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Drug Traffic In Eastern Texas Border Area Up 10%

by Carlos Navarro

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According to an Oct. 18 report by the Mexican government's international news service Notimex, drug traffic on the eastern Texas border with Mexico increased about 10% over the past year. Authorities in Laredo, Texas, estimate the value of drugs confiscated in the region since September 1991 at US$334.5 million. While the figure is not much larger than the US$301.8 million total for the previous 12-month period, the increase shows that more traffickers are choosing to route shipments through the area. Statistics show drug traffic through Laredo alone has increased by 204% over the previous year. In the Rio Grande Valley, McAllen remains a major drug transshipment point. A total US$214.87 million worth of cocaine and marijuana were confiscated in the McAllen area during the past year, compared to US$206.97 million in September 1990-September 1991.

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