

T O R R A N C E

Press Release
Police Department

**“English Major Bandit” and Partner Arrested
for a Series of Southern California Bank
Robberies
DR# 070014567**

On March 2, 2007, at approximately 9:45 AM, Torrance Police detectives arrested two suspects believed to be responsible for at least 20 bank robberies occurring throughout Southern California since early December 2006. The Torrance detectives arrested the suspects after observing the pair casing the Wells Fargo Bank located at the corner of Lincoln and 6th Avenues in the city of Corona.

Torrance Police became involved in this widespread investigation when two banks were robbed within minutes of each other in Torrance on Saturday, February 17, 2007. Torrance detectives immediately began working to identify the involved suspect or suspects. Evidence from the Torrance robberies enabled detectives to identify people of interest and, ultimately, led to the two suspects, 41-year old Robert Armijo and 45-year old Gary Cruz, both of Long Beach, who were arrested today. Investigators believe Armijo is the suspect the FBI dubbed the “English Major Bandit.”

Armijo and Cruz, both of whom are currently on parole, are being held on suspicion of committing the 20 bank robberies as well as today’s attempted bank robbery.

The investigation continues under the direction of Captain Marc Wilkins, Special Operations Bureau Commander.

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