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JPRS L/8348

22 March 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS  
(FOUO 13/79)



WORLD



WIDE



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MALAYSIA

DRUGS GO OUT ON FLIGHTS FROM SABAH AND SARAWAK

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Feb 79 p 7 BK

[Text] KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — Drug syndicates are making use of airports in Sabah and Sarawak to smuggle out drugs to countries like Hong Kong.

Two such cases surfaced last year, Customs Director-General Datuk Abdul Rahim Tak disclosed today.

"We have information that the syndicates are using the airports especially at Kuching and Kota Kinabalu to fly out the drugs that they receive from the Golden Triangle.

**More units**

"They have been forced to do this as they have found it difficult to get their drugs through the

Customs and our narcotics dogs at the airports in the Peninsula.

"To stop this we are going to set up two more dog units in Sabah and Sarawak soon," he said.

They will be used at the airports to sniff out drugs.

Drug traffickers are active in Malaysia as it is on the international drug route that leads to the United States and Europe.

Datuk Rahim, who visited the Customs narcotics dog centre at Jalan Bellamy here this morning, said two other dog units would be set up in Kedah and Penang.

**A record**

Customs now have

seven drug dogs — six German Labradors and an Irish Setter — all gifts from the United States Customs. One of the dogs, Tiny, established a world record when it sniffed out 52 lbs of heroin at Subang airport in December last year.

Datuk Rahim said: "We expect to get four dogs from Australia, 10 from Germany and others from the United States. We hope to obtain at least 30 dogs in all by early next year."

Eight officers have so far returned from training at the Front Royal Dog Training Academy at Virginia, United States. Five others are leaving next month for training.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

COP ON DRUG CHARGE--Johore Baru, Sat--A police constable was today charged with possession of 42 straws of heroin weighing 3.4 grams. V. Karunanethe, 22, of the Police Depot, pleaded not guilty. He is alleged to have committed the offence at the JKR quarters here at 1.15 a.m. yesterday. He was free on \$2,000 bail. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Feb 79 p 14 BK]

YOUTH JAILED--Johore Baru, Sun--A 23-year-old youth was sentenced to three-and-a-half years' imprisonment by the Sessions Court yesterday for having heroin. Abdul Jalil Khamis of Kampung Pengkalan Renting, Rampoi, admitted having 22 tubes of heroin at Kampung Pengkalan Renting at 10.30 p.m. to Feb 8 last year. He also pleaded guilty to a second charge of having 0.04 grammes of heroin at the 5 1/2 mile Jalan Scudai at 9.45 p.m. on Jan 11 this year. He was sentenced to three-and-a-half years' on the first charge and a year's imprisonment on the second count. The sentences are to run concurrently. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Feb 79 p 7 BK]

JAIL AND ROTAN FOR ELECTRICIAN--Kuala Lumpur, Wed--An electrician was sentenced by the Sessions Court today to three years' jail and ordered to receive six strokes of the rotan after he was found guilty of possessing heroin. Sito Kam Ong, 34, of Jalan Kolam Air, Sentul, had 5.01 grammes of the drug in his house on Sept 4, 1976. In his defence, Sito had denied possessing the heroin. He was defended by Mr Bhagwan Singh. DSP S.S. Chung was prosecuting. Chief Inspector Haji Saiful Yazan bin Haji Ahmad testified that on the morning of Sept 4, 1976, he carried out a house-to-house check in the Sentul area. He said he knocked on the front door of House No 8M, Jalan Kolam Air and pushed it open when no one answered. Inside the house, he knocked on the door of a room, he said. He said that a short while later detective Yaacob bin Sheikh Mohamed, whom he had instructed to stand outside the window of the room, told him that Sito had thrown out a cigarette box through the window. Haji Saiful added that he examined the box and found inside it a plastic packet containing heroin. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 22 Feb 79 p 9 BK]

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PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

CLANDESTINE MORPHINE FACTORY SMASHED--Islamabad, Feb. 13: Pakistan Narcotics Control Board today smashed a clandestine morphine factory, which was engaged in the preparation of morphine powder and tablets in Lahore, it was officially stated today. About five and a half kilograms of raw opium, 380 grams of morphine powder 200 tablets of morphine, 800 grams of white powder, a substantial quantity of chemicals along with the equipment, which also includes a tableting machine, have been seized from the premises of the factory Ingulberg 111. Saidiq Maseeh, stated to be operating the factory at the time of the raid, has been arrested. The raid was conducted under the supervision of Deputy Director, PNCB, Lahore Ch. Allah Dad Khan. Further investigations are being made. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 14 Feb 79 p 1]

OPIUM TABLET TO DRUG ADDICTS--Karachi, Feb. 24: The Sind Excise and Taxation Department has decided to provide opium tablets to addicts on medical grounds in the province, says an official handout. The tablet, each of 500 mg shall be sold at Rs. 2 by the Excise Officers at all the district headquarters on the recommendations of the concerned medical superintendents. The sale proceeds shall be deposited in the Government treasuries daily. It may be mentioned that the Punjab Government has already decided to provide opium to the addicts in the province. [Text] [Karachi THE SUN in English 25 Feb 79 p 4]

THIRTEEN ADDICTS DIE-- Islamabad, Pakistan: Thirteen persons have died throughout Pakistan because of a shortage of opium, hospital and police reported Friday. The victims, who died because of sudden withdrawal from the drug, were all opium addicts who maintained their habits through government licensed shops. Those shops were closed Feb. 10, when Pakistan's president, Gen Mohammed Zia Ul Haq, enforced the Islamic ban on liquor and narcotics as part of the implementation of an Islamic legal code. (AP) [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 26 Feb 79 p 8]

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

SIX YEARS AND CANE FOR WARDER WHO PUSHED DRUGS

Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Feb 79 p 10 BK

[Text]

A PRISON officer found, after ordering a warder to strip, that he had hidden in his underpants, straws of heroin wrapped in newspapers on which were names such as Cookie and Dracula 4.

These names turned out to be pseudonyms of prisoners to whom the warder was taking drugs.

Yesterday, Hussain bin Ahmad, 38, was jailed for six years with six strokes of the rotan by a district court for trafficking 1.88g of heroin at Queenstown Remand Prison on Jan 27.

Search

District Judge Syed Alwee bin Aisree also jailed him for a year and the sentences are to run concurrently, for having 0.77g of the drug at his Margaret Close home on the same day. He pleaded guilty to both offences.

Inspector K. Kathirasan, prosecuting said that on that morning, principal rehabilitation officer Mr M. Chelliah made a special search on prison warders on duty.

On searching Hussain, who was asked to strip, Mr Chelliah found in his underpants a plastic sachet containing seven small packets wrapped in newspapers, with name Botak 8, Popo 8, David Cookie, Dracula 4, Mal Steven, LDG 4

and Onan Road written on them. Within these packets were 40 straws of heroin.

Investigations showed that Hussain acted as an intermediary when he went to one Madam Leong Mun Pak's flat in Strathmore Avenue the night before he was found out, to deliver a note from her husband, Yeo Chai Huat alias Frankie, a criminal law detainee at the QRP.

The court heard that after receiving the note, she handed 40 straws of heroin to Hussain. He divided them into seven packets and wrapped them in a newspaper, according to the instructions of "Cookie", the pseudonym of Chew Lai Lee, another criminal law detainee at the QRP.

Deterrent

Hussain was to take the drugs back for Chew to distribute later to prisoners whose pseudonyms were written on the packets of heroin.

But, he was caught by Mr Chelliah before he could do this.

After the search, he led Central Narcotics Bureau and Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau officers to his home where they recovered, from a pocket diary, a small sachet of 0.77gm of heroin.

Hussain pleaded for leniency and asked the court not to send him to QRP as "that is my place of work."

Insp Kathirasan pressed for a deterrent sentence in view of the seriousness of the offence.

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

TWO CHARGED WITH DRUG TRAFFICKING--Two men were charged in a magistrate's court yesterday with trafficking in a total of 5,198 sticks of cannabis. Malaysian Kadir bin Haji Jalil, 44 was accused of trafficking in 5,000 sticks of the drug at Block 19, Upper Boon Keng Road, yesterday at 12.15 am. Adnan bin Anas, 36, allegedly trafficked in 198 sticks of the drug at a park near the junction of Geylang and Guillemard roads on Friday at 9.15 pm. Both cases will be mentioned on March 10. Kadir was allowed bail of \$20,000 in two sureties while Adnan was granted \$10,000 bail in one surety. [Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Feb 79 p 16 BK]

CSO: 5300

SRI LANKA

BRIEFS

FIGHT AGAINST GANJA MENACE--A three pronged attack is to be launched by the National Narcotics Advisory Board to combat the rapidly increasing menace of ganja abuse in the country. The Board which is now conducting a survey on the extent of ganja abuse is to take effective steps aimed at wiping out the production of ganja in Sri Lanka. Several proposals in this connection will be put forward at the National Narcotics Advisory Board meeting which will be convened by its Chairman Mr I. P. Werapitiya later this month. According to Police Narcotic Chief, DIG, Ram Sundaralingam an aerial survey conducted seven years ago indicated that there was close to 2,000 acres of cultivation in the Uda Walawe ganja belt alone. Present ganja production, he stated, was on a far better organised and a wider scale, and he was hoping to utilise the services of the Armed Forces to conduct intensive combing out operations and raids on these plantations. In view of the fact that much of the cultivation was being done in the jungle areas the Police were seeking the assistance of the Air Force to both spot the plantations and spray these areas with insecticides. The Board is presently discussing the question of aerial spraying with the agriculture authorities. Commenting on the transport of ganja Mr Sundaralingam indicated that ganja was being brought to Colombo in fish and vegetable lorries and even as pots of curd. The methods of transportation he stated was getting more and more devious. And recently it was found that ganja was being taken inside coffins and in hearses. [Ranil Weerasinghe] [Text] [Colombo SUN in English 9 Feb 79 p 1 BK]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

DRUG HAUL SPARKS HUNT FOR FRENCHMAN

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Feb 79 p 3 BK

[Text]

THAI police have cabled French authorities to intercept a French narcotics suspect after police here uncovered two kilogrammes of No. 3 heroin hidden in wooden handicrafts destined for France.

The Frenchman, Marc Feere, left Bangkok early this week after he allegedly arranged shipment of six items of wooden handicrafts, including a set of altar and two teak elephants, in which the drugs were secreted.

Police said Feere had been under surveillance by northern narcotics agents since he arrived in Chiang Mai on January 26. They said they had been tipped off that Feere intended to shop for the drugs in the North.

Feere reportedly

bought the teak handicrafts in Chiang Mai and later brought it for packing at the Chiang Mai branch of Bangkok-based Boonma Moving Storage Company.

When narcotics police checked the consignment, they found no evidence of drugs, they said. However, they later learnt that Feere had arranged to make the shipment by air via the Bangkok office of the moving company located in Hua Mark.

In the meantime, Feere had left Bangkok for France, presumably to await delivery of the consignment, police said.

The Crime Suppression Division Police, with the co-operation of the moving company, then searched the consignment on Wednesday and uncovered two kilos of heroin.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

POLICE NAB TWO DRUG PUSHERS

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Feb 79 p 5

[Text] Two women were caught red-handed yesterday morning with 245 tubes of No 4 first grade heroin by police agents disguised as customers, police reported.

Acting on a tip-off that drug pushers often delivered their goods in the area of Mahanak market, Plabplachai I police chief inspector Lt Col Mahit Chantarachaya earlier this month had ordered an investigation and arrest of the "pushers".

Early yesterday morning at around 7 a.m., two policemen disguised as workers asked to buy the drugs from two women, later identified as Mrs Sunan Thaithong and Mrs Sa-ngium sae Pia, and set a rendezvous in front of Mahanak market.

The two women came with two paper bags containing 245 tubes of heroin. They pleaded guilty upon arrest and admitted that they have been supplying heroin in the area at 250 baht per tube.



CSO: 5300



THAILAND

26M BAHT OF MARIHUANA SEIZED AT PORT

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Feb 79 p 1 BK

[Text] **TWENTY-six of 29 huge crates, which were to be shipped to the United States were yesterday found to contain 1,674 kilos of stick-marijuana worth 26.7 million baht at street prices in New York.**

The drug, worth a mere 1,004,400 baht at street prices in Bangkok, was uncovered by officials of the Exporting Goods Inspection Division of the Customs Department at the Division's Bangkok Bridge branch.

A woman, Mrs Boonying Hansakachorn, who brought the crates in three trucks to the Inspection Division, was held for questioning.

According to Division Director Navai Lt Udom Sukathad, the woman arrived at the Division office

and said the boxes contained household items which she wanted to ship to the United States.

However, suspicious officials ordered a search and found 26 of the crates contained 488 packages of marijuana while only three others contained pottery and other local wares.

Questioned, Mrs Boonying disclaimed any knowledge of the drug. She said she had been hired by an American tourist named Johannes V.

Madsen to deliver the crates to 123, Broadway, New York and knew nothing of their contents. Efforts are now being made to trace this tourist.

According to Lt Udom, the marijuana was brought from Tha Uthen District of Nakhon Phanom Province and arrived in Bangkok yesterday.

Marijuana sells in Bangkok at 600 baht a kilo and in New York at 800 dollars a kilo.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

50M BAHT WORTH OF MARIHUANA SEIZED

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 23 Feb 79 p 1 BK

[Text]



Marihuana for export. Bunying Hansakhachon was arrested for attempting to export 50 million baht worth of marihuana.

CSO: 5300

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THAILAND

AUSTRALIAN ARRESTED ON HEROIN CHARGES

Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 28 Feb 79 p 3

[Text] Customs officials and CSD police yesterday arrested an Australian and an American tourist on charges of possessing heroin in an airport swoop and an unrelated raid on a Bangkok hotel room.

Arrested at 9 p.m. at Don Muang Airport while about to board a flight to Bombay was Australian national Christopher Charles Retalack. Police said they found No. 4 heroin weighing about 732 grammes in his possession. Earlier yesterday, Crime Suppression Division Police raided the Century Hotel on Rajprarob Road where they arrested Christopher David Hoffman. Police said they found heroin weighing about 500 grammes in a suitcase and shoes in his room.

Retalack arrived in Bangkok on February 8 and reportedly told police he had stayed in Chiang Mai at a guest house. Customs officials became suspicious when Retalack rushed to exchange money in a hurry after airline officials had already called his Iraqi Airways flight.

A search reportedly uncovered two large packages of No. 4 heroin hidden in a

false compartment of a briefcase and three small packages in his suitcase. Heroin was also found inside an urn in his briefcase, Customs officials said.

Retalack allegedly told Customs officials that he had returned to Bangkok from Chiang Mai on Friday and was offered the heroin by a taxi driver. Customs officials said the suspect claimed to have paid 40,000 baht for the narcotics.

VISITED

Retalack said he was an artist and an antique dealer. He was found to have visited Bangkok six times in the past two years.

The American tourist Hoffman, allegedly told police he had bought the heroin in Chiang Mai and went on to say that he had frequently smuggled heroin to the United States in took handcraft.



Christopher Charles Retalack has breakfast this morning at the Customs Department

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

**POLICE SEIZE HEROIN, MARIHUANA STICKS**--Police yesterday arrested two men in Hat Yai for possession of heroin and seized 125 kilogrammes of marijuana sticks from a ten-wheel truck in Khon Kaen Province, it was reported. Chai Sirirat and Prachak Ruangdet were arrested by Border Patrol Police who were acting on a tip-off that a delivery of drugs would be made in Hat Yai. A team of plainclothes policemen were waiting at the scene when Chai and Prachak got off their motorcycle. A routine check of a brown paper bag carried by Chai uncovered 700 grammes of heroin, police said. Chai reportedly told police that he was hired by a Chinese man to make the delivery of the "brown paper bag" while Prachak denied any knowledge of the drug and maintained that he only gave Chai a ride. Meanwhile, Crime Suppression police early yesterday morning seized 125 kilogrammes of marijuana sticks found in a secret compartment of a ten-wheel truck in Ban Phai District of Khon Kaen province. Acting on a tip-off, a CSD team headed by Pol Capt Sombat Tanthanon set up a check point on a highway in the district. A ten-wheel truck ignored the police signal to stop and instead sped on its way. After a brief chase, police found the truck parked some ten kilometres past the checkpoint but the driver was nowhere in sight. Upon searching the truck, police found 52 packages of marijuana sticks. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Feb 79 p 5 BK]

**HEROIN FOUND ON JETLINER**--Customs officials found 24 packages containing 20 kilogrammes of No 3 'brown sugar' heroin in two unclaimed overnight bags aboard a KLM flight which was about to take off for Amsterdam last night. Officials said a last-minute search of the KLM flight 812 at 7 p.m. led to the discovery of the two bags stashed in the rear galley of the aircraft. Security officers initially believed they contained explosives. None of the passengers aboard the flight claimed ownership of the bags, officials said. The heroin, popular among European addicts, was said to be worth an estimated four million baht at the street price. No arrests have been made so far and police said they had no clue about the owner of the drugs which were handed over to the Crime Suppression Division Police. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Feb 79 p 1 BK]

**COURIER SENTENCED**--The Criminal Court yesterday sentenced a woman drugs courier to 33 years and six months in jail after convicting on charges of

possessing heroin with intent to smuggle and sell abroad. The court first jailed Mrs Rerai Wetchanukhrd, 44, for life but reduced the penalty reasoning that her statements to police during interrogation were beneficial to the case. The court dropped the same charges against four other women, Mrs Amphon Nitsaicharoen, Miss Chitraphon Sae Heng, Miss Sompong Sae Heng, and Mrs Waraphan Hanchirakhachon on grounds of insufficient evidence. Rerai was arrested on June 15, 1977, at Don Muang Airport when Customs officials uncovered two kilos of No 3 heroin hidden in a specially-designed suitcase. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Feb 79 p 5 BK]

CSO: 5300

CANADA

WARRANTS ISSUED FOR 37 ON DRUG CHARGES

Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 3 Feb 79 pp 1, 4

[Article by Michael Frezell]

[Text]

A six-month undercover drug investigation concluded Friday with the arrest of at least 21 persons on charges of selling drugs. Warrants have been issued for 37 persons.

RCMP Insp. Trainor Fraser said \$100,000 worth of drugs were purchased in a "prolonged and intense" probe of drug dealing in an area stretching from Windsor to Chatham.

The charges, under the Narcotic Control Act and the Food and Drug Act, involve the selling of hashish, marijuana, hashish oil, LSD, amphetamines, cocaine, a horse tranquilizer known as PCP, and a new hallucinogenic drug known on the street as PCP.

Insp. Fraser said the drugs bought by undercover officers came in buys ranging from \$20 to a single purchase of \$6,000.

RCMP officers from other regions entered the area to work as undercover agents making purchases and to carry out surveillance.

A team of 35 policemen from the RCMP, Windsor and Chatham police and the Ontario provincial police began raids at 5 a.m. Friday to round up the suspects. RCMP Sgt. John Pratt, head of the Windsor area drug squad, was in charge of the investigation.

Sgt. Pratt said the undercover operation centred on the "senior level of trafficking in chemicals" such as the illegally manufactured methamphetamine commonly known as speed, as well as LSD and PCP.

Insp. Fraser said the investigation concerned a number of independent operators, not a drug ring.

Some drugs were taken during the arrests. A tally was not available but Sgt. Pratt said the seizures included about 1,000 units of LSD.

Some of those arrested Friday were remanded in custody pending bail hearings next week. Others were released on their own recognizance and ordered to return to court Feb. 12. They were told to report any change of address to the RCMP and some agreed not to enter licensed establishments in Essex County.

Warrants were still outstanding for several persons in the Windsor area. Seven persons in the Chatham area were named in warrants.

Sgt. Pratt said further charges are expected in connection with the undercover investigation.

The following is a list of the persons arraigned on trafficking charges Friday afternoon before a justice of the peace.

Joel Biggar, 23, of Meadowbrook Lane, one count of trafficking marijuana and one count of trafficking methamphetamines;

Terry Power, 22, of Bliss Road, five counts of trafficking methamphetamines;

Martin Kane, 26, of King Street, and Ernest Fillault, 29, of Ford Boulevard, a joint charge of trafficking methamphetamines;

Jamie Santin, 18, of McDougall Avenue, one charge of trafficking LSD;

George Pare, 29, of Highway 18, LaSalle, one charge of trafficking marijuana;

Christopher Gow, 18, of Windermere Road, one count of trafficking LSD;

Matthew Ostopovich, 23, of Parent Avenue, one count of trafficking LSD and another charge of trafficking PCP; Perry O'Keefe, 20, of Labadie Road, three counts of trafficking LSD;

Gary Rudak, 20, of Rivard Avenue, one charge of trafficking marijuana;

Evangelos Sianos, 26, of Riverside Drive East, two counts of trafficking PCE;

Daniel Kalas, 22, of University Avenue West, single charges of trafficking in marijuana, PCP, LSD and PCE;

Cindy Carder, 18, of Alexandrine Street, two charges of trafficking LSD;

Pamela Wilson, 30, of McKay Avenue, one count of trafficking marijuana;

Peggy Badder, 25, of Victoria Avenue, two counts of trafficking LSD;

Todd Martinello, 19, of Atwater Crescent, one charge of trafficking LSD;

Lawrence Martinello, 20, of Atwater Crescent, three counts of trafficking LSD;

Donald Lebert, 29, of St. Pierre Street, Tecumseh, single charges of trafficking PCP, cocaine and PCE;

Kenneth Fields, 28, and Muriel Fields, 36, of Bayswater Crescent, charged jointly with one count of trafficking marijuana and one count of trafficking PCP;

Terrance Hunter, of Bruce Avenue, one charge of trafficking marijuana.

CSO: 5320

CANADA

STATISTICS ON DRUG ARRESTS IN PAST DECADE

Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 3 Feb 79 p 4

[Text]

A large-scale drug raid in Windsor and Chatham Friday may prove to be the bust of the decade in the tri-county area.

Police arrested at least 21 persons on 37 warrants for drug trafficking Friday. About \$100,000 worth of drugs were bought during the investigation and more were seized during the arrests.

In February of 1977, a raid brought the arrests of 26 persons charged with trafficking and possession for the purpose of trafficking and \$30,000 worth of drugs were confiscated.

Those arrests culminated a four-month investigation by Windsor police, Ontario provincial police and the RCMP.

Several other raids during the past 10 years resulted in the seizure of large quantities of illegal drugs.

About 2,000 pounds of marijuana was found by police on two farms near Chatham in August of 1977. Their street value was estimated at nearly \$700,000.

At the time, police discovered a virtual factory with plants being cultivated and marijuana processed, cured and wrapped for street sale.

Four tri-county area men were charged with possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking.

In 1972 a cache of 700 pounds of marijuana in brick form was seized by the RCMP and the Windsor drug

squad from a trailer parked behind a Malden Road home.

Police estimated the value of the seizure at \$140,000. Two persons were arrested in Toronto in connection with the seizure.

A large seizure of LSD occurred at Windsor Airport in November, 1974, after a two-week police investigation.

A 24-year-old Michigan man was charged with possession of LSD for the purpose of trafficking. Confiscated in the arrest were 13,970 units of LSD, 5.5 grams of hashish and five grams of marijuana with a total value of \$42,000.

A combined cache of marijuana, LSD, hashish and other unidentified drugs was discovered in a raid by RCMP and Windsor police in January of 1972.

At least five persons were arrested in the raid and police called it the biggest drug bust ever in Windsor at the time.

The value of the drugs could not be estimated but police said the marijuana was worth \$20,000.

As far back as 1969, RCMP seized \$25,000 worth of heroin and more than 500 capsules believed to be amphetamines in what is one of Windsor's biggest heroin hauls. A U.S. man was taken into custody in the raid.

CSO: 5320



CANADA

POLITICAL PARTIES DISAGREE ON MARIJUANA DECRIMINALIZATION

Three Parties for Eliminating Penalties

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 8 Feb 79 p 1

[Text]

OTTAWA (CP) — Liberal, Conservative and New Democratic Party spokesmen expressed willingness yesterday to grant speedy Commons passage to legislation virtually eliminating penalties for possession of marijuana for personal use.

The Conservative and NDP leaders gave their undertakings in interviews after Justice Minister Marc Lalonde told the Commons he is willing to consult the opposition on whether speedy passage could be guaranteed to a bill to decriminalize possession of marijuana.

Mr. Lalonde restated the Liberal Government's longstanding contention that possession of marijuana should remain an offence though not one that would lead to criminal conviction and a criminal record.

Pressed by Conservative youth critic Paul Dick to explain why the Government has failed to act on the matter, the Justice Minister said that in opposition parties promise to co-operate "we will be very happy to consult and see how fast we can proceed."

Conservative Leader Joseph Clark and NDP Leader Edward Broadbent said they would support legislation decriminalizing marijuana.

"If Lalonde is serious on the matter he should move quickly," Mr. Clark said, adding that his party would deal with the bill relatively quickly after some debate.

He said the Conservatives would prefer to spend more time on the bill, but with an election call looming, "our backs are to the wall."

Last Friday, Mr. Lalonde told Mr. Dick, the MP for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton, that he did not have high hopes that Parliament would move quickly on the matter and he did not want to raise expectations falsely.

Yesterday, the minister turned aside a suggestion from Mr. Dick that two Cabinet orders be passed to place marijuana under the Food and Drugs Act instead of the Narcotic Control Act.

That solution was not so simple because it could result in removing the possession of marijuana from offences completely.

The Government has long promised to remove offences involving cannabis — the generic term for marijuana and hashish — from the Narcotic Control Act, which provides a maximum seven-year prison term for simple possession.

Mr. Lalonde has said that if the Government brings in a bill, it will be similar to one that was passed a few years ago in the Senate. That bill, which died on the order paper before the Commons had a chance to study it, would have abolished jail sentences for people charged with simple possession of hashish and marijuana.

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau said last year he would introduce such a bill if the Opposition agreed to fast passage.

Under the Senate bill, cannabis drugs — the so-called soft drugs — would be brought under the Food and Drugs Act, which now covers hallucinogenic drugs such as LSD and amphetamines — commonly known as speed.

Mr. Dick said in an interview that the Government has been talking about dec-

criminalization for so long that a false sense of legitimacy has been created among young people.

Mr. Dick said the Conservatives would need to study the exact terms of the proposed legislation before it could be approved. But the party has taken the stand that it supports decriminalization.

#### Editorial Comments

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL, WEEKEND EDITION in English 10 Feb 79 p 6

[Editorial: "Frozen in Ottawa"]

[Text]

Perhaps we should think of this as a quintessentially Canadian dilemma. The three major federal political parties are agreed — clearly and on the record — that penalties for possession of small amounts of marijuana ought to be reduced, that there should no longer be a criminal stigma attached to the offence. The appropriate means of putting that agreement into practice are straightforward; the course was theoretically charted more than three years ago by the Canadian Senate when it gave approval to a bill removing marijuana from the jurisdiction of the Narcotic Control Act (criminal legislation) and placing it within the mellow precincts of the Food and Drug Act — though the bill was subsequently permitted to die on the order paper. There are more than enough American precedents from which to draw courage, extending as far back as 1973 when Oregon became the first of many states of the union to render simple possession of marijuana a very minor offence. There is broad, substantial and distinguished support in Canada for a similar move, support that includes a formal resolution of the Canadian Bar Association calling for the civilization of our oppressive and obsolete marijuana laws.

Surely, in almost any country but Canada, the next stage of the drama would unfold with all the easy grace of spring following winter; possessors of small quantities of dried foliage would no longer be threatened with seven years' imprisonment; they would no longer be dragged through the stern corridors of criminal judicature,

branded with criminal records for life; in one small corner of its affairs, a more sensible attitude would prevail — and the nation would proceed to matters of greater moment with at least a token of maturity in its wake.

But this is Canada, where unanimity is unknown, where consensus is rare and where broad support for any issue is a phenomenon to be regarded with grave suspicion and accompanied by the rhythm of knees knocking. And so it is that federal Justice Minister Marc Lalonde continues to make frail noises (punctuated by his vibrating knee caps) indicating that no one should hold his breath in expectation of prompt action by Ottawa — particularly if that breath contains a certain aromatic pungency familiar, at recent count, to at least three million Canadians.

Never mind that a package of marijuana reform is assured of support from both the New Democratic and the Conservative parties; never mind that Mr. Lalonde himself, with the formal endorsement of his own Government, is in favor of such action; never mind that this is 1979 and the Government has been committed (as the saying goes) to the reduction of penalties for marijuana possession since 1972. Never, never mind. For we are in the midst of a quintessentially Canadian dilemma: for once, the path is clear, the problems are solved, opposition has been silenced, the time for action is at hand. . .

Pity poor Mr. Lalonde. He simply doesn't know what to do.

Social Credit Party Against Bill

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 21 Feb 79 p 1

[Article by Mary Trueman]

[Text]

OTTAWA — Justice Minister Marc Lalonde said yesterday that early introduction and speedy passage of a bill softening marijuana possession penalties has been blocked by the Social Credit Party.

Liberal, Conservative and New Democratic Party spokesmen expressed willingness on Feb. 7 to grant swift passage to such legislation, which Mr. Lalonde had earlier indicated he hoped to introduce before an election.

But Mr. Lalonde said in an interview yesterday that the Social Credit Party is not willing to go along with the others.

"I can't proceed. They will not go along with it. They do not want any change," he said.

However, sources in the Justice Department said work on drafting the bill was still continuing.

Mr. Lalonde said the Social Credit position had been stated to him by Leonel Beaudoin, the MP for Richmond. Mr. Beaudoin, an insurance agent and father of 10 from Bromptonville, Que., is the party's official

spokesman on marijuana, according to his office.

The Social Credit caucus is to confer today with its leader, Lorne Reznowski, who does not hold a seat in the Commons. A party staff member said marijuana may be discussed. However, there seems little chance that the socially conservative Creditists would ever change their position. Mr. Reznowski, in a telephone interview from his Winnipeg home yesterday, said he opposes softening marijuana penalties because he believes marijuana leads to harder drugs.

With nine members in the Commons, the Socreds could hold up a bill for about 17 hours of Commons time. But this would take a determined effort, taking advantage of all opportunities technically available through Commons rules.

The other parties could thwart this by moving to limit time on the debate to two or three days; a majority of parties in the Commons can do this under Standing Order 75B. However, some members might be reluctant

to support a guillotine-type measure on an important bill.

Mr. Lalonde said in an interview in December that he would be preparing a marijuana bill — the second in slightly more than four years. The first, a Senate bill brought forward by Mr. Lalonde while he was Minister of National Health and Welfare, died in 1975. The minister said in December that Justice and Health and Welfare officials and officials in the Solicitor-General's Department were studying the whole area of dangerous drug legislation "on an urgent basis" and would report to him by the end of January.

CSO: 5320

ARGENTINA

LATIN AMERICAN ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFIC, PRODUCTION INCREASES

Buenos Aires LA OPINION in Spanish 3 Feb 79 p 3

Article by Miguel Carreira

Text The International Narcotics Control Organization recently requested its member governments to investigate the real organizers of the world drug traffic by maintaining a stricter watch on money movements. In its annual report, the organization, which belongs to the United Nations, states that clandestine narcotics production and smuggling generate huge amounts of spending and profits. This means that governments can work against drug dealers if they will cooperate more intensively in watching the international movements of large amounts of money. The organization states in its report: "It would be desirable for governments to consider, perhaps even by means of international agreements, the possibility of investigating extremely carefully the capital used to finance international drug traffic. This would make it possible to identify the financial backers, who are the real organizers behind this traffic." Particularly in Latin America, drug smuggling and production have continued to grow in recent times. The following article is a study of drug production and sales in Latin America. The article is based on information gathered by the French Press Agency.

Paris. Colombia, the source of the most sought after and apparently most select marihuana in the world, is today -- along with the "coke" from Peru and Bolivia -- the main Latin American source of supply for some 40 million North American drug addicts.

During 1978, from Argentina to Mexico, the total figures, which are of course somewhat imprecise, report the confiscation or seizure of 3,593 tons of marihuana, 19,297 kilos of cocaine, 2,991 doses of LSD, 200 kilos of heroin, 96 kilos of a variety of amphetamines and barbiturates, and 43 kilos of opium.

According to data from the various national police forces, strictly regional drug addiction last year sent to jail 6,000 persons in Mexico (100 of whom were U.S. citizens), 2000 in Chile (10 percent of whom were minors), 1,433 in Argentina, 1068 in Ecuador (408 dealers and 660 addicts), 300 in Bolivia (in the past 4 years), 33 rings of drug dealers in Venezuela, 165 persons involved in drug running (or "mulas") in Colombia; also in Colombia, nine planes and 24 ships carrying marihuana were seized.

#### The Source of "Snow"

The avalanche of "snow" which, starting from the South American tropics, pours into the industrious north, starts with the clandestine coca plantations in Peru and Bolivia, but its main shipping port is in Colombia, facing on both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

With its land area of 1,141,014 square kilometers, Colombia harvests at least 100,000 hectares of top quality marihuana -- including the famous "Santa Marta." Colombia also cultivates cocaine, although in small quantities. It does, however, process the coca extract that comes from Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador.

In Peru, where the authorized coca plantings 10 years ago came to about 10,000 tons, it is estimated today that, despite the efforts made by the authorities to wipe out its planting and cultivation, both legal and illegal production now come to over 30,000 tons.

Peru produces the basic cocaine extract, an impure drug with a density of one and a half times hydrochloride. This is sent to Colombia and Mexico to be processed and purified. A kilo of cocaine in the U.S. black market sells for between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

Bolivia is potentially the largest South American producer of cocaine. Official sources in La Paz say that 38 percent of the cocaine consumed in the United States is of Bolivian origin.

The U.S. drug enforcement agencies recently reported that during 1978 the cocaine hydrochloride smuggled into the country amounted to 45 tons, of which 17 tons came from Bolivia.

According to these sources, in 1978 drug dealers earned \$1,700,000 from cocaine sales, but TIME magazine reported the U.S. Mafia drug profits as \$1 billion.

The natural coca leaf, a plant native to the region, has been known for centuries, and it is traditionally consumed in the Bolivian highlands because of its stimulating properties when food is scarce. One gram of cocaine hydrochloride can be produced from 1 kilo of coca leaves.

Mexico is essentially the "port of entry" into the U.S. drug market, and is also a producer and consumer of marihuana and of some varieties of opium poppies. According to an official report, just in the state of Sinaloa alone there are over 2,000 concealed landing strips.

In addition to Sinaloa in the northeast, there are the "hallucinogenic" areas of Nayarit and Guerrero in the west, both located on the Pacific. Production is done by peasants in mountainous areas that are hard for the drug services to reach.

The other Latin American countries -- primarily Ecuador, Venezuela, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, and Argentina -- are largely points of connection or consumption, although some, such as Ecuador, do have some plantings.

Drugs do not seem to be any great social problem in Cuba, according to observers, but a Cuban official recently remarked that the problem of drug smuggling occupied the fourth or fifth place in customs work.

Traditionally, Indian hemp leaves or an extract of its flowers were the drugs most in demand with Cuban drug addicts, and only some of the upper classes used cocaine, heroine, or morphine.

In recent years there have been few cases involving any sizeable amount of drug traffic reported in Havana, and all involved drugs being smuggled by yachts or small planes from other Caribbean islands and going to the United States.

### The "Laundry"

Costa Rica is both a producer and consumer of marihuana, but it is also -- a feature it shares with other Central American countries -- a country which drug authorities believe is used by drug dealers as a "laundry."

This "laundering" of money involves fantastic sums that can not be reinvested in the United States because of the problems entailed in justifying its source to the treasury.

As for hard drugs, Costa Rica annually consumes about 25 kilos of Peruvian or Colombian cocaine, but 80 percent of the population between the ages of 15 and 30, especially secondary level students, smokes marihuana.

A marihuana "puro," which is a cigarette a little larger than the standard size, costs 5 colones in San Jose (8.6 colones = \$1) and a pound of marihuana, which sells locally for 1,300 colones, in the United States costs \$300 to \$400.

Police sources estimate the drugs coming into Costa Rica from Peru or Colombia at about 125 kilos of cocaine a year, almost all of which is reexported to North America.

Last October a large drug ring was captured in San Jose with 6 kilos of cocaine in their possession. According to the police, this gang had smuggled \$3.8 million worth of cocaine into the United States.

Penalties for drug dealers and users vary in Latin America. In almost all countries, the addict is considered ill, and the dealer or producer is treated as a criminal.

For the dealer or producer, prison terms range between 3 and 15 years of prison in Argentina, over 5 years (with no early release) in Mexico, from 3 to 5 in Cuba, from 10 to 15 in Central America, from 4 to 8 in Venezuela, from 2 to 8 in Uruguay, from 3 to 20 in Brazil, from 8 to 12 and fines from \$400 to \$2,000 in Ecuador, 25 in Peru, and from 2 to 8 years in Colombia.

In Peru where the illegal coca crop has quintupled in recent years, now amounting to 70 percent of the world crop, the penalties against drug violations have still not been applied, and it has been learned that some judges have been penalized for their readiness to release some suspects from prison.

Generally Latin American drug programs are conducted by special police services, although Mexico, Colombia, and to a lesser extent, Chile, have used or now use the army in a war without quarter against drugs.

#### Agreements against Drug Dealers

In 1978 Colombia signed an agreement with the United States to "exterminate" drug traffickers and just 2 months ago signed a similar agreement with Venezuela.

The government of President Julio Cesar Turbay declared "war" on drug dealing and the local consumption of cocaine and marihuana, and a few days ago the Colombian minister of defense revealed the forthcoming purchase of planes to be used to strengthen the drug traffic control program.

The Colombian drug campaign, being carried out by the army, police, air force, and navy ships, is being waged primarily along the Atlantic Coast, especially in the northern department of la Guajira, the biggest producer of marihuana.

The biggest haul of marihuana in Colombia occurred in la Guajira, in a place known for drugs. 35 dealers were caught and 680 tons of drugs were confiscated by the police.

It was also in la Guajira that the "bonanza" marihuana plantation covering 72,000 hectares was discovered.

In Ecuador drugs come in from Colombia through the Amazon jungles, the mountains, and the coast, in automobiles, small planes, suitcases with false bottoms, and motorboats. 95 percent is shipped on to the United States, and 5 percent is consumed by local addicts.

#### The Drug Running Countries

The Interpol office in Ecuador recently caught a number of powerful international drug rings. According to the source, the smugglers travel directly to Bolivia, acquire the extract or cocaine in La Paz, Cochabamba, Oruro, or Santa Cruz de la Sierra, and then go to Guayaquil, the main Ecuadorean port, from where they go to Colombia.



Or to Brazil, as is shown by the capture in Rio de Janeiro in early January 1979 of a small plane coming from Bolivia with over 17 kilos of cocaine destined for the United States.

Traveling in the plane were five presumed drug traffickers, but only one of them, a native of Hong Kong, claimed the responsibility for the shipment and was sentenced to 5 years in prison.

In Brazil the most widely consumed drug is still marihuana produced in Brazil, coming from Mato Grosso and Goias, states in the central east, Maranhao in the northeast, and Para and Amazonas in the north.

The alkaloids consumed in Brazil all come from Bolivia and Peru. Normally the drugs arrive in a highly refined state, are distilled, and then sent to North American and European markets.

In Venezuela, despite the existence of some plantations near the Colombian border, the main feature of its drug market seems to consist, according to reliable opinions, of its status as a "reexporting" or "drug running" country.

It does seem that the Venezuelan shipping services arouse little suspicion, and according to estimates of the PTJ Judicial Technical Police, only 10 percent of the drugs entering the country are confiscated. The rest is sent on to the United States and Europe.

Chile, considered 8 years ago to be one of the main world drug distribution centers, has apparently won its battle against drug abuse. In any event, official reports reveal that cocaine consumption and traffic now amount to 10 percent of the drug activity going on at the beginning of this decade.

Argentina is essentially a transit point for drugs and drug dealers. Because of the length of its borders, drug dealers consider it as a link between the consumer countries and supply sources.

In 1978 the Argentine Federal Police arrested 1,433 people, confiscating over half a ton of marihuana, 225 kilos of plants and seeds, 33,500 kilos of cocaine hydrochloride, 935 units of various amphetamines and barbiturates, 1,244 doses of LSD from Amsterdam, and 18 grams of opium during the same period.

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CSO: 5300

GUYANA

'CHRONICLE' SEEKS NATION'S HELP TO ABATE MARIJUANA CRISIS

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE In English 11 Feb 79 p 6

[Excerpts]

THE nation was staggered last week as police reported the seizure of an estimated one million dollars in marijuana in Georgetown.

Marijuana... cannabis sativa... Indian Hemp... grass... weed... pot... or ganja. Call it what you like. It is time the nation — all Guyana — sit up and be concerned about an evil way of life that threatens to destroy the fabric of our society.

The problem is an international one, but it is during critical times when people are more likely to "try something to relieve the tension."

It is always the same — the masses being exploited by a few bent on amassing wealth and to hell with the consequences.

We can doff our hats to the police for having gotten hold of such a large cache, but the pattern of dope-peddling is like the asphalt lake in Trinidad — as soon as a hole is dug it is filled up the next day.

Why should the Guyanese nation be concerned?

Because this is not a case of some pampered middle-class teenagers trying out "weed" to find out what it is all about. This is no case of a little ganja finding its way in Guyana by accident or a "pusher" feeling out the market.

That stage has passed a long time. Today the problem seems to have reached frightening proportions.

Have you any idea what five stuffed suitcases of ganja could mean to a community if it is distributed in a wide area?

That amount of dope if widely distributed can reach thousands of people.

And if 10,000 persons took it for the first time, medical experts say, at least 50 per cent of them would try it again.

Up to five years ago people in Guyana dismissed "pot-smoking" as just a habit among a few thrill-

seeking youths, and not much was done by the authorities.

In 1974, five persons were charged and taken to the courts for being in possession of the stuff. By 1977 the figure had jumped to over 40 persons charged — an increase of 700 per cent. In 1974 the total amount seized was about 10 pounds. Last year it exceeded 50 pounds and last week there was the record amount seized.

Where is the marijuana coming from?

According to the police the plant can be grown in Guyana. In fact, the Guyana police have in the past found plants growing in peoples' yards in Georgetown, a farm at Linden and in certain areas of the hinterland.

There are even rumours, although the police has denied this, that dope was grown at Jonestown.

**36 CHARGED**

In the last 15 months at least 36 persons mostly in their 20s including

women have been taken to the courts on marijuana charges and the amounts of dope found on them have been increasing. This shows that there is a steady supply route in existence.

However, the police believe that the bulk of the dope is coming into Guyana from overseas.

Some of the dope may be coming in by ocean-going vessels. Seizures in the past also show that it is coming through incoming flights at Timehri Airport.

Some people say that the growth of the Rastafarian movement here is reflecting an increase in its use because they are cultivating the weed. But the courts are not allowing culture to be an excuse for using pot. The offence of possession of marijuana carries a fine of \$2,000 and two years imprisonment in the magistrate courts and \$5,000 and five years if charged indictably.

As the Guyana courts begin to take a more serious view of the situation the police disclosed that they were making contacts with their counterparts in other Caribbean territories to probe the possible existence of a regional dope network.

Crime Chief "Skip" Roberts spent a week at an international narcotics conference in Latin America to pick up useful hints and strengthen their links with narcotics team around the world.

No doubt the recent big haul will encourage the police to further intensify their campaign against the use of dope in Guyana.

In this respect the courts of Guyana can back up the efforts of the police by taking a more considerate view of this creeping menace.

The world has seen what misery marijuana and its bed-fellows like cocaine and heroin can cause. Fortunately Guyana has never had a real dope problem, but recent developments have shown that the situation can become troublesome and warrants a ruthless attack before it gets out of hand. This is not a job only for the police and the courts. It calls for the support of the nation.

CSO: 5300

GUYANA

MARIJUANA TRAFFICKERS CHARGED

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 6 Feb 79 p 1

[Excerpts]

A CRIPPLE is among three persons charged with being in possession of \$1m worth of marijuana seized in police raids in the city last Friday.

And when 24-year old George Butcher, paralysed from the waist down, reached court in a police vehicle yesterday, he had to be helped into the courtroom by Carl McCurdy, 17, another accused.

Both men, of East Rulmveidt, arrived in court with their 'dreadlocks' wrapped in towels and by their side was Brenda Taylor, 30, of North Road, the other accused.

The three are charged with being in possession of a quantity of 'cannabis sativa' more popularly known as marijuana on February 2 and all three pleaded not guilty

when they appeared before Chief Magistrate William Alexander.

Taylor was placed on \$500 and the others on \$5,000 each. They are to return to court April 30.

Lawyer Stanley Moore entered appearance yesterday on behalf of Butcher and said his client was completely dependent on other persons to move around. Mr. Moore said Butcher is also bed-ridden and lives in the house with a number of others where dope was found.

Prosecutor Inspector Neville Cort told the Court that several bags and a quantity of marijuana were found in the raid and asked for substantial bail because of the value of the seized stuff.

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

POPPY PLANTATIONS BURNED, TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 9 Feb 79 Sec B p 12

[Text] Mexico City, 8 February--The Federal Judicial Police dealt the drug traffic a heavy blow when they located and destroyed 35 poppy plantations in the settlement of Vainilla, in the municipality of Baraguagato, Sinaloa, which covered an area of 38,305 square meters in the middle of the Western Sierra Madre.

Ramon Duarte Castillo, aged 34, one of those responsible for guarding and cultivating the drugs, was arrested at the same location as he was attempting to escape, carrying in several trucks 1 ton and 750 kilograms of raw marihuana, which was perfectly packed in burlap bags.

The public ministry of Culiacan, Sinaloa, with the aid of federal agents and army forces, proceeded to burn a total of 500,890 plants which were growing there. The individual under arrest refused to disclose the identity of his accomplices.

In the town of Choix, in the same state of Sinaloa, the federal police discovered in some huts 29 bags containing 2 tons and 500 kilograms of packed marihuana, a can of opium gum and another bag containing 8 kilograms and 200 grams of marihuana seed. Three of the drug traffickers escaped, hiding in the mountains.

The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic announced that, for the first time, poppy plantations were discovered in the state of Hidalgo, where they were found on an area of 78,354.9 square meters, near the state capital, and were also destroyed. No arrests were made.

Moreover, in the town of Los Mochis, Sinaloa, Victor Manuel Lucero Valencia, Lourdes Hermelinda Araiza de Lucero and Francisco Lucero Valencia were arrested for selling marihuana to students in that location. A bag containing 2 kilograms of grass was seized from them. Finally, in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, Juan Juarez Luna was arrested with 14 grams of hashish in his possession. All of these individuals were placed at the disposal of the Federal Public Ministry.

2909  
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

DANGEROUS TRAFFICKING RINGLEADER CAPTURED, SENTENCED

'El Artista,' Accomplices Arrested

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 23 Jan 79 Sec B p 3

[Text] The Federal Judicial Police detailed to this town, under orders from Comdr Margarito Mendez Rico, achieved great success on Sunday night when they disbanded an entire ring of presumed drug traffickers, and captured the head of this group, who turned out to be the notorious murderer and drug smuggler, Artemio Gonzalez Pena, alias "El Artista," who is wanted by the police authorities in nearly all parts of the state.

Very reliable sources stated yesterday that "El Artista," who also goes by the name "Armando," and "Armando Gonzalez Pena," has a veritable litany of crimes in his record, including the murder of Rene Barrera, alias "La Mollilla," whom he shot to death on 30 December 1977, in the "COD" bar in Ciudad Mier, Tamaulipas.

Later, in an incident which occurred in November 1978, he shot to death the state rural policeman Ramiro Infante, with his girlfriend, a Channel 3 television reporter from Tampico, Tamaulipas, shooting them and, after killing them, driving a truck over them.

On this occasion, according to information provided yesterday by the coordinating office of the agency of the Federal Public Ministry (AMPF), headed by Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, "El Artista" was arrested while in the company of his accomplices, Fernando Pozo Garza and Ismael Garza Barrera. At about 2200 hours on Sunday night, federal agents under orders from Margarito Mendez Rico made a sudden raid on the "San Jorge" farm, in the municipality of Jimenez, Tamaulipas; because they had information to the effect that "El Artista" was hiding there.

About 100 kilograms of the marihuana known as "lamb's tail," were seized from the three aforementioned persons, as were a 12 caliber shotgun, a 30-06 caliber carbine, several pistols of various calibers and ammunition for these weapons.

The three presumed drug traffickers were taken to this town, where they were still being closely questioned about the drug traffic as of yesterday.

With the arrest of "El Artista," the Federal Judicial Police complied with two arrest warrants, one issued by the second district judge in connection with proceedings No 47-977, for which he is wanted as the individual presumed guilty of a crime against health in the degree of storage and possession of marihuana. The other arrest warrant was issued by a penal judge of the first instance in Miguel Aleman, in connection with the murder committed by Artemio Gonzalez in an attack upon the late Rene Barrera, alias "La Malilla."

As soon as the investigations pertaining to the drug traffic in which "El Artista" is involved have been completed, he will be placed at the disposal of the Federal Public Ministry, which in turn will complete the preliminary penal investigation that is required. Subsequently, "El Artista" will also be placed at the disposal of the judges who want Gonzalez Pena so that he may answer the charges that have been brought against him.

#### Official Order for Imprisonment

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 28 Jan 79 Sec B p 3

[Text] The second district judge issued an order for the official imprisonment of Artemio Gonzalez Pena, alias "El Artista," as an individual presumed guilty of committing a crime against health in the degree of storage of marihuana.

The judge considered the evidence against "El Artista," which was supplied by the Federal Public Ministry, to be sufficient to warrant the declaration of his official imprisonment.

At about 1330 hours yesterday, Gonzalez Pena was taken out of custody and brought to the offices of the second district court, where he was notified of the decision of the head of that court in connection with proceedings No 47-977.

The proceedings in question began after the Federal Judicial Police seized about 7 tons of marihuana which had been stored in a warehouse located on the "La Morita" farm, owned by Celerino Pena Garza.

A total of 405 bags containing the injurious grass had been concealed at Pena Garza's farm, and the latter had leased the warehouses used for this purposes to "El Artista." In that occasion, Celerino Pena confessed that the drugs belonged to "El Artista." This was the reason for the issuance of the warrant for his arrest, which was carried out a few days ago by federal agents.

At the Disposal of the Judges of the Court of Equity

Artemio Gonzalez Pena, alias "El Artista," who is wanted by the penal judge of the first instance of Ciudad Victoria, as well as by another court of equity in Miguel Aleman, Tamaulipas, was incarcerated in the Social Rehabilitation Center in this town. He is charged with several crimes.

Released in Proceedings

In proceedings No 17-979, an order was issued for the release of Artemio Gonzalez Pena and Ismael Garza Barrera, for lack of evidence with which to try them; while Fernando Pozo Garza was declared official imprisoned as an individual presumed guilty of committing a crime against health, in various degrees.

2909  
CSO: 5330



MEXICO

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKING RING MEMBERS CAPTURED

Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 28 Jan 79 Sec A p 10

[Text] Upon the interception at dawn yesterday of a truck loaded with 430 kilograms of marihuana and the death of the Cuban-Yankee drug trafficker, Rene Lichtl Cruz, the police discovered, disbanded and arrested all the members of a ring of marihuana buyers and sellers which had members in several states of Mexico and connections with the Mafia in Los Angeles, California.

Not only was Erick Lichtl, brother of Rene, the trafficker who was shot to death, captured, but also Laura Montano de Gonzalez, Martin Ortiz Escobedo, Anselmo Saavedra, Ramiro Gonzalez de la Torre and Juan Jose Gonzalez Gonzalez, the latter two of whom were heads of the organization.

The ring operated in this manner: Ramiro Gonzalez and Juan Jose Gonzalez made periodic trips to Jerez, Zacatecas, to buy marihuana there, but by the ton.

They were the owners of a 1977 stake-body truck, and carried their shipments in it to this border.

On this latest trip, they hired the services of drivers Martin Ortiz Escobedo and Anselmo Saavedra Sanchez, having the latter carry 450 kilograms of grass in that truck. Before reaching Glorieta, at kilometer 20, they turned it over to Rene and Erick Lichtl and Laura Montano de Gonzalez.

Martin and Anselmo continued, as they had been instructed. With the truck, they reached the third or fourth kilometer before Glorieta; and there, after each had received 15,000 pesos for his services, they turned over the truck and the grass to Rene Lichtl, who at that time, 0330 hours in the morning, was waiting for them at this location, with his brother, Erick, and Laura Montano, who were going to guard him in a Volkswagen. Rene, behind the wheel of the truck and with the 450 kilograms of marihuana, made the mistake of driving at high speed.

He was traveling very fast, and this attracted the attention of Federal Highway Police agent Jose Angel Marin Lopez, who on that date and at that time was assigned to the intersection of the two highways.

He ordered the driver of the vehicle carrying the injurious grass to stop, and the latter obeyed. He stopped driving but, before agent Marin Lopez reached him, he began shooting at him. Almost simultaneously, Erick and Laura also began firing at the Federal Highway Police officer.

They wounded him. Although he received three shots in the chest, despite his wounds he returned the attack, and killed Rene and wounded Erick in the forehead.

Upon seeing Rene on the ground and Erick wounded, Laura, who was the one driving the Volkswagen, tried to leave the scene. She started up the Volkswagen and, with Erick at her right, she took the Pan-American Highway at high speed, heading for the downtown area of the town. At the site of the La Posada Motel, in Marques, she lost control of the compact car, which overturned. They were found there and arrested by two radio patrol officers who were behind the Volkswagen at the time.

After questioning Erick and Laura Montano, police inspector Hermilo Gutierrez and the commander of special services, Salvador Siller, obtained a confession from them regarding the identity of the drivers and the heads of the ring.

Agents under orders from Inspector Gutierrez and Commander Siller arrested the latter two, Ramiro Gonzalez de la Torre and Juan Jose Gonzalez at the Los Balcones Motel, which was the location where they were to receive the marihuana so as to send it later to El Paso, and subsequently to Los Angeles, California.

2909  
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

COCAINE, HEROIN TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT AFTER GUN BATTLE

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 30 Jan 79 Sec B p 3

[Text] Last Saturday, the Federal Judicial Police dealt the organized drug traffic a heavy blow upon arresting three individuals who were engaged in smuggling cocaine and heroin. Two persons who have been fully identified escaped as they were about to be arrested and, in their flight, opened fire on the agents, one of whom, named Fernando Rodriguez Escobedo, was slightly wounded.

The Federal Judicial Police seized about 200 grams of heroin and several grams of cocaine. Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, coordinator of the agency of the Federal Public Ministry in the states of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas, announced yesterday that, during the course of the investigations, Jose Javier Montoya Perez, Alejandro Gonzalez Cantu, alias "El Canay," and Antonio Garcia Espinosa, alias "El Tony," had been captured.

The main ringleaders of the gang succeeded in escaping after wounding the aforementioned federal agent, who was well on the way to recovery yesterday since the wound that he sustained was slight.

All this stemmed from the arrest that the federal agents made on 26 January, upon discovering a package containing a small amount of cocaine in the possession of Alejandro Gonzalez Cantu and Jose Javier Montoya.

Upon being questioned, the latter said that the drug had been supplied to them by Antonio Garcia Espinosa, alias "El Tony." An immediate search was made to capture Antonio Garcia Espinosa, who was arrested on the morning of 27 January. He had half an ounce of cocaine in his possession. "El Tony" stated that he had brought the cocaine from some drug traffickers whose center of operations was a residence located on Corona Avenue (they did not give the exact address), and several federal agents went there. While the agents were keeping surveillance over the two members of the underworld, they suddenly rushed out of the house and opened fire on the federal agents.

While they were shooting, they succeeded in boarding a Blazer type yellow Chevrolet truck, in which they fled to an unknown location.

One of the bullets that was fired wounded agent Fernando Rodriguez Escobedo in the forehead.

Inside the residence from which the two gunmen and drug traffickers had emerged, the Federal Judicial Police discovered several foil packages containing approximately 200 grams of brown heroin.

**The Traffickers Who Escaped Have Been Fully Identified**

Juarez Jimenez disclosed that the individuals who succeeded in escaping have been fully identified, and that the Federal Judicial Police are making an assiduous effort to apprehend them, something which will probably occur at any time.

2909  
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FORMER CONVICT DISCOVERED SMUGGLING HEROIN

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 1 Feb 79 Sec B p 6

[Text] Yesterday, the agent of the Federal Public Ministry turned Rodolfo Beltran Pacheco and Aurora Alvarado de Gonzalez over to the Culiacan district judge so that the pertinent penal proceedings could be brought against them, based on preliminary investigation 35/979, for a crime against health in the degree of purchase and supply of heroin.

Beltran Pacheco, who has a conditional release, killed Francisco Beltran Rocha in 1973 and, after having been tried, was sentenced to 10 years in prison, but was freed because of good behavior. Now he will have to serve the sentence for his previous crime, and also for the one that he committed on this occasion.

Upon noticing the presence of the Federal Judicial Police, Beltran Pacheco assumed a suspicious attitude, which the agents did not fail to observe; and they arrested and questioned him. At first, he confessed to his crime of murder, but upon being pressed with questions he was found to have been engaged in bringing heroin into the IRSS [Social Rehabilitation Institute ?].

The pertinent investigations were conducted, and resulted in the defendant's disclosure that his supplier was Mrs Aurora Alvarado de Gonzalez, who is a resident of Los Mochis. The Federal Judicial Police agents went there, and apprehended her, at the same time seizing a polyethylene bag containing a dark substance, presumed to be heroin and weighing 52 grams.

The case was compiled with this evidence, and turned over to the agent of the Federal Public Ministry in this town, who completed the preliminary investigation and who has now ordered Beltran Pacheco and Aurora Alvarado de Gonzalez to be remanded to the district judge to be tried for a crime against health in the degree of purchase and supply of heroin, in addition to that of heroin possession.

2909  
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

RING OF COCAINE TRAFFICKERS GIVEN PRISON SENTENCES

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 9 Feb 79 Sec B p 3

[Text] Yesterday, a group of notorious drug traffickers from this locality and Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, were given prison sentences by the third district judge, who regarded them as penally liable for the commission of a crime against health in various degrees.

Monterrey engineer Joaquin de Luna Flores, Jorge Perez Cardona, Jose Luis Ayala Lozano and Perfecto Gaytan Elias will each serve 7 year jail sentences; and, simultaneously, the first, third and fourth named individuals will have to pay a fine of 25,000 pesos, or else remain incarcerated in the Social Rehabilitation Center for an additional 2 months. The second person will pay only 10,000 pesos as a fine.

In the same proceedings, 158-977, Eduardo Alvarado Rodriguez was given a 4-year jail sentence and will have to pay a fine of 5,000 pesos.

All of these individuals were members of a well organized ring of drug traffickers with which Jose Contreras Olguin, Santos Vazquez Villalobos and Ramiro Guerra Barrera, who received their release through legal means a few months after their capture, were associated.

In July 1977, the Federal Judicial Police arrested Eduardo Alvarado, who had a sample of cocaine in his possession and who, upon being interrogated, said that he worked for Jose Contreras and Perfect Gaytan Elias.

Gaytan Elias, in turn, claimed that he bought the cocaine from Santos Vazquez who, for his part, obtained it from Joaquin de Luna Flores, through Ramiro Guerra Barrera, in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon.

Every time that Santos Villalobos purchased cocaine, he turned it over to Jorge Perez Cardona, to be concealed in his home located at No 925 Colima Street.

Engineer Joaquin de Luna, moreover, claimed that he bought cocaine from Jose Luis Ayala, who in turn purchased it from an individual who made frequent

trips from South America to Monterrey, for the purpose of conducting transactions involving the purchase and sale of cocaine.

This drug, which the unidentified individual sold to Jose Luis Ayala Lozano, cost \$24,000 per kilogram, according to the statement made by the latter to the Federal Judicial Police.

Santos Villalobos turned over 8 ounces of cocaine that Jorge Perez Cardona had been keeping, while 3 ounces of the same "powder" were confiscated from Joaquin de Luna.

2909  
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

TRAFFICKER FREED FOR LACK OF EVIDENCE

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 24 Jan 79 Sec B p 3

[Text] Yesterday, the doors of the jail opened for an individual whom the Federal Police consider one of the czars of the drug traffic in northern Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas.

Thanks to an incident involving the disappearance of information fostered by his defenders, Juan Manuel Saenz Ochoa received a favorable decision handed down by the second district judge, Luis Garcia Romero, who ordered the immediate release of the individual in custody.

Proceedings 50-978 had been initiated against Saenz Ochoa for a crime against health in various degrees. His defenders managed to submit expert testimony as a final recourse to secure his release, and succeeded in their efforts, when the second district judge issued the pertinent writ for his release.

A chemist hired by the defense for Saenz Ochoa, alias "El Johnny," decided that a powder seized from the individual who has now been exonerated was not any kind of drug. The chemists from the local health center concurred in this opinion and, on 10 January, they handed down their decision on behalf of the defendant.

Based on this expert testimony, Garcia Romero decided that the corpus delicti had not been proven and, in view of this fact, issued an order for the release of "El Johnny," who left the jail yesterday when he had exactly 2 more months of his year's imprisonment left to serve.

The records show that, on 23 March 1978, when the Federal Judicial Police raided a farm in the municipality of Comales, they found a laboratory for processing heroin which was being run by Juan Manuel Saenz Ochoa.

In the laboratory there were all kinds of implements for processing drugs, including precision scales; and in some receptacles they found traces of powders that were regarded as heroin and cocaine. The Federal Judicial Police also obtained a confession from Saenz Ochoa, who told those authorities that he was supplying drugs to Erasmo Jaime Garza, Cesar Pena Vera, Albino Garcia and Cesar Cruz, alias "El Mexico," all of whom have been killed as a result of their connections with the drug traffic.

2909

CSO: 5330



MEXICO

**TRAFFICKERS REVEAL NEW DRUG SMUGGLING ROUTE**

Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 3 Feb 79 Sec A pp 3, 10

[Text] Mexicali--Personnel from the Office of the General Prosecutor of Justice of the Nation have discovered a new route used to ship drugs to the black market in the United States.

Now, the heroin originates in San Luis, Arizona, within U.S. territory, from which it is sent to Mexico when a buyer arrives. The transaction takes place in Mexico, and the individual involved returns to the neighboring country.

This was disclosed by an investigation conducted by the Federal Judicial Police detailed to this town, in cooperation with the agent of the Federal Public Ministry, Oscar Felipe Castro San Martín, which led to the arrest of four persons, and the seizure of a "pedazo" [a little over an ounce] of heroin, as well as \$4,200.

The individuals under arrest are Ramon Hernandez Bautista, aged 53, a resident of Watsonville, California, and former employee of Pedro Aviles, in San Luis-Río Colorado, Sonora; Rita Ramirez Zarco, aged 33, proprietor of the "Rita" grocery store at Jalisco and 20th Streets, in San Luis-Río Colorado; Jose Luis Salazar Mendoza, aged 22, who lives on Guerrero Lane, between 4th and 5th Streets; and Roberto Ayala Mota, aged 21, a resident of 1804 Libertad Lane, also in San Luis.

The first to be arrested by agents of the Federal Judicial Police was Ramon Hernandez Bautista, who was found to have a "pedazo" of heroin and the \$4,200 in his possession as he was attempting to cross the border on foot to enter the United States.

His three accomplices, with whom he had come to this town a few days earlier to buy the drugs, managed to escape, because they were separated from one another, so that each one would cross the border using a different route.

**An Entire Chain**

Ramon Hernandez Bautista, who claimed to have worked as an errand boy for Pedro Aviles, who was one of the most powerful drug traffickers in northwest

Mexico, confessed that he had left Watsonville, California, on 22 January of last year,

An American couple and an individual of Puerto Rican origin, who knew that he had lived in San Luis-Rio Colorado, proposed that he take them to buy heroin, so as to distribute it in his residence. They wanted at least about four "pedazos."

They arrived in San Luis-Rio Colorado that same evening. The Americans were waiting for him in the park at Obregon Avenue and Ramon Street, and he left them carrying \$6,000 in his pocket.

He immediately went to the residence of Rita Ramirez, at Jalisco and 20th Streets, to whom he told the purpose of his visit. They were old friends. They made an appointment for the next day.

Rita took him in her 1971 Volkswagen with Arizona license plates TXN-469 to the home of Jose Luis Salazar Mendoza. Rita herself asked him for several "pedazos" of heroin, and Jose Luis requested that they return later, since he had to go and find his contact, in turn.

Ramon and Rita left, returning at 1500 hours. Jose Luis asked them to come back again, since he had not found his contact at home.

In the afternoon, he met with Roberto Ayala Mota, whom he told that he needed several "pedazos" of the drug for a customer; and the latter offered to obtain them for him, noting that he would sell them to him for \$1,400, because the quality was not very good.

He went to San Luis, Arizona, where he purchased them from a distributor for \$1,000 per "pedazo." He was to obtain six more "pedazos" for him within a period of 8 days.

Roberto returned to San Luis carrying the drugs with him in a well wrapped plastic container. He met with Jose Luis at his residence, and boarded the latter's car, a 1971 Ford Galaxie with Arizona license plates PFD-720.

They went looking for Ramon Hernandez and Rita Ramirez, whom Jose Luis notified that he had the drugs in his possession, giving them instructions to follow him in the Volkswagen.

They drove along several streets for a long while, circling the block at times, until they reached an empty house at Jalisco and 8th Streets which was owned by a relative of Jose Luis. There, the latter obtained the "pedazo" of heroin, which he gave to Ramon through Rita.

Ramon complained because they had brought him only one "pedazo," but he was satisfied when the sellers offered to supply him with six more "pedazos"

within a period of 8 days, in Salinas, California, and gave him a telephone number at which he was to reach them.

Ramon agreed, and paid them \$1,800 for the heroin that they gave him. Of the \$400 which was due Jose Luis, he gave \$100 to Rita for bringing the customer to him.

They separated, and Ramon met with the American couple, and the Puerto Rican. The group remained in San Luis to spend the night again.

On 24 January, they went to Mexicali in an old Chevrolet, in order to cross the international border at that frontier port.

Upon arriving they instructed Ramon to cross the border on the pedestrian walk, carrying the drugs with him. They gave him the \$4,200 so that he could make subsequent advance payments on more drug purchases.

They could not carry the heroin, because they are addicts, and their bodies were scarred with the needle holes through which they took the drug.

They obtained an additional \$9,000, which they divided among them so as not to arouse suspicion that just one was carrying such a large sum. They met in McDonald's parking lot, and separated.

Agents of the Federal Judicial Police arrested Ramon on Cristobal Colon Avenue, as he was heading for the international border station.

They followed the clues, and succeeded in arresting the other three individuals who were located in San Luis-Rio Colorado, Sonora.

2909  
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

PLANE CARRYING COCAINE CRASHES--Mexico City, 8 February--Federal Judicial Police agents and forces of the Mexican Navy assigned to Chetumal, Quintana Roo, are searching the bottom of the Caribbean Sea for a small plane which crashed 3 days ago, and which, according to information supplied by INTERPOL, was carrying over 1 billion pesos' worth of pure cocaine. According aeronautical reports released from Bogota, the Cessna plane, with registration number XB-LYG, was enroute from Colombia and was being flown by two Mexican pilots. Several ships are sailing over the site where the aircraft presumably crashed, and where its remains were floating. According to information from Gen Raul Mendiola Cereceo, Diego Enriquez Gutierrez was drowned in that accident. However, the other crew member, Francisco Lopez Oliva, survived, managing to float in a drum for over 24 hours until he reached the nearby shore. Once on land, he succeeded in traveling to Mexico City, to contact the purchasers of the drugs and to arrange for the salvage of the aircraft. The Federal Judicial Police learned of his location after the victim of the wreck hired the services of divers and boats to salvage the drugs. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 9 Feb 79 p 1] 2909

MARIHUANA PLANTATION DESTROYED--Mexico City, 25 January--The Federal Judicial Police discovered a marihuana plantation and also confiscated 2,000 kilograms of that grass worth a total of 15 million pesos, in the states of Sinaloa, Michoacan, Tamaulipas and Chihuahua. The plantation was spotted from a reconnaissance plane of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, in the town of Cerro Prieto, Sinaloa, and 200,000 cannabis indica plants were destroyed. Also, in Morelia, Michoacan, the drug traffickers Filogonio Moreno Garcia, Guadalupe Salazar Sanchez and Hermenegildo Ambriz Pacheco were captured. They had been selling the grass in joints at several schools in that area. The Federal Judicial Police agents seized 756 kilograms of that drug from them. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 26 Jan 79 p 1] 2909

COCAINE SMUGGLING RING CAPTURED--Mexico City, 22 January--The Federal Judicial Police dealt the international cocaine traffic another blow by capturing a ring of drug traffickers with 1.5 kilograms of cocaine valued at over 21 million pesos. The investigation began when it was learned

that an inmate of the jail in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, Alejandro Pena, intended to arrange a purchase and sale transaction involving that drug with Bolivian gangsters, through his wife. Those under arrest are the Bolivian Oswaldo Max Ponce Acosta, Bertha Cecilia Sanchez Flores, Maria de la Luz Salinas Pena and Jesus Mediana Zevada. The first-named individual was responsible for bringing the merchandise from Bolivia across the Guatemalan border, and carrying it to an apartment in the Federal District. From there, Bertha Cecilia was to take it to her house in Ciudad Satelite, where plans would be made to ship the drugs to the city of Chicago, Illinois, where two individuals known as Cali and Aguirre would receive them. Unfortunately for the members of the gang, this time the Federal Judicial Police went into action just when Bertha Cecilia was taking the cocaine on board a Combi pickup truck with license plates 219-ADD; and, thanks to her confession, the rest of the ring was captured a few hours later. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 23 Jan 79 p 1] 2909

PSYCHOTROPIC PILL DISTRIBUTOR CAUGHT--An inveterate dealer in psychotropic substances who had been engaged for a long time in distributing this type of stimulant was captured on Tuesday night by State Judicial Police agents, who found 1,890 toxic pills in his possession. After being arrested, Mariano Amador Lopez, aged 44, and a resident of No 1936 Donato Guerra Street, was turned over to the Federal Judicial Police for the pertinent investigation. Judicial Police agents reported that, while making an inspection tour on Tuesday night, as they crossed the intersection of Peru and Riva Palacio Streets, they noticed an individual acting in a suspicious manner. They intercepted him and, upon searching his person, found 13 strips, each containing 10 of the pills known as neopercodan. Upon being questioned, he said that he dealt in this kind of drug, and that he had a larger quantity at his residence. The agents confiscated 176 boxes, each containing 10 of the same pills from the residence of the individual in custody. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 1 Feb 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

EXPOLICEMAN WITH HEROIN--Last night, Francisco Javier Morales Hernandez, a former agent of the State Judicial Police, was arrested with Mrs. Raquel Adame and Raquel Solis, and four ounces of heroin were found in their possession. The arrest was made by Radio Patrol Department agents, but the arrested individuals were immediately turned over to the Police Inspector's Office, and later to the Special Services Department, to continue the investigation of the case. Morales Hernandez and the two women were apprehended in the Morelos development located in the Zaragoza section. They were apparently waiting for an airplane to take them to the state capital. As of last night, there was no further information on the arrest of these drug traffickers, since the police probing it are working in great secrecy in order to locate other major drug traffickers. The person or place from which the three individuals in custody obtained the drugs was not known last night, nor was the identity of the person to whom they were going to sell them. [Text] [Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 10 Feb 79 Sec A p 6] 2909

DRUGS SEIZED IN NIGHTCLUB--Guerrero, 30 January--Several homosexuals, waiters and the manager and administrator of the nightclub known as "Disco 9," a gay discotheque in this port, were arrested by the Federal Judicial Police when they were found to be distributing drugs among the customers. Members of the Federal Judicial Police, with a search warrant, entered the premises, where they seized 72 toxic pills, a bottle of morphine, 150 grams of marijuana and a small flask containing 110 milligrams of heroin. According to the agent of the Federal Public Ministry investigating the case, they were using the drugs for their own consumption, in the establishment itself, and the waiters were selling them. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 31 Jan 79 p 1] 2909

HEROIN SEIZED IN DURANGO--Durango, 10 February--Today, the Federal Judicial Police confiscated 17.5 kilograms of pure heroin, dealing one of the heaviest flows at the international drug traffic, because it is assumed that the shipment was to be taken to the United States. The drugs had an approximate black market value of 30 million pesos. There are five individuals under arrest, three of whom are siblings, and the number may possibly increase. The Federal Judicial Police commander in Durango, Pedro Perez Hidalgo, announced that those in custody are Agustin, Alfredo and Alicia Aguirre, as well as Jose Martinez Jurado and Agapito Reyes Alvarado. He also said that, when the five were arrested, it was found that the heroin was being processed in a primitive laboratory that they had on the "La Herradura" farm, located in the vicinity of Malaga, along the highway between Durango and Ciudad Lerdo, which is where the drugs were found, packed in polyethylene bags. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 11 Feb 79 p 1] 2909

HASHISH SEIZURE--The Federal Judicial Police were making a careful investigation of an individual named Juan Juarez Luna, aged 45, and a resident of No 4540 Oaxaca Street. According to the press bulletin released yesterday by the Coordinating Office of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic in the northeastern zone, Juarez Luna was arrested because they discovered hashish in his possession. In a brief bulletin, the office headed by Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez announced that 14 grams of the aforementioned substance had been confiscated from Juarez Luna, and that he is therefore under close investigation. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 8 Feb 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

HEROIN TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED--Yesterday, the third district judge imposed a jail sentence on the members of a ring of drug traffickers that was operating in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, which was disbanded by the Federal Judicial Police in May 1978. Andres Cruz Martinez handed down his final decision yesterday in proceedings 102/978, and ordered Roberto Reyes Martinez and Ricarda Villarreal (widow of) Vazquez to serve an 8-year prison term and pay a fine of 15,000 pesos. He also sentenced Jose Gamez Retana to a jail term of 8 years and 6 months, and Vicente Reyes Gonzalez to a term of 6 years and imposed a fine of 10,000 pesos on the latter. The third district

court announced that, on 15 May of last year, federal agents captured the aforementioned individuals and, when their presumed guilt of a crime against health was established, they were turned over to that court, and the pertinent proceedings were brought against them. According to the records of the arraignment of Roberto Reyes Martínez and his codefendants, on the date in question the federal agents arrested Roberto Reyes and Vicente Gonzalez at the intersection of Porfirio Diaz and Aldama Streets, in the town of Reynosa, Tamaulipas. The latter was carrying a 38-caliber revolver. Upon inspecting the vehicles, the federal agents discovered a package containing 400 grams of heroin underneath the front seat. Roberto Reyes confessed that the drugs had been given to him by Ricarda Villareal (widow of) Vazquez. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 25 Jan 79 Sec B p 5] 2909

CSO: 5330

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

OPIUM SEIZED--The Afghan anti-smuggling authorities have seized 713 kilograms of opium in Ghazni area, radio Kabul reported last evening. The contraband opium, the radio said was being smuggled to Kandhar. [Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 1 Mar 79 p 1]

CSO: 5300



TURKEY

BRIEFS

HASHISH, OPIUM SEIZED--A shipment of narcotics valued at \$7.5 million was uncovered by police dogs during the search of a Turkish truck which entered Italy from the Adriatic port of Ancona. The 1,400 kilos of hashish and 325 kilos of opium were discovered hidden among bales of acrylic cotton bound for Brussels. The 56-year-old driver of the truck bearing Ankara plates, identified as Ahmet Abati, has been taken into custody. It was reported that the truck had been ferried to Ancona on a Greek ferryboat. [Text] [Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish 3 Feb 79 p 3]

CSO: 5300

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

AMPHETAMINE SMUGGLING TRIAL--Two children sitting unhappily on the back seat of a car were "window dressing" for a large-scale drugs run from Holland, a judge was told yesterday. But it was the look of obvious discomfort on the children's faces that alerted Customs to the biggest haul of amphetamines seized by them in Britain, said Mr John Duveaux, prosecuting at Lewes Crown Court. The drugs, worth nearly 120,000 pounds on the open market, had been packed so tightly that the children, aged six and seven, were forced to sit on hard seats throughout the journey, he said. John Eggenton, 26, the children's father, of Fairfield Drive, Wormley, Herts, pleaded guilty to smuggling the drugs into docks at Newhaven, Sussex. He was jailed for two years. Mr Duveaux said: "The two children and Eggenton's wife, Meredith, were the window dressing to give this venture a semblance of a family holiday." Eggenton, he added, bought the drugs for 20,000 pounds in Holland and then drove to Dieppe where he caught the ferry to Newhaven. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 30 Jan 79 p 3]

CSO: 5320

END