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3rd suspected smuggling van found this week

By COLLEEN SLEVIN

DENVER — Three times this week, authorities have arrested suspected immigrant smugglers who limped up to the people to minimize and handed them through the Colorado mountains, apparently bound for the Midwest or eastern states in search of jobs.

In the latest case, two people were arrested and 14 people were turned over to immigration authorities after their mission was hindered by traffic Friday near the Eisenhower Tunnel on Interstate 76. In another, five people were arrested and 12 others were turned over to the Mexican Consulate in Denver after their mission had stopped west of Denver because of a mechanical problem, Clear Creek County Sheriff Don Kroeger said.

Jorge Trejillo Gonzalez, 35, of Trinidad, Colo., and Reynaldo Valdez Pacheco, 30, of Trinidad, Colo., are accused of sharing driving duties in the investigation of human smuggling and other charges, officials said.

In Friday's case, a minivan packed with 16 people was pulled over by a state trooper near the east portal of the Eisenhower Tunnel because it was

only traveling 40 mph and its windows were obscured, State Patrol Master Trooper Ron Walden said. The 2005 Chevy Astro van was reported stolen from North Carolina, he said.

Two people from that van were being held for investigation, Kroeger said.

All three vans were in Clear Creek County, which is crossed by highway. Smugglers often travel the backway to deliver passengers, but they also take secondary highways if they're worried about enforcement, Kroeger said.

All the passengers in the three vans are believed to be illegal immigrants from Mexico. The six people who are believed to have been driving at some point could be charged with a new state law that makes it a crime to transport illegal immigrants for money. It's also a federal crime.

"The U.S. Attorney is working in cooperation with state and federal investigators as well as the state prosecutor to determine what the charges should be," U.S. Attorney's spokesman Jeff Donohue said. Sen. Peter Goff, a Denver Democrat who sponsored the law change, said he hasn't heard

New Air Force radio frequency can jam garage door openers

By ROBERT WALKER

DENVER — If only Strada hopes her remote-control garage door opener isn't a national security threat, but it just working this week when a top secret Air Force facility in Colorado Springs began using that same frequency for homeland security.

Handfuls of other door openers also were affected until the Air Force shut down the signal, Capt. Tracy Giles of the 3rd Space Wing said. The Air Force plans to use the frequency to communicate with first responders in the event of a homeland security threat.

"They have turned it off to be good neighbors. The experts are taking a look at what to do," he said.

An estimated 50 million garage door openers use the frequency, although technically the Air Force has the right to use it. The Air Force began using the frequency nearly three years ago at some bases, and there were conflicts in some areas, but mostly only during initial test

they had the same problem. My husband just retired from the Air Force so we had a pretty good idea what was going on."

More annoying, she said, "I hope we haven't caused any problems with our nation's security."

David MacIntyre, whose Colorado Springs began using that same frequency for homeland security, also was affected until the Air Force shut down the signal. Capt. Tracy Giles of the 3rd Space Wing said the Air Force plans to use the frequency to communicate with first responders in the event of a homeland security threat.

"They have turned it off to be good neighbors. The experts are taking a look at what to do," he said.

He said the Air Force may be able to slightly adjust the transmission frequency to solve the problem. If not, it will cost homeowners about \$200 to have new units installed.

"If I get security people are willing to pay a little money and they will not push about it," he said.

"The military has the right to use that frequency. It is a sign of ingenuity and a lot better sent out by the Pentagon. People need to understand," he said.

David Meredith's opener was knocked out by the test but he said a dealer's helper hit. "The test level, so I got nothing else to do," he said.

His friend, Dewey Reinhold, said he wishes his garage door opener was not in the area during the test. "I was in the area during the test, but I was not in the area during the test," he said.

Investigators to talk to father of missing nurse's daughter

By The Associated Press

GREEN — A man who fathered the daughter of a missing Air Force nurse has agreed to talk to police after initially refusing authorities said.

Jefferson County sheriff's deputies said they will talk to the father of the missing nurse, who is believed to be in the state of Texas, where he lives.

to pay medical expenses for the mother and \$200 a month in child support. Bexar County court records show Walker is taking care of the girl.

Texas authorities said the dispute over custody and money was not the first between Walker and Deaton. Walker called Holly-wood Park, Texas, police to his

home on June 22, 2006, because Deaton refused to give, according to a police report.

"There's no dispute in my mind. There's way too much money out there to not be out there all the time," he said.

Agency wants removal of Klamath Dams considered in relicensing

By APT BARNARD

GRANTS PASS, Ore. — The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission should analyze removing all four hydroelectric dams on the Klamath River to help smugling address, say the federal agency in charge of relicensing them.

In comments on the commission's initial look at relicensing the agency dams, NOAA Fisheries said FERC's approach to a full environmental impact statement violated federal law requiring analysis of a full range of alternatives.

PacificCorp, which serves 16 million customers in its western states, is seeking new operating licenses for the Iron Gate, J.C. Boyle, Copco No. 1 and Copco

No. 2 dams, which produce about 30 megawatts of power, enough to serve 70,000 customers.

Friday was the deadline for responses to FERC's initial look at what changes would be required to relicense the dams. A parallel negotiation process to reach a deal on the dams is under way involving PacificCorp, conservation fishermen and other groups and farmers.

A report for the California Energy Commission said PacificCorp could save \$91 million over the 30 years by removing the dams and buying renewable power, rather than upgrading the dams and reducing power production to meet modern standards for fish protection.

The report by consultants M. David & Associates, Calif., said cost estimates from state and federal agencies.

It found that upgrading to protect salmon, such as fish ladders and screens, will cost \$90 million more than removing the dams. Dam removal would reduce power production by 25 percent, and limit the dam's flexibility to provide power during peak periods.

The report also cites that replacing the power over the 30 years will range from \$24 million to \$30 million, and removing the dams will cost \$90 million.

In hopes of making a breakthrough on a negotiating agreement on relicensing the dams, PacificCorp proposed to buy

downstream dams, and some would be traded toward J.C. Boyle and Copco No. 2.

The new plan calls for installing fish screens on the four dams so that juvenile salmon and steelhead can pass downstream to the ocean, and building a new fish ladder at J.C. Boyle Dam, the furthest upstream dam on the electricity producer.

Adult salmon returning to spawn would be tracked around the three

downstream dams, and some would be traded toward J.C. Boyle and Copco No. 2.

The company's proposal is day underscores both its willingness to compromise and its desire to reach a common understanding with the federal agencies on these important issues to ensure successful restoration of fish

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