

FINAL REPORT

Prepared by:

CAMP Headquarters

For additional copies or further information, contact:

Jack Beecham, Incident Commander
CAMP Headquarters
P. O. Box 161089
Sacramento, California 95816-1089
(916) 739-CAMP



CAMP

CAMPAIGN AGAINST MARIJUANA PLANTING

P.O. Box 161089 - Sacramento, CA 95816 - Telephone: (916) 739-CAMP

STEERING COMMITTEE

Mr. James K. Brightwell, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

The Honorable D. B. "Bud" Cook, Sheriff of Monterey County, President, California State Sheriff's Association

Mr. Steve Giorgi, Chief, Criminal Investigations, Internal Revenue Service

Mr. Gerald Goldberg, Executive Officer, Franchise Tax Board

Mr. Edward Hastey, California State Director, Bureau of Land Management

The Honorable G. Thomas Hopper, Sheriff of Del Norte County, Chairman of the Marijuana Eradication Committee, California State Sheriff's Association

Mr. Joseph E. Krueger, Special Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration

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Mr. Jerry Partain, Director, California Department of Forestry

Mr. James E. Smith, Commissioner, California Highway Patrol

Mr. Zane G. Smith, Regional Forester, U. S. Forest Service

Mr. Garth R. Tanner, Chief Deputy Director for Operations, California Department of Parks and Recreation

Mr. Arthur Van Court, U. S. Marshal, Eastern District of California

The Honorable John K. Van de Kamp, Attorney General, State of California

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CAMP EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1984

The Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP) is a unique and complex law enforcement program: unique because in 1984 it involved 91 local, state and federal law enforcement and resource agencies working cooperatively towards a common end; and complex because each agency participating in CAMP exists and functions under diverse legal and political entities and authority.

The CAMP goal is to diminish significantly the cultivation and trafficking of marijuana in California by seizing and destroying sinsemilla before it ever reaches the urban markets throughout the state.

In 1984, 37 sheriffs joined CAMP in sending this message to marijuana growers: marijuana cultivation will not be tolerated in California. CAMP '84 was an outstanding success. Because of the untiring and dedicated efforts of CAMP teams, lead deputies and other law enforcement personnel representing local, state and federal agencies, 158,493 sinsemilla marijuana plants weighing a total of 1,006,814 lbs., and 1,639 lbs. of processed sinsemilla "buds" with an estimated wholesale value totaling over \$320 million were seized and destroyed. A total of 123 arrests were made and arrest warrants obtained for 95 suspects. CAMP raid teams confiscated 524 firearms, 47 vehicles, \$36,000 in cash and huge amounts of growing paraphernalia: PVC pipe, water pumps, generators, fencing, fertilizer, traps, etc.

California sheriffs have the primary responsibility for marijuana enforcement in their respective counties, and CAMP provided personnel, equipment and funding to assist sheriffs in their local marijuana eradication efforts. The success of CAMP '84 can be attributed to the commitment and cooperation of all agencies that participated or contributed resources to the program.

The following agencies participated in CAMP '84:

FEDERAL AGENCIES

Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice (DEA)
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Department of Treasury (ATF)
Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
National Park Service, Department of Interior (NPS)
U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture (USFS)
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Interior (BIA)
Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior (BLM)

STATE AGENCIES

Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, Department of Justice (BNE)
Western States Information Network, Department of Justice (WSIN)
California Department of Forestry (CDF)
California Highway Patrol (CHP)
Franchise Tax Board (FTB)

STATE AGENCIES (cont'd)

California Department of Parks and Recreations (DPR)

California Department of Fish and Game (DFG)

CAMP MEMBER COUNTIES

The 1983 CAMP program involved 14 Northern California sheriffs' departments. Because of the success of CAMP '83, 23 additional sheriffs volunteered to join in 1984 CAMP. The 37 counties were organized into six regions (see CAMP '84 regional map - Attachment A), with seven raid teams to service the regions; two teams were assigned to region 1 and one team each to the remaining five regions. The regions and participating counties are as follows:

Region I	ion I Region II Region	
Del Norte County	Mendocino County	San Mateo County
Humboldt County	Sonoma County	Santa Cruz County
	Marin County	Santa Clara County
	Lake County	Monterey County
	Napa County	San Luis Obispo County
		Santa Barbara County
		Alameda County

Region IV	Region V	Region VI
Siskiyou County	Tehama County	Amador County
Modoc County	Plumas County	Calaveras County
Trinity County	Butte County	Stanislaus County
Shasta County	Yuba County	Merced County
Lassen County	Placer County	Fresno County
	El Dorado County	Tuolumne County
	Sierra County	Mariposa County
	Nevada County	Madera County
	Glenn County	Tulare County

RAID TEAM MEMBERS

More than 400 people, both peace officers and non-peace officer personnel, participated in the 1984 CAMP raids. CAMP teams were composed of civilian helicopter pilots and fuel truck drivers; sheriffs' deputies from the participating counties; law enforcement officers from the state and federal CAMP agencies; reserve deputies and police officers from local California law enforcement agencies hired as temporary state employees; and full-time peace officer volunteers provided by local law enforcement agencies from throughout California. CAMP proved to be a valuable training experience for all team members. The volunteer officers' salaries were paid by their respective agencies; transportation and per diem expenses were provided by CAMP. Peace officers who participated in CAMP '84, other than the federal, state and sheriffs' offices listed above, were provided by the following agencies:

City of Hawthorne PD City of Arcata PD Humboldt County District Attorney's Office City of Atwater PD City of Baldwin Park PD City of Inglewood PD City of La Habra PD City of Benicia PD City of Long Beach PD City of Burbank PD City of Chico PD City of Los Altos PD City of Claremont PD City of Monrovia PD City of Pacific Grove PD City of Cotati PD City of Redondo Beach PD City of Clovis PD San Bernardino County Sheriff's Office City of Covina PD City of San Fernando PD City of Culver City PD City of Del Rey Oaks PD City of Signal Hill PD Solano County District Attorney's Office City of El Cerrito PD City of South Gate PD City of El Monte PD Sutter County Sheriff's Office City of El Segundo PD City of Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety City of Fremont PD City of Ukiah PD City of Fresno PD City of Folsom PD City of Vallejo PD City of Whittier PD City of Fort Bragg PD City of Gilroy PD

The CAMP Headquarters is located at the California Department of Justice, Division of Law Enforcement, 4949 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95820, Phone (916) 739-CAMP.

CAMP '84 BUDGET

The CAMP '84 operation budget was \$2.3 million (See CAMP Participating Agency Contribution Chart - Attachment D). The 1984 budget was \$700,000 more than the 1983 budget, which can be attributed to two factors: three more raid teams were created to service the additional counties who joined the program; and National Guard helicopters were unavailable for CAMP '84 as they were for CAMP '83. The Drug Enforcement Administration provided an additional \$800,000 to CAMP '84 to contract for private industry helicopters, pilots, and support services.

CAMP '84 involved resources from 91 local, state and federal agencies and the private sector. Although scheduled to work four-day, 10-hour days, raid team members often worked more than four consecutive, 16-hour work days beginning with early morning briefings and ending with late night burnings of the seized crop. CAMP raid teams logged 309 raid team days, worked in 24 counties and raided 398 sites. (For further information on raid day activities, see Attachment E.)

CAMP SPECIALIZED PRE-SERVICE TRAINING

The CAMP pre-service training program is a critical element of the operation. Because of the unique factors of CAMP field operations, which include rough terrain, helicopters, injurious devices, and potential sniper encounters, a special emphasis is placed on training. CAMP provided a variety of specialized training courses which began on May 14, 1984, and ended on July 29, 1984, for a total of 8,322 logged training hours. (See Attachment B for a brief description of CAMP '84 training courses.)

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

Because of the magnitude of the marijuana cultivation problem in California, no one governmental agency has been able to deal effectively with the problem on a statewide basis. County sheriffs are responsible for dealing with most crime problems in their counties, including the marijuana problem. CAMP was created to provide a supplemental resource to local sheriffs to help eradicate marijuana.

In most central and northern rural counties, where population is sparse, tax bases are relatively low and marijuana cultivation is extensive, most sheriffs do not have sufficient resources to effectively grapple with the cultivation problem. Although in most counties this problem is a high priority for law enforcement, the sheriff must allocate his resources to the courts, jails, patrols and investigations of other high priority crimes, i.e., homicides, robberies, rapes and burglaries. Thus, CAMP attempts to channel both the resources and funds in a manner which will directly eliminate the problem at its source.

The Incident Command System (ICS), used for years by agencies like the United States Forest Service and the California Department of Forestry for fighting forest fires, is an organization command system in which a diverse array of resources are brought together under a single organizational structure to deal with a major incident/problem. In the case of CAMP, the "incident" is California's marijuana cultivation problem. Ninety-one organizations and agencies provide the necessary resources to make CAMP work.

The CAMP ICS is governed by a Steering Committee made up of representatives from CAMP's state and federal agencies and the California State Sheriff's Association (CSSA). The CAMP Headquarters command structure, which administers and directs the program's day-to-day operations, is staffed by an Incident Command System Commander, Deputy Commander, Operations Commander

and other staff with special expertise in air operations, criminal intelligence, planning/logistics, asset seizure, legal, finance and media relations. The Headquarters operation provides the necessary support to the decentralized field operation headed by regional coordinators, strike team leaders and lead deputies. (For further details of the CAMP command structure see Organizational Chart, Attachment C.)

AIR SUPPORT

Before any eradication can begin, marijuana cultivation sites must be pinpointed. Potential raid sites are identified through intelligence data gathered from various sources and from fixed-wing aerial observation.

Beginning in June 1984, the CAMP Headquarters Air Operations Commander began dispatching fixed-wing aircraft for aerial observation purposes. CAMP '84 began initially with four fixed-wing aircraft equipped with LORAN-C navigational aids to fix the exact location of marijuana gardens. The four aircraft were piloted by special agents, two each from BNE and DEA. As the eradication phase (July 30 through October 26) of the program progressed, it was evident that the four fixed-wing aircraft resources were not enough to keep up with the demand. This problem was remedied by providing CAMP funds directly to some sheriff's departments to do their own flying and/or hire a private contractor for the service.

In identifying marijuana plots, basically a pilot would fly a local deputy sheriff trained in marijuana observation techniques over a specified area of the deputy's county. If a garden(s) was spotted, photographs were taken and

the exact location was fixed with the use of the LORAN-C. The deputy would later determine ownership of the property where the garden was spotted and, in cases of private ownership, obtain a search warrant. In cases involving public lands, obtaining a warrant was and is not necessary. In most cases, the local sheriff's office would then schedule a CAMP raid team, supported by a helicopter, to assist them in accessing the site and eradicating the garden(s). In some cases, the local sheriff's department would conduct the raid(s) themselves using local resources. This is evidenced by the fact that CAMP raid teams conducted raids in 24 of the 37 CAMP counties, but provided aerial observation services to 35 of the 37 counties. Sheriff's personnel from all 37 CAMP '84 counties participated in the CAMP '84 training program.

Although the California National Guard provided helicopter services for CAMP '83, a commitment to the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles prevented the National Guard helicopters from participating in CAMP '84. Subsequently, California Attorney General Van de Kamp, working with federal officials, obtained \$800,000 through DEA to contract with private helicopter companies. The California Department of Forestry, which administered the contract, sent out an invitation to bid to 55 operators, 16 of whom responded. Four California companies were successful bidders for the seven helicopters used in CAMP '84.

RAID OPERATIONS AND ERADICATION

CAMP began the 1984 eradication phase of the program with the spring

raids conducted between April 23-28. The purpose of the spring raids were twofold: 1) To send an early message to both the present and potential marijuana cultivators that CAMP was back in action; and 2) to train CAMP field command staff in eradication techniques. During the spring operation 12 raids were conducted, all on public lands - nine on Bureau of Land Management lands and three on USFS lands. The raids were conducted in Humboldt, Mendocino and Trinity counties, producing a seizure of 3,287 marijuana plants and large amounts of cultivation paraphernalia.

Working in cooperation with the DEA during their aerial observation school, June 25-29, another 222 plants were seized in Humboldt County; and while conducting the California Department of Justice Advanced Training Center Aerial Observation School, July 9-20, in Humboldt County, 2,616 plants were seized. A total of 6,125 plants were seized as a result of the spring raids and aerial observation schools.

During the course of the concentrated eradication phase of CAMP '84 (July 30-October 31), CAMP seized and destroyed 152,368 plants, weighing 1,032,751 pounds.

Note: For the purposes of CAMP statistics and this report, plant counts were taken only on those raids in which CAMP raid teams and/or helicopter crews participated, and does not include the plants spotted by CAMP fixedwing aerial observation services. For example, CAMP reports 80,359 plus

plants eradicated in Humboldt County, although a total of 100,994 plants were eradicated. CAMP aircraft, working with Humboldt County observers, spotted most of the additional 20,000 plants, but all of these plants were eradicated solely by Humboldt County deputy sheriffs and/or USFS personnel. Another example is that during the week of July 25-27, the California Department of Parks and Recreation personnel eradicated 1,488 plants on the Humboldt Redwoods Park. CAMP raid teams did not assist in these raids, but CAMP fixed-wing aircraft services spotted the plants. CAMP raid teams, counting the 6,125 plants seized during the spring raids and aerial observation schools, officially eradicated 158,493 plants weighing 1,006,814 lbs., the figures used throughout this report.

RESULTS

The difficult question to address is how much marijuana is grown in California? Beyond that, what percentage of that grown was eradicated during 1984 growing season? No exact answer can be provided, but the most current information available is that reported by local California law enforcement officials and CAMP. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) officials assigned to CAMP surveyed all California sheriff's departments. Their report found that 74.4 percent of all marijuana gardens sited during the 1984 growing season were eradicated. This totals up to 256,976 plants, 224,022 of which were sinsemilla. This compares to 34 percent of all sited gardens in 1983.

CAMP 83/84 Program Result Comparisons

	1983	1984	Di	fference
Counties Participating	14	37	+	23
Teams	4	7	+	3
Helicopters	4	7	+	3
Plants Seized	64,579	158,493	+	93,914
Total Weight (pounds)	271,000	1,006,814	+	735,814
Estimated Wholesale Value	130 million	320 million	+ 190	million*
Sites Raided	524	398	10-	126
Plants Per Site	123	398	+	275
Weight Per Site	517	2,530	+	2,013
Firearms Seized	80	524	+ -	444
Vehicles Seized	20(est.)	47	+	27
Total Arrests/Warrants	128	218	+	90
Program Cost (Federal/State)	1.6 million 1	2.3 million	+ .7	million
Raid Sites Private Property Public Lands	73% 27%	70% 30%	-+	3% 3%

¹ Includes \$500,000 for U-2 cost

^{*}Credible sources quote the wholesale value of sinsemilla "buds" in California between \$1,850 and \$2,500 per pound. California grown sinsemilla "buds" sell for as much as \$3,500 per pound outside of California. CAMP computes the wholesale value of the marijuana seized during the 1984 growing season as follows: 158,493 plants x \$2,000 = \$316,986,000; 1,639 pounds of processed sinsemilla buds x \$2,000 = \$3,278,000; \$316,986,000 in plants + \$3,278,000 in processed sinsemilla buds = \$320,264,000. The \$320,264,000 figure represents a conservative estimate. A fully matured, carefully attended sinsemilla marijuana plant can yield two plus pounds of buds. The November 3, 1984, issue of the California Farmer magazine, based on interviews with growers, reports that a "well-tended mature female marijuana plant averages two pounds of buds at harvest." Using the two pound yield per plant figure, CAMP's 1984 wholesale value seizure estimate would double to \$640,528,000.

Street Value: The present street price for an ounce of California grown sinsemilla buds is \$150 to \$300 and even more outside of California. For the purposes of computing the street value of CAMP '84 growing season seizures, CAMP uses the following conservative formula of one pound yield per plant at \$200 per ounce.

\$200 per ounce x 1 pound = \$3,200 per pound; 158,493 plants x \$3,200 = \$507,177,600; 1,639 pounds of processed sinsemilla buds x \$3,200 per pound = \$5,244,800; \$507,178,600 in plants + \$5,244,800 in processed sinsemilla buds = \$512,422,400.

Using the 2 pound per plant figure at \$300 per ounce, CAMP's 1984 street value seizure estimate would raise to an astronomical \$1.5 billion.

COUNTY PARTICIPATION

The 37 county involvement in CAMP '84 made possible an empirical assessment of the marijuana cultivation problem in California. By conducting and/or providing support aerial observation flights over 35 of the 37 CAMP '84 counties, and collecting intelligence data through other sources and from non-CAMP counties, CAMP can support the view that California is the "sinsemilla capitol" of the world. Humboldt, Mendocino and Trinity counties (known as the Emerald Triangle), have surfaced as the counties growing the largest amount of sinsemilla in California and the United States.

During the 1983 growing season in Humboldt County, approximately 40,000 marijuana plants were eradicated. In 1984, over 100,000 plants were eradicated-more than double that of '83. In 1983, 12,000 plants were eradicated on the New Rivers Drainage Area (also known as the Denny area) of Trinity County. Prior to 1984, many reported incidents of violence associated with marijuana cultivation took place in the Denny area including the burning of a USFS ranger station. As a result of the violence, the public was afraid to venture into this beautiful 640,000 acre wilderness area. Consequently, the Trinity County Sheriff's Department and the USFS formed a law enforcement task force to methodically patrol the area. This task force was composed of specially trained Trinity County deputies and USFS Special Agents. This intensified, highly visible program succeeded as is evidenced by the fact that only 600 plants were spotted and eradicated in this area during CAMP '84 compared to 12,000 in 1983. As a result, the

program witnessed the return of hikers, campers and nature lovers to this area.

Mendocino County on the other hand, hampered by severe budget and personnel shortages, did a credible job in eradicating approximately 20,000 plants in 1983 and nearly 25,000 plants in 1984. The reported incidents of violence associated with marijuana cultivation during the 1984 growing season brought forth public support from Mendocino County citizens for the sheriff's department's quest in bringing the problem under control.

Note: Interest has been generated in the California legislature to help Mendocino County government officials and other counties with similar problems obtain the necessary resources to effectively combat their marijuana cultivation problem.

From a percentage standpoint other counties have done quite well during the eradication phase of CAMP '84. Butte and Monterey counties estimate their marijuana seizures to be between 75 and 85 percent of the total crop in those counties. These statistics, as well as those of Santa Cruz, Siskiyou and Nevada counties, are indicative of sheriff's departments that have had concerted eradication programs over the past several years. They have not only controlled the spread of commercial marijuana cultivation, but are actually diminishing it. All of these sheriff's departments indicate that aerial assessments of their counties reveal far less cultivation than in previous years. (See Attachment E for information on CAMP seizures.)

VIOLENCE ASSOCIATED WITH MARIJUANA CULTIVATION

Incidents of violence associated with marijuana cultivation received a great deal of media attention during CAMP '84. CAMP raid teams discovered 17 sites that were booby-trapped. There is no evidence, however, to support any assumption that the violence associated with California's 1984 marijuana cultivation season was measureably different than that of previous years. It is difficult to document the extent of the violence simply because much of it goes unreported. Most of the violence occurs between growers and so called "patch pirates" – individuals who attempt to steal sinsemilla "buds" from a grower's garden. Since both are committing illegal acts , they are not likely to report thefts or assaults related to their activities. Another likely victim of the marijuana grower is the unsuspecting hunter, hiker or rancher who happens to wander into a marijuana garden. A real estate woman set off two booby-traps in Butte County this year while showing property.

Other than booby-traps that are set to injure, maim or kill anyone who may enter a garden, there seems to be very little direct intent or action to harm law enforcement officials who eradicate the marijuana gardens.

Incidents of violence during CAMP '84 include:

*A grower firing several rifle shots at a CAMP fixed-wing aircraft.

*A machete-wielding grower charging a CAMP team in the process of eradicating a garden; when the grower recognized the team to be members of CAMP, he then dropped his machete and fled.

*While eradicating a garden located just 100 yards from a public campground, a CAMP team leader activated a shotgun shell booby-trap.

The shotgun shell primer was dented, but apparently was not hit hard enough to discharge the shell. Another similar device was found in the same garden. One Doberman Pinscher dog was shot and killed in self defense by CAMP agents during a raid.

As with CAMP '83, not one shot was fired at suspected growers during the '84 program. While conducting several raids, shots were heard in the area, but it was never conclusively determined whether the growers actually shot at raid team members. Nevertheless, CAMP '84 is taking strong preventative measures against the violence associated with marijuana cultivation, and there will be an even stronger effort during CAMP '85 to prosecute and imprison marijuana cultivators - see the CAMP Critique and Seizures/Arrest sections of this report. (For details on some of the reported violence during the 1984 growing season see Attachment F.)

Until the advent of CAMP, marijuana cultivation in many rural areas of Central and Northern California was a low risk, high profit criminal enterprise. It is difficult to characterize typical marijuana growers, but one common thread is their desire to make money through illegal means.

According to a recent television documentary -- The Cannabis Crusade -- some marijuana cultivators characterize themselves as small-time "peaceful" growers who realize a small profit of "only" \$30,000 a year (tax free). They openly denounce large commercial growers who have moved into their

communities and brought CAMP with them. They also denounce the commercial growers who exploit their community and then leave, taking their profits with them.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

At the conclusion of CAMP '83, an informal survey was conducted to assess the effects of the marijuana cultivation on the environment (see Attachment G). That survey revealed that mice, birds, rabbits, deer and other animals are the natural enemy of growers because they eat the marijuana plants, particularly in the seedling stage. Virtually every garden is protected from animals by one or more of the following methods: fencing, animal traps, snares, set guns, various forms of poisons and by armed growers. The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) estimated that for 1984, marijuana growers illegally killed at least 1,600 deer, a number equalling or exceeding that harvested by legal hunters in Humboldt County alone. The DFG went on to disclose that of the gardens raided, 50 to 60 percent contained evidence of deer or other wildlife having been killed.

Some growers pursue and kill the animals, while others use the less personal techniques of set guns and snares. Deer have been found with an entire fore or hindquarter blown away, the result of an explosive device set beside a trail.

Even bears are not safe from the growers. Forest Service workers have found fresh strips of bear hide dangled like ornaments from brushy plants and fir trees surrounding some marijuana gardens. The aim of the carefully placed

bear hide patches was to keep the scent of bears in the air and discourage deer from munching on the high-priced crop; a practice which wildlife experts feel is a dubious measure at best. Biologists say deer are not a significant part of the diet of California black bears, which rely on a variety of food sources from berries and grasses to salmon and carrion. In many areas, they point out, bears and deer coexist in high numbers.

More recently, suppliers have been stocking poisons such as Warafin to kill deer with an appetite for the plants. Deer have been found in emaciated conditions, unable to flee when picked up by wardens or biologists. Now growers have gotten hold of a product called Havoc, which is 186 times as toxic as Warafin. A half ounce of it will eat out the whole digestive tract of a deer and put it into unbelievable pain--until it starves to death! Any bird or mammal--or even fish affected by the water runoff--that ingests this substance is dead.

According to the U.S. Forest Service, marijuana growers use as much as 300 pounds per acre of rodenticides, usually in riparian (stream side) areas, which not only eliminates rodents, but birds and other small wildlife as well. Animals up the food chain are often affected and some poisons, if ingested by deer, could eventually harm humans if the deer is killed by a hunter and eaten. Some growers load their patches with nitrogen fertilizers. The California Fish and Game Department worries that the nitrogen can harm important fish-rearing streams on the state's north coast, where salmon and steelhead trout breed.

Cultivation practices also may limit or disrupt soil organisms. Populations of soil microorganisms existing under cultivation conditions are probably quite different in number and species composition than those of the soils surrounding the cannabis site because of soil disturbance and compaction and the various chemical fertilizers and rodenticides. Soil microorganism populations (for example, burrowing rodents, moles, earthworms and insects) may be absent or limited due to weeding, animal trapping, and soil compaction. (For further details on the environmental aspects, see Attachment G.)

MEDIA RELATIONS/PUBLIC AWARENESS

The CAMP program was created to assist California sheriffs combat a major law enforcement problem and recognizes that if a public awareness program is to be successful, it is critical that the sheriffs spearhead this effort. For CAMP to reach its media objective of informing the public about California's marijuana cultivation problem, it is imperative that local media outlets be informed about CAMP, its goals and objectives.

One objective of CAMP is to provide a public awareness program on the inherent dangers associated with marijuana cultivation and trafficking. As with CAMP '83, CAMP '84 attracted and received major media attention including onsite production visits from English, German and American documentary film crews and several reporters representing top news agencies

from throughout the country.

CAMP '84 maintained a public information office to handle the hundreds of news media requests about the program. The information office was staffed part-time by information officers from the Department of Justice's (DOJ) Division of Law Enforcement (DLE) and the United States Forest Service. In addition, CAMP's information staff arranged five "media raids" held at various locations throughout the state. These "media raids" were conducted to accommodate the media demand to see how the actual raids were performed, what the marijuana gardens looked like, and what the program has attempted to do.

Daily and weekly statistics on the amount of marijuana, firearms and vehicles seized, the number of arrests and suspects and related data were provided to the news media by telephone and included in press packets.

The CAMP staff developed a media packet for local law enforcement use. The media packet included: 1) five radio public service announcements designed to inform the public about California's marijuana problem; 2) two sample press releases - one discusses CAMP and sheriff interaction and the other was designed for use after completing a CAMP raid; 3) background information on CAMP in the form of published articles; and 4) tri-fold information brochures containing data to be distributed to the public about California's marijuana cultivation problem and safety tips for those planning a visit to public lands.

The packet was well received and indications are that the packet, or at least segments, were used by most sheriffs who participated in the program.

LEGAL ASPECTS

Prosecutions

Recognizing the importance of involving local and federal prosecution authorities in all facets of CAMP, the program's legal counsel, Deputy Attorney General Tom Dove, prior to the eradication phase, attempted to contact all district attorney offices involved in CAMP '84. Both U.S. Attorney Joseph P. Russoniello of the Northern District, and U.S. Attorney Donald B. Ayer of the Eastern District demonstrated their commitment to targeting large commercial and/or violent growers by developing and releasing guidelines for federal prosecution which were distributed to all agencies participating in CAMP '84.

This support by the U.S. Attorney's Office resulted in several "firsts" for both CAMP and the state of California:

Nineteen federal indictments have been issued thus far, resulting in 33
arrests and sixteen convictions. These cases are being prosecuted by
the U.S. Attorney's Office in San Francisco. Up till now, a cultivation
case has never been pursued.

- 2. First seizure of real property in the United States under the new Federal Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984 (October 1984). This case involves 208 acres in Mendocino County which was used to cultivate 52 marijuana plants.
- The U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District, obtained the first federal search warrant ever issued in California for a marijuana cultivation case (Butte County, September 1984).
- Federal Grand Jury subpoenas have been issued for business records relating to possible marijuana cultivation.
- Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is participating in marijuana cultivation cases (investigations continue).
- 6. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) investigation and prosecution of marijuana cultivators who used firearms and/or explosives (investigations continue).

Federal Prosecution

A welcome addition to CAMP '84 was the U.S. Attorneys' (California Northern and Eastern Districts) commitment targeting large commercial and/or violent growers. Holds were placed on all CAMP confiscated booby-traps and firearms by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to trace ownership. The

federal statutes that ATF is using to prosecute marijuana growers who illegally possess explosives and/or firearms specifically relate to the following violations:

- Use of a firearm during the commission of a felony (marijuana cultivation).
- Felons, fugitives or persons under indictment in possession of any firearms (including shotguns and rifles), and/or explosives.
- Use or possession of booby-trap devices.

As of March 1, 1985, ATF investigations continue. Thus far, 43 cases have been investigated and 16 indictments issued, resulting in 33 arrests with five arrests pending. There are eight ongoing investigations which will lead to additional indictments, and four cases being prepared for presentation to the Federal Grand Jury which will be impaneled in Eureka in April 1985. There have been seven convictions with many more expected. This effort on the part of the U.S. Attorney's Office and ATF are good examples of what must and will be done in an effort to bring the commercial marijuana industry under control in California.

Funding

Many if not all of California's rural county district attorney offices experienced the same administrative problems as the sheriffs departments;

they lack the funds to effectively prosecute all marijuana cultivation cases. In most counties marijuana cases have a high prosecution priority, but they must compete for limited resources needed to prosecute homicides, robberies, rapes and other high priority felonies. It is anticipated that increased public exposure to the violence often associated with marijuana cultivation will result in an even more active pursuit of cultivation cases.

One new state administered program that will greatly aid local prosecutors is <u>SB 1982 (Davis) Major Narcotic Vendors Prosecution Program</u>.

Approximately \$1.5 million dollars has been allocated from the State General Fund to the Office of Criminal Justice Planning (OCJP) to provide direct funding to district attorney offices to target both producers and sellers of illegal drugs. Those district attorneys receiving funds will be able to hire additional prosecutor(s) and/or investigators(s) for the sole puropose of pursuing major narcotics vendors.

Information on <u>SB 1982</u> was circulated and discussed during the CAMP Critique. Grant applications were received by OCJP from 23 district attorney offices and 12 grants were awarded effective March 1, 1985.

Class Action Law Suit

On October 16, 1984, United States District Court Judge Robert Aguilar orally issued a preliminary injunction in a federal civil rights action brought by eight named plaintiffs against CAMP. This action, not yet certified as a class action, sought an injunction controlling CAMP's ground

activities and aerial surveillance, particularly surveillance involving helicopters. The October injunction grew out of some 50 declarations filed concerning CAMP operations. The majority of the declarations were produced by Humboldt County residents. Many of the declarations were filed during the hearing, not allowing for any response by CAMP personnel prior to the court's ruling.

Following this oral order, CAMP's attorneys, both federal and state, sought a written version so that an appeal could be taken to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. No such order was forthcoming. Therefore, CAMP's attorneys moved the district court for an order reconsidering its oral injunction, or alternately for a stay of the injunction to permit the Spring Raids scheduled to begin approximately April 1, 1985, without the limitations the court had established in its oral order. A hearing was held on February 14, 1985, on these motions. On February 20, 1985, the court issued a new written injunction, 34 pages in length, which, while it significantly modified the injunction of October 1984, still imposes severe limitations upon CAMP operations. An excerpt from that injunction reads as follows:

"Good cause appearing therefore, the court enjoins the defendants and each of them in the following manner:

 DEFENDANTS AND CAMP personnel are enjoined from entering by foot, motor vehicle, or helicopter any private property other than open fields without a warrant obtainable on probable cause.

- When defendants are on public land, or on private land pursuant to a proper warrant, they are enjoined from entering adjacent or nearby private property unless a warrant issues on probable cause, or unless exigent circumstances exist. Mere speculation that a nearby parcel of land may in someway pose a hazard to CAMP personnel does not constitute exigent circumstances.
- 3. Defendants are enjoined from using helicopters for general surveillance purposes, except over open fields. When conducting surveillance over open fields, helicopters shall maintain an altitude of at least 500 feet over any structure, person, or vehicle. In addition to maintaining an altitude of a least 500 feet, helicopters surveying open fields in the vicinity of residential structures shall not fly within 500 horizontal feet of the curtilage of any residence, and shall not survey any home or curtilage.
- 4. When CAMP helicopters are not conducting surveillance, but are enroute to and from pre-identified eradication sites, the helicopters shall take the most direct route available that overflies the fewest possible private residences.

Helicopters shall maintain an altitude of at least 500 feet, except when landing on or leaving the target property, or unless safety requires otherwise.

5. Before any further CAMP flights or ground activities are undertaken,

defendants are ordered to: (a) meet with all CAMP pilots and all supervisory ground personnel, and instruct them as to the content of this order; (b) give all CAMP personnel a complete copy of the terms of this injunction; (c) submit to the court appropriate affidavits detailing this instruction and distribution."

As this injunction was both improper and unworkable, a Motion to Dissolve the Injunction has been filed with the District Court. On April 12, 1985, the court re-issued its previous order, significantly changing only paragraph 2 of the injunction to provide that CAMP personnel did not require either a warrant or "exigent circumstances" to enter onto the "open fields" area of adjacent private property. This change, which followed well established but previously ignored authority, did not address the problems in paragraphs 3 and 4 which adversely affected helicopter usage.

Thus on April 17, 1985, an "Emergency Motion for Stay of the Preliminary Injunction" was filed by defense counsel in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit addressing the adverse impact of paragraphs 3 and 4 of the injunction on law enforcement, and in particular on the Spring Raids program. The appeals court heard telephone arguments from both sides on April 19 and that same day issued an order which while it did not stay enforcement of the Injunction, did re-write the portions thereof which concerned CAMP.

After discussing the history of the lawsuit in cursory fashion, the court made the following relevant findings concerning paragraphs 3 and 4 as set above.

"We conclude that the district court orders were not intended to enjoin inadvertent, unintentional violations. By their terms, the two paragraphs...do not preclude helicopter flights at less than 500 feet over open fields (of private property; the Injunction has no effect on public lands).

"IT IS ORDERED:

* ... tite products to the forestell acceptance sultaness on program. The

"Paragraphs 3 and 4 of the district court's orders are modified to enjoin deliberate, knowing and intentional helicopter flights under 500 feet over residential structures persons and vehicles."

This change is significant in that, in essence, it forbids only intentional harassing, misuse of helicopters (which has never been either our policy or practice) and returns control of the helicopters to the pilots. With this change, CAMP can and will begin our raiding program on time and effectively.

CAMP CRITIQUE

At the conclusion of the eradication phase of CAMP '84, a two-day conference

was held in Sacramento on November 7-8, 1984, to critique the program. The conference, sponsored by the California Office of Criminal Justice Planning (OCJP), the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), the California State Sheriff's Association (CSSA) and the California District Attorney Association (CDAA) was attended by over 300 participants representing the local, state and federal agencies who shared in the program. Conference attendees were organized into nine subcommittees and each subcommittee was assigned a CAMP operations topic to critique and formulate recommendations for the 1985 CAMP program. The nine subcommittees were: 1) Field Operations, 2) Media Relations/Public Awareness, 3)
Training/Recruitment, 4) Intelligence Data Collection, 5) Asset Seizure, 6)
Air Operations, 7) Communications/Equipment, 8) State/Federal Prosecutions, and 9) Program Assessment/Impact.

The overall conclusion of the conference attendees was that CAMP '84 was an <u>outstanding success</u>. It is widely believed that a measurable impact was made against California's commercial marijuana industry, and there is united support and commitment to continue the CAMP program.

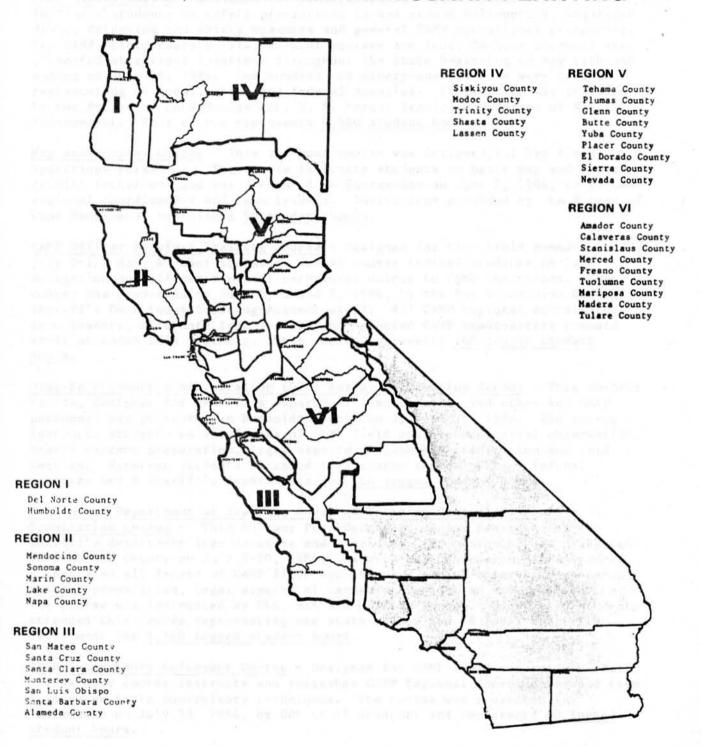
A major determination emerging from the critique is that if CAMP is to attain its stated goals and objectives, the program cannot be satisfied with the status quo. Even though CAMP made a substantial impact against California's commercial marijuana trade, it must implement past experience and develop an even more effective program for reaching its objectives. To reach ultimate success, CAMP must diminish marijuana cultivation to the point where there is no longer any need for the program. In doing this, CAMP must strive for organizational excellence and concentrate its resources where they will have the most impact. The <u>CAMP Critique</u> served as a forum

to develop this strategy for success. The subcommittee members worked diligently providing recommendations ranging from concentrating resources on asset forfeitures and criminal prosecutions to what type of radio equipment to employ. The CAMP '85 program is based on these recommendations. (For details see Attachment H - CAMP '84 Critique Recommendations.)

Note: At the end of the eradication phase of CAMP '84, (October 31, 1984), and before the "CAMP Critique" (November 7-8, 1984), all CAMP sheriffs' departments were visited by CAMP '84 regional coordinators and team leaders to interview local authorities on the impact of CAMP '84. They were asked to identify trends in California's marijuana cultivation problem. The Program Assessment/Impact (Attachment H) contains a compilation of the information obtained during those interviews.

C.A.M.P. '84

CAMPAIGN AGAINST MARIJUANA PLANTING



CAMP '84' Pre-Service Training Program

CAMP Safety Course - Designed for eradication raid team members, the course instructs students on safety precautions in and around helicopters, injurious device detection and safety measures and general CAMP operational procedures. Ten CAMP safety courses (six, 16-hour courses and four, 24-hour courses) were presented at various locations throughout the state beginning on May 14th and ending on July 26, 1984. One hundred and ninety-one students were trained representing 49 local, state and federal agencies. Instruction was provided by the Bureau of Land Management, U. S. Forest Service and Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement. This course represents 4,560 student hours.

Map and Compass Course - This six-hour course was designed for key field operations personnel. The course instructs students on basic map and compass reading techniques and was presented in Sacramento on June 8, 1984, to 15 CAMP regional coordinators and team leaders. Instruction provided by the Bureau of Land Management represents 90 student hours.

CAMP Officer Survival Training Course - Designed for CAMP field command staff, this 2-1/2 day, 40-hour intensive format course trained students on land navigation and officer survival techniques unique to CAMP operations. The course was presented on July 5, 6 and 7, 1984, by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Training Academy staff. All CAMP regional coordinators, team leaders, alternate team leaders and selected CAMP headquarters command staff attended this training. This course represents 760 logged student hours.

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Aerial Observation School - This 40-hour course, designed for sheriff's department lead deputies and other key CAMP personnel was presented in Humboldt County on July 25-29, 1984. The course instructs students on all facets of CAMP field operations, aerial observation, search warrant preparation, legal aspects of cannabis eradication and raid tactics. Nineteen students attended this course representing 4 federal agencies and 8 sheriff's departments for 760 logged student hours.

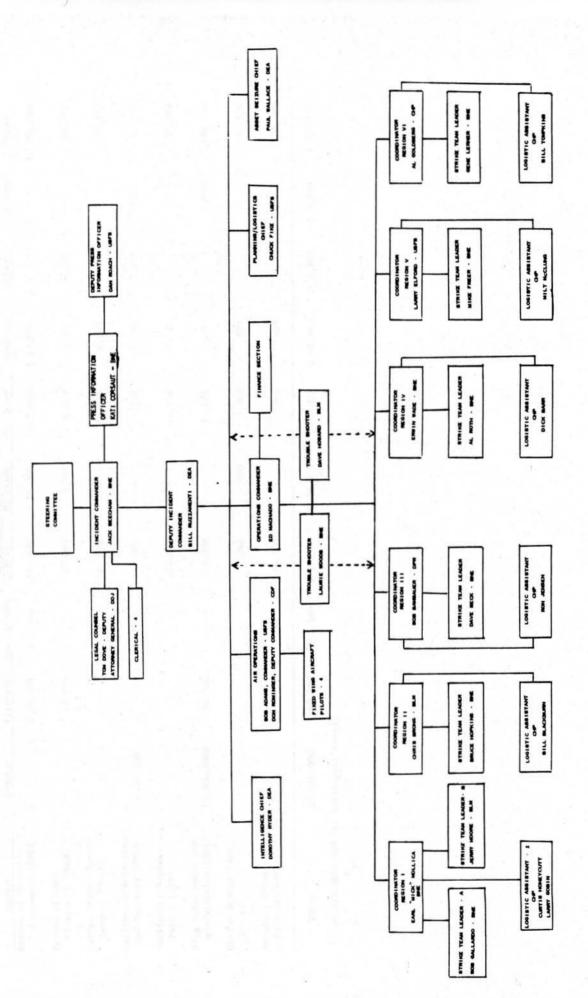
California Department of Justice, Advanced Training Center, Sinsemilla Eradication Course - This 80-hour Post-Certified course designed for the sheriff's department lead deputies and other key CAMP personnel was presented in Humboldt County on July 9-20, 1984. As with the DEA course, it instructs students on all facets of CAMP field operations - aerial observation, search warrant preparation, legal aspects of cannabis eradication and raid tactics. The course was instructed by DEA, BNE and USFS personnel. Twenty-two students attended this course representing one state agency and 18 local Sheriff's Department for 1,760 logged student hours.

CAMP Supervisory Refresher Course - Designed for CAMP field supervisory staff, this 4-hour course instructs and refreshes CAMP Regional Coordinators and team leaders on basic supervisory techniques. The course was presented in Sacramento on July 23, 1984, by CDF to 15 students and represents 60 logged student hours.

Helicopter Manager Training - This 12-hour course, designed for helicopter pilots, managers and support personnel was presented at the CDF Training Academy on July 28-29, 1984. The course instructs students on basic responsibilities, task management procedures and safety on CAMP helicopter missions. The course was attended by 19 USFS managers, 7 pilots and 10 support personnel for a total of 36 students representing 432 logged student hours.

The CAMP '84' training program trained personnel representing 89 local, state and federal agencies for a total of 8,322 logged student training hours.

CAMP "84"



CAMPAIGN AGAINST MARIJUANA PLANTING CAMPALGN AGAINST MARIJUANA PLANTING PARTICIPATING AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS

Agency	Grants	Aircraft	Photography Salaries	Salaries	Overtime	Per Diem	Vehicle	Other	Training	Total	
Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (BNE)	1	000'06 \$	\$ 2,500	\$270,000	\$ 12,000	\$167,000	\$ 20,000	us.		\$ 561,500	
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	a-	20,000	ï	25,000	3,000	000'9	2,000	4,000	1	000'09	
United States Forest Service (USFS)	,		i	180,000		000,06	8,000			278,000	
California Department of Forestry (CDF)	10,000		ï	2,000	i	200	5,000	2,200	1,000	20,700	
California Highway Patrol (CHP)	6	ıt.	í	122,000		14,350	3,240	,	-	139,590	
Drug Enforcement Ad- ministration (DEA)	\$1,000,000*	50,000	T	100,000	i	20,000	5,000	1	2,000	1,180,000	
United States Park Service	ì		1	9,000	1,000	3,000	800	1		10,800	
Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms (ATF)		. 1	,	34,500	,	200	400		,	35,400	
TOTAL	\$1,010,000	\$160,000	\$ 2,500	\$739,500	\$ 16,000	\$301,350	\$ 44,440	\$ 6,200	\$ 6,000	2,285,990	

*Includes \$800,000 for helicopter rental

Cumulative Raid Report Ending October 31, 1984

		d Team									CAMP
Region I		Days	_	# Plants		Weight		sts	Suspec	ts	Flights
Del Norte	'	4	'	307	'	2,200		'		_ '	*
Humboldt	'	150	'	00,339		681,904		,	15	'	*
Subtotal	'		'		'			'		'	
Region II	1		'		'					,	
Mendocino	'	38	'	14,773	1	78,536'	14	:1	22	'	*
Sonoma		9	'	7,373	'	29,640'		1	11	'	*
Lake	1	4	1	1,451	1	4,462'	3	1	3	'	*
Napa		ule D	'		•	0.37500	milion	'		,	III. Fourt
Marin	1	3	'	1,391	1	1,585'	2	1	1	,	*
Subtotal	'	UALL IS	'	ALCOLUGE DA	'		10	1	Liesti	'	J. 200 b.
Region III	1		'		,			1		,	
Alameda	1	1	'	71	,	80'	-	1	3		
San Mateo	'		1	The state of the s	1			'		'	*
Santa Cruz	1	3	'	310	1	3,044'	1	٠,	-	,	*
Monterey		12	'		•	12,258'			11	'	*
San Luis Obispo	'	2	'		1	1,925'	1	'	2	'	*
Santa Barbara	'Hel	i Asst	. '		•	11,200'		1	1.0	,	*
Santa Clara	1		1		1	1		,		1	*
Subtotal	•		,		•	-		-		,	
Region IV	•		,		•	- '		•	1	1	
Siskiyou	1	9	,	742	1	1,429'	5	-	1	,	*
Trinity	1	23	1		•	58,917'		-	4		*
Shasta	•	1	•		•	25,075'		1	3	1	*
Modoc	1		1		1	1		-		•	*
Lassen	1		,		1			-		-	*
Subtotal	1		1		1	•		1		-	
Region V	1		1		1			•		•	
Butte	1	25	1	15,676	1	55,681'	10	1	5	1	*
Tehama	1	4	1	410	1	1,550'		-		•	*
Glenn	1	2	1		1	2,900'		-		1	*
Plumas	1	1	1		1	- '		1		-	*
Sierra	1		1		1	1	_	•		1	*
Yuba	-	1	•	154		450'	_		_	-	*
Placer	'Hel	i Asst.	. 1	1,492	1	1,600'				1	*
El Dorado	1		1	-, 772	1	1,000		-	- PE	-	*
Nevada	1		1		1	1		1		1	*
Subtotal	•		•		1	1		-		1	
Region VI	1		-		1	- 1	127-107	-		1	
Amador	1	1	1	766	,	2,218'	3	1	3	1	*
Calaveras	1		1	700	1	2,210		-		-	*
Tuolumne	1	9	1	10,397	1	18,407'	9		10	-	*
Stanislaus	1	,	1	10,397	1	10,407	9	-	10	-	*
Merced	1		-		-			-		-	*
	1	1	1	206	-			-		+	*
Mariposa	•	1	+	296	-	200'		·		·	
Madera	-	-	+	1 0/0	-						*
Fresno	-	5	+	1,868	-	7,370'	4	-;-	1	-	*
Tulare	-	1	÷	507	-	1,120'	4	-	الروك	·	*
Subtotal	2.2	200	-	150.000							
GRAND TOTAL		309	<u>'</u>	152,368	1,	003,751'	123	'	95	,	

NOTE: These figures do not include the 6,125 plants seized and destroyed during the CAMP spring raids and aerial observation schools. The total plant count for CAMP '84' is 158,493, weighing 1,006,814 pounds. (*)Refers to those agencies who received fixed-winged air support services from CAMP

Violence Associated with Marijuana Cultivation

Date Location Incident

7/19/84 Humboldt County Shooting

A CAMP agent/pilot while flying a marijuana reconnaissance mission in Southern Humboldt County was fired upon several times by a man armed with a rifle standing next to his marijuana garden. The man was later identified and a warrant issued for his arrest.

7/29/84 Trinity County Homicide

A Kettenpom man was shot and killed by a sniper while working on the deck of his home. The man had marijuana plants growing on his property and investigators believed the shooting was related to marijuana growing in the area.

8/9/84 El Dorado County Fire

A fire burned 200 plus acres in the Greenwood area threatening 50 homes and live stock. Fire investigators suspected an arson fire set by warring marijuana growers.

9/10/84 Butte County Booby Trap Injury

Two young men were accessing the Helltown Canyon area of Butte County to go swimming when one activated a pipe bomb by tripping a wire and was seriously injured.

9/11/84 Humboldt County Machete Wielding Grower

During an eradication of a marijuana garden in the Sprowl Creek area of Humboldt County, the CAMP raid team was surprised by a machete wielding grower. It appears the grower thought he was being "ripped off". Upon learning of his mistake, he dropped the machete and ran off into the woods. A warrant has been issued for his arrest. His wife, left behind at their residence, was arrested.

9/12/84 Mendocino County Shooting

A shooting incident was reported involving three young men from the Sunnyvale area who were in the backwoods area of Willits reportedly "driving around". They stopped their vehicle to urinate. While in the bush, off the road, one was shot in the leg and severly wounded - his leg was later amputated. From information ascertained during the investigation, this incident is strongly believed to be marijuana related.

9/14/84 Humboldt County Homicide

Several armed persons attempted to steal marijuana plants from a property owner's garden. The garden contained about 160 plants. A shoot out occurred between the grower and the culprits. One of the culprits fled the property and rolled his vehicle, dying either from gunshot wounds or the crash. One suspect in custody, investigation continues.

9/17/84 Nevada County Challege at Gun Point

Two United States Forest Service (USFS) employees, working in the Tahoe National Forest in Nevada County, were challenged by a woman with a rifle. They were told to leave by the woman, they complied, and as they left she fired a shot over their heads. Later the same day, the same woman, with her rifle, challenged forest service and sheriff's officers as they approached her cabin. She was arrested and 40 marijuana plants were eradicated from private property which was immediately adjacent to national forest lands. She explained that she did not shoot at the USFS personnel - she had simply cleared her rifle.

9/22/84 Mendocino County Equestrian Assault

Two males were riding horses on private property adjoining Bureau of Land Management lands. One rider was riding ahead of the other when he encountered two men who assaulted him. While the assault was taking place, the other rider arrived, scaring the assailants away. When Mendocino County Sheriff's Office investigated the incident, a 22 plant garden was discovered close to the trail.

9/23/84 Mendocino County Deer Hunter Homicide

A deer hunter was found shot to death in a marijuana garden. A local man was arrested by Mendocino County Sheriff's Office and charged with the crime.

9/23/84 Butte County Citizen Booby Trap Encounter

A real estate agent, while showing property in the Bloomer Mountain area of Butte County, tripped two booby traps, explosive/trip wire types. She was uninjured.

9/23/84 Trinity County Deer Hunter Challenge at Gun Point

Two hunters wandered into a marijuana garden in the Yolla Bola area of the Shasta Trinity National Forest. They were stopped by three men armed with a shotgun, an AR-15 and an Ingram carbine. The hunters were escorted out of the area by the growers and told not to say anything and told not to come back or something bad would happen to them. The hunters said they saw many marijuana plants 8' to 16' tall. The hunter reported the incident to Trinity County Sheriff's Office.

9/24/84 Butte County

Citizen Shot At

A private citizen wandered into a marijuana garden in the Forest Ranch area and immediately left the area in his vehicle. He was shot at as he left, three bullets hitting his vehicle.

9/24/84 Butte County

Citizen Booby Trap Encounter

A private citizen reported that he wandered into a garden in the Paradise area and discovered a trip wire, shotgun booby trap device.

9/28/84 Del Norte County

Booby Trap Encounter

While eradicating a garden located on a private campground in Southern Del Norte County, the CAMP team leader activated a shotgun shell loaded device by tripping a monofilament line. Fortunately the shotgun shell did not fire. Another such device was located in the same garden which was about 100 yards from a camping site.

10/1/84 Mendocino County

Marijuana Thief Wounded

Apparently three young men in their late teens tried to steal some "buds" from a grower in the Redwood Valley area. The grower shot at the crop thieves, wounding one who ended up in the hospital (extent of injury unknown). The grower reported the attempted theft to the sheriff's office. The sheriff's office is investigating.

10/2/84 Humboldt County

Kidnapping and Weapon Discharge

Sheriff's officers while responding to a complaint of automatic weapon fire were searching the Salmon Creek area when a shotgun blast was heard. Deputies arrived at Thomas Road. The deputies found two armed subjects holding two other subjects - all males. After further investigation, the armed subjects were arrested and charged with kidnapping, false imprisonment, and armed in the commission of a felony.

10/2/84

Marin County

Marijuana Thief Homicide

An unidentified man was shot to death during an attempted marijuana greenhouse crop rip-off. Several other unidentified persons in company of the unidentified white male adult fled the area after the shooting.

11/24/84

Humboldt County

Homicides

While investigating a missing persons report approximately 13 miles southwest of Weitchpec on State Route 169, Humboldt County Sheriff's deputies discovered the deteriorated remains of two men in a secluded campsite; both had been shot to death. In close proximity to the campsite, marijuana gardens were found, with every indication that the campsite used by the subjects was connected with the marijuana growers.

Excerpts from CAMP '83' Survey Concerning Environmental Impact

There are many problems associated with marijuana growing which can be attributed to the carelessness of growers. During the past three years over a dozen fires have been started accidentally by growers. NOTE: A 200+ acre fire was attributed to warring marijuana growers in El Dorado County during the 1984 growing season.

Other areas of concern include the use of chemical fertilizers, organic fertilizers, misuse of delicate sources such as lakes and streams, use of rodenticides and items left in the environment by the growers at the end of the season.

The most often recommended fertilizers for the marijuana farmer are the high nitrogen types which act quickly because all the nutrients are in soluble form. They are usually more concentrated than organic fertilizers and are more convenient and easily transported to remote areas. A high nitrogen compound is most often used because the availability of nitrogen is the factor most likely to determine the growth of marijuana.

According to a report in December 1981 by the U.S. Forest Service, chemical fertilizers can leach into ground water and end up in downstream water supplies. The over-balance of nitrogen in streams can have an adverse effect on invertabrates which may not survive in a highly oxygenated environment. Wildlife biologists from the California Department of Fish and Game have reported finding significant problems with marine life due to over oxygenated water. This has occurred downstream from greenhouses in which high nitrogen fertilizers are used.

During the 1983 CAMP program nearly all of the fertilization systems found were the high-nitro types. Fertilizer was either dumped into large doughboy pools and fed to the plants through a series of pvc pipes and emitters or applied in-line through mixers. Often the bags of fertilizers were left lying on the ground open with the contents spilled and no effort made to clean up the mess caused by them. Once the fertilizer is exposed to moisture such as rain or dew the highly concentrated mixture is absorbed into the ground burning both the soil and nearby plant life, as well as leaching into water supplies.

Also used in some areas is the urea type (turkey, chicken manure) fertilizer. This has become popular, particularly in Trinity County as a more natural "organic" fertilizer and is advertised in most marijuana growing publications. The U.S. Forest Service states that urea type fertilizers are applied at a rate of 250 pounds per acre. These types also leach into streams damaging water supplies and fisheries.

Bat Guano from the caves of New Mexico is often advertised as the "world's greatest fertilizer". As well as causing the usual damage to water supplies, proponents of bat guano admit that breathing bat guano is dangerous. According to "Sinsemilla Tips" magazine, bat guano is an "incredible microbial stimulator causing congestion and coughing".

Of all the types of fertilizer found by CAMP members there was none which, according to the U.S. Forest Service, is not harmful to the environment.

Types Used:

Chemical fertilizer only	85%
Organic only	5%
Both chemical and organic	8%
No fertilizer used	2%

Method of Application:

Mixed into doughboy type pools or containers	40%
In-line mixes	30%
Mixed and applied manually	10%
Any combination of above	20%

Types of Water Sources:

Doughboy type pools or other large collectors		
(water usually pumped from lake or stream to		
pool and fed back to gardens through drip		
irrigation)		.40%

F	ed dire	ct]	Ly	de	WC	nh:	11	1	to	g	ar	de	ns	f	roi	m v	va!	te	r			
	source	by	7	gra	ve	ity	7	us	ing	g	dr	ip	i	rr	ig	at:	io	n (or			
	hoses.																					.15%

W	ater	is	pumped	uphil1	from	water	sourc	e usi	ng		
	elec	tri	ic pump	or gase	oline	power	ed gen	erato	r,		
	ther	a al	llowed	to feed	back	downh	ill th	rough			
	pipe	es c	or hose	s to gar	rdens						.35%

Plants	grown	in	swamp	lands	or	river	bo	ott	O	n			
requi	iring	no i	additio	onal i	rri	gation							5%

Conventional sources such as hose from residence . . . 5%

Marijuana growing manuals identify the following as potentially harmful to marijuana plants:

insects	rabbits
rats	cats
mice	deer
moles	squirrels
birds	groundhogs

"D-Con" type rat poisons and other chemical rodenticides are common on marijuana plantations. According to the U.S. Forest Service, marijuana growers use as much as 300 lbs. per acre of rodenticides usually in riparian (stream side) areas which not only eliminate rodents, but birds and other small wildlife as well. Animals up the food chain are often affected and some poisons, if ingested by deer, could eventually harm humans if the deer is killed by humans and later eaten.

Large rat traps are also used to control pests. Hundreds of such traps have been found by law enforcement and the most common bait used, peanut butter, attracts not only rats but groundhogs, squirrels, mice, rabbits and birds.

As a deterrent to deer and other larger animals, chicken wire fencing is placed around marijuana gardens. The fences are sometimes as high as ten feet and often small shrubs, branches and slash are used as camouflage. Because of the difficult terrain it is easier for the growers to leave fencing materials behind when they harvest. In gardens that law enforcement found had been harvested prior to their arrival, no effort had been made to remove these items from the environment, particularly on public lands.

The following percentages apply to the frequency the below listed items were encountered:

Chemical rodenticides	75%
Rat traps	65%
Fencing	90%
Deer repellent	20%

Items found in gardens or left behind by growers:

- 1. Drip irrigation or hoses
- 2. Doughboy pools
- 3. Bags of chemical fertilizer
- 4. In-line fertilizer systems
- 5. Plastic bags used for growing
- 6. Chicken/turkey manure fertilizer
- 7. Open bags of fertilizer dumped on ground or into streams
- 8. One gallon and five gallon containers
- 9. Makeshift cabins
- 10. Stoves, tents, sleeping bags
- 11. Garbage, human waste
- 12. Tools such as shovels and rakes
- 13. Vehicles, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles
- 14. Electric fencing, chicken wire fencing
- 15. Various booby-traps
- 16. Weapons

October 30, 1984

Contact: B. W. Replogle

Patrol Captain (707) 443-6771 The Resources Agency, California DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME Region 1 619 Second Street Eureka, California 95501

WILDLIFE IMPACTED BY MARIJUANA CULTIVATION (Release: IMMEDIATE)

In Humboldt County approximately 17,000 legal hunters will harvest about 1600 deer this year. It is estimated that the number of deer killed by marijuana growers in 1984 will equal or exceed that number. Of the gardens raided 50% to 60% contained evidence of deer or other wildlife having been killed. In some instances the meat is used, in others the decaying carcasses are left as a grim reminder and supposed deterrent to other animals with a taste for the valuable plants.

Some growers pursue and kill the animals, while others use the less personal techniques of set guns or snares. Deer have been found with an entire fore or hindquarter blown away, the result of an explosive device set beside a trail. Bears have been caught in heavy cable snares after being attracted by bait piles of fish or animal remains. The area surrounding the snare site remains as testimony of the animal's suffering before being killed or starving to death. More recently, suppliers have been stocking poisons such as warfarin to kill deer with an appetite for the plants. Deer have been found in emaciated condition, unable to flee when picked up by wardens or biologists.

Examples of involvement by Fish and Game officers include:

- July Arrest of three growers hunting deer during closed season garden eradicated.
- Aug. Found remains of 5 bears snared in garden in Lacks Creek 7 gardens, 1600 plants. Found remains of 25 deer in 2 contiguous gardens near Redwood Creek.
 - Report of poaching on private property near Redwood Creek, found garden Louisiana Pacific property McDonald Creek, found baited bear trap in garden, evidence of other kills.
- Sept. Hunter chased out of garden on public land by armed men.

 Grouse Mt., found 165 plants, 4 guns, one set gun, 3 does head shot and left to rot.
 - Showers Pass, arrested grower, \$31,000 in drug and weapons warrants,

diary with 34 entries of killing or attempting to kill deer. King Range 12 buck heads hanging on shed most in velvet, fresh.

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Oct. Ferndale, four deer carcasses rotting on edge of garden.

CAMP '84' Critique Recommendations

A. Field Operations Subcommittee

- It is recommended that an additional course in SWAT training be added to the three day eradication schools.
- It is recommended that a duty statement be developed for the helicopter manager "helitack" position.
- It is recommended that one team member be assigned to be the Landing Zone Coordinator when the team leader/regional coordinator determines it is necessary.
- 4. It is recommended that the lead deputy be formally assigned the responsibilities of overflight scheduling, briefing team leaders on raid plans, the execution of the search warrants and local legal issues of arrests and searches.
- It is recommended that CAMP develop formal written policies and procedures for all facets of the CAMP operation.
- It is recommended that a course of law enforcement ethics be added to the required training for CAMP personnel.
- 7. It is recommended that the counties participating in CAMP meet before the CAMP program begins to discuss program policies and procedures this can possibly be done on a regional basis.
- It is recommended that CAMP consider the feasibility of rotating team leaders and regional coordinators to help alleviate the fatique factor.
- 9. It is recommended that the responsibility of preparing CAMP reports be changed from the strike team leaders to the regional coordinator.
- 10. It is recommended that CAMP Headquarters be staffed with a full-time administrative chief to handle such duties as fiscal, personnel and case management and thus free trouble shooters for field duties.

B. Media Relations/Public Awareness Subcommittee

Public Awareness Program

- It is recommended that CAMP establish a proactive, aggressive public education/awareness campaign to tell the public why CAMP exists and what its goals are. This program should include the following:
 - . A slide show on the impact of marijuana production on the community.
 - . Public Service Announcements (PSAs) on the CAMP program.

- A list of CAMP community supporters, including elected officials and service clubs, to help generate support for the program.
- A speakers bureau composed of representatives from CAMP agencies who can appear before service clubs and other organizations.
- . The aid of environmental groups to publicize the environmental issues associated with marijuana production in the wilds.
- . A program to publicize the following:
 - program statistics: numbers and value of plants seized, arrests, vehicles and firearms seized, etc.
- incidents of violence
 - information on prosecutions resulting from CAMP
 - social impacts on community from large-scale marijuana production
 - savings to local law enforcement resulting from participation in CAMP
 - environmental impacts

News Media Coordination

- 1. It is recommended that CAMP maintain a full-time public information center at CAMP Headquarters, during the CAMP season, to answer media inquiries, issue news releases and plan and organize "media raids." This year's information center was only staffed part-time, which meant other CAMP staff had to handle the information function in addition to regular duties.
- It is recommended that the information staff issue weekly news bulletins to the CAMP sheriffs, participating agencies and the news media. These bulletins should include feature ideas and items of interest.
- 3. It is recommended that CAMP adopt a standardized policy for dealing with the news media. This policy should incorporate local sheriffs' policies and outline those areas where policies vary from county to county. The media policy statement should be included in CAMP agreements and should be circulated to all participating agencies.
- 4. It is recommended that the CAMP information center handle all news media inquiries from statewide and national media. It is recommended that sheriffs handle local news media inquiries unless they would prefer to have CAMP handle local inquiries as well.

Training Program for CAMP Personnel

 It is recommended that CAMP personnel be given a brief course on the importance of good news media relations. The course could be presented by the CAMP information staff during the regular CAMP training program.

Additional Recommendations

- It is recommended that additional public information professionals be assigned to staff the CAMP information center so that it can be staffed full-time. This can be accomplished by asking participating agencies to loan CAMP information personnel on a short-term (one or two weeks) basis. The CAMP information officer should supervise the information center.
 - It is recommended that planning for the CAMP information center staffing and budget be undertaken early in the year and in conjunction with planning for the entire program.

C. Training/Recruitment Subcommittee

- It is recommended that the 1985 CAMP training program continue to utilize the goals and priorities established for the 1984 CAMP training program listed below:
 - . Training goal
 - to train all CAMP personnel to safely, legally and efficiently perform their tasks in the CAMP program.
 - . Training priorities, in order will be:
 - safety
 - operational techniques
 - history/background of CAMP
- It is recommended that the CAMP survival school, presented by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Office, be repeated and expanded to include leadership training.
- 3. It is recommended that the CAMP survival school should include the following personnel as students:
 - . Regional coordinators
 - . Operations commander
 - . Team leaders

- . Lead deputies
- . Trouble shooter(s)
- . CHP officers assigned permanently to teams
- It is recommended that the CAMP safety class be repeated for CAMP '85'.
- It is recommended that the CAMP safety class be updated and expanded to include a section that would provide a physical fitness assessment of raid team members.
- 6. It is recommended that <u>all</u> CAMP raid team personnel attend either the CAMP survival school or the CAMP safety class.
- 7. It is recommended that the CAMP safety class be held in an area with terrain similar to that found in Humboldt County.
- 8. It is recommended that the separate map and compass class for team leaders and coordinators be eliminated.
- 9. It is recommended that that helicopter managers school with the CAMP '84' curriculum be presented in CAMP '85'.
- It is recommended that the BNE sinsemilla eradication school be continued.
- 11. It is recommended to support the DEA observers' school if a need for the school developes.
- 12. It is recommended to actively seek and obtain POST-Certification of all CAMP training classes.
- 13. It is recommended that the CAMP 1985 training program planning process be initiated in December 1984 and continue through the winter.
- 14. It is recommended that multi-agency participation in the training program should be encouraged.

Recruitment

- It is recommended that the methods of recruitment used to employ reserve officers and other CAMP paid employees in 1984, be continued in 1985.
- It is recommended that all agencies contacted for recruitment of volunteer peace officers assure that those personnel are truly volunteers.

- 3. It is recommended that all state and federal agencies who assigned personnel to the CAMP '84' raid teams on a full-time assignment (CHP, BLM and the USFS) do so for CAMP '85'.
- 4. It is recommended that CHP personnel should be allowed to participate fully, without restriction, in all of the raid team activities for CAMP '85'.
- It is recommended that longer term individual commitments of helicopter managers "helitacks" be encouraged.
- It is recommended that EMT's should continue to be recruited and be made a part of each raid team.

D. Intelligence Data Collection Subcommittee

- It is recommended that one member of each CAMP team be assigned to work with the lead deputy to collect all intelligence, asset seizure information and firearms and explosives information and see that it is forwarded to the intelligence chief for review and dissemination through proper channels on a timely basis.
- 2. It is recommended that asset seizure and criminal intelligence training be incorporated into the CAMP training program. The training should be geared to the type of information that should be collected and how it should be documented to support asset seizure cases and federal prosecutions.

E. Asset Seizure Subcommittee

- It is recommended that training in both state and federal seizure law be given to all team leaders during the CAMP pre-season training classes.
- It is recommended that a county or possibly two counties be targeted for asset seizure cases during 1985.
- It is recommended that other seizures in the remaining counties be taken on a case-by-case basis.
- 4. It is recommended that a DEA agent be assigned to the target areas on a full-time basis during the raiding season.
- It is recommended that one CAMP team member be assigned to collect intelligence information and seizure information as sole duties on the team.
- It is recommended that both sheriffs and district attorneys be contacted regarding the goals of the asset seizure team prior to the raiding season.

F. Air Operations Subcommittee

1. Surveillance

- Scheduling we recommend that a full-time surveillance flight scheduler be assigned to the CAMP Headquarters. This should be a person who is familiar with the geography of California, CAMP Operations and have an aviation background.
- . Pilot/Aircraft Services to relieve a critical shortage of agency aircraft and pilots, we recommend that other sources such as:
 - Sheriff's aerosquadrons, Fish and Game, State Police, CHP, etc., be contacted for possible assistance to CAMP operations.
- Pilot Qualifications/Training in order to enhance flying/ observation skills of pilots from alternative sources, we recommend that training in mountain flying and surveillance be conducted for all pilots - including those from contractors.
- Spotting Gardens on Public Lands we recommend that a light observation helicopter be obtained/contracted for because of the difficulty in spotting gardens in canyon bottoms and under dense forest canopies.
- . Observer Training we recommend that there be closer coordination with "Advanced Training Center" regarding:
 - student/observer selection earlier in program
 - more aircraft available during training sessions to increase student involvement and experience
 - early screening of student candidates, to eliminate undesirable/air sick observers

2. Operations and Safety Management

- NOTE: The basic or "bottom line" recommendation is that a "CAMP Helicopter Management Handbook" be written that, at a minimum, will cover safety, training, qualifications, equipment, etc. It is not to be a rewritten agency (Forest Service) handbook, but one written to cover unique CAMP helicopter operations. Agency handbooks, manuals and training materials will be used as source documents.
- We recommend that pre-season training of helicopter specialists, pilots and team members include safety and operation of long lines and remote hooks.
- . Continuity of the tenure of helicopter specialists proved to be a problem on some of the teams. We recommend that they be identified by name, not later than April '85 and that they be committed for

the entire season, if possible. Failing this, they should be committed for overlapping three-week assignments.

- . We recommend that a job description for a "CAMP Helicopter Specialist" be written by the Task Force and that it include elements of Contract Inspector and Helitack Foreman responsibilities.
- . We recommend that CAMP Helicopter Specialists continue to be law enforcement officers, to the extent possible. However, if a choice has to be made, recent helicopter experience and qualifications shall be a primary consideration.
- In order to effect positive management controls, safety and efficiency, we recommend that <u>as a minimum</u> regional coordinators, strike team leaders, logistics assistants, pilots and primary CAMP staff attend/participate in "helicopter" pre-season training.

3. Communications, Equipment and Avionics

- Because the helicopters are vital to the success of field operations, we recommend that radio equipment be improved:
 - Ground to ground communications enhanced through "better" multi-channel radios and repeaters. (Helicopter pilots have become unnecessarily burdened as radio-relay points).
 - Helicopter safety/management be enhanced through the use of more dependable VHF ground radios.
 - Ground radios at heliports should have the characteristics and power of mobile radios.
- We recommend that each strike team and assigned helicopter have "trauma kits" available for med-evac, etc. This would include folding stokes, litters and EMT first aid kits.

G. Communications/Equipment Subcommittee

- It is recommended that CAMP purchase programmable radio transceivers and issue them to the helicopter contractors in the same manner the LORAN-C's were issued.
- It is recommended that CAMP issue two portable (hand-held) scanners for the purpose of monitoring local allied law enforcement agencies.
 - . One for the raid team.
 - . One for the base landing zone.
- 3. It is recommended that CAMP ensure the availability of local sheriff's department radio at the base landing zone for the purpose of emergency communications with their dispatch center.

- It is recommended that radio protocol be included in the CAMP training program.
- It is recommended that in areas where two or more teams will be operating in the same area to implement multi-frequency repeaters.
- 6. It is recommended that each team provide for an equipment/landing zone foreman whose primary responsibility is to:
 - . Care and maintenance of equipment.
 - . Inventory, issuance and accountability of all team equipment.
 - . Assist/run the landing zone operation including the burning operation, vehicle movement and assist the helitack foreman.

H. State/Federal Prosecution Subcommittee

- It is recommended that an emphasis be placed on identifying triable cases before raid teams go into the field - there should be more investigation and pre-raid targeting of cases.
- It is recommended that more funding be provided for pre-raid investigative work-ups.
- 3. It is recommended that training be provided for both prosecutors and investigative agents on the local level so as to take advantage of such developments as increased cross-designation of state prosecutors in federal courts relying on the federal statutory schemes.
- It is recommended that federal and state prosecution efforts be more fully integrated.
- It is recommended that each county make certain that one deputy district attorney is an expert in drug cases so as to provide knowledge, expertise and consistency.
- 6. It is recommended that there be joint district attorney/sheriff's office meetings and pre-season planning and training programs with regard to CAMP so as to establish consistent policies and practices.
- 7. It is recommended the special training programs be established regarding narcotics cases in court, as well as special cross designation training courses for the "designated expert" deputy district attorney, so as to increase federal prosecutions.
- It is recommended that a "points and authorities" clearinghouse be established on dope cases and their problems.
- 9. It is recommended that special forfeiture training classes be established for prosecutors and investigators to instruct participants on how to use the federal courts and laws applicable to marijuana

cultivation, particularly as to both pre-seizure investigations, including financial work-ups, and use of the federal subpoena power and Federal Grand Jury to go after significant narcotics traffickers identified following in-field seizures.

- 10. It is recommended that CAMP support legislation which will permit sharing of assets obtained from state or federal asset forfeiture proceedings with local authorities so as to fund increased prosecutions and investigations.
- It is recommended that CAMP actively support legislative proposals for changes in penalties and in pretrial procedures.
- 12. It is recommended that CAMP post-field operations provide for an increased emphasis upon assistance to the counties in conducting financial investigations and asset forfeitures.
- 13. It is recommended that in addition to the training courses mentioned above, establish an informational packet for deputy district attorneys as well as for designated sheriff's office representatives with regard to California Health and Safety Code Section 11479, and other evidentiary problem areas that have consistently arisen in this area.

NOTE: The subcommittee mentioned their overwhelming approval of the new California Major Narcotics Vendors Prosecution Program discussed at the conference. Reaction was that while this is a positive start, the amount of money presently committed in that aea is insufficient and all present should request that whatever effort can be directed to increasing such funds be made as soon as possible.

I. Program Assessment/Impact Subcommittee

The purpose of the Assessment/Impact Subcommittee was to assess the impact of CAMP '84'; identify trends in California's commercial marijuana cultivation industry; and, to make recommendations to programmatically address the problem. At the end of the eradication phase of CAMP '84' (October 31, 1984) and before the "CAMP Critique", all sheriffs' departments were visited by CAMP '84' regional coordinators and team leaders to interview local authorities on the impact of CAMP '84' and to identify trends. The following is a compilation of the information obtained during those visits and the CAMP Critique:

Trends

Cultivation:

Growers have made more of a concerted efort to hide gardens from aerial observation by the use of camouflaging, scattering smaller gardens and planting around natural tree canopies. The largest garden eradicated on private property during CAMP '84' was 5,100 plants in the Blocksburg area of Humboldt County and the largest on public lands was an 8,000

plant garden on USFS lands in Tuolumne County. Large gardens, such as these, require large areas of clear-cut lands and are now the exception rather than the rule as they were two or three years ago. A good example of the growing trend is the Butte County site in which CAMP acquired the first federal search warrant ever issued in California. That particular site was approximately one square mile and contained 16 scattered gardens (3,200 plants total) obviously grown by the same grower(s). The use of greenhouses in open field areas seem to be fading out too - they are to easy to spot with aerial surveillance. Intelligence sources reveal that there may be more indoor marijuana growing than in the past and that there may be much more in the future as a result of CAMP outdoor field operations. Indoor growing is much more expensive and yields are far smaller. Law enforcement officials have and will learn of these indoor operations through conventional informational sources and indoor operations will be ideal targets for asset forfeitures.

Violence:

As stated in the "Violence Associated with Marijuana Cultivation" section of this report, "there is no evidence to support an assumption that the violence associated with the 1984 cultivation season was any more or less than that of former years." There is no question, however, that there was an extreme amount of violence associated with the 1984 season. Monterey and Santa Cruz counties, who historically reported many occurrences of violence, particularly lethal booby-traps, reported almost none this year and a substantial drop in the number of marijuana gardens spotted. These two counties have had a sustained marijuana eradication program during the past several years and the effort seems to be paying off. Butte County on the other hand, has had one of the most aggressive eradication programs in California and experienced a great deal of violence this year. Butte County methodically and expertly eradicated from 75 to 85 percent of the 1984 crop grown in their county. Humboldt County, in which nearly half of the CAMP raid team days were spent, eradicated as much as 40 percent of the crop and the sheriff feels that incidents of violence were substantially less than in previous years. One thing is made clear from consulting the experts at the local level: Violence is definitely a by-product of the commercial marijuana industry and sustained, serious enforcement effort will reduce the cultivation which, in turn, will reduce the violence associated with it.

Public Awareness/Attitude

There seems to be little public sentiment for the commercial marijuana grower. In past years, growers have tried to build a "flower child" image whose activities have done no harm to anyone and, in fact, have brought prosperity to economically depressed communities. The facts are that because of the violence associated with marijuana cultivation and the type of people that basically make up the grower's subculture, the quality of life has diminished where growers have taken a foot hold in the community. The proceeds from their illegal activities really have very little if

anything at all to do with stimulating local economics. For several years, in some parts of California, marijuana cultivators have engaged in nothing more than a low risk, high profit criminal enterprise. CAMP has raised the risk considerably. Growers who have been involved in the business for 5 to 10 years or more find it hard to accept the fact that what they do is or should be illegal. Some openly preach "civil disobedience" to support their cause. Henry David Thoreau was an advocate of civil disobedience against what an individual might perceive to be an unjust law. Thoreau said, however, that one must be prepared to and accept the consequences of their acts of civil disobedience. Most growers don't feel strongly enough about their cause to accept the consequences of their acts.

Program Assessment/Impact

Subcommittee Recommendations

- It is recommended that team members and lead deputies be rotated to help alleviate the fatique factor.
- It is recommended that CAMP resources be allocated to where major problems exist, i.e., Humboldt, Mendocino and Trinity counties. Based on raid team days expended during CAMP '84', it is believed this can be done without reducing raid team day services for other CAMP counties.
- 3. It is recommended that CAMP begin eradication raids in major growing counties around July 1, 1985.
- 4. It is recommended that CAMP conduct more spring raids (April).
- It is recommended that CAMP form special onsite investigative team(s) to target large commercial/violent growers; conduct asset seizure investigations and collect intelligence data.
- 6. It is recommended that CAMP work towards better prosecutorial coordination (state and federal).
- It is recommended that better field communications equipment be obtained and used in CAMP '85'.