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# Is the Government a Partner in Red China's Death Trade?

*For some mysterious reason, the Nixon Administration  
is lying to the people about imports of opium and  
heroin from Red China*

BY KENNETH JOHNS

HOW MUCH of President Nixon's re-election was engineered by "blood money" from the Red Chinese narcotics "death trade?" This is the question that many observers are asking as they speculate about the sources of the large sums of money contributed to Nixon's campaign committee whose donors were not publicly identified.

The informed guess is that these sums were payoffs from those who control the traffic in opium. Several Washington correspondents pointed out that the "missing item" not discussed by President Nixon and Chinese Communist leaders during the meetings earlier this year was the question of stopping the deadly shipments of heroin and its source material, opium, from the China mainland.

The rapidly growing number of dope addicts is considered by experts to be the number one danger to this country's health and internal security.

Extremely suspicious also is the repetition of statements about stopping the flow of opium from Turkey. This country grows only a small part of total world production, about 400 tons, compared to 1,000 tons in Southeast Asia and an estimated 10,000 tons in Red China.

A substantial part of world produc-

tion ends up in the United States to supply its estimated 600,000 heroin addicts. Yet, the Nixon Administration and its spokesmen constantly play down or deny the existence of large imports, especially from China.

Noteworthy also is the fact that while official pronouncements are made deploring the "evil" from President Nixon down, the Nixon Administration has assigned *only ten agents to all of Asia* to intercept shipments. As one expert put it, "If he's [Nixon] really interested in stopping the flow he would see that the CIA, FBI and other agencies assign 500 to Hong Kong, 500 to Bangkok and 500 to Saigon. These are the major trans-shipment points to the U.S. This would make a dent in the supplies reaching the U.S."

See No Evil, Hear No Evil . . .

Preposterous as it may sound, the Administration's *official policy is that no heroin or opium comes from Red China*. Why this outright lie in the face of what all experts and foreign government officials know is not so?

Red China's involvement in the opium traffic has been known to informed people, both in and out of government, for years. One of the first government experts to point out the existence of the "death trade" was Harry J. Anslinger, director of the Bureau of Narcotics from 1949 to 1962. In 1955 he told the Senate Judiciary Committee

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that "Red China has singled out the United States as a primary target for its illicit traffic in opium and heroin." In his 1961 book, *The Murderers*, he warned that "large quantities of heroin have reached the United States from Communist China."

Later, in an address to the United Nations, Mr. Anslinger stated: "The Communist regime of mainland China is distributing drugs abroad and selling heroin and opium in large quantities to the free countries of the world."

In 1964, Harry L. Giordano (Anslinger's successor as head of the federal narcotics office) testified before Congress that Red China was still supplying the major part of the world's illicit traffic in hard drugs.

In 1969, President Lyndon B. Johnson "reorganized" the narcotics office (it became Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs) and Giordano and 50 of his toughest operatives around the world were dismissed. As pointed out in *THE AMERICAN MERCURY* ("The Communists' Most Powerful Weapon," Fall, 1972), the reorganization, ostensibly for "efficiency," actually weakened America's defenses against the flow of narcotics.

**More Proof of Traffic**

In December 1961, Lawrence Sullivan, Coordinator of Information for the U.S. House of Representatives, said: "For the first time in human history, the systematic production and distribution of narcotic drugs has become an organized government monopoly in Red China. In ten years, Mao Tse-tung has built up a virtual monopoly in opium, heroin and morphine."

In November 1971, the Australian Citizens for Freedom published a pamphlet in which it was reported that "at least 65 per cent of the world's illicit narcotics come from the Communist occupied Chinese mainland." The Australian organization estimated that export sales of the Maoist drugs exceeded \$800 million annually.

Stanton Candlin, former senior intelligence officer of the British Ministry of Defense, and now a U.S. citizen, accused the Chinese Communist regime of sending illegal drugs into the U.S. as "psychological-chemical warfare." In an interview with United Press International he said "the Chinese regard us as an enemy country. They have designs on us and regard drugs as a weapon of war."

Candlin said he received evidence of Peking's drug export program during a

visit to the Far East about ten years ago. He said the Red regime has enormously increased poppy production in the southern province of Yunnan.

In March 1972 Candlin was invited by Rep. Philip M. Crane (R.-Ill.) to tape a discussion on the Red Chinese dope traffic for broadcast on Crane's weekly television show. Crane, who visited the Far East with Congressional groups in 1970 and again in 1971, said he got inklings during the trips that the Peking regime plays a role in the U.S. drug problem. He has found it hard to get official U.S. documentation. "There seems to be an Administration view either that the problem doesn't exist or, if it does exist, they don't want to talk about it," Crane said.

According to a report published in London in April 1972, the Chinese Communist regime exports illicitly 2,000 tons of opium annually to the non-Communist world. The traffic is estimated to be worth \$500 million. The 24-page report (printed as a booklet) was written by James Turnbull after years of extensive research and study. It was published by the Foreign Affairs Publishing Co. Ltd. of Richmond, Surrey, England.

According to the booklet, one of the first significant reports about the Maoist drug offensive appeared in the Soviet newspaper, *Pravda*, on September 13, 1964. Written by a Soviet correspondent in Tokyo, based on first-hand observations in Peking and supported by statements of the Japanese National Narcotics Committee, the article charged the Peking regime with being the "biggest opium, morphine, and heroin producer in the world."

According to Table 6 of the booklet, the Chinese Communists have cultivated a total of 368,700 hectares for opium production. Based on an estimated average yield of 5 kilograms (11 pounds) per hectare, the Maoist opium farms produce 1,843,500 kilograms (4 million pounds) annually. Table 6 indicates that the biggest opium farms are located in Yunnan, Kwangsi and Kweichow provinces in Southwest China.

A report by the Committee for a Free China concludes that the Peking government is deeply involved in drug traffic, especially in Vietnam and throughout the rest of Asia. It claims that Chou En-lai once boasted to Egypt's late Gamal Abdel Nasser that "we are planting the best kinds of opium especially for Americans."

The report quotes Dr. Stefan Posony of the Hoover Institution (Stanford

University): "Between two-thirds and four-fifths of the high grade heroin sold on the international market is and can only be supplied by mainland China."

**Eleven Thousand Tons!**

How much of the heroin reaching the U.S. actually comes from Red China itself and how much from the so-called "Golden Triangle" (a mountain wilderness where Thailand, Burma and Laos meet) is debatable. There is little doubt that a substantial part of the estimated 10,000 tons of opium produced by China and shipped to the Free World lands in the United States. And, much of the 1,000 tons produced annually in the Golden Triangle, once going mainly into Vietnam, is now going to the U.S. The 1,000 tons is 600 tons more than Turkey produced before it was bought off by U.S. multi-million-dollar grants to cease growing the poppy.

So here again is revealed the duplicity of government officials and the "cooperating" newspapers who constantly rant about the Turkish shipment of 400 tons (to all of the world, not just the U.S.) and say nothing about the 11,000 tons or more shipped out from Red China and Southeast Asia.

**Government Deceit**

Despite the widespread knowledge of the Red Chinese narcotic traffic and proof from so many reliable sources, the Nixon Administration has refused to acknowledge the fact that Red China is the major source of world opium and heroin.

In August 1972 President Nixon's Committee on International Narcotics barefacedly said that "there is no reliable evidence that China has either engaged in or sanctioned the illicit export of opium and its derivatives."

*This is an outrageous lie and the people who compose the Committee know it is. They cannot be that ignorant. The deliberate deceit is part of the "let's be nice to the Red Chinese" theme set by President Nixon and his co-conspirator, Henry Kissinger.*

Similarly, the Committee's statement that 80 percent of the heroin marketed in the U.S. comes from Turkey, is an outright fabrication.

The United States, the world's largest consumer of opium (in the heroin form), uses at least a third of the world's estimated production of 11,000

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tons or so. Even assuming that all of the Turkish production of 400 tons comes to the U.S., where does the remaining 3,000 to 4,000 tons come from? No, the 80 percent does not come from Turkey, but from Red China — *the only source it could come from* as reiterated by expert after expert.

The deception is deliberate. By propagandizing the lie that Turkey supplies most of U.S. heroin and that the supply is being shut off, the non-heroin using public is lulled into complacency that is evident in recent opinion surveys. In reply to a question by a reporter, one "ordinary citizen" said: "Sure, it's been a problem, but the government got it under control. Once the Turks stop growing the stuff, the dope addicts won't be able to get it."

That's exactly the kind of Pavlovian conditioned nonsense the Nixon Administration wants. Yes, some of the Turkish supply has already been cut off and this has created a shortage (especially on the East Coast) and raised the prices for the Red Chinese and Southeast Asian supplies which are now pouring in ever-increasing quantities through San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle and Vancouver.

So who is benefiting from the higher prices? Those who control the traffic. Could it be the Nixon Administration and its Central Intelligence Agency? CIA's involvement in the heroin traffic has been so well documented by at least a half dozen investigators that its denial is no longer believed by knowledgeable Americans. *The CIA is in the narcotic traffic.*

There is considerable evidence that CIA's "private airline," Air America, has helped transport heroin in Southeast Asia. In a book *The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia*, published recently, Arthur W. McCoy raised the question of whether CIA operatives knowingly engaged in such traffic to help maintain alliances. More specifically, McCoy accuses officials in governments of U.S. allies in Southeast Asia—particularly in Saigon—of profiting from the traffic.

Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D.-N.Y.) says that "despite disclaimers by the CIA, many of us in Congress have serious reason to believe the agency is indeed complicit in the trafficking of deadly heroin to our servicemen in Southeast Asia. Newsmen clandestinely entering the secret CIA base at Long

Cheng in Laos have reported raw opium openly piled up for sale in the market there. In addition, we know that the CIA regularly supplies arms, transportation and funds for drug-producing hill tribes in Laos and Thailand in exchange for their allegiance, knowing full well that these tribesmen are cornerstones of the drug trade. Most Congressmen have little idea how the CIA operates and how much money it spends. The CIA budget is carefully disguised and hidden. In fact, a recent Senate Foreign Relations Committee report, "Laos, April 1971," reads like a jigsaw puzzle, with pieces 'deleted at the request of the Department of State, Department of Defense and Central Intelligence Agency.' Congress cannot prevent CIA involvement as long as we are deliberately kept in the dark about that agency's operations."

It is no coincidence that in his recent statements about cutting off "all American economic and military aid to any government whose leaders participate in or protect the drug traffic" (fine words, these!), President Nixon praised the CIA for its role in "fighting international drug traffic." It was obvious that he was trying to take the heat off the agency. He said the CIA has "performed superbly." That it did. But for whose benefit?

#### The Nixon Party Line

Key members of the Nixon Administration are echoing all the lies perpetrated by their leader. The transparency of the denials that vast quantities of Red Chinese opium and heroin get into the U.S. is evident everywhere. For example, in the private preparations for the Peking talks last May, Presidential adviser Henry Kissinger stressed that the raising of the heroin issue would create more problems than it would solve. This was reported by a number of Washington correspondents.

Even earlier, on October 14, 1971, the *Manchester Union Leader* quoted an official of the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs as saying, "The word is out — no one is to offer one bit of criticism on China's participation in the drug traffic — these are orders from the White House itself." He said he would "lose my job in 24 hours" if his name were disclosed.

Syndicated columnist Paul Scott writes that the Kissinger policy of keeping the China heroin threat under cover is supported by Secretary of State William Rogers. His department, which is playing up sources of heroin in Turkey,

Laos and Thailand, wants the whole question of controlling illegal drugs gradually turned over to the United Nations. He writes, "Administration insiders say the State Department's plan is part of a secret program of building up the UN's authority over health, population, and environmental problems in

order to create the framework for world government."

The duplicity is echoed even by lower-echelon bureaucrats. For example, in a recent interview (*U.S. News and World Report*, September 25, 1972), Nelson G. Gross, Senior Adviser, International Narcotics Matters, Department of State, said that "Production in Communist China, as far as we know, is utilized only for domestic medicinal purposes. *We have no reports of illicit export of opium from the mainland of China into other parts of the world in recent years.*"

This is an outright lie. Even as he was giving the interview U.S. agents were seizing small shipments in U.S. ports. Seizure of these shipments is apparently "window-dressing" to hide the vast big shipments permitted to go through. Thus \$500,000 worth of Chinese heroin was seized in New York (seven Chinese seamen), and \$1,000,000 in Miami (one Chinese seaman).

#### Hypocrisy Elsewhere

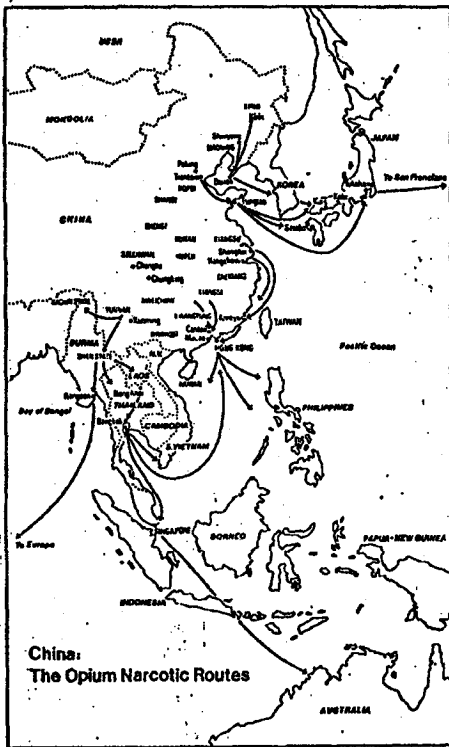
The hypocrisy evident in White House announcements is echoed in the actions of the United Nations and particularly of the Red Chinese delegation. In mid-May 1972, Wang Jun-shen, the Communist Chinese delegate, told the General Assembly that his country would assume a leadership role in the international effort to dampen illicit narcotic trading in the world.

Dripping crocodile tears, Wang deplored the "wrecked humanity resulting from drug use" and urged UN members to adopt tough policies toward drugs.

This touching regard for humanity comes from a representative of a regime that has murdered 34 million people during its short span of 23 years and is the world's leading producer of opium!

The hypocrisy of Wang is further evident in his continuing insistence that Communist China will not heed any UN policy that was established before its

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people crouch in the shadow of famine and the slave governments are meeting greater opposition from the down-trodden masses.

**Problem Can Be Solved**

In summary, all Americans ought to know that:

(1) The Nixon policy of fighting heroin traffic has the sole effect of raising the price and increasing the profits. Higher prices won't cut down demand which is fixed by the addict's craving. He will merely go out oftener and burglarize more to get more money. The average addict now needs from \$75 to \$125 a day to support his habit.

(2) The racket is internationally controlled, world-wide in scope and a billion dollar business. Of course it is controlled by the organized crime syndicate with political ties that are nourished by an ever-growing cascade of money. Only a fool can believe that it operates undetected by all of the world's police agencies. Obviously, the heroin racket is protected from the top down.

(3) This virulent menace must be squarely and honestly faced before it can be dealt with. First of all, the motives of those who are lying must be determined regardless of where the truth may lead. Then, the profit must be taken out of the heroin death racket by convicting the pushers and the higher-ups, no matter who, and sentenced to death.

admission last year. This would, of course, exempt the Red Chinese regime from the 1961 UN Convention on Drugs which establishes the tough controls on narcotics that Wang purports to support. The UN Convention on Drugs, like the pronouncements from the White House, are just so many fine-sounding words. There has been no concerted action to do anything.

As the Copley newspapers pointed out in an editorial, if Communist China wanted to do something about the illicit world opium trade it could stop it tomorrow—simply by ceasing its own activities in the field.

More important, the Nixon Administration — if it really wanted to — could stop the Red China trade merely by refusing economic aid promised during the May encounter between Nixon and Mao Tse-tung. Red China — like Soviet Russia — is in trouble. Its regimented