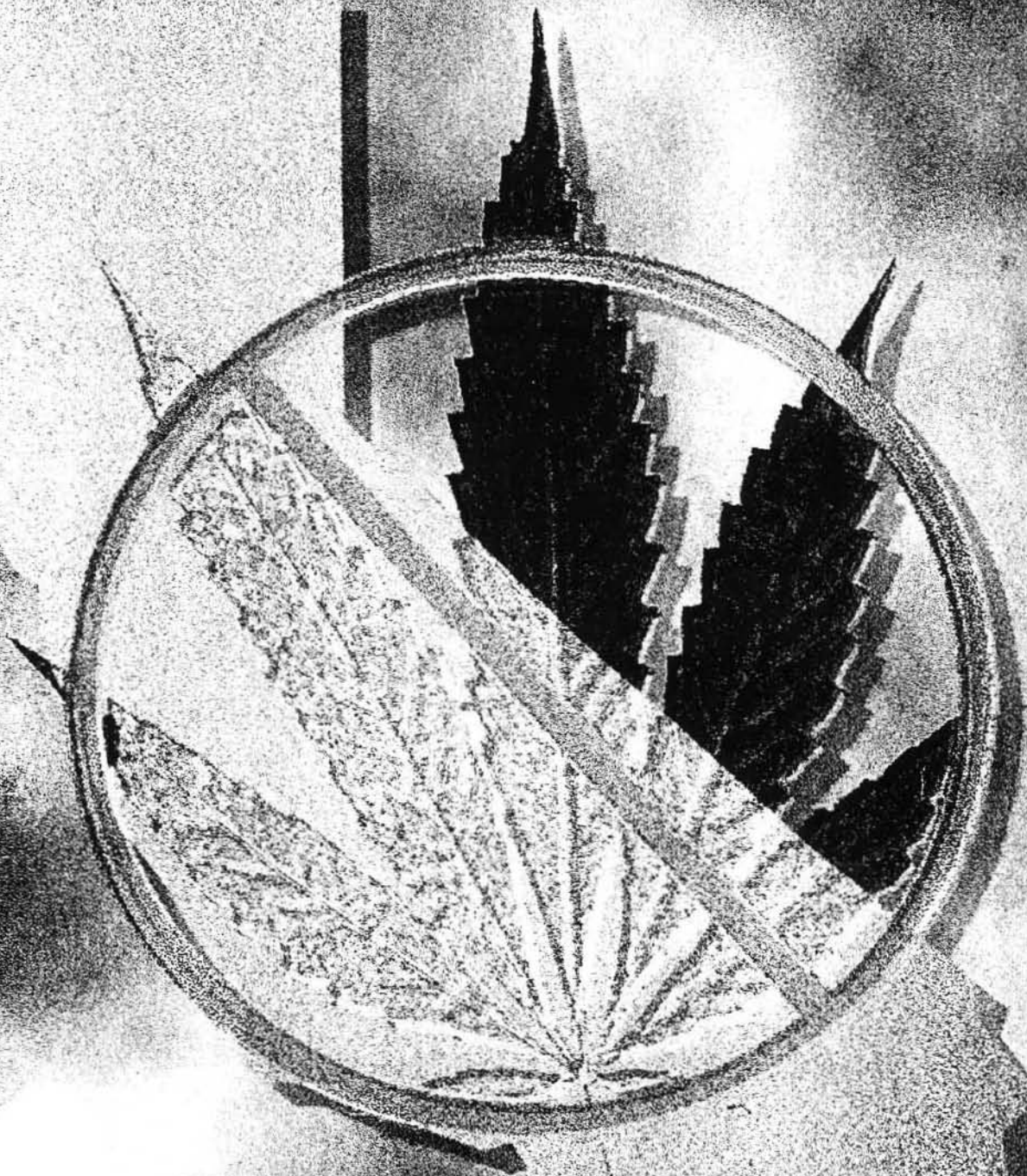


# CAMP

Campaign Against  
Marijuana Planting



# 1996



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Annual Report

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# Mission

The Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP) program is a multi-agency law enforcement task force composed of local, state and federal agencies organized for the purpose of discouraging and diminishing marijuana cultivation and trafficking in California.

CAMP's primary thrust is to provide resources not otherwise available to California law enforcement so they can effectively combat the marijuana cultivation problem in their jurisdiction.

CAMP's long-term goals include the reduction of marijuana cultivation, both outdoors and indoors, to the lowest possible level and to assist local law enforcement with the arrest, prosecution, and forfeiture of assets of marijuana growers.



# Executive Summary

## General

On October 4, 1996, the fourteenth consecutive Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP) eradication season concluded. CAMP 1996 enjoyed an extremely successful season, free of injuries and lawsuits. During the nine-week eradication season, CAMP achieved the following:

- 94,221 - Plants Eradicated
- 94 - Arrests
- 116 - Seized Weapons

Mendocino County of Region II led all counties in plants eradicated. A total of 44,516 marijuana plants were eradicated.

Sonoma County of Region II led all counties in arrests, with 30 suspects arrested for marijuana-related offenses.

The objectives for the 1996, CAMP mission were as follows: first, provide services not otherwise available to local sheriffs and provide these services in a safe and efficient manner; second, eradicate as many marijuana plants as possible in a safe and efficient manner; third, arrest as many marijuana cultivators as possible; and fourth, ensure the public, through the media, that CAMP continues its commitment to marijuana eradication.

## Safe Sheriff Services

CAMP's primary objective stated is to provide services to counties while working under the direction of the sheriff, being always mindful of officer safety and safety for the public. Hence, the term "Safe Sheriff Services."

The 1996 CAMP raid teams and C-RAT teams supplied safe services to fifteen county sheriffs, the United States Forest Service (USFS), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The three regions were assigned 11 primary counties of the 52 counties participating in CAMP. Each Regional Operations Commander (ROC) was responsible for the supervision and safety of five





raid team members, one pilot, one helitak manager, six California National Guard "Team Wolf" soldiers (soldiers specially trained to work with civilian law enforcement to eradicate marijuana, and four CAMP Reconnaissance and Arrest Team (C-RAT) members, a specially trained contingent of California Highway Patrol State Officers. Local sheriffs' departments supplied specially trained deputies who served as "Lead Deputies."

There were only a few minor injuries to personnel. These were limited to poison oak infection and bee stings.

### **Eradication**

This season's total of 94,221 plants eradicated was the highest plant count since 1989 and exceeded 1995's total by 21 percent. Monterey County, once again, had the single largest outdoor cultivation, with the seizure of a 1,500 plant garden in the Marina/Seaside area of the county. The plants had a wholesale value of \$6 million. No arrests were made; however, evidence at the grow site suggests that at least three Hispanic males were tending the grow. Several other grows in excess of 1,000 plants per garden were seized in Humboldt, Mendocino, Napa, Sonoma, and Santa Cruz Counties.

### **Arrests**

The 1996 CAMP arrest count of 94 was the highest since 1991, when 128 arrests were made with six teams and six helicopters. The C-RAT teams, reduced from three teams in 1995 to two teams in 1996, accounted for 18 of the 94 arrests. This 19 percent is right in line with prior year percentage figures.

### **Media Relations**

CAMP media relations continued to be very active and varied. On August 20, 1996, KSBW Television and KCNN Television from Salinas, California, covered the eradication of 3,000 plants in Monterey County. On August 21, 1996, KOVR Television of Sacramento and its bureau in Stockton, California, covered the eradication of 750 marijuana plants from corn fields outside the city limits of Stockton. Print media from San Francisco, Riverside, Santa Rosa, and as far away as Albany, New York, and Washington, D.C., documented CAMP's activities.



## Funding

For the first time in five years, CAMP enjoyed a funding increase, although it was only \$3,000 over 1995's budget. This allowed for a ninth week in Mendocino County, the most productive county in the state. CAMP has not had a ninth week since 1992. The agencies that contributed funds were the Drug Enforcement Administration (\$260,000, down from \$302,744 in 1995), the California Attorney General's Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (\$210,000, up from \$165,000 in 1995), and the United States Forest Service (\$10,000, the same as 1995).

## Liaison Agencies

CAMP received in-kind personnel and material support in 1996 from the California National Guard (CNG), California Highway Patrol (CHP), the United States Air Force Civil Air Patrol (CAP), United States Marine Corps (USMC), United States Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, and the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department.

Contributions by these agencies included instructors for training, reconnaissance flight time to the county sheriffs, raid team support (Team Wolf), team and command staff air lifts, vehicle maintenance, and long-line equipment.



*Marijuana plants  
ready for "harvest."*



# Summary

The fourteenth consecutive CAMP eradication season brought the task force success not seen since the late 1980s. This success is entirely due to the dedicated efforts of the men and women of CAMP. The individual work of those committed to CAMP has again provided the momentum that keeps CAMP a model counternarcotics task force.

The success of the 1996 season has led to a re-thinking and ultimately a re-working of the operation plan used for the last three seasons.

At the December, 1996, Coordinating Group meeting, a decision was made to eliminate the C-RAT program. The monetary resources once committed to this program will now fund a team for a fourth region. Each region will be supported by a full eradication team complement, National Guard troops and, except Region IV, a contract helicopter. The helicopter for Region IV will hopefully come from one of the sheriff's offices being supported by CAMP. The four regions will again be the high marijuana producing counties of the state in which the majority of marijuana cultivation takes place during August, September, and October.

CAMP will, of course, still attempt to serve any and all Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signatory counties. The MOU is sent to all 58 sheriffs in the State of California. The MOU simply states that if a sheriff desires the services of a CAMP team, the sheriff must supply a deputy to coordinate the county's part of the operation, collect and preserve evidence, and arrange for destruction of seized marijuana per California Health and Safety Code statutes.

The Regional Operations Commanders (ROCs) will once again be recruited based upon prior CAMP experience. These ROCs come fully prepared and will need very little remedial training to bring them up to speed.

The California Highway Patrol has again committed substantial personnel to CAMP. In prior years, these state officers were the backbone of the C-RAT program. The 1997 season will have no C-RAT program; however, the CHP officers will continue to be an extremely important faction within the eradication equation.



The 1997 CAMP season has already received commitments for participation from prior years' allied agencies. The Drug Enforcement Administration, the United States Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management will again be the lead federal agencies.

The military contributions of "Team Wolf" of the National Guard will be at an all-time high, fielding four, six-person teams. The United States Air Force Civil Air Patrol and the Sacramento-based Motor Transport Company of the United States Marine Corp will save CAMP several thousand dollars in flight time and vehicle repair and maintenance. The CAMP program has been a keystone in the utilization of military resources for civilian counternarcotics law enforcement.







# History

The California marijuana eradication effort began in 1977, when it became apparent that marijuana cultivation was increasing at an alarming rate. In 1979, the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (BNE), obtained a federal grant to assist the sheriffs in four Northern California Counties with their eradication efforts. As a result, nearly 30,000 plants were seized during the 1979 "harvest season."

In 1980, the program was expanded to include 43 California counties. BNE conducted two, two-week observer schools to train local police officers in the specialized field of marijuana eradication. Specialized vehicles and equipment were purchased by BNE and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). This more concerted effort resulted in the seizure of 156,000 plants and the arrest of 1,000 suspects.

In 1981, the eradication program was again expanded to include helicopter support from the U.S. Customs Service. This allowed a safe and cost-effective means of accessing large crops in inaccessible areas of California's central coast.

In 1982, BNE assigned ten special agents and two fixed wing aircraft to support the efforts of local sheriffs. In addition, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) supplied additional funding and a new perspective on marijuana cultivation, that of the damage to the environment from fertilizers and pesticides used in the illicit growing. In excess of 90,000 plants were seized in 1982.

To provide the vehicle for the focusing of multi-level, multi-agency resources on the problem, a jointly operated local, state, and federal organization was conceived and titled the "Campaign Against Marijuana Planting," referred to by the acronym "CAMP."

Since 1983, CAMP has provided the people of the state of California and the law enforcement community with an annual summary of CAMP activities.

In addition to promoting information and education programs regarding marijuana, CAMP's primary thrust is to provide resources not otherwise available to California law enforcement so they can more effectively combat the marijuana cultivation problem in their jurisdictions.



In conjunction with the assistance provided to local agencies in investigation, eradication, surveillance and arrest efforts, CAMP gathers data on marijuana cultivation and associated information that provides a problem monitoring foundation to effectively devise solutions to this illegal activity. CAMP's long-term goals include the reduction of marijuana cultivation, both outdoors and indoors; to assist local law enforcement with the arrest, prosecution, and forfeiture of assets of cannabis cultivators; and to maintain a data base of intelligence information to provide to local, state, and federal law enforcement.

In March of 1983, the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (BNE) at the direction of the Attorney General, invited the principal state and federal agencies to meet and plan a unified program directed at marijuana eradication. The Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, Drug Enforcement Administration, United States Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management were later joined by the U.S. Customs Service, the California Highway Patrol, the California National Guard, and the Office of the Emergency Services.



"Stress" Shooting Training Survival School '96.



# Training

## CAMP SPECIALIZED PRE-SERVICE TRAINING

Each year preparation for the eradication phase of the CAMP program begins with extensive planning and training well before field operations. Everyone who participates in CAMP, depending on the nature of the job he or she is to perform, is required to attend at least one of the five specialized training courses. During the months of June and July, CAMP presented three training courses throughout the state. These training courses addressed areas from field team tactics to field leadership training, helicopter safety, and managing a CAMP region.

### CAMP 1996 PRE-SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAM

#### CAMP Safety Course

Due to the lack of raid team volunteers, the safety course was not presented this year. All required safety issues were addressed during the CAMP Command Staff Administrative training or CAMP Officer Survival training course.

#### CAMP Officer Survival Training Course

Designed for CAMP field command staff. Lead deputies and volunteer team leaders attend this five-day, 56-hour intensive format course. Students are trained on land navigation and survival techniques unique to CAMP operations. The course was presented in July, 1996, by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Training Academy staff and CAMP command staff. It was attended by regional operations commanders, CAMP temporary hires, C-RAT team leaders, members of the Visalia Police Department SERT Team, and a Lake County Marijuana Eradication Team member.

#### United States Forest Service (USFS) Aerial Observation School

This 40-hour course designed for sheriffs' department lead deputies and other key personnel assigned to marijuana eradication was presented in Sonoma County in July, 1996.



The course instructs students on all facets of marijuana investigations; including aerial observation, helicopter safety, search warrant preparation, legal aspects of cannabis eradication, and raid tactics.

### **CAMP Command Staff Administration Training**

This 16-hour course instructed all CAMP command and operations staff on CAMP administrative procedures and legal updates.

### **CAMP Reconnaissance and Arrest Team (C-RAT) Course**

Designed for CAMP Reconnaissance and Arrest Team (C-RAT) members, this course was extended in the 1995 season from 56 hours to 80 hours. The course format is focused on team building, survival, and investigative skills for conducting surveillance and investigation in an outdoor environment. The course was presented in June, 1996, at the California Highway Patrol Academy by the CAMP command staff with assistance from the California Highway Patrol, United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Butte County Sheriff's Department, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department, and the California State Fire Marshall's Office.

### **California National Guard Orientation**

The California National Guard once again supplied personnel to support our three raid teams. These personnel have become a valuable part of the teams.

They assist in landing zone operations, helicopter sling load lifts, and marijuana eradication.

CAMP command staff personnel presented a 16-hour orientation to all team leaders of the California National Guard "Team Wolf" personnel participating on raid teams. CAMP staff also qualified the same "Team Wolf" personnel on the Department of Justice Handgun course.





## HISTORICAL MARIJUANA CULTIVATION STATISTICS

| YEAR   | # OF PLANTS<br>ERADICATED<br>STATEWIDE | # OF PLANTS<br>ERADICATED<br>BY CAMP | % OF PLANTS<br>ERADICATED<br>BY CAMP |
|--------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1983   | 303,089                                | 64,579                               | 21%                                  |
| 1984   | 256,976                                | 158,493                              | 62%                                  |
| 1985   | 309,001                                | 166,219                              | 54%                                  |
| 1986   | 223,529                                | 117,277                              | 52%                                  |
| 1987   | 289,833                                | 144,661                              | 50%                                  |
| 1988   | 330,297                                | 107,297                              | 32%                                  |
| 1989   | 328,824                                | 147,518                              | 49%                                  |
| 1990   | 174,876                                | 79,441                               | 45%                                  |
| 1991   | 151,479*                               | 85,159                               | 56%                                  |
|        | *includes 45,562 indoor plants, 30%    |                                      |                                      |
| 1992   | 211,094*                               | 92,388                               | 43%                                  |
|        | *includes 49,159 indoor plants, 23%    |                                      |                                      |
| 1993   | 224,801*                               | 66,386                               | 29%                                  |
|        | *includes 65,363 indoor plants, 29%    |                                      |                                      |
| 1994   | 390,263*                               | 82,694                               | 21%                                  |
|        | *includes 42,202 indoor plants, 11%    |                                      |                                      |
| 1995   | 370,182*                               | 74,769                               | 20%                                  |
|        | *includes 51,405 indoor plants, 14%    |                                      |                                      |
| 1996   | 386,262*                               | 94,221                               | 24%                                  |
|        | *includes 48,335 indoor plants, 12.5%  |                                      |                                      |
| Total: | 3,950,506                              | 1,481,102                            | 37%                                  |

Total value of marijuana seized statewide:

\$15,963,880,000

Total value of marijuana seized by CAMP:

\$ 5,924,408,000



# Direction / Trends

## VIOLENCE ASSOCIATED WITH MARIJUANA CULTIVATION

During the nine weeks of the 1996 CAMP season, one hundred sixteen (116) weapons were seized, one hundred and eight of these weapons were firearms. Only sixteen firearms were seized in 1995. There were five cases of booby traps encountered, with no injuries sustained. The most common type of booby trap was a shotgun shell affixed to a rat trap with a trip line. In addition, there were two cases in Lake County where bear traps were placed in marijuana gardens. Both Humboldt County and Mendocino County raid teams encountered armed suspects in the gardens. Both suspects were arrested without incident.

The Mendocino County suspect, an illegal alien, was armed with a 12 gauge shotgun and was hiding in bushes in the garden. The Humboldt County suspect was a county resident growing on his own property. He was armed with a handgun. There were also four incidents involving watch dogs in the gardens.

Early in the season, a National Guard OH-58 helicopter was flying reconnaissance in Lake County when it was fired on from the ground. It sustained no damage; unfortunately, no suspect was located.

As evidenced by the above, it seems that some marijuana cultivators are returning to the violence that was associated with marijuana cultivation in the mid '80s. CAMP will continue to place the highest emphasis on officer safety.

## MEDIA RELATIONS/PUBLIC AWARENESS

Since its inception in 1983, the CAMP program has been the marijuana enforcement component of California law enforcement's counter-drug effort. The 1996 eradication season was no different. Starting in May of 1996, articles appeared in print in the Sonoma West, the Daily Democrat, the Riverside Press Enterprise, the San Francisco Chronicle, and the Ventura County Star newspapers, relating CAMP's successes in the eradication effort. A reporter from the Albany Times Union of Albany, New York, wrote an article comparing New York's newly formed eradication task force to CAMP.



In September, 1996, KCNN and KSBW Television stations of Salinas, California, broadcasted an enforcement action on a 3,000 plant garden in the Marina/Seaside area of Monterey County. The growers, illegal aliens, were using ditch irrigation to water the plants. Also in September, KOVR television in Sacramento and its Stockton bureau aired a segment on a raid in the San Joaquin Valley corn fields outside Stockton where 750-plus plants were seized. At the end of the season, a press release was issued to all the media in California. The press release promoted the success of the 1996 CAMP campaign.

### PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

Thirty-five local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies participated in the CAMP 1996 program by contributing personnel, funding, and/or equipment. In 1996, there were over 150 personnel participating in the CAMP program. CAMP teams were composed of the following: civilian helicopter pilots and fuel truck drivers, active and retired U.S. Forest Service helicopter managers and law enforcement officers, sheriffs' deputies from participating counties, special agents from the California Department of Justice (DOJ), state officers from the California Highway Patrol, reserve deputies and police officers from local California law enforcement agencies hired as emergency hire state employees (20), and full-time peace officer volunteers provided by local law enforcement agencies from throughout California. The salaries, per diem, and lodging for these volunteers were paid for by their respective agencies. Travel accommodations were provided by CAMP and the Civil Air Patrol.

For the purpose of this report, the participating agencies are grouped into three categories: (1) state agencies, (2) federal agencies, and (3) CAMP member counties. The state and federal agencies provided CAMP's funding as well as the majority of the personnel resources and equipment. The CAMP county members are sheriffs' departments that are recipients of CAMP services ranging from reconnaissance overflights to raid team services. For the twelfth consecutive year, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department provided expert training to CAMP personnel.



The California State Sheriffs' Association (CSSA) and the following agencies were involved in CAMP 1996:

STATE

California Department of Justice  
Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement  
California Highway Patrol  
California National Guard

FEDERAL

Bureau of Land Management  
United States Drug Enforcement Administration  
United States Forest Service  
United States Marine Corps  
United States Air Force  
Civil Air Patrol







## MEMBER COUNTIES

Fifty-two (52) California sheriffs' departments participated in the CAMP 1996 program. They are as follows:

**County****Sheriff**

Alpine  
Amador  
Butte  
Calaveras  
Colusa  
Contra Costa  
Del Norte  
El Dorado  
Fresno  
Glenn  
Humboldt  
Imperial  
Inyo  
Kern  
Kings  
Lake  
Lassen  
Los Angeles  
Madera  
Marin  
Mendocino  
Merced  
Modoc  
Mono  
Monterey  
Napa  
Nevada  
Orange  
Placer  
Plumas  
Riverside  
San Benito  
San Bernardino  
San Joaquin  
San Luis Obispo  
San Mateo  
Santa Barbara

Henry "Skip" Veatch  
Ken Blake  
Mick Grey  
William S. Nuttall  
Gerald E. Shadinger  
Richard K. Rainey  
Mike Ross  
Don McDonald  
Steve Magarian  
L. Kevin Donnelley  
Dennis H. Lewis  
Oren R. Fox  
Dan Lucas  
Carl Sparks  
Tom Clark  
James E. Wright  
Ronald D. Jarrell  
Sherman Block  
Glenn Seymour  
Charles T. Prandi  
James Tusso  
Tom Sawyer  
Bruce C. Mix  
Daniel A. Paranick  
Norman Hicks  
Gary L. Simpson  
Troy Arbaugh  
Brad Gates  
Donald J. Nunes  
Don Stoy  
Cois M. Byrd  
Harvey Nyland  
Gary Penrod  
T. Baxter Dunn  
Edward C. Williams  
Leonard E. Cardoza  
James Thomas



Santa Clara  
Santa Cruz  
Shasta  
Sierra  
Siskiyou  
Solano  
Sonoma  
Stanislaus  
Sutter  
Tehama  
Trinity  
Tulare  
Tuolumne  
Ventura  
Yuba

Charles P. Gillingham  
Mark Tracy  
Jim Pope  
Leland Adams  
Charles Byrd  
Richard D. Hulse  
Mark Ihde  
Les Weidman  
Art Brandwood  
Rudy Mike Blanusa  
Paul Schmidt  
Melvin Coley  
Richard Nutting  
John V. Gillespie  
Gary Tindel



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# Region I

## OVERVIEW

Region I CAMP personnel consisted of one special agent (BNE), two CHP state officers, one USFS special agent, six California National Guard soldiers, and three temporary hires.



|                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Number of personnel | 13           |
| Plants seized       | 22,723       |
| Arrests             | 9            |
| Guns Seized         | 33           |
| Value of seizures   | \$90 Million |

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

### Marijuana Case Yields Arsenal

On August 16, 1996, CAMP personnel and Humboldt County deputies seized 331 marijuana plants from an open field in the Elk Ridge-Briceland area. Deputies then followed waterlines to their source at a residence. Deputies obtained a search warrant for the residence. The service of the search warrant resulted in the seizure of 675 additional plants, 21 firearms, and four knives. The two subjects who were arrested claimed to be white supremacists. Numerous periodicals relating to white supremacy were located in the residence. The value of the 1,006 marijuana plants seized is approximately \$4 million.

### California Redwoods Yield More Than Lumber

On August 20, 1996, CAMP personnel, assisting the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department, conducted a raid in the Honeydew area of Humboldt County. CAMP personnel seized 168 marijuana plants, ranging in size from four feet to seven feet, from a greenhouse. Agents also seized 300 marijuana plants that had been placed in redwood trees up to fifty feet off the ground. These plants were all in the seven-foot range. The value of the plants is approximately \$2 million. One subject was arrested.

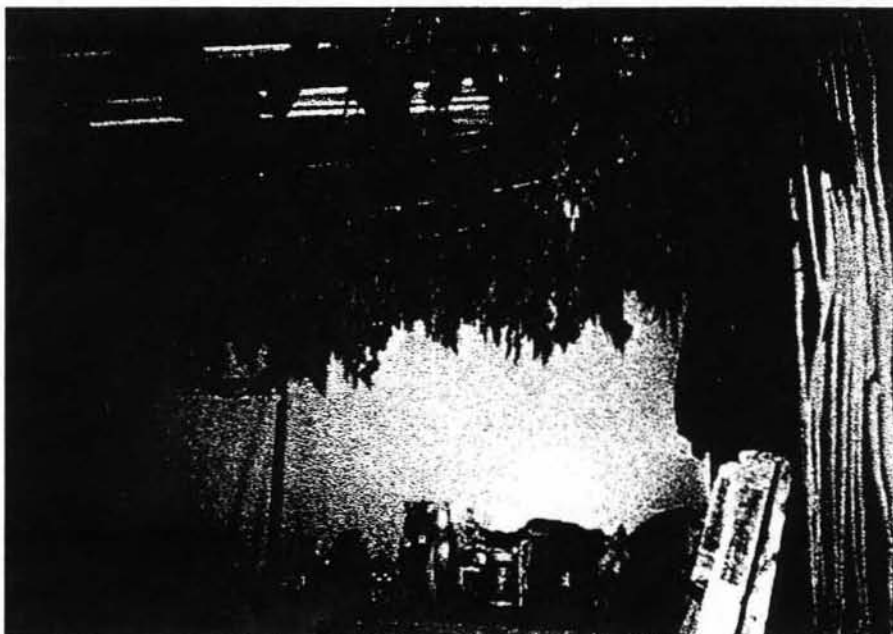


### Anti-CAMP Factions Still Active

On August 12, 1996, CAMP personnel were assisting Humboldt County deputies in the Salmon Creek area when they were confronted by members of the Citizens Observation Group (COG). COG is a group of citizens who monitor CAMP activities for violations of a now defunct Federal Court consent decree. COG personnel took photos of all personnel and departed the area. CAMP personnel seized 1,504 marijuana plants valued at approximately \$6 million. In addition to COG, KMUD Radio from Eureka, California, broadcasted the CAMP raid teams' working area on a daily basis.

### Humboldt County Commune Yields Green Gold

On August 14, 1996, CAMP personnel and Humboldt County deputies raided in the Rancho Sequoia area of Humboldt County. This area was once a thriving commune but is now inhabited by only a few communal-lifestyle families. CAMP seized 1,193 marijuana plants valued at \$4.7 million. No arrests were made. In all, Region I harvested three sites with 1,000 or more plants per site during the eradication period.



Prime sinsemilla  
"bud" drying.





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# Region II

## OVERVIEW

Region II CAMP personnel consisted of one special agent, two CHP state officers, six California National Guard soldiers, and four temporary hires.



|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Number of personnel | 13            |
| Plants seized       | 56,793        |
| Arrests             | 52            |
| Guns Seized         | 60            |
| Value of seizures   | \$227 Million |

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

### Mule Creek Raid Nets Cannabis

On September 23, 1996, CAMP personnel and Mendocino County deputies raided in the Mule Creek area of Mendocino County. 1,857 marijuana plants valued at \$7.5 million was seized. No suspects were arrested.

### Cow Mountain Yields Green and Goods

On September 30, 1996, CAMP personnel and Mendocino County deputies raided on Cow Mountain in Mendocino County. Seized were 1,774 marijuana plants valued at \$7 million. Also seized was \$1,200 in cash, three generators, one ATV, and four firearms. One arrest was made.

### Cahto Mountain Prime Picking Area

During August 26-28, 1996, CAMP personnel raided on Cahto Mountain, harvesting 5,134 marijuana plants valued at \$20 million. From the manner of planting, it appeared that all grow sites were inter-related. No suspects were arrested.

### First Booby Trap

On August 21, 1996, CAMP personnel and Mendocino County deputies encountered the first booby traps of the season. While harvesting a 737 marijuana plant garden, officers encountered a 410 gauge shotgun attached to a tree with a trip wire running to it. Officers also discovered



several rat traps with 12 gauge shotgun shells attached to trip wires. No one was injured, and all traps were removed. No suspects were arrested.

### Johnson Creek Yields Rich Reward

On August 20, 1996, CAMP personnel, along with Mendocino County deputies, harvested 5,318 marijuana plants from Louisiana Pacific Lumber Company land in the Johnson Creek area. There were no suspects. The plants are valued at \$21 million. In the meantime, the Region III raid team was in Monterey County harvesting 3,000 plants in the Marina area. There were four suspects, but no arrests. The plants are valued at \$12 million. On the same date, Region I in Humboldt County harvested 939 plants, bringing the day's total to 9,257 marijuana plants with a total value of \$37 million. A good day's work by any standards. Mendocino County eradicated 11 sites with a thousand or more plants per site. They also averaged over 1,000 plants per raid day.



*Beginning a "STABO" operation.*



1996

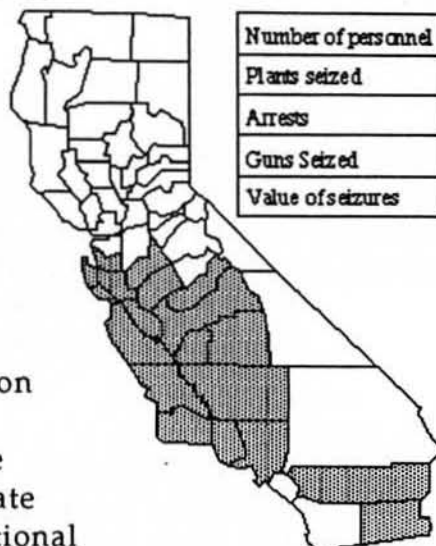
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# Region III

## OVERVIEW

\*Region III raid team also covered Sonoma, Lake, Napa, Glenn, Colusa, and Alameda Counties. All Region II counties' statistical data have been entered as Region II data. Region III Camp personnel consisted of one special agent, two CHP state officers, six California National Guard soldiers, and three temporary hires.



|                     |              |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Number of personnel | 12           |
| Plants seized       | 14,705       |
| Arrests             | 33           |
| Guns Seized         | 21           |
| Value of seizures   | \$38 Million |

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

### Granite Quarry Produces More Than Gravel

On September 19, 1996, CAMP personnel and Santa Cruz County deputies raided in North Santa Cruz County in the area of the LoneStar granite quarry. Air support discovered an initial garden of 200 plants. While eradicating those plants, air reconnaissance found another 1,100 plus plants on an adjacent ridge. A total of 1,368 marijuana plants were seized from the quarry. Raid team members found drip lines traveling down hill from an adjacent piece of property where the water source was located. The Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Department is continuing the investigation. The value of the plants seized exceeds \$5 million.

### Greenhouse Raid Nets Teacher

On September 18, 1996, while serving a search warrant in Aptos, California, CAMP personnel and Santa Cruz County deputies arrested an elementary school teacher and seized three plants and 11 pounds of dried marijuana. The value of the marijuana is approximately \$50,000.



### Nurse Arrested for Growing Marijuana

On September 17, 1996, CAMP personnel and Santa Cruz County deputies served a search warrant in the Los Gatos area of Santa Clara County. Deputies arrested a registered nurse and her husband for cultivating 21 marijuana plants valued at \$84,000. The plants were seized from a greenhouse adjacent to the residence.

### Another Teacher Arrested

On September 17, 1996, CAMP personnel and Santa Cruz deputies executed a search warrant on a private residence and seized 16 marijuana plants valued at \$64,000, one gram of methamphetamine, and two firearms. An intermediate school teacher and friend were arrested. During the week of September 16, 1996, CAMP personnel and deputies arrested four teachers, one nurse, and one college professor for cultivation of marijuana.

### East Bay Park Grows Grass

On September 13, 1996, East Bay Regional Park Police, a non-signator of the MOU, requested assistance in the Sinol Park area of their jurisdiction. CAMP personnel eradicated 1,358 marijuana plants valued at \$5.4 million; they then long-lined them out for destruction. Two illegal aliens were arrested in the garden. East Bay Regional Parks has requested that an MOU be sent to them in 1997.

### Napa County Grows More Than Grapes

On September 4, 1996, CAMP personnel received a request for assistance from the Napa County Narcotics Task Force. A large garden had been discovered in the Pope Valley area. CAMP personnel eradicated and destroyed 1,650 marijuana plants valued at \$66 million. The plants ranged in size from three to four feet and were discovered in three gardens. No suspects were arrested.

### Monterey County Harvest

On August 20, 1996, CAMP personnel and Monterey County deputies raided in the Marina area adjacent to the Marina dump. Officers eradicated 3,000 marijuana plants from two sites. The value of the marijuana was placed at \$12 million. The raids were covered extensively by KCNN and KSBW.





TV. Three days later, officers eradicated 2,416 marijuana plants in the Soledad area, bringing Monterey's total to 5,416 plants in two days. Both grows have been listed as illegal alien grows as a result of evidence taken from the scene.

#### San Joaquin County's New Cash Crop

On August 21, 1996, CAMP personnel and San Joaquin County deputies eradicated 750 marijuana plants valued at \$3 million from 22 garden sites located in a corn field west of Interstate 5 and Highway 12. This case is significant because of the growing technique, in that areas were cut from the corn rows and marijuana planted. There was also heavy media coverage of the raid.



*Three thousand (3,000) plant gardens  
in Monterey County.*



1996

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# Reconnaissance & Arrest Team (C-RAT)

## OVERVIEW

Number of Personnel: 9 Arrests: 18 Plants: 5,628 Guns: 0  
Value of Plants: \$22.5 million. C-RATs for 1996 consisted of nine CHP state officers. They were divided into two, four-man teams with a C-RAT Coordinator.

### C-RATs Assist Riverside County

On July 10, 1996, while attending CAMP Survival School in San Bernardino, the C-RATs assisted the Riverside Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement in what was initially a 1,000 marijuana plant garden. It seems the informant in the case was not as pro-cop as originally thought in that he went back to the site and harvested about half of it. The C-RATs did get 510 plants, but no arrests. The marijuana is valued at \$2 million.

### C-RAT Strike

During the week of August 7, 1996, the C-RAT team south assisted the Lake County Sheriff's Department in surveilling seven gardens. The C-RATs arrested five subjects and identified one other. They also eradicated 747 marijuana plants valued at \$3 million.

### Santa Cruz County Becomes C-RAT Turf

C-RAT team north surveilled seven gardens in Santa Cruz County. They arrested seven suspects and seized 2,290 plants valued at \$9 million.

### C-RATs Assist Sonoma County

In what was probably the shortest surveillance of the year, C-RAT team north arrested two subjects and seized 1,102 marijuana plants after having been in the gardens for 16 hours. The marijuana has a value of \$4 million.

The C-RATs accounted for approximately 20 percent of the arrests for the 1996 season. This is consistent with prior years and is limited only by lead deputy participation.



# Critique/Planning

## CAMP SEMINAR

The 1996 Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP) Critique and Planning Seminar was held in Sacramento, California, at the Raddison Hotel. Over 150 registrants received training in Drug Interdiction, Use of FLIR in Tactical Situations, Expert Testimony in Marijuana Cultivation Cases, Raid Planning, Officer Safety, Applications of Military Resources in Civilian Law Enforcement, and Marijuana Growing Trends. Attendees present were from throughout California and Nevada.

During the general session on the first day of the seminar, a presentation was made on Proposition 215 by Deputy Chief Tom Gorman, BNE; Assistant Chief Jack Beecham, BNE; and Special Assistant Attorney General Tom Gede.

The keynote address at the awards banquet was delivered by Chief Deputy Attorney General M. David Stirling. A variety of awards were presented to civilian, military, and sworn CAMP participants as follows:

### Team Night

Reserve Deputy Bruce Anfinson, Humboldt County Sheriff's Department, and Reserve Deputy William Rutler, Mendocino County Sheriff's Department, were recognized for their many years of service to the CAMP program. Each received an engraved Streamlight flashlight.

### Banquet Night

#### Meritorious Service Awards

Presented to individuals who have supported CAMP through training or service to the CAMP eradication effort:

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Tammy Callahan,</b>   | State Officer, CAMP Liaison Officer,<br>California Highway Patrol       |
| <b>Russ Caplan,</b>      | State Officer, C-RAT Team Leader,<br>California Highway Patrol          |
| <b>Douglas Tupen,</b>    | State Officer, C-RAT Team Leader,<br>California Highway Patrol          |
| <b>D. Scott Russell,</b> | State Officer, AROC,<br>California Highway Patrol                       |
| <b>Daniel Bouchet,</b>   | Special Agent, Department of Justice,<br>Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement |



**Ron Prose,** Special Agent, Department of Justice,  
Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement

### Department of Justice Engraved Plaques

Presented to individuals for outstanding service to CAMP in an individual eradication effort:

**Steve Cobine,** Sergeant, Humboldt County  
Sheriff's Department

**Rusty Noe,** Sergeant, Mendocino County  
Sheriff's Department

### California National Guard Achievement Medal

#### Region I

Sergeant James E. Bellew  
Sergeant William T. Maier  
Sergeant Jahmal Prudhomme  
Sergeant Juan J. Gonzalez, Jr.  
Sergeant James G. Pratt  
Specialist Adam M. Healy

#### Region II

Sergeant Norris J. Cowles  
Sergeant Jed D. Grant  
Sergeant Michael E. McLain  
Sergeant Don S. Bell  
Sergeant Anthony D. Hinojosa  
Corporal James M. Acton

#### Region III

Sergeant Robert W. Shelby  
Sergeant Sapeti P. Aiono  
Sergeant Gerardo R. Alan  
Specialist Joseph C. Barker  
Specialist John K. Holihan  
Private First Class Gerald L. Davis



# Commendations

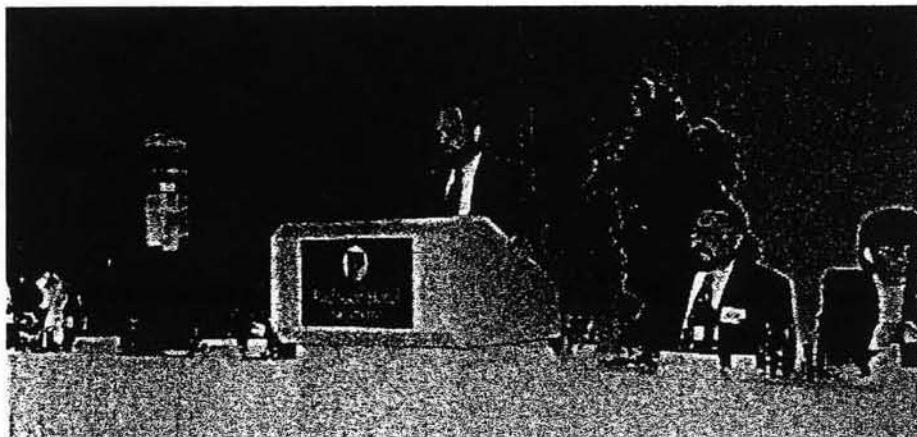
## Attorney General Certificates of Commendations

Nominations for the Attorney General's Certificates of Commendation must meet specific criteria, as follows:

1. The nominee (individual or unit) has made a significant contribution to California's marijuana eradication and enforcement effort; and/or,
2. Through extraordinary means, the nominee has prevented injury or loss of life involved in CAMP operations.
3. May only receive award once.

The recipients for 1996 are as follows:

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Mark Loveless,  | State Officer,<br>California Highway Patrol                                |
| Arthur Graham,  | Reserve Police Officer,<br>Santa Monica Police Department                  |
| Bruce Hunt,     | Reserve Deputy Sheriff,<br>Sacramento County<br>Sheriff's Department       |
| James Kerrigan, | Special Agent,<br>Department of Justice,<br>Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement |
| David Norum,    | Deputy Sheriff,<br>Monterey County<br>Sheriff's Department                 |
| Kevin Holeman,  | Captain,<br>California National Guard                                      |



Camp  
Conference  
1996.





# Program 1997

The 1997 CAMP season will be the most challenging of the prior 14 years. CAMP will require strong membership support, adequate funding, and overall public and governmental appreciation for the eradication program. CAMP will once again focus the majority of its resources on the traditional Northern California growing areas. In prior years, CAMP demonstrated the overwhelming success of marijuana eradication in Humboldt and Mendocino Counties. However, CAMP is only effective when there is sufficient support from sheriffs' departments in the form of lead deputies and other line personnel.

Facing the potential of yet further budget reductions, CAMP will be tasked with finding more efficient ways to operate effectively. However, as in the past, there will be no compromise of personnel safety because of reduced funding.

CAMP plans to expand the tri-regional concept into four regions of operations in 1997. It is anticipated that raid team staffing will remain the same if supplemented by California National Guard (CNG) "Team Wolf" soldiers. Each team (except Region IV) will receive contract helicopter support, and each ROC will be accountable for use of blade hours. Global Positioning Systems will be widely used to locate and navigate to gardens and provide more effective use of blade and investigative hours.

The 1997 CAMP Program will see the return of the California Highway Patrol (CHP). In previous years, the CHP officers served as members of the CAMP Reconnaissance and Arrest Team (C-RAT), as well as Assistant Regional Operations Commanders. During the 1996 season, an assessment was made of the C-RAT program regarding the arrests, prosecutions, and sentencing as related to the cost-effectiveness of the program. Due to the lack of effective sentencing, and after careful study, it was decided that the \$60,000 used to fund the two C-RAT teams for the six-week season could be better used in the eradication effort.

The CHP officers who had previously served as C-RATS will now be used as raid team members and as aerial observers. The CHP will also supply personnel for three AROC positions. During the selection process of the CHP officers volunteering for a CAMP assignment, special consideration will be given to those individuals who have had prior C-RAT training. CAMP could then field a C-RAT team if the need should arise.



The CAMP command staff will again request the valuable services of both the ground and air CNG. It is imperative that aerial reconnaissance be conducted by lead deputies prior to the CAMP season.

CNG "Team Wolf" ground support services to CAMP remain an invaluable resource. We anticipate their return in the 1997 season. The special Spanish-speaking, medical, and physical skills of "Team Wolf" have resulted in a near perfect marriage with civilian counterdrug operations. This relationship has matured over the six years of CNG involvement into what we now have come to expect - - "only the finest."

The U.S. Air Force Civil Air Patrol's (CAP's) role in CAMP operations continues to grow and evolve. CAP has become a key element in personnel transport and garden spotting. Each year CAP saves CAMP thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours of operational time. The 1997 season should be no different.

CAMP will again request the unique services of the U.S. Marine Corps Motor Transportation Company to maintain, repair, and store CAMP's 15 field trucks. Like CAP, the Marines have saved CAMP thousands of dollars in maintenance, towing, and storage costs.

The 1997 CAMP program will see the addition of a fourth region. This region will be composed of San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego Counties. All three counties have requested the assistance of a CAMP raid team for the 1997 season. Budget permitting, a fourth raid team will be stationed in Southern California to assist the three counties. Helicopter support will come from the county requesting the raid team service.

Finally, the localized public concern over helicopter operations for marijuana eradication will no doubt continue to be a subject of debate. This past season resulted in one unfounded complaint regarding CAMP helicopters. There is no more effective means of extracting marijuana gardens from remote mountainous areas than by helicopters. When the problem is brought under control, helicopter operations will cease.