

Van carrying 17 illegal aliens crashes

A van carrying at least 17 illegal aliens plummeted down a 200 ft. embankment on a back-country road near Fallbrook yesterday.

Six persons suffered major injuries and were taken by Coast Guard helicopter to Naval Hospital.

The California Highway Patrol said the accident was reported at 5:15 p.m. by the state Division of For-

estry headquarters in the area.

The van apparently went out of control on a section of the Tenaja Truck Trail west of De Luz Rd., a rugged, twisting unpaved road officers say is frequently used by illegal alien smugglers to avoid a U.S. Border Patrol checkpoint at Temecula.

Ranchers in the area who alerted forestry personnel to the accident reported seeing three persons flee from the wreckage.

The 17 were among more than 4,570 illegals apprehended by Border Patrol agents in the San Diego County area over the three-day Memorial Day weekend, a Border Patrol spokesman said.

State forestry personnel dispatched to the scene gave emergency aid to the accident victims. A Border

Patrol agent, who arrived later, assisted rescue teams as an interpreter.

Emergency medical technicians determined the six most critically injured should be airlifted to a hos-

pital without delay and called in the Coast Guard helicopter.

A number of other victims were taken to Fallbrook Hospital in ambulances.

Carrier ends Thailand visit

PATTAYA, Thailand (UPI) — The first U.S. aircraft carrier ever to make a port call in Thailand cleared this resort today, leaving merchants about \$1 million richer.

U.S. and Thai diplomatic and military sources said the six-day visit of the San Diego-based Constellation

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