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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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November 7, 2002

### **Agents Seize Over \$1,000,000 of Marijuana and Stolen Truck**

*TUCSON, Ariz.*—Border Patrol Agents from the Ajo and Casa Grande Stations seized over 1,300 pounds of marijuana and a stolen truck on the Tohono O’odham Indian Reservation yesterday.

At approximately 7:00 a.m., Casa Grande Border Patrol Agents began tracking footsign of several persons that had apparently crossed illegally into the United States near the international border on the reservation. After approximately 4 hours, the footsign led agents to an upside down metal trough where 10 bundles of marijuana were hidden underneath. Agents continued searching the area and found two undocumented Mexican male subjects and another 8 bundles of marijuana stashed in the brush. The total weight of the marijuana was 805 pounds, which is valued at over \$640,000. The subjects and marijuana were processed and turned over to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for possible prosecution of drug related offenses.

Yesterday afternoon, Ajo Border Patrol Agents were notified by the Tohono O’odham Police Department of a pick-up truck that they were attempting to locate in the area of State Route 86 and milepost 59. Border Patrol Agents found tire sign of a vehicle that had left the paved road and onto a dirt road in the area. Approximately 1 mile down that dirt road, the agents found an abandoned white Ford F150 pick-up truck. The agents found 28 bundles of marijuana in plain view throughout the truck. Agents searched the area for any subjects but none were found. Agents then ran records checks on the truck and found that it had been stolen out of Phoenix. The total weight of the marijuana was 565 pounds and valued at over \$450,000. The marijuana was turned over to DEA and the stolen pick-up was turned over to the Pima County Sheriff’s Department.

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