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Gunfire exchanged across Rio Grande

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MISSION, Texas -- Border Patrol agents exchanged gunfire with drug smugglers across the Rio Grande on Wednesday as they intercepted about 800 pounds of marijuana, a Border Patrol spokesman said. No U.S. agents were hurt.

The shootout occurred in an area west of Mission at about 9:30 a.m., Border Patrol spokesman Roy Cervantes said.

"Agents working in the area saw suspicious activity," he said. "They saw individuals leaving the river carrying sacks. They ordered them to stop, and gunshots came from across the river."

Cervantes said the individuals on the U.S. side rammed the agents' vehicle in an attempt to drive from the scene and ended up swimming back across the Rio Grande to Mexico.

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