



U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection

# CBP: Securing America's Borders



A SALUTE TO AMERICA'S FRONTLINE

## A message from the Commissioner

U.S. Customs and Border Protection secures America's borders 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 52 weeks a year. We never rest. We control access to the United States, keeping out the dangerous and illegal while welcoming legitimate visitors and commerce. This is a challenging task, as almost 1.2 million travelers enter the country on a typical day. Those seeking to enter the U.S. illegally are becoming more determined and sophisticated.

The following pages provide a glimpse of the important contributions the men and women of CBP make on a daily basis. Denying entry to someone with terrorist ties, thwarting aggressive drug smugglers, establishing container security protocols around the world, using high-tech equipment to scan incoming vehicles, and inspecting incoming plants for dangerous pests are all part of the job.

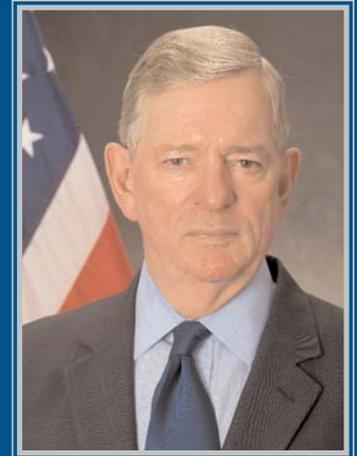
CBP is the largest uniformed law enforcement agency in the country. We station 18,000 officers at access points around the nation—land, air and sea ports. And we deploy more than 11,000 Border Patrol agents between ports of entry to prevent illegal entry. We supplement these forces with Air and Marine officers, agriculture specialists and other professionals. These men and women go through demanding and lengthy basic training and continual learning at their work posts, including advanced anti-terrorism training.

I am proud to be at the helm of CBP and to work with the men and women on the frontline. I hope you will join me in recognizing the dedication, professionalism and contributions of all CBP employees as they work each day to keep America secure and prospering.

W. Ralph Basham

COMMISSIONER

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION



## *On a typical day...*

### U.S. Customs and Border Protection

#### Processes:

- \* 1,181,605 passengers and pedestrians, including 630,976 aliens
- \* 69,370 truck, rail and sea containers
- \* 235,732 incoming international air passengers
- \* 71,858 passengers/crew arriving by ship
- \* 333,226 incoming privately owned vehicles
- \* 79,107 shipments of goods approved for entry
- \* \$81,834,298 in fees, duties and tariffs

#### Executes:

- \* 62 arrests at ports of entry
- \* 3,257 apprehensions between ports for illegal entry

#### Seizes:

- \* 2,187 pounds of narcotics in 65 seizures at ports of entry
- \* 3,354 pounds of narcotics in 20 seizures between ports of entry
- \* \$77,360 in undeclared or illicit currency and \$329,119 worth of fraudulent commercial merchandise at ports of entry
- \* 49 vehicles between ports of entry
- \* 1,145 prohibited meat, plant materials or animal products, including 147 agricultural pests at ports of entry

#### Refuses entry of:

- \* 868 non-citizens at our ports of entry
- \* 45 criminal aliens attempting to enter the United States

#### Intercepts:

- \* 206 fraudulent documents
- \* 146 smuggled aliens
- \* 1.5 travelers for terrorism/national security concerns

#### Rescues:

- \* 7 illegal crossers in distress or dangerous conditions between ports of entry

#### Deploys:

- \* 1,192 canine enforcement teams
- \* 8,075 vehicles, 263 aircraft, 200 watercraft and 202 equestrian patrols

*Based on fiscal year 2005 data*

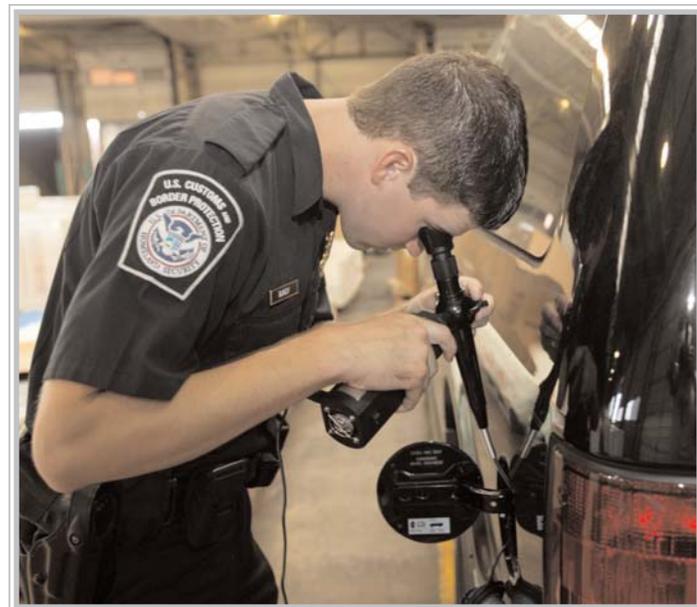
## U.S. Customs and Border Protection—

### Protects more than:

- ★ 5,000 miles of border with Canada
- ★ 1,900 miles of border with Mexico
- ★ 95,000 miles of shoreline

### Employs approximately:

- ★ 42,000 employees, including
- ★ 18,000 officers
- ★ 11,300 Border Patrol agents
- ★ 1,800 agriculture specialists
- ★ 651 Air and Marine officers and 500 pilots



### Manages:

- ★ 325 ports of entry
- ★ 142 Border Patrol stations within 20 sectors, with 33 permanent checkpoints

### Utilizes technology:

- ★ Non-Intrusive Inspection equipment that allows rapid screening of incoming vehicles and vessels, including Radiation Portal Monitors that screen for terrorist weapons
- ★ Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System, that allows CBP officers to quickly check national fingerprint databases to identify wanted criminals
- ★ Unmanned Aerial Vehicles that allow for efficient monitoring of desolate areas and quick resolution of alarms on the border

*Based on fiscal year 2005 data*

## Success stories from the frontline of protecting America

Every day, in locations as prominent as John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York and as anonymous as the vast area surrounding the Sweetgrass port of entry in Montana, the men and women of U.S. Customs and Border Protection demonstrate the determination and alertness necessary to keep America safe. With 42,000 employees spread throughout the world, it is easy to lose sight of the impact of the thousands of decisions and actions taken each hour.

### **Here are just a few CBP frontline stories from 2005:**

#### **Border Security**

*CBP's priority mission is to prevent terrorists and their weapons from entering the United States. On a typical day, CBP apprehends more than 3,300 people for attempting to enter the country illegally or for other crimes. CBP deploys 18,000 officers at 325 points of entry, including land, air and sea ports, as well as more than 11,000 Border Patrol agents charged with securing almost 7,000 miles of border between ports of entry.*

★ **Arrested known terrorist at border.** A CBP officer's alertness led to the arrest of an individual in Detroit for conspiring to provide material support to terrorists and conspiracy to kill, kidnap or maim persons against him. On March 27, 2005 a CBP officer identified an individual who was a possible match to two terrorist related records. She contacted the Joint Terrorism Task Force who sent an FBI agent to arrest the passenger. Due to the officer's perseverance, a known terrorist was successfully apprehended.



★ **Denied entry to PLO weapons smuggler wanted for murder.**

A Border Patrol agent in Alamogordo, N. M. did a records check of a suspect and received a positive response from the National Targeting Center, the Interagency Border Inspection System and the FBI. Records indicated an extensive criminal history that included smuggling weapons to the Palestine Liberation Organization in Lebanon and the murder of Libyan dissidents in the United States. CBP's National Targeting Center advised that the subject was on the terrorist watch list and provided FBI and Arizona State ID numbers. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Albuquerque and the FBI charged the subject with conspiracy to traffic in explosive devices/firearms. He was arrested and is awaiting deportation proceedings.

★ **Denied entry to a suicide bomber.** Ra'ed Mansour al-Banna was denied entry by U. S. Customs and Border Protection Officers at O'Hare Airport in July 2003 after arriving on a flight from Amsterdam's Schipol Airport. He was a 30-year-old Jordanian national who had a genuine Jordanian passport and a genuine and valid B1/B2 visa. He was not on any terrorist watch list. He was interviewed by CBP because he presented multiple terrorist risk factors, and after questioning by CBP officers in secondary screening, his stated purpose for entry was determined to be insufficient. He was denied entry and detained until the next flight back to the Netherlands the following day. Often we don't know for sure whether such an individual is actually a terrorist, but in 2005 we learned that al-Banna was not only a terrorist, he was a suicidal jihadi terrorist seeking martyrdom. In February 2005, al-Banna drove a vehicle loaded with explosives into a Shi'ite City, about 60 miles from Baghdad, where he blew himself up, and murdered 132 innocent Iraqis. In terms of loss of life, that was the largest single terrorist attack perpetrated in Iraq since the fall of Saddam Hussein.

★ **Denied entry into the U.S. of 493 arriving passengers due to terror-related indicators.** These indicators can range from inclusion on intelligence-generated watch lists to inconsistent responses to questions posed by CBP officers.

★ **Helped train Iraqi police.** CBP officers and Border Patrol agents trained Iraqi border police in an effort to help secure Iraq's borders. The focus was to keep saboteurs, terrorists and armaments from crossing into or out of Iraq.

★ **Launched Secure Border Initiative.** With support and coordination from the White House and the Department of Homeland Security, CBP stepped up enforcement at the southern border aided by more agents, better technology and strengthened infrastructure. The initiative, outlined by Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff, also targets expedited removal of illegal aliens, enforcement of hiring laws and provision of a guest worker program.

★ **Increased operational control of the southwestern border.** The Arizona Border Control Initiative is a layered approach used to gain operational control of the southwestern



U.S.-Mexico border. It consists of placing additional agents on the ground, using specialized teams and rapid-response capabilities, increasing the use of detection technology, improving infrastructure along border areas and increasing cooperation with local, state, tribal, law enforcement entities, as well as with the Mexican and Canadian governments.

- ★ **Increased use of smart technology to patrol the borders.** During 2005 CBP procured the first civilian Unmanned Aerial Vehicle to patrol borders and is also using radiation detection technology, remote cameras and sensors, and global positioning technology to expand the capabilities of CBP Border Patrol agents. The unmanned plane flying in the Tucson, Ariz. sector has been involved in the apprehension of over 1,000 illegal aliens and also has assisted in the interdiction of over 400 pounds of narcotics.
- ★ **Apprehended nearly 20,000 criminal aliens trying to enter the country.** Using high-tech, comprehensive tools, CBP is able to screen incoming aliens for criminal involvement. There are numerous examples, such as on October 17, 2005 when CBP Border Patrol agents assigned to the Nogales Border Patrol Station arrested Felix Soriano-Guerrero, a 32-year-old illegal alien from Morelos, Mexico. A CBP fingerprint search revealed he had a criminal record in New York. Soriano was sought for questioning in connection with a 1998 murder. NYPD Detectives and an Assistant District Attorney for New York County interviewed the suspect and were able to secure an arrest warrant for Soriano for second-degree murder. These tools allowed CBP to prevent more than 500 murder suspects from entering the U.S. during FY 2005.



- ★ **Identified California murder suspect.** During the early morning hours of December 4, 2005 Douglas Border Patrol agents apprehended a group of 19 illegal aliens east of the Douglas port of entry. At the processing station, all of the subjects' fingerprints were entered into the IAFIS. One, Jose Medina-Castañeda, a 43-year-old Mexican national who was illegally in the United States, was identified as having an outstanding felony warrant for murder/homicide in Los Angeles.
- ★ **Rescued 21 people from extreme desert heat.** On September 25, 2005 Border Patrol agents responded by helicopter to a call that indicated a large group of aliens were in danger in a remote Sonoran Desert location near Yuma, Ariz. Upon arrival to the scene, they encountered a group of illegal aliens in distress, some suffering from extreme dehydration. They immediately evaluated, medically treated, and evacuated 21 illegal aliens, including one infant and one 2-year-old child. Their brave actions averted a certain death for these people. During 2005, the Border Patrol rescued more than 2,500 individuals from similar dire circumstances.



★ **Detector dog earned national recognition.** “Jacko,” an eight-year-old Belgian Malinois, won the Paws to Recognize tribute to working dogs in August. Trained and handled by Border Patrol Agent Clay Thomas, the pair works the Marfa, Texas region. During their six years together, the team has alerted to 218 concealed humans, 33,700 pounds of marijuana, 816 pounds of cocaine, 10 pounds of heroin and \$444,000 in currency.

★ **Fully implemented the Automated Fingerprint Identification System,** now operational in every Border Patrol station throughout the country. This first year of operation resulted in the identification of more than 133,900 individuals with a criminal history attempting an illegal border crossing. Of this group more than 500 had been accused of violent crimes.

*Each day CBP meets the challenge of facilitating legitimate commerce while securing our ports from those who may wish to do us harm. This challenge is being met with unprecedented global cooperation, ambitious technological solutions and the alertness of CBP inspectors throughout the world, effectively extending our borders globally. During fiscal year 2005, CBP collected just under \$30 billion in fees, duties and tariffs.*

★ **CBP is the second largest revenue generator in the federal government.**

★ **Increased enrollment in its global container security program.** During 2005, CBP saw a growth in participation in its Container Security Initiative. The program enables CBP to enter into bilateral partnerships to target and pre-screen high-risk cargo containers before they are loaded on vessels destined for the United States. Last year saw the 44th foreign

## Trade

port become operational, which means 25 administrations in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and North and South America have committed to the CSI program. Approximately 75 percent of all maritime containers shipped to the United States are being screened through cooperating CSI ports.

★ **Led the World Customs Organization to adopt global security standards.** During 2005 the World Customs Organization unanimously adopted a Framework of Standards to Secure Global Trade, which was championed by CBP. The Framework establishes a common set of standards to be implemented by 168 member nations to secure international maritime cargo. Standards are based on commonly held security principles that have already been implemented in other CBP programs. Other international federations, including the European Union, European Community, and the G8, have also adopted resolutions to implement security measures included in CBP secure cargo programs.

★ **Improved security levels in its government-business partnership program.** The Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism progressed in fiscal year '05 to become the largest government/private partnership to arise from the terror attacks of 2001. More than 10,000 private-sector members have applied for the program with thus far 6,000 accepted after meeting minimum-security criteria. The voluntary partnership provides increased security of the international supply chain by clearly defining minimum-security requirement for international importers. In turn, participating members get expedited screening of their goods and receive ongoing training on current issues in supply chain security.



## Agriculture inspections program

*CBP prevents the introduction of harmful pests into the United States that would cripple or destroy segments of our farming or food production industry. Today CBP agricultural specialists are trained to prevent the entry of organisms that could be used for biological warfare. These specialists also are prepared to protect against the introduction of such harmful diseases as Avian Flu.*

- ★ **Prevented entry of tree-destroying beetles.** An agriculture specialist boarded a cargo plane arriving from Sweden and noticed missing markings on wood packing. On further inspection, the specialist discovered numerous adult beetles and beetle larvae crawling within the wood. Laboratory inspection revealed the beetles to be a high-risk pest capable of destroying whole forests. This action may have saved millions of dollars of commerce and eradication costs.
- ★ **A CBP officer averted threat to U.S. potato crop.** A CBP officer at the Raleigh-Durham (N.C.) Airport on November 4, 2005 was inspecting passengers arriving from London and referred one to a CBP agriculture specialist for a secondary inspection. The Death's Head Hawk moth was discovered during inspection of the passenger's luggage. This is the first recorded interception of the Death's Head Hawk moth in the U.S. A widespread infestation of these larvae could infect potatoes and result in severe agricultural and economic problems.
- ★ **A CBP officer prevented introduction of destructive fruit pest.** In February 2005 at the New York Container Terminal in Staten Island, N.Y., CBP agriculture specialists discovered a shipment that had a manifest showing dried dates, but which in fact was fresh fruit. Agriculture specialists found live larvae



## Travel Facilitation

*The United States is a welcoming nation, and CBP takes seriously its role as America's first entry. CBP welcomes all eligible international visitors and did so more than 430 million times during fiscal year 2005.*

- ★ **Increased the number of lanes and updated the identification technology** used in the Secure Electronic Network for Travelers Rapid Inspection (SENTRI) program at the California ports of entry at San Ysidro and Otay Mesa. This program incorporates radio frequency identification technology.
- ★ **Enrolled more than 23,000 “trusted travelers”** into the Free and Secure Trade (FAST) program of drivers frequently entering through northern and southern ports of entry.
- ★ **Partnered with State Department to modernize international travel.** A new initiative was conceived and is underway to enhance our ability to welcome international travelers by improving technology, improving travel documents to make them more secure, and adopting policies and forging partnerships to make passenger screening more accurate and efficient. CBP is working to develop a “model port” design to help standardize all new enhancements.



feeding on the fruit and indications of a substantial and active population of what was thought to be Coleoptera, a beetle-like insect. It was later positively identified as a significant insect pest in the Far East, but fortunately, not yet an agricultural pest known in this country. This pest is known as one of the most destructive pests of pome fruits (apples, pears, quince) in the Far East.





## CBP personnel gave their all to aid hurricane victims

In late August 2005, Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast and a desperate call went out for emergency assistance. Many of the men and women of CBP were already on their way to the decimated region.

Amid the suffering and the chaos, CBP personnel were asked to step into the breach to help save lives and ease suffering. And to every request, there was but one answer: *“Whatever it takes.”* CBP conducted almost 1,500 search and rescue, law enforcement and recovery missions.



## *“Whatever it takes.”*

Rescued more than 300 people. Found a way to restore emergency communications in New Orleans. Provided clothing to hundreds of thousands of evacuees. Checked on CBP and Homeland Security brethren.

## *“Whatever it takes.”*

Ignored the heat, the stench and the dangerous conditions. Shrugged off the fact that you just lost your home and all your possessions to the storm in order to help others.

## *“Whatever it takes.”*

Many remained on the job for more than a month, until the last request had been answered.

“CBP will never abandon a post until properly relieved,” said William Heffelfinger, command center commanding officer and Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations, to his troops as they prepared to leave the Gulf coast. “You were asked to accomplish a mission, you stood up, stood proud and you accomplished your mission. So, you should go home feeling good. You’ve done what was asked of you and even more. This is an unprecedented event in CBP’s history. We’ve done it together: blue, green and tan. I’m very proud of you.”



## ***‘Our best asset, our strongest resource’***

*This year brought some significant challenges, most notably in the form of unprecedented and devastating hurricanes that stretched our existing capabilities beyond the breaking point. As a result of both the changes and the challenges, we see once again what an enormous opportunity but also an enormous responsibility we have, as we fashion this still-young department, and as we help it to mature as quickly as we can into the department that will serve the country for the balance of the 21st century.*



*What is our best asset, our strongest resource? Well, I'm happy to say there's no question that it is the over 180,000 men and women who I am proud to call my coworkers in the field of homeland security. I have had a chance in the last 10 months to get out and about and meet and talk to and shake hands with literally thousands of men and women who serve the nation at the Department of Homeland Security from sea to shining sea, in the air, on land, and in Coast Guard cutters on both oceans.*

*For me, the true spirit of DHS is summed up by some of the individual stories of what our men and women have accomplished in this last year. Such as Border Patrol Agent Raymond Rivera, who risked his own life in a joint operation to break apart human smuggling rings in Nogales, Arizona. His actions led to the arrests of more than 100 illegal migrants, the seizure of more than 50 vehicles, and more than two-dozen felony prosecutions.*

*Agent Rivera, and thousands more like him, represent the best of this department. They are professional, they are tireless, they are dedicated, and all of them have made tremendous personal sacrifices for a cause greater than themselves.*

*To all of my colleagues gathered here today and to those stationed all around the country and overseas, I want to thank you for your hard work during the year 2005.*

– Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff

DECEMBER 20, 2005

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.



# U.S. Customs and Border Protection

## Mission Statement

- ★ *We are the guardians of our nation's borders. We are America's frontline.*
- ★ *We safeguard the American homeland at and beyond our borders.*
- ★ *We protect the American public against terrorists and the instruments of terror.*
- ★ *We steadfastly enforce the laws of the United States while fostering our nation's economic security through lawful international trade and travel.*
- ★ *We serve the American public with vigilance, integrity and professionalism.*