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(FOUO 5/79)

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31 January 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
(FOUO 5/79)

WORLD

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BURMA

DANGERS CAUSED BY DRUG USE

Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 29 Dec 78 p 2 BK

[Editorial: "An Unbeatable Combination"]

[Text] The threat posed by narcotic drugs is being combated as a matter of over-riding national importance. The magnitude of the danger is beyond comparison in the depth of human degradation and despair which quickly follows in the wake of the initial drug-induced euphoria. Opium was bad enough on its own before the advent of modern drugs--not a few of which are derived from opium itself but which are immensely more potent than the original. The most well-known and doubtless the worst scourge is heroin. In spite of a host of other varieties of drugs, natural and synthetic heroin still is the number one drug which has brought the greatest extent of suffering and misery to mankind as a whole.

Among other well-known and common natural drugs is that of cannabis origin--either "marihuana" which are the leaves and flowers of Indian hemp or "hashish," the resin of the plant.

The main target in combating the drug menace has, of course, been the elimination of all known sources of cultivation of opium and Indian hemp. Timely detection and eradication of such clandestine plantations constitute the most essential aspect of the action taken since such measures hit directly at the very source of drug production.

The amount of opium plantations destroyed during the 1976-1977 opium cultivation season totaled over 8,700 acres and in the following year, the amount destroyed jumped to over 10,300 acres. This was carried out under Operation Taung Htaik Pan [Mountaintop Flower] under the direction of the Central Narcotics Control Board.

The measures were particularly successful in the Shan State and the Chin State where onground detection was augmented by the use of aircraft which were able to guide or transport search and destroy columns to clandestine plantations or refineries and to intercept mule trains carrying narcotic drugs.

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In the Chin State the drastic fall in the cultivation of opium is shown by the fact that only a mere 10 acres or so of plantations were found in 1977-1978. This is quite a come-down from the 700-odd acres which were found in 1976. Many areas of the Shan State where the bulk of the opium is grown have also shown drastic falls in production. Some areas such as Lawksawk, Ywa-ngan, Pindaya, Kalaw, Pin Laung and Nam Sang townships have been reported to be totally free of opium cultivation.

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Such results could only be achieved through concerted action. Plantations are searched for and located during the cultivation season, from about October or November to March making use of aircraft and intelligence supplied by hard-core members working under the leadership of the party and supervision of the People's Councils. Although such opium fields are more often than not deliberately sited in mountainous and almost inaccessible regions the closely concerted efforts of the party, the Tatmadaw, the People's Councils, the People's Police and the local people have proved to be an unbeatable combination in literally rooting out narcotic drugs at their sources.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

28,900 ACRES OF OPIUM POPPY DESTROYED

Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 7 Jan 79 pp 1, 4 BK

[Text] RANGOON, 6 Jan—More than 28,900 acres of opium poppy have been destroyed in seven States and Divisions since 1974.

More than 26,680 acres of opium poppy were destroyed in Shan State from 1974-75 to 1977-78. Of the total 333 acres were destroyed in 1974-75; 8,039.85 acres in 1975-76; 8,104.61 acres in 1976-77; and 10,205.79 acres in 1977-78.

A total of 975.71 acres of opium poppy were destroyed in Chin State during the four-year period ending 1977-78 of which 199.5 acres were destroyed in 1974-75; 724 acres in 1975-76; 41.55 acres in 1976-77; and 10.66 acres in 1977-78.

In Kachin State 434.26 acres of opium poppy were destroyed during the three-year period from 1975-76 to 1977-78, of which 118 acres were destroyed in 1975-76; 228.83 acres in 1976-77; and 87.43 acres in 1977-78.

In Kayah State a total of 267.5 acres of opium poppy were destroyed during a two-year period 1975-76 and 1976-77 of which 77.5 acres were destroyed during 1975-76 and 190 acres during 1976-77 while 540 acres were destroyed in Mandaiaay Division; 349.5

acres during 1975-76 and 190.5 acres during 1976-77.

A total of 14 acres of opium poppy were destroyed in Magwe Division in 1975-76 and 7.4 acres in Sagaing Division from 1975-76 to 1977-78.

The opium poppy plantations which have been destroyed were being replaced with suitable crops and during 1978-79, 4,311 acres of paddy; 398 acres of wheat; 1,248 acres of maize; 324 acres of soy beans; 340 acres of *sadaupe*; 333 acres of sunflower; 362 acres of sesamum; 165 acres of mustard; 203 acres of garlic; 290 acres of potato; 105 acres of vegetables; 100 acres of groundnut and various pulses and beans and 40 acres of other short-term crops; and 403 acres of coffee; 598 acres of tea; 224 acres of *than-phet* (che-root leaves); 111 acres of pears; 79 acres of oranges, 55 acres of apples and 279 acres of other long-term crops were grown in Shan State in place of the destroyed opium poppy plantations.—(H)

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BURMA

THREE SENTENCED TO JAIL FOR DRUG OFFENSES

Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 3 Jan 79 p 1 BK

[Text] Maymyo, 23 Dec--Maymyo Township Court chaired by U Lwin Ko with U Ohn Maung and U Maung Maung Dwe as members yesterday sentenced three young men to various jail terms under the Narcotic Drugs Law.

The Court sentenced Khin Maung Lat alias Yusuf (28) of Ward No 7, Maymyo, to seven years' imprisonment under Section 6(b) (possession) of the Narcotic Drugs Law; Ohn Pe (26) of Ward No 5, Maymyo, to seven years' imprisonment; and Sein Hlaing (28) of No 120, Cherry Road, Maymyo, to a five-year term under Section 6 (b) and ten years' imprisonment under Section 10 (b) (sale) of the Narcotic Drugs Law, the sentences to be served consecutively.

The cases were that on 20 May 1978, Police Sgt U Han Sein of Mandalay Division anti-narcotic drugs squad and Ward People's Councilors U Thein Maung and U Tun Yi seized narcotic drugs from Khin Maung Lat alias Yusuf.

Similarly, Ohn Pe was caught in the act of injecting a solution reported to be heroin into his body on 28 May 1978, while Police Station Commander U Nyunt Shwe of the Mandalay Division anti-narcotic drugs squad and Ward People's Councilors seized two packets of heroin from Sein Hlaing on 20 May 1978.

The three were accordingly sent up for trial before the Maymyo Township Court under the Narcotic Drugs Law.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

LARGE HAUL OF OPIUM AT TACHILEK

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 24 Dec 78 p 4

[Text]

RANGOON, 22 Dec—Law enforcement officials seized 71 kilos of brown opium powder valued at K 1,065,000 at Tachilek on 20 December.

A Jeep, Gange'3776, driven by Sai Shei Yan, which came from Kengtung, was stopped by Customs authorities at Tachilek at about 6 pm on 19 December. The vehicle was then escorted to the Customs compound and put under guard.

When the authorities searched the goods on the vehicle on 20 December morning they found 71 packets of brown opium powder weighing 71 kilos inside two of the 20 garlic bags on the car. The seizure is valued at K 1,065,000.—NAB

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BURMA

HEROIN SEIZURES IN RANGOON

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 23 Dec 78 p 1

[Text]

RANGOON, 21 Dec—A police party led by Sub-Inspector U San Hlaing seized eight packets of heroin from three men this evening.

U San Hlaing and party while patrolling found two suspicious looking men—Tin Aung Swe (20) of No 295, and Street, No 5 Ward, Thaketa, and Tin Thauung (22) of No 402, Yathawaddy Street, 13th Ward, South Okkalapa—at the corner of (Mortin) Hledan Street this evening.

When they searched them, a packet of heroin worth about K 100 was seized from Tin Aung Swe and a packet of heroin worth about K 50 was seized from Tin Thauung. According to the information furnished by them, the police continued to search Ko Thein

Shwe (29) of No 28, Strand Road, Irrawaddy Ward, Ah-lone at a nearby teashop and found six packets of heroin.

Police are taking action against them under Sections 6 (possession), 10 (b) (sale), 11 (abetment in the offence) and 14 (d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.

Man gaoled

RANGOON, 22 Dec— The Pabedan Township Court chaired by U Tha Oo today sentenced Maung Sa Lin (22) of 30th Street to six years' imprisonment under Section 6 (b) (possession) of the Narcotic Drugs Law and to one year imprisonment under Section 14 (d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.—(H)

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BURMA

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED--Rangoon, 2 Jan--Personnel of the Drugs Suppression Unit of the Crimes Prevention Squad of Rangoon Division People's Police Force Commander Office seized 250 kyats worth of heroin from 18-year-old Kyaw Aung of the Strand Road at the corner of 33d Street and Anawrata Road at 1100 today. Kyaw Aung was arrested under Sections 6 (B), 10(B) and 14(D) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law]. Acting on Kyaw Aung's testimony, the team searched the residence of 30-year-old Abdul Kyaw Bar at the Barr Street and seized heroin in three penicillin bottles worth 1,050 kyats after Abdul Kyaw Bar threw them out of his residence. Action was taken against Abdul Kyaw Bar under Sections 6(B), 10(B) and 14(D) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law]. Twenty-year-old Ashay Gyi alias Zaw Win Tun of Bogyoke Road and 21-year-old Ye Myint alias Maung Maung of Sule Pagoda Road were arrested at the corner of Pansodan Road and Anawrata Road at 1130 today under Section 14(D) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law] for addiction and failure to register and receive treatment. Yesterday morning, 26-year-old Maung Asharit was arrested at the corner of Mahabandoola Road and Bo Aung Gyaw Road under Sections 6(B), 10(B) and 14(D) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law] along with 400 kyats worth of heroin. Members of the Drug Suppression Unit arrested 23-year-old Thein Han of 33d Street on the same street at 1300 yesterday under Sections 6(B) and 14(D) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law] along with a package of heroin worth 50 kyats. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 3 Jan 78 p 7 BK]

HEROIN DEALERS ARRESTED--Mandalay, 31 Dec--Police Station Officer U Nyunt Shwe and Subinspector U Tin Maung Maung of the Mandalay Division Narcotics Suppression Squad, in the company of ward people's councillors concerned, at 0800 on 29 December raided the residence of Ko Tun Ohn, 33, at No 75 in Pyigyí-Yanlon ward of Northwest Township, and seized heroin worth 2,500 kyats, 2,000 kyats worth of heroin belonging to Khin Maung Than, alias Win Zaw U, of No 144, Mayga-giri ward, who had left the heroin with Ko Tun In for safekeeping. Khin Maung Than was also arrested. After interrogating the two, police also arrested Daw Saw May, 38, of No 146, Mayga-giri ward; Ko Aye Ko, son of U Tun Shin, who owns a guest house and resides at the junction of 84th, 24th and 25th streets; and Maung Myo Myint, son of U Lu Lay who is the clerk at Ko Aye Ko's guest house. All those arrested have been charged under Sections 6(B), 10(B) and 11/14(D) of the Narcotic Drugs Law by the police at Station No 4. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 6 Jan 79 p 6 BK]

OPTIUM SEIZED IN BHAMO--Bhamo, 23 Dec--After receiving a tipoff, Bhamo police station officer U Kyaw Htwe, lance corporal Maung Hla and witnesses--Khuntha ward people's council chairman U Lin, U Sein, and people's militia-men Ko Ohn Hlaing and Ko Sein Maung--waited at the road junction in Khuntha ward on the evening of 22 December. When Ko Aung Maung of Shwegu approached the junction, the party stopped him and conducted a search. The search uncovered 1 viss [3.6 pounds] of raw opium from Ko Aung Maung's handbag. Ko Aung Maung was charged under Section 6 (B) of the Narcotic Drugs Law by Bhamo police station. [Text] [Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 6 Jan 79 p 4 BK]

DRUG SEARCH--Rangoon, 6 Jan--Police Narcotic Squad under the Crime Prevention Branch of the Rangoon Division People's Police Force yesterday searched the residence of Tan Liaoeng in 17th Street and found six packets of heroin, each valued at 15 kyats, and 600 kyats in currency. Tan Liaoeng was arrested and charged under Sections 6(B), 10(B) and 14(D) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. The police narcotic squad also arrested Chiu Meng, alias Kalaphyu, of Sin-o-dan Road, after he was found carrying a heroin packet worth 200 kyats in Sin-o-dan Road. He was charged under Sections 6(B), 10(B) and 14(D) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law]. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 7 Jan 79 p 7 BK]

POLICE ARREST HEROIN ADDICTS--Meiktila, 30 Dec--On receiving a tip-off that some men were injecting heroin in front of Shwezigwet confectionery in Yadana-Manaung ward on 29 December, deputy security officer U Sae Maung of Meiktila's police station No 1 and security force members led by Yadana-Manaung ward people's council secretary U Ohn Myint raided the place. Four men injecting heroin were arrested together with two sets of hypodermic syringes, a heroin packet worth 20 kyats, two sheets of paper used for wrapping heroin and a bowl of water. Those injecting heroin were Cho Gyi, alias Than Khin of Meiktila's Thuwanna ward, Myint Swe, Maung Yacob and Maung Mar of Dahuttan ward. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 5 Jan 78 p 6 BK]

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

MORE WOMEN TURN TO DRUGS

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 15 Dec 78 p 17

[Text]

More young women and teenage girls are turning to drugs, says a Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts report.

But fewer men are doing so.

The report, to be presented at today's SARDA annual general meeting, says more women are coming forward for treatment for the first time, with "a significant increase in the proportion of young women and teenagers seeking treatment."

It said: "During the year under review, 2,602 male patients were admitted into the Shek Kwu Chau Rehabilitation Centre which included 999 first time applicants (38.4 per cent) and 73 female patients were admitted into the Women Treatment Centre in Wanchai including 32 first timers (43.8 per cent)."

The society also had 3,214 men and 138 women under follow-up care in the year.

The report also mentions that the problem of female drug abuse is becoming more complex, with about 60 per cent of women patients injecting heroin intravenously and half reporting simultaneous abuse of non-opiate drugs.

"On the male side, the proportion of young persons under the age of 25 continued to drop from 23.5 per cent in the previous year to 19.7 per

cent this year. It indicates encouragingly that the prevalence of young men addicted to narcotics abuse is probably on the decline."

In view of this, SARDA will put more emphasis on counselling services for female drug abusers, a number of whom work as bar girls, dance hostesses, and prostitutes.

This report was prepared by SARDA's superintendent, Mr James Ch'ien, and its assistant superintendent, Mrs Virginia Lo.

In his annual report, the chairman, Mr Brook Bernacchi, says that SARDA has been asked by the Medical and Health Department to take over the acupuncture and electro-stimulation programme next year and to continue its operational research.

The experimental programme, which began under Dr H. L. Wen last year, has proved reasonably successful, he said.

Today's meeting will be asked to formally approve a change of name for the society to the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers, instead of for drug addicts.

This is because people tend to associate the word "addict" with criminal behaviour and an anti-social sub-culture.

However, its Chinese name will remain unchanged.



Mr Ch'ien

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION DRUG FIGHTERS TO TRAIN

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 15 Dec 78 p 17

[Text]

Hongkong will be the venue of a two-week training programme organised by the World Health Organisation for drug fighters in Southeast Asia and the West Pacific region.

The programme, which is to focus on the treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependent people, will be attended by about 40 representatives from related professions.

It will be conducted either in August or November.

A consultant from WHO will come here early next year to prepare for the programme while the Commission for Narcotics will help in providing administration staff and facilities required.

The idea of the training programme was suggested by the Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr Peter Lee, last month when he attended a WHO meeting in Geneva that discussed guidelines for a workshop on drug fighting to be held in Bangkok in November.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

OFFICIAL RESPONSE TO CONCERN OVER DRUG SHIPS

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 15 Dec 78 p 22

[Text]

THOMAS Lung (SCM Post, December 13) asked what the Government was doing about the problem of ships bringing illicit drugs repeatedly to Hongkong.

As reported by your paper on November 30, the Secretary for Security, Mr Lewis Davies, said at the Legislative Council meeting on November 29, that "the Action Committee Against Narcotics has endorsed a proposal that an amendment to the law should be made which would enable fines to be imposed on the captains, masters and owners of ocean-going vessels on which dangerous drugs have been repeatedly found."

Mr Davies also said that the amendment would be introduced in the Legislative Council next month.

We believe that this new measure will induce greater vigilance on the part of captains, masters and owners as well as make them more aware of the need for better crew discipline and security arrangements against drug-smuggling on board their vessels.

Mr Lung also asked whether some of the "drug ships" were actually "decoys." The resources of the Customs and Excise Service are by no means concentrated solely on these ships and the possibility of attempted diversion tactics by drug traffickers is always borne in mind.

EDDIE SO
for Commissioner for
Narcotics

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

POLICE SMASH HEROIN RING

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 16 Dec 78 p 1

[Text]

The Narcotics Bureau has smashed a drug syndicate believed to have been supplying the bulk of heroin to addicts in Kowloon, and arrested nine suspects during a two-day operation.

Bureau detectives also seized 71 lbs of No 3 heroin, bringing to 594 lbs the quantity seized this year.

This figure tops the 572 lbs record of 1974.

Besides the 71 lbs of No 3, which were valued at about \$3.3 million, detectives also found a large quantity of drug manufacturing equipment and chemicals in the series of raids, which were conducted on Thursday night and early yesterday.

Officers said last night that the syndicate was believed to have been operating for some time, selling heroin imported by freighters from Thailand.

They said two of the syndicate's leaders were netted during the operation, which was launched after three months of investigation.

The syndicate's cutting and packaging centre, as well as its storeroom, were also uncovered during the operation.



Supt Williamson

The bureau began its work at about 11.35 pm on Thursday when a party of 20 officers, led by Superintendent Dick Williamson, forced their way into a flat in Lai-chikok Road.

Inside the premises officers found 50 lbs of suspected No 3 heroin and 11 lbs of caffeine.

Measuring equipment and a number of plastic bags were also found.

A 24-year-old man and two women who were sleeping in the flat were detained.

Officers said the flat was used as a packaging and distribution centre by the syndicate, and added that the heroin found there was about 40 per cent pure.

Most black market heroin is only about 25 per cent pure.

Following inquiries, the bureau carried out a second raid at about 4 am yesterday on a flat at Tak On Lau, Chik Foo, Shatin.

There, detectives found four men allegedly cutting a quantity of suspected heroin.

They seized 20 lbs of suspected No 3, 44 lbs of acetic anhydride, and a number of drug-cutting implements.

The four men, aged between 25 and 45, were taken to the bureau's headquarters to assist in investigations.

It is believed that the Shatin flat was used as a cutting centre for heroin earmarked for distribution in Kowloon.

A series of follow-up raids were launched later yesterday, resulting in the arrest of two more men and the seizure of another pound of No 3 heroin.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

SIX FACE DRUG DEALING CHARGES

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 17 Dec 78 p 14

[Text]

Five men and a woman were charged in Causeway Bay Court yesterday with trafficking in dangerous drugs valued at more than \$3 million.

Ng Chun-mo (35), Lau Man-hoi (25), Wu Chung-kam (40) and Lui Hoi-shuen (45) were charged with possession of dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking and possession of a quantity of drug manufacturing substances.

They are alleged to have possessed about 20 lbs of heroin and 44 lbs of drug manufacturing substances valued at more than \$1 million on Friday in a flat in Chik Fu Street, Shatin.

In the second case, a 22-year-old woman, Chu Sui-mei and Lau Man-hoi (25) were charged with possession of dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking in a flat in Lai-chikok Road on Thursday.

Mrs C.B. Marr was told 50 lbs of heroin with a market value of more than \$2 million was found in Chu's bedroom.

Another 43-year-old man, Lo Chun-choi, was charged with the possession of one pound of heroin, valued at \$35,000, for unlawful trafficking on Wednesday in a flat on Whampoa estate, Hunghom.

No pleas were taken.

Mrs Marr refused bail and the six were remanded in police custody until Friday.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

WALTER ARRESTED WITH \$5 MILLION IN DRUGS IN SUITCASE

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 19 Dec 78 p 13

[Text]

A waiter travelled in a mini-bus with \$5 million worth of morphine contained in a suitcase and travelling bag, it was alleged in the High Court yesterday.

He was followed by two detectives who arrested him soon after he alighted in Wanchai.

The waiter, Lau Diu-man (39), is being tried before Mr Justice Baber and a jury for possessing 18,270.4 grams of a mixture containing 13,804.8 grams of esters of morphine for unlawful trafficking.

He pleaded not guilty.

Crown counsel B.N. Ryan told the jury that the prosecution's case was that two Narcotics Bureau detectives kept observation at Queen's Pier, Central, on the afternoon of August 2.

At 6 pm, they saw Lau appear in Queen's Pier carrying a suitcase and a travelling bag.

He appeared to be nervous.

The detectives followed him into a mini-bus.

Lau alighted in Hennessy Road near Marsh Road, Wanchai.

As they reached Gloucester Road, Lau noticed the presence of the detectives who then went up and questioned him.

The drugs were found inside the suitcase and travelling bag.

Hearing continues today.

Mr Andrew Allman-Brown is defending Lau on the instructions of the Director of Legal Aid.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

THAI WOMAN GETS SIX YEARS FOR DRUG SMUGGLING

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 20 Dec 78 p 16

[Text] A Thai woman who smuggled dangerous drugs into Hongkong in order to earn \$1,500 to pay for a trip to China, was sentenced to six years' imprisonment by a High Court judge yesterday.

Leng Saetun (45) wanted to join her brother in Swatow, as her husband had died and she had no relatives in Thailand, her counsel, Mr John Bleach, told Mr Justice Leonard.

Saetun pleaded guilty to a charge of possessing 551.3 grams of No 4 heroin for unlawful trafficking.

The drugs, which had a retail value of \$187,200, were concealed in the unusual high heels of Saetun's shoes, which she was wearing when she arrived from Bangkok by air on July 31.

Customs officers at the airport took her shoes, drilled a hole in one of them and discovered the drugs.

Mr Bleach said in mitigation that Saetun was a Chinese national born in Thailand.

Her husband was a farmer and they had an adopted son now aged 12.

As her husband died in July last year, she became the sole supporter of herself and the child, and she wanted to join her brother in Swatow.

As the trip would account for almost half her life savings, a friend of her husband suggested that she smuggle contraband into Hongkong where someone would approach her at the airport and give her \$1,500.

She was also promised a bicycle for her adopted son and assured that there was no possibility she would be caught.

She knew she was carrying contraband, but did not know it was heroin.
Counsel said the temptation was too great. She was just a one-timer
courier and not a professional one.

Mr Bleach was instructed by the Director of Legal Aid.

Crown Counsel Daniel Marash prosecuted.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

ATTORNEY GENERAL ARGUES FOR TIGHTER BAIL LAWS

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 21 Dec 78 p 15

[Text]

The Attorney-General, Mr John Hobbey, said that proposals giving him the power to seek a review of a court decision to grant bail would be a useful improvement to the administration of justice.

Speaking at the second reading of the Criminal Procedure (Amendment) (No 4) Bill, which contained the new proposals, Mr Hobbey said:

"The community finds our system of criminal justice defective if its administration results in persons accused of serious crimes avoiding trial by absconding."

He said that the proposed law did not impose any restraint on the discretion which magistrates and judges have with respect to bail.

"What it will do is to give the Crown a right to have decisions of magistrates and district judges granting bail reviewed in the High Court at the instance of the Attorney-General."

He said that the Bill would put the prosecution in

review.

"I justify this proposal on the very simple ground that without it the new arrangements may be frustrated from the outset because the defendant absconds before the Attorney-General can act," said Mr Hobbey.

A safeguard is built into the proposal as the new section requires that a defendant who is so kept in custody must be brought before a High Court judge within 48 hours.

But Mr Hobbey added that this proposal was strongly objected to by the Chief Justice.

The Attorney-General said he did not expect a flood of applications for review of bail decisions and that his power to require a man to be detained pending a review would "be exercised with great care."

He stressed that he thought the new proposals would affect a useful improvement in the administration of justice, and enable a fresh mind to be brought in a difficult case.

the same position where bail is granted as a defendant has always been where bail is refused.

"A defendant who is refused bail has always been able to apply to the High Court for a review and is able to apply to one judge after another if he is unsuccessful."

But he said that under the proposed law, the decision of the High Court judge on a review of bail at the instance of the Attorney-General would be final, with no appeal by either party.

The finality of the decision on a review of bail will be tempered by allowing a defendant to apply again to any High Court judge if there is a material change in circumstances or to the trial judge once his trial has commenced.

A "more controversial" proposal of the Bill is that the Attorney-General, where a magistrate or district judge has granted bail, can intervene and require the court to order the defendant's detention in custody pending the making of an application for

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

EXPERIMENTAL ACUPUNCTURE DRUG CLINIC TO CLOSE

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 29 Dec 78 pp 1, 7

[Article by Vivian Lee]

[Text]

Tung Wah Hospital's acupuncture electro-stimulation clinic, the only one of its kind in the world to employ the Chinese technique to cure drug addicts, is to close at the end of this month.

This is despite the understanding of the staff that clinic operations will continue and the clinic will be put under the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers in April.

The clinic was started as a one-year experiment in July last year, with funds of about \$470,000 from the National Institute on Drug Abuse of the United States.

When the original term ended, the Government gave it another life of six months and a budget of more than \$200,000 so the technique could be tested further.

It is believed the success rate for the clinic, which has processed more than 1,000 patients, is more than 10 per cent.

Members of the staff were shocked on Wednesday when they arrived for work to discover a notice announcing the closure of the 18-month old clinic.

"We were only informed on December 14 in a meeting with an executive officer of the Medical and Health Department and with the administrative secretary of

SARDA that new contracts will be drawn up next month," said a social worker, Mr Stephen Law.

"Some of us who had interviews turned them down because we thought we would stay on."

The 15-member staff, made up of five social workers, three registered nurses, two laboratory technicians, a clerk, two messengers and two amahs, said they were given to understand the clinic would continue under the Medical and Health Department in an interim period from next month to the end of March, and then be transferred to SARDA in April.

The basis for their understanding came from a meeting on December 8 between the Assistant Secretary for Security (Narcotics), Mr Bowen Leung; the head of the clinic, Dr Wen Hsiang-lai, and members of SARDA, in which the transferral procedures to SARDA in April were discussed, they said.

This was followed by the meeting on December 14 when the staff said they were promised verbally they would all be absorbed when SARDA took over.

And on December 17, SARDA drew up a proposed budget for the clinic after the takeover.

A spokesman for the Narcotics Division of the Secretariat's Security Branch, Mr Eddie So, said yesterday the matter was a misunderstanding and the future plan perceived by the staff was merely a SARDA proposal which had still to meet the approval of the Action Committee Against Narcotics, a body that advises the Government on all narcotics policy.

ACAN met last Wednesday and members decided the experiment had been adequately prolonged for its purposes, that findings are sufficient and taxpayers' money should not be spent any further.

Mr So implied it was a case of overconfidence that led to the misunderstanding.

"When it looks likely the proposal will come through and everybody is satisfied, then promises may be made," he said.

A report written by the clinic's chief, Dr Wen, has been submitted for evaluation to ACAN and a copy has been sent to NIDA in the United States.

Mr So said until both ACAN and NIDA conclude that the acupuncture electro-stimulation technique is cost-effective for curing a large number of out-patient drug addicts, a decision will not be made about future clinics.

Meanwhile, the staff — some of whom are part-time, others with contracts ending this month — will be taken care of by contingency plans drawn up by the Medical and Health Department, Mr So said.

● Doctors who indicated previously they did not wish to renew their contracts will be absorbed by Tung Wah Hospital.

● Social workers were seconded from SARDA and will return there.

● Nurses and minor staff will be given one month's severance pay so they can look for other work.

By the time it closes, Mr So said the clinic will have treated all its existing dozen or more patients.

He explained that patients go through 14 days of detoxification, and since December 21, the clinic has not accepted any new patients.

The clinic, at premises borrowed from Tung Wah in Po Yee Street in Sheung Wan, experimented with the AES technique on 300 selected volunteer drug addicts.

Other patients who also went to the clinic were treated but data was not kept on them.

The AES technique basically involves the insertion of an acupuncture needle into both outer ears of the patient and the supply of a very low voltage electric current through the needle, so that painful withdrawal symptoms of drug addiction would be suppressed.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

OPIUM IN SUITCASE, PAKISTANI DENIES OWNERSHIP

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 4 Jan 79 p 9

[Text]

A 26-year-old Pakistani was accused in the High Court yesterday of having raw opium in the false bottom of his suitcase when he arrived from Karachi via Bangkok.

Ali Muhammed pleaded not guilty to trafficking in 9.09 kilos of raw opium.

Crown counsel Daniel Marash told Mr Justice Baber and a jury that Muhammed arrived at Kai Tak airport at 8.45 pm on July 25 last year.

As he was going through customs with his luggage, a customs officer found something irregular about his suitcase.

The officer got a screwdriver to prise open the bottom of the suitcase and found

underneath seven polythene bags containing raw opium.

Muhammed had denied knowledge of the presence of opium in the suitcase and said he had not caused the suitcase to be brought to Hongkong.

Mr Marash told the jury the Crown's case was that the suitcase belonged to Muhammed because he had the keys to it, the clothing in it fitted him and he held the luggage tag which corresponded to the suitcase.

The value of the opium was over \$100,000. If converted into prepared opium the value would be \$330,000.

Hearing continues today.

Mr Lester Kwok is defending Muhammed on the instructions of the Director of Legal Aid.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

NARCOTICS BUREAU SEIZES DRUG MANUFACTURING CENTER

Smoke Led To Raid

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 19 Dec 78 p 13

[Text]

Narcotics Bureau officers launched an early morning raid on a suspected drug manufacturing centre after smoke was seen coming out of a pipe in a flat, the High Court was told yesterday.

Fu Chun-sun (40), Ng Man-ying (63), Chung Cheung-po (39) and a 25-year-old woman, Cheng Fung-mui, were jointly charged with manufacturing dangerous drugs and possession of acetylated substances inside a flat in Man Yiu Building, Man Wai Street, Yaumati, on April 18.

Chung was further charged with possession of acetylated substances in a flat in Kun Tong.

All four pleaded not guilty before Mr Justice Addison.

Crown counsel Peter Duncan told the judge and jury that Narcotics Bureau officers, acting on information, kept a close watch on the top floor of Man Yiu Building.

They saw smoke, which smelled like dangerous drugs being manufactured, coming out of a pipe.

A party of Narcotics Bureau officers raided the flat at 2 am on April 18.

Mr Duncan said further inquiries led to the raid of another flat in Yuet Wah Street, Kun Tong, where 11.8 litres of acetylated substances were found.

Hearing continues today.

Three Get 10 Years

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 30 Dec 78 p 11

[Excerpts]

Three men were each sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment yesterday after they were found guilty of manufacturing dangerous drugs with a market value of about \$3.4 million.

Mr Justice Addison at the High Court also sentenced Fu Chun-sun (40), Ng Man-ying (63) and Chung Cheung-po (39) to five years' imprisonment for possession of acetylated substances inside a flat

in Man Yiu Building, Yaumati on April 18, the sentences to run concurrently.

A 25-year-old woman, Cheng Fung-mui, acquitted on the first charge but convicted on the latter, was sentenced to 3½ years' jail.

Chung was also found guilty on another charge of possession of acetylated substances in a flat in Kun Tong and received five years' jail, again to run concurrently.

All four had pleaded not guilty to the three charges. In passing sentence, Mr Justice Addison said judging from the instruments seized, the flat might be a centre not only for heroin manufacturing but also distribution of drugs. He also believed all the four defendants played important roles in the drug centre.

The amount of acetylated substances seized -- about 15.8 litres -- could be processed into heroin at a market value of some \$3.41 million. Crown counsel Peter Duncan prosecuted. Defence counsel Miss Esther Toh appeared for Fu, Mr W. Marriner appeared for Cheng, Mr M. Harwaney appeared for Ng and Mr A. A. Hoosen appeared for Chung.

Last Defendant Sentenced

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 3 Jan 79 p 9

[Excerpt]

A 39-year-old man was yesterday sentenced to nine years' imprisonment by Mr Justice Addison in the High Court for manufacturing dangerous drugs. Au Yeung Sai-piu pleaded guilty.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

KAI TAK HEROIN SEIZURE--Alert customs officers at Kai Tak Airport yesterday seized five pounds No 3 heroin concealed in the sides of two cardboard boxes containing preserved seafood and other groceries. The refined heroin was packed in half-ounce bags, each of which would have fetched about \$250,000 on the black market. A senior customs officer said a 38-year-old man who flew here from Bangkok on board an international flight had been arrested in connection with the seizure. He was expected to appear in San Po Kong Court tomorrow. The heroin, which was believed to be more than 50 percent pure, has been taken to the Government Chemist for examination. Sources said last night that it is rare to find refined No 3 heroin being smuggled into Hongkong. They added that it could have been "cut" with other substances before being sold to addicts. Most heroin sold in Hongkong ranges from between 20 and 23 percent in purity, the sources said. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 17 Dec 78 p 10]

DRUG CHARGE REMAND--A 52-year-old man, Kong Ka-on, appeared before Mr F.W. Blackwell in Tsun Wan Court yesterday on a charge of possession of dangerous drugs for the purpose of unlawful trafficking. It is alleged that Kong had in his possession a quantity of dangerous drugs in Tsun Wan, New Territories, on Monday. No plea was taken and Kong was remanded in jail custody until December 29. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 20 Dec 78 p 16]

DOCTORS ON DRUG CHARGE--Two medical practitioners--David Wong Wing-hong (51) and Frank Yu Yu-kai (46)--were yesterday charged with trafficking in a dangerous drug--Methaqualone. Wong is alleged to have committed the offence at 508 Nathan Road between December 4 and 13. No plea was taken. Mr W.A. Wilson at Causeway Bay Court remanded the two cases until January 4 pending chemist reports and further inquiries. Wong and Yu were each granted bail of \$5,000 each plus a surety in the same sum. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 21 Dec 78 p 16]

THREE SEIZED IN KOWLOON--Customs officers on plainclothes duty yesterday arrested three men in Kowloon City and seized one pound of No 3 heroin and 2½ lbs of morphine worth \$450,000 on the retail market. The officers earlier arrested two men who were found to be in possession of heroin. After interrogating the men, the officers raided a flat in the same district and arrested a man on the premises after seizing the morphine. The men will be charged with possession of dangerous drugs for the purpose of unlawful trafficking. They will appear in San Po Kong Court tomorrow. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 31 Dec 78 p 8]

UNDERWATER DRUG HOARD SEIZED--Narcotics Bureau detectives yesterday uncovered an underwater opium storage centre in Aberdeen. A senior officer of the bureau said last night this was the first time he had come across an underwater storage facility being used for prepared opium, although raw opium had been frequently found on the seabed. Following the seizure of the five pounds of prepared opium--worth about \$50,000--from a rope attached to an abandoned junk off Aplichau, Royal Navy divers searched the area. Detectives said the opium may have been stored there for some time as the drugs appeared to be old imports. Detectives received information about the underwater storage centre a few days ago. They boarded a junk 100 yards off Aplichau about 1 pm yesterday and pulled up a rope, where detectives found a tin weighted with rocks containing three packets of prepared opium. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 3 Jan 79 p 1]

CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA DISCOVERED--Jakarta, 5 Jan (AFP)--One hectare of cultivated marihuana trees was found in the middle of Bengkulu wilderness (Southwest Sumatra), Jakarta newspapers reported today. The Indonesian police have arrested suspects on suspicion of cultivating the marihuana. Local people supported the police in arresting them and discovering the marihuana field. Meanwhile, in Palembang (also Sumatra) the police have confiscated 2.25 kgs of opium and arrested four people charged with the trading of the drug illegally. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1351 GMT 5 Jan 79 BK]

CSO: 5300

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JAPAN

KYUSHU CUSTOMS NAB ROK SAILOR FOR DRUGS

Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English 30 Dec 78 p 2

[Text] Kitakyushu (Kyodo)--A South Korean sailor was placed under arrest by police Friday on charges of violating the Customs Law and the Stimulant Drugs Control Law for trying to smuggle about three kg of stimulant drug into Japan.

The arrested was Kwon Chong Hwa, 44, a sailor from Pusan, who works as a cook aboard the No 8 Choei Go, a 246.27-ton cargo boat.

Kwon was stopped by officials of the Moji Customs Inspection Office at about 5:30 p.m. Thursday when the boat arrived at Moji Port. He was found to have two kg of stimulant drugs in two bags in his jacket pocket, police said.

The customs officials also confiscated one more kilogram of stimulant drugs hidden on the boat.

The customs officials said that this is the largest amount of stimulant drugs confiscated by the Customs Office since the end of the war.

Kwon told police that he had been asked by one of his friends in Pusan to hand the stimulant drugs to a Korean man in front of Shimonoseki Station Thursday evening.

The No 8 Choei Go has made 66 trips to Japanese ports since 1969 but this is the first time that it has been involved with stimulant drug smuggling.

Police were also questioning the captain of the ship in connection with the smuggling case.

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JAPAN

BRIEFS

DRUG SMUGGLER ARRESTED--Kobe, 9 Jan KYODO--Hyogo police confiscated Tuesday 2.7 kilograms of stimulant drugs worth about 1.08 billion yen, the postwar record seized at a time in Hyogo Prefecture, smuggled by a South Korean freighter crewman. Police arrested the smuggler, Chong Kyu Bum, 49, a crewman aboard the 537-ton Ki Yong Ho, when he was found carrying 1 gram of stimulant as a sample for dealing in Amagasaki, Hyogo Prefecture. Police said Chong was a member of a South Korean smuggler ring directly connected with a stimulant drug manufacturer in Pusan, South Korea, and he sold drugs to gangs in Tokyo and Osaka regions. The 2.7 kilograms of stimulant was found in coined-lockers at the Japanese National Railways Osaka Station from two locker keys Chong carried. Police believe Chong himself smuggled about 5 kilograms of drugs into Japan and the rest of 2.3 kilograms was sold to Japanese underworld groups. Police searched the South Korean freighter Tuesday afternoon. The freighter entered Osaka port Sunday. Police also asked South Korean authorities through the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to investigate the drug manufacturer in Pusan. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 9 Jan 79 OW]

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

U.S. EXPERTS TRAIN DRUG REHABILITATION OFFICERS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Dec 78 p 5

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — Welfare Services Minister Datin Paduka Hajjah Aishah Ghani has called for the setting up of a separate drug rehabilitation centre for criminal addicts.

At present, criminal addicts are treated at the existing centres. However, their presence has created uneasiness among other inmates who come for voluntary rehabilitation.

There is already such a centre for criminal addicts in Sepang, Belangor, and the Ministry's aid has been sought for by the Prison Department which is asking for 10 welfare officers.

"The Ministry is still short of trained officers for drug rehabilitation. We can only give such an aid when there are enough trained staff," she told reporters after a meeting with Dr. Robert Dendy, Mr. Harvey Friedman and Mr. Thomas Conway of the U.S. National Institute of Drug Administration here today.

The experts are here for eight months to train 120 drug rehabilitation officers and help the Ministry develop a training system.

Datin Paduka Hajjah Aishah said the Ministry was concerned with the rehabilitation of addicts after they had been detoxified in the hospitals.

Besides medical attention, she said, a drug rehabilitation programme should include material aids in the form of skill trainings and job placements.

She said the Ministry was unable to use the "cold turkey" method of treatment as the centres were not well-equipped.

The training programme, jointly sponsored by the Malaysian and U.S. Governments, was aimed at training drug rehabilitation officers in counselling techniques and supervision.

"We are not here to import techniques from the United States but to work closely with our Malaysian counterparts in further refining those that are already being used here," Dr. Dendy said.

The first course or supervision would start next week, to be followed by two-week courses or counselling techniques.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

SUSPECTED TRAFFICKERS HELD UNDER EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 25 Dec 78 p 12

[Text]

JOHORE BARU, Sun. — At least 20 people suspected of being involved in "big time drug trafficking" in Johore have been sent to Pulau Jerajak this year.

Most of them were detained in police "clean up" operations in various districts.

Altogether, 80 people were sent to Pulau Jerajak for various criminal activities. They could not be brought to court because of insufficient

evidence.

Police sources said today: "The only way to cut them off from their activities is to detain them at Pulau Jerajak under the Emergency (Public Order and Prevention of Crime) Ordinance, 1969."

They said the drug situation in the state was causing much concern not only to the police, but to the public as well.

"As such we are left with no choice but to round up as many suspects as possible, found to be involved in drug trafficking in big way," they

said.

Most of those sent to Pulau Jerajak were picked up in Johore Baru, Muar and Batu Pahat, regarded as the worst drug areas in Johore. None of them was involved in "sophisticated" trafficking, the sources said.

Last year, a suspect sent to Pulau Jerajak was found to be a big time trafficker in Muar and a notorious gangster too.

He went about in an Alfa Romeo, carried out his activities using walkie talkies, and his victims were mainly students.

Student-addicts were his "contacts," who kept him informed of the supplies needed for other addicts.

These activities came to light when the headmaster of a Muar school found a walkie talkie in a "hardened" addict's bag.

722 on heroin

The sources said that this year, 864 people were prosecuted for drug offences.

Of these, 722 were hooked on heroin, about 80 were convicted for offences involving morphine and 34 for possession of opium. The rest were ganja cases.

The sources said at least another 10 sus-

pected big time traffickers were being held, pending trial.

This year, Johore police made three major drug arrests, involving opium, ganja and heroin trafficking.

The biggest ganja seizure was made in Jeram Estate, Muar where three men were arrested and 826 kilograms of the drug were recovered.

In Permas, Pontian, police arrested a man and seized about 100 katis of opium on Jan. 2 — the biggest seizure this year.

On Oct. 5, they seized 1,400 gms of heroin and detained three army personnel.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

NARCOTICS ARRESTS, TRIALS, SENTENCES REPORTED

Retrial On Trafficking Charge

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 22 Dec 78 p 7

[Excerpt]

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — The High Court today ordered a retrial for Abdul Malek bin Abdul Shukor, 27, who was sentenced to life imprisonment on a drug trafficking charge.

He had earlier appealed against his conviction and sentence imposed by the Special Sessions Court on Sept. 2 last year.

Federal Judge, Mr. Justice Syed Othman said the court president should have informed Abdul Malek of his

counsel's absence at the trial and asked him if he would like to engage another counsel.

He also said that there was a mistrial because the president, in his judgment, had been influenced by the cautioned statement recorded from Abdul Malek.

The Judge quashed the conviction and set aside the sentence imposed on Abdul Malek and ordered that he be retried before another court president.

Abdul Malek was found guilty of trafficking in 187.9 gm. of heroin at 3rd-mile Jalan Ipoh on Oct. 28, 1976.

He was jointly tried with three other men who were subsequently acquitted and discharged.

Three Years for Possession

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 28 Dec 78 p 9

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Cleaner Tiang Ewe Teh, 57, was sentenced by the Sessions Court here today to three years' jail for having dangerous drugs.

She pleaded guilty to two charges. The offences were committed at a house in Kampung Maxwell on June 15, 1978.

For the first charge of possessing 137 grammes of heroin, she was sentenced to three years' jail.

She was sentenced to another three years' jail on the second charge of possessing 23 grammes of morphine. The sentences are to run concurrently.

Eight Sentenced For Possession

Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 29 Dec 78 p 13

[Text]

IPOH, Sat.— Eight people pleaded guilty at the magistrate's court here today to various drug charges, while two others were acquitted and discharged, when the prosecution withdrew the charges against them.

Ong Nyap Fook, 20, of Canning Garden, was jailed for nine months for having 0.10 gm heroin in a plastic packet in Jalan Jaycee.

Hun Hee Sang, 22, of Bukit Merah New Village, was also jailed for nine months for illegal possession of 0.17 gm heroin on Nov. 3.

In the same court, Tang Yau Chuin, 22, of Simpang Pulai, was also sentenced to eight months' jail for having a

straw tube of heroin on Nov. 15 at the junction of Jalan Lahat and Jalan Simpang Pulai.

Lee Sin Chong, 20, of Menglembu Regrouping Area, was fined \$3,000 or nine months' jail for having 0.40 gm heroin on Oct. 18.

Two brothers, Teeng Kok Chin, and Chin Chee Keong, both 33, who were

jointly charged with him, were acquitted and discharged when the prosecution withdrew the charge against them after Lee's conviction.

The court was told the three were arrested by a police party in an empty house while smoking with some others.

P. Subbliah, 27, of Kampung Bercham, was fined \$800 or four months' jail on two

charges of having 0.15 gm heroin and one pellet of prepared opium on Nov. 15 at Jalan Kampung Paloh.

Van driver Baik Peng Heng, 21, of Shatin Park, was fined \$400 or two months' jail for having some heroin on Nov. 8 in Jalan Leong Boon Swee.

Abdul Hamid Ahmad, 23, of Gunung Rapat, was fined \$400 or three months' jail on two amended charges of having 0.06 gm heroin and 0.02 gm morphine on Oct. 25 in Brewster Road.

Yip Fook Keong, 25, of Waller Court, was fined \$500 or three months' jail on two charges of having 0.15 gm heroin and 0.03 gm morphine on Oct. 25 in Jalan Toh Puan Chah.

Three Tried on Heroin Charge

Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 29 Dec 78 p 13

[Excerpt]

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. — Two men, acquitted on a drug charge today, found their freedom shortlived — they were re-arrested for further detention and interrogation.

The two, bus conductor Tan Cheok Chye, 25, and salesman Gan Chai Lal, together with a poultry farm worker Teoh Foong San, were earlier found not guilty on a charge of having had 11.2 grammes of heroin.

They were alleged to have committed the of-

fence at the Kok Too Hotel in Jalan Pudu here on July 19.

Teoh was, however, sentenced to one year's jail when he pleaded guilty to a second charge of possessing 0.16 grammes of heroin at the same place.

Earlier, a pork ribs seller, Yong Fwa Tee, 35, told the court that at about 4 p.m. that day, he went to Room 510 in the Kok Too Hotel to buy drugs from Teoh Foong San alias Sunny.

He said two other persons (identified as Tan and Gan) were in the room with Teoh.

Sarawak Soldiers Charged

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 23 Dec 78 p 3

[Text]

KUCHING. — Two soldiers charged for alleged heroin trafficking have been transferred from police station to prison custody pending completion of investigations into the case.

Privates Tan Kiak

Chang, 27, and Abdul Rahim bin Ahmad, 26, both of the Third Brigade, Penrissen Camp here, were provisionally charged with trafficking at the main gate of the camp on November 18.

No pleas were taken and they were held at the

central police station, but when the case came up again recently magistrate Mr Chan Kay Poh agreed with a prosecution request for another remand and sent them to prison to await a further court appearance next Saturday.

Sarawak Heroin Arrest

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 23 Dec 78 p 14

[Excerpt]

KUCHING. — What had been a midnight party at his home with friends turned into a disaster for 31-year-old Abdul Karim bin Ali... when the police came calling.

For he was caught with heroin, and is now in jail for eight months for drug possession.

Abdul Karim, an ex-building labourer, claimed the heroin wasn't his. He said when some friends turned up 15 minutes before midnight bringing cakes and other things, one called George had the drug.

But magistrate Mr Chan Kay Poh rejected the story, saying a policeman had testified seeing Abdul Karim drop a matchbox containing the drug, and similar testimony

had been given by George Peter, the man Abdul Karim had named as the drug owner.

People scattered in all directions as police raided the house. Corporal Malcolm Voon rushed into the kitchen to find George Peter and Abdul Karim; inside the matchbox he dropped were 27 orange coloured tubes and chemical analysis showed they contained heroin.

Abdul Karim said when another policeman held up the matchbox and asked him who it belonged to he said he didn't know; it was the first time he'd seen it.

He claimed George then twice said the box was his. Abdul Karim added his wife cried and

scolded George for bringing "that dangerous thing" into the house.

He added George told her not to worry, and gave her \$10 to buy milk for the children. Abdul Karim called his wife to give evidence and she said she heard George admitting to the police it was his matchbox.

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

ONE MILLION DOLLARS IN DRUGS--Karachi, 20 Dec--Over two hundred kilogrammes of charras (Indian hemp) and opium worth nearly one million dollars in international market was seized Tuesday by police here in a surprise raid, official sources said. A Pakistani named Haji Sher Mohammed has been arrested on charges of smuggling. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 22 Dec 78 p 2]

CSO: 5300

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

DRUG PUSHERS--The Constabulary Anti-Narcotics Unit (CANU) has announced the arrest of four more prohibited drug distributors bringing to nine the number of persons nabbed in less than 72 hours. CANU chief Col Bienvenido Felix identified only the leader of the group (Yocasio) Tolero of Tondo, Manila. The identities of the three other suspects were temporarily withheld pending further investigation and follow-up operations. [Manila FEBC in English 2330 GMT 12 Jan 79 OW]

CSO: 5300

SOUTH KOREA

BRIEFS

DRUG-RELATED CRIMES--The drug-related crime rate showed a marked decline last year seemingly thanks to strengthened control. According to the Seoul District Prosecution, 579 persons were prosecuted for involvement in crimes related to hemp and other illegal drugs, compared with 786 in 1977 and 1,662 in 1976. The prosecution said of the booked persons, 297 were related to hemp-smoking with those in their 20's making up around 55 percent. Students below the age of 20 accounted for about 8.4 percent of those booked for hemp-smoking. The prosecution said the statistics showed that hemp smoking was dwindling among students and the general public while increasing among women lurking around U.S. military units. It also said in the past hemp was smoked in groups. But now there was a growing tendency to take to hemp individually, the prosecution said. [Text] [Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 5 Jan 79 p 8]

DRUG SMUGGLING--Kobe, Japan (AFP)--A crewman of the South Korean freighter Kiyang, plying between Pusan and Kobe, was arrested here Monday night as the alleged courier of 2.07 kilograms of stimulant drug, worth about 800 million yen (\$4 million), police said Tuesday. [Text] [Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 10 Jan 79 p 8]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS TOLD TO SET UP ANTINARCOTICS CENTERS

Bangkok NATIONAL REVIEW in English 23 Dec 78 p 3 BK

[Text] Deputy Interior Minister Prem Tinsulanon has ordered provincial governors throughout the country to speed up the establishment of provincial-level anti-narcotics centres to eradicate drug trafficking. In his order dated Dec 20 which was distributed to all provincial governors, Gen Prem expressed concern over the widespread drug trafficking in rural areas despite the government's effort to suppress it. Drug smuggling and trafficking have spread to the provinces, creating serious criminal problems, he indicated. To solve the problem successfully, Gen Prem said, all parties concerned must coordinate and cooperate in the prevention and suppression of narcotics. The operation must be decisive and steady, he said. Provincial anti-narcotics centres which should be set up as soon as possible would be headed by governors of the respective provinces, he said. The centres, which will be operated by competent government agencies, will map out plans and measures on drug prevention and suppression and act as coordinator with government agencies concerned with solutions of the drug problems in their respective provinces. Anti-narcotics centres must conduct their operations in accordance with a two-point policy as follows:

1. To propagate the danger of drugs at all levels of education and to help organize anti-narcotics clubs or associations.
2. In their suppression, officials must crack down on every source of drug production, producers, traffickers, drug addicts and influential people behind the drug trafficking ring.

Officials should also prevent the influx of drugs into the country, improve their intelligence system, organize orientation courses on drug suppression and take legal actions against government officials who ignore their duties concerning drug suppression.

In the north, Gen Prem said, plans on the cultivation of substitute crops and the reduction of opium plantations cultivated by hills tribe people should be mapped out. He also ordered all provinces to report to the Interior Ministry before the 10th of every month their progress on drug suppression operations.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

ANTIDRUG UNIT AT AIRPORT--The Office of Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) will set up a special unit at Don Muang International Airport to check on suspected couriers leaving the country. ONCB Secretary General Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin said yesterday [26 December] that the Civil Aviation Department will provide convenience for the checking of drugs. The new unit is expected to be established next year, he said. He said that authorities had arrested numerous persons attempting to smuggle narcotics out of the country during the Eighth Asian Games. The drug couriers believed that authorities were too busy with the athletes and the games to check them thoroughly, General Phao said. The secretary general said drug traffickers had recently changed their smuggling routes through Burma to southern Thailand. [Text] [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 27 Dec 78 p 3 BK]

AUSTRALIAN HEROIN TRAFFICKERS--In Thailand two Australians have been charged with the possession of 1.4 kilos of heroin. They are (George Buckley Bullick), 37, and (Donald Royal Wooster), 42, both of Melbourne. They were arrested yesterday at Chienmai in northern Thailand. Police said that in a search of a hotel room occupied by the two Australians they found 1.4 kilos of top-grade heroin packed into four plastic bags inside a suitcase. The police alleged that (Bullick) and (Wooster) bought the heroin for \$18,000. Its market value in Australia would have been at least \$500,000. Both men will appear in court at Chiangmai on Friday, and the police will oppose bail. The police also said that further charges relating to heroin trafficking were being considered. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 17 Jan 79 OW]

HEROIN TRAFFICKING CHARGES--Bangkok, 5 Jan (AFP)--Charges were filed yesterday against an Italian national for attempted heroin trafficking and exporting. Antonio Raiano was arrested last 3 November with 2.4 kilograms (5.3 pounds) of heroin, and reportedly confessed to the charges during interrogation. At the time of his arrest, Raiano claimed to be the son of a high-ranking police official in Rome. The Italian Embassy in Bangkok later released a statement saying only that his father had passed away 2 years ago. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0550 GMT 5 Jan 78 BK]

MARIHUANA PLANTATION DISCOVERED--Prachuab Khiri Khan--A large marihuana plantation was discovered last week at a Burmese rebels' stronghold in the Thai-Burmese border here, a military source reported yesterday. The discovery was made after the stronghold was captured by Karen troopers last week. The 50-rai plantation could produce about 50 tons of marihuana a year, most of which would be sold to local narcotics traffickers for sale abroad, the source said. He estimated that for the last 3 years until the capture of the stronghold last week, several hundred tons of marihuana from the plantation had been smuggled abroad. The leader of the rebels, General Bo Let Ya, a defence minister in the U Nu regime, was killed with three bodyguards on 27 November last year in a clash with Karen troopers. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Jan 79 p 1 BK]

HEROIN POSSESSION CHARGES--Two persons were arrested at Chan-chao Restaurant on Vibhavadi-Rangsit Road last night on charges of possessing 1,400 grammes of No 4 heroin worth about 250,000 baht, Narcotics Suppression police reported. Police identified the arrested as Seri Homchamod, 43, a truck driver, and Pakdi Thosathammakun, 34, a taxi driver. The two men told police they were hired for 3,000 baht to deliver the heroin, which was found packed in four plastic bags, to an unidentified customer in the restaurant. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Jan 79 p 3 BK]

DRUG RAID--Metropolitan police arrested four persons, including an Air Force noncommissioned officer, and seized over 2 kilogrammes of high-grade heroin in a house raid in Pathum Thani yesterday afternoon. The four suspects were identified as Petty Officer Surin Yaiying and his wife, La-ong, and Thongsuk Tanya and his wife, Amphan. [Text][Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Jan 79 p 3 BK]

CSO: 5300

CANADA

JAIL FOR 'DUTCH CONNECTION' HASHISH SMUGGLER

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 10 Jan 79 pp 1, 2

[Text]

A man described as The Dutch Connection behind a multi-million-dollar drug-smuggling ring was sentenced to 14 years in jail and fined \$300,000 yesterday for conspiring to import about a ton of hashish.

After losing a month-long legal battle to restrict evidence against him in an Ontario Supreme Court jury trial, Gurdev Singh Sangha, 49, gave up and pleaded guilty after the prosecution and defence lawyers agreed on a sentence.

The RCMP estimated that the ton of hashish he smuggled in had a wholesale value of \$2-million and a street value up to \$4-million.

Mr. Justice John O'Driscoll concurred with the sentence and gave Mr. Sangha a year to pay the fine or face three more years in jail.

Federal prosecutor Ari Coomaraswamy called it "the worst possible case of trafficking in hashish which has come before the courts in Canada. He (Mr. Sangha) was at the top of this large, international organization of drug traffickers which had connections on three continents."

He had operators in India who smuggled the hashish into Canada, others who flew in from England to sell the drug and still others in Europe and Canada who collected and transported the cash to Europe where it was put in Swiss bank accounts. At one point he tried to have money smuggled out of Canada in the doors of a car.

Swiss authorities froze Mr. Sangha's assets on the request of Canadian authorities who found he had placed his illegal proceeds in gold, silver, stocks and bonds, including those of Ontario Hydro. In addition he put \$525,000 into two Hamilton apartment buildings.

In 1968 Mr. Sangha was convicted in England of importing narcotics and served three years of a five-year sentence. At the same time he earned a doctorate in laser technology.

Defence lawyer Joseph Pomerant described Mr. Sangha as a contrite man who wants to continue studying while he is in prison. He said the man immigrated to

England as a laborer in the late 1950s and managed to become an engineer.

Mr. Pomerant said the \$300,000 fine represented the amount of money that Mr. Sangha took out of Canada in the drug activities to which he pleaded guilty.

Mr. Coomaraswamy said in an interview after the case that he believed this was the largest fine ever imposed on an individual in Canada.

During the trial police said they had spent more than \$100,000 in the investigation but they seized 1,100 pounds of the ton of hashish smuggled in and \$164,000 which was being smuggled out of Vancouver in a car.

The judge said Mr. Sangha "operated from a control tower in the Netherlands" where he was safe because there was no extradition treaty with Canada for drug offences.

Mr. Coomaraswamy said the man was caught about a year ago by Belgian police in a stroke of luck for authorities. At the time Mr. Sangha was driving through Belgium on his way back to his sanctuary in the Netherlands. After his arrest he

lost a court battle to stay in Belgium and he was extradited to Canada to stand trial.

Previously three couriers and a bagman for the payments received terms ranging from two to five years for their roles in the 1976 case.

Mr. Coomaraswamy said in an interview that two other principals in the case are living in the Netherlands and India and cannot be extradited under present laws.

CSO: 5320

CANADA

BRIEFS

SENTENCING IN COCAINE CASE--Brampton--Manuel Escalante, 34, of Lima, Peru, the second man convicted in a smuggling case involving cocaine with an estimated street value of \$1-million, was sentenced yesterday to 10 years in penitentiary. His co-accused, Luis Garcia, 36, also of Lima, received the same sentence on Wednesday. The two men have been friends since childhood. The two were arrested on April 9, 1978, after customs officers at Toronto International Airport checked Mr. Escalante's suitcase because it smelled of fresh glue. They found 3.2 pounds of 91 per cent pure cocaine hidden in the lining. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL, WEEKEND EDITION in English 6 Jan 79 p 11]

SEVEN-YEAR TERMS--Thunder Bay (Special)--Two Thunder Bay men were each sentenced yesterday to seven years in prison for importing marijuana into Canada from the United States. Sentencing Ian Raymond Smith, 26, and Alexander Frank Nowak, 25, Judge Patrick FitzGerald of district court said the punishment would not have been so harsh had he not been required by law to impose a minimum seven-year term. Both men, who are first offenders, will be eligible for parole after serving a third of their sentences. The two men were arrested at the Pigeon River border crossing on Aug. 8, 1977. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL, WEEKEND EDITION in English 6 Jan 79 p 11]

COCAINE SMUGGLING CHARGE--Mississauga--A Chicoutimi, Que., woman has been charged with smuggling two pounds of cocaine into Canada in her brassiere. Constable Ronald Bellanger of the RCMP drug squad at Toronto International Airport said the Peruvian cocaine, sewn into the bottom part of a brassiere a woman was wearing, has a wholesale value in Canada of about \$100,000 but would retail on the streets for up to \$500,000. The 25-year-old woman was returning from Lima when she was searched by customs inspectors at the airport. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL, WEEKEND EDITION in English 13 Jan 79 p 2]

CSO: 5320

BULGARIA

'BTA' REPORTS IMPROVEMENT OF DRUG SMUGGLING CONTROL

Sofia BTA in English 0815 GMT 3 Jan 79 AU

["Against Drug Smuggling"--BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 3 Jan, BTA--In 1978 the customs authorities have uncovered 85 cases of smuggling with nearly 3,300 kilograms of drugs. Compared to the previous two years this quantity is reduced. In 1976 it was 5,120 kg, and in 1977 4,881 kg. The Bulgarian customs authorities are of the view that due to the strengthened control the smugglers take still fewer risks to cross the Bulgarian frontiers.

The cases of heroin smuggling have become quite frequent of late. It is obvious that the labs for its obtaining are being moved nearer to the production centers, nearer the raw material sources. Under the circumstances the customs officers' vigilance continues to be alert although the drug addiction problem does not exist in Bulgaria.

Now more than ever, combating drug addiction, especially drug smuggling, requires the united international efforts. This was the purpose of the first international customs conference for cooperation in combating drug smuggling, which was held last September in Varna. Organized by the customs administratives of Bulgaria and the USA, it was attended by representatives of 24 countries, the UNO and the Customs Cooperation Council. Bulgaria is expected to host again a customs expert meeting in the autumn of 1979. The experts will review the practical results of the conference and will give recommendations on future actions against the illegal traffic.

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

OPERATION UNCOVERING INTERNATIONAL COCAINE RING DETAILED

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 16 Dec 78 p 16

[Text] The Ministry of Justice has determined that two cocaine traffickers of the so-called "international Mafia connection," arrested in the course of "operation extermination," which gave the additional benefit of 17 kilograms of cocaine seized, are being held incommunicado until they have been questioned by the U. S. police who are investigating the massacre and collective suicide in Pastor Jim Jones' People's Temple.

Those men were connected with supplying the followers of Jim Jones' sect. They had maintained that relationship (and eventually drug smuggling) since the time when Jones lived in Belo Horizonte, before settling in Guyana. One of them -- arrested by the agents of the U. S. Drug Enforcement Administration, who also took part in the operation -- had passed through the hands of the Guyanese police, which permitted discovery of the network's international connections.

Successful Beginning

The inquiries leading to the dismantling of that international gang began with the arrest of Afranio Celso Pereira Martins and Wanderley Campelo, who had smuggled from Bolivia part of the cocaine hidden inside an accordion. The pair were living in the Hotel Paris in Sao Paulo, and in their possession the agents of the Armed Tactical Pursuit Group found a little black notebook containing a series of addresses. The Armed Tactical Pursuit Group is an operational group under the Sao Paulo office of the DPF [Federal Police Department]. It is under the command of District Federal Police Chief Arthur Carbone Filho.

Investigations centered on the names written in that little notebook, which were a list of consumers serviced by the traffickers, made possible the identification of a group of cocaine smugglers who were operating with the "water-tight compartment" technique. At the moment when Chief Carbone Filho was giving information on that series of arrests to the press, Federal Judge Cid Flacquer-Scartezini was sentencing Afranio Celso Pereira Martins and

Wanderley Campelo each to six years of imprisonment for the trafficking that led to the beginning of the investigation.

Because of the facts discovered in Sao Paulo, the investigation carried out in Belo Horizonte (at the request of the U. S. Government, as the People's Temple case was involved) and the trails uncovered in Campo Grande, Corumba and Bolivia, a meeting was held in Brasilia. Col Moacir Coelho, director general of the DPF, Fabio Wanderley Calheiros, director of the Drug Division, Alceu Andrade Rocha, coordinator of the Police Center and Carbone Filho, chief of the Sao Paulo District of the Federal Police, took part.

"Operation extermination" was thought up at that meeting and given top priority. An axis of action was established between the regional headquarters of Sao Paulo and Mato Grosso, the latter under the command of Regional Chief Antonio Santana. The operation had two additional sources of support: the agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, who furnished information as it came to their attention, and the Federal DOPS [Department of Political and Social Order] in the two states, under the coordination of chiefs Mauricio Nunes and Frederico Paulo Astolfo respectively.

The investigations even delved into the activities of many consumers of the drugs supplied by the gang. They were members of high Sao Paulo and Mato Grosso society. When the investigation had been completed, the traffickers were identified and their steps were followed without interruption.

Many agents infiltrated Bolivia disguised as tourists. As the traffickers entered Brazil they were being arrested and held in close confinement. The first to be found was Adao Dias de Oliveira, who was in Corumba. The agents seized 1,750 grams in his possession. The others were arrested as the investigation went forward: the Bolivians Maria Sanchez de Sueldo and Jose Rojas Torrico were arrested in Campo Grande with 2,930 grams of "fish-scale" cocaine. The arrest of the Bolivian national Melvy Gonzalez Max brought 2,760 grams more. Roque Justiniano Gallego, a Bolivian, was smuggling 4,110 grams reported to be for the group associated with Portuguese millionaire Antonio Augusto Nunes. Artur de Jesus Cunha Rocha, a Portuguese, finally told who the leader of his group was.

The remaining gang members were shortly being captured. At most, they knew each other by sight, as their modus operandi was that of "watertight compartments," and this prevented easy recognition of one gang member by another. With Elias El Daher, Wilson Said Boutros and Dinarte Vicente de Almeida Filho seized 1,500 grams, for a total of 17 kilos out of a shipment of 25 kilos acquired in Bolivia, with a gross value of 60 million cruzeiros.

New Route

It was the U. S. agents who supplied the report on the Portuguese national Antonio Augusto Nunes, who up to that time had been operating in the direction of centralizing his operation in France. Once he had been detected by

the DEA they discovered that he had been operating in Paris-United States axis since 1963. This time he changed his route, establishing a Bolivia-Brazil-Portugal axis, distributing the drug from Portugal.

One of the accused declared that he was to have met a Portuguese national in Bolivia. When the facts were put together, agents disguised as tourists located Antonio Nunes and followed him. They discovered that the plan had been frustrated. Nunes boarded a VASP [Sao Paulo Air Line] airplane to return to his own country.

Contact was established with the captain of the airplane and it landed at Congolhas -- Sao Paulo -- and parked with its doors closed until the federal agents could arrive from Sao Paulo and place the leader and financier of that group under arrest. As this was going on the police in Campo Grande remained on the alert until Antonio Nunes' arrival.

In the secondary case of the People's Temple, two of the three persons connected with Jim Jones' sect who had the task of supplying the users who belonged to that group of religious fanatics have died. The third is being sought by agents of the DEA.

This fact brought about the opening of an inquiry by U. S. authorities. The DEA's informers made it clear to the federal agents in Sao Paulo that two of the suspects were connected with the Belo Horizonte investigations. One of them had been in the hands of the Guyanese Police, a fact confirmed by Interpol.

12,116
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

COCAINE SEIZED, DISTILLERY UNCOVERED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Dec 78 p 16

[Unattributed report: "Seventeen Kilograms of Cocaine Seized in Rio"]

[Text] Rio--The day before yesterday the Federal Police seized at the Galeao International Airport most of the cocaine already smuggled into Brazil: 17.7 kilograms, assessed at 70 billion cruzeiros. Purchased in Santa Cruz de La Sierra, in Bolivia, the truck was on its way to Los Angeles, in the United States, carried by a group of seven North Americans (one of whom a lady physician), traveling by Lear Jet leased from the Executive Aviation Service, a Long Beach, California, enterprise, at the cost of \$650 per flight hour. The group had visited eight places.

Two kilograms of cocaine, of the purest grade, already seized in Brazil were to be sold in Rio de Janeiro for two million cruzeiros. The arrested traffickers--three women and two men, in addition to the pilot and co-pilot--were to spend three days in Rio de Janeiro, at the Hotel Sheraton, where they had reservations. The seven United States citizens--one of them naturalized--deny ownership of the powder contained in 18 bags of laminated paper rolled in clear plastic and stored in one of the suitcases of the group, discovered by the federal agents in the baggage hold of the Lear Jet. The group has already acquired a lawyer hired by the United States Consulate in Rio: Lauro Zairo, lieutenant colonel, commander of the 13th Military Police Battalion of the State of Rio.

The five passengers and two crew members of the Lear Jet were detained at the Galeao International Airport several hours after the Sao Paulo police had caught red-handed, in Leblon, with four kilograms of cocaine, the trafficker Berthier Bacelar, member of the Brazilian branch of the mafia headed by Tomaso Boscetta, detained in Rio in 1972. Last night, exhibiting to the press the seven detained United States citizens, agents from the Drug Control Office, Regional Superintendency of the Federal Police, were unable to state whether or not they had any connection with Berthier Bacelar.

Meanwhile, according to the state police, Bacelar is said to have confessed selling 17 kilograms of cocaine to a group of Americans who are "in Rio, traveling by private jet."

The Group Consists of Seven Americans

The Lear Jet landed at the Galeao International Airport at 1900 hours, on the day before yesterday, coming from Santa Cruz de La Sierra, which it had left in the evening. The two crew members and five passengers were taken to the office of the Sea, Air, and Order Police Office for identification: Pilot Harvey Allen Misbin; co-pilot Daniel William Clover; passengers Robert Joseph Ramirez (interpreter), George Antony Cruz, Junior (working for a foreign currency exchange firm), Martha Amaya Baca (interpreter), Joyce Anita Wainwright (interpreter) and Esther Romo Andoor (physician). With the exception of Antony Cruz, a naturalized citizen, all others are United States citizens, working in Los Angeles.

The federal agents established, in Galeao, that even though the group intended to remain three days in Rio de Janeiro, not one of them had a tourist visa for Brazil. The police told the group that their stay in Rio de Janeiro would depend on the authorization of the United States Consulate and that should a stay be allowed, a fine would have to be paid for having entered the country without a proper visa. Meanwhile, the Sea, Air, and Order Police Office contacted the United States Consulate in Rio de Janeiro and, unable to reach the consul, decided to wait for the steps taken by the consulate, while the group would be kept at police office. While waiting for the consulate's answer, the police undertook a search of the group's luggage, eight suitcases having been inspected. At that point the agents noticed the group's nervousness. According to the police, Roberto Ramirez and Cruz, Junior, were seen talking to each other in a corner of the room, after which they made an offer to the police: They would pay double the amount of the fine stipulated for the absence of a visa providing that their baggages were not searched. The Federal Police rejected the bribe and opened the luggage of the five passengers and the two members of the crew.

"Made in Brazil"

The 17.7 kilograms of cocaine were found in a gray-colored suitcase. It was located in 18 bags of laminated paper wrapped in clear plastic. The suitcase also contained a role of laminated paper and a large piece of folded plastic fabric to be used for repackaging the drug after a sale. The seven Americans denied ownership of the suitcase with the cocaine, claiming ignorance as to how it had entered the plane. It is the belief of the Federal Police that out of the 17.7 kilograms, assessed at 70 million cruzeiros, 2 kilograms would have been sold in Rio de Janeiro for 2 million cruzeiros. The two kilograms of cocaine were contained in a bag labeled "Made in Brazil," which would have indicated the destination of the drug. Rio de Janeiro was the only Brazilian city on the group's itinerary.

International Itinerary

Caught in the act, the five passengers and two crew members were taken to the drug control office where they were interrogated and where they faced the press last night. The passengers claimed to have leased the Lear Jet in Los Angeles for a pleasure trip. The airplane, property of the Executive Aviation Service, located at 3521 East Spring Street, Long Beach, California, 90806, had been leased for \$650 per flight hour. The chief pilot Daniel W. Glover stated that by the time the plane had reached Galeao it had already been in the air for 13 1/2 hours. The total trip was to last 30 hours, representing a cost of \$9,500--close to 400,000 cruzeiros--for the haulage of the cocaine. This figure did not include the cost of the plane's detention in Rio de Janeiro by the Federal Police. Its release will be determined by the Federal Judiciary.

The police were impressed by the purity of the seized cocaine. Once mixed, considering its high quality, the drug could have been quadrupled in volume before reaching the market. The group left Los Angeles on the 26th (Monday). The following day it touched down in La Paz and Acapulco, Mexico, and Guayaquil, Ecuador, for refueling. The Lear Jet left Guayaquil on the 27th, for Santa Cruz de La Sierra, a Bolivian city internationally acknowledged as a launching point for the international cocaine traffic. After spending the night in Santa Cruz de La Sierra, the airplane took off for Rio de Janeiro. The group was to remain here three days and return to Los Angeles.

According to the Federal Police the detention of the seven Americans identified, one more time, Rio de Janeiro as an important stop in the route of the international cocaine traffic. Purchased in Bolivia, the cocaine has been reaching the United States via the east coast since the beginning of the 1970's, when the U.S. authorities undertook to police more tightly the west coast of the country, to block the smuggling of the drugs from South American countries. As the itinerary was changed, Brazilian cities such as Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, essentially, became important stops in the drug traffic.

Yesterday, the Rio Drug Control Office discovered at kilometer 18 of the Rio-Friburgo Highway, in the Cachoeira de Macacu municipality, a cocaine distillery owned by the Sao Paulo trafficker Berthier Bacelar, arrested on Thursday in Leblon. The investigation launched by the state conflicts with that of the Federal Police, following the discovery of 17.7 kilograms of cocaine in an airplane.

The detention of Berthier Bacelar occurred almost accidentally. According to the drug control office agents, he had bought a Maverick in Sao Paulo and paid for it with a bad check. As he was already facing several charges in Sao Paulo, two officials and an investigator from Degrans decided to go to Rio to collect information on Bacelar from the office of the Banco Itau, Ataulfo de Paiva Avenue, from which the check cashed in Sao Paulo

had originated. Bacelar showed up while the policemen were talking to the bank manager, and was detained. A small bottle of cocaine was found on his person. Later on, interrogated at Office No 14, he is said to have confessed to selling 17 kilograms of cocaine brought in from Sao Paulo to some Americans staying in Rio, traveling by private plane.

In Berthier's Maverick the police found a receipt for the purchase of building materials from an enterprise located on kilometer 18 of the Rio-Friburgo Highway. An improvised distillery was found at the enterprise, with all the necessary facilities for the manufacturing of cocaine. The drug was dried in a portable improvised facility containing five 200 watt bulbs. He confessed that his wife Marcia was the one who prepared the cocaine for sale.

The name Berthier Bacelar has been mentioned by a number of drug traffickers imprisoned in the United States. According to the Rio police he is one of the main contacts between Brazilian and American traffickers.

5157
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

ARREST OF ARGENTINE REVEALS COCAINE ROUTE TO CANADA

Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Dec 78 p 16

[Text] Three kilos of pure cocaine -- worth \$150,000 -- were to be "exported" from Sao Paulo to Canada, the country considered to be the newest market for the international traffickers. The police discovered the traffic and caught the Argentine Rafael Alberto Aguilar (a naturalized Canadian) in flagrante and are investigating the case, which involves several Brazilians. Aguilar is 33 years old and resides in Quebec, Canada.

This information was divulged yesterday by Commissioner Carlos Ferreira Castro, director of the Drug Division of the DEIC [Criminal Investigations Department] and by Commissioner Sergio Paranhas Fleury, who volunteered this detail: "Rafael is an important link in an international gang of traffickers. We are on the verge of discovering a second gang, perhaps even bigger than this one."

In the presence of the entire police team that has dealt with the case, Rafael Alberto Aguilar was presented to the press at 1700 hours. He kept his head down and did not utter a word. He is pale and wears his hair in an "American cut," has a mustache, is about 1.65 meters tall. He showed no emotion in the presence of the photographers.

Information was divulged on the affair only by the two delegates. They displayed the merchandise just as it was seized on 4 December in the "Pareoval Sawmill, Ltd.," at Henrique Ongari street No. 290, in Agua Branca.

In the office of Commissioner Carlos Ferreira Castro, a few hardwood planks rested on four chairs. In the middle of them there were two "PCV" tubes one inch in diameter with threaded caps on each end. These served as containers for the conditioning of the cocaine.

Many Suspects

The owners of the sawmill had to explain the affair to the police, but everything is still being investigated, including the involvement of three other sawmills that shared in camouflaging the product. There have also been

investigations which have aroused suspicions concerning some gangland personalities in the state capital.

The investigations are reaching out into other states (whose names have not been revealed by the authorities) and into other countries, such as Argentina, Bolivia and naturally Canada, since that country is the final destination of the poison which was to be dispatched tomorrow in three logs on a freighter leaving the port of Santos.

Members of police forces of other countries (whose names have not been divulged either) are due to arrive in Sao Paulo by next Saturday in order to collaborate in the investigations, which will reach as far as the United States. Concerning that collaboration Commissioner Fleury declared that "it is a set of moves with one sole objective: to do away with the drug traffic."

New Route

Fleury explained that the cocaine was bought by Aguilar in Bolivia, more precisely in Santa Cruz de la Sierra. In the producing zone it cost 8,000 cruzeiros a kilo. With reference to the price at which it would be sold in Canada, he was unable to reply, explaining that "I can state that in the United States those three kilos would easily be sold for \$150,000."

The Argentine came by bus from Bolivia to the City of Sao Paulo by bus, passing through Corumba and Campo Grande. On the subject of using the bus, the DEIC director explained that "this man is a professional. If he had come by air, he would be guilty of violating the Law of National Security and the risk would be greater too."

According to what the Sao Paulo authorities were able to discover, Aguilar was able to send cocaine to Canada three times and was not caught until he changed his route and traveled by way of Sao Paulo. The other times he had not come through Brazil.

"In spite of that," Commissioner Carlos Ferreira observed, "we have not ceased to worry about the international traffic. We are always seeking to determine whether Sao Paulo really is turning into a new route for that kind of commerce. We are being quite successful."

Fleury did not deny the possibility that Sao Paulo or other cities in the state have been a staging area for shipping drugs to other countries. He declared that he is "certain that in a short time we shall close the doors of all Brazil on the trade in narcotics."

12,116
CSO: 5300.

BRAZIL

POLICE ASSIST IN REHABILITATION EFFORT OF 300 ADDICTED YOUTHS

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 18 Dec 78 p 16

[Text] A group of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and one judge who works in his free time have cured 300 young people of their dependency on drugs this year. Seventy-nine others are still undergoing treatment in a pioneering initiative by Brazilian police.

Just to give an idea of the kind of problem faced by the group, there are cases like that of the father who, when he cautioned his 17-year-old son on the risks he was running by getting mixed up with drugs, heard the boy reply: "You are behind the times. If you had been born now, you'd be into them too." The boy is one of the 79 addicts that the group of volunteers is trying to cure.

An Old Idea

The creation of a social service with the objective of curing drug addicts is quite old, according to Commissioner Jose Roberto Vieira. It dates from 1972, and it began in the now defunct Department of Customs and Diversions of the former State of Rio de Janeiro. "In the meantime," he observed, "in spite of the efforts of Commissioner Rogerio Mont Karp, for reasons that had nothing to do with our willingness, the idea was never put into action."

At the beginning of last year, in the big old house on the corner of Saldanha Marinho and Visconde de Sepetiba streets, in Niteroi, Commissioner Jose Roberto and Judge Paulo Cesar Panza resolved to go forward with the idea. They had been promoting discussions on the danger of narcotics in clubs, schools and barracks. They sought out psychiatrists Osmar Santos and Juber da Silveira Goncalves and psychologist Reinaldo de Oliveira. They also recruited social workers Marilene Araujo Machado and Mrs Maria Amelia Costa.

That group, which works in hospitals and psychiatric clinics in Niteroi, alternates daily in caring for the patients. They do not limit their attentions to persons held in the Narcotics Division but care as well for others who go there every afternoon seeking help. According to Commissioner Jose Roberto, they are from 18 to 27 years old, most of them are male, and

addicts who have never been in police custody predominate. However, many of these have learned of the social service through former inmates.

Cure Complicated

For Judge Paulo Cesar Panza, of the First Criminal Bench of Sao Goncalo, the curing of drug addicts is not just a matter of getting them off drugs. It is also a question of reintegrating them into society, since many of them are unemployed and have no professional skills. "Since the best therapy for an addict is to have an occupation," the judge remarked, "my task is to look for work for them, and I go around to service clubs like the Lions and Rotary."

After emphasizing that there is no predominance of one social class or another -- "persons of all kinds seek us out" -- Judge Paulo Cesar Panza observed that the primordial function of the law in relation to the addict is not punishment but recovery and "thus the Niteroi Narcotics Division is carrying out the commands of the law." In spite of the treatment's being done in a police station, the demand is great and the addict is immediately told that he has nothing to be afraid of and that "he will have a friendly hand to help him," the judge added.

The recovery process, according to Commissioner Jose Roberto and psychiatrist Juber da Silveira Goncalves, an INAMPS [expansion unknown] physician, consists of psychiatry, which may be either individual or group. There is always a physician, a psychologist and a social worker on duty who guide and listen to the addict. As social worker Marilene Araujo Machado explained it, they always seek "to emphasize his good side." In addition to that, the social service seeks out the members of the addicts' families with the additional objective of orienting them on the best way of helping in the treatment.

Causes of Addiction

Although the group making up the social service of the Niteroi Drug Division is not worried about what may have turned the young person to drug addiction, "but rather to show him a way out," doctors as well as psychologists and social workers, in addition to Commissioner Jose Roberto believe that the narcotic "is not a cause: it is an effect." According to the police officer, who is also a sociologist, addiction is a result of social, family and psychological reasons, all of them acting negatively on the addict.

"Modern life," observed Commissioner Jose Roberto, "is growing more and more difficult. The fight for survival leads parents to forget about their children, who go into the streets to find the answers to their questions. That is when the young person begins to run the risk of using narcotics, simply because we never have time to talk with him. That struggle to survive is making the parents return home very late and leave very early, weakening the family structure. And it is for that reason that we think it is time to see in what direction we are heading -- youth, police, society."

The opinion of psychiatrist Juber da Silveira Goncalves is not very different from that of the police commissioner as far as the family problem is concerned as a probable cause of drug addiction. "Children," he observed, "do not take kindly to being raised by stepmothers or stepfathers. And when that seems inevitable the young person who has already gone through the turmoil of a maladjusted marriage winds up as an addict. His recovery may take a week or a month, or it may never take place."

12,116
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

U.S. DRUG TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--Of the seven U.S. citizens arrested on 28 December last year when they arrived at Rio de Janeiro International Airport with 17.7 kgs of cocaine, only George Anthony Cruz Jr, was sentenced yesterday to pay a fine of 12,500 cruzeiros and 5 years of imprisonment. The others were acquitted for lack of proof and signed a document undertaking the commitment to leave the country immediately. George Anthony had confessed to be the owner of the drug. The pilot of the Lear-Jet which brought the U.S. citizens, Daniel William Glover, can return to Brazil because, besides being an informer of the Drugs Enforcement Administration, he was working for the Executive Aviation Service. [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 20 Jan 79 p 22 PY]

DRUG REHABILITATION--The first center for drug rehabilitation in the country was opened yesterday by Waldemar de Alcantara, Ceara Governor. "The center will be used in particular for psychotic patients or patients suffering from a mental disability acquired prior to their addiction," psychiatrist Josue de Castro explained. One of its purposes is to promote psychotherapeutic aid and control of the patients who have already been subjected to hospital treatment but need further help. [Text] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Dec 78 p 13]. 5157

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

NEW BOGOTA POLICE CHIEF APPOINTED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 7 Dec 78 p B-5

[Text] The new commander of the Bogota Police Department, Col Hernando Sachica Aponte, will take office at 0930 hours today. He replaces Col Jorge Enrique Bulla Quintana who will become deputy inspector of the department.



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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

DRUG LAW DECLARED CONSTITUTIONAL

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 8 Dec 78 pp A-1, A-2

[Excerpt] The drastic law that represses drug traffic, coffee smuggling and the illegal arms trade was declared constitutional last night by the Supreme Court of Justice.

Nevertheless, some provisions were struck down for being imprecise and lending themselves to possible arbitrariness. These include a norm that was interpreted as an "escape law" for those who disobeyed the orders of the military forces and the National Police.

Decree 2144 was dictated by the present administration last 4 October based on the prerogatives of Article 121 of the Constitution on disturbance of public order and state of siege throughout national territory. The norms are being applied with special strictness in La Guajira where restrictions on the use of national air space and on drug traffic have been established.

In accord with the Constitution, this decree was reviewed by the Supreme Court so that it could rule on its constitutionality. Luis Sarmiento Buitrago, the president of the court, was in charge of this. After several modifications and criticisms, last night he issued a decision that the statute is constitutional except for express parts which were declared unacceptable.

One of these is the part of Article 3 which states: "Violators will be subject to the action of these forces (military and national police) when they resist or carry out actions that indicate their intention to flee after being ordered to remain in a specific site, to land or take a certain route." The court felt that this provision was too imprecise and could justify fatal excesses.

One provision in Article 6 states: "In case by confirming decision of the appropriate authority the resolution of the governor, intendant

or commissary is revoked and, consequently, the good confiscated must be returned, this will be returned in its present state after the interested party pays the expenses of maintenance, storage and security." The court rejected this provision for clear constitutional violations since it is not fair that a person who is declared innocent has to pay the expenses of maintenance, storage and security for his own asset which was returned to him damaged or obsolete.

Other details were also declared unconstitutional but they could not be explained since it was so late when the criminal division of the court closed.

Nevertheless, it is known that in the motive part of the decision, the court was very explicit that the provisions in the statute apply exclusively to drugs, coffee smuggling and illegal arms trade and do not extend to other fields.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

RECENT ATLANTIC COAST SEIZURES

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Nov 78 p A-8

[Text] The result of the security measures imposed on the Atlantic Coast by the national government in order to control drug traffic is 170 Colombians arrested and at least 36 ships, 12 airplanes of different types and three tractors confiscated.

Also the most modern and sophisticated high-frequency radio equipment has been seized from the drug traffickers, according to official reports.

Sources of the Second Brigade based in Barranquilla told the television news program "Cine Vision" that the results of 40 days of operations in that region of the country have been satisfactory.

The sources indicate that during the time in which the drastic security measures have been in effect, 59 revolvers and 37 pistols of different calibers, two G-3 rifles used exclusively by the military forces and two Punto Treinta rifles have been confiscated.

Also 12 Punto Treinta carbines, one Thompson machine gun, 22 shotguns of different calibers, 3,893 rounds of ammunition for weapons of different calibers, 2,300 percussion caps and four MK grenades have been seized.

In the operations carried out throughout the Atlantic Coast region, 64 foreigners involved in drug traffic were arrested and placed under the jurisdiction of the appropriate authorities.

As to marihuana, 3,747 bundles, 1,962 bales and 97 hectares planted with marihuana have been discovered.

The Second Brigade added that 16 radio receivers and transmitters and 6 modern VHF communications sets used by air navigation authorities have been confiscated.

The material seized also includes three scales used to weigh the marihuana packed in bundles. Also 12 airplanes and small aircraft of different types as well as 36 ships in the four ports of the Atlantic Coast--Santa Marta, Riohacha, Barranquilla and Cartagena--were confiscated by the authorities.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

'GODFATHER'S' SON KILLED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 1 Dec 78 p A-2

[Article by Alba Lia Medina: "'Godfather's' Son Killed in Revenge"]

[Text] Medellin, 30 Nov--The bloody vengeance unleashed in drug traffic circles collected a new victim in the past few hours. Ramiro Gomez Giraldo, 24-year-old son of Alfredo Gomez Lopez known by the police as the "Godfather," was killed.

In spite of the secrecy of the authorities on this case, it was learned that Ramiro Gomez Giraldo was in an establishment in the western sector of this city called "Grill El Zarape" when he was attacked by a person who shot him five times and killed him.

According to some versions, the person who fired the shots was a friend whose identity has not been revealed. Nevertheless, it is also stated that two people riddled him with bullets and fled.



Ramiro Gomez Giraldo killed

The secret organizations in this capital recalled how in the past week Hugo Lopez Acevedo who was allegedly "the second" in the "Godfather's" organization based in the Uraba zone was also riddled with bullets.

It was strongly rumored that both murders were related; an intensive investigation to clarify the facts has begun.

It was indicated that Alfredo Gomez, the "Godfather," has lived in Cartagena for some time.

The "Godfather" was linked in 1974 to a vast smuggling ring near Palmitas for which he was tried.

Authorities in this department expressed serious fear concerning the imminence of a new wave of violent deaths within the gangs since the last two murders can unleash vengeance among their members.

In recent weeks this city has been the scene of a great number of violent crimes; in less than a week, eight people have been killed under suspicious circumstances.

7717
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA SEIZED--Santa Marta--In a spectacular shootout, army troops from Cordoba Infantry Battalion No. 5 based in the city of Santa Marta seized 850 bundles of marihuana, arrested 15 people and confiscated seven vehicles in an operation carried out in the El Reten region of the town of Aracataca 100 kilometers south of Magdalena Department. According to the first reports from a top military spokesman in Santa Marta, the operation took place after some investigative procedures to counteract the action of the drug traffickers. The site where marihuana was being exported, apparently using an airplane on a clandestine landing strip in the area, was discovered. When the troops learned about the activities of the drug traffickers, they tried to arrest them. The gangsters fell back and, using modern weapons, took part in a spectacular confrontation with the military troops. The troops strategically repelled the attack against them and wounded some drug smugglers who were removed in the midst of the shootout by their comrades who managed to flee in the underbrush. Nevertheless, the army managed to seize 850 bundles of marihuana and arrest 15 people who were taken to the judicial jail in Santa Marta. [Text] [Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 30 Nov 78 p A-19] 7717

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKING RING CAPTURED, CONVICTED

Arrests in Several States

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 5 Dec 78 p 6

[Text] Mexico City, 4 December--After a difficult investigation, the Federal Judicial Police, during the past 14 hours, arrested eight drug traffickers who were operating in various parts of the country, from whom they succeeded in seizing 9,000 kilograms of marihuana valued at several thousands of pesos.

In making the foregoing announcement, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic noted that the arrests took place in Nuevo Leon, Oaxaca, Chihuahua, Guadalajara, Coahuila and Sonora, where those arrested were placed at the disposal of the Federal Public Ministries.

In each case, an investigation is being conducted to discover their contacts, both in the country and abroad, since some of them were acting as distributors and middlemen.

During this operation, the Federal Judicial Police arrested Guadalupe Beltran Molina and Miguel Angel Gomez Molina, in the town of Cerralvo, Nuevo Leon, and confiscated a ton of marihuana from them.

Their accomplices, Ismael Zavala Gomez and Roberto Gonzalez Velez, were also apprehended, and stated that they had a storage place for such grass for several years in that town.

The same thing was done in Oaxaca, where the drug trafficker and marihuana distributor and middleman, Antonio Hernandez Perez, was arrested. He was purchasing the drugs in Palomares, to ship and sell them in the northern part of the country.

At the Cieneguitas farm, which belongs to the municipality of Valle de Juarez, Jalisco, police agents arrested Silvestre Sanabria Mojca and Rodriguez Loza Orozco with a ton and 212 kilograms of packed marihuana, 10 kilograms of seed and two scales. The public ministry opened the preliminary investigation.

Likewise, in the border town of Nogales, Sonora, federal agents discovered 59 kilograms of packed marihuana abandoned, near the United States border; and therefore the authorities have initiated an investigation.

Traffickers Held for Trial

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 14 Dec 78 Sec B p 5

[Text] Yesterday, the 10 members of a dangerous drug trafficking ring that was recently disbanded and captured by the forces commanded by Margarito Mendez Rico, during a "blitzkrieg" carried out recently near Vallecillo, Nuevo Leon, were remanded to the third district court, headed by Andres Cruz Martinez, for a crime against health in its various degrees, depending on the participation of each and every one of them in the case that concerns us.

Those remanded are laborer Roberto Gonzalez Veliz, aged 28, a worker from Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon; businessman Horacio Garcia Gonzalez, aged 26, of Ciudad Mier, Tamaulipas; driver Guadalupe Beltran Molina, aged 27, of Los Mochis, Sinaloa; businessman Alberto Gonzalez Garcia, aged 52; driver Ismael Zavala Martinez, aged 30, of Los Mochis, Sinaloa; driver Miguel Gonzalez Dias, aged 56, of Monterrey, Nuevo Leon; Ramiro Estrada Salinas, aged 49, of General Trevino, Nuevo Leon; bartender Jaime Villarreal Trevino, aged 47, of Paras, Nuveo Leon; Ernesto Median Lopez, aged 37, a farmer from Culliacan, Sinaloa; Ramon A. Bernal, aged 49, a farmer from Culliacan, Sinaloa; and Enrique Gonzalez Quintanilla, aged 49, a laborer from Cerralvo, Nuevo Leon.

The whole complicated matter unfolded on 3 December, when they intercepted a 1970 Ford Galaxie 500, with license plates KBC-088, in the vicinity of Cerralvo, Nuevo Leon, with a "vacant" sign on the windshield, driven by Monterrey driver Miguel Gomez Diaz. He was accompanied by Guadalupe Beltran Molina, who carried photostatic credentials identifying him as a federal inspector from the automobile registry. The latter confessed that he had been engaged in drug trafficking for a year, and that he brought the marihuana from Sinaloa. He said that he had a ton of marihuana hidden at the "El Encino" farm, which was found and confiscated.

Subsequently, the other members of the "Mafia" were captured. They were well organized, since they purchased the drugs for 300 pesos, and them for 1,250 pesos per kilogram in Miguel Aleman, Tamaulipas.

In view of the large size of the organization, the preliminary statements of the 10 criminals will not be taken until tomorrow.

Charges Denied, Coercion Claimed

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 15 Dec 78 Sec B p 2

[Text] The 10 members of a well organized ring of presumed marihuana and heroin traffickers appeared before the third district judge yesterday to

make their preliminary statement. They all cynically denied being guilty of the charges which the Federal Public Ministry has brought against them, and at the same time they claimed to have been tortured by their captors.

Those making statements were Horacio Garcia Gonzalez, Enrique Gonzalez Quintanilla, Guadalupe Beltran Molina, Roberto Gonzalez Veliz, Jaime Villarreal Trevino, Ernesto Medina Lopez, Doroteo Oliveira Villarreal, Ramiro Estrada Salinas, Ismael Zavala Gamez and Ramon Acosta Bernal.

One by one they were seated on the defendants' bench during the course of the investigation, and all agreed in their statement that they had never been engaged in drug trafficking. Some of them argued that they did not know one another.

Cynically, based on the recommendations of their defenders, they stated that the federal agents had beaten them and "forced them to confess things that they did not do."

It may be recalled that, on 3 December, the Federal Judicial Police captured Miguel Angel Gomez Diaz and Guadalupe Beltran Molina, who claimed to be an inspector from the Federal Registry of Motor Vehicles.

Beltran Molina said that he was engaged in drug trafficking, simultaneously noting that he had a shipment of 56 burlap bags of marihuana weighing 1,000 kilograms hidden at the "El Encino" farm located on the highway between Sabinas and Monterrey.

Those drugs were seized by the Federal Judicial Police.

One Released, Others Jailed

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 16 Dec 78 Sec B p 8

[Text] Of the 10 drug traffickers who were held for trial in the third district court for marihuana trafficking, charged with a crime against health in the degree of marihuana trafficking, only one, namely, bartender Jaime Villarreal Torres, aged 47, managed to secure his release on bail, since he only committed a crime of concealment.

Judge Andres Cruz Martinez issued an order for the official imprisonment of Guadalupe Beltran Molina, Ismael Zavala Gamez, Miguel Angel Gonzalez Diaz, Roberto Gonzalez Veliz, Horacio Gonzalez, Ramiro Estrada Salinas, Ernesto Medina Lopez, Ramon Acosta Bernal and Ernesto Gonzalez, for the crime of possession, trafficking and transportation of marihuana.

It is quite possible that the defense attorneys will file an appeal against the order for official imprisonment issued by the judge.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

RELEASES, REDUCED SENTENCES FOR JAILED TRAFFICKERS

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 15 Dec 78 p 6

[Excerpts] It is expected that, next year, about 88 inmates of the Sinaloa Social Rehabilitation Institute who are serving sentences for federal and common crimes will recover their preliminary release, on the basis of the socioeconomic study being made of each of the files of the Office of Attorney General of the Republic.

Our informant, Mr Lauro Beltran Montoya, also remarked that two inmates have already been released, namely, Benjamin Garcia Martinez and Jorge Beltran Mercado, referring us to files 352/77 and 3540, order 486/78, respectively.

Mr Casildo Chavez Uriarte, who has been confined in the Sinaloa Social Rehabilitation Institute (IRSS) for about a year, is having his case investigated, based on file No 109/975. The crime with which he was charged is drug trafficking.

A socioeconomic study is being made of the records of another inmate, Astor Serrano Valenzuela, involved in proceedings No 66/976; and he may go free during the first few months of the year.

The other cases being investigated by the Office of Attorney General of the Republic include those of the following individual : Marcelino Velazquez Salazar, a native of Badiraguato, who was accused of the crimes of purchasing opium gum, and transporting, selling, manufacturing and possessing heroin, facts which are recorded in file No 284/76, dated 14 October 1976. He was held for trial by the Federal Public Ministry, and preliminary penal investigation No 456/76 was conducted. He was placed at the disposal of the district judge and sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment, a term which apparently was reduced by 2 years owing to his good behavior.

It should be noted that, by 20 December, Mr Lauro Beltran Montoya will be required to appear at the Office of Attorney General of the Republic to learn the results of the studies made of the aforementioned cases.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

ANTIDRUG COORDINATOR DETAILS 1978 CAMPAIGN RESULTS

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 22 Dec 78 p 10

[Text] The activities carried out by the Federal Judicial Police, with the unlimited support of National Army forces, during the interval from 1 December 1977 to 30 November 1978 resulted in the destruction of 15,635 poppy plants, 2,435 marihuana plants and 103 mixed plantations.

The areas on which those plantations were located totaled 1,314, 157 and nine hectares, respectively; and the work was done through the use of the spraying system over the entire state and on the borders of Chihuahua and Durango.

This information was provided by the official spokesman for the coordinator of the antidrug trafficking campaign in Zone 06, and indicated that seizures were made of 150,508 kilograms and 382 grams of marihuana, 627 kilograms and 106 grams of seed of the same grass, 66 kilograms and 977 grams of poppy seeds, 94 kilograms and 17 grams of opium gum, 59 kilograms and 826 grams of heroin and 65 kilograms and 750 grams of heroin cutting substance.

A total of 3 kilograms and 796 grams of cocaine were confiscated, as were 3 kilograms and 810 grams of cocaine cutting substance, 190 grams of hallucinogenic mushrooms, 3 kilograms and 800 grams of peyote, 8 liters of diluted opium and 473,514 toxic pills.

Twenty-one laboratories were located and destroyed, and the implements used in them were seized. Arrests were made of 980 persons, of whom 19 were of foreign nationality, and 312 firearms were confiscated (187 short-barreled and 125 long-barreled), in addition to 8,000 cartridges.

A total of 118 vehicles were seized as evidence of the crimes in question, as well as seven aircraft and a boat, all of which were used to carry drugs inside of the state.

In the opinion of the federal authorities, the campaign per se was satisfactory, but this does not mean that there will be any letdown in all the necessary vigilance; because an effort is being made to keep the production, planting, manufacturing, distribution and trafficking of drugs and narcotics in the zone in which the state is located to a minimum.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

RANCHER SENTENCED FOR GROWING MARIHUANA

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 14 Dec 78 p 1

[Text] Sebastian Soto Burks, the millionaire rancher from Melchor Muzquiz, Coahuila, who was captured by forces of the Federal Judicial Police for engaging in the growing of marihuana was sentenced yesterday by the federal judge of the second district court in this town, Eduardo Aguilar, upon the conclusion of the trial to which he was brought for a crime against health in the degree of planting and cultivation of cannabis indica.

Federal Judge Aguilar gave Sebastian Soto Burks a prison sentence of 4 years and a fine of 4,000 pesos; and he is not entitled to a suspended sentence.

As may be recalled, Sebastian Soto Burks was arrested by the Federal Judicial Police and, without putting up any resistance, was taken by his captors to the "Soga" ranch in this municipality of Muzquiz, where they found 243 marihuana bushes.

This occurred on 19 June 1978. He made a full confession, stating that the marihuana which he planted and cultivated was for his personal consumption. The federal court was of the opinion that, since this was his first offense and he had no record (understandably), in addition to the fact that he had not resisted capture, he should receive that sentence. The penalty established in Article 194 is from 2 to 9 years' imprisonment.

It may also be recalled that there was a very striking occurrence in this affair, a tragic one; because the convicted man's wife died after visiting him in the preventive jail, while returning to her residence in Melchor, Muzquiz.

Unofficial sources stated that Sebastian Soto himself caused the situation and the lack of defense, by refusing to notify his relatives, and making them think that he was free, traveling in the interior of the country.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

HEAVIEST TRAFFIC IN COAHUILA, TAMAULIPAS, NUEVO LEON

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 31 Dec 78 Sec A p 2

[Text] Mexico City, 30 December--The states of Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon and Coahuila are the ones in which the heaviest drug trafficking has been occurring recently, since the areas of Sonora, Sinaloa and Baja California have come under extremely close surveillance by the Federal Judicial Police.

Upon noting that the drug traffic increased in the so-called "Zone 11" since October, the chief of that police force, aided by army troops, ordered an intensification of the surveillance; and positive results were accrued, such as the confiscation of 14 tons of marihuana and the arrest of 250 drug traffickers.

In addition, an XB-HUH Piper plane of United States origin was captured, and seizures were made of a quarter of a kilogram of cocaine, 10 kilograms of novocaine, 34 kilograms of heroin, 20 LSD pills, 72 high-powered weapons and 26 cars with Texas and California license plates, all with an approximate value of 90 million pesos.

In the towns of Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas; Culiacan, Sinaloa; Palomares, Oaxaca; Mexicali, Baja California; Tapachula, Chiapas; Los Mochis, Sinaloa; Agua Prieta, Sonora; Navojoa, Sonora, and other adjoining districts, the aforementioned number of drug traffickers were arrested. They were carrying to Zone 11 a variety of drugs, such as marihuana, cocaine, novocaine, peyote, psychotropic pills and heroin, because of their inability to operate in other areas which are being guarded by forces from the police and the army detailed to those locations.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

COCAINE SEIZED FROM AIRPLANE IN CHIAPAS

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 13 Dec 78 p 4

[Text] Mexico City, 12 December--The Federal Judicial Police intercepted 69 million pesos' worth of pure cocaine which was being carried in a two-engine turboprop Cessna 310 plane, at the international airport in Tapachula, Chiapas, where the plane crew was likewise arrested.

This confiscation brings the total drugs to be sold in the United States and intercepted here during the past 24 hours to over 769 million pesos' worth.

The cocaine was in containers which usually hold beauty products, and was stored in the plane's battery.

Federal Judicial Police agents arrested Taylor and Karen Luisi Trout, after they had noticed the plane making frequent trips without permission from the aeronautics authorities.

Upon being questioned, the plane's crew revealed that it purchased the cocaine in Guatemala so as to sell it later in the United States.

With this new seizure, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic has become the Mexican department that has caused the international drug traffic the greatest devastation.

Those who questioned the drug traffickers have provided the other police forces in different countries with important information leading to the capture and disbanding of rings that are operating in the United States, Canada, Guatemala, Colombia and El Salvador.

For example, with the arrest yesterday of Gustavo Gonzalez Sanchez, Pedro Joaquin Guzman Colin and the brothers Alejandro and Jesus Mora Rolon, there was a disclosure of the leading cocaine supplier in Guatemala, as well as of the place where vehicles were being outfitted with secret compartments for shipping drugs.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

ARMY ANTIDRUG BRIGADES ACCUSED OF HARASSMENT, TORTURE

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 29 Dec 78 Sec A p 2

[Text] Chihuahua, 28 December--Residents and various organizations in the municipality of Morelos, Chihuahua, complained here of countless incidents involving harassment, torture and arbitrary action on the part of forces from the Mexican Army assigned to tasks relating to "Operation Condor," to combat the drug traffic in the Chihuahua mountains.

Manuel Hernandez Osorio, spokesman for the accusers, said that the troops have spread terror in the area, and that it is a misfortune to live in Morelos, to fall into the hands of the military and to be poor.

Hernandez Osorio came to this capital to report the incidents and said that he represented the Supreme Council of Tarahumara in Morelos, the local Cattle-men's Union and the associations of union members, communal farmers and miners' unions of the area, which is located in the heart of the Tarahumara mountains.

The informer stressed the fact that, using the excuse that they are conducting investigations, the troops assigned to the Fifth Military Zone commit all types of abuses against the civilian population, including the raping of women, torture and robbery.

Hernandez Osorio showed a long list of these types of harassment, prominent among which are the following: constant raping of women, who conceal the fact out of shame, although there is testimony given by Mrs Valentina Bojorquez, of the Santa Rosa farm, who was assaulted by two soldiers, on 1 November of this year, and was then beaten and left unconscious by them.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

OWNER OF POPPY, MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS HELD FOR TRIAL

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 23 Dec 78 p 6

[Text] Miguel Angel Fonseca Silva, who is the owner of two plots of land on which marihuana and poppy plantations were discovered, was remanded to the district judge for crimes against health.

According to information provided by Humberto Davila del Bosque, agent of the Federal Public Ministry, the investigation that was conducted caused this individual to be turned over to the competent authorities; because there are in the settlements of Los Amoles and Rancho del Rincon two plantations over an area of about 1,250 and 900 square meters respectively, on which the aforementioned plants were growing.

This individual was arrested when members of the State Judicial Police and army forces assigned to "Operation Condor" were making their usual tour of the high locations, and found the owner of the aforementioned land as he was inspecting the plantations.

They immediately took him to this town, and completed the preliminary inquiry. The captors took some samples for analysis as convincing proof of the type of plants that had been sown, and destroyed the rest.

In addition to the crime for which he was remanded, Fonseca Silva is also regarded as a presumed murderer; and, since this is a common crime, the office of the state prosecutor was notified of his arrest, so that it could, in turn, open the pertinent investigation.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

MEXICO NOW TRANSFER POINT FOR SOUTH AMERICAN DRUGS

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 14 Dec 78 Sec B p 8

[Text] Mexico City, 13 December--Fernando Baeza, a senior official in the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, told EL SOL DE MEXICO that Mexico has ceased to be the leading producer of the marihuana that is consumed in the United States, but has become the bridge between Central and South America and the United States for drug traffickers.

The official based his information on the fact that, during 1977, the army and Federal Judicial Police exterminated 75 percent of the marihuana and poppy plantations in our country, and on the recent captures of Colombian, Peruvian and Mexican traffickers in the states of Chiapas and Baja California Norte.

According to the official, this business is being combated, first of all, with electronic sensors located on unidentified landing fields operating on the southern and northern borders of the capital of the republic.

This apparatus makes it possible to detect the presence of aircraft, and it immediately sends the signal locating it to the radar equipment and communications systems of the Federal Judicial Police, thereby making it possible to capture the dangerous cocaine traffickers who have been operating with impunity.

Baeza Melendez discussed the variety of systems used to combat drug trafficking, and not only the plantations but the shipment to another country, which is always the United States, the natural border with Mexico.

The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic has requested that the United States Government exercise caution in conducting commercial transactions, because the airplanes or trucks which carry the goods that are imported return from Mexico loaded with drugs. He said that the judicial authorities of that country have already been alerted to this.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

COCAINE PROCESSING LABORATORY DISCOVERED IN ENSENADA

Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 24 Dec 78 Sec B p 12

[Text] Mexicali--The Federal Judicial Police discovered a clandestine laboratory in which a Bolivian chemist was processing cocaine, and succeeded in seizing from it half a kilogram of paste (the base for producing the powder), as well as chemical products, at his residence in Ensenada. As a result of the police operation, a ring of five individuals, who were arrested, was broken up.

The value of the paste, of Bolivian origin and brought in by means of a unique procedure, was not disclosed; however, it was claimed to be considerable, since it is the base for producing a larger amount of the drug, which is the most expensive in the world.

The agency of the Federal Public Ministry has at its disposal the Bolivians Felix Benjamin Guzman Arancibia and Victoria Arzabe Chaver, and the Mexicans Humberto Hughes Carbone, Yeomans Vingocheat and Victor Ayon Valencia. The first two reside in Ensenada, where the laboratory was found; the next two live in San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora, and the last in the Pro-Family Life development in this capital.

This information was provided yesterday by the assistant agent of the Federal Public Ministry, Abdiel Lozano Chantes, who noted that the chemical compounds, including the paste, would be sent to Tijuana, to the laboratory of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic located there, so that they could be properly analyzed.

Felix Benjamin Guzman, a metallurgical chemist, arrived in Ensenada from Bolivia a few months ago. Before leaving his country, he soaked several of his shirts with cocaine paste. Then, when he arrived here, he talked to his mother, making a long-distance telephone call, and asked her to send him the shirts, which Victoria Arzabe did. When they arrived, he removed the paste.

The ring was discovered after the arrest of Humberto Hughes Carbone, who was apprehended by the Federal Judicial Police recently in Los Algodones, Baja

California, while he was waiting for a purchaser to whom he intended to sell 25 grams of cocaine.

He revealed to the police that Felix Benjamin had given him the drugs to sell. As a result, the latter was arrested at his residence in Ensenada. The cocaine paste was found inside a small suitcase, and in the trunk of his car were seven plastic gallon bottles containing acetone, one containing sulfuric acid and two flasks containing hydrochloric acid. There were also some reflectors, a scale, wrapping paper and two glass containers, among other things.

Hughes had confessed that Victor Ayon Valencia previously purchased several "pedazos" [a little over an ounce] of cocaine from him. The latter was located and arrested at his residence in the Pro-Family Life development.

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MEXICO

COCAINE TRAFFICKER CAPTURED IN CIUDAD JUAREZ

Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO Spanish 19 Dec 78 Sec A p 4

[Text] Yesterday, agents of the Federal Judicial Police under orders from Comdr Florentino Radilla Gallardo dealt the drug traffic a strong blow when they captured an individual in a hotel in this town with 12 ounces of cocaine, and, at the truck stop at kilometer 28, another individual who was driving a tank-truck with a false bottom containing remnants of a shipment of marihuana

Ricardo Mares Touche, aged 25 and a native of Torreon, Coahuila, who was pretending to be a clothing salesman, was arrested at 1530 hours in Room 25 of the Fiesta Real Hotel. He had in his possession four plastic bags containing a total of 12 ounces of pure cocaine.

He confessed that he had brought it from the southern part of the republic in order to sell it for \$2,000 per bag.

The purchase and sale transaction arranged at the Pronaf hotel did not take place, apparently because of the arrival of the police.

Moreover, Juan Mendoza Contreras, aged 32 and also a native of Torreon, Coahuila, was intercepted at the inspection station at kilometer 28 of the Pan-American Highway, while driving south in a tank truck with a capacity to hold 10,000 liters of fuel, which had a false bottom containing traces of marihuana.

The driver, a shipper of that grass, confessed that he had recently carried a shipment of marihuana in the secret compartment of his truck from Irapuato, Guanajuato.

The Federal Judicial Police announced that they were investigating where and to whom that shipment was delivered.

The two individuals under arrest, as well as the cocaine and the truck, were at the Federal Judicial Police facilities yesterday, about to be turned over to the Federal Public Ministry.

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MEXICO

RESULTS OF 1978 ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN DESCRIBED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 1 Jan 79 Sec B p 10

[Text] During the period from 1 January to 7 December 1978, strong drugs and narcotics the value of which was estimated at over 500 million pesos on the "black market" in the United States were seized and destroyed, as a result of the untiring effort expended by the Federal Judicial Police in the states of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas.

This announcement was made by the coordinator of the agencies of the Federal Public Ministry in the three aforementioned states, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, upon reporting the results of the statistics prepared on the productive work done by the Federal Judicial Police.

Juarez Jimenez explained that, during the aforementioned interval, the following drugs, weapons and vehicles were confiscated:

As of 7 December, seizures were made of: 100,983 kilograms of marihuana; 38,136 kilograms of heroin; 6,052 kilograms of cocaine; 10 kilograms of novocaine; 91,506 toxic pills; 2.5 kilograms of peyotes; 475 weapons; 55,747 cartridges of various calibers; 83 loaders and 262 vehicles of various makes and models, as well as two aircraft.

During the course of the battle against the drug distributors, the Federal Judicial Police arrested 986 presumed drug traffickers.

Juarez Jimenez added: "This is a reflection of the persistent effort that the Federal Judicial Police have been making in compliance with the mission that has been assigned them by the attorney general of the republic."

He went on to say that the work done by Comdr Margarito Mendez Rico, coordinator of the Federal Judicial Police in the three states had been outstanding and effective, because he has dealt the drug traffic heavy blows since assuming his position in this area.

Comdr Margarito Mendez Rico, for his part, declared: "We know that it is virtually impossible to put an end to the drug traffic, but nevertheless we shall continue to combat this type of activity on all levels, because that is the mission that has been assigned to us."

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MEXICO

MARIHUANA SHIPMENT CONFISCATED IN SAN LUIS POTOSI

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 14 Dec 78 Sec B p 3

[Text] At a stakeout set up by the Federal Judicial Police along the Riverside Highway at Ciudad Camargo, Tamaulipas, last Tuesday three individuals who were carrying a harmful shipment of marihuana in a car were captured.

The drugs were coming from San Luis Potosi, and were being taken to the border for subsequent shipment to the United States.

At the coordinating agency of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, Aaron Juarez Jimenez told EL DIARIO that Comdr Magarito Mendez Rico and his forces had arrested three persons who were carrying 250 kilograms of marihuana in a 1972 Dodge Monaco car.

The vehicle was driven by Ariel Doblantes Torres, aged 28, a native of Irapuato, Guanajuato, who was accompanied by Homero Beltran Aguirre, aged 28, and Ezequiel Garcia Reyes, aged 30, a native of "Rancherias," Tamaulipas.

All three confessed that they were engaged in drug trafficking.

They Had a Ton in San Luis Potosi

During the questioning to which they were subjected by the Federal Judicial Police, the three arrested men provided very important information on other individuals involved in the criminal drug business.

They also confessed that they had another ton of marihuana in San Luis Potosi, ready to be shipped to the border.

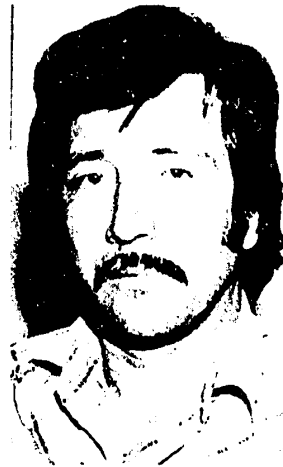
Based on the information supplied by the three arrested men, Comdr Margarito Mendez Rico notified the Potosi capital, and forces from the Attorney General's Office detailed to that district arrested four more persons, and confiscated the drug shipment.



Guadalupe Beltran

Miguel Angel

Ismael Zavala Gomez



Roberto Gonzalez Veliz

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MEXICO

SHIPPERS OF COCAINE FROM SOUTH AMERICA CAPTURED

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 2 Dec 78 p 12

[Text] Mexico City, 1 December--Eight international drug traffickers who had been operating in five countries were arrested by the Federal Judicial Police when they were bringing 1.38 billion pesos worth of cocaine into Mexico.

The drugs were intercepted by the federal police upon their arrival from Colombia in a 10-seat two-engine plane which landed at the "El Desempeno" farm located in Ocozingo, Chiapas, situated on the banks of the Usumacinta River, close to the Guatemalan border.

Those under arrest are: Alvaro Cardenas Anaya, Luis Crespo Rodriguez, Jose Audel Valdovinos Molina, Roberto Rivera Rivera, Marcos Fidel Rodriguez, Jose del Carmen Pavon and Alfonso Rodriguez. The first-mentioned individual is the head of the powerful "gang."

The arrival of the plane had been awaited since the first Sunday in November, but for reasons that were not explained there was a delay, and it did not arrive until last Sunday. The aircraft, a Piper Seneca II PA-34, with registration number HK-1693-P, from Colombia, brought 150 kilograms of very pure cocaine to Mexico, to be sold firsthand to "dealers" from the United States and Canada, for \$60 million.

The attorney general of the republic turned over the investigation to Gen Raul Mendiola Cerecero, who assigned 1st Comdr Florentino Ventura Rodriguez and his partner, Jose de Jesus Mexueiro Kuntzy, to the difficult mission christened "Operation Lazaro."

The agents mounted guards at some luxury hotels in the capital, after receiving the first information sent by the police in the United States.

The head of the ring in Mexico, Alvaro Cardenas, was followed by the police for several days, without results, until he made contact with Roberto Rivera Rivera, who was using a forged passport bearing the name Jairo Parra Gonzalez.

Subsequently, the latter managed to contact Luis Crespo and Jose Audel Valdovinos, who went to Chiapas to buy a farm which had a clandestine airstrip capable of accommodating the two-engine plane in which the drugs would arrive.

When all the contacts had been made and the deal for the goods was closed, the judicial police intervened for the first time, and captured all of the aforementioned persons. Alvaro Cardenas Anaya was arrested at the door of his residence at 1011 Ambatos, in the Lindavista development, and the others were apprehended at various hotels.

The police knew that the chief suppliers of the drugs were the Colombians Alonso Rodriguez and Beatriz Rivera de Rodriguez, who had originally been the suppliers of the international trafficker Arturo Felix Coronel.

Felix Coronel died the year before last during a practice flight on a clandestine airstrip in the state of Mexico, where the drugs brought in from Colombia and Peru were initially unloaded.

After his death, his assistant, Alvaro Cardenas, continued the deals with Peruvian and Colombian traffickers, and inherited the lucrative business which the Federal Judicial Police eliminated today.

The arrested persons, the drugs and the aircraft will be placed at the disposal of the fourth district penal court.

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MEXICO

DRUG THEFT AT HEALTH CENTER PROMPTS NEW INCINERATION POLICY

Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 29 Nov 78 Sec A p 2

[Text] The agency of the Federal Public Ministry will stop sending large amounts of strong drugs and depressants to the "A" Health Center.

This decision was made yesterday by the head of that institution for treatment, Dr Heriberto Perez Gonzalez, and by the federal prosecutor, Norberto Salinas Navarrete, to prevent another theft such as the one which occurred recently.

Dr Perez Gonzalez said that, if a shipment of over 10 kilograms of drugs is seized, it will be burned immediately.

For example, when the marihuana does not exceed 10 kilograms in weight, it will be kept in this establishment, but for only a few days, and not for months as in the past.

He said: "We only want to have samples of the drugs left with us; we no longer want to be the custodians of large volumes; because they are a temptation for addicts and, although there was no personal injury the last time during the robbery, who knows whether there might be one the next time.

"Let the federal prosecutor and the second district court be the ones to decide what to do with large drug shipments. We are willing to burn them, if they wish."

The head of the "A" Health Center added that, from now on, they would accept only small samples of drugs in each instance, so as to make the clinical and chemical analyses of them which are required.

The assistant agent of the Federal Public Ministry, Arturo Sanchez Gaytan, stated yesterday that the amount of marihuana that was stolen from the "A" Health Center storeroom last week was under 5 kilograms.

The social representative thinks that the apparent target of the thieves was the safe inside of the vault, since they must have thought that it contained heroin, cocaine and other alkaloids derived from opium, the result of the most recent seizures made by the police.

If this were so, they were disappointed, because that safe was out of service since 1962, when the combination was lost. It was recently used to hold things other than drugs.

Sanchez Gaytan said that the amount of marihuana that was stolen had been established by comparing the volume of grass that was there until the day of the incident with what was left after the nocturnal visit of two masked individuals who threatened the guard with a pistol to force him to open the door for them so that they could steal the safe and some "cannabis indica."

The individual making the statement said that there is no explanation of the reasons why the person who made the disclosure representing the administration of the treatment center claimed that the marihuana that was stolen amounted to over 30 kilograms.

He also said that the Federal Judicial Police, who have been in charge of the investigation since the day of the robbery, now have some "interesting information" about the presumed thieves.

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MEXICO

TRUCK DRIVER CAUGHT WITH MARIHUANA SHIPMENT IN TAMAULIPAS

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 22 Dec 78 Sec B p 2

[Text] A ton of marihuana bound for the "black market" for drugs in the northern United States was seized on Wednesday by agents of the Federal Judicial Police in the vicinity of the town of Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas.

The drugs were being shipped by Rosendo Vazquez Colin, who was brought to this town so that the Federal Judicial Police could intensify the investigation to its final consequences.

It was announced that, on Wednesday night, federal agents intercepted a double-wheeled 1976 Chevrolet truck, with license plates VV-7453, which was being driven by Rosendo Vazquez.

The seizure of this vehicle and its driver took place near the offices of the border customs service in Rio Bravo.

The Federal Public Ministry agency announced that they had some previous information about the activities of Vazquez Colin and that they had also learned that he had recently received a shipment of marihuana. They searched the aforementioned truck covered with canvas, which ostensibly was carrying 12 metal crates containing electronic spare parts. The crates in question contained hundreds of marihuana bricks weighing a total of 1,000 kilograms.

Rosendo Vazquez said that he was only hired to drive the truck. He also gave the name of the owner of the drugs, who was still being hunted by the Federal Judicial Police yesterday.

Psychotropic Substances Seized

Federal Judicial Police agents detailed to Reynosa, Tamaulipas, seized a shipment consisting of 43,800 toxic pills of the so-called "Catagon" type yesterday morning. The Federal Public Ministry agency did not disclose any further information, since it was said that it hopes to capture the owners and suppliers of the psychotropic substances.

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MEXICO

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA SHIPPER JAILED--The second district judge issued an order for the official imprisonment of Rosendo Vasquez Colin as an individual presumed guilty of committing a crime against health in the degree of possession and transportation of marihuana. The administration of the Social Rehabilitation Center announced that, on Friday afternoon, it had received the order signed by the head of that court, Luis Garcia Romero, for the preventive imprisonment of Vasquez Colin. As may be recalled, this individual was arrested on 20 December by Federal Judicial Police agents who intercepted him near Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas, while he was driving a double-wheeled 1976 Chevrolet truck with license plates VV-7453. In the vehicle, he was carrying 12 metal boxes containing about a ton of marihuana. He declared that he was taking the drugs to Rio Bravo at the instruction of an individual named Juan Gutierrez Rodriguez, an engineer employed by the Secretariat of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources. According to the arrested man, he was to receive 5,000 pesos for driving the vehicle from Toluca to Reynosa. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 31 Dec 78 Sec A p 2] 2909

NEW MARIHUANA GROWING AREAS--Mexico City, 29 December--During 1978, in the permanent campaign against drug trafficking, the Federal Judicial Police seized 567 tons of marihuana, with an estimated black market value of 3 billion pesos, according to a report from the Office of Attorney General of the Republic. Samuel Alba Leyva, deputy attorney general of the republic, stated that the aforementioned campaign which he heads, with the cooperation of the regional coordinators of the growing areas, has brought optimal results, to the point where there are now only small plots of land on which the drug is being grown. He stressed the fact that, despite the intensive battle that has been waged against the drug traffickers, particularly in the state of Sinaloa, the latter have reached the Oaxaca mountain area, Guerrero, Puebla, Veracruz and Queretaro, locations where drugs had never previously been planted and harvested. Alba Leyva added that, every day, over 80 helicopters and small planes from the Attorney General's Office air team make flights for surveillance and fumigation of the plantations. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 30 Dec 78 Sec A p 3] 2909

MIGRATION AGENTS EXONERATED--Former migration agents Ricardo Hinojosa Garcia and Rene Benavides Lopez, from Ciudad Camargo, Tamaulipas, have been acquitted of the charges brought against them for crimes against health in the

degree of transportation and official liability. The verdict for acquittal was handed down by the second district judge, Luis Garcia Romero. It all resulted from the fact that, on 25 November 1977, the aforementioned migration agents confiscated a truck near Camargo loaded with a ton of marihuana, and were unable to apprehend the owners of the shipment. The migration agents took the marihuana to the Camargo military headquarters, headed by Second Cavalry Capt Jesus Vilina G. and Lt Ramon Ramos, who subsequently absconded and returned the shipment to drug traffickers Gilberto Garcia and Ramon Garcia, as well as Armando Ruiz. However, the migration agents were implicated because they had transported the marihuana shipment to the headquarters. The defenders of the accused succeeded in providing sufficient evidence to prove that the two migration agents were dissociated from the crime of which they had been accused. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 30 Dec 78 Sec B p 6] 2909

IMPRISONED TRAFFICKER TRANSFERRED--Yesterday, a dangerous individual who has been serving a 13-year jail term for having engaged in marihuana trafficking was released from the Social Rehabilitation Center and taken to the prison in Tampico, Tamaulipas, heavily guarded by Federal Judicial Police agents. He is Conrado Frias Martinez, whom the third district judge sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment and a fine of 15,000 pesos or, if in default, 2 more months in jail, for his guilt of the commission of a crime against health. As recorded in file No 177-976, the Federal Judicial Police arrested Frias Martinez in Reynosa, as he was driving a dump-truck loaded with marihuana. The arrest took place as Frias Martinez was returning from the United States, where he had taken the marihuana shipment; but since he had not found the customer to whom he was going to sell the drugs, he decided to return to national territory with the drugs. A few months ago, Frias Martinez petitioned the Social Prevention and Rehabilitation Department for a transfer to the Tampico prison, because his relatives live in that town. Yesterday, the transfer was allowed by the competent authorities. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 4 Jan 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

THREE DRUG 'CZARS' SENTENCED--Yesterday, three czars of the drug traffic who had been engaged for several years in the purchase and distribution of large shipments of drugs were given prison sentences by the second district judge. They are Zoilo Davila Saldivar, alias "El Sandillon," Antonio de Leon Garcia and Saul Guzman Jasso; who will serve jail terms of 7 years and 2 months, 8 years and 2 months and 5 years and 10 months, respectively. They were all found penally liable for the commission of a crime against health in the various degrees. At the same time, the judge ordered the seizure of the 200,000 pesos in cash which were confiscated from Saul Guzman Jasso, a sum which he had in his possession at the time of his arrest as a result of the sale of 400 kilograms of marihuana. On 4 April of last year, federal agents arrested Zoilo Davila in Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon, because they had information that he was engaged in drug trafficking. Upon being interrogated, he admitted that he had recently received 2 tons of marihuana, of which amount he had sold 400 kilograms to Saul Guzman. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 5 Jan 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

HEROIN TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Federal agents stopped Ignacio Tello Cruz while he was in a 1973 Mercury car with state of California license plates 504-LNT. Upon noticing his nervous manner, the police questioned him, and he said that he was waiting for his partner, Pedro Garcia, to make a heroin sale. A few hours later, they went to Pedro's house, where they found him; and, upon searching his clothes, they discovered a corked container with a sample of heroin. Pedro said that he had been given it by Fortino Hernandez Campos, a resident of No 989 San Luis Avenue, in the Loma Linda district. They then went to that residence and, in the bathroom, found a polyethylene bag containing 67 grams of heroin (two portions), each valued at \$2,500. [Text] [Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 21 Dec 78 Sec B p 12] 2909

TRAFFICKERS ESCAPE FEDERAL JAIL--Two drug traffickers who were under investigation in the town of Reynosa, Tamaulipas, fled from the lockup of the Federal Prosecutor's Office, taking advantage of the negligence of the policeman who was guarding them. The entity headed by Comdr Margarito Mendez Rico announced that the Federal Judicial Police have launched an intensive search to recapture Zenobio Salgado and Jose Ramirez, who were being probed for a crime against health. EL DIARIO was told that as a result of the escape of the two drug traffickers, the Federal Prosecutor's Office in the town of Reynosa would take penal action against uniformed police officer Facundo Rodriguez Escalante, since he is held responsible for the escape. The Federal Judicial Police headquarters obtained reports to the effect that Margarito Mendez Rico's forces had arrested Zenobio Salgado, who was identified as the owner of a shipment of marihuana that was seized early this week along the highway to San Fernando. Upon being questioned, Salgado said that he had been given the marihuana by an individual named Jose Ramirez, from the port of Matamoros; and they arrested the latter as well, taking them to Ciudad Reynosa, Tamaulipas, where the probe was made. Last Wednesday, Salgado and Ramirez fled from the Federal Judicial Police jail, and now police officer Facundo Rodriguez Escalante is in trouble with the law. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 15 Dec 78 Sec C p 3] 2909

COCAINE FROM COLOMBIA SEIZED--Tapachula, Chiapas, 6 December--The Federal Judicial Police seized 4 kilograms of pure cocaine, and arrested two drug traffickers who were bringing the drug from Cali, Colombia, in a small plane. The plane with registration number N-98-980 was flown by William Taylor Stirewalt, accompanied by Karen Louise, and they were bound for Los Angeles, California. They said that they had made an emergency landing at this airport. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 7 Dec 78 Sec A p 2] 2909

HEROIN CONFISCATED--San Luis, Sonora--Carlos Landeros Buentiempo, the agent of the Federal Public Ministry in this town, stated that the supplementary investigation being conducted by that entity will determine whether Fernando Conde Quintero, Armando Celis Bolanos, Francisco Javier Martinez Valdez and Manuel Roman Preciado, who were arrested and placed at its disposal by Federal Judicial Police agents, as individuals presumed guilty of crimes against health, should be held for trial. It was learned from the probe

conducted by agents under orders from group chief Carlos Matosian Valdez that approximately 1 gram of heroin was found on Armando Celis Bolanos, following which they seized a small envelope from Fernando Conde Quintero, who told them that he had purchased it with Celis Bolanos. At the same location, they arrested Francisco Javier Martinez Valdez and Manuel Roman Preciado Rincones, who arrived at the site while the Federal Judicial Police were there and confessed that they had come to buy the drugs. In addition to the heroin, a Smith and Wesson special 38 caliber pistol with six usable cartridges was seized by the agents. [Text] [Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 29 Nov /8 Sec B p 12] 2909

VARIOUS DRUGS SEIZED--Within the western region between the boundaries of Sinaloa and Durango the Federal Judicial Police discovered three poppy plantations containing 93,000 blooming and producing plants, and arrested six drug traffickers. In the vicinity of the plantation, the police captured Eleazar Garcia Morua, Alfonso Aguirre Bizarro, Angel Rico Marales, Cipriano Morua, Alfonso Zamora and Francisco Garcia Guerrero, seizing from them 400 grams of opium gum and two special 39 caliber pistols. Furthermore, on the banks of the Rio Bravo, between the settlements of Miguel Aleman and Camargo, Tamaulipas, they discovered 31 bags and 70 packages, containing 750 kilograms of packed marihuana which had been abandoned; and, for this reason they opened an investigation. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 4 Dec 78 p 1] 2909

CONFISCATED MARIHUANA BURNED--Marihuana valued at several million pesos which was recently confiscated by the Federal Judicial Police in connection with the permanent campaign against the drug traffic was burned yesterday on the grounds of the "Macario Zamora" military headquarters, in the presence of federal, civilian and military officials. The Federal Public Ministry agent, Jaime Eugenio Torres Espinosa, threw the firebrand on the heap of bricks and packages of marihuana. In a matter of seconds, the harmful drugs were enveloped in flames, because they had previously been soaked with gasoline and diesel oil. Dr Eduardo Takasita Elizondo, head of the Health Center, was present at the event, as were other local officials. The destruction by fire took place at 1430 hours yesterday. According to Torres Espinosa the marihuana was worth over 5 million pesos on the black market for drugs in the United States. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 13 Dec 78 Sec B p 2] 2909

CONVICTED TRAFFICKER RELEASED--Federal convict Roberto Mendiola Fuentes, who was sentenced by the third district judge to a jail term of 9 years for his guilt in committing a crime against health in the degrees of possession and attempted trafficking of morphine, was released yesterday because the Fourth Circuit United Court with headquarters in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, revoked the sentence since the powder which prompted the suit was not morphine or any other drug. This announcement was made yesterday by Julian Barberena, secretary of the third district court who, in compliance with the court's decision, issued an order to the warden of the Ciudad Victoria jail where the convict is incarcerated, to have him released immediately.

Mendiola Fuentes was arrested on 12 November 1977 by federal agents who had information to the effect that he was going to make a heroin sale with Jesus Hernandez Mendoza. Both were arrested, and were found to have in their possession a jar containing a moderate amount of a ochre colored powder which the Reynosa Health Center claimed was morphine. However, the Department of Expert Opinions of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic guaranteed that the aforementioned substance showed no reaction to alkaloids, and therefore its content was innocuous. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 14 Dec 78 Sec C p 7] 2909

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT--Mexico City, 11 December--It was announced today that the police confiscated 30 kilograms of cocaine valued at \$31 million, and arrested three members of a ring that was purchasing drugs in Colombia and shipping them to the United States via Mexico and Guatemala. The police said that the cocaine was concealed in the upholstery of cars that had been stolen in the towns of Tijuana and Tapachula, and that the criminals intended to take it to the city of Los Angeles, in the United States. One of those arrested, Gustavo Gonzalez Sanchez, confessed that he had made eight trips from Colombia during the past 4 months, carrying cocaine hidden in his car. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 12 Dec 78 p 6] 2909

CUSTOMS GUARD CLAIMED ACCOMPLICE--A guard from the Customs Station who answers to the name of Ovidio Arguello Villagomez was captured on Friday night by the Federal Judicial Police, because there was a warrant for his arrest issued by the second district judge of the state of Michoacan. EL MANANA was informed of this by the coordinating office of the Federal Public Ministry agencies. Federal agents under orders from Comdr Margarito Mendez Rico apprehended Arguello Villagomez. This individual is wanted by the second district judge of Michoacan. In trial number 30-977, which is being held against a ring of presumed drug traffickers, Ovidio Arguello was named as an accomplice. For this reason, the order for his arrest was issued and executed. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 10 Dec 78 Sec B p 2] 2909

MARIHUANA, OPIUM GUM SEIZED--Mexico City--Agents of the Federal Judicial Police confiscated over a ton of marihuana in the town of Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas. In a house in a remote area, the agents found 500 plants of the same grass, as well as 8 kilograms of seed. Moreover, on the Los Naranjos communal farm in the municipality of Culiacan, Sinaloa, the agents discovered 5 kilograms and 420 grams of opium gum, but were unable to capture any of the drug traffickers. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 30 Nov 78 p 4] 2909

HEROIN DISTRIBUTOR CAPTURED--An individual who was engaged in distributing heroin in the town of Santa Ana was captured by Federal Judicial Police Agents with 220 grams of that drug in his possession. The presumed drug trafficker answers to the name of Oscar Torres Valdez, and was taken by the Federal Judicial Police to Hermosillo for questioning. Torres Valdez resides at 5 de Mayo and Del Rio Streets, where he was apprehended. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 1 Dec 78 p 4] 2909

TOWN COUNCILMAN AMONG TRAFFICKERS--Yesterday five persons who were members of a well organized ring of marihuana traffickers that had been operating for about 4 years, shipping large amounts of that drug to the neighboring country, were remanded to the district judge. The foregoing was reported by the Federal Public Ministry Agency, which noted that the five drug traffickers were arrested in Soncota, and are: the local town councilman, Pablo Vega Fierro; Catarino Seravia Coronel, Angel Magallanes Zamora, Andres Dominguez Soto and Jose Loaiza Diaz, all employees of the "Hombres Blancos" communal farm in the municipality of Soncota. The five drug traffickers were arrested by Federal Judicial Police agents after they found bags of marihuana in the cellar of a brickworks in that town and, on the grounds, the remains of several small airplanes which had been burned by the drug traffickers after shipping the grass. Those arrested told the coordinating agent of the Federal Public Ministry that about a month ago they had shipped 2 tons of marihuana to the United States, and that they had been operating for about 4 years. The federal source announced that the investigation is continuing, and that it is expected that another six individuals who were members of the ring will be arrested. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 30 Nov 78 p 4] 2909

CSO: 5330

PERU

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZED--Lima, 18 Jan (EFE)--The Peruvian police has seized 132 kgs of basic cocaine paste, seven vehicles and plenty of cash in dollars and soles from a drug ring operating between Lima and Bogota. Ten of the ring members have been captured, but the group's leader, Peruvian Francisco Abanto, is still at large. The group used a crafts shop in Lima to camouflage its activities. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0731 GMT 19 Jan 79 PA]

CSO: 5300

URUGUAY

FIVE TRIED FOR MARIHUANA TRAFFICKING

Trial Court Hears Pleas

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 23 Dec 78 p 18

Text After an unexpected turn of events in their statements, five persons accused of supplying and trafficking in marihuana are testifying before the Trial Court again today.

What was simply a report yesterday has been confirmed by officials (Narcotics Brigade and National Naval Prefecture) now that it has been disclosed that the suspects had introduced marihuana through various points along the border. The final destination of the marihuana--as has become common lately--were various smoking dens in very confidential locations, preferably in the Pocitos area.

The suspects have records of similar crimes, having served various sentences. Recently they had been released and took advantage of their new-found freedom to resume their profitable business despite strict control by the authorities.

Apparently the hallucinogenic substance came in along the coast and was received--after payment--by contacts located in neighboring countries.

Since the judicial proceeding was extended an additional day, investigators have made more complete investigations in order to get to the bottom of the matter.

In the hearings yesterday at the Trial Court level, it appears that the suspects accused of supplying and trafficking in drugs attempted to help their case by alleging that they were also drug addicts, an eventuality that could affect the sentences to be imposed.

Because of these demands on the part of the defendants, a medical

examination was to be ordered to determine whether their claims were true or false.

Addict's Tip Brings Indictments

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 24 Dec 78 p 20

Text A proceeding begun by members of the National Naval Prefecture ended late yesterday with the indictment of four persons accused of the crime of "Supplying Narcotics" (article 35 of law 14,294). The matter will subsequently pass to the jurisdiction of the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Brigade.

The detainment of a 21-year old woman--the first link in the illegal chain--allowed authorities to learn of the involvement of the defendants. She was subsequently released through a legal provision.

The woman had been picked up at a certain point in the Old City, showing evident symptoms of drug addiction. The proceeding was carried out by personnel from the PNN [] who reported it--after taking complementary action--to the respective Brigade of the Naval Information and Intelligence Administration, which terminated the matter after they succeeded in arresting the four individuals involved in the illegal actions.

Imprisoned were: Luis Daniel Perez Santos, 19, Uruguayan, single, and living at Siena 3090; Jorge Jose Postiglioni Marquez, 23, single, Uruguayan, of Avenida 8 de Octubre 4057, Apartment 1; Jorge Washington Forelius Gonzalez, 23, unmarried, Uruguayan, who lives at Isla de Rottiti 2035, and Odel Carlos Alberto Ponto, single, Uruguayan, 24 years of age, and living at Lyon No 1883, Apartment 3.

The investigation has not ended, since authorities are still trying to locate a fifth suspect who, according to the defendants, delivered the marihuana to them. This individual has been positively identified.

8631
CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

PTJ INVESTIGATE COCAINE TRAFFICKING RING

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 3 Jan 79 p 8

[Article by Francisco Gomez]

[Text] Because they are possibly linked to a vast international drug trafficking network, the PTJ [Judicial Technical Police] in Zulia arrested two U.S. citizens who landed last Sunday in a small, light private plane at the old Grano de Oro airport in Maracaibo.

The Americans who have been held are Billot Oruce File Cote Cotellie [sic], the pilot, and his passenger, Wilson Borl Clark Jr. and they are currently in the DISIP [Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services] headquarters at Maracaibo. According to the results of the investigations, they are to be placed in the hands of the Judicial Technical Police today.

It has also been ascertained that the small, U.S. registered plane, carrying the markings N-210-L, a red and white Bercraft [sic], is being taken apart, piece by piece, at the Chinita airport, to which it was transferred by PTJ officials, in order to discover whether any bags of cocaine were hidden in the fuselage.

The Plane Landed Sunday

According to information provided by the pilot, the plane had flown in from the neighboring (Dutch) island of Aruba and made a forced landing due to a fuel shortage. The landing took place on Sunday, December 31, on the runway of the old airport, where a department of the University of Zulia is located.

Some hours earlier, this same plane had spent several hours (it was at dawn) flying over the airspace above Maracaibo.

The pilot, Billot Bruce File Cotelie [sic] explained that he had made a forced landing because the dials on his panel showed a fuel shortage.

He explained to the police authorities of Zulia that this was the reason for his forced landing and that his destination had been the town of Barranquilla (Colombia).

Despite these statements, the Zulia PTJ, together with DISIP officials, at the present time are questioning the two Americans.

During the course of the day, the American consul in the capital of Zulia, yesterday went to the lockup where the men are being held in order to find out how they are.

What is more, from extra-official sources, it was learned that the police find it strange that the two Americans should have chosen this date for a pleasure trip. One spokesman said it was possible that they wanted to make use of the holiday to transport this type of drug.

It was also stated that yesterday the information was communicated to INTERPOL, with a request that the U.S. provide background data on File Cotellie and Borl Clark Jr.

Caracas, 2 Jan 79 (Ven. Press)--Officials of DISIP placed two U.S. citizens in the hands of the PTJ. The two are Bruce Fyle Cotelli, aged 30, of New York, an airplane salesman, and his friend, Gilson [sic] Earl Clark Jr, aged 36, of Ohio, a businessman. They were arrested moments after landing at the Grano de Oro airport, in Maracaibo, Zulia state, with their Beechcraft, N021-202 [sic] registration markings, piloted by Cotelli.

The information available at the Ministry of the Interior indicates that these men were arrested as suspects charged with being involved in drug traffic, who were on their way to Colombia. However, when their plane ran short of fuel, they were forced to land at the above-mentioned airport. The DISIP officials who keep on the alert lost not time in detaining the men. During the interrogation, both Fyle Cotteli and Earl Clark Jr. insisted that they were forced to land in Zulia state because of the bad wheather prevailing in the area in addition to insufficient fuel to enable them to reach Colombia, where they were expecting to handle business connected with their profession as aircraft salesmen.

7129
CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

DRUG RELATED MURDER--A suspected drug addict and pusher was murdered by a shot in the stomach when he was stopped by partners who demanded the money derived from sales in the El Valle and Los Jardines sectors and other neighboring areas. The man believed to be a drug trafficker and pusher on the south side of the city was identified as Juan Colmenares, alias Juan Gallino (the Chicken), aged 25. His activities were the reason for the crime, it being assumed some discussion arose with his murderers. A group of detectives from the PTJ [Judicial Technical Police] Homicide Bureau, having learned of his death at the Coche Peripheral Hospital, to which he had been taken after being wounded, began investigations at the site of the crime and detained two suspects who were taken to police headquarters for interrogation. Others are being sought in connection with the shooting, and it is believed that the case will be solved shortly since they have good leads. Meanwhile, after issuing the death certificate, the police doctor ordered removal of the corpse to the central morgue at Bello Monte, where the routine legal autopsy will be carried out. [Text] [Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 19 Dec 78 p 56] 7129

CSO: 5300

EGYPT

LEGISLATION SOUGHT TO CONFISCATE LAND OF OPIUM GROWERS

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 28 Dec 78 p 3

[Text] In a new crackdown on the eve of the traditional five-month opium harvest period that begins in January, the government has proposed new legislation to deal with the problem of opium growing and it seems likely to win approval by parliament.

"We are changing the law so that the government will seize the land of anyone caught planting opium or any other narcotic plants," Gen Sami Farrag, head of the anti-narcotics administration, told a news conference.

Growers currently face stiff fines and jail sentences ranging from six months to 25 years, but the loss of land would affect not only the grower but his entire family.

The fertile Nile valley produces what experts say is some of the most potent opium in the world, and newly released statistics point to a dramatic increase in illicit cultivation of the deadly poppy.

The flowering poppy bush, from which the sap is used to make opium, is sown with cotton and other crops in fields along the Nile River.

Growing Centre

The traditional growing centre is a 250-square-mile area around Assiut.

This year, for the first time, international drug traffickers from Europe and the United States scouted Egypt as a possible source of opium, from which heroin is made, reliable sources said.

Narcotics agents, however, seized most of the opium harvest last year and the rest has been absorbed by an estimated half-million local addicts.

Concern persists that the cultivation will spread to new areas outside the traditional growing centre and that a surplus domestic production would attract drug kingpins from abroad.

Upper Egypt has been a centre for opium growing since the days of the Pharaohs and the poppy plant can be seen on temple walls of ancient Thebespear Luxor.

Traditional Users

Peasants have been the traditional users, chewing raw opium or drinking it in their tea, but experts say there are signs users now include young urbanites. Police say there is no indication that the raw opium is being distilled to make morphine or production for medical purpose in Egypt.

Statistics released by the anti-drug agency show that in 1973 only 4,523 opium plants were seized in police raids, but in the first six months of this year six million plants were destroyed. Between 1976 and 1977 the seizures increased 286 percent and there is no sign of a slackening in the upward trend.

In a report on opium and hashish growing, the anti-narcotics agency said the increase in seizures clearly pointed to a rise in total production.

"In the last few years statistics indicated an increase in the cultivation of narcotic plants," the report said.

The study also stated that "growers have started switching from the cultivation of marijuana to growing opium because of the enormous profit involved."

Per Capita

Sources estimate that a farmer can earn 35,000 dollars an acre growing opium in a country where the per capita income is only 250 dollars a year.

"That is hell of an incentive to grow opium," one Western experts said. "You can't find another crop that has that value here."

The sources estimate the illicit market value of the crop seized in 1977 at 7 million dollars but say it would be worth at least three times that on the international market.

By comparison with world growing centres such as Turkey, Southeast Asia and Mexico, the Egyptian production is "very small," Mr Farrag said.

Seizure

For example, Egypt's 1977 seizure amounted to only about 200 acres, while in Mexico a raid last year involved some 20,000 acres of opium.

But the potential is nonetheless evident, and Mr Farrag noted Egypt's opium is the "best in the world," because of the rich soil.

"It's a beginning and if we are not firm, if we don't eradicate the sparks now, there will be a fire later," he said. "We must stop this trend before it becomes serious."

He said because the growers lost most of their crop last year they appeared to be planning to try new where the growing season is longer and where the network of police informers is not as strong.

Confrontations between police and the opium growers near Assiut have sometimes been dramatic. Last year, police sent 600 soldiers armed with assault rifles and mortars against the opium traders.

Nearly 500 persons were arrested after a shootout.

In another raid, more than 3,000 police stormed outlaw hideouts in the rugged desert mountains near Assiut, confiscating undisclosed amounts of hashish and opium as well as 600 automatic weapons. About 300 persons were arrested.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRIA

BRIEFS

DRUG DEALERS ARRESTED--Salzburg policemen broke a drug ring whose exact size cannot yet be ascertained. The dealers arrested on 21 December at the Salzburg-Walserberg border control point are three natives of Vorarlberg-- 26-year-old Walter Flatz, a teacher by profession, his 23-year-old brother Roland and 26-year-old Paul Peschl, a painter. The police describe Walter Flatz, who has just completed a 2-year prison term in Istanbul, as the main culprit. The affair blew up after a confidential tip was received that a driverless Dutch tractor trailer was parked on the Bavarian side of the crossing point which was supposed to carry drugs. A check by Dutch authorities confirmed the suspicion, and 40 kilograms of cannabis resin were discovered in a spare tire. The group of three who reached the border in a BMW automobile with a Vorarlberg license plate were shadowed for a whole night while they tried to locate the Dutch vehicle, the carrier of their commodity. A house search conducted concurrently with the arrest in their apartments in Lustenau, Vorarlberg, revealed 1.5 kilograms of marihuana. Further investigations are being conducted via INTERPOL. [Vienna KURIER in German 22 Dec 78 p 7 AU]

HEROIN SMUGGLER ARRESTED--Vienna police have arrested 39 year-old Zarko Vrucinic, a Yugoslav forwarding merchant residing in Vienna, on charges of having smuggled 1 kilo of quality three high-grade heroin worth about 1 million schillings from Iran to Austria in his truck. Police also arrested two prospective buyers, saloon keeper Otto Neumueller and his brother Juergen, a waiter, both from Vienna. The rests were made as long ago as at the end of December but were not revealed earlier in the interest of the investigation. According to the police, the arrested buyers were only go-betweens, while the actual buyer was identified as a Turkish citizen who is believed to be a prominent figure on the central European drug scene. He is now wanted by Interpol. [Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 17 Jan 79 p 6 AU]

TWO AUSTRIANS ARRESTED--Schwechat police have arrested two Austrian citizens-- Tilman Hackl, 24, and Alfred Spenger, 22--who for several months had smuggled hashish, cocaine and heroin from the Netherlands to Austria in the "Ostende express." In addition to the two suppliers, police also arrested three pushers, all of them from Vienna, between 19 and 22 years old, and seized 200,000 schillings cash proceeds from drug deals. So far, police have been able to provide illicit drug dealings with over 20 kilos of hashish and smaller quantities of cocaine and heroin. [Vienna KURIER in German 13 Jan 79 p 16 AU]

HEROIN DEALERS ARRESTED--On 16 December Vienna police arrested Turkish citizen Eyya Cocyan and Yugoslav citizen Ramadan Fetahi at a Vienna hotel bar when they were about to close a deal on over 1 million schillings worth of "quality three" high-grade heroin. The prospective buyer, believed to be an international drug dealer also from Turkey, succeeded in escaping. The heroin was seized by the police. [Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 11 Jan 79 p 10 AU]

CSO: 5300

ICELAND

COURT SENTENCES HASHISH SMUGGLER

Reykjavik MORGUNBLADID in Icelandic 22 Dec 78 p 48

[Text] The original court for narcotics has passed judgment on Magnus Arnason for the possession and distribution of narcotics and for forgery. He was sentenced to 2½ years in prison and fined 700,000 kronur, plus 60 additional days in prison if the money is not paid. His 26 days in custody will be subtracted from his sentence. He was also ordered to pay all court costs. Asgeir Fridjonsson handed down this verdict, the heaviest sentence in a narcotics case for an Icelander in his own country. Only the 4-year prison sentence of American soldier Barbar "Korki" Smith was heavier.

Arnason was found guilty of having forged names on three travelers' checks in order to obtain foreign exchange, and of having imported and distributed 600 grams of hashish, as well as having brought in 900 grams of hashish for other partners either for sale or further delivery and finally of having financed half of the purchase of 16.5 kilograms of hashish in Morocco, which was taken to Spain and earmarked for distribution in Iceland, according to evidence. Spanish customs, however, spotted the hashish, and Magnus's partner is still in prison in Spain, where he is serving time for his crime.

8743
CSO: 5300

NORWAY

BRIEFS

INCREASE IN DRUGS SEIZED--Customs authorities have seized approximately twice as much narcotics at border stations this year as last. Customs Director Jens Sterri informed AFTENPOSTEN that to date about 28-30 kilo of cannabis substances, hash and marijuana, have been seized. Forty percent of the seizures are made by narcotics dogs with handlers. That is almost double the 1977 seizures. In addition about 140 grams of pure amphetamine has been seized, which is double the amount confiscated last year. The customs authorities have also seized a number of other narcotics substances, but only in smaller quantities. The customs director reported that the Directorate for Customs and Special Taxes has purchased two new narcotics dogs from Sweden. Handlers were sent to Sweden to undergo training with the dogs. The two new dogs will go to Kristiansand and Oslo. Customs already had six dogs. These are located in Bergen, Kristiansand, Stavanger, Porsgrunn, Oslo and the border station at Orje. [Text] [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 30 Dec 78 p 4] 9287

DEALERS' AUTOMATIC WEAPONS--Oslo, Dec 29--Modern automatic weapons, pistols and machine pistols, are in the hands of irresponsible drug addicts in the Oslo area, reports VERDENS GANG. The weapons were stolen from the villa of a gun collector in Asker. The father of one of the boys, who has connections in the drug world, bought two weapons and paid 100 kroner and 100 rounds of live ammunition. The stolen weapons, a total of 14 in all, were in good condition and ready for use. The police know that the weapons have been sold in the narcotics world. The receivers of the weapons are very young. During the investigation, which has gone on since mid-November, three boys have been imprisoned, two of age 16 and one of age 20. One 15-year-old, who was charged with having sold the weapons, avoided prison because of his youth. Only half of the weapons have been recovered, the newspaper reports. [Text] [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 29 Dec 78 p 10] 9287

DRUGS FROM FRG--The narcotics police have seized a large quantity of narcotics on board the Kiel ferry "Crown Prince Harald." Police Adjutant Tor-Aksel Busch at Oslo police headquarters had no comment. AFTENPOSTEN learned that the seized drugs were either amphetamines or heroin. Five persons arrested. The police acted while the "Crown Prince Harald" was enroute from Kiel to Oslo Thursday night. It was a well-planned action in cooperation with foreign police and customs officials. The narcotics police went aboard the ship while it was alongside the pier in Kiel, and based on what they observed on board five persons were arrested. It is known that "hard" drugs were confiscated on board the "Crown Prince Harald." Police do not wish to disclose information about the case because the investigation is just beginning and it is possible that more persons will be involved. It is also possible that the police have good information which could lead to more drug seizures. The drugs which were seized are now at Oslo police headquarters for further investigation. It is not clear what types of drugs are included. AFTENPOSTEN sources indicate that it was either amphetamines or heroin--or possibly both--which was found on the persons arrested. The narcotics police worked under heavy pressure on this case all day yesterday and a shroud of secrecy covers the investigation. There is little doubt, however, that they are again preparing to expose a large-scale drug ring. This is regarded in Norway as a large and important case. [Text] [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 25 Nov 78 p 18] 9287

RECORD DRUG DEATHS IN 1978--Oslo, 22 Nov--To date this year there have been 23 drug-related deaths recorded in Norway. That is four more than in 1974, which was the record year until now. Police Adjutant Christian Christiansen of Oslo police headquarters informed NTB [Norwegian Telegraph Bureau] that 16 of these deaths were recorded in Oslo and 7 were recorded by police in other parts of the country. The dead were all between 18 and 39-years old, and 4 were women. "The most recent deaths occurred in Oslo during one 24-hour period this week, and in at least one of the cases it seems that the cause of death was an overdose of heroin. The results of the final analysis are not yet available, however," said Christiansen. Last year there were only 8 drug-related deaths recorded in the country, and 10 in each of the 2 preceding years. Professor Dr Nils Retterstol MD informed NTB that these figures are absolute minimums, those of which the police are aware, and that there were certainly others of which they are unaware. "Therefore it is difficult to compare the number of drug-related deaths from year to year. However, the number of deaths known to the police this year is so high that it is a subject of great concern. [Excerpts] [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 22 Nov 78 (Evening Ed) pp 1, 12] 9287

CSO: 5300

PORTUGAL

HASHISH CONFISCATED FROM COLOMBIANS

Lisbon O DIA in Portuguese 8 Nov 78 pp 1, 21

[Text] Four Colombians carrying 120 kilograms of compressed hashish worth over 12,000 contos were arrested at the Portuguese border. The prisoners and others involved, all South Americans and already identified, operated out of Colombia and were caught just as they were getting ready to reexport the drugs to other countries.

The Drug Investigation and Control Center and other agencies directly involved, specifically the General Customs Directorate and the Customs Guard, seized about 120 kilograms of compressed hashish worth over 12,000 contos at the Portuguese border. Four Colombians, whose identify was not revealed, in possession of the drugs were arrested.

According to a communique from the investigations center distributed to the news media yesterday, "these individuals and the others involved, all South Africans [as published] who have already been identified, operated out of Colombia, where the drugs were shipped to Portugal hidden in the sides and false bottoms of wooden trunks. They were organized in groups of 'couriers' to handle these shipments which they reexported from Lisbon to other points in Europe."

Inclusion of our country among the main international drug "highways" and the important role played therein by citizens of certain South American countries, as well as the illegal production of drugs in those countries, was thus confirmed once again.

The communique then mentions that "in the current situation of a diminished supply of cannabis sativa (commonly known as marihuana or hashish) in the Portuguese domestic market, information about activation of traditional sources of unadulterated drugs and exportation of 'cannabis' to our territory or through Portugal to other regions of Europe" was responsible for this operation. The investigation center's communique concludes by thanking the police and customs agencies whose action "confirms their interest in the struggle against the drug traffic and the need to provide them with suitable professional training in this field."

1,000 False Drivers Licenses...

As the result of an operation carried out over the last weekend the Lisbon Judiciary Police have just discovered the headquarters of a network of driver's license counterfeiters.

According to PJ [Judiciary Police] estimates, the newly discovered ring operated especially among refugees from the former colonies, specifically from Angola, and is responsible for "issuing" more than 1,000 counterfeit driver's licenses.

8834
CSO: 5300

PORTUGAL

ARTICLE LOOKS AT DRUG ENFORCEMENT EFFORT

Lisbon EXPRESSO in Portuguese 14 Oct 78 p 5R

[Article: "Drug Treatment: Atmosphere of Unrest Calls for Immediate Investigation"]

[Text] The Drug Treatment Study Center [CEPD], strangely, is subordinate to the Presidency of the Council and not, as would be entirely indicated by the nature of its subject matter, the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. One of those most directly responsible for such a state of affairs was, we are told, Dr Almeida Santos. Specifically, when he was in the government he was minister of tutelage, a task about which, moreover, he complained bitterly. We wanted to meet with Dr Almeida Santos to clear up some details, but at the moment this was not possible.

What is happening in the CEPD?

What is going on in the Drug Treatment Study Center?

The question is pertinent and is justified, in the first place, by the unrest prevailing in its various departments; it is further justified by the apparent domination of bureaucratic administrative criteria over eminently therapeutic criteria (rather than the bias toward therapy which is internationally recognized as more valid) and even further justified by the resignations noted. Commandant Gomes da Silva, who held the position of coordinator, resigned in December 1977; in June it was Dr Afonso Ribeiro's turn to quit, as director of the southern regional center; and in July Dr Cotta Guerra resigned as president of the CEPD National Directorate.

By no means could such events fail to affect the institution's activities, whether at the level of personnel, particularly specialists, or that of the users, despite the praises given the organization and the high regard in which it is held by the United Nations Narcotics Division, reiterated in June of last year.

To combat the traffic and use of drugs, the sixth provisional government created a complex structure which, in summary, consists of a center responsible for problems of drug use (the Drug Treatment Study Center), another center concerned with drug traffic (the Drug Investigation and Control Center) and a coordinating agency (Coordinating Office to Combat Drugs). At that time the coordinating office was assigned the duty of /"assuring coordination of the activities of the two centers"/ [in boldface], granting operational and administrative autonomy to the CICD [Drug Investigation and Control Center] and only administrative autonomy to the other.

After careful observation of what is happening in the centers, the present government must be questioned about the government as of then and about the reasons for certain appointments and consequent activities. There are those who discover "top-level power struggles," struggles in which the apparent motivations will not be easily understood if we consider the kind of services to be rendered.

As is known, the use of drugs is a phenomenon closely related to situations of social maladjustment and defiance of power structures. Consequently, to join or link this service to government agencies and, in this case, to the highest one of all, the council presidency, is to contribute to politicizing the drug problem, enlarging it artificially and involving it in the contradictions of a system that, on behalf of a dominant culture (in which the drug-traffic mafia has a place of distinction), attempts to suppress a phenomenon of the counter-culture, that of drug use. The closer the problem is to the government and the more dependent it is upon it, the harder it becomes to evaluate it impartially. It is thus not understood at all why it is subordinated to the council presidency. Dr Almeida Santos overlooked a simple fact: integration or rehabilitation of the addict must be done in these centers without any idea of surveillance of the person making use of these services.

Coordinating Office

According to DL [Decree-Law] 790/76, the coordinator assures coordination of activities of the two distinct centers, devoted respectively to treatment of drug use (CEPD) and to suppression of drug traffic (CICD). That decree-law simply defines asymmetric areas of authority for each of the centers. Denying the CEPD operational autonomy, the coordinating office reserves for itself authority to direct overall policy of drug-addiction prevention.

The GCCD [Coordinating Office to Combat Drugs], however, does not have personnel capable of performing such functions. According to the judgment of the General Directorate of Public Service, this agency is distinguished precisely by its lack of such specialists.

It is also fitting to cite the fact that control of treatment and also of suppression by the same authority will inevitably contaminate the two operations. Rehabilitation of the addict under conditions of anonymity to which he submits voluntarily, convinced that he will not be incriminated or penalized, and identification of the addict subject to measures of security and punishment are irreconcilable situations that must never be confused within the responsibilities of one and the same agency. Presence of the CICD in the coordinating office's organization chart, moreover, increases the system's ambiguity even further. Not simply the name ("...Investigation... Center"), but also its very methodology of operation, gives its image the aura of a shadowy agency, since it functions in tandem with another traffic-suppression agency, the Narcotics Division of the Judiciary Police.

Ambiguity of Dual Status

After Commandant Gomes da Silva resigned in December 1977, Almeida Santos appointed Dr Armando Rocha, whose doctorate is in geography and who was the sports director of the previous regime, to fill the position of coordinator temporarily. Associated with the CEPD from the beginning as administrative director, he was later reintegrated in the civil service and simultaneously requisitioned from the MEC [Ministry of Education and Culture] to be responsible for "duties of general administration; that is, administration of personnel, materials, budgetary funds, and other duties that constitute simply ways and means of assuring activities of merely administrative work."

By combining distinct responsibilities, those of CEPD administrative director and GCCD coordinator, in one official, Almeida Santos concentrated in the same person absolute power over both agencies, although retaining the ambiguity of dual status.

This ambiguity could not help but produce the effects that result from it, if we also consider Dr Armando Rocha's preparation for such work, which is, as we said above, in geography.

Situations of Dual Authority

Frequently the administrative director, forgetting sectoral guidelines of preventive policy, gives orders of an administrative nature that contradict operational requirements and weaken therapeutic measures. Such is the case with the daily boarding charge of 22 escudos that the addicts must pay if they wish to be treated in the hospital center. Since the great majority come from a social class with limited funds and are generally estranged from their families, such a requirement forces them--whenever no one takes responsibility for payment in advance--to fall back on a declaration of poverty, given by the Parish Board, with inevitable loss of the anonymity promised by the hospitalization center specialists to all who wish to be treated there. Such an aberration then confuses the addicts's desire for a cure with a fear of eventual reprisals. With the further aggravation that the institution is surrounded by an atmosphere of distrust and suspicion that can eventually lead to the specialists' being viewed as a kind of police.

The climate prevailing within the institute is not very suitable to the mission for which it was created. Inquiries are frequently ordered for trifling and ridiculous reasons, with threats of disciplinary action. Furthermore, there is an increasing number of situations that become the pretext for controlling the activities of specialists, through administrative employees who, in certain cases, must submit confidential daily reports of events.

8834
CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

CLOSING OF WARDS HURTS STOCKHOLM DRUGS TREATMENT

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 15 Dec 78 p 2

Editorial: "Crisis in the Treatment of Drug Addicts"

Text The situation for drug addicts applying for treatment of acute conditions is catastrophic. Since the detoxification wards were closed in the county hospital recently, no treatment can be obtained. This affects not only the addicts who fail to get the approximately 40 beds that were available, but also the active efforts to identify addicts, and considerable efforts of that kind are made.

The idea of the so-called treatment chain for narcotics addicts is for continuity between the various forms of treatment to prevail--that is, between the efforts to identify addicts, the detoxification, the follow-up treatment and support during adjustment to normal social life. These are not activities which can be detached from each other and carried out individually. The elimination of one phase in this continuity destroys the possibility of an effective form of treatment which produces results.

That is precisely what has happened now as a result of the closing of the beds for the treatment of acute conditions because of a shortage of personnel. Ruth Karnek Social Democratic Party pointed this out, among other things, in a letter to social county council member Nils Hallerby Liberal Party. She calls for a redistribution of personnel from the psychiatrists' group within the medical service.

Naturally, the shortage of personnel is the principal cause, at present, of the crisis which has arisen, but the reasons go deeper than that. Since the beginning of the 1970s, the question of the treatment of drug addicts has been tossed back and forth between the county council and the municipalities. Who is to have the responsibility? They came to an agreement, purely on principle, that the matter of who is in charge is a local government matter. But the problem is not that simple. There are practical and economic reasons to indicate that many municipalities in the Stockholm area have neither the capabilities nor the resources necessary to take over a responsibility which the county council simply feels it wants to get rid of.

The protracted and tough negotiations regarding who is going to be in charge have now produced a situation where the drug addicts are the ones who suffer, the personnel seeking to identify individuals in acute need of treatment have lost their principal motivation in the treatment chain-- that is, detoxification--and the load is becoming larger and more unmanageable in the psychiatrists' treatment facilities and the free treatment facilities. With these conditions as a background, it is only a question of time before the effects of the personnel shortage also appear in these areas.

Although many people tried to shut their eyes to the drug abuse which began to appear at the end of the 1960s and has become more and more of a reality during the 1970s, there is no reason why one should not open one's eyes. A government committee has recently been set up which is to survey drug abuse in Sweden. The UNO (Committee on the Extent of Drug Abuse) will be ready with its first report next fall.

Such a survey is necessary so that it will be possible to counteract drug abuse--preferably through preventive measures at an early stage. Drug abuse, it is believed in the UNO, is an indicator of how the society is functioning on the whole. That is what many people who want to do something about it but do not know how have not yet realized.

9266
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TURKEY

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS PROTOCOL WITH EGYPT--Turkey and Egypt exchanged letters of ratification today in Ankara on the protocol for cooperation in control of narcotics smuggling signed on 26 March 1978. The protocol, providing for exchange of information and other forms of cooperation in narcotics control, will go into force on February 4, 1979. [Text] [Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1450 GMT 4 Jan 79 TA]

NARCOTICS SEIZED IN ISTANBUL--Istanbul Security Directorate narcotics bureau teams have seized about 2 tons of narcotics this year and arrested 149 persons in connection with the seizures. According to information received from the Istanbul Security Directorate, narcotics bureau teams seized 1,823.25 kilos of hashish, 9,042 kilos of heroin, 210 grams of opium and 2 grams of morphine. [Text] [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1000 GMT 11 Dec 78 TA]

CSO: 5300

UNITED KINGDOM

DRUG HAUL DOUBLES AS SMUGGLERS SWITCH TO BRITAIN

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 4 Jan 79 p 2

[Article by John Weeks]

[Text] Customs investigators seized drugs worth 22,250,000 pounds last year--more than double the amount for 1977--because Britain has become a staging post for drugs being sent to America.

Heroin accounted for more than half of the seizures in 1978. The street value of the 130 lb confiscated was 12,867,000 pounds.

The main source of supply for the heroin was south east Asia and smugglers were caught in Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.

Holland used to be the main staging post for smuggling drugs to the United States and Europe, but after a clampdown by Dutch police, the traffickers turned to Britain.

The amount of heroin seized in transit in Britain went up by ten per cent, to 80 per cent, and 33 lb was seized in one operation by Customs at Heathrow.

Although the number of seizures for all drugs fell last year to 1,531 from 1,720 in 1977, the smugglers attempted to bring in a much larger amount of drugs.

Customs seized 3,060 kilos of cannabis resin valued at 4.6 million pounds in 1978, compared with a haul worth 2.5 million pounds in the previous year.

Herbal cannabis worth 2.8 million pounds was seized as against the 1977 figure of 1.9 million pounds.

The amount of cocaine seized also went up to 14.7 kilos valued at 1.32 million pounds compared with the 1977 figure of 12 kilos valued at 800,000 pounds.

Morphine worth 770,000 pounds was seized, as against the previous year's figure of 123,000 pounds.

During the 1,531 seizures, Customs arrested 897 people. Special task forces were set up in various parts of Britain and proved very successful.

CSO: 5320

UNITED KINGDOM

HEROIN SMUGGLED IN BOXES OF FROZEN PRAWNS

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 10 Jan 79 p 15

[Text] Chinese heroin valued at more than 20 million pounds on the "black market" has been dumped in Britain in boxes of frozen king prawns, police said yesterday.

It was smuggled into Britain aboard a ship from the Far East.

The vessel, not named, was diverted to Newcastle where agents unaware of the concealed drugs cargo sold the prawns in the usual way.

The heroin was found by a Chinese restaurant owner in Glasgow, who became suspicious when he saw a brown, sugary substance in one of the boxes of prawns.

He contacted police, and the substance was found to be 800 grams of heroin with a "street value" of 75,000 pounds.

A nation-wide police investigation into the destinations of the drug is now under way.

The drug turned up at several places in the Greater Glasgow area, at Bearsden, Partick, Drumchapel and Shettleston.

Two restaurant owners dumped the drug into their dustbins, while another tipped it down a drain, believing it to be washing powder.

But Strathclyde drugs squad has already retrieved a considerable proportion of it. Interpol is now helping to track down the drug gang.

CSO: 5320

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

CANNABIS SMUGGLING TRIAL--Two men were committed for trial to Ipswich Crown Court by Ipswich magistrates yesterday on a charge of smuggling cannabis. George Charles Edwards, 35, and Hubert Gootfried Hovelborn, 24, a printer, of Niederhassel, Germany, are jointly charged with importing cannabis resin at Heathrow airport, and elsewhere in the United Kingdom between Oct. 1 and 19 last year. Both were remanded for custody after an application for bail on behalf of Edwards was refused. There was strict security at the court and everyone entering the courtroom was searched. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 5 Jan 79 p 15]

CSO: 5320

END