

Immigration agents round up 84 in Pacific Northwest

By GENE JOHNSON
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Immigration agents rounded up 84 people — including 60 with criminal records — during a three-day operation in Washington, Oregon and Alaska, authorities said Thursday.

The operation ended Monday and targeted criminals residing in the U.S. illegally, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Seattle field office said in a statement.

It was the region's biggest immigration roundup in recent memory. Last summer,

agents arrested 19 people in a similar sweep in northwestern Washington state.

Those arrested included 77 men and seven women from 12 countries, the vast majority of them from Mexico. Nineteen had drunken driving convictions, and 14 had been convicted of assault, sex offenses or domestic violence. Some will be prosecuted for illegally re-entering the country while the rest face deportation proceedings.

"This operation highlights our commitment to promoting public safety through the pursuit of targeted criminals residing

in the U.S. illegally," Bryan Wilcox, acting field office director ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations in Seattle, said in the release.

Among those arrested was Francisco J. Rodriguez Dominguez, a participant in a federal program designed to protect from deportation those who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children. Rodriguez Dominguez was brought to the U.S. from Morelia, in Mexico's Michoacan state, at age 5.

Last December, he entered a diversion program following a drunken driving arrest and had attended all

his court dates and required meetings, according to the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon, which publicized his arrest earlier.

The organization suggested Rodriguez' arrest represented an erosion of protections under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program amid President Donald Trump's call to boost deportations.

ICE said it targeted him because of the DUI. The Department of Homeland Security can terminate DACA status if it determines someone is a risk to public safety.

Rose Richeson, an ICE

spokeswoman, said she did not have information on whether anyone else arrested in the operation had participated in DACA. She referred an inquiry to Sharon Rummery, a spokeswoman for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, who also said she did not have the information.

Also among those arrested was a previously deported Mexican man who had been charged with child rape, and who was recently released from custody by a local jurisdiction despite a detainer request by the agency. ICE said he was arrested in the Seattle area, but the agency

declined to release further information about him.

Many jurisdictions in the Northwest refuse to honor immigration detainer requests after a federal court in Oregon ruled in 2014 that it's unconstitutional to hold people without a warrant after they would have otherwise been released.

An immigration detainer — essentially a request that a local jail hold someone in custody until ICE can pick them up and begin deportation proceedings — is not backed by a probable cause finding and doesn't satisfy that legal requirement, the court said.

Workers demolish site of Hanford mishap

By NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS
Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. — Workers at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in Washington state have finished demolishing the site of a famous nuclear accident during the Cold War that exposed a man to the highest dose of radiation from the plutonium byproduct americium ever recorded, the U.S. Department of Energy announced Thursday.



McCluskey

The McCluskey Room was named for Harold McCluskey, who in 1976 survived the horrifying accident and died 11 years later of unrelated causes after becoming known as the Atomic Man.

A contractor recently demolished the room — the first of four main buildings that made up the Plutonium Finishing Plant complex that will be torn down.

"Completing demolition on this building was years in the making and is both historic and a significant risk reduction," said Tom Teynor, project director for the Department of Energy.



AP Photo/File

This 1976 file photo shows a room in which particles of radioactive material and glass flew into on the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in Richland, Wash., injuring one and exposing nine others to radioactivity.

Hanford, located in southeastern Washington, began making most of the plutonium for the nation's nuclear arsenal during World War II.

Plutonium production has ended and the site is now engaged in a massive cleanup of nuclear waste. That work is expected to take decades and cost tens of billions of dollars.

One of the most heavily contaminated portions of the site — half the size of Rhode Island — is the Plutonium Finishing Plant, where

plutonium was converted into hockey puck-shaped disks and shipped to factories where nuclear weapons were assembled.

The 64-year-old McCluskey was working in the plant on Aug. 30, 1976, when a chemical reaction in his glove box produced an explosion that blew out the glass and contaminated him. A glove box is a device in which people use large gloves to handle dangerous materials that are under glass.

McCluskey was exposed to 500 times the occupational

standard for americium-241. He was struck by a mixture of nitric acid, broken glass, americium and other materials.

After the explosion, he had his clothing removed, was washed with water and transferred to a decontamination facility where he was washed again and given medicine to purge the radioactivity.

Because of the risk of exposure to other individuals, McCluskey was placed in isolation in the Hanford Emergency Decontamination Facility for five months.

By then, his body's radiation count had fallen by about 80 percent and he was released.

McCluskey's friends avoided him, and his minister finally had to tell people it was safe to be around him.

McCluskey largely avoided the media, but he did speak in favor of developing nuclear power.

He died on Aug. 17, 1987, at 75, of coronary artery disease. He had the disease before the accident, and an autopsy found no signs of cancer.

Following the 1976 explosion, the facility never operated again.

The Energy Department said its contractor, CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Co., should complete demolition of the entire Plutonium Finishing Plant by September.

Pot advocates hope Wyden's support a sign of federal legalization

By JEFF MAPES
Oregon Public Broadcasting

Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden is becoming an all-out supporter of protecting and promoting the legal marijuana industry and its consumers.

Wyden, the top Democrat on the powerful Senate Finance Committee, joined Rep. Earl Blumenauer, D-Oregon, and several other lawmakers in backing a series of pro-marijuana bills that were introduced Monday.

"What we're doing here is pulling together an approach that deals with all of the major problems we're hearing about," Wyden said in a conference call with Blumenauer from Washington, D.C., Thursday. He cited "the problems faced by marijuana businesses, medical marijuana researchers, people legally consuming marijuana. With our bill, people won't be committing federal crimes if they follow state marijuana laws."

Wyden has defended Oregon's right to legalize

marijuana ever since voters agreed to do so in 2014. In particular, he focused on seeking to remove federal restrictions preventing cannabis businesses from using banking services and deducting expenses from their taxes.

In this new package of bills, Wyden for the first time supports removing federal criminal penalties for all users, both recreational and medicinal.

He is also now in favor of completely removing marijuana from the federal list of controlled drugs. And for the first time, he backs establishing a federal tax on marijuana sales.

Robert Capecchi, director of federal policies for the Marijuana Policy Project, said Wyden's support could be important for the legalization movement.

"Mr. Wyden's a little more cautious on these issues than others," Capecchi said, "so having him come around and support this is a sign that this is not an issue that one has to be cautious about."

Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

EAST OREGONIAN

— Founded Oct. 16, 1875 —

211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton 541-276-2211
333 E. Main St., Hermiston 541-567-6211
Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed major holidays

www.eastoregonian.com

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East Oregonian (USPS 164-980) is published daily except Sunday, Monday and Dec. 25, by the EO Media Group, 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801. Periodicals postage paid at Pendleton, OR. Postmaster: send address changes to East Oregonian, 211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801. Copyright © 2017, EO Media Group

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Single copy price:

\$1 Tuesday through Friday, \$1.50 Saturday

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Advertising Services: Laura Jensen
541-966-0806 • ljensen@eastoregonian.com

Multimedia Consultants:
• Terri Briggs
541-278-2678 • tbriggs@eastoregonian.com

• Danni Halladay
541-278-2683 • dhalladay@eastoregonian.com

• Jeanne Jewett
541-564-4531 • jjewett@eastoregonian.com

• Stephanie Newsom
541-278-2687 • snewsom@eastoregonian.com

• Dayle Stinson
541-278-2670 • dstinson@eastoregonian.com

• Audra Workman
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COMMERCIAL PRINTING
Production Manager: Mike Jensen
541-215-0824 • mjensen@eastoregonian.com

AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Abundant sunshine	Times of clouds and sun	Times of clouds and sun	Partly sunny	Increasing cloudiness

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
56°	39°	62°	39°	58°
39°	62°	39°	58°	36°
54°	34°	61°	38°	

HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
62°	40°	67°	39°	63°
40°	67°	39°	63°	37°
58°	32°	63°	40°	

ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m., yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	52°	40°
Normals	58°	37°
Records	79° (1964)	19° (1936)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.01"
Month to date 2.35"
Normal month to date 1.40"
Year to date 6.27"
Last year to date 3.94"
Normal year to date 3.91"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m., yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	59°	43°
Normals	61°	37°
Records	79° (2003)	16° (1954)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.04"
Month to date 1.47"
Normal month to date 0.85"
Year to date 4.93"
Last year to date 2.70"
Normal year to date 3.09"

SUN AND MOON

	First	Full	Last	New
Sunrise today	6:37 a.m.			
Sunset tonight		7:22 p.m.		
Moonrise today		9:11 a.m.		
Moonset today		11:59 p.m.		

Apr 3 Apr 10 Apr 19 Apr 26

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	53	45	pc	54	41	c
Baker City	55	29	s	60	28	pc
Bend	53	34	s	61	35	c
Brookings	59	46	s	62	48	pc
Burns	52	26	s	60	30	pc
Enterprise	49	26	pc	53	28	c
Eugene	58	41	pc	60	40	c
Heppner	55	35	s	60	33	c
Hermiston	62	40	s	67	39	pc
John Day	54	31	s	59	33	c
Klamath Falls	57	31	s	63	34	pc
La Grande	53	30	s	58	32	pc
Meacham	51	28	s	58	32	c
Medford	63	41	pc	68	45	pc
Newport	52	43	pc	53	40	c
North Bend	56	44	pc	58	43	c
Ontario	63	36	s	65	40	c
Pasco	62	43	s	67	39	pc
Pendleton	56	39	s	62	39	pc
Portland	58	43	pc	59	41	c
Redmond	55	32	s	63	31	c
Salem	59	42	pc	62	39	c
Spokane	56	39	s	56	35	c
Ukiah	49	27	s	56	28	c
Vancouver	57	44	pc	58	40	c
Walla Walla	56	44	s	61	42	c
Yakima	64	39	s	67	38	c

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	63	41	pc	72	38	pc
Hong Kong	75	60	t	74	63	s
Jerusalem	67	47	sh	63	48	t
London	61	46	t	59	44	t
Mexico City	82	49	s	83	49	t
Moscow	36	24	sn	40	34	pc
Paris	64	47	t	60	43	sh
Rome	68	46	t	67	50	pc
Seoul	56	39	r	56	35	pc
Sydney	70	61	pc	74	63	pc
Tokyo	53	43	r	50	43	r

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Saturday
Boardman	WSW 4-8	WSW 7-14
Pendleton	WNW 4-8	WSW 8-16

UV INDEX TODAY

0 3 5 5 3 0

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

National Summary: Snow will blanket parts of the northeastern United States today. Rain will soak the Ohio Valley and mid-Atlantic while showers and thunderstorms, some severe, sweep across the Southeast.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 94° in El Centro, Calif. Low 17° in Watertown, N.Y.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	59	35	c	53	36	c
Atlanta	73	52	c	76	52	s
Atlanta City	51	45	r	49	39	pc
Baltimore	58	48	r	57	40	pc
Billings	49	36	r	61	44	pc
Birmingham	74	50	c	77	52	s
Boise	60	35	c	61	38	pc
Boston	38	32	c	38	30	sn
Charleston, SC	82	56	t	82	52	s
Charleston, WV	62	47	r	56	39	c
Chicago	44	33	r	55	37	pc
Cleveland	60	38	r	50	34	c
Dallas	86	59	s	80	63	t
Denver	43	26	r	39	25	sn
Detroit	49	37	r	55	34	pc
El Paso	77	47	s	66	46	pc
Fairbanks	45	21	pc	48	23	pc
Fargo	56	37	pc	57	40	c
Honolulu	85	73	pc	85	72	pc
Houston	87	65	s	84	69	s
Indianapolis	53	38	sh	54	39	pc
Jacksonville	87	54	c	85	54	s
Kansas City	55	40	c	57	48	c
Las Vegas	70	56	pc	77	57	s
Little Rock	74	49	s	75	55	pc
Los Angeles	73	53	s	77	55	s
Louisville	58	44	c	61	43	pc
Memphis	72	50	pc	73	56	s
Miami	86	70	pc	88	69	pc
Millwaukee	44	33	r	51	36	pc
Minneapolis	53	35	pc	60	39	c
Nashville	64	43	c	68	45	pc
New Orleans	81	62	s	83	67	pc
New York City	43	37	r	45	36	r
Oklahoma City	71	50	s	69	53	t
Omaha	54	36	c	54	44	c
Philadelphia	50	43	r	53	38	pc
St. Louis	71	53	s	76	56	s
Portland, ME	40	31	c	36	29	sn
Providence	39	35	sn	40	30	r
Raleigh	74					