



Zen Zion Coptic Orthodox Church

Press Release
April 21st, 2002

Yesterday, at the Cannabis Community's annual 4-20 celebration, Jah performed an apparent miracle to protect His chosen people.

Because of police harassment at last year's event, there was great tension and fear among the hundreds of cannabis lovers flooding into Roosevelt Park following their Memorial March in honor of our community's recently departed spiritual leader, Hippee Jack. It was just barely past 2:00 p.m. and the park was already filling with celebrants as the marchers arrived. There was a massive police presence in the park, with dozens of police cars, the police mobile substation, mounted police, bike police, undercover bike police, undercover operatives and even an apparent undercover barbecue truck. But there was no reaction by the police as the crowd proceeded unmolested, as if invisible.

Now we know why. Jah must have obscured their vision to protect us from their wrath because neither the police nor the media saw all of us. Even now, though they have tapes that have been aired on TV showing the multitudes in the park, they still report our gathering as attended by fewer than 100 people.

After their early evening newscast's inaccurate estimate, we notified KRQE that we had passed out over 500 leaflets to celebrants in the park, without ever giving one to the same person twice and really not hitting but a third of the people we saw. Yet, when the 10:00 news came on, showing the same footage of the gathering we know was made up of around 1,000 people, the reporters continued to claim they saw only a crowd of a tenth that size.

The police came to the same conclusion and most of them, thankfully, left our peaceful event before its climactic 4:20 Grand Circle. We found out later that they went to protect the populous from the "unpredictable" anti-war protesters at one of the gates into the base. The three uniformed officers who were left to monitor the "dozens" of cannabis celebrants at Roosevelt spent most of their time wandering the far perimeter, where their cars had blocked park entrances, and the undercovers sat talking amongst themselves. The celebrants were unharmed and, evidently, unnoticed.

¡Jah is Great!