



NEWS RELEASE

January 8, 2002

Yuma Agents Seize 760 Pounds of Marijuana in River Area *23rd Marijuana Seizure in Fiscal Year 2003*

Border Patrol Agents from the Yuma Sector seized 760 pounds of marijuana in the Colorado River area today, Jan. 8. The marijuana is valued at \$607,832. This was the 23rd seizure of marijuana by Yuma agents since fiscal year 2003 began on Oct. 1, and the sixth major seizure in just over a month.

At 8 a.m., while patrolling the river area near County 11th, agents observed a white Dodge minivan in the area. The minivan went toward the river, stopped briefly and proceeded south. Agents followed the minivan as it continued south. When the minivan reached County 14 ½, the driver stopped the vehicle, jumped out, and ran across a dry portion of the river into Mexico, approximately 100 yards away from his vehicle.

The agents arrived on the scene and observed several large cellophane-wrapped packages in the minivan. The content of the packages tested positive for marijuana.

Custody of the marijuana and the minivan was transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration for further investigation and processing.

~ USBP ~