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Drug Enforcement Administration
Office of Intelligence

DEA SENSITIVE



Special Report

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Iberian Peninsula

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF INTELLIGENCE

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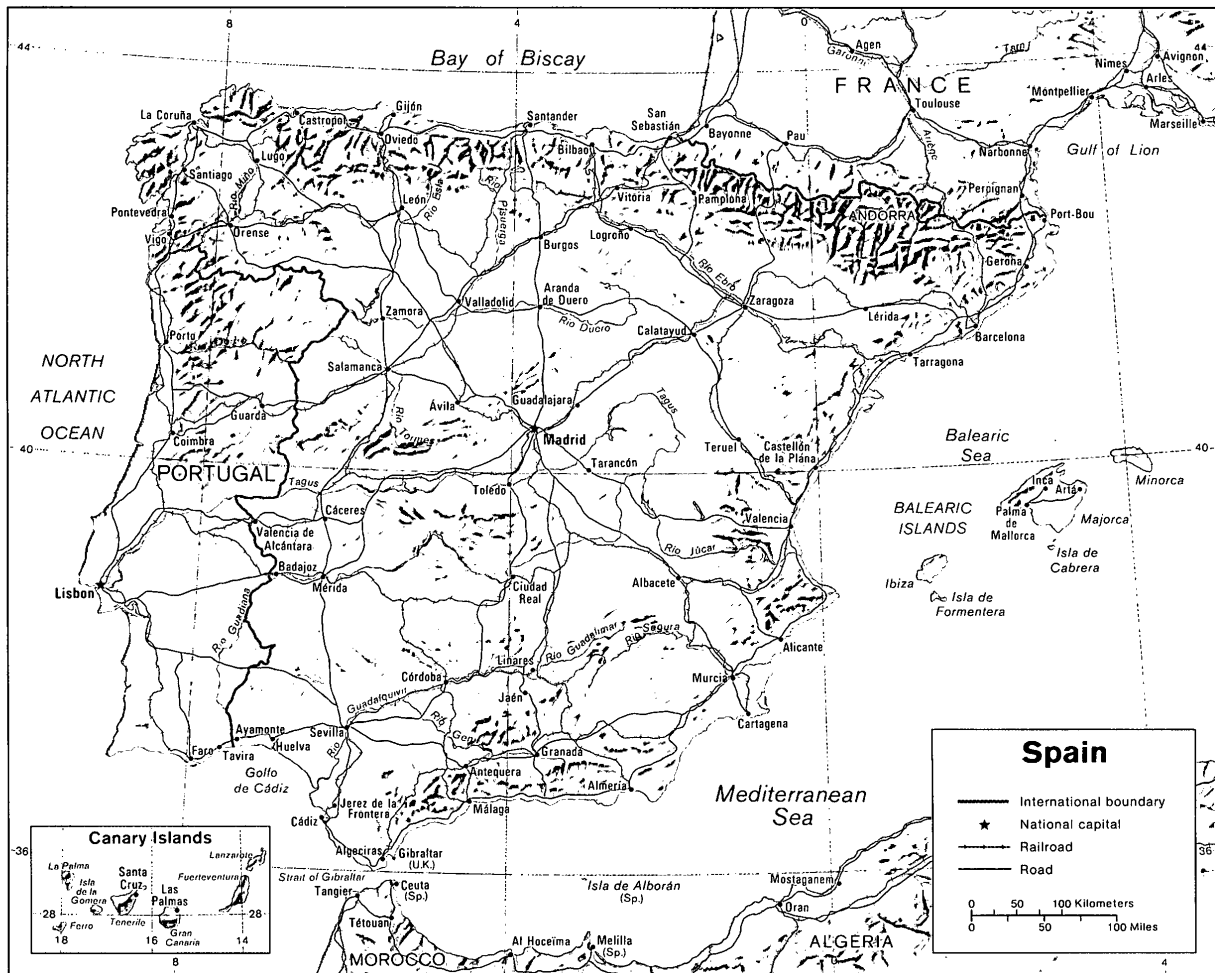
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COUNTRY PROFILE

SPAIN

Prepared by:
Drug Enforcement Administration
Office of Intelligence
Europe/Mideast Unit
March, 1987

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Caveat

Drug production, import/export, and consumption estimates contained herein may be preliminary and are not intended for use in testimony, speeches, or for public dissemination. Data contained in the Narcotics Intelligence Estimate, published by the National Narcotics Intelligence Consumers Committee, should be used for those purposes.

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DEA SENSITIVE**I. SYNOPSIS**

(U) Over the last few years, Spain has evolved into a major transshipment country for cocaine as well as for heroin and cannabis. Spain was the leading nation in Europe in the amount of cocaine seized in 1985, the seizures doubled in 1986, and all indications are that the country will continue to be a major nexus for the South American cocaine traffic into Europe. Spain's admission to the European Economic Community (EEC) as of January 1, 1986, will significantly contribute to an even larger role as a drug transfer and transshipment center, especially if the EEC proceeds with its plan to abolish all internal national borders by 1990. Correspondingly, Spain will probably experience an increase in its addict population.

(DS) The Spanish media reported that during the first six months of 1986, there were about 9,450 arrests, 3,000 more than the half-yearly average in 1985. During the same time period in 1986, about 243 kilograms (kg) of cocaine were confiscated whereas the figure for the half-year average in 1985 was 151 kg. The figures for LSD were 18,500 doses in the first six months of 1986 as compared to 3,069 for the half-year average in 1985; for hashish the figures were 22,000 kg in the first half of 1986 versus 17,680 kg for the half-year average in 1985.

II. COUNTRY DESCRIPTION

(U) The Spanish State (or Estado Espanol, the official name), occupies approximately five-sixths of the Iberian Peninsula in southwestern Europe. It borders France in the north and Portugal in the west. Spain, consisting of the Spanish Peninsula, the Canary and Balearic Islands (located in the Atlantic Ocean and in the Mediterranean Sea, respectively), and Spanish North Africa, encompasses an area of about 504,782 square kilometers (194,897 square miles), and has a combined population of approximately 39 million. Spanish North Africa consists of a few small enclaves in Morocco, the two major ones being Ceuta and Melilla. Ceuta has a population of approximately 68,822 (March 1984 figure), inhabiting 19.5 square kilometers. This duty-free port

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is located directly opposite Gibraltar. Melilla (encompassing an area of 12.5 square kilometers) and the three rocky islets of Penon de Velez, Penon de Alhucemas, and Chafarinas have a total population of 54,741 (March 1982 figure).

(U) The Spanish Peninsula is divided into 47 provinces (there are 50 provinces in the entire Spanish territory). The century-old regional divisions, however, are of much greater importance to Spain; so much so that the constitution promulgated in 1978 expressly recognizes and guarantees Spain's different nationalities and regions the right of autonomy. This regionalism has resulted in the development of different languages and cultures within the country.

(U) Spain has traditionally been ruled by kings, although the throne was vacant from 1931 to 1975. In 1939, Francisco Franco was named head of state. Generalissimo Franco solidified his rule during the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939) and emerged as absolute dictator, a role which he retained for most of the rest of his life. During his reign, political parties were outlawed in the country.

(U) In 1967, Spain held the first elections since the end of the Civil War. In 1969, Franco nominated Don Juan Carlos de Borbon y Borbon as chief of state designate. On November 22, 1975, two days after Franco's death, Juan Carlos was sworn in as king.

(U) The ascendancy of King Juan Carlos I facilitated numerous reforms, culminating in the promulgation of the constitution in 1978. The constitution confirmed Spain as a parliamentary monarchy (hereditary) with freedom for political parties. The King as head of state appoints the previously elected President of the government (Prime Minister). Legislative power is vested in the Cortes Generales (National Assembly) which consists of the Congress of Deputies and the Senate.

(U) The Spanish economy is heavily dependent on tourism. In 1985, about 42,000,000 tourists entered Spain. Madrid (the capital), Barcelona, Valencia, Seville, and Zaragoza are the largest cities in Spain (see page 21).

(DS) Many of the tourists visiting Spain go to the Costa del Sol and the Balearic and Canary Islands where marijuana and hashish are readily available.

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DEA SENSITIVE**III. COUNTRY BACKGROUND**

(DS) Spain has traditionally been a transshipment country for various illicit drugs ultimately destined for Europe and the United States. The use of the seaport of Barcelona by the "French Connection" as a port of entry for Turkish morphine base in the late 1960's and early 1970's, elevated Spain's importance as a transit point for drugs. The morphine base was subsequently re-routed to French heroin laboratories and was returned to Barcelona after processing. The final product, heroin, was then transported either directly to the United States or via Latin America. The members of the trafficking organizations operating in Spain during this time period were primarily French, French-Corsican, Italian, South and United States American.

(DS) Spain remained throughout the 1970's primarily a transit country. After the French Connection network was dismantled, the majority of this traffic involved Moroccan hashish destined for the United States and Western Europe. Hashish was generally smuggled in large quantities (500 to 2,000 kg) on ships (private yachts and mothership-type operations). Both the Balearic and Canary Islands as well as Gibraltar were regularly used as refueling and resupply points by the traffickers. Most of the organizations involved in these ventures were made up of foreign nationals, primarily from the Netherlands, the United States, West Germany, Belgium, and the United Kingdom.

IV. STATUS IN INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC

(DS) In the last six years, however, significant changes have occurred. Spain is increasingly used as a base of operations by members of heroin, cocaine, and hashish cartels. Networks dealing with the importation and distribution of drugs increasingly consist of Spanish nationals. In a parallel development, Spain also has emerged as a consumer nation with a heroin

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addiction rate of epidemic proportions, according to Spanish officials. Ten years ago, heroin abuse was virtually non-existent.

(DS) The July 1983 revision of the Spanish Penal Code, which in effect decriminalized the possession of all drugs for personal use by those 18 years and older, as well as the de-emphasis of drug enforcement due to escalating terrorist activities, enhanced the country's role as a refuge for narcotics traffickers, primarily Sicilian-Italians, Central and South Americans.

(DS) In April 1984, three major Sicilian Mafia members, who had invested millions of dollars derived from the illicit drug trade in a hotel and real estate in the Alicante area, were arrested in Madrid. Gerona, Barcelona, Castellon, and Malaga (see page 21) are also suspected of being centers for money laundering operations.

(DS) Iranian, Nigerian, Colombian, Lebanese, Chinese, Italian, and Sri Lankan groups, among others, utilize Spain as either a base of operation or as a transit point. Most of these groups are affiliated with other organizations located in major European countries as well as in North and South America. Although the majority of these organizations handle only one specific drug, several are trafficking in multiple drugs.

(U) Sri Lankans, Turks, and Pakistanis are increasingly involved in narcotic trafficking, both domestically and internationally. They appear to be concentrated in Madrid and Barcelona. Barcelona also has a large concentration of Nigerian traffickers.

(DS) The South American trafficking groups located in Spain have not only been involved in cocaine trafficking but also in kidnappings, robberies, and extortion. Spanish officials consider these groups to be highly organized and sophisticated. Close cultural and linguistic ties between Spain and South America, in addition to excellent direct commercial air connections, have contributed to Spain's role as the primary European entry point for couriers smuggling cocaine.

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DEA SENSITIVE**V. LICIT PRODUCTION**

(U) The opium poppy ("Papaver somniferum") is legally cultivated in Spain. In 1983, 6,297 hectares of poppy were authorized for planting, but only 3,350 hectares were actually planted. In 1984, 6,691 hectares were authorized; again, only an estimated 5,829 were planted. In 1985, 6,000 hectares were authorized, but only 4,046 were harvested. No information is currently available concerning the actual acreage of poppies planted in 1985 or 1986.

(DS) Poppies are planted either in October or early spring (March) and are harvested in June. Seville, Cadiz, and Cordoba (see page 21) are the major growing centers and produced practically all of the 1985 crop.

(U) At Toledo, Spain (see page 21), the poppy straw is converted into pharmaceutical products, poppy seed oil, and seeds for the baking industry. In 1982, the latest available figure, yields were 320 to 500 kg of straw per acre.

(DS) Governmental ministries involved in the licit production have traditionally been and continue to be very protective of production and export figures, as well as amounts consumed internally. The control exercised by the Spanish Government concerning the opium poppy plant is, however, considered sufficient.

(DS) In 1985, the Spanish press reported that the appearance of spontaneous poppy crops on the outskirts of Madrid during the summer has become a common occurrence. In most instances, the seeds are apparently carried by wind or by birds from other parts of Spain where the plant is grown under governmental control.

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DEA SENSITIVE**VI. DRUGS OF ABUSE****A. Cocaine**

(DS) The amount of cocaine seized in Spain in 1986 was more than double the amount seized in 1985 (610 kg in 1986 and 302.5 kg in 1985). Unofficial estimates for cocaine addicts range from 50,000 to 100,000 for daily users to about half a million occasional users. Although this indicates a serious domestic abuse problem, Spain is also a major transshipment point for the drug. It is estimated that about 25 percent of all cocaine arriving in Spain is destined for Amsterdam in the Netherlands from where it is distributed to the rest of Europe and to the United States. Cocaine is also transshipped to Paris, France and Italy for domestic distribution.

(U) Spain is the ideal crossroad for all major drugs, especially cocaine. The country has dual-nationality arrangements with some Latin American countries, does not require visas for citizens of most of these countries, and has excellent direct flights to the South American continent.

(DS) Cocaine is imported mostly via commercial air carrier from South America. The couriers arrive in Madrid or Barcelona on direct flights from their home countries and generally conceal the drug in suitcases with either false sides or false bottoms. An estimated 52 kg of cocaine were seized in Barcelona alone during 1985.

(DS) Colombian couriers increasingly swallow the drugs contained in plastic bags of varying sizes. This method of concealment has been used sporadically since 1984-85 but is becoming more popular as it is difficult to detect at airports. During the first nine months of 1986, however, seven couriers using this method have been apprehended at Madrid's airport.

(DS) Cocaine is smuggled increasingly in multi-kilogram shipments. For example, according to the Spanish press, 7.3 kg of cocaine were seized in Barcelona in May 1986 in a single seizure. Over 22 kg of cocaine were seized

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in June 1986, concealed in three suitcases arriving from Caracas. The drugs originated in Colombia and were destined for Italy or Switzerland.

(U) Cocaine is also increasingly imported into Spain via vessel. In April 1985, for example, approximately 60 kgs of cocaine were found on board a Panamanian-registered vessel that had come from Colombia and was heading for the Azores.

(DS) In July 1986, approximately 80 kg of cocaine were seized from a Colombian cargo vessel at La Coruna, Spain (see page 21). This is the largest single seizure of cocaine made in Spain to date. According to a Colombian police source, the cocaine was originally destined for Houston, Texas, where heavy surveillance by U.S. Customs prevented offloading. The vessel, therefore, continued its trip to Spain.

(DS) In another case, Spanish authorities detected 16 kg of cocaine in straws that had been inserted into the corrugated openings in the sides of cardboard boxes which contained ceramic plates. These boxes had been shipped from Bogota to Madrid. A similar method is used by Nigerian traffickers sending heroin from Nigeria to Spain.

(DS) South American cocaine trafficking organizations also send couriers directly to Portugal. The couriers cross the border into Spain either by automobile or by train and then proceed to Amsterdam.

(U) Spanish authorities seized three cocaine processing laboratories in 1985. Imported cocaine base was refined into cocaine hydrochloride. In the laboratory confiscated in Gerona, Spain in October 1985, about 16 kg of pure cocaine were seized. Also seized were some coca leaves that had been imported from Peru. So far, no cocaine laboratory seizures have been reported for 1986.

B. Cannabis

(DS) Hashish is imported into Spain primarily from Morocco, the traditional source country, but also from Lebanon. Large shipments of hashish are smuggled by ocean-going vessels; it is believed that multi-ton quantities pass through Spain every year.

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(DS) Hashish originating in Morocco generally is transported on fishing boats. These boats approach the most deserted areas of the Spanish coast where the drugs are offloaded and then buried on the shores. The boats depart immediately. The next day, other members of the organization arrive and pick up the hashish, load it into private vehicles and take it to a safe place.

(DS) Spanish police seized about 2,000 kg of hashish in San Sebastian in June 1985. The drug was concealed in a container shipped from Beirut, Lebanon to the port of Valencia, Spain. From there, it was trucked to San Sebastian (see page 21).

(DS) Interpol information shows that about 600 kg of cannabis, originating in Morocco, were seized in one seizure near Malaga in March 1986. The drug was concealed in rental cars being shipped from Morocco to Malaga by ferry.

(U) The port of Algeciras (see page 21) was in the past a major transit area for cannabis smugglers who transported the drug concealed either in body cavities or on the body. The smugglers took the ferry from Ceuta on the North African coast to the Spanish mainland. Since the installation of a very efficient x-ray machine, the traffic has decreased significantly.

(DS) Spain is also used as a transshipment country for cannabis to other Western European countries. About 515 kg of cannabis obtained in Morocco were seized in April 1986 in Cadiz, Spain, concealed in a vehicle. The ultimate destination of the drug was Belgium.

(U) In August 1986, Spanish police succeeded in breaking up a hashish network operating between Morocco and the United Kingdom. The drugs were trafficked via the Costa del Sol in Spain. In this particular case, about 220 kg of hashish were seized by the Spanish authorities.

(DS) Interpol reports that about 665 kg of hashish were seized in October 1985 on board the vessel "Boreas" (Panamanian-registered). The drugs were presumably transferred to the vessel from another vessel on the high seas off the coast of Cyprus.

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(U) Thirty tons of marijuana were seized from the vessel "Lady K" in the Gulf of Cadiz in April 1985. The "Lady K" had arrived from Colombia and was heading for the Azores.

C. Heroin

(DS) The abuse of heroin has increased significantly in recent years. Currently, there are an estimated 100,000 heroin addicts in Spain. The country is a major transshipment point for heroin from Lebanon, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, and, to a smaller degree, from Thailand. Most of the heroin arrives in the country on commercial aircraft and is concealed on the courier's body. In some instances, the drug is shipped to Spain from Morocco on vessels. Spanish authorities are increasingly encountering large, multi-kilogram shipments of heroin.

(U) In September 1986, the Spanish police seized approximately 17.5 kg of heroin on the outskirts of Mostoles (located about 15 kilometers outside of Madrid), the biggest seizure in Spanish history. In this case, three Iranians were apprehended. In June 1986, police seized about 16 kg of pure heroin in Santander.

(DS) One of the main points of entry for the heroin is Barcelona's airport, El Prat. The drug arrives at El Prat after transshipment through other European cities, as there are often no direct flights from the country-of-origin to Spain. According to information provided by the Guardia Civil, 51.6 kg of heroin were seized in Barcelona alone in 1985.

(DS) Recently, Spanish authorities have encountered Nigerian heroin couriers arriving from Nigeria. Nigerian trafficking organizations import the heroin (mostly of Southwest Asian origin) into Spain via Nigerian couriers whose preferred method of concealment is in body cavities. These couriers generally arrive from Zurich, Switzerland and remain only long enough to expel the drug, which is commonly concealed in prophylactics. One apprehended Nigerian courier had succeeded in ingesting 150 of these prophylactics containing heroin. Another method of shipment involves

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the insertion of tiny straws containing heroin in corrugated paper used to protect shipments, generally of commercial products, from Nigeria.

(DS) Barcelona and Madrid are also popular transit and destination points for Pakistani organizations smuggling heroin either to other European countries or to the United States. In February 1985, a Pakistani-run heroin laboratory was discovered by the Spanish police. The police seized one kilogram of pure heroin and enough morphine base and opium to produce an additional 6 kg. Altogether, three Pakistani heroin laboratories were discovered by Spanish authorities in 1985.

(DS) Iranian, Syrian, and Lebanese communities have grown in Spain in recent years. There also has been an increase in courier activity and in the number of heroin distribution organizations among these ethnic groups. The smuggled heroin is often impregnated in towels, blankets, etc., and is extracted in Spain before final shipment to the United States.

(DS) Indian and Sri Lankan nationals are also engaged in the importation of heroin. In 1985, there was an increase in the number of Sri Lankan couriers apprehended in Spain. A large number of these Sri Lankans were identified as ethnic Tamils. They appear to have a regular supply of heroin from Bombay, India. Two Indians were apprehended in Madrid in February 1986 in the possession of over one kilogram of heroin. They had arrived on an Aeroflot (Soviet airline) flight. The point of embarkation has currently not been established by Western authorities. Southwest Asian (SWA) heroin has also in the past been mailed directly from India, concealed in packages containing ashtrays and pencils and similar items.

(DS) According to the Spanish press, Spanish authorities believe that officials assigned to the Syrian Embassy in Madrid are responsible for the importation of much of the domestically consumed heroin. A large amount of drugs was discovered in the car of a Syrian diplomat. Available press information also indicates that Spanish authorities have seized about 40 kg of heroin from the "Syrian connection" since 1982.

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(DS) Malaga, located on the Costa del Sol, also has turned into a major heroin point-of-entry within the past few years. In a ten-day period in 1985, about 18 kg of pure heroin were seized at Malaga's international airport, about three times the total heroin seized in Malaga in 1980. The couriers arrested at the airport were mostly from Thailand, Sri Lanka, India, and Pakistan. The entire Costa del Sol area was very quickly penetrated by drugs. In 1976, about 100 grams of heroin were seized in that region. As a comparison, in the first six months of 1985, about 26 kg were seized.

(DS) This dramatic increase is partly due to the region's strategic location across from Morocco. Heroin enters Spain from Morocco and, as a result, the city of La Linea de la Concepcion has some of the highest heroin consumption rates in Spain.

(DS) In addition, heroin, originally imported into Portugal from Macau, arrives in Spain via automobile or train.

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VII. SEIZURE STATISTICS

Seizures (kg)	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Heroin	34.0	67.6	109.3	102.5	252.6	386.0
Cocaine	47.1	113.6	275.1	149.3	302.5	610.0
Cannabis	20,925.0	27,626.0	20,842.0	19,653.6		
Hashish					35,354.0	45,424.0
Marijuana					26,777.6	75.0
Hashish Oil						137.5
Marijuana plants						2,205.0

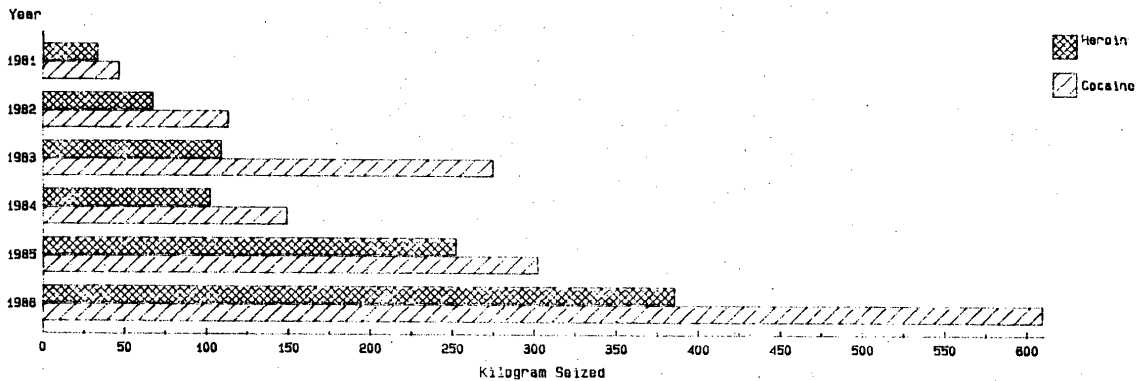
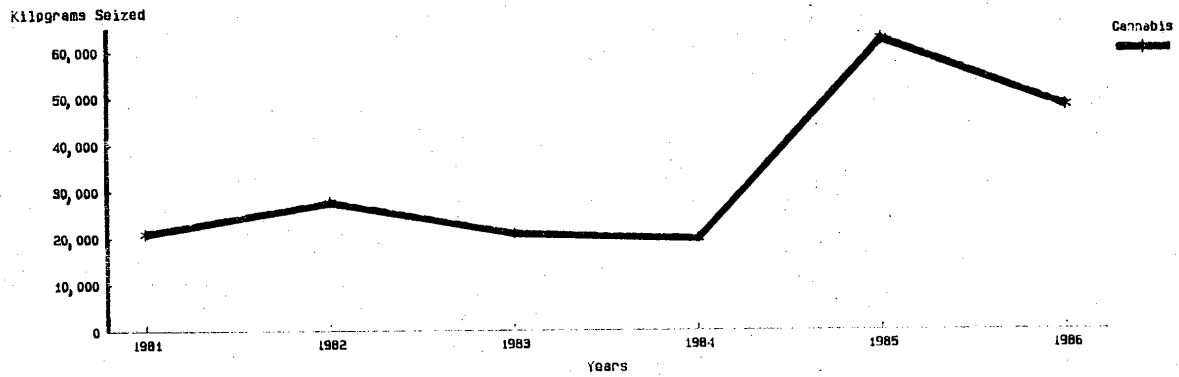
VIII. DRUG PRICES

	1985	
	<u>Wholesale</u>	<u>Retail</u>
Heroin	\$48,000/kg (10%-25%)	\$110-\$125/g
Cocaine	\$24,000/kg (30%-50%)	\$45-\$60/g
Hashish	\$890-\$1,750/kg	\$2.50/g
Hashish Oil	\$18,000/kg	
LSD		\$5-\$7/du

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ILLICIT DRUG SEIZURES IN SPAIN 1981 - 1986



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IX. INVOLVEMENT OF TERRORIST GROUPS

(DS) ETA (Euzkadi Ta Askatasuna - Basque Fatherland and Freedom) and GRAPO (Grupo de Resistencia Antifascista, Primero de Octubre - First of October Group of Anti-Fascist Resistance) are the two terrorist organizations operating in Spain. ETA is the most active and visible. Both groups have ties to other terrorist organizations, such as the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization) and the IRA (Irish Republican Army).

(U) ETA is an extremely militant Basque separatist guerrilla/terrorist organization. The group is divided into two factions, the Military Front (ETA-M) and the Political Military Front (ETA-PM). Their goal is to establish a fully independent Basque homeland. GRAPO, a Maoist, urban-oriented, anti-U.S. terrorist organization, is part of the Spanish Communist Party (a splinter group of the official Communist Party of Spain). GRAPO propounds armed insurrection as a means of instigating a popular war in order to overthrow the Spanish Government and to establish a proletarian dictatorship.

(DS) The main impact of both ETA and GRAPO is felt in northern Spain and the Basque area. There is no concrete evidence showing the involvement of these two terrorist groups in drug trafficking.

(DS) The elimination of these two groups is the highest priority for the Spanish Government. The major thrust of law enforcement activity is directed toward anti-terrorism and this has substantially reduced the assistance and support made available for narcotics enforcement.

(DS) The emergence of the Sri Lankan Liberation Movement in Spain is a recent phenomenon. Several members were arrested by Spanish authorities and multi-kilograms of heroin were seized. The authorities also uncovered a large amount of propaganda material in English enumerating the political goals of this group. Although on the surface this could substantiate claims that the Sri Lankan Liberation Movement is involved in drug trafficking in order to finance its activities,

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this literature could also serve as a decoy by identifying the bearer as a political refugee, should he come to the attention of the police authorities.

X. DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

(DS) The two major organizations involved in drug enforcement are the Brigada Central de Estupefacientes (Central Narcotics Brigade) of the Cuerpo Superior de Policia and the Antidrug Unit of the Guardia Civil.

(U) The Cuerpo Superior de Policia is under the Ministry of Interior and consists of plain clothes detectives. Its Central Narcotics Brigade is made up of 104 agents, 54 of whom are stationed in Madrid. It is the lead narcotics agency in Spain and has groups in all major cities. The Cuerpo Superior de Policia also has regional brigades, which in Madrid consist of about 35 individuals. Each regional brigade is responsible for a region consisting of three provinces. Such brigades are located in all major cities in Spain.

(U) The Guardia Civil is under the Ministry of Interior in peacetime and in wartime under the Ministry of Defense. It is a paramilitary law enforcement organization whose members generally are uniformed. The Guardia Civil is responsible for all law enforcement in the countryside and in municipalities with a population of 20,000 or less. The Guardia is divided into many different units such as anti-drug, anti-terrorist, anti-smuggling units, etc. The anti-drug unit consists of 40 men located in Madrid who are not uniformed and of several smaller groups in various other locations in the country. In October 1986, the Spanish Government announced that a civilian will be heading this paramilitary organization in the future.

(DS) Both the Cuerpo Superior de Policia and the Guardia Civil have, partly through training provided by DEA and other U.S. agencies, their own groups of instructors in the narcotic enforcement field who are considered quite competent.

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(DS) The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods (which controls the acreage allocated for planting of opium poppies) and the Ministry for Work, Health and Consumption (which is responsible for the control of the licitly produced narcotics and psychotropic substances, including the licensing for imports and exports), are in charge of the control of the licit drug production, sale, and export.

(U) The Spanish Customs plays a minimal role in drug interdiction. The Guardia Civil acts as the law enforcement arm of the Customs agency.

XI. LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

(DS) Since the revision of the Spanish narcotics law in 1983, drug addiction in Spain has quadrupled. Spanish police believe that 75 percent of all criminal activity is directly or indirectly attributable to the illicit drug traffic. Due to public pressure, the Spanish Government created the position of "anti-drug prosecutor," who acts as a coordinator for enforcement and rehabilitation activities.

(U) Spain has experienced an alarming surge in the crime rate since the narcotic law was changed. In 1976, only 3,660 cases of robbery with violence were reported. Statistics for 1985 reflect that there were 4,491 bank robberies and 51,176 robberies of persons in which violence or intimidation were utilized. There also were 790 reported homicides in 1985. About 16,000 people were arrested for drug violations in 1985; approximately 20 percent of those were foreigners.

(DS) The Spanish Government is currently considering an amendment to Article 344 of the Spanish Penal Code. Under this new amendment, prison sentences for minor crimes committed by drug addicts could be eliminated if the addicts would be willing to submit to drug treatment. The sentences for leaders of organizations or associations of drug traffickers and for those who introduce drugs into schools, jails, hospitals, etc., or induce minors to use drugs, would increase. The sale of

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adulterated drugs would become a crime and owners of public establishments permitting drug traffic in their buildings would be held accountable.

(DS) Sentences for the sale of both "hard" and "soft" drugs would increase. The legal provision, however, that possession of drugs for sale is a crime and possession of drugs for personal use is only an administrative infraction would be retained. The Ministry of Justice also intends to create a "fine fund." Money from economic sanctions imposed by judges on traffickers and money confiscated from them would be allocated to this fund. It is intended to help finance the treatment and the support centers for drug addicts.

(DS) The present Spanish narcotics law does not define minimum or maximum quantities of drugs considered for personal use. This is established by the trial judge in concert with the court psychiatrist, physician, and law enforcement officers.

(DS) Partly due to DEA's influence, the Spanish Government intends to include asset seizure laws in the upcoming revision of the narcotics law as well as in the proposed treaty with the United States governing high seas drug trafficking.

(U) On March 12, 1985, Spain, Sweden, France, and the United States signed an agreement concerning the transfer of prisoners to their home countries. Under this agreement, persons sentenced in one of the participating countries may be transferred to serve out their sentences in their home countries. The punishment, however, may not be changed by the receiving country. The agreement applies to all kinds of crimes including drug and drug-related crimes.

(U) Spain is a party to the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotics as well as the 1972 Amendments thereof, and the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic substances.

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DEA SENSITIVE**XII. DOMESTIC ADDICTION AND TREATMENT**

(DS) The Spanish Government is increasingly concerned about drug abuse. The most popular drugs are heroin, marijuana, and hashish, although the abuse of cocaine, amphetamines, and solvents is on the upswing. It is estimated that drug abuse has increased 100 percent since the liberalization of the narcotics laws. Rehabilitation and prevention programs are relatively new, and the Spanish Government as well as private institutions are now openly seeking assistance from many sources, including DEA and other U.S. governmental agencies as well as private agencies in the United States, such as Phoenix House and the Red Cross. The attitude of the Spanish public on drug abuse appears to be one of fear, disgust, and anger. The media has reflected the general feeling of the public and has taken a more active role in denouncing drug abuse and the lack of enforcement.

(U) A medical study undertaken by a member of a medical team in the Spanish anti-drug association announced in early 1985 that about 1.8 million Spaniards use derivatives of hashish, 913,000 take amphetamines, 760,000 sniff glue, 380,000 use cocaine, and 114,000 use heroin.

(U) These estimates compare to Spanish police estimates of more than 100,000 heroin addicts, more than 500,000 glue sniffers, and about 1.6 million cannabis users in 1985. According to public information, 143 deaths were attributed in 1985 to drug abuse, almost half of them involving people aged 19 to 25. This same group accounted for 38 percent of all drug arrests.

(U) The Spanish police estimate that there are approximately 30,000 heroin addicts in the Madrid area alone. In some parts of the city, young addicts can be seen selling hashish on the street in order to buy heroin.

(DS) Available information reflects that Spain has currently over 100 rehabilitation centers for drug addicts throughout the country. About 58 of these are therapeutic communities which are nearly all private and

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relatively expensive. Almost all, however, receive public subsidies. Spain also has about 68 ambulatory treatment centers, most of which are public and free of charge.

(DS) The Ayuda (Help) Association is one of the few organizations that has come into existence specifically for the purpose of fighting drug abuse. Naltrexone, imported from the United States, is one of the drugs used for treatment of the addicts. Naltrexone is an opiate antagonist. It prevents the effects of opiates and is non-addictive. Unlike methadone, Naltrexone produces no psychoactive effects of its own. The drug was approved for use in the United States in 1985 and the treatment of addicts with this drug has been successful.

(DS) The Minister of Health announced in April 1986 that the Ministry is working on the creation of an assistance network for the detoxification of drug addicts. The objective of the National Plan on Drugs is to have a total of 160 beds (between three and nine for each major hospital) available for this purpose. By April 1986, about 46 beds were available. Approximately 4,435 million pesetas (U.S. \$33 million) will be allocated for this project.

XIII. FINANCIAL

(DS) Spain's banking regulations are very similar to the Swiss regulations. Foreign currency can be imported into Spain as long as it is declared at the point of entry. It can be deposited into any of the major banks and can be transferred to other countries with little if any interference from law enforcement. Several investigations have revealed that major trafficking groups

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are taking currency overland by vehicle into Switzerland and Andorra* where those funds are being deposited into numbered accounts.

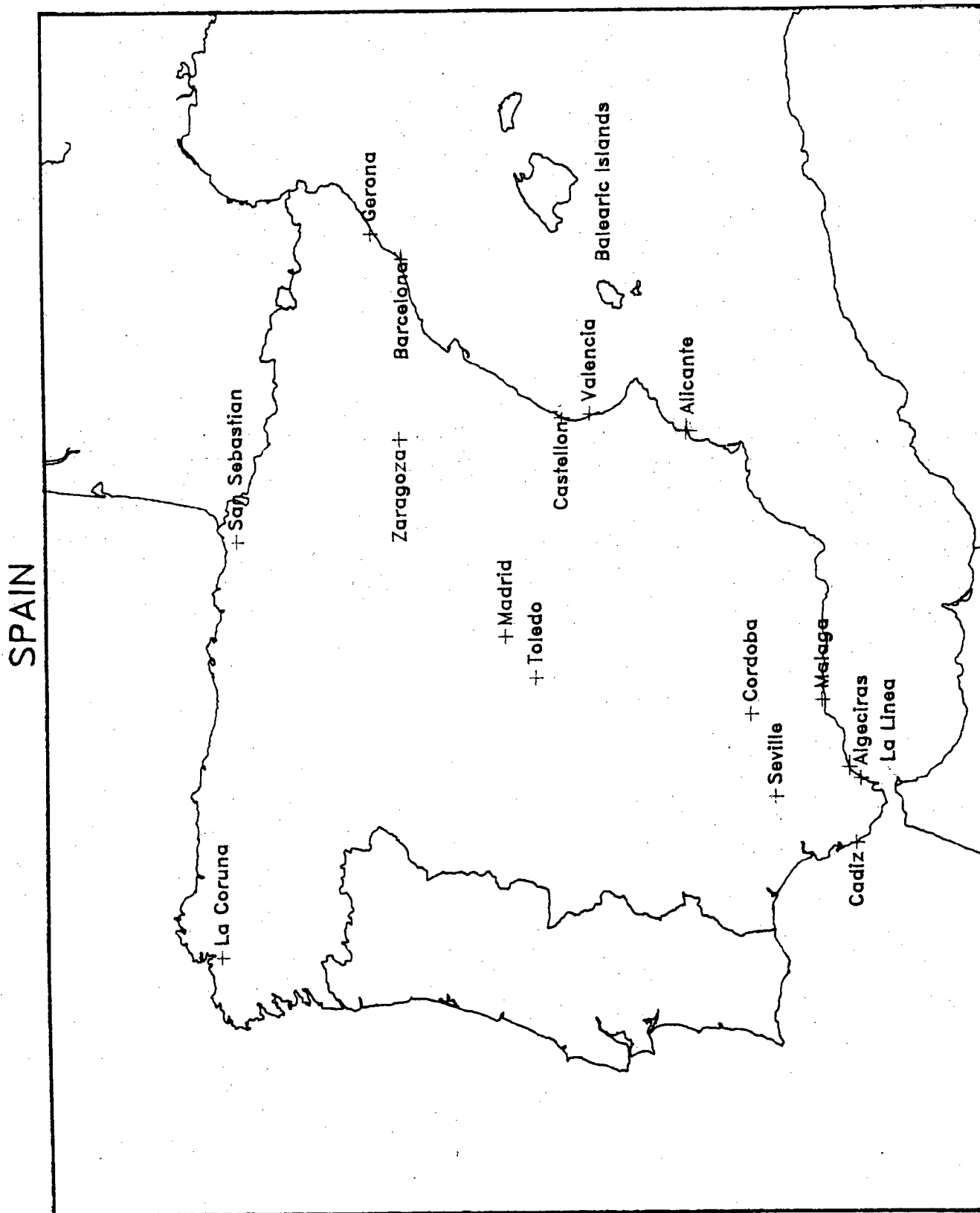
(DS) Since Spain joined the European Common Market on January 1, 1986, revisions in the banking laws are anticipated. The Spanish Government appears to be interested in international cooperation regarding the uncovering of financial deposits or transactions derived from the illicit drug trade. The Spanish Senate has also made several recommendations to strengthen Spanish enforcement efforts against drug traffickers, including asset seizure. These recommendations are currently pending.

* (U) Andorra is an autonomous principality located in the eastern Pyrenees and borders on France and Spain. It encompasses an area of about 466 square kilometers and has a population of about 49,000 (July 1986 estimate). The official language is Catalan. Andorra is a co-principality under the suzerainty of the President of France and the Spanish Bishop of Seo de Urgel. Each co-ruler has set up a permanent delegation of Andorran affairs.

(U) Banking is an important sector of the economy, although an informal agreement limits the number of banks operating within the country to five.

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COUNTRY PROFILE

PORTUGAL

Prepared by:
Drug Enforcement Administration
Office of Intelligence
Europe/Mideast Unit
March, 1987

DEA SENSITIVE



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Caveat

Drug production, import/export, and consumption estimates contained herein may be preliminary and are not intended for use in testimony, speeches, or for public dissemination. Data contained in the Narcotics Intelligence Estimate, published by the National Narcotics Intelligence Consumers Committee, should be used for those purposes.

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DEA SENSITIVE**1. SYNOPSIS**

(DS) Portugal is a significant transshipment country for various drugs destined not only for Western Europe but also for the North American continent. The country's excellent air connections with South American cocaine source countries facilitate this development. Portugal's unique relationship with Macau, an important transshipment point for Southeast Asian (SEA) heroin, and with its former colonies in Africa also enhances the country's role in international drug trafficking.

(DS) The agencies responsible for the enforcement of the illicit drug laws and the interdiction of drugs suffer from a lack of adequate training and personnel, thus the long-term prospects of reducing the importance of Portugal as a conduit for drugs are not encouraging.

II. COUNTRY DESCRIPTION

(U) The Portuguese Republic consists of the mainland portion of Portugal located on the Atlantic side of the Iberian Peninsula and the Azores and Madeira Islands, two archipelagos located in the Atlantic Ocean. Although the Azores and Madeira Islands were granted autonomy in 1976, they are still integral parts of Portugal. The mainland borders on Spain to the north and east. The Republic encompasses an area of about 92,082 square kilometers, and it has a total population of about 10,095,000 (July 1986 estimate).

(U) Macau is a Special Territory of Portugal and is governed by a special statute. It comprises the peninsula of Macau and three nearby islands, located opposite Hong Kong. It encompasses an area of about 15.5 square kilometers, and the territory has an estimated population of about 404,000 (July 1986 figure).

(U) Portugal was ruled by a monarchy starting in the 11th century. The King was deposed in 1910 in a bloodless revolution and a republic was proclaimed. In 1933, a new constitution establishing a corporate state

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was adopted but was superceded by the constitution that took effect in April 1976, revised in 1982, which committed Portugal to make a transition to socialism.

(U) Portugal has a unicameral Assembly (Parliament) whose 250 members are elected by universal adult suffrage for a four-year term. The President, elected by popular vote for a five-year term, appoints the Prime Minister who is generally the leader of the party that received the most votes. His appointment, however, has to be confirmed by Parliament. Based on the Prime Minister's recommendations, the President also appoints other members of the government.

III. STATUS IN INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC

(DS) Portugal's role as a transshipment country for cocaine, heroin, and cannabis (hashish is imported mostly from Lebanon and Morocco, marijuana from the former Portuguese colony of Angola) has increased significantly. This development was facilitated by Portugal's geographical location and its air routes, particularly to South America. Cocaine is smuggled into the country by couriers utilizing direct flights from South American cocaine source countries. Lisbon serves as the redistribution center for shipment to Western European destinations, primarily Paris and Madrid.

(DS) Southwest Asian (SWA) and SEA heroin are imported into Portugal. Most of the SWA heroin originates in Pakistan, transiting either to Western Europe or North America. Portuguese authorities believe that the bulk of SEA heroin arriving in Europe is transshipped through Portugal via Macau. This heroin originates in the Golden Triangle (consisting of parts of Laos, Burma, and Thailand).

(DS) Some of the drugs transiting Portugal are destined for the United States and Canada. The drugs arriving in Canada are also occasionally smuggled into the United States by members of the large Portuguese community in Canada.

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(DS) Portugal remains a base of operation for major trafficking groups that include Chinese from Macau, Indians, Iranians, Pakistanis, and some Africans from former Portuguese colonies. Recently, there has been an emergence of Colombian traffickers using Portugal as a staging area for their illicit activities.

IV. ILLICIT PRODUCTION

(DS) The only illicit drug produced in Portugal appears to be marijuana. It is processed for personal consumption and the Portuguese authorities do not consider cannabis cultivation a significant problem.

V. DRUGS OF ABUSE

A. Cocaine

(DS) Cocaine arrives in Portugal from South America and, occasionally, from Spain. Interpol reports that the majority of the couriers arrive either from Colombia, Bolivia, Brazil, or Venezuela. This information is supported by arrest statistics from Portuguese authorities. Also, according to Interpol information, there has been an increased involvement of Argentinians, Uruguayans, and Chileans during 1985 and 1986. Spanish nationals accounted for the largest percentage of the Europeans arrested for cocaine trafficking, followed by Portuguese, Dutch, French, and Belgian nationals.

(DS) The number of cocaine seizures in Lisbon has steadily increased over the past years. In 1984, for example, there were 20 seizures totaling about 68.5 kilograms (kg) of cocaine. In 1985, there were 28 seizures totaling 69.3 kg; and in the first four months of 1986, there were 15 seizures totaling 31.1 kg.

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(DS) Lisbon (see page 38) serves as a redistribution point for cocaine. From here, the drugs are forwarded by couriers traveling via private vehicles, trains, or on commercial flights to other cities in Western Europe. Madrid, Amsterdam, and Paris appear to be the predominant destination points.

(DS) Increased enforcement efforts at Lisbon's airport have forced cocaine couriers to utilize flights from South America to the Pedras Rubras airport in Porto (see page 38). The drugs are removed from the airplane and loaded on to TIR* trucks which are destined for other European countries.

(U) Some cocaine is imported into Portugal by mail from South America. Other methods of smuggling include the concealment of the drug inside a video cassette player and heels of shoes.

(DS) Smugglers also have tried to import the drug dissolved in red wine. The most unique method of concealment, however, was detected in June 1984. According to a newspaper report, a Colombian courier was apprehended with eggs, containing about 500 grams of cocaine, hidden among clothing inside the luggage.

* (U) The Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods, under the cover of TIR (Transport Internationale Routier) Carnets, is a multilateral treaty under the auspices of the United Nations. Its objective is to facilitate the international transport of goods by eliminating, to the extent possible, the necessity for customs examinations of road vehicles as well as of containers carried on such vehicles at each international border. This system is currently operating under the 1975 TIR Convention.

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(DS) The Colombian traffickers increasingly swallow small pouches which contain the cocaine. This method of concealment is difficult to detect at airports. Within the first nine months of 1986, however, five traffickers using this method were apprehended in Lisbon.

(U) In December 1985, two Bolivian couriers were apprehended in Lisbon. They had swallowed a combined total of 660 grams of cocaine, contained in 146 sachets.

(DS) In early 1986, the Portuguese described the profile of a typical South American courier (or "pigeon" as he is called) who carries cocaine internally. The courier is male, between 25 and 35 years of age, wears a brand new suit which does not match his uncared for fingernails, or the dirty underwear he carries in his suitcase. He generally uses a passport that has been issued very recently and stays at second-class hotels and pensions. It is also generally his first trip to Europe. Often these couriers are watched by a spotter to minimize the risk of the courier escaping with the drug. The authorities also suspect that some Colombian traffickers are using forged Spanish and Portuguese passports making it easier for them to move within the twelve European Economic Community (EEC) member countries.

(DS) West German law enforcement agencies reported in 1986 that groups of Chilean nationals, traveling with members of their families including children, transported cocaine from South America into Spain and Portugal. Using falsified Spanish or Portuguese passports which facilitated their entrance into other European countries, they proceeded, generally by train, to the Netherlands, the final destination of the drugs.

B. Cannabis

(U) Hashish, originating primarily in Morocco and Lebanon, often is shipped directly to Portugal. It is principally smuggled via vessels, and is destined for other Western European countries such as Spain, the Netherlands, West Germany, or the United Kingdom. Hashish also is imported through Spain and sometimes, according to Portuguese officials, via Marseille. In Marseille, the drug is transferred from the ships to

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trucks for shipment to Lisbon and other European destinations. It is also transshipped from Marseille to North America.

(DS) In May 1985, nearly 417 kg of hashish were found in a TIR truck in Porto. The origin of the hashish was not established. In January 1986, nine members of an international hashish-trafficking network were arrested by the Judiciary Police. This group had used Algarve (a province in the south of Portugal) as a staging area for their operations which included the importation of hashish from Morocco into Portugal on motorized launches. The drug was then redistributed throughout Europe. Algarve is a popular place for drug traffickers due to its accessibility by vessel.

(DS) In May 1986, the Portuguese authorities successfully dismantled a "Spanish Connection" network. Hashish from Morocco was transiting Spain enroute to Portugal via Valenca (see page 38), a city on the northern border with Spain. Correspondingly, cocaine arriving in Portugal from Brazil was transshipped through Valenca into Spain.

(DS) In July 1986, about 3,000 kg of hashish were seized by the Portuguese Police while investigating an international network of drug traffickers utilizing Portuguese ports. The drugs were concealed in false compartments of cargo containers and originated in the Middle East. This seizure is the largest ever in Portugal.

C. Heroin

(U) Portuguese police authorities believe that Portugal is currently the leading country in Europe in the importation of SEA heroin. The drug generally arrives from Macau and transits Lisbon on its way to Western Europe or North America.

(U) Portuguese officials, however, also estimate that about 60 percent of the heroin being imported into the country is of SWA origin, mainly from Pakistan. A much favored way of importation is the utilization of the Karachi-Frankfurt-Lisbon air connection by the couriers.

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(DS) In a few isolated instances, Indian traffickers have utilized the New Delhi-Moscow-Lisbon route.

(DS) SWA heroin also is imported via a circuitous route through the African continent. In one instance, heroin originating in Pakistan arrived in Lisbon after having transitted Mozambique. Three Indian nationals were apprehended in connection with this seizure.

(DS) Four Indian nationals were apprehended by Portuguese authorities in August 1986 in connection with the seizure of about 3.5 kg of uncut heroin. The Indians were members of a trafficking network located in Odivelas, Portugal (see page 38).

(DS) There has been an increase in Nigerian traffickers over the last few years, trafficking both in heroin and cocaine. These traffickers appear to prefer concealment of the drugs in body cavities. This type of concealment, however, is not used exclusively. In March 1986, several Nigerians were apprehended while attempting to smuggle heroin into the country concealed in thermos flasks. These traffickers had arrived from Lagos, Nigeria.

(DS) Portuguese authorities reported in 1986 that Nigerians recently began buying thousands of pairs of shoes regardless of size or style in Portugal. The authorities concluded that these shoes might be used by the Nigerian traffickers to conceal heroin which will then be imported into Europe or North America.

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VI. SEIZURES STATISTICS

Seizures (kg)

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986*</u>
Heroin	3.3	.5	9.0	20.0	3.6	20.6
Cocaine	7.1	1.0	46.0	69.0	71.0	99.0
Cannabis	395.5	85.0			4,052.1	5,531.0
Hashish			300.0	6,000.0		
Marijuana			900.0	600.0		

*These are estimated seizure figures based on preliminary Interpol information.

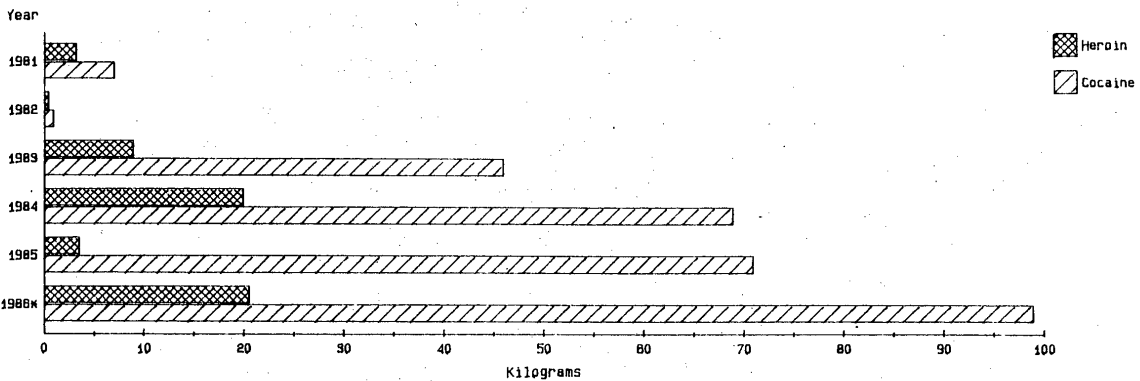
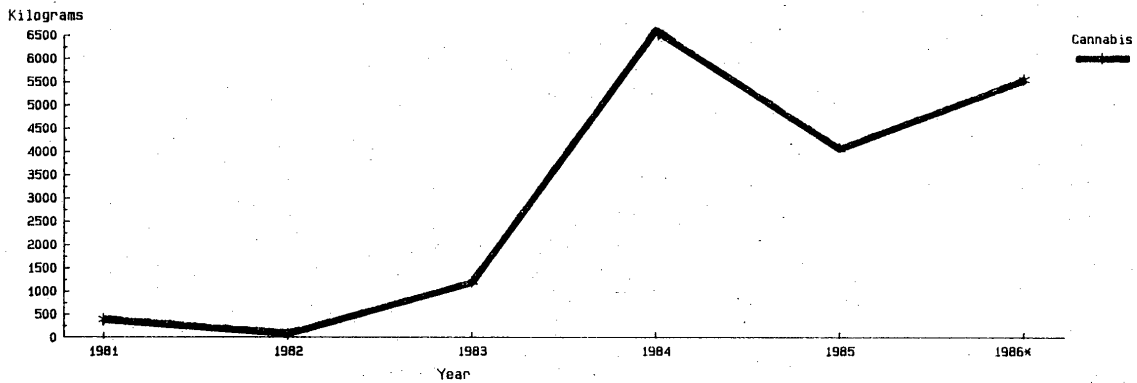
VII. DRUG PRICES

	1985	
	Wholesale	Retail
Heroin	\$46,000/kg	\$97/gm
Cocaine	\$32,500/kg	\$52/gm
Hashish		
(dark brown)	\$1,820-2,600/kg	\$2/gm
(light brown)	\$570-780/kg	\$.90-1/gm

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ILLICIT DRUG SEIZURES IN PORTUGAL 1981 - 1986



* Preliminary Interpol information

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VIII. INVOLVEMENT OF TERRORIST GROUPS

(DS) Portugal has been the center for illicit arms sales and the financing of certain African nationalist groups such as "UNITA" which is the Portuguese acronym for National Union for the Total Independence of Angola. There is, however, currently no evidence to substantiate rumors that either UNITA or any other organization including the Popular Forces 25 April (FP-25), an ultra-leftist group dedicated to the violent overthrow of the Portuguese Government, are involved in narcotics trafficking.

(U) In reaction to the recent wave of terrorist activities in Europe, the Portuguese Government issued strict instructions concerning visa applications by foreigners. These instructions are in keeping with the anti-terrorist measures adopted by the EEC.

IX. DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

(DS) The agencies involved in the enforcement of the drug laws and the interdiction of drugs are the Judiciary Police (Policia Judiciaria) and the Portuguese Customs (Alfandega). Primary policing responsibility, however, rests with the Judiciary Police which is subordinate to the Ministry of Justice.

(DS) In 1986, two Portuguese police officers attended a special training session provided by DEA in the United States and the DEA representative stationed in Spain participated as an instructor in a training school for Portuguese Customs officials held in Lisbon.

X. LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

(U) In December 1983, the Government of Portugal enacted a much stricter new drug law. This Decree-Law 430-83 superceded previous drug abuse legislation. It

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raised the penalty for trafficking in narcotics from the previous two to eight years imprisonment to a six to twelve year level and drastically increased the mandatory fines. Penalties for consumption, particularly by adolescents, were, however, reduced.

(U) Decree-Law 430-83 also created a new category of offender, the "trafficker-user" (traficante-consumidor). This expression describes a person who trafficks in drugs in order to support his or her habit. Penalties for such trafficker-users include a maximum one-year prison sentence coupled with a fine.

(U) The court may suspend the sentence for an offender who is also an addict, if the defendant consents to receive treatment. Drug abusers who seek professional treatment and rehabilitation on their own initiative are guaranteed anonymity as well as individualized care. Should the person after completing a drug rehabilitation program, however, be arrested again for trafficking, this person will, upon conviction, have to spend time in jail. According to available information, 801 traffickers and 568 drug users were brought to court in 1985.

(U) Portuguese law permits plea bargaining and controlled deliveries, as well as the seizure of assets derived from drug trafficking. It also allows drugs to transit Portugal to a third country as long as the seizure and anticipated arrest are agreed to by the third country.

(U) Portugal is a party to the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotics as well as the 1972 Amendments thereof, and the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances. Since 1985, Portugal has been a member of the Council of Europe Cooperation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (the "Pompidou Group").

(DS) In June 1984, Portugal hosted the Fourth Customs-Police Conference for Mediterranean Nations, the purpose of which was to discuss and analyze topics relating to methods for controlling the drug traffic. The meeting was organized under the auspices of the United Nations Customs Cooperation Council and the General Directorate of Customs. It was particularly aimed at exchanging information on recent experiences encountered in

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participating countries. Representatives of 17 countries participated and ratified the Police and Customs Resolution, the so-called "Lisbon Resolution." Recommendations set forth in this Resolution include the identification by police and customs in these countries of any vessels that are about to set sail and to verify their legitimacy.

(DS) The Judiciary Police announced that in July 1986 more than two tons of drugs, the result of a total of 71 seizures, were burned under the control of the Public Ministry. This included about 1,750 kg of hashish and about 90 kg of cocaine.

XI. DOMESTIC ADDICTION AND TREATMENT

(DS) The Portuguese Government very strongly denounces drug abuse and the general public appears not to be very tolerant toward drug abusers. Not until 1984, however, did both the government and the public recognize that they were facing a growing domestic drug abuse problem.

(DS) According to publicly available information, there are an estimated 80,000 drug users in Portugal, 12,000 to 15,000 (some suspect as high as 25,000) of whom are believed to be heroin users.

(DS) The number of known addicts increased from 459 in 1983 to 738 in 1984. Almost 82 percent of those are addicted to heroin. No statistics for 1985 are currently available.

(U) The Portuguese press reported in January 1986 that, according to a survey, 78 percent of the country's drug users live in cities, 20 percent in suburbs, and only two percent in rural areas.

(DS) During 1984, an increased tendency towards polydrug use among Portuguese abusers was reported. Drugs are also often mixed with alcohol to increase their effect. Psychotropic substances mixed with alcohol are particularly popular among the youth.

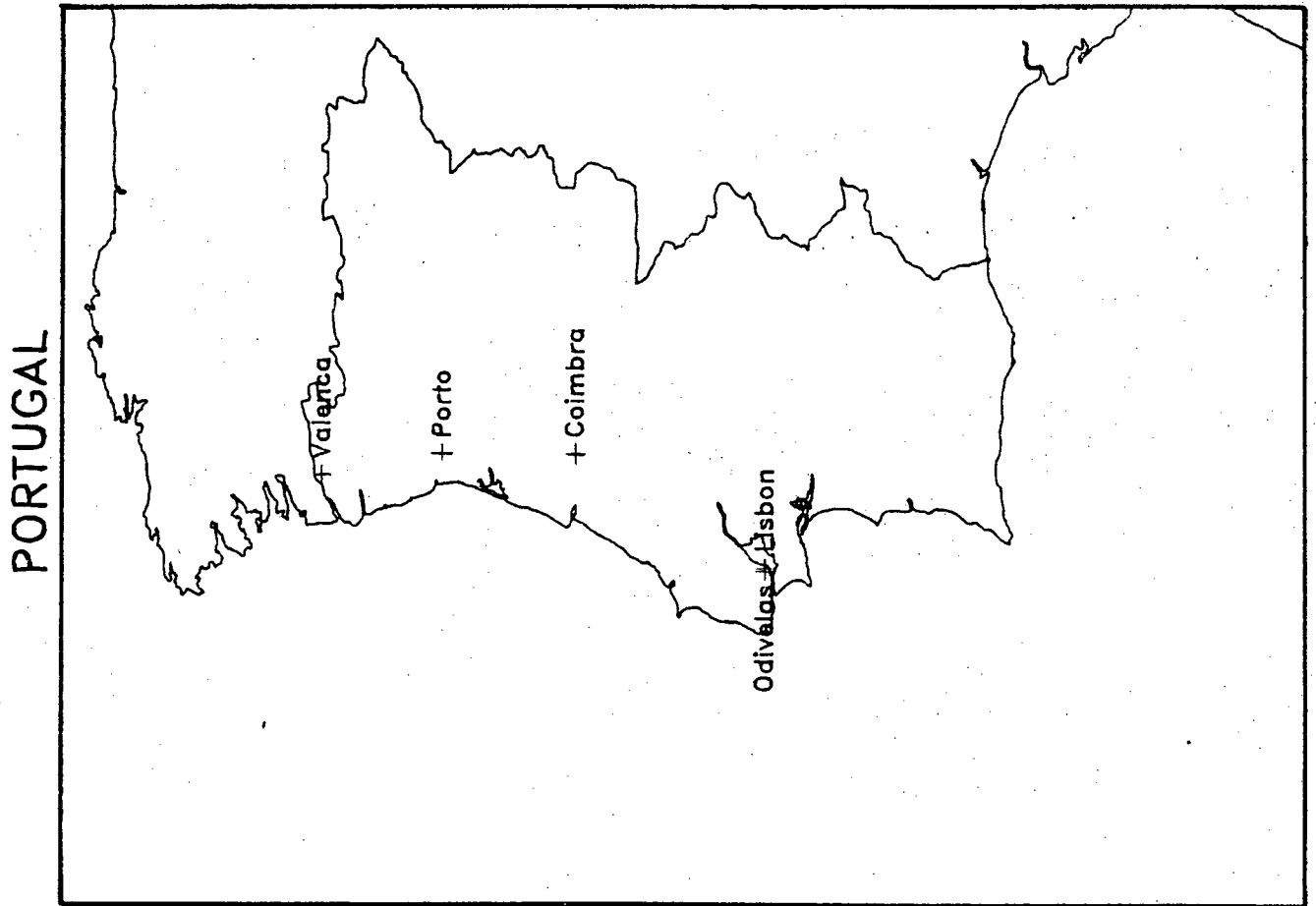
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(DS) The responsibility for the treatment and rehabilitation of drug users rests with the Ministry of Justice. Within the Ministry, the Cabinet for Coordination of the Combat of Drugs is in charge of operating Portugal's three state-run treatment centers, which are located in Lisbon, Porto, and Coimbra (see page 38).

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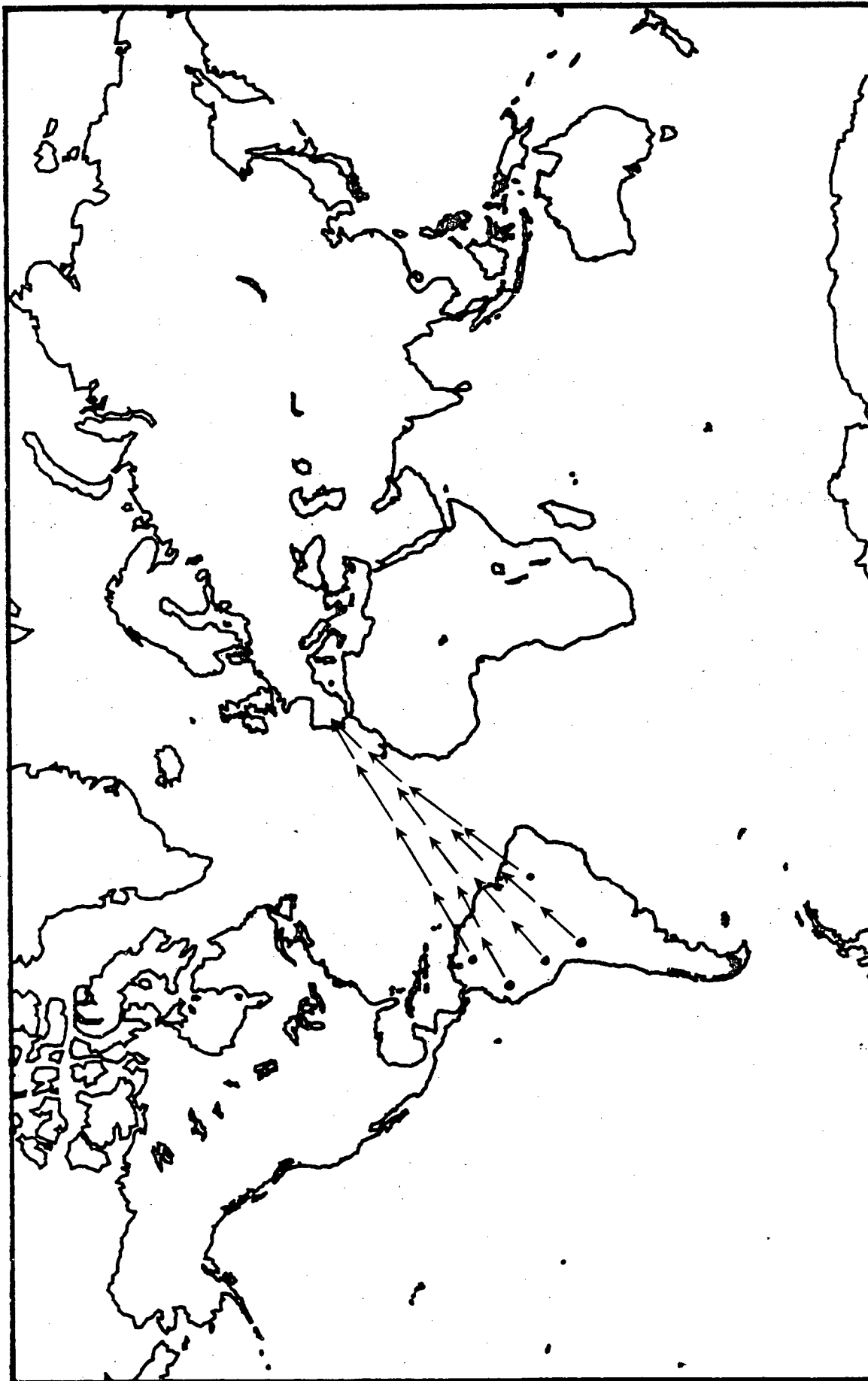


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Appendix A

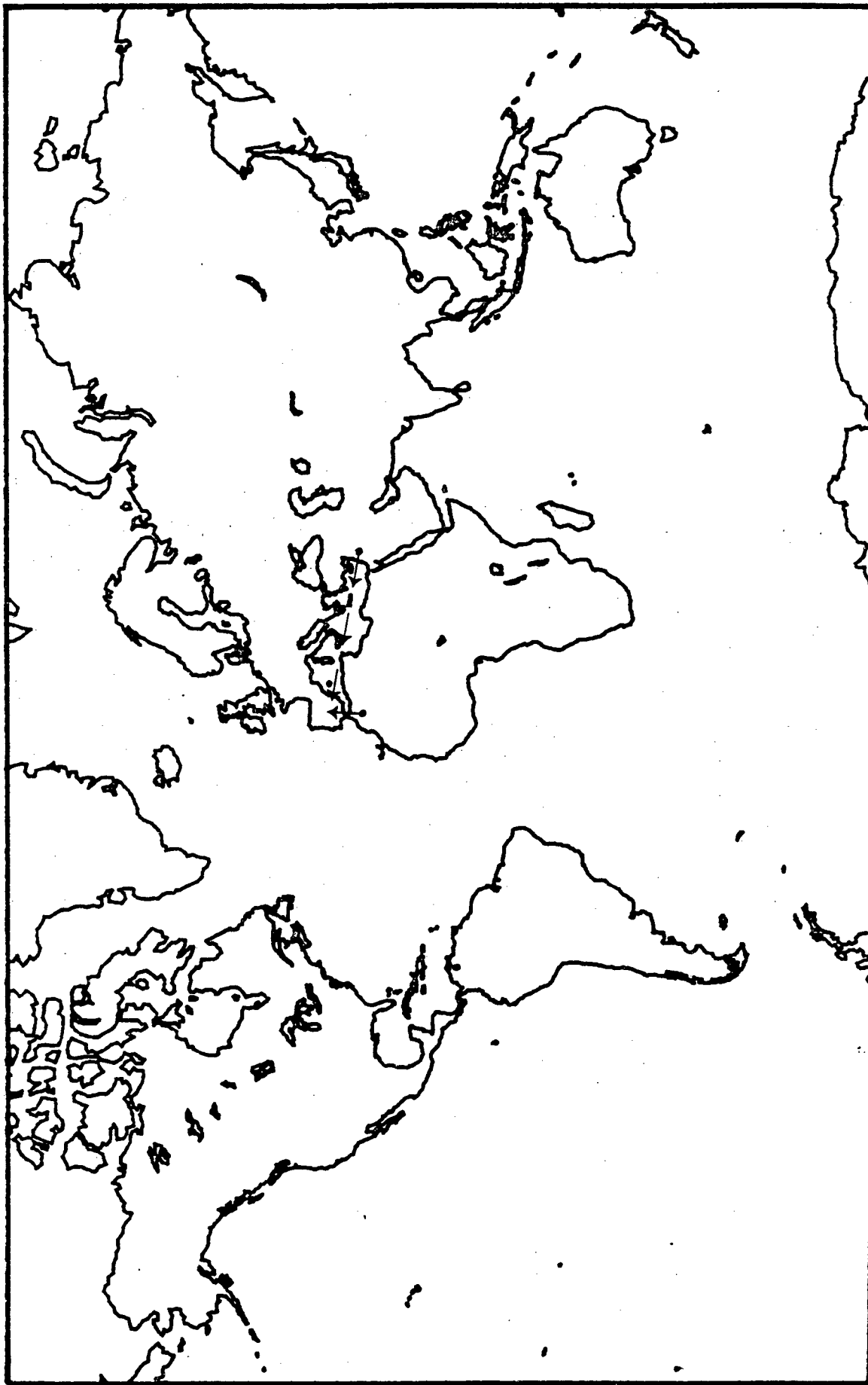
Cocaine



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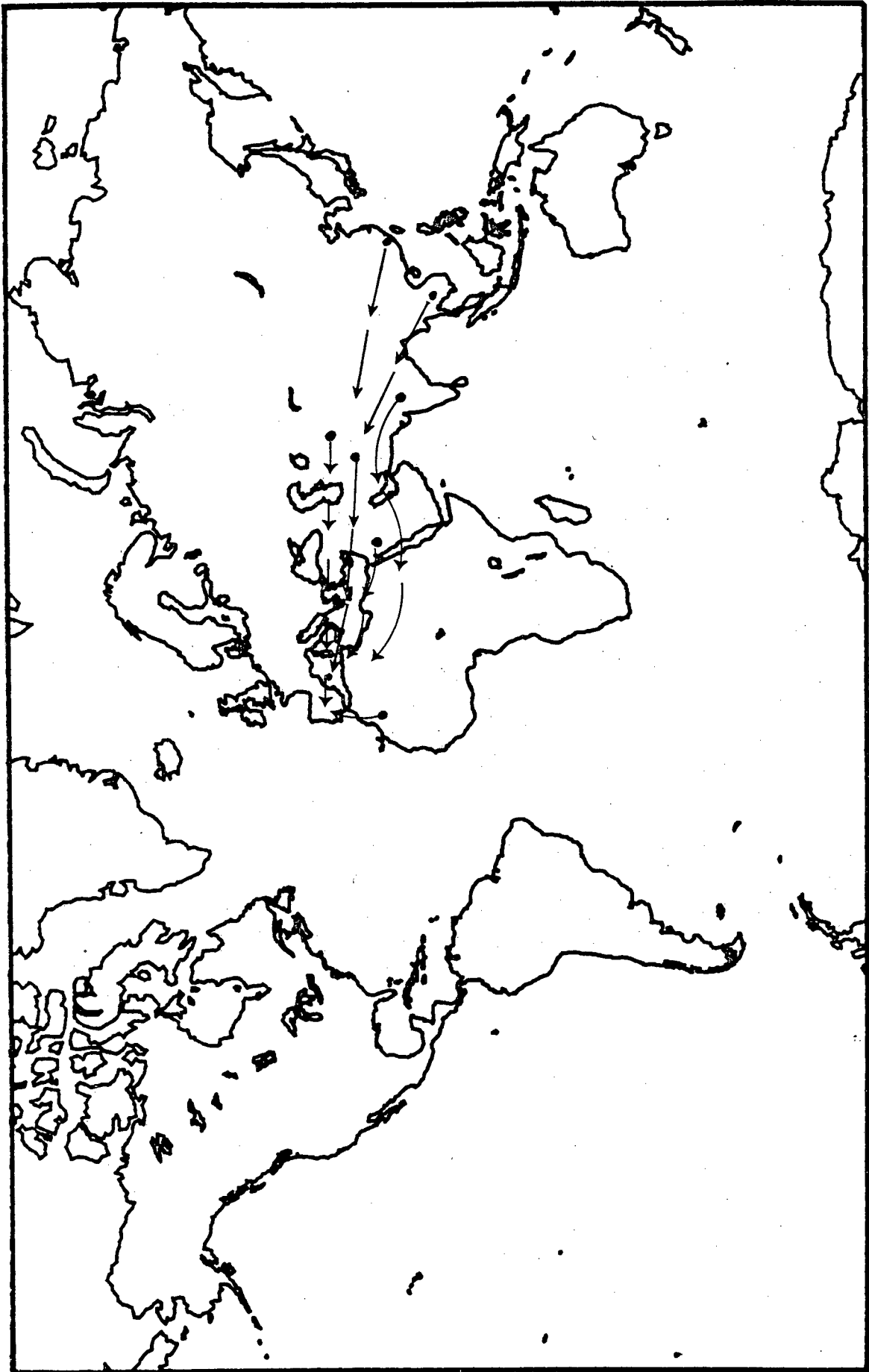
Appendix B
Cannabis



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Appendix C
Heroin



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DISTRIBUTION

CIA
DIA
NSA
Treasury
Justice
EPIC
NNBIS
FBI
Interpol

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