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Wednesday, August 4, 2004

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Shots fired at agents; \$1.4M in pot recovered

Citizen Staff Report

Border Patrol agents working out of Nogales were shot at yesterday while chasing a truck that was hauling drugs, the agency said.

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A Border Patrol news release stated:

About 7:45 a.m., agents spotted two northbound pickup trucks on a Forest Service road near Kino Springs, about five miles east of Nogales. Agents followed the trucks, one of which got stuck in a large rut in the road. Its three occupants fled to Mexico.

The second truck turned and headed into Mexico, and when agents pulled up to the border, suspected smugglers fired two bursts from automatic weapons across the border. No one was hit.

More than 1,800 pounds of marijuana with an estimated value of more than \$1.4 million was found in the abandoned truck. The drugs were turned over to the Drug Enforcement Administration.

The Border Patrol determined the truck with drugs was stolen from Oklahoma. It was turned over to Santa Cruz County sheriff's deputies.

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