

Story originally printed in the La Crosse Tribune or online at www.lacrossetribune.com

Published - Tuesday, November 27, 2007

Truck drivers charged in marijuana bust

By ANNE JUNGEN | La Crosse Tribune

A felony drug charge was filed today against two California truck drivers arrested after authorities said they found more than 1,000 pounds of marijuana amid a load of fresh tomatoes in their semi trailer.

Marco Corzo, 54, and Gurmit Singh, 37, both of Palmdale, Calif., each were charged in La Crosse County Circuit Court with party to the crime of possession with intent to deliver THC.

The pair were arrested Nov. 20 after their truck was stopped at the West Salem Safety and Weight Facility on eastbound Interstate 90.

About 15 numbered cardboard boxes, some labeled as clothes, were found in the back of the trailer, according to the complaint. A police drug dog stopped at one box, inside which authorities found two packages of marijuana covered with white contact paper and green plastic wrap, according to the complaint.

Authorities eventually unloaded 44 packages of marijuana weighing about 1,048 pounds, according to the complaint.

La Crosse County Circuit Judge Elliott Levine continued the cases until Thursday to allow the pair to hire attorneys. Each are being held in the La Crosse County Jail on a \$100,000 cash bond.

For more on this story, see Wednesday's Tribune or check back at www.lacrossetribune.com.

All stories copyright 2000 - 2006 La Crosse Tribune and other attributed sources.

00041

Story originally printed in the La Crosse Tribune or online at www.lacrossetribune.com

Published - Wednesday, November 28, 2007

Truckers charged in half-ton pot bust

By ANNE JUNGEN | La Crosse Tribune

A felony drug charge was filed Tuesday against two California truck drivers arrested after authorities said they found more than 1,000 pounds of marijuana amid a load of fresh tomatoes in their semi trailer.

Marco Corzo, 54, and Gurmit Singh, 37, both of Palmdale, Calif., each were charged Tuesday with being party to the crime of possession with intent to deliver THC.

The pair were arrested Nov. 20 after their truck was stopped at the West Salem Safety and Weight Facility on eastbound Interstate 90.

Singh, described as "extremely edgy and nervous" by a Wisconsin State Patrol trooper, told authorities Corzo, his co-driver, threatened him, according to the criminal complaint. Singh also said Corzo had a gun and was using drugs, the complaint stated.

Corzo told a trooper he did not have any guns, illegal drugs or large amounts of cash in the truck, according to the complaint. Both consented to a search, the complaint stated.

Authorities located about 15 numbered cardboard boxes, some labeled as clothes, in the back of the trailer, according to the complaint.

A police drug dog stopped at one box, inside which authorities found two packages of marijuana covered with white contact paper and green plastic wrap, according to the complaint.

Authorities eventually unloaded 15 boxes containing 44 packages of marijuana, which weighed about 1,048 pounds, according to the complaint. It's thought to be one of the largest marijuana seizures ever in western Wisconsin.

The drugs have a street value of more than \$900,000, said La Crosse County Assistant District Attorney Brian Barton. The men had been headed to New York City area, authorities said.

La Crosse County Circuit Judge Elliott Levine continued the cases until Thursday to allow the pair to hire attorneys. Each are being held in the La Crosse County Jail on a \$100,000 cash bond.

Anne Jungen can be reached at (608) 791-8224 or ajungen@lacrossetribune.com.

All stories copyright 2000 - 2006 La Crosse Tribune and other attributed sources.

000413