

Police seize 900 pounds of marijuana

ARREST

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Smith said that the Carmel house was a "stash pad" and the center of one facet of an ongoing criminal conspiracy.

Stavin, who said that further arrests were anticipated, added that the Lockwood Lane home was owned by "an absentee owner" from the New York City area. The home's precise location on Lockwood Lane, a backwoods part of the town, was not given.

Giuliano, an employee of the Command Performance hairdressing chain, and Hall, operator of the Randy Attack Dogs company in the Bronx, were arraigned before Carmel Town Justice Henry Fury Friday morning and remanded to Putnam County Jail in Carmel. At a bail hearing at 2:45 p.m. Friday at the Putnam County Courthouse, Fury set bail of \$75,000 each.

A preliminary felony hearing is scheduled for 1 p.m. Monday in Carmel Town Court.

Giuliano and Hall were represented at the bail hearing by Joseph Benfante of the New York City law firm of Jennings, Benfante and Fisherman

By ED WALZER
Staff Writer

State lawmen Friday seized approximately \$500,000 worth of marijuana from an isolated Carmel home and arrested two men said to be connected to a nationwide narcotics ring.

Officials of the state Organized Crime Task Force said Friday that 937 pounds of marijuana, with a street value of \$500,000, had been confiscated in an early morning raid on a Lockwood Lane house in the northwest corner of Carmel.

Stephen Giuliano, 34, of Milford, Conn., and Randall Hall, 35, of the Bronx, were charged with first-degree criminal possession of marijuana, a class C felony punishable by up to 15 years in prison.

Richard Stavin, a member of the state attorney general's office, said that Giuliano and Hall

were arrested at about 1 a.m. Friday while they were driving north on the Taconic State Parkway. Immediately after the arrests, state police assigned to the state task force and from the Troop K barracks in Hawthorne armed with a search warrant entered the Lockwood Lane residence and discovered the marijuana, said Stavin who directed the raid.

Police refused to explain why the suspects were arrested when the evidence against them was in another location.

According to a statement by task force director Ralph Smith, the Friday raid was "the tip of the iceberg of a multi-million dollar narcotic distribution network that spreads coast to coast."

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