

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

IN ANSWERING REFER TO

No. 5091/710

MAIL AND FILES

OFFICE OF DISTRICT DIRECTOR

EL PASO, TEX.

DEC -9 1927

December 6, 1927.

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Commissioner General of Immigration,
Washington, D. C.

There are transmitted herewith copies of a report made by Patrol Inspector Jerome A. Martin, under date of the 1st instant, from which it appears that on that date he and certain other patrol inspectors were fired upon by liquor smugglers encountered on the river near El Paso, Texas; that the officers returned the fire, and that apparently no casualties resulted.



S. C. Wilmoth
District Director.

EC
Incl. 33845.

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(Signed) G. C. Wilmoth.

District Director.

GCW

EC

Incl. 33845.

El Paso, Texas.
December 1, 1927.

Chief Patrol Inspector.
U.S.I.S. Border Patrol.
El Paso, Texas.

This date, Patrol Inspectors Melton R. Rogers and George W. Parker, Jr., and the writer were assigned to duty in the Stand Pipes District of the City of El Paso. At about 6:00 p.m. we gained a position about 100 yards below the stand pipes, a point where the smugglers usually cross the River. In a few minutes we saw two persons come into the water from the Mexican side of the River with large packages on their backs. We then slipped along the edge of the water down-stream towards the point where the smugglers were apparently coming out. When we were about 40 yards from the smugglers, they evidently saw us and dropped the sacks into the water. We then called to them to halt and advised them that we were FEDERAL OFFICERS. They immediately turned and ran back to Mexico. At the time we challenged them they started running back to Mexico, some person opened fire upon us from the Mexican side. There were a number of shots fired from the Mexican side. We returned the fire, firing about ten shots. In about fifteen minutes after everything became quiet, we went down to the point where we saw the smugglers drop their contraband and found three sacks of liquor which contained one four and one half gallon can of Sotol and sixty pints of whiskey, three of which were broken.

The above mentioned contraband was immediately conveyed to Border Patrol Headquarters by Senior Patrol Inspector Chester C. Courtney who arrived on the scene at about 6:30 p.m. It is not believed by the officers involved that any casualties resulted at the time referred to.

JEROME A. MARTIN,
Patrol Inspector.

4013/

OFFICIAL COPY hereof, in sextuplicate, respectfully furnished the District Director, U. S. Immigration Service, El Paso, Texas, for his information and file. He is further advised that the liquor herewith mentioned was delivered on the 2d instant to Mounted Customs Inspector C. R. Rogers and his receipt taken for same.

Nick D. Collaer,
Chief Patrol Inspector.

WCJ

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EC