture specialists work diligently to safeguard American agriculture by preventing the introduction of harmful pest, plant and animal diseases from entering our country." ■



★ CBP agriculture specialists in Buffalo, N.Y. discovered this pest in a prohibited fruit item that was brought in by a traveler.



★ This dangerous plant bug was discovered on a shipment of the spice thyme arriving from Israel into Newark, N.Y.

## Oregon Agricultural Specialists Awarded for Asian Gypsy Moth Discovery

Six Customs and Border Protection agriculture specialists and two agriculture technicians from the Area Port of Portland, Ore., were recent recipients of the Ten Fingers in the Dike Award, which is presented yearly by the Oregon Invasive Species Council.

The Council gives this award to "a person or persons or unit in a government agency going above and beyond the call of duty to keep new invaders out of the state." The award was presented to the Portland agriculture staff on February 19, in Salem, Ore. The team was recognized for their increased diligence in port of entry inspections for Asian Gypsy Moth, a pest that is not as yet established in the U.S., and for taking action to protect northwest forests from the potential introduction of an invasive defoliating pest.

CBP agriculture specialists routinely inspect marine ships identified as high risk for Asian Gypsy Moth infestation. These ships have visited certain foreign ports where native moth populations are actively laying egg masses in the environment, and the potential for contamination of ship and commodities is high. In 2008, CBP agriculture specialists in Portland looked beyond the required inspections of ships from "ports of concern" and also began targeting ships from "regions of concern."

This shift in targeting led to inspection of several additional ships, which in turn, led to the detection of several viable gypsy moth egg masses on ships visiting the Portland/Vancouver area, as well as Astoria, OR. In a coordinated and joint effort with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, quick response by CBP allowed USDA to direct

the contaminated ships back out to sea for treatment, cleaning and subsequent re-inspection.

The recipients of this prestigious and highly competitive honor include Supervisory Agriculture Specialist Christopher Johnson, Agriculture Specialist Nicole Brooks, Osvaldo Menegol, Lance Miller, Michael Steinmann and Paul Taylor, and Agriculture Technicians Lynne Foster and Olga Ramos.

Area Port Director Dan Wagner commended the recipients. "They stopped a potentially harmful species from being allowed to infect our domestic forests," Wagner said. "Their efforts have a direct impact on strengthening our economy. We realize, now more than ever, how important our mission is, they truly represent the frontline in defending the homeland." ■

# Border Busts



## Cattle trailer can't move \$6 million in dope

Sumas, Wash. – U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers at the Sumas, Wash.

port of entry seized 1,746 pounds of high grade marijuana concealed within the floors of a loaded cattle trailer and arrested a Canadian man.

The trailer arrived February 17 at the port importing a load of beef cattle destined for Stanwood, Wash., when it was selected for an intensive inspection. The cattle were off loaded and the trailer was examined using a gamma X-ray imaging device which discovered inconsistencies in the lower and upper decks of the trailer.

CBP officers then entered the trailer and noticed a discrepancy in the interior indicating the possibility of a built up compartment in the floor. Officers unbolted false panels which concealed hundreds of plastic bags of marijuana beneath.

The drugs, a highly potent form of marijuana cultivated in British Columbia, Canada, had an estimated street value of \$6 million.



## Air Operations Center Monitors Safe Ending to Stolen Plane Chase

A distraught Canadian citizen who apparently stole a

small plane and entered U.S. airspace with the intent of being shot down, survived thanks in part to cool-headed response by U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Air and Marine Operations Center.

The CBP air center tracked the single-engine plane as it entered the U.S. and coordinated escort of the plane by CBP and Department of Defense aircraft through six states. The center coordinated response with Canadian and U.S. law enforcement and military authorities.

The incident ended without injury when the plane landed on a remote Missouri highway. CBP aircraft equipped with infrared cameras directed state law enforcement to the scene. Local law enforcement authorities arrested the suspect at a nearby convenience store.

CBP operates the world's largest law enforcement air force, securing the nation's land and sea borders as well as critical areas of the Caribbean and Pacific.





### Sticky situation

**Temecula, Calif.** - During a traffic stop in Temecula, Calif., Border Patrol agents discovered that 12 five-gallon buckets of carpet adhesive actually contained more than 150 pounds of marijuana.

An agent on routine patrol stopped a Lincoln Navigator March 3 when a detector dog alerted to the vehicle. Agents found a total of 156 pounds of marijuana, which were stored in the cargo area the vehicle. The large, cylindrical-shaped packages were found to be wrapped in plastic and covered by industrial adhesive in an attempt to hide the drugs from detection.

The marijuana and the 23-year-old suspected smuggler were turned over to a multi-agency, anti-drug task force.



### Shipment of toy guns not so playful

CBP officers at the Cincinnati Northern Kentucky International Airport seized an arriving international shipment of 60 pump action, 12-gauge shotguns and 177 pistols, the largest seizure of weapons made by CBP in Cincinnati.

The shipment, manifested as “Toys” was shipped from Istanbul, Turkey. CBP officers targeted the merchandise for an intensive examination and upon physical inspection of the 25-box shipment found the guns.

Neither the shotguns nor pistols were found to have any serial numbers or markings. The 60 shotguns; 20 pistol-style grips and 40 with traditional-style grips were seized by CBP after an agent from Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms determined that they were capable of firing live ammunition rounds and did not arrive with the proper permits to enter the United States.

# CBP Establishes Program to Honor its Rich History

U.S. Customs and Border Protection became an official agency of the Department of Homeland Security just over six years ago, but the agency's lineage is long and distinguished.

To ensure that the rich heritage of the men and women who work for CBP and its legacy institutions is properly documented and preserved for future generations, the CBP history program was recently established within the Office of Public Affairs.

Former CBP Commissioner W. Ralph Basham said the history program was conceived to protect, research and record the agency's wealth of institutional history, as well as to maintain an ongoing record of CBP accomplishments.

"Having celebrated our fifth anniversary, I believe now is the ideal time for CBP to join together in maintaining our long history of protecting our nation," said Basham. "I am, therefore, delighted to announce the launch of CBP's history program." The long and rich

history of the organizations that are now part of CBP date back to the Presidency of George Washington. For nearly 125 years, U.S. Customs, founded July 4, 1789, funded virtually the entire government and paid for the nation's early growth and infrastructure. Customs revenues alone eliminated the once formidable national debt.

The U.S. Immigration Service was established in 1891, and that agency's Border Patrol was created in 1924 during the height of the Prohibition Era. The Department of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Quarantine Program at ports of entry evolved out of the creation of the Federal Horticultural Board in 1912.

The work of the history program is underway. Staff, including historians and curators, is being hired for the program. The CBP archive, which is part of the history program and is housed at CBP headquarters, has opened its doors to visitors who can now view the many photos, documents, and artifacts on display. Future exhibits and

innovative presentations of historic elements are in the works.

CBP's historical legacy can be found all across America—from small New Mexico border towns to the National Archives in Washington. History program staff will be reaching out to employees and to CBP field offices in their efforts to create an agency-wide historical record.

"There is an immediate need to know what kind of historic records, artifacts and equipment exists within our organization," said Basham. "In the weeks and months ahead, the history program office will be reaching out to Air and Marine branches, ports of entry and Border Patrol sectors with guidance for identifying records and artifacts that have historical significance."

The new CBP history team also will chronicle and record the accomplishments of the men and women serving the agency today, so future generations can look back and appreciate the monumental efforts currently being undertaken. ■





# *In Memoriam*



*In honor of CBP employees  
who have died in the line of duty*

**2003** James P. Epling

**2004** Travis Attaway  
George DeBates  
Jeremy Wilson

**2006** Nicholas D. Greenig  
David N. Webb

**2007** Julio E. Baray  
Eric Cabral  
Richard Goldstein  
Ramon Nevarez, Jr.  
Robert Smith  
Clinton B. Thrasher  
David J. Tourscher

**2008** Luis A. Aguilar  
Jarod Dittman



*For a historic listing honoring federal personnel who gave their lives  
while securing U.S. borders, please visit [CBP.gov/inmemorium](http://CBP.gov/inmemorium)*



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