NYSIC • Concealment Smartbook • 2009





New York State Concealments

Contact Information

Introduction

The Concealment Smartbook is produced by the New York State Intelligence Center and is intended for raising the situational awareness of NYS-specific concealments to law enforcement.

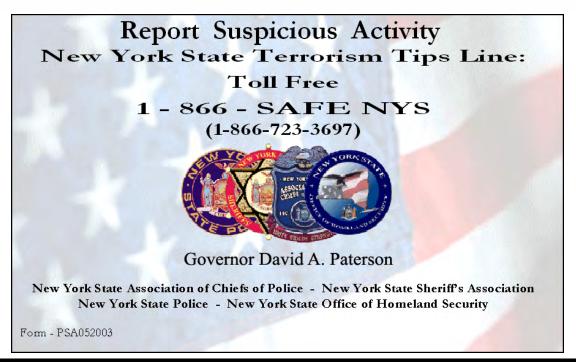
Intention:

- Promote officer safety
- Assist with narrowing officers' searches
- Identify concealment patterns, trends, and issues
- Identify criminal activity and otherwise assist criminal investigations

Requests for Information

Law enforcement agencies are encouraged to request and submit concealments by contacting the New York State Intelligence Center (NYSIC)- Narcotics Intelligence Unit (NIU). The following is provided for your convenience:

Contacting Our Staff:		
U.S. Mail:	NYSIC	
	ATTN: Narcotics Intelligence Unit (NIU)	
	630 Columbia Street Ext.	
	Latham, NY 12110	
Toll Free:	1-866-486-9742	
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Buick

HYDRAULIC DASH COMPARTMENT HIDES COCAINE AND WEAPON

Date: November 1, 1999
Vehicle: 1991 Buick (unknown model)
Location: I-87 in the Town of Clarkstown, Rockland County, NY
Concealment: Hydraulic compartment in dash behind instrument panel
Contents: Pistol - loaded (NFI). Approximately 255 grams of 'powdered' cocaine
Packaging: Plastic bag (double bagged)
Masking Agent: Mustard within outer plastic bag

Analyst Note: Access to the compartment was through the dash trim (as its cover) and facilitated by a hydraulic arm that extended from the firewall of the vehicle to the dash area. In addition, three bags containing small quantities of personal use contraband were located in plain view. They may have been intended to deter additional search efforts.



Information and photo courtesy of NYSP Tarrytown

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Cadillac

REAR DECK TRAP CONCEALS 5 KILOGRAMS OF COCAINE

Date: June 13, 2007 Vehicle: 1994 Cadillac Sedan Deville 4-door Location: unknown Concealment: Rear package tray Contents: Five kilograms of 'powdered' cocaine Packaging: unknown Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Access to the compartment was controlled by a hydraulic piston lifting the rear package tray. See page 14 for similar concealment within a <u>1995 Dodge Intrepid</u>.





Information and photos courtesy of Queens Intelligence, NY/NJ HIDTA, NY.

Chevrolet

S-10 SPARE TIRE CONCEALS 3.2 KILOGRAMS OF ECSTASY

Date: Unknown

Vehicle: Chevrolet S-10 (unknown year)

Location: Mooers, Port-of-Entry (POE), Clinton County, NY

Concealment: Spare tire

Contents: 3.2 kilograms ecstasy

Packaging: Dog food bags containing clear plastic bags of suspected blue-colored ecstasy pills **Masking Agent:** N/A

Analyst Note: A spare tire rim that did not match those on the vehicle, and scratches on the rim led to a secondary inspection. The operator was a 32 year-old female Canadian citizen who had been making weekly trips to Plattsburgh, NY.

Photo below is a Chevy S-10 and not the vehicle from seizure.







Information and photos courtesy of USCBP Champlain, NY A-T CET INTEL

MINIVAN'S SLIDING DOOR CONCEALS HEROIN

Date: July 11, 2006

Vehicle: Chevrolet Venture

Location: I-87, Town of Ramapo, Rockland County, NY

Concealment: Within passenger side sliding door

Contents: 325 grams of heroin, \$6,031 (USD) secreted inside minivan and on front passenger's person

Packaging: Two heat-sealed plastic bags

Masking Agent: Coffee grounds

Analyst Note: The Trooper received conflicting stories upon questioning, and viewed a marihuana 'blunt' in the ashtray leading to a K-9 search.





Information and photos courtesy of NYSP-Tarrytown

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Chevrolet

TRUCK BEDS & BEDLINERS OFFER FACTORY VOIDS

Date: Unknown

Vehicle: Full-size regular cab 4WD pickup trucks, most often Chevrolet or GMC makes
Location: Northern NY, Clinton, Franklin, Essex, Hamilton, St. Lawrence counties
Concealment: Compartments built into the sidewalls of the truck beds and concealed by bed liners. Normally two on either side, one in front of and one behind each rear wheel well.
Contents: Can easily conceal up to 45 kilograms of marihuana
Packaging: Garbage bags or plastic wrap
Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The compartments are commonly fabricated by cutting out the double wall bed protection and welding a piece of sheet metal from the frame rail to the floor. They are often sealed with a piece of plywood or sheet-metal and then weather-stripping to keep the odor of the marihuana from escaping. Many of the trucks have a bed liner, which is replaced once the compartments have been filled.



Additional Note: Some indicators that may alert Law Enforcement to the use of these concealment methods:

- Sheetrock screws used to secure the bed liner to the truck.
- fasteners that appear 'tooled' (removed and replaced several times).
- scratches on the exterior of the bed from sliding the bed liner in and out several times.



Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Troop B NEU

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Chevrolet

HYDRAULIC DASHBOARD COMPARTMENT CONCEALS COCAINE

Date: April 18, 2007 Vehicle: 2002 Chevy Impala 4-door Location: 90th Precinct, NYPD Concealment: Hydraulic compartment within dashboard Contents: 161 bags 'powdered' cocaine \$1,200 (USD) Packaging: Unknown Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The compartment was located under the passenger side of the dashboard and was operated via a hydraulic piston.





Information and photos courtesy of NYPD, 90 Precinct, Field Intelligence, Queens Intelligence, N.Y.

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Chrysler

CROSS BAR BEAM OFFERS NATURAL VOID CONCEALMENT

Date: August 14, 2006 Vehicle: 2001 Chrysler Intrepid Location: Mooers, NY, POE, Clinton County Concealment: Natural void in cross bar beam Contents: \$294,925 (USD) Packaging: Bundles Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Secondary inspection conducted due to driver's inconsistent responses. Several bundles of currency were removed from the void in the trunk's cross beam. Subsequent scan of the vehicle with the VACIS (Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System) revealed additional currency bundles remained.

A total of \$289,591 (USD) was removed from the beam, and an additional \$5,334 (USD) was seized from the driver.

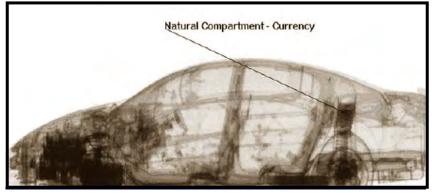
Additional Note: Dodge Intrepid sedans were badged and sold as "Chrysler Intrepid" sedans in Canada.



Note: Not actual car from seizure



View of cross beam



CBP VACIS Image of 2001 "Chrysler" Intrepid



Currency from within the cross beam.

Information and photos courtesy of ICE St. Albans, VT and CBP Champlain, NY

Chrysler

FOUR INCH AFTER MARKET VOID UNDER REAR DECK

Date: February 2, 2006 Vehicle: 1999 Chrysler Concord Location: I-90, Madison County, NY Concealment: Hidden compartment under rear deck Contents: \$6,000 (USD) Packaging: unknown Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Due to inconsistent stories from vehicle occupants, a K-9 search was conducted resulting in alerts to the passenger door, center console, trunk, and backrest of the rear seat. Within the trunk there were several indicators that a hidden compartment was present, including new carpet, weld marks, paint overspray, and carpet covering the speaker holes. When the rear seat was folded down, a four inch difference was observed between the rear deck inside the car and the rear deck in the trunk. A non-factory metal bar with a spring mechanism was observed. The mechanism consisting of a wire connected to a set of bypass cables and the car battery was used to control the locking/unlocking of the trap. A bundle of currency totaling \$6,000 (USD) was found stashed in the compartment.

Photos and information courtesy of NYSP Troop T



TRAP BEHIND RADIO

Date: January 24, 2007 Vehicle: Chrysler 300M Location: Brooklyn, NY Concealment: Trap installed behind radio Contents: Heroin Packaging: Glassine Envelopes, "Miami Vice" in red ink, with an unidentified symbol Masking Agent: N/A Analyst Note: N/A





Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Gun Investigation Unit

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Chrysler

CONCEALED COMPARTMENT IN A PT CRUISER

Date: November 16, 2007 Vehicle: 2003 Chrysler PT Cruiser Location: NYC Concealment: Concealed compartment behind the tail light assembly Contents: 11 kilograms of 'powdered' cocaine Packaging: Unknown Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: 11 kilograms of cocaine were uncovered in a concealed compartment behind the tail light of this vehicle. The compartment was manually manipulated by removing the screws that attach the tail light lenses to the body. After removing the lens the cocaine was placed into the void of the rear quarter panels. The sole modification to the vehicle was a rectangular piece of wood screwed into the floor covering a natural opening in the floor's quarter panels.







Photos and information courtesy of DEA and DETF Group T-31, NY

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HYDRAULIC CROSS-BAR BEAM

Date: April 5, 2007 Vehicle: 1999 Dodge Intrepid Location: I-90, Ext 34A, Town of Dewitt, Onondaga County, NY Concealment: Natural void in cross-bar beam Contents: 2 kilograms 'powdered' cocaine 198 grams 'crack' cocaine \$50,000 (USD) Three handguns (various types) Packaging: Unknown Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The compartment was created by the construction of a false wall in the trunk; the trunk-side of the wall was camouflaged with a material that resembled the trunk lining. The front panel of the compartment was attached to the rear seatback, and the seatback essentially served as the compartment door. The rear seat seatback/door was opened and closed by an electrically-operated hydraulic piston that was mounted inside of the cross-bar beam under the rear speaker deck. The troopers identified the presence of the compartment by pulling the top edge of the rear seat seatback forward. The compartment was revealed in part because the top edge of the seatback was loose, and when officers pulled on it, the seatback moved forward slightly, revealing the compartment.



1999 Dodge Intrepid



Electronic hydraulic piston mounted inside cross-bar beam in trunk



Information and photos courtesy of NYSP, Troop T. Additional information provided by Queens Intelligence, NY/NJ HIDTA.

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(CONT.) HYDRAULIC CROSS-BAR BEAM



Trap opened



Hole cut into false wall inside trunk



Compartment behind rear seat -open to reveal contraband



3 handguns, two loaded magazines, and \$50,000 USD.

Additional Notes: The handguns seized were a 9mm automatic, .40-cal. automatic, and a .25-cal. automatic. Two of the pistols were found loaded. Additionally, the .40-cal. pistol was suspected of having been used in a shooting earlier that day in Utica, NY. The subjects did not reveal how the mechanism was activated, but there were wires running from the hydraulic piston in the cross-bar beam under the rear speaker deck to the driver's side of the dashboard.

Information and photos courtesy of NYSP, Troop T. Additional information provided by Queens Intelligence, NY/NJ HIDTA.

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COMPARTMENT UNDER FALSE FLOOR IN TRUNK

Date: October 28, 2005 Vehicle: 2002 Dodge Intrepid Location: NYC, NY Concealment: False floor in trunk Contents: \$250,000 (USD) Packaging: bundles Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The compartment was constructed by attaching the trunk floor pan from another Dodge Intrepid. The second trunk floor pan was installed approximately 6 inches above the actual trunk floor. The false trunk floor had the appearance of the original trunk floor and included the recessed spare tire well in the center and ribbing in the flat sections of the sheet metal. The compartments were accessed from outside of the trunk by first removing the plastic rear bumper cover and then by removing access panels or plastic vents in the lower sections of the sheet metal that forms the sides and rear of the actual trunk structure.



Information and photos courtesy of NYPD, DEA New York Field Division, additional information provided by Queens Intelligence, and the NY/NJ HIDTA

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(CONT.) COMPARTMENT UNDER FALSE FLOOR IN TRUNK



Right side of trunk with access panel removed



Left rear corner of trunk with access panel removed



Carpet pulled back revealing false trunk floor with spare tire well.



Bundle of currency inside compartment

Additional notes: There are no clear indications that the false floor was extensively welded or riveted in place. It does appear that a metal bonding agent, such as epoxy or bondo, was applied along the perimeter of the false floor pan. The false floor pan may have been a new, aftermarket, body part or it may have been removed from a salvaged Dodge Intrepid.

Information and photos courtesy of NYPD, DEA New York Field Division additional information provided by Queens Intelligence, and the NY/NJ HIDTA

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REAR DECK CONCEALMENT

Dodge

Date: June 13, 2007 Vehicle: 1995 Dodge Intrepid Location: Unknown Concealment: Hydraulic compartment under rear package tray Contents: 24 kilograms 'powdered' cocaine Packaging: Unknown Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: See pages <u>5</u> and <u>11</u> for similar cases.





Information and photos courtesy of Queens Intelligence, NY/NJ HIDTA Queens, NY

UNEVEN FLOOR CARPET REVEALS 3,146 HEROIN DECKS

Date: Unknown Vehicle: 1994 Dodge Caravan Location: Unknown Concealment: Electronically-controlled under floorboard Contents: 3,146 decks of heroin Packaging: Decks Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Unevenness in the floor carpet near the sliding door revealed a slit in the carpet that had duct tape beneath it and a non-factory wire. A by-pass tool, used to supply power to this wire, produced a motorized sound and caused the carpet in the area to move revealing the hidden compartment.



Photo of a 1994 Dodge Caravan not from seizure



Hidden compartment near sliding door

Information and photos courtesy of Troop F- NYSP

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FACTORY VOIDS BENEATH INTERIOR DOOR MOLDING

Date: Unknown Vehicle: 2002 Dodge Caravan Location: Massena, NY POE, St. Lawrence County Concealment: Natural void beneath interior molding throughout van Contents: 2 kilograms of marihuana Packaging: plastic bag Masking Agent: Moth balls, dryer sheets

Analyst Note: Upon opening the side door of the van, it was noticed that the interior molding had been tampered with. The rubber weather stripping was caught beneath the edge of the molding and there were tool markings on the plastic molding. The marihuana was located beneath the interior moldings throughout the van.



Stripping caught in molding



Marihuana in interior moldings



Dryer sheet in vehicle jack



Screwdrivers under molding

Information and photos courtesy of NYSP-Troop B, SP Massena

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DODGE MAGNUM TRAP

Date: Oct 29, 2007 Vehicle: 2005 Dodge Magnum Location: Unknown Concealment: Motorized cable release trap behind center console Contents: N/A Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A Analyst Note: None





Information and photos courtesy of Auto Crime Division, Queens, NY

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VIRGINIA COUNTY SHERIFF STOPPED NEW YORKERS

Date: October 24, 2007 Vehicle: 1996 Dodge Caravan Location: Route 81-S in Fincastle, VA Concealment: A sophisticated hidden trap located under the

second row seat with access gained through the cup-holder area. A magnet had to placed on the dash in a certain area in order for the trap to open automatically.

Contents: Marihuana (Unknown amount).

Packaging: Unknown Masking Agent: Unknown



Analyst Note: On October 24, 2007, a VGTOF "Hit Notification" was received by the NYSIC-GIU involving a traffic stop by the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office, on Route 81-S in Fincastle, VA. Officers noticed an odor of marihuana emanating from the vehicle.

An inspection of the vehicle revealed a sophisticated hidden trap located under the second row seat with access gained through the cup holder area. Once the van was seized and the scene searched, a magnet was located on the ground. When the magnet was placed on a specific area of the dashboard, the hidden compartment opened automatically. The three subject in the vehicle were New York residents and were involved earlier that year with weapon incidents in Orange County, NY. The subjects are self-admitted members of the Bloods.





Information and photos courtesy of Orangetown PD, NY, the Botetourt County Sheriff's Office, Fincastle, VA, and the New York State Intelligence Center.

DODGE 1500 PICK-UP TRUCK

Date: December 20, 2008 Vehicle: 2002 Dodge 1500 Pick-Up Truck Location: SR-11 in the Town of Chateguay, Franklin County, NY Concealment: Spare tire under bed of truck Contents: 6.8 Kilograms of marihuana Packaging: Several vacuum-sealed bags Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: This incident revealed two indicators that may point officers to a spare tire concealment. The spare tire, which was found secured under the vehicle, did not appear to fit the standard type or size for a Dodge 1500 Pick-Up. Also, the wear on the tire and rust on the rim does not appear to be consistent with the wheels mounted on the truck.

An indicator of nefarious activity, also witnessed with this incident, as that the truck was not operated by the owner.





Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Troop B NEU and USBP Swanton Sector

CENTER CONSOLE TRAP IN MUSTANG

Date: December 29, 2006 Vehicle: 1999 Ford Mustang Coupe Location: Unknown Concealment: Natural void under cup holder assembly in center console Contents: .380-caliber automatic pistol Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The compartment is a factory void space in the plastic center console that was designed to hold a wiring harness. The compartment is accessible by removing the console-mounted cup holder assembly, which was held in place by plastic snap-in tabs.









Additional Notes: While this compartment was not specifically designed as a convenience compartment for vehicle occupants, it appears that a minor modification can turn it into a hidden compartment for contraband. The cup holder assembly can be pried up with a small screw driver, and the plastic tabs that lock the cup holder assembly in place can be filed down or broken off. This allows the compartment to be accessed by lifting the cup holder assembly up. Open source research indicates that this type of console/cup holder configuration was also installed in the 2000 Ford Mustang.

Information and photos courtesy of NY/NJ HIDTA, Queens Intelligence, Queens, NY

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WELDED COMPARTMENT BETWEEN DASH AND FIREWALL

Date: August 31, 2007 Vehicle: 2000 Ford Focus Location: I-95 NYC, traveling from Hackensack, NJ to Lawrence, MA Concealment: Welded compartment between firewall and front dash Contents: 11 kilograms of 'powdered' cocaine Packaging: Unknown Masking Agent: Laundry detergent

Analyst Note: To gain access, the front dash was removed. A metal grinder was used to cut open the welded and painted compartment.



Information and photos courtesy of NYC DETF - Group T31, NY

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HIDDEN COMPARTMENT IN ROOF OF FORD TAURUS

Date: November 2006 Vehicle: 2004 Ford Taurus 4-door Location: Unknown Concealment: Hidden roof compartment Contents: N/A Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: A fake ceiling was added inside the vehicle and four window motors were modified to open and close the compartment. The fake ceiling was thin enough so that it was not discernable to the eye. The handle above the rear driver's side door was wired to control the compartment, which allowed the suspects to place a live electrical current discharge into the screws holding the handle in place, and thereby activating the compartment.





Roof Compartment In Closed Position



Roof Compartment Opened



Close Up of Motor, Plastic Band, Inside





Hand Hold Above Door Close Up Of Screw with Burn Marks Information and photos courtesy of DEA Allentown, PA and NYPD

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FAKE AUXILIARY FUEL TANK

Date: March 31, 2007 Vehicle: 2004 F350 diesel pickup Location: Unknown Concealment: Auxiliary fuel tank Contents: N/A Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The fuel tank had an electric fuel pump (not wired to any power supply) like most designed to support construction/logging service vehicles. The tank was spotless, showing no signs of grease or spilled fuel on or around the tank, indicating it had never been used. Upon opening the tank's filler cap, a fuel odor was lacking and it appeared that fuel had never been inside the tank. After turning the tank on its side a trap panel secured by bolts was located on the bottom side of the tank. Once the panel was removed, a sealed commercial storage box with a locking T-handle was discovered. The box was welded in place inside the fake fuel tank.



Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Troop B Narcotics NYSIC • Concealment Smartbook • Page 24 of 89 LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE/FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

SPEAKER BOX CONCEALMENT

Date: February 21, 2007 Vehicle: 2000 Ford Explorer Location: I-87, Town of New Baltimore, Greene County Concealment: Speaker box Contents: 33 bags of marihuana totaling 17 kilograms Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A





Analyst Note:

The speaker box compartment was accessible via an electronic release. This concealment method is the second time a Kicker[™] KX model amplifier was attached to an aftermarket compartment.



Stereo Amplifier Kicker Box

Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Troop T & Catskill BCI

X-RAY SHIELDING USED TO HIDE COMPARMENT

Date: January 2002

Vehicle: Ford Expedition (unknown vear)

Location: U.S./Canada Border (NFI)

Concealment: Concealed compartment behind rear passenger seats and beneath floor

Contents: \$449,950 (USD) Packaging: X-ray film Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Traffickers believe that the use of x-ray film is an excellent means of deterring detection if a MVIS (Mobile Vehicle Inspection System) scan is utilized. Experiment by CBP determined that x-ray films do not conceal contents from MVIS scans.





Information and photos courtesy of U.S. Customs

ELECTRONICALLY-CONTROLLED AUXILIARY FUEL TANK

Date: January 2001 Vehicle: Ford F-150 pickup Location: I-90, Ohio, traveling from New York to Illinois Concealment: Auxiliary fuel tank Contents: \$571,650 (USD) Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Several indicators of possible criminal activity were present to include: inconsistent stories about the trip, excessive nervousness, criminal drug-related histories, screws missing from the bed liner, fresh scratches on the auxiliary fuel tank, and a drug detection K-9 alert to the fuel tank area.





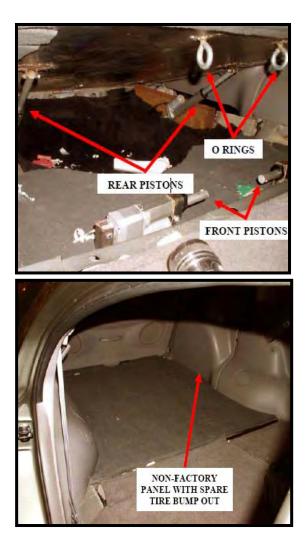
Information and photos courtesy of Ohio State Police

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WHEEL WELL TRAP

Date: Nov 16, 2007 Vehicle: 2003 Ford Taurus Wagon Location: Unknown Concealment: Piston operated trap in spare tire well Contents: N/A Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: N/A



ALUMINUM FLOORBOARD CASES

Date: May 31, 2007 Vehicle: 1998 Ford Econoline Location: Brownsville, NY Concealment: Aluminum cases, running the length of the van, hidden in the floor compartment Contents: 'Powdered' Cocaine Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: N/A



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REAR DOOR TRAP

Date: February 11, 2009
Vehicle: 1998 Ford Taurus 4 door sedan
Location: New York, NY
Concealment: A trap was located behind the rear driver side door panel and was operated via a motorized cable reel.
Contents: 30 bags of 'powdered' cocaine, 29 bags of

'crack' cocaine, and \$1,267 (USD). Packaging: Plastic baggies.

Masking Agent: N/A



Analyst Note: N/A





The information and photos courtesy of Queens Narcotics, O.C.C.B., NY

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GMC

STEREO KICKER BOX AND A REAR-FACING CAMERA

Date: August 16, 2006 Vehicle: 2003 GMC Yukon Location: Unknown Concealment: Stereo Kicker Box Contents: 11 zip lock bags of marihuana, \$9,600 (USD), police scanner, and rear vehicle camera Packaging: Zip lock bags Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Similar concealment on page 24











Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Middletown, NYSP Monroe, and Troop F CTIU

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GMC

MARIHUANA HIDDEN WITHIN FACTORY VOIDS

Date: Feb 28, 2008 Vehicle: 1993 GMC pickup Location: Waddington, NY Concealment: 18 marihuana packages hidden within several factory voids of the vehicle Contents: 50lbs of marihuana Packaging: Several heat-sealed plastic bags Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Officer detected the odor of marihuana emanating from vehicle after the passenger side door was opened. The driver then stated that the passenger window was broken and would not go down.

Troopers discovered that the window would not lower because marihuana concealed below the glass in the door panel prevented the window from operating.







Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Massena

WHEEL WELL CONCEALMENT YIELDS 16 KILOGRAMS OF COCAINE

Date: September 2, 2006 Vehicle: 2003 Honda Accord 4-door Location: Unknown Concealment: Multiple traps Contents: 16 kilograms of 'powdered' cocaine Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The traps were located in the left and right rocker panels. To access the traps, the under coating and steel plates had to be removed from the rear wheel wells.





Information and photos courtesy of Queens Intelligence, NY/NJ HIDTA, Queens NY

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HEADLINER CONCEALS 13.2 KILOGRAMS OF ECSTASY

Date: Unknown Vehicle: Honda CRV (Unknown year) Location: Champlain, NY POE, Clinton County Concealment: Headliner Contents: 13.2 kilograms ecstasy Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A



Honda CRV is similar to the one seized.

Analyst Note: The vehicle was referred for a VACIS inspection due to records in TECS (narcotics/currency) on the operator, who was a 29 year-old male Vietnamese national who had Canadian citizenship. The operator and vehicle were enroute to the Foxwoods Casino in Connecticut.





Information and photos courtesy of USCBP Champlain, NY A-T CET INTEL

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\$30,000 USD HIDDEN BENEATH REAR SEAT

Date: May 14, 2008 Vehicle: 2002 Honda Accord Location: Forest Hills, Queens, NY Concealment: A concealment trap installed beneath the rear seat Contents: \$30,000 (USD) Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Members of NYDETF Group T-31 executed search warrants of a residence and car of defendant. During the search of the vehicle members discovered a nonfactory installed metal panel under the carpet in the rear passenger seat area. Further examination revealed a concealment trap installed beneath the rear seat containing the trap, which was opened by synchronizing the following actions:

- vehicle running
- air vent to left of steering wheel turned to the left
- cruise control on
- power mirror button pushed to driver's mirror
- driver' side window button pushed to close the window







Information and photos courtesy of NYC DETF - GroupT-31, NY NYSIC • Concealment Smartbook • Page 33 of 75 LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE/FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ELECTRONIC TRAP UNDER SEAT CONCEALS COCAINE

Date: February 11, 2009
Vehicle: 2003 Honda Odyssey Minivan
Location: Brooklyn, NY
Concealment: The trap was located under the driver's side seat, in the right pedestal, Contents: Six small bags of 'powdered' cocaine with unknown weight
Packaging: Two empty Newport Lights cigarette packs
Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The trap was operated via an electric locking mechanism. The small bags of 'powdered' cocaine were hidden inside two cigarette packs.



Information and photos courtesy of Det. A. Cuozzo, Narcotics Borough Brooklyn North, O.C.C.B, NY

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Mercury

ENGINE AIR FILTER HOUSING UNIT

Date: February 21, 2007
Vehicle: 1993 Mercury Marquis
Location: I-87 near Town of Clarkstown, Rockland County, NY
Concealment: Engine air filter housing unit
Contents: 136 grams of heroin and white powder of unknown weight in second package
Packaging: Duct-taped packages containing smaller zip lock bags
Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: One package contained three smaller packages, each having a brown powder that tested positive for heroin. The other package contained white powder that did not test positive using various field tests. Samples were sent to the NYSP Crime Lab to determine the white powder substance (NFI).



This is a photo of a 1993 Marquis





Information and photos courtesy of NYSP-Tarrytown

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Mercury

ELECTRIC TRAP UNDER DRIVER'S SEAT

Date: April 18, 2007 Vehicle: 1996 Mercury Villager minivan Location: Brooklyn, NY Concealment: Under driver's side seat Contents: 32 'tins' of 'powdered' cocaine and \$1,000 (USD) Packaging: Tinfoil packaging (aka 'tins') Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The trap was located under the driver's side seat and was operated via an electric locking mechanism. 'Tins' allow drug abusers to apply heat to the tinfoil for either inhalation or injection of the drug.



Information and photos courtesy of Brooklyn North Narcotics, O.C.C.B, and the Queens Intelligence, Queens Village, NY

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Nissan

NATURAL VOID WITHIN FACTORY SPEAKER COMPARTMENT

Date: February 2005 Vehicle: 2004 Nissan 350Z convertible Location: U.S./Canadian Border (NFI) Concealment: Behind rear speakers, convertible top storage area Contents: 24 kilograms high-grade marihuana Packaging: Vacuum-sealed bags Masking Agent: N/A Analyst Note: The Nissan 350Z has a large natural void behind the speaker boxes



Photos and information courtesy of ICE and NYSP Troop A BEU

AIRBAG COMPARTMENT

Date: January 27, 2005 Vehicle: 1999 Nissan Maxima Location: Staten Island, NY Concealment: Passenger side airbag compartment Contents: .357 Ruger handgun and 170 grams of 'powdered' cocaine Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Access to the hidden compartment was controlled via a hydraulic piston





Information and photos courtesy of Gang Intelligence Unit, Gang Squad Staten Island, NY NYSIC • Concealment Smartbook • Page 37 of 89

Nissan

MANUFACTURED VOID BUILT WITHIN TRUNK

Date: January 13, 2009 Vehicle: 2002 Nissan Maxima Location: NYC Concealment: Trunk, accessible via rear seat center console/arm rest Contents: 227 grams of marihuana Packaging: Unknown Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The void measured approximately eight inches high by six inches wide and over 12 inches deep. This trap was not visible from the vehicle trunk though it was integral to the sound system. To access the compartment, simply pull down the armrest from its up position as part of the rear seat back rest.



Photos and information courtesy of the 84th Precinct, Intelligence Division NYPD

FACTORY VOID BENEATH DRIVER'S SIDE ARM REST

Date: January 19, 2009 Vehicle: 2007 Nissan Altima Location: NYC Concealment: Factory void located beneath the driver's side door panel armrest. Contents: 9mm Taurus handgun and four (4) ounces of cocaine. Packaging: Unknown Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: According to Nissan, this is a factory void that is commonly utilized for wiring and is usually held in place by tabs that snap into the door panel.







Photos and information courtesy of Detective T. Burke, Auto Crime Division, O.C.C.B., NY

Toyota

REAR SEATBACK OF FRONT PASSENGER SEAT

Date: July 29, 2002 Vehicle: 1992 Toyota Camry Location: SP New Rochelle Region (NFI) Concealment: Compartment in backing of seat Contents: 119 grams heroin Packaging: Wrapped tightly with electrical tape Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The seat compartment required a "bypass tool" to activate an electronically controlled mechanism, which was mounted in the lower portion of the compartment, to view the contents.



Photos and information courtesy of NYSP New Rochelle, NY

MARIHUANA HIDDEN WITHIN SPARE TIRE

Date: September 25, 2007 Vehicle: 2007 Toyota Corolla Location: Norfolk, NY Concealment: 1/2 lb Ziploc packages hidden within spare tire Contents: Appr. 20 bags of marihuana Packaging: Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Officers became suspicious, as the tire shown in the photo was a second spare tire, and was too large for the vehicle carrying it.



Information and photos courtesy NYSP Massena, NY

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NATURAL VOIDS IN SPEAKER, WHEEL PANEL, AND TAILGATE

Date: January 22, 2006 Vehicle: Unknown Location: Champlain POE, Clinton County, NY Concealment: Natural voids within interior panels-speaker, wheel panel, and tailgate Contents: 6.5 kilograms marihuana Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The suspects were two Canadian female traffickers, ages 26 and 27, accompanied by three minor children. Appearance of 'family travel' has been observed to try and deter suspicion.



Photos and information courtesy of US CBP, Champlain POE

NATURAL VOID WITHIN STEERING WHEEL

Date: Unknown Vehicle: Unknown Location: Champlain POE, Clinton County, NY Concealment: Natural void in steering wheel Contents: \$4,040 (USD) and small amount of marihuana Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: N/A



Photos and information courtesy of Town of Colonie, PD

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COMPARTMENT WITHIN REAR SEAT

Date: October 30, 2000 Vehicle: Unknown Location: I-90, Town of Batavia, Genesee County, NY Concealment: Hidden compartment between rear seat and trunk Contents: Two 9mm semi automatic pistols, \$61,080 (USD), and 35 untaxed cigarette cartons Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Access to the compartment was facilitated by an electronically-controlled access panel, which was exposed when the arm rest was lowered (top right photo). An actuator arm (bottom left photo) was connected to the panel so that the panel could slide to one side, revealing a crude compartment cut into the wall between the rear seat and the trunk (bottom right photo). A steel plate was riveted in place to cover the vehicle trunk lock, preventing its use (photo below).



Photos and information courtesy of NYSP, Troop T, SP Buffalo

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COCAINE IN VEHICLE FRAME

Date: Unknown Vehicle: Unknown Location: Unknown Concealment: Vehicle frame Contents: 567 grams 'powdered' cocaine Packaging: Package wrapped in duct tape and inner plastic bag heat-sealed Masking Agent: Grease

Analyst Note: Upon removing the front section of the vehicle, two compartments within the frame in the front area of the vehicle were revealed (pictured below, left). Sealing machine had been previously secured at a residence associated with the investigation.





Photos and information courtesy of NYSP

ELECTRONICALLY-CONTROLLED COMPARTMENT BEHIND REAR SEAT

Date: March 3, 2002 Vehicle: Unknown Location: Plattsburgh, NY, Clinton County Concealment: Hidden electronic compartment behind rear seat Contents: High-grade marihuana (NFI) Packaging: Zip lock bags contained in duffle bags

Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Access to this compartment was controlled by a switch located underneath the dash on the driver's side.



Photos and information courtesy of NYSP, Plattsburgh

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ELECTRONICALLY-CONTROLLED COMPARTMENT BENEATH CENTER CONSOLE

Date: October 2002 Vehicle: Unknown Location: Rockland County, NY Concealment: Electronically-controlled compartment located beneath center console Contents: 374 grams of heroin Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The bolts that held the console to the floor were missing. The console also appeared to have been removed. A piston-type mechanism was mounted under the console and to the subframe of the vehicle. This allowed the console to raise upward, allowing access to the compartment below. The compartment ran from the rear passenger seat to the dash board area.



Photos and information courtesy of NYSP New Rochelle, Troop T

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COCAINE HIDDEN IN HEADREST

Date: Unknown Vehicle: Unknown Location: Unknown Concealment: Package within vehicle headrests Contents: 'Powdered' cocaine Packaging: Black plastic bags Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Comment: None





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TAXI CAB SIGN

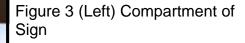
Date: February 2006 Vehicle: Taxicab (NFI) Location: Palisades Parkway, Rockland County, NY Concealment: Taxi sign Contents: 87 grams 'crack' cocaine Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: N/A



Figure 1 (Left) Taxicab Sign on Roof

Figure 2 (right) Obvious Hole In Sign





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Recreational Vehicles

POLARIS ATV TIRES

Date: Oct 23, 2007 Vehicle: Polaris Sportsman 800 ATV Location: JFK Airport, NYC, NY Concealment: 3 of 4 ATV tires had narcotics packages within. Contents: 30 kilograms of 'powdered' cocaine Packaging: Brown wax paper under clear plastic Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: None



Information and photos courtesy of Auto Crime Division, Queens, NY

TRACTOR TRAILERS WITH FALSE COMPARTMENT LOADS



Date: Unknown Vehicle: Tractor Trailer (NFI) Location: Between Bronx, NY and Schenectady, NY (NFI) Concealment: False compartments within plywood cargo Contents: 100 kilograms marihuana Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: This concealment method was used two times within several weeks of each other, indicating a trend (at the time) for trafficking illicit drugs. In both cases, the trailer was a flatbed with a load of secured building material onboard that was exposed.



Photos 2-4 detail the false compartment load and marihuana

Information and photos courtesy of NYSP, and The Gulf Coast HIDTA

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AFTER-MARKET COMPARTMENT UNDER SLEEPER BED FLOOR

Date: November 2005 Vehicle: Volvo Tractor-Trailer Location: Unknown Concealment: Trap under floor of sleeper bed Contents: \$500,000 (USD) Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Officers pulled up the carpeting on the floor and observed a metal plate with four screws holding it in place. Access to the compartment was gained by removing the four screws and lifting up the plate. According to officers, the trap appears to have been capable of holding up to 20 kilograms, if used for transporting narcotics.



Not actual seized vehicle.







Information and photos courtesy of NYC-DETF

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EXTRA SPARE TIRE REVEALS CONCEALMENT

Date: September 4, 2001
Vehicle: Tractor-Trailer (NFI)
Location: Plattsburgh, NY, Clinton County
Concealment: Spare Tires secured by chain and padlock
Contents: Each tire contained 13.6 kilograms of high-grade marihuana
Packaging: Plastic bags
Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Although a single spare is routinely carried, it is not uncommon for some trailers to be equipped with two spares, because the trailer has a mix of steel and alloy wheels and is carrying a spare for each. In this instance, however, the spares were both mounted to steel rims and secured "unusually well." In addition, a fresh grease-like substance was present on the bead area of the tires, suggesting a recent installation.



Information and photos courtesy of U.S. Customs JOTF, Champlain, NY

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FALSE FLOOR WITHIN EMPTY FLATBED TRAILER

Date: October 2000 Vehicle: Ford Pickup towing flatbed trailer Location: Enroute from Tucson, AZ to Albany, NY (NFI) Concealment: False-floor compartment of trailer Contents: 642 kilograms marihuana Packaging: Paper wrapping Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The false-floor compartment was created by adding a steel plate to the bottom of the I-beams of the trailer.





Information and photos courtesy of EPIC, Highway Interdiction Intelligence

TRAILER DRUGS VALUED OVER \$6.9 MILLION (USD) BOUND FOR NYC

Date: Oct 24, 2007

Vehicle: Unknown make and model 18-wheel Tractor Trailer

Location: Enroute from South Texas to NYC (NFI)

Concealment: 23 bundles of cellophane wrapped packages commingled with boxes of tomatoes. **Contents:** 14 bundles of cocaine weighing 200.9 kilograms with an estimated street value of \$5 million (USD) and 8 bundles of methamphetamine weighing 41 kilograms with an estimated street value of \$1.8 million (USD).

Packaging: Cellophane bundles.

Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: During a safety inspection the Trooper noticed that the driver was very nervous. The Trooper also discovered that the driver was in violation of several motor carrier regulations. The driver stated he was hauling a load of tomatoes from South Texas to New York, NY. The Bill of Laden for the load was hand written and did not have a delivery address. The driver said he had to call his broker when he got to New York to get the location for the delivery; a very uncommon circumstance. After consent to search was granted, the Trooper discovered the contraband commingled with boxes of loose tomatoes in the trailer of the truck.



Information and photos courtesy the Louisiana State Police, Analytical Unit - Narcotics Team Baton Rouge, LA.

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180 KILOGRAMS OF COCAINE INSIDE WALL OF TRACTOR-TRAILER

Date: June 12, 2008.
Vehicle: Kenworth tractor trailer, unknown year.
Location: Massachusetts/New York state line.
Concealment: A fabricated metal container located in the floor at the base of the trailer walls.
Contents: 180 kilograms of 'powdered' cocaine
Packaging: Plastic wrap and black electrical tape
Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Members of the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force (NYDETF) seized a Kenworth tractor trailer which

had just dropped off a load of cargo in Boston, MA. An x-ray device maintained by the Department of Homeland Security, Border and Customs Patrol was utilized and ultimately revealed the elaborate compartment containing 'powdered' cocaine. The compartment was composed of a metal container located in the floor at the base of the trailer walls. The cocaine was loaded into the compartment and a metal cap was welded on.

On the floor of the compartment was an oiled cargo strap. This belt was used to facilitate the removal of the kilograms. This was done by pulling the strap out of the compartment. The strap and oil would allow the kilos to slide easily out of the steel box of the compartment. Without the use of the use of the x-rays, this contraband would not have been discovered. The street value of the co-caine is \$16 million dollars (USD).



Information and photos courtesy the DEA and the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force (NYDETF)

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Air Transport

MISSING RETURN AND FALSE ADDRESSES LEAD TO SEIZURE

Date: June 2007
Vehicle: Airplane (NFI)
Location: Pearson International Airport, Toronto, Canada
Concealment: Mail Packages
Contents: 19 kilograms of marihuana found concealed inside of eight packages with no exporter information and destined for the same address at a university campus in Toronto, Canada. 2 kilograms of marihuana were found concealed within a package originating from a non-existent university in Kingston, Jamaica. The parcel was destined for a similarly fictitious university in Canada-"University of Ontario." 6 kilograms of hash oil were found inside three packages consigned to a private residence in Queens, NY originating from three different exporters. 4 kilograms of hash oil were found inside three packages addressed to the same private residence in Brooklyn, NY.
Packaging: Plastic bags within mail packages

Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Contents originated in Jamaica, NY, yet showed different exporters.



Marihuana found in parcels



Hash Oil found in parcels

Information and photos courtesy of CBSA

Postal Methods

USE OF BLEACH AS MASKING AGENT

Date: Unknown Vehicle: FEDEX vehicle (NFI) Location: Los Angeles County, CA Concealment: Mail Package Contents: 5.9 kilograms marihuana Packaging: Cardboard box, packing peanuts, blown in foam, several dozen layers clear plastic wrap Masking Agent: Bleach

Analyst Note: LA County Sheriff's Department K-9 narcotics team, monitoring outgoing packages at a FEDEX facility in Long Beach, CA, hit on a parcel being shipped to a hotel in Albany, NY. The LA County Sheriff's Department contacted Albany PD detectives to arrange a controlled delivery. The package arrived in Albany and was presented to a K-9, that also positively alerted. An attempt to conduct a controlled delivery of the package to the listed recipient at the hotel was unsuccessful.

According to K-9 handlers throughout the Northeast, bleach is an unusual masking agent to encounter when searching for drugs and handlers should be advised of this attempt to conceal the odor of narcotics.



Information and photos courtesy of Albany PD, NY

Postal Methods

UNUSUALLY THICK FRAME HOLDING EGYPTIAN-TYPE ARTWORK

Date: May 9, 2007 Vehicle: Unknown Location: US Postal Service Inspection Service, Syracuse, NY Concealment: Picture Frame Contents: One kilogram of 'powdered' cocaine Packaging: Paper wrapping Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Package originated in Puerto Rico and was destined for Utica, NY.







Information and photos courtesy of the DEA Syracuse, NY, Oneida County Drug Task Force, US Postal Inspectors, and the Utica PD

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Postal Methods

11.7 KG OF MARIHUANNNA CONCEALED INSIDE FEDEX PACKAGE

Date: March 4, 2009
Vehicle: FEDEX
Location: NYC
Concealment: Mail Package
Contents: 11.7 kilograms of marihuana
Packaging: Wrapped in several layers of clear plastic, bubble wrap, and placed in a plexiglass box inside a cardboard box taped shut with duct tape.
Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Comment: None



The information was received from Detective G. Rivera, Queens Narcotics, O.C.C.B, NY

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Luggage

SIDEWALLS OF SUITCASES

Date: January 18, 2006
Vehicle: Plane (NFI)
Location: Enroute from Montreal, Canada to NYC, NY
Concealment: Secreted in sidewalls of suitcases
Contents: 1.8 kilograms of heroin in suitcases and
\$1,568 (USD) on person
Packaging: Plastic Bag
Masking Agent: Vitamins

Analyst Note: N/A



Information and photos courtesy of the US CBP, Champlain, NY and A-T CET Intel

LINING OF SUITCASE CONCEALS 2.7 KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN

Date: October 18, 2005 Vehicle: Unknown Location: Champlain POE, Clinton County, NY Concealment: Lining of suitcase Contents: 2.7 kilograms of heroin Packaging: Paper wrapping Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: N/A







Photos and information courtesy of USCBP—Champlain, NY A-T CET INTEL NYSIC • Concealment Smartbook • Page 57 of 89 LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE/FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Residence

WALL TRAP HIDDEN BY PANEL

Date: September 2005 Vehicle: N/A Location: Brooklyn, NY Concealment: Wall trap Contents: Unknown Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: To open the trap, the officer had to slide the wall panel upward into the drop ceiling exposing the hidden compartment and the contraband.



Information and photos courtesy of Queens Intelligence, NY/NJ HIDTA, Queens, NY

HIDDEN ROOM WITHIN CLOSET ALSO HAS FLOOR SAFE

Date: Unknown Vehicle: N/A Location: Unknown Concealment: Hidden room within closet Floor safe under carpet and plywood sub-floor within hidden room Contents: \$1,000 (USD) - room, \$1,000 (USD) - floor safe, and 311 grams marihuana Packaging: Paper wrapping Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Access to this room was controlled by an electric lock mechanism, which was activated by a switch on the inside wall of the

closet opposite the closet door. The switch, when activated with the interior closet light in the off position, would release the lock and enable the wall to open on large hinges.





Information and photos courtesy of the Fulton PD, NY

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FISH TANK CONCEALS \$370,000 (USD)

Date: September 11, 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: Queens, NY Concealment: Fish tank stand Contents: \$370,000 (USD) Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The trap was operated by a hydraulic piston to raise the base, which the actual tank rested on.

Information and photos courtesy of Queens Narcotics, Major Case, O.C.C.B.

RECREATION TABLES CONCEAL WEAPONS AND CURRENCY

Date: May 2006 Vehicle: N/A Location: Long Island, NY Concealment: Air hockey table, Foosball table Contents: One table containing \$1 million (USD), two assault rifles, 4 hand guns. A second table containing five duffle bags totaling \$100,000 (USD). Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Both tables were found to operate the same way; by using a magnet and placing it over any one of the table legs. A piston would raise the table top up to expose a large void in the base.



Information and photos courtesy of NYSP-Troop L, Narcotic Enforcement Unit

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HEADBOARDS CONCEAL HEROIN WITHIN ORNATE MOLDINGS

Date: Unknown Vehicle: N/A Location: Queens, NY Concealment: Crafted into bedroom furniture Contents: 50 kilograms of heroin Packaging: See Analyst Note Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The heroin was mixed with an epoxy resin and molded into ornate molding designs. The molding was then glued to bedroom furniture. The moldings were stained to match the rest of the furniture, however the molding had a finish and texture inconsistent with that of real wood. The furniture was then shipped to New York to extract the heroin. The molding was removed from the furniture and ground to a powder. The powder was mixed with chemicals such as hydrochloric acid, ethyl acetate, and methylethylacetate to extract the impurities, and then filtered. Once the heroin was separated it was pressed into two-kilogram bricks.





Information and photos courtesy of Queens Narcotics Major Crime Squad

SMALL TWO-DRAWER WOODEN DRESSER HIDDEN COMPARTMENT

Date: February 21, 2007
Vehicle: 1993 Mercury Marquis
Location: I-87 Southbound near Town of Clarkstown, Rockland County, NY
Concealment: Engine air filter (see page 28) and hidden compartment within dresser that was being transported in trunk.
Contents: \$700 (USD)
Packaging: N/A
Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Troopers were able to open a hidden compartment under the tabletop of the dresser using a magnet to release a latch.





Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Tarrytown

FOUR DRAWER WOODEN DRESSER HIDDEN COMPARTMENT

Date: March 3, 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: New York City, NY Concealment: A concealed compartment inside a dresser Contents: \$180,000 (USD) Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Agents located a concealed compartment in a dresser, during a search of an apartment. The unit had a battery-powered electronic actuator that was operated via a magnetic switch. To gain access to the compartment the top right drawer must be removed, a magnet placed inside the opening to the right, and pressed against the top edge. To close the compartment, the magnet is placed along the left top edge of the opening. When the piston is activated, the marble top slides forward to expose the concealed area located at the rear of the dresser. The trap was approximately six inches deep and ran the full length of the dresser.

Indicators of a compartment include:

- Drawers cut short to make space for the compartment
- Cracked decorative molding
- Inconsistent spacing and blemishes in the finish
- Exposed nail holes in front where original molding was removed



Information and photos courtesy of Group D-24 of the DEA, New York Field Division, NY





CHOCOLATE CANDIES CONCEAL MARIHUANA

Date: August 2003 Vehicle: N/A Location: Oneonta, NY Concealment: cooked into candy Contents: 399 individually wrapped chocolates, containers of hash oil and psilocybin (NFI) Packaging: Foil and paper wrapping Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: One defendant claimed to have purchased the chocolate fish for \$1 each in Oneonta, NY. The chocolate fish contained a green vegetation substance believed to be marihuana.







Chocolate candy that contained Psilocybin



Chocolate fish that contained marihuana

Photos courtesy of NYSP Kingston and the DEA

CANDIES OF SPANISH ORIGIN CONTAIN HEROIN AND COCAINE

Date: October 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: Unknown Concealment: Cooked into candy Contents: 82 Iollipops, 25 chocolate bars, 86 caramel squares; all contained compressed brown powder that tested positive for heroin Packaging: Candy wrappers Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The lollipops consisted of a confirmed 70 percent heroin hydrochloride, trace cocaine, and aminopyrine. The chocolate bars consisted of a confirmed 65 percent heroin hydrochloride and caffeine. The caramel squares consisted of a confirmed 66 percent heroin hydrochloride and caffeine.



Information and photos courtesy of DEA, Microgram Bulletin, October 2007

VAROIUS FALSE BOTTOM CONTAINERS SECRET CONTRABAND

Date: March 23, 2006 Vehicle: N/A Location: Elmira, NY, Chemung County Concealment: False bottom containers Contents: None Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: A "Hills Bros" coffee can, wax candles, and an "Aqua Net" hairspray aerosol bottle, with a false bottom were discovered.





Information and photos courtesy of Elmira City Police & NYSP CNET Southern Tier

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"POPPYCOCK" POPCORN CAN

Food

Date: May 23, 2006 Vehicle: Unknown Location: State Rt. 9, Malta, NY, Saratoga County Concealment: False bottom container Contents: Small amount marihuana (NFI), 35 grams 'crack' cocaine, 6 grams 'powdered' cocaine, 1 gram heroin Packaging: Ziplock baggies Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Some of the narcotics were packaged for resale. Also located within the vehicle were digital scales and packaging paraphernalia.





Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Troop G

PRINGLES AND PEPSI CANS

Date: November 6, 2006 Vehicle: Unknown Location: I-87 Town of Colonie, NY, Albany County Concealment: False bottom container Contents: \$1,644 (USD) and 7 grams of

'powdered' cocaine **Packaging:** Clear zip lock bag with a red ap-

ple symbol and the number '3434' on it Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Vehicle was enroute from Vermont to New Jersey.



Information and photos courtesy of Rockland County Intelligence Center, NY and NYSP-Loudonville

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BUDWEISER CAN

Date: April 7, 2007 Vehicle: Sport Utility Vehicle (NFI) Location: Village of Monticello, Sullivan County Concealment: False bottom container Contents: 6 grams crack cocaine Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Brand name labels of commercially available products, containing hidden compartments, can be purchased at various head shops (A specialty shop that sells paraphernalia for use with illegal drugs) or retail websites.



Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Liberty, Troop F

JUICE BOXES CONCEAL HEROIN

Date: 2007 Vehicle: Airplane Location: JFK International Airport Concealment: Mixed in juice solution Contents: 14 juice boxes: Solutions indicated a total of 3169, milliliters (3/3 quarts) of liquid, 52% confirmed heroin hydrochloride Packaging: Juice boxes Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The Northeast Laboratory routinely receives exhibits containing cocaine solutions, but rarely receives items containing heroin solutions.



Information and photos courtesy of DEA

JUICE CAN CONCEALS MARIHUANA

Date: August 17, 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: NYC, NY Concealment: Diversion Safe Contents: Five grams marihuana Packaging: Juice can Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: N/A



Information and photos courtesy of NYPD Field Intelligence and the Technical Operations Unit, Queens NY

WATER BOTTLES REVEAL HIDDEN COMPARTMENTS

Date: April 2007 Vehicle: Unknown Location: Town of Fishkill, NY, Dutchess County Concealment: False bottom container Contents: Unknown Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The bottles were still fully functional and capable of holding liquids.





Information and photos courtesy of Town of Fishkill PD

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PAINT CAN, VEGETABLE CAN, BATTERIES, AND FAKE CIGARETTE

Date: May 27, 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: Town of Colonie, Albany County, NY Concealment: Paint can, vegetable can, batteries, and a fake cigarette Contents: 'Powdered' cocaine, marihuana, hallucinogenic mushrooms, prescription medication, and U.S. currency. Packaging: Various cans Masking Agent: N/A Analyst Note: N/A



Information and photo courtesy of the Town of Colonie Police Department

DORITOS CAN CONCEALMENT

Date: Dec 17, 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: Kingston, NY Concealment: Doritos can diversion safe Contents: Residue Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A Analyst Note: N/A

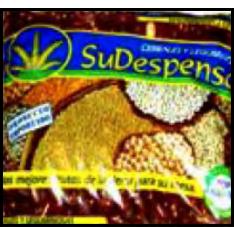




Information and photos courtesy NYSP Brooklyn

HEROIN DISCOVERED INSIDE KIDNEY BEANS

Date: Jan 3, 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: JFK International Airport Concealment: Red kidney beans Contents: 5,075 kilograms of heroin Packaging: 5 plastic bags of red kidney beans inside passengers luggage Masking Agent: N/A Analyst Note: LEA personnel discovered the heroin after searching the luggage and then drilling into a kidney bean discovering the heroin.



Information and photos courtesy of the El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC) Southwest Border Unit

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HEROIN DISKS SMUGGLED AS "MOON PIES" IN NEW YORK CITY

Date: June 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: New York (NFI) Concealment: Chocolate pastry bags

Contents: 695 grams of heroin

Packaging: The disks (3.0 x 0.25 inches) were successively wrapped in black tape, carbon paper, aluminum foil, and green plastic, then coated with chocolate.

Masking Agent: Chocolate

Analyst Note: 24 individually packaged, chocolate "moon pies," four of which appeared to be genuine, and 20 contained a chocolate covered wrapped disk of compressed tan powder, which tested positive for heroin.



Information and photos courtesy of the DEA Northeast Laboratory, New York, NY.

COCAINE IN TEA STICKS

Date: August 20, 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: JFK International Airport, NYC Concealment: Wooden tea sticks Contents: 'Powdered' cocaine Packaging: 1.1 kilogram inside 14 separate plastic bags labeled "Uña De Gato" Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Wooden tea sticks also known as Uncaria Tomentosa, Cat's Claw or Uña De Gato, are derived from a 60-foot vine with hook-like thorns growing along the side and resembles the claws of a cat. This herb is found in the highlands of the Peruvian Amazon rain forest and has been used by natives for hundreds of years and is believed to treat immunologic and digestive disorders.

Seizure information courtesy of CBP, IAT/JFK, JFK International Airport, NY.

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MARIHUANNA CONCEALED INSIDE LIPTON ICED TEA BOTTLE

Date: November 7, 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: New York, NY Concealment: Lipton Ice Tea diversion safe Contents: 2 grams of marihuana. Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A Analyst Note: N/A



Information and photos courtesy of Detective C. Hirsch, Queens Narcotics, O.C.C.B., NY.

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Electronics

FOAM INSULATION HOLD COCAINE WITHIN SPEAKERS

Date: July 17, 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: Queens, NY Concealment: Hidden compartment within speakers Contents: 54 kilograms 'powdered' cocaine Packaging: Foam insulation Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Investigators discovered that the weight of the speakers were much more than the manufacturer's estimates.



Information and photos courtesy the Technical Operations Unit—Queens, NY, and Queens Narcotics-Major Case O.C.C.B.

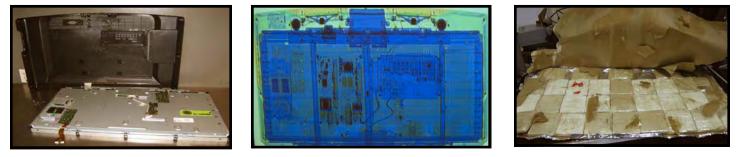
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Electronics

HEROIN CONCEALED IN FLATSCREEN TV

Date: July 5, 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: Miami International Airport, Florida Concealment: Heroin concealed inside flat screen TV Contents: 2,078 grams of heroin Packaging: 31 small off-white packages Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Further disassembly at the DEA NY Field Division Laboratory revealed that several critical inner components had been removed to create space for the drugs.



Information and photos courtesy of ICE and CBP- Miami Int'l Airport

LAPTOP COMPUTER CONCEALMENT

Date: Oct 29, 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: JFK Airport, NYC, NY Concealment: Within laptop battery compartments Contents: Eight semi-auto handgun slide mechanisms Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: None



Information and photos courtesy of TSA

Electronics

REARVIEW CAMERA CONCEALED WITHIN LICENSE PLATE

Date: September 27, 2007 Vehicle: Cadillac (NFI) Location: Palisades Interstate Parkway, NY Concealment: Camera concealed in license plate frame Contents: Small amount of marihuana and cocaine Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Camera was mounted in the rear license plate frame, which could be viewed from the rear view mirror (LCD monitor), all the head rest monitors, and the passenger's sun visor.







Information and photos courtesy of Palisades Interstate Parkway PD

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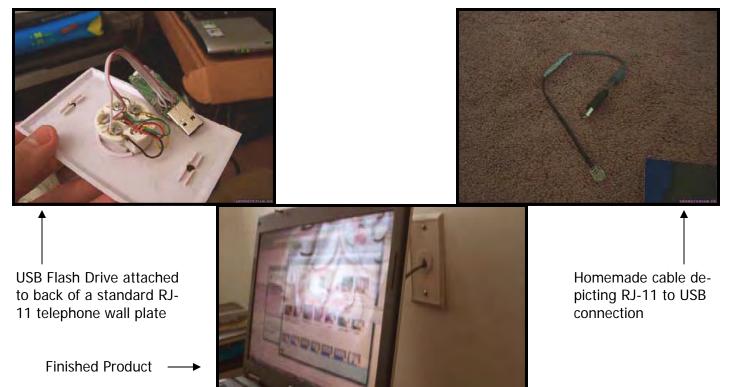
Electronics

USB FLASH DRIVE AS A HIDDEN MASS STORAGE DEVICE

Date: 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: Unknown Concealment: USB flash drive modified and concealed as a wall phone jack Contents: N/A Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The concept used in modifying a USB thumb drive could be modified to work with any external storage media device that is powered by a USB cable. The finished product would allow the user to store electronic data on the USB flash drive hidden in the wall of the residence disguised as a standard telephone outlet that could be easily overlooked during the execution of a search warrant.

This technique could be utilized by any individual that desired a method to covertly store data in a location that is not in the same physical space as their computer. This concealment method could be utilized by child pornographers, drug dealer, or other criminals attempting to hide financial records or other incriminating data. To the casual observer, the mass storage device appeared to be a normal telephone outlet. How to modify the Flash drive was posted on this internet forum page http://www.spyroforum.com/post-114962.html



Information and photos courtesy of the FBI - San Antonio Field Office

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Animals

HEROIN SEWN INTO DEAD GUINEA PIGS

Date: August 28, 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: Queens, NY Concealment: Dead guinea pigs Contents: Half kilogram heroin Packaging: Wax paper within guinea pigs Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The NYSIC has received information from various LEAs detailing the use of living and dead animals/creatures to smuggle drugs.



Information and photos courtesy the Technical Operations Unit—Queens, NY, and Queens Narcotics-Major Case O.C.C.B.

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HIDDEN COMPARTMENT IN SHOES

Date: January 11, 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: Town of Haverstraw, Rockland County, NY Concealment: Factory made compartment in the tongue of shoes Contents: 19 decks of heroin Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: SP Haverstraw arrested an individual wearing "Hemp" brand athletic shoes. These shoes were purchased from a TSX store that specializes in "skateboard" style clothing.



Information and photo courtesy of NYSP Haverstraw

HIDDEN COMPARTMENT IN BOOTS

Date: July 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: Nassau County, NY Concealment: False boot heel compartment Contents: None Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: None



Information and photos courtesy of NY/NJ HIDTA, Long Island Training Center

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HIDDEN COMPARTMENT IN RUNNING SHOE

Date: 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: N/A **Concealment:** Factory made compartment under sole pad of shoe Contents: N/A Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The Nike+ series of running shoes contains a compartment that is large enough to conceal a handcuff key or contraband. The compartment is designed to hold a remote sensor for an I-pod or sportband to help give the user feedback while they run.



Information and photos provided by NY MTA PD and the Internet

BELT BUCKLE KNIFE AND JOCK STRAP HIDDEN POCKET

Date: February 5, 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: Tarrytown, NY **Concealment:** A belt buckle knife and a jock strap with a hidden pocket containing contraband worn under his boxer shorts. Contents: 127.5 grams of 'powdered' cocaine and 13 grams of marihuana Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A Analyst Note: The items below were seized from a subject during a vehicle and traffic stop.



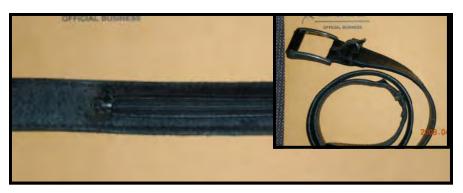




Information and photos provided by NYSP Tarrytown. NYSIC • Concealment Smartbook • Page 77 of 89 LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE/FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ZIPPER COMPARTMENT IN BELT

Date: Apr 10, 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: Tappan Zee Bridge, NY Concealment: Zipper on belt allows access to small concealment area Contents: N/A Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A



Analyst Note: None

Information and photos courtesy NYSP Tarrytown

STASH BELT BUCKLE

Date: July 15, 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: NYC, NY **Concealment:** Stash belt buckle Contents: N/A Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: N/A



Front of belt buckle.

Back of belt buckle revealing void to hide contra-



Information and photos courtesy of Field Intelligence, 114 Precinct, and the Intelligence Operations and Analysis Section, Queens, NY

BODY BELTS CONCEAL MARIHUANA

Date: Early 2005 Vehicle: N/A Location: Peace Bridge, Buffalo, NY Concealment: Body belts Contents: Unknown amount of marihuana Packaging: Vacuum sealed bags duct taped to body Masking Agent: N/A



Analyst Note: Long baggy clothing was worn over the body belts for further concealment



Information and photos courtesy of ICE and NYSP Troop A BEU

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WIG CONCEALS PACKAGES OF HEROIN

Date: July 12, 2005 Vehicle: Unknown Location: JFK Airport Concealment: Wig Contents: 40 blocks heroin glued to head under wig Packaging: Blocks Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: N/A



Heroin glued to subject's head.

40 blocks of Heroin discovered under wig.





Subject's head after Heroin is removed.

Date: February 2002 Vehicle: N/A Location: Mid-Hudson Region, NY

Concealment: Heroin sewn into vests **Contents:** Brown uncut heroin equaling 150,000 'bags' of heroin at retail level **Packaging:** Heroin placed between two layers of material and sewn in 'quilted' pattern **Masking Agent:** N/A

"QUILTED" VEST PREVENTS

DRUGS FROM SHIFTING

Analyst Note: This seizure illustrates how a significant amount of a drug can be concealed in a small area.





Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Mid-Hudson Crime Lab

Information and photos courtesy of U.S. CBP JFK Airport

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PEN CONCEALS PLASTIC VIAL

Date: Unknown Vehicle: N/A Location: Town of Haverstraw, Rockland County, NY Concealment: Hidden compartment inside pen Contents: None Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A



Analyst Note: N/A

Information and photos courtesy of Rockland County Intelligence Center, NY

PIPE DISGUISED AS VEHICLE CIGARETTE LIGHTER

Date: September 2002 Vehicle: Unknown Location: Unknown Concealment: Marihuana Pipe disguised as automobile cigarette lighter Contents: N/A Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: This pipe can fit into any factory lighter socket, maintaining a normal appearance. The indicator of such a device is the hole in the center of the knob (mouthpiece) which is clearly visible. The mouthpiece unscrews from the remaining portion of the device for the placement of marihuana.



Complete unit, note the hole in mouthpiece.





Bottom side, note absence Mouthpiece removed, exposing smoking chamber. of lighter element.

Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Clarence, NY and www.nastyglass.com

HEROIN STORED IN PERFUME BOTTLES

Date: November 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: Unknown Concealment: The bottles dispenser housings had voids packed with a heroin Contents: 1.3 kilograms (total) of heroin Packaging: Pump-type perfume bottles Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: All four dispensers had functioning pump-sprays and perfume



Information and Photos courtesy of the DEA Northeast Laboratory, New York, NY

HEROIN CONCEALED INSIDE RUGS

Date: February 15, 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: Spain Concealment: Heroin intertwined in the fabric of rugs Contents: 8 kilograms of heroin Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A





Analyst Note: Spanish Customs were alerted by Belgium Customs of the existence of the heroin. According to investigators, the shipment originated in Kabul, Afghanistan, had a layover in Brussels, Belgium, and was destined to a market in Spain.

Information and Photos courtesy of EPIC Tactical Operations Unit and the DEA

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CD-ROM CASES CONCEAL HIGH-GRADE SEEDS

Date: October 2002 Vehicle: N/A Location: Maine Concealment: CD-Rom Cases Contents: Cannabis seeds Packaging: Plastic bags Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The seeds are routed through Canada after leaving the United Kingdom and then into the U.S. concealed in CD-Rom cases (below).



Information and photos courtesy of Buffalo PD, NY

MARKER KNIFE WITH HIDDEN RAZOR KNIFE

Date: Unknown Vehicle: N/A Location: Unknown Concealment: Marker Contents: Retractable one-inch razor blade Packaging: Within body of marker Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The "Cut Write" marker/knife is a commercially available marker that is also a knife. The item appears to be a standard black marker.



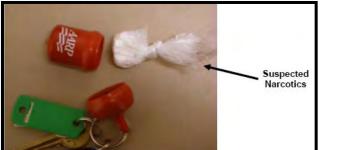


Information and photos courtesy of NYSP Endwell, Troop C

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NARCOTICS CONCEALMENTS ON KEY CHAINS

Date: 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: N/A Concealment: N/A Contents: N/A Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A





Analyst Note: Officers should be inquisitive of keychain accessories that may be found on subjects at the time of arrest. Items such as the ones in the below pictures can easily conceal small amounts of narcotics or handcuff keys.

Information and photos courtesy of Niagara County Sheriff's Department, NY

METHAMPHETAMINE HIDDEN INSIDE CHILDRENS TOY

Date: September 2007
Vehicle: N/A
Location: A residence in NYC pursuant to a federal search warrant (details sensitive).
Concealment: A Small pink bunny key chain/mini purse.
Contents: 5.1 grams of methamphetamine
Packaging: N/A
Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Unusually, drugs are packaged, but in this case, it was loose within the purse compartment. The Northeast Laboratory routinely receives methamphetamine concealed in various types of containers and packaging, and smuggling in children's' toys is fairly common.



Information and photos courtesy of the DEA Northeast Laboratory , New York, NY

COCAINE HIDDEN IN CHILDRENS TOYS

Date: September 23, 2008
Vehicle: N/A
Location: NYC, NY
Concealment: Child's lego container
Contents: 4 kilograms cocaine, 4 handguns, \$86,000 (USD)
Packaging: zip lock plastic bags within toy containers
Masking Agent: N/A
Analyst Note: Nine suspects were arrested in connection with a drug importation and money laundering organization that shipped kilograms of cocaine from Puerto Rico to New York City concealed in boxes of children's toys and puzzles.





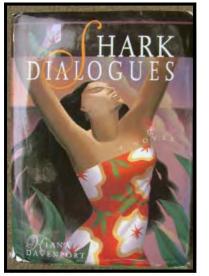
Information and photos courtesy of DEA New Haven District Office, DEA Caribbean Division, Ansonia Police Department DEA

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BOOK DIVERSION SAFE CONCEALS CURRENCY

Date: September 7, 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: Queens, NY Concealment: Book diversion safe Contents: \$7,000 (USD) Packaging: N/A Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: This type of concealment could also conceal weapons and can be found in various locations for purchase.





Information and photos courtesy of Queens Narcotics, O.C.C.B.

MOTORCYCLE HELMETS CONCEALING NARCOTICS

Date: August 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: Unknown Concealment: Motorcycle helmets Contents: 703 grams of heroin hydrochloride, (62%), adulterated with thiamine Packaging: Plastic bag Masking Agent: N/A



Analyst Note: N/A

Information and photos courtesy of DEA Microgram Bulletin, Volume 40, Number 8, August 2007

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WD-40 CAN SAFE

Date: May 31, 2007 Vehicle: N/A Location: New York, NY Concealment: WD-40 can diversion safe Contents: 15 grams 'powdered' cocaine Packaging: Plastic bags Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: N/A



Information and photos courtesy of NYPD, 112 Precinct

HIDE-A-KEY MAGNETIC CASE

Date: Unknown Vehicle: N/A Location: Middletown, NY Concealment: Hide-a-Key Case Contents: 'Powdered' cocaine Packaging: Plastic vials within a magnetic case Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: Was ascertained that the users purchased the drugs and magnetic case as a single purchase from the dealer.



Information and photos courtesy of NYSP, Middletown, NY

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PLASTIC CONTAINER CONCEALMENT

Date: Mar 3, 2008 Vehicle: N/A Location: Queens, NY Concealment: Plastic container shipment Contents: Marihuana Packaging: Commercial liquid 'gas' containers Masking Agent: N/A

Analyst Note: The chemical process to conceal the marijuana packages is unknown.



Information and photos courtesy of DEA New Haven and NYFD

GAS CANS

Date: Unknown Vehicle: N/A Location: New Windsor, NY, Orange County Concealment: 5-gallon gas containers Contents: Marihuana (NFI) Packaging: Unknown

Masking Agent: Gas fuel in other surrounding gas containers

Analyst Note: The gas cans were amongst other gas-powered equipment in the bed of his truck. The investigation resulted in the seizure of 200 grams of marihuana, an illegally possessed 12 gauge pistol-grip pump shotgun and \$65,000 (USD).



Photos and information courtesy of Town of New Windsor PD, NY



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