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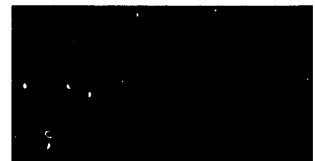
18 April 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
(FOUO 17/79)



WORLD

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18 April 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA CALLED 'VITAL LINK' IN WORLD DRUG TRADE

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 3 Mar 79 p 5

[Text]

MELBOURNE. — Australia is in danger of becoming a centre for international crime, the head of the Australian branch of Interpol, Superintendent Richard Dixon, warned yesterday.

Superintendent Dixon, who is a senior Commonwealth police-

man, said Australia was already a vital link in international drug smuggling as well as a centre for counterfeiting.

"The once-laughable suggestion that this country was becoming a world centre for the illicit production of drugs now becomes a feasible proposition," he said.

High-quality counterfeit Australian passports and travellers' cheques were also being produced.

Superintendent Dixon, who joined the Commonwealth Police in 1966 after serving 10 years with the Rhodesian Police Force's Special Branch, was giving evidence to the Police Service Board hearing on an application for improved wages for police because of increased work stress.

He said the pressure on the Victorian Police Force to meet Interpol and Commonwealth Police requests for help had recently increased significantly, partly because of the rise of organised crime in Australia.

"Two domestic banks have been forced to withdraw series of their travellers' cheques because of widespread forgeries," Superintendent Dixon said.

"Austrelian documentation

had facilitated the widespread usage of stolen or counterfeit credit cards and traveller's cheques, now reaching epidemic proportions."

Australia had also become a favourite spot for counterfeiters of overseas bank notes.

"This country has recently been the location for the forgery of large quantities of Bank of England notes," Superintendent Dixon said.

"Printing plates for counterfeit United States Treasury notes have also been discovered and many thousands of counterfeit dollars in various denominations have been produced in this country."

International criminals were beginning to look to Australia as a haven.

"Both Ronald Biggs and Raymond Palmer, then Britain's and Canada's most wanted men, found havens in this country, Superintendent Dixon said. "Several of their professional criminal associates, all regarded as the upper echelon of crime with organised-crime backgrounds, have come to Australia from whence they have been extradited or deported."

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AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL PARTY IN VICTORIA TAKES HARD LINE ON DRUGS

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 7 Mar 79 p 9

[Excerpt]

THE hard-pressed Victorian Liberal Government was yesterday given a warning of what to expect if it was forced into a reluctant coalition with the National Party.

Hopeful of holding the balance of power after the State election on May 5 the National Party announced its election policy in a 'blueprint to get Victoria moving again.'

The National Party leader, Mr Peter Ross-Edwards, takes a tough line on drugs, industrial relations, and unemployment and clearly establishes agriculture as the policy cornerstone.

The party promises to make more funds available to farmers to develop and improve their properties and says it will abolish probate and gift duty.

On alcohol and drug abuse the "blueprint" says: "The National Party is extremely concerned at the rapid increase in alcohol and drug use in Victoria .

"The party is committed to a policy of creating an atmosphere of confidence to allow the free enterprise system to gain strength and expand. Victoria, once the leader in economic growth, is dropping behind many of the other States."

"The community must be prepared to accept harsh penalties for convicted drug pushers, to report suspected drug peddlers and to encourage those with alcohol and drug problems to seek medical care and counselling."

The party would double the size of the State drug squad and lower the alcoholic content of beer.

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AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL APPROACH TO ANTIDRUG FIGHT URGED

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 1 Mar 79 p 3

[Text] The NSW Government has approached the Federal Government to set up a joint police task force involving all States to fight drug trafficking.

The NSW Premier, Mr Wran, said in Parliament yesterday he had written to the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, to urge a "national approach to fight the drug menace."

Mr Wran said he had also discussed the task force with the royal commissioner in the NSW drug inquiry, Mr Justice Woodward.

The Premier was replying to a question in State Parliament on what the Government was doing to fight organised crime, put by the Independent MP for South Coast, Mr John Hatton.

The task force would involve State and Commonwealth police and officers of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics, assisted by solicitors and other key figures.

"Because crime extends across State boundaries and even into national limits there should be closer relationships with Commonwealth law enforcement agencies," Mr Wran said.

"I should emphasise that already co-operation exists between the Commonwealth and State police forces and that there have been a number of notable operations involving both the Commonwealth and State police forces into drug trafficking which have resulted in the apprehension of criminals.

"An ad hoc task force approach was adopted in the latter part of last year in the \$70 million drug smuggling operation which resulted in the arrest and jailing of Murray Stewart Riley and others."

Mr Wran said he didn't think there was much doubt that the Federal Government would agree to the proposal.

"I will be having further discussions with Mr Justice Woodward on Friday to consider this task force approach," Mr Wran said.

"I had hoped time and circumstances would have permitted arrangements to be concluded between this Government and the Federal Government before I made public the various steps which are being taken."

Mr Wran said he would not normally have made these considerations public, but it had been suggested that the Government was not taking adequate steps to combat organised crime."

PERNICIOUS

The most pernicious organised crimes related to drugs and he felt it necessary to let Parliament and the public know what had been going on and what he expected to happen.

"I don't regard this sort of thing as a matter for political jousting, but rather as a matter that goes to the root of what is understood to be in the public interest," he said.

Mr Wran discarded suggestions that a parliamentary standing committee be set up to "monitor, investigate and advise on organised crime."

Parliament was the place for ministers to question, probe, criticise and oppose crime.

"A permanent standing committee is not an effective means of combating crime," he said.

"I am afraid that a standing committee of this Parliament can be used as the forum for malicious or unfounded investigations made under parliamentary privilege."

Mr Wran pointed to the Freeman committee (set up last year to investigate organised crime) as an example of "kangaroo court" proceedings, claiming that witnesses were "broken, persons were defamed without any chance to refute allegations and some witnesses were even placed in fear of their lives."

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AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS TOUGHER ANTIDRUG MEASURES

New Regulations Described

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 9 Mar 79 p 1

[Article by Tony Walker]

[Excerpts]

CANBERRA. — The federal Government is seeking the power to freeze the assets of convicted drug traffickers.

The freeze would continue while civil action was taken for the recovery of money equal to the sum earned illegally.

Action to retrieve the money and apply the freeze would be taken under a new section of the Customs Act.

The Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs, Mr. Fife said yesterday the freeze was designed to deal with sophisticated methods of disposing of the profits of illegal drug trafficking.

The new law, is part of a set of tough new regulations aimed at curbing the drug trade.

Other measures announced in Parliament yesterday included:

- Life imprisonment for the importation of "commercial" quantities of drugs;

- New regulations governing body searches;

- Narcotics agents will be given new powers to use electronic eavesdropping devices;

- A new offence of conspiracy.

Mr. Fife described the new regulations as a "tough law enforcement measure".

"The drug trade is organised in an unscrupulous and a totally immoral fashion," Mr. Fife said.

"To fight this trade, and fight it within a democratic framework and within the rule of law, the Government needs special powers; powers that are not commonly accorded law enforcement."

Narcotics agents seeking to apply phone taps will have to follow the same procedures as ASIO operatives.

This brings the use of these devices by the narcotics bureau under the control of the Attorney-General.

Mr. Fife said the use of listening devices would be directed against the organisers of the drug trade.

"Until now, the backroom nature of the involvement of the organisers has made investigation, and subsequently proof in the court, virtually impossible," he said.

"These organisers have hitherto been substantially untouched by the law. The Government believes that by careful use of a power to authorise listening devices, investigators will be able to break down the wall currently protecting this inner circle."

More Details Given

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 9 Mar 79 p 1

[Article by Andrew Kruger]

[Text] Canberra.-- People convicted of trafficking in large quantities of drugs will face a mandatory sentence of life imprisonment under new drug laws introduced in Parliament yesterday.

Trafficking in smaller quantities will carry a maximum penalty of \$100,000, or 25 years in prison, or both.

The tough measures are part of a legal package giving Customs and ASIO new powers to intercept communications and conduct secret surveillance.

They begin a fresh Government drive to improve national security and to track down the people who organise and profit from the drug trade.

The new measures will also empower the Federal Court of Australia to order such people to pay fines equal to the profit they made from illegal trafficking in drugs.

Under changes to the Customs Act, the Government will be able to ask courts to freeze the assets of people on major drug charges, until proceedings are completed.

The Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs, Mr Fife, told Parliament yesterday he believed the introduction of such extraordinary measures had not been attempted elsewhere in the world.

He said that the scheme was intended to deal with sophisticated methods of disposing — what is often called "washing" — of the profits of illegal drug trafficking.

"In the past year, drug enforcement officers have seized money and goods involved in drug trafficking exceeding \$1 million in value," he said.

**\$4,000 fine
for cannabis**

"But sadly, by comparison, this is mere pocket money. These criminals are highly sophisticated businessmen with the best possible legal advice.

"They do not hide their profits in a sock under the mattress; it goes into land, stocks and shares, options, negotiable instruments — in short, into all the instruments of modern commerce."

By freezing the assets of such unscrupulous people, the Government could prevent

them from dispersing those assets during court proceedings.

Under the new Customs laws, life imprisonment without the option of a fine will also be the required penalty for a second offence involving a traffickable quantity of drugs.

Large-scale drug trafficking is described as trafficking in "commercial" quantities of all types of drugs, except cannabis leaf — or 1,000 times the quantities specified as traffickable under existing drug laws.

Examples of "commercial" quantities of drugs include: cannabis 100kg, cocaine 2kg, heroin 1.5kg, LSD 0.2kg, morphine 1.5kg and opium 20kg.

Where non-commercial drug quantities are involved, the first offence for trafficking will carry a penalty of \$100,000 or 25 years imprisonment, or both.

For trafficking in cannabis, the fine will be \$4,000 or 10 years' imprisonment, or both.

To help the Federal Bureau of Narcotics smash the highly organised drug rings which operate in Australia, the Government has added 50 investigators to its staff and has improved substantially the equipment and communications network it uses.

Boost for ASIO

Among the powerful new weapons narcotics officers will have will be the authority to use, subject to a ministerial warrant, listening devices for electronic eavesdropping and the authority to intercept telephone conversations and other telecommunications.

These new powers narcotics agents share with ASIO agents.

Changes to the ASIO Act, giving ASIO additional powers -- under ministerial warrant -- to enter premises to search for records, to use listening devices, to intercept telecommunications and to open and inspect mail, were introduced in the Senate yesterday by the Attorney-General, Senator Durack.

Emergency provisions allow the director-general of ASIO to issue such warrants for 48 hours before reporting to the Attorney-General.

The new measures form part of a major shake-up of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation following the final report in 1977 of the Hope Royal Commission into intelligence and security.

Under its revised charter, ASIO's activities will be extended to report to the Government on terrorism and on "active measures of foreign intervention" -- clandestine or

deceptive action taken by a foreign power to promote its interests.

The new ASIO Act also allows people the right of appeal to a judicial tribunal, against security assessments which might affect their employment by the Commonwealth, migration, citizenship or the issue of passports.

Proper checks

The Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Mr Bowen, said that while the Opposition did not oppose the new legislation, it wanted to be sure there were proper checks and balances to protect basic human rights.

He suggested that the Attorney-General should report to Parliament each year on the exercise of ASIO's powers and that a more complete classified report on its activities should be available to the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr Bowen also called for a judicial audit of ASIO every three years to check that it complied with its charter and the law, that it had not unjustifiably infringed civil liberties and whether it operated efficiently.

Bugging Provisions Supported

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 9 Mar 79 p 6

[Editorial: "Beating the Trade in Narcotics"]

[Text]

LEGISLATION introduced in Federal Parliament yesterday to define and control the operations of the Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation and agents of the Customs Department's narcotics squad demands close study, penetrating debate — and a deal of open-mindedness and realism along with the natural caution which must apply to the study of any laws which empower intrusion into personal privacy.

It can be said at once that we have to accept that some protection of personal privacy has to be sacrificed if we are to protect ourselves against subversion. A first reaction to the new rules governing the activities of ASIO is that they do not give that organisation any more latitude than it had before — and maybe less.

The Attorney-General still has overriding power on the use of telephone taps and listening devices — the most disturbing activity for the private and blameless person to contemplate. ASIO can hardly be expected to do its job under restrictions any more severe.

Narcotics agents, too, will have to seek the Attorney-General's permission in this area. The Customs Minister will no longer have the authority to permit tapping and bugging. It is probably wise to have

such a contentious matter under one control . . . and it should not hinder the agents' activities.

It is most essential that they not be hindered. The extent of the trade in narcotics is too well documented to be doubted. Our series, The Heroin Connection, by Dr Alfred McCoy, an American now with the University of NSW, which we published in January, pinpointed the evils with chilling precision.

Australia has 40,000 heroin addicts and the heroin traders of South-East Asia, attracted by our affluence, are doing their best to increase that number. When raw opium worth \$500 on a Thai farm can be refined into heroin worth \$250,000 on the streets of Australian cities, we are dealing with money in sums which can buy power and influence.

The foul and evil trade must be fought — and we cannot expect our narcotics agents to fight it with one hand tied behind their backs and the other in a kid glove.

If, in the process of fighting it, we are subjected to niggling worries about our personal privacy, that is something we have to live with. That is not to say that bureaucracy and Big Brother should have an open go. That would be an appalling and totally unacceptable prospect. The legislation must be finely combed to ensure that this possibility does not exist.

Freezing of Assets Condemned

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 9 Mar 79 p 6

[Editorial: "Taps, Bugs, Drugs"]

[Text]

THE EXTENSION and redefinition of the charter of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, as set out in legislation introduced yesterday, are very largely along the lines recommended by Mr Justice Hope in his 1977 Royal Commission reports or as subsequently foreshadowed by the Prime Minister. The changes are necessary, and their principle commands bi-partisan support. ASIO has a much more difficult task than faced it in its earlier days, as witness the threat of urban terrorism and the unacceptably violent behaviour of some people connected with, or on the fringe of, certain nationalist or religious organisations.

The main doubts that will be felt about the legislation concern accountability. For instance, it is at least arguable that the powers of the Director-General of Security have been increased at the expense of the Attorney-General, to whom he is accountable for his actions. In addition, the report which he must make each year to the Attorney-General (one which will be seen by the Leader of the Opposition) does not have to contain information about the number of warrants applied for, and granted, which will authorise telephone-tapping, the use of listening devices or other actions involving a danger to privacy and an infringement of the ordinary rights of citizens.

The Opposition thinks that, as a safeguard against abuse (for the Director-General himself, in an emergency lasting for not more than 48 hours, has power to issue a warrant), these figures should be provided each year—as is the case in New Zealand. This is a sound suggestion, and the Government should act on it. The important point is that there must be ministerial, not just bureaucratic, accountability, to ensure that distasteful

measures such as telephone-tapping, electronic surveillance and mail interception are carefully controlled and resorted to only on the basis of what another minister referred to as "objective evidence."

This was the Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs, Mr Fife, who was introducing sweeping legislation to intensify the Government's attack on drug trafficking, with particular reference to the people who organise and profit from it. Thus, Customs officers are to be given the same powers as ASIO to use telephone-tapping and listening devices. There will be similar safeguards. It is a "matter of fact," Mr Fife insists, that his departmental officers investigating narcotic offences "time and again" know about telephone conversations between drug couriers and unidentified persons to whom they report. If this is so, as it may well be, another safeguard seems desirable.

It is that there should be, after 12 months, an official investigation to determine whether the benefits derived from the use of such formidable powers, in an area other than national security, outweigh the infringement of privacy, as for the other draconian penalties in this bill, most are justified in dealing with an appalling social evil. But one, designed to deal with sophisticated methods of "washing" the profits of illegal drug trafficking, is quite unacceptable. It involves "freezing" the assets of persons before a court until the substantive proceedings are completed. This is out of bounds. It means pre-judging guilt and throwing overboard the principle that a person is innocent until proved guilty. The Government's motives are understandable, but the end does not justify the means, and this provision should be dropped forthwith.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

DRUG COMMISSION TOLD AIR SURVEILLANCE TO BEGIN

Brisbane THE COURIER MAIL in English 7 Mar 79 p 9

[Text] **TENDERS had been called to fill in Australia's northern air surveillance gaps, the Australian Coastal Surveillance Centre acting secretary (Mr. P. B. Eccles) said yesterday.**

He told the Federal Drugs Royal Commission: "We now have set up an embryo of a coastguard."

Northern Australia's air surveillance system would be fully operational by July, he said.

Two successful tenders, to operate seven new Nomad aircraft, would be announced in two weeks, he said.

The surveillance area covered all the northern Australian coast between Geraldton in Western

Australia and Cairns in Queensland.

Two contracts had been let already: To Trans West Airlines to control between Geraldton and Bigge Island in Western Australia and Executive Airlines to cover between the Milimiginby aboriginal mission in the Northern Territory and Thursday Island.

Four of the seven new Nomads would fill in the remaining gaps, Mr. Eccles said.

Their areas of control would be: Bigge Island to Wyndham, Wyndham to Darwin, Darwin to the Milimiginby aboriginal mission, and Thursday Island to Cairns.

These Nomads would be used entirely for search surveillance and would be equipped with standard navigation equipment, Mr. Eccles said.

The other three aircraft would have sophisticated radar and navigation instruments.

Two would be based at Darwin and the other at Townsville.

Mr. Eccles said the sophisticated Nomads would be used for surveillance at sea.

The Darwin Nomads would be concerned with Taiwanese and Vietnamese vessels entering Australian waters.

The aircraft based at Townsville would watch the Great Barrier Reef.

The so-called surveillance gaps at present were covered by local contractors.

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AUSTRALIA

PERTH SUPREME COURT PRONOUNCES SENTENCES ON DRUGS CHARGES

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 7 Mar 79 p 29

[Excerpts] A 27-year-old man was sentenced in the Supreme Court yesterday to seven years' gaol for importing 722 grammes of cannabis resin from India.

In the same court two people were sentenced to terms of five years and four years for possessing heroin with intent to supply or sell.

Jennifer Anne Hooper (28), domestic, of Leonora Street, Como, pleaded guilty to possessing heroin with a street value of \$1500.

Mr Justice Lavan said that the disturbing aspect of her case was her admission to detectives that she had solicited sales for the heroin from among people at the alcohol and drug addiction centre who she knew were being treated for heroin addiction.

He sentenced her to a four years' gaol with a minimum non-parole period for two years.

Michael John Blair (27), mechanic, of Essex Street, Meltham, was sentenced to five years' gaol for possessing heroin.

Blair pleaded guilty to possessing 78 packets of powder containing 7.2 grammes of pure heroin.

The court was told that another man had given Blair between 250 and 300 similar packets on the understanding that Blair paid \$100 a packet for them.

Blair had sold some of the packets for \$140 each and had been using up to three packets a day himself.

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AUSTRALIA

MARIHUANA CROP GROWERS SENTENCED IN PERTH DISTRICT COURT

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 7 Mar 79 p 29

[Text] Three men involved in the growing of a big cannabis crop near Lake Grace had played important parts in the enterprise, a judge said yesterday when he sentenced them to long gaol terms.

Luigi Fotta (31), Bruno Morabito (25) and Biagio Macri (28) were each sentenced in the District Court by Judge Pidgeon to eight years.

The judge fixed minimum terms of five years before parole.

He then reduced Fotta's maximum and minimum terms to seven years and three years and nine months because of the year he had already spent in custody.

Fotta, machinist, of Cabramatta, NSW, Morabito, general labourer, of Chester Hill, NSW, and Macri, spray painter, of Croyden Street, Dianella, had been found guilty by a magistrate in the Perth Court of several offences arising from the growing of the crop of cannabis on a farm in a remote area at Lake O'Connor.

Supply

They were committed for sentence to the District Court for being in possession of 31.5 kilos of cannabis with intent to sell or supply it.

They have yet to be sentenced by the magistrate for the other offences.

A fourth man, Antonino Cusmano (47), farmer, of Lake O'Connor via Lake Grace, was also convicted by the magistrate but has appealed against his conviction.

His sentencing was suspended by order of the Supreme Court pending his appeal.

It was submitted in mitigation for the three men that they were mere cogs or field workers in the scheme.

The prosecution claimed that the men had played vital roles in the operation.

Apart from the 31.5kg of cannabis weighed and analysed there was also an estimated 10,000 plants growing when the drug squad raided the farm by road and light aircraft, the prosecution said.

The cannabis had an estimated street value of between \$2.5 and \$5 million on the open market, it was alleged.

The judge said yesterday that he took into account the amount of capital injected into the operation, which involved planting and tending the crop and watering it, in assessing the degree of criminality involved.

Each of the men had carried out the enterprise over a long period, he said.

Part of the plan involved establishing a pig farm to cover the operation.

The judge said that Macri's story was one of the most unlikely he had heard for some time.

Morabito had also been untruthful and had maintained that he was never in WA at the relevant time.

Most of what he had said also applied to Fotta but his model behaviour in prison was in his favour.

The judge said that in passing sentence he had to give effect to the legislature which stressed that this type of enterprise had to be eliminated.

(Before Judge Pidgeon. Mr J. R. McCann for the crown, Mr G. Wood for Macri, Mr S. J. Simons for Fotta, Mr K. J. Bennett for Morabito.)

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

PERTH COURT RENEWS BAIL ON FORMER AIRLINE STEWARD
Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 20 Feb 79 p 11

[Text]

A 29-year-old man who is on remand on a major heroin charge was ordered yesterday to shave off his newly grown beard as part of his bail conditions.

Magistrate T. R. McGuigan renewed bail of \$15,000 with a similar surety for George Mylonas, subject to the undertaking that he was to be clean-shaven and was to remain so.

Mylonas, a former Qantas flight steward, of Point Piper, NSW, was released on bail in December after he was charged with possessing heroin reasonably suspected of having been imported.

The bail, which included reporting and other conditions, was revoked by Mr McGuigan in chambers on Thursday after several allegations were made against Mylonas.

Yesterday in open court Mr B. Singleton, for Mylonas, made a new application for bail.

He denied he had said he would leave "the scene" if his solicitor advised him that he did not have a chance on the heroin charge.

During questioning he said he had been clean-shaven when he was arrested. His appearance now differed from his passport photograph because he had grown a beard.

He said he had often grown a beard and could see nothing wrong with growing one.

He presumed that the Narcotics Bureau had his passport.

Mylonas was remanded till Thursday.

(Before Magistrate T. R. McGuigan, Mr N. L. Roberts prosecuted for the Commonwealth. Mr B. Singleton for Mylonas.)

DENIAL

Mylonas denied allegations made in court by Robert Cook, of Wellington Street, Mosman Park, that Mylonas had made proposals to sign a statutory declaration clearing Cook's son from involvement in a heroin charge in return for money.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

QUEENSLAND'S RECORD HEROIN HAUL FOUND AT BRISBANE AIRPORT

Brisbane THE COURIER MAIL in English 3 Mar 79 p 10

[Text] Heroin allegedly found on a company director at Brisbane Airport on Thursday, had a street value of \$300,000, the Magistrate's Court was told yesterday.

Commonwealth prosecutor (Mr. I. W. Bates) said the amount of heroin was the largest seized in Queensland.

Mr. Bates opposed a bail application made on behalf of John Robson Gardiner, 32, of Gold Coast Highway, Surfers' Paradise.

Gardiner entered no pleas to two charges, brought under the Customs Act, of having possessed and imported prohibited imports, namely a quantity of heroin.

Mr. Bates said Gardiner arrived at Brisbane on Thursday on a Qantas flight from Singapore.

Customs officers gave Gardiner a complete body search and found

311 grams of off-white powder in 27 individual plastic bags concealed inside two pairs of underpants he was wearing.

Mr. Bates said police believed the powder was heroin with a street value of \$300,000.

Mr. Bates said large sureties had proved to be of little deterrent in preventing people from absconding while on bail.

Passport

He said 13 defendants had failed to answer bail on serious narcotics charges in recent times.

The last person who failed to answer bail had forfeited a \$15,000 surety.

Mr. Bates said Gardiner's passport showed he had travelled overseas 29

times in the last two years.

Gardiner was married but living apart from his wife and had no real ties in Queensland.

He said the charges against Gardiner would be brought on at an early date for hearing.

The charges, on conviction, carried a maximum jail sentence of 25 years, he said.

Mr. R. F. Greenwood (for Gardiner) said his client conducted his own marketing business and other commercial activities to do with patents and original products for local and overseas markets.

Gardiner had voluntarily surrendered his passport; would happily comply with stringent reporting conditions; and intended to remain at his Surfers' Paradise flat.

Mr. Greenwood said

the substance allegedly found at the airport had not been analysed.

Any estimate of its worth was "valueless", and the \$200,000 figure had been plucked out of the air to enhance prosecution arguments.

Refusing bail, Mr. Latchford, Chief S.M. said the allegations were possibly the most serious he had encountered during his time on the bench.

He remanded Gardiner in custody to March 9 for mention.

Mr. R. F. Greenwood, instructed by J. S. O'Shanahan and Luton, appeared for Gardiner. Mr. I. W. Bates, of the Commonwealth Crown Solicitor's Office, prosecuted.

030: 5300

AUSTRALIA

DRUGS DEFENDANT BANNED FROM COACHING SCHOOL CHILDREN

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 7 Mar 79 p 53

[Text]

SYDNEY: A magistrate yesterday banned the former Olympic swimmer Robert John Nay from coaching school children after his appearance on drug charges.

Magistrate B. Wilson said in the Wollongong Court that he viewed with great suspicion the rehabilitation programme undertaken by Nay.

The programme involved the coaching of 30

pupils of a Kangaroo Valley school three times a week.

Nay (24), of Corimal, 8km north of Wollongong, had earlier pleaded guilty to possession and use of heroin.

He said he had been addicted to heroin for five years.

Mr J. Jones, appearing for the defendant, said that Nay had commenced the coaching classes at

the request of a local police officer and parents of pupils at the school while Nay was being treated at the Kangaroo Valley drug rehabilitation centre.

Mr Wilson said that Nay was clearly addicted to heroin, judging from the most recent reports, and would be in continuing contact with children who would undoubtedly regard him as a hero.

He said he would adjourn the case provided Nay did not come into contact with children.

Nay was released on \$2000 bail until May 22 on \$2000 bail.

030: 5300

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY RESEARCH--A \$2 million scheme to help stop Thailand farmers growing opium will be the Queensland University's largest single research undertaking this year. University researchers will use their expertise in tropical agriculture to help the farmers grow subsistence crops instead of opium. Chief investigator for the projects will be Dr. Ross Humphreys, head of the University agriculture department. [Excerpt] [Brisbane THE COURIER MAIL in English 27 Feb 79 p 32]

CSO: 5300

BURMA

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZURE AT LASHIO--Rangoon, 24 Mar--A search party seized four packets of heroin weighing 221 grammes and valued at more than K8,000 from a secret compartment of a Jeep (No 1930) from Tang Yang at the entrance to Lashio at 5 pm on 18 March. Action is being taken against driver Sai Tun Sar and owners Ma Aye Kham (27) and Ma Aye Nu (32) of Tang Yang. (NAB) [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 25 Mar 79 p 4]

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

MALAYSIAN-THAI COOPERATION--Kuala Lumpur, Mon: The chairman of Malaysia's anti-drug organisation has urged the Government to review its current cooperation with Thailand and further strengthen anti-drug trafficking measures along the Malaysia-Thailand border. Datuk Rais Yatim said that stricter checks were needed on the flow of drugs into Malaysia from Thailand.--AAP
[Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 6 Mar 79 p 25]

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

HEALTH MINISTER ON STRICTER MEASURES TO CONTROL DRUGS

Karachi THE SUN in English 20 Mar 79 p 4

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, March 19: The government has taken strict measures to check the spurious drugs in the country.

The Federal Health Minister, Mir Subuh Sadiq Khan Khoso told PPI during an interview that the drug act would be made more strict to catch the culprits.

He said the government has decided that any one found producing spurious drugs would be treated strictly according to the Drug Act.

The Health Minister disclosed that adulteration of drugs which marked 40 per cent during the previous regime, has now come down to only three per cent, due to sincere efforts of the present government.

Mr. Khoso urged the people to cooperate with the government in detecting such anti-social elements.

The Federal Health Minister said the United Nations and International Labour Organisations have assured full cooperation to rehabilitate the opium addicts in the country.

He said the U.N. and ILO experts who met him recently expressed their keen desire to cooperate with the government and extended training facilities abroad for doctors and social workers and provide necessary equipment to cure the opium addicts.

Mr. Khoso said that he has directed the Secretary, health and other Social Welfare agencies to mobilise all possible efforts cure the opium addiction. He said, the government is determined to make

the people healthy and successful and would rehabilitate the opium addicts.

Mr. Khoso said the central government hospital in Rawalpindi is doing a good job for the opium addicts while all the central and provincial hospitals throughout the country were also mobilizing their efforts in this regard, he added.

In reply to a question, the minister said the rate of deaths caused by opium addiction was reduced with the measures adopted by the government and hoped that the government would succeed in achieving a complete success in this connection.

The Health Minister further disclosed that some of the foreign medicines manufacturing companies who import raw materials from other countries were demanding an increase in the prices of their products due to the devaluation of dollar in the international market.

He said, the prices of curative and preventive medicines being used as necessary for restoration of health would not be increased. However, he said, prices of medicines like vitamins etc which are not treated in the curative category is under the consideration of the Health Ministry.

Mr. Khoso observed that the government would ensure that common man is not affected by any decision taken by the Ministry as government at large is committed to extend maximum health facilities to the have-nots of the country.—PPI

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS SEIZED IN MADYAN--Madyan (Swat), March 17: Eighty-three tolas of Charas and 11 tolas of opium was recovered from one Sher Ali, proprietor of Nigar Hotel Madyan in a raid carried out by SHO Gulam Earid who was accompanied by ASI Abdul Wadood Khan the other day. Some other intoxicants including morphia, and Mandrex tablets also recovered. [Text] [Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 18 Mar 79 p 4]

CHARAS, HASHISH SEIZED--The anti-burglary squad of the Civil Lines police station, Karachi, on Wednesday seized 750 kilograms of charas and liquid hashish worth about Rs. two and a half crore. The seizure was made in a raid conducted in the presence of a magistrate on shop No 18, Liaquat Market, North Nazimabad. However, the owners of the shop, Malik Anwar and Malik Amin were not caught as they had disappeared before the raid. Police found 678 kilograms of charas and 74 kilogram of hashish oil concealed in the shop. Police said the seizure was a follow-up of an earlier haul (also made by the anti-burglary squad) on March 2 of charas worth Rs. 13 lakh. On Rahim Buksh was arrested in that case and this haul was due to the information revealed by him. [Text] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 10 Mar 79 p 5]

CSO: 5300

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

\$500,000 DRUG SEIZURE--Manila, 12 Mar--Philippine and American anti-narcotics agents seized about 500,000 U.S. dollars' worth of heroin and morphine in raids in Manila and the far southern town of Zamboanga City over the past few days, the Anti-Narcotics Agency said today. The seizures came on the eve of today's opening here of the South-east Asian Drug Enforcement Conference, in which anti-narcotics experts from a dozen countries in the region, the United States and Europe, are gathering for four days to discuss measures to combat the scourge. The sources said the bulk of the narcotics were seized in a raid on a house in Manila's suburban Pasay City yesterday at the bottom of a suitcase said to have been brought in by a Puerto Rican member of an international syndicate based in New York. They said they found about 1.2 kilogrammes (nearly 2.5 lbs) of heroin. Four days ago, agents in Zamboanga City seized two bricks of morphine said to have been smuggled in from the East Malaysian state of Sabah and worth about 20,000 dollars locally. A businessman was arrested. The Anti-Narcotics Agency said an international syndicate, apparently working out of the American Pacific island territory of Guam, had been broken as a result of Philippines-U.S. cooperation. Three men had just been given long sentences in California following the earlier arrest of a Philippine-born American in Manila found with large quantities of illegal drugs for smuggling to the U.S. West Coast. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 13 Mar 79 p 3]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

AUSTRALIAN DRUG DEFENDANT DEPLORES CONDITIONS IN THAI JAIL

Brisbane THE COURIER MAIL in English 27 Feb 79 p 7

[Text]

BANGKOK (AAP-Reuter).— Sydney hairdresser Warren Fellows told reporters yesterday conditions in a Thai jail were driving him insane.

Fellows appeared in court with two other Australians and a Thai charged with having possessed and attempted to export heroin. Their trial was postponed when the court agreed, at the request of defence lawyers, to hear

the first prosecution witness on April 3. Accused are Sydney Rugby League player Paul Hayward, Bangkok bar owner William Sinclair and Kitti Imsap. Hayward and Fellows were arrested last October for alleged possession

of 8.4 kilograms of top-grade heroin. Sinclair was detained shortly afterwards for allegedly assisting heroin smuggling attempts. Kitti Imsap was arrested last month for allegedly supplying the drug to Hayward and Fellows.

an additional charge of possessing a small amount of heroin in jail, described conditions in the Thai jail as terrible.

"They are driving me insane", he said.

Hayward and Fellows, both 26, appeared in T-shirts and white shorts. Sinclair, 44, was wearing white shirt and pants.

Shackled

The four defendants repeated their pleas of innocence to the charges in a court packed with Australian embassy officials, reporters and others.

All four were wearing leg shackles, but appeared to be in good health.

Hayward, his ankles bearing minor bruises because of the shackles, told reporters after the hearing he was being treated like a dangerous criminal.

Fellows, who also faces

In Chiang Mai, north Thailand, yesterday, two Melbourne businessmen, Donald Worcester and George Bullock, were remanded in custody for the fourth time on allegations of possessing heroin for sale.

Worcester, 43, a squash courts owner, and Bullock, 37, an insurance salesman, were arrested last month, alleged to have been in possession of 1.4 kilograms of heroin.

They were remanded until March 1.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

'BROWN SUGAR' ARREST--The Public Prosecutor yesterday filed charges of possessing heroin with intention to smuggle and sell abroad against two Indonesians of Dutch nationality, who were arrested with 8.6 kilos of No 3 'brown sugar' on December 30 last year. Customs officials in the departure lounge arrested Siaila Smith Victor and Kainama Christian while they were about to board a Thai International flight to Amsterdam. The heroin, neatly packed in eight plastic bags was found between layers of clothing in their luggage. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Mar 79 p 3 BK]

AUSTRALIAN ARRESTED--Bangkok (AAP-Reuter).-- A 22-year-old Sydney tourist has been arrested here on a charge of possession of heroin for export, customs officials said yesterday. He was detained just before he boarded a flight for Bombay on Tuesday night. The official said that 782 grammes of top-grade heroin was found in his luggage, shoes and souvenirs bought in Bangkok. The man's passport showed he had visited Thailand seven times in the last two years, the officials said. [Text] [Brisbane THE COURIER MAIL in English 1 Mar 79 p 1]

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COLOMBIA

EXTENT OF NARCOTICS INDUSTRY IN COLOMBIA DISCUSSED

Hamburg STERN in German 22 Mar 79 pp 105-115

[Report by Juergen Petschuli and Perry Kretz: "The Narcotics War"]

[Text] Colombia has become the world's premier drug supplier. Narcotics to the value of DM30 billion--7.5 times the value of the country's total budget--were smuggled out last year. Native farmers, bandits and bosses share in the earnings, but the really big money goes to international gangster syndicates. Now the Colombian Government is sending 6,000 soldiers to the drug front.

A dog is yapping in the far distance. In my room the ventilating fan moves the most heat around but fails to cool the air. The mosquitoes are mounting one attack after the other--sleep is out of the question. Finally I go outside. I am staying at the "Gimura Hotel," allegedly the best in Riohacha, Colombia's northernmost city. A breeze comes floating off the Caribbean. Two soldiers are patrolling the beach. Their outlines and the barrels of their rifles are silhouetted against the water, lit up by the moon.

In Bogota, the capital, they warned us that Riohacha was a godforsaken hole, peopled by robbers, trigger happy gunmen and drug smugglers. A quarrel between two gangs of drug smugglers resulted in the death of 92 people within 2 months. From now on the army is supposed to police the area, stop the narcotics traffic and destroy the gangs, some of which are 300 men strong.

The soldiers have spotted me. They are slowly approaching from the beach. All is quiet. Suddenly there is a noise in the sky: A low rumble as of thunder approaches, then changes into the regular whine of aero engines. Low over the water an aircraft is coming closer. Signal flares rise from the 8-floor cement bunker next door. The twin-engine aircraft--a DC-3 or possibly a Convair--thunders over our heads and makes for the interior. The noise of the engines fades and finally dies away altogether. The dog starts yapping again in the distance.

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The two soldiers had turned their heads in the direction of the aircraft. Now they whisper to one another. One of them takes the rifle off his shoulder and points the barrel in my direction. The other calls out "good evening" and strikes a match, evidently to get a better look at my face. He asks: "American?" I reply: "German." Visibly relieved he lights a cigaret, points the lighted end to the sky and says "marihuana bombers." Shortly thereafter two more marihuana bombers cross the coast at Riohacha.

STERN photographer Perry Kretz and I are on the Colombian La Guajira Peninsula, a wilderness area, half prairie, half mountain range, 400 km long, 100 km wide, inhabited by 300,000 people.

In October last the government in Bogota declared this province a war region. Ever since the narcotics war has raged here, on land, at sea and in the air: 6,000 soldiers against more than 70,000 people who are involved in the drug business, as planters, smugglers, family members or accessories.

At stake are \$16 billion--according to the American DEA [Drug Enforcement Administration] this is the amount of money spent annually in the United States on Colombian marihuana and cocaine by 16 million regular consumers. That is as much as the total turnover of the cigaret industry. The market is still expanding: The first delivery has just come to light in the Federal Republic. Customs agents in Bremen harbor discovered 518 kg of Colombian marihuana on the freighter "Holstenkoog." The value: DM1.5 million.

Pilots Risking Their Lives Nightly for \$50,000

The money flowing back to the traditionally coffee growing Colombia--25 million population, 5 times the size of the Federal Republic--has produced an economic miracle which defies official explanation.

Liberal President Turbay, elected with a narrow majority as recently as June 1978 by only 35 percent of the registered voters, feels that foreigners wrongly accuse him of being the head of government of a "drug democracy." "We don't bribe the Americans--they bribe us." Internally he not only has to fight a constantly growing group of guerrillas but also a rate of inflation which exceeded 30 percent last year. The devaluation of money hits the poor hardest--the rich benefit from the marihuana boom: More and more new skyscrapers and hotels, banks and luxury stores shoot from the soil at the Caribbean coast. Armored cars roll through shabby villages, driven by men whose fingers display diamond rings.

Behind this glittering new prosperity are the bosses of the international narcotics syndicates. They plan and carry out the transactions; they send ships and aircraft to Colombia; they supply guns and radios; they hire pilots who risk their lives on every flight--for \$50,000 and up.

An officer in the secret police tells us quite frankly that night after night dozens of "marihuana bombers" fly in at low altitudes to beat the

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radar network of the Colombian air space control. Many of the foolhardy men in the flying crates are said to be Vietnam veterans: "They use the lights of the coastal cities to orient themselves." Riohacha, the provincial capital, seems to be a particularly popular guidepost--about 05.00 I hear the fourth aircraft to fly over this night.

This morning we are meeting with General Jose Maria Villarel, chief of the 2d brigade and commander of the 6,000 strong army on the Colombian drug front. He feels deserted by his allies: "We are supposed to protect American youth from drugs," he says, "but the Americans do little to help us. They ought to supply more money and more technical equipment. We need helicopters as much as night time detection devices." Moreover the Colombian Army is subjected to attacks by foreign newspapers. "An American reported asked me: 'How is it possible for such tremendous quantities of marihuana to get out of Colombia?'--I shot back: 'How is it possible for such tremendous quantities of marihuana to get into the United States?'"

The commander has the latest reports of successes brought out for my inspection: Within 3 months 3,300 tons of marihuana were seized and 450 smugglers arrested, including 103 foreigners, 101 of whom were Americans; 118 trucks, 58 ships and 33 aircraft were taken. Ten smugglers were killed in exchanges of fire.

The general invites us to examine the booty. Twenty-one seized aircraft still stand on the military airport; eight DC-3's, two small jets, several Pipers and Cessnas. Still visible on the tail of a twin-engined Convair are the painted-over insignia of the U.S.Navy, the inscription "Strategic Air Command" and the mark "O-13 814." Six ships seized for smuggling are berthed in the brackish waters of Puerto Arturo. The largest is the "Fortuna" of about 10,000 gross register tons. The crew was unlucky: It was stopped by the Coastguard just before entering international waters. On board were 1,000 sacks of marihuana.

Carlos, the dark skinned driver of the car we are using for the inspection tour, is a bodyguard by profession, currently in the service of the provincial government. The armored car he drives is also booty. It used to belong to the vehicle park of Samuel Alron, one of Colombia's major drug bosses. Alron was able to flee to Florida just before he was to be arrested. According to reports received by the secret service he used a dummy corporation to purchase a particularly beautiful estate in Key Biscayne--the former vacation home of U.S.President Richard Nixon. Other Colombian marihuana millionaires took up residence in New York City, in the well-heeled district of Jackson Heights, surrounded by 200,000 Colombian immigrants. Last year the peace of this residential area was rudely shattered. A battle between 2 narcotics gangs left 14 dead.

The bosses usually stay out of the firing line--in contrast to Harold Derber, a former seaman who initiated large-scale drug shipping traffic

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between South and North America. Derber invented the so-called mother ship system. Dozens of small boats and ships, laden with narcotics, left the Colombian coast for international waters where Derber's seaworthy mother ship "Night Train" could be loaded free of the risk of interference. In February 1976 the inventive Derber died in a hail of bullets upon leaving his residence in Florida. The murder is still unsolved. The business continues.

Capt Hector Aribar tells us this story of Harold Derber. He is an officer in the military secret service, stationed in Riohacha, the citadel of the drug trade. He is assigned to us as nursemaid and controller; a smart young man who hides his face behind a pair of green sunglasses and a flourishing walrus mustache. Leading us across Riohacha his right hand rests nonchalantly on the butt of a Smith & Wesson dangling in a holster at his hip. Every few minutes we meet army patrols, always 4 men in paratrooper uniforms, armed with German C-3 rifles. "They always keep a certain distance between themselves," says Captain Aribar, "so that there should be no more than one killed if a sniper starts firing."

In the disreputable open-air bar "Los Cocos" the general conversation comes to a stop as we sit down. We ask about the noisy air traffic of the preceding night. Captain Aribar hesitates but opens up after his second beer. "We cannot do anything about that," he says, "we have no night fighters." He describes the procedure of the smuggling flights: The pilot flies to one of the many dozens of illegal airstrips in the interior of the country. Torches light up the sand or grass landing strip for a few minutes; they are extinguished immediately the plane has landed. The aircraft is refueled, the cargo space filled with marijuana. About 1 hour later it starts on its return flight.

If the pilot is lucky he lands--6-8 hours after take-off--where he came from, somewhere in the southern United States--Georgia, South Carolina or Florida--and gets his cut. If he is unlucky, his plane defective or overloaded, the aircraft breaks up on take-off or smacks into the Colombian mountains which rise to a height of up to 15,000 feet. "Last month alone we found eight wrecked aircraft in La Guajira." Occasionally an aircraft nosedives into the ocean; it happened only last week at the coast near Riohacha. "Next morning the Coastguard was able only to fish a few sacks from the water," says Captain Aribar, smiling slightly, "sharks don't care for marijuana."

"Your Money or Your Life"--Gangs of Robbers Terrorize an Entire Province

A few tables away sits a fat man smoking a cigar and wearing a massive gold wrist watch. "Mr Mendoza," says our guide, "one of the Riohacha narcotics bosses." Mendoza has been staring at us for some time. Finally he rises awkwardly, throws a pile of pesos on the table, looks across to us and scornfully spits on the floor. Obviously he does not care for us. "More than 1,000 marijuana smugglers are loose in the city," the captain continues,

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"though we have already jailed more than 300." Incidentally, this is reputed to be the most violent region of Colombia. For generations past robber bands have terrorized La Guajira Province; their first rule is "your money or your life." Quarrels are still subject to the vendetta: "An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth."

Rafael Iguan Mendoza is the governor administering the uncouth society of La Guajira. He resides in a building at the palm fringed bay of Riohacha, guarded by soldiers and policemen. Six bodyguards are stationed in two ante-chambers to protect him from unannounced visitors. The doors are locked from the outside behind every announced visitor--for security reasons. Any assassin would be caught in the trap. Does the governor go in fear of the marihuana gangs? The grayhaired gentleman with his fashionable horn rimmed glasses rejects any feeling of apprehension with a sweep of his arms: "Riohacha is a peaceable city of peace loving people and with a family atmosphere." To prove this astounding assertion he adds: "On Saturdays I can bathe from the beach, without any bodyguards."

The governor says: "I do not wish to defend the cultivation and smuggling of marihuana--but I do have understanding for the people who are forced to break the law because otherwise they would not have enough to live on."

Present at the interview is Carlos Herrera, editor-in-chief of a new magazine LA GUAJIRA, promoted by the governor. "We have no intention of hiding the fact," he says about the marihuana business, "that marihuana has caused the entire north coast of Colombia to flourish." The friend and adviser of the governor adds: "Let us not fall for the fairy tale that marihuana damages the health of American youth. Alcohol and tobacco are just as bad--and the government still permits both." Finally he suggests: "The Americans should legalize the consumption of marihuana, and the problem would then be solved for all those involved: The Colombians would continue to make money from cultivation. The U.S. Government would take in some billions of dollars annually in taxes. And both parties would be rid of the tiresome smuggling problem." The governor nods his agreement and pours another glass of the finest champagne.

Spectacle in the Sky: A Fighter Plane Forced Into an Emergency Landing

We want to drive to the interior of the country but no hire car is available in Riohacha. Captain Aribar has the solution. "I am acquainted with a smuggler who knows we know that he is up to his neck in the drug trade, but there is not yet enough evidence to arrest him. He will certainly be glad to help us, he has any amount of cars."

The man is Jose Zambrano--in his mid-40's, 200 pounds live weight, unshaven, married, 6 children. He really is glad to be able to do us a favor. Of course we can have a car. He even invites us to his home in the stinking old city and--obviously too late--remembers that the living room is filled to the ceiling with smuggled liquor--Bourbon of the finest quality. The

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woman of the house, a hefty lady with curlers in her hair, even opens a bottle. The master of the house begins to talk. Yes, he has heard rumors that there are marihuana smugglers in Riohacha, but he regrets to say he does not know any personally...

Suddenly he remembers something which might interest the visiting reporter: Recently, in broad daylight, the pilot of a smuggler aircraft circled Riohacha for about 2 hours because a fighter from the air force was chasing him. "The fighter could not shoot him down here, because the DC-3 would have crashed on the city." The chase in the sky is supposed to have lasted nearly 2 hours. Thousands of people watched the spectacle. Then the military aircraft had to make an emergency landing--it had run out of fuel; the smuggler plane got away across the water--accompanied by the cheers of the populace. Captain Aribar grimaces on listening to this story which does not redound to the credit of the Colombian armed forces.

Just before daybreak the next morning we sit in Zambrano's freshly polished Ford Ranger. Behind us, on the flatbed, crouch six soldiers with rifles, our guards. To begin with we drive through an idyllic and strange world: Smoke rises from the mud huts; bundled up Indians wander along the roadway and cowboys drive their cattle herds past us. Suddenly the road leads through mountains of garbage. Bottles, empty cans, cardboard cartons and styrofoam packaging material border the road for miles--the refuse of the black market city of Maicao, located just ahead of the border with Venezuela. Here one can buy, at ludicrously low prices, everything that is stolen and smuggled: Color television sets, cameras and watches, marihuana and cocaine. No dog is ever buried in Maicao--the bodies of run over animals stay at the side of the road. Nobody is bothered.

After hours of driving along dusty dirt roads we get to army headquarters at Buonavista, at the foot of the Santa Marta range. In the middle of the barrack square, surrounded by barbed wire and guarded by soldiers, we see a mountain of 600 sacks: More than 30 tons of marihuana, the harvest of the anti-drug unit quartered here. The unit is largely composed of local Indians. They are led by Lt Patino, nicknamed "Hawkeye" by his friends, a sturdy and squat man with weatherbeaten skin. He tells glowing tales of the chase, involving the location and capture of columns of trucks used for smuggling, wild shoot-outs which always leave his men the victors, though both sides suffer casualties of killed and wounded.

World Record: More Than 800 Tons of Marihuana Discovered in the Bush

He explains the marihuana route by means of a staff map: The drug is planted on mountain slopes or in remote valleys, hidden among bushes in the no-man's land. It is harvested 4 times a year, cut, dried and taken by Indian mule teams on secret paths to hidden collecting points. Here the middlemen pay the planters 240 pesos per kilogram of marihuana, a little more than DM11. Large presses compress the stuff into handy rectangular packages which look like peat. Then the marihuana is taken to the illegal landing strips on

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the coast. In the meantime couriers travel to the major trading centers such as Barranquilla, Santa Marta, Riochocha or even Bogota and the United States to furnish the syndicate representatives with samples, haggle about the price and organize transportation. The price to the final consumer: \$10,000 per kilogram. Cocaine smuggling is reported to have declined sharply in Colombia. The Colombians are concentrating on the marihuana trade.

We join in some raids on Indian villages. In sudden attacks Lt Patino sends his men into the huts where he suspects small middlemen to hang out. His men find no more than a few kilograms, the owners having long since fled... Recently the soldiers had been luckier: Near the coastal town of Dibulla several storage places were found within a single week, including a small valley full of marihuana, covered lightly with bushes. The total booty: More than 800 tons of marihuana valued at \$800 million--definitely a world record.

But, says Cornel Silva, commander of Buenavista at dinner, even this immense quantity is only a small part of the marihuana always available in La Guajira Province, hidden until it is carried off. The war against the drug mafia cannot be won by military means alone. "As long as so much money is at stake, there will always be farmers to cultivate the stuff and even more smugglers to take it out of the country."

The marihuana destruction operations of the army therefore have little more than symbolic value. The seized drug must be burned under the supervision of a judge. Judge Alfredo Burges is responsible for the Buenavista region. This afternoon he orders 62 sacks from the marihuana mountain on the barrack square to be weighed. They were seized from a 6-man gang at the lower reaches of the Magdalena River. The weight is precisely 1,020 kg, a little over a ton.

The expensive substance of which dreams are made is emptied on the ground to form a shallow mound, gasoline poured over it and the gasoline lit. Black smoke rises to the sky, visible from far away--"a million dollar joint." The east wind blows the smoke over our heads, across the countryside and toward the blue Santa Marta range on the slopes of which the marihuana was originally grown.

The sweetish fragrance clings to clothing and hair for many days. Cognoscenti smell it at once. Before the journey home a couple approaches me at Bogota airport. The young man looks furtively around--his pretty companion has something for sale. She asks: "Marihuana, mister?"

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COLOMBIA

DRUG WAR HEAVY BURDEN FOR ARMY

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 19 Mar 79 p 1-A, 8-A

[Text] The army cannot continue to make the tremendous outlays which it has had to pay to underwrite the campaign against the trafficking of marihuana and other narcotics. This was the conclusion reached during a meeting in La Guajira of a group of Colombian and U.S. officers.

50 Million Pesos

According to reports on the subject, the Colombian Army invested 50 million pesos last year, while American aid only amounted to 1 million pesos, including the cost of some obsolete radars which were installed in that region of the country. They have been abandoned for some time, because the American technicians in charge of them decided to leave, stating that the climate did not suit them.

The same sources added that on vehicle parts alone the army has spent 12 million pesos, and that the cost of the other items such as fuel, food for troops, etc. was too heavy a burden, and could not continue.

Meager Offer

The Colombian officers proposed an increase in U.S. aid, and it was reported that all they got was an offer of a total of 2 million pesos. That amount is in contrast to the 50 million pesos the army has spent to date.

It was also revealed that of the 400 vehicles seized in La Guajira from drug traffickers and smugglers, only 15 have been legally turned over to the army to supplement the transportation equipment, while the rest have been frozen during the corresponding investigations.

The transportation situation is so serious that the troops have to mobilize on some occasions in seized vehicles which still bear Venezuelan license plates, while the vehicles that are property of the Colombian Government are being used so heavily that they are being worn out.

As was stated earlier, when the Colombian Army asked for 50 million pesos in aid from the U.S. Government in order to continue the campaign, the American representatives only offered 2 million. They also wanted the troops of the Seventh Brigade, headquartered in Villavicencio, to be committed to a series of operations similar to those carried out in La Guajira for the purpose of controlling drug trafficking in this region of the country.

It was learned that during the important meeting, officers of the Colombian Air Force and Navy also participated. The former indicated that they could not continue to play a role in the campaign because the planes were being used too heavily in the continuous operations, and that the costs of fuel and maintenance were enormous. The representatives of the air force proposed that the U.S. Government provide planes of the same type as those that are currently in operation, and that in return they would supply the crews that are indispensable for the operation of the planes. Apparently that proposal was also rejected, which could have a long-term effect involving a decline in anti-drug trafficking activities.

The naval officers who were present at the meeting also mentioned the high costs of operating the ships, and the difficulties that have arisen because of economic factors.

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COLOMBIA

DRUGS, TRAFFICKERS SEIZED IN MAGDALENA

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 21 Mar 79 p 1-A, 5-A

[Article by Ulilo Acevedo Silva]

[Text] Santa Marta, 20 March--A heavy blow was dealt to the drug trafficking bands in the department of Magdalena and the Atlantic Coast in general by troops of the Number 5 Cordoba Battalion here. The troops seized a shipment of marihuana weighing more than 35 tons, which was to be "exported" by sea through the bay known as Villa Concha, only 30 minutes from the city of Santa Marta. During the operation, 16 persons were arrested, among them three "top bananas" of drug trafficking in this part of the country, using the words of the military authorities of this department.

"The operation is unprecedented in this year's struggle against the drug traffickers. It yielded very good results, considering that the action was undertaken by a patrol that had been following through on some investigations to find the shipment of a valuable load of marihuana," said a high-ranking military spokesman of the Santa Marta Cordoba Battalion, in a statement to EL ESPECTADOR.

Villa Concha

The marihuana was to be taken out through Villa Concha by canoe, then to be transported to a large ship that was anchored a few miles off shore. The army could not arrest any of the people in the canoes during the operation. It was those people who warned the ship of the army's presence, causing it to withdraw and leave the territorial waters of Colombia before it could be detected by any Colombian naval destroyer.

Due to the absolute secrecy maintained by the military authorities of Magdalena with regard to this seizure, it has still not been established whether the marihuana confiscated was more than the 35 tons originally mentioned, or whether it is true that millions in cash were also seized, a sum that was to be used for bribing authorities.

No Details

The command of the Number 5 Cordoba Battalion has refused to give any details about the results of the operation, which were termed by the same military spokesman as "extraordinary."

On the other hand, EL ESPECTADOR was able to confirm that the marihuana seized by the army was in compressed form, and was brought in its entirety to the military headquarters of the Cordoba Battalion on three trucks. The trucks had been used by the drug traffickers to transport the weed to Villa Concha for its illegal exportation.

Sixteen Arrested

The military spokesman also stated that 16 persons were arrested during the action, and among them were three chiefs or "top bananas" of drug trafficking. One of them was apparently from Barranquilla, and two from Santa Marta.

The names of these persons, whom the army itself termed "top bananas" and "V.I.P.s" of drug trafficking in this part of the country, have not been revealed to the press, for undisclosed reasons. All those arrested are under military custody in this department, and are being held incommunicado at the Cordoba Battalion in Santa Marta.

Department of the Interior

The secretary of the interior of the department of Magdalena, Dr Carlos Florez de Aguas, when asked by EL ESPECTADOR about this army operation, said that "we heard about the operation over the radio, but as of 1230 hours today (yesterday) the Cordoba Battalion has not communicated with this office about the action, nor has it turned the arrested people over to the government."

He repeated that the battalion has 24 hours from the moment the persons were arrested to place them in government custody, in accordance with the latest rulings by the government in the struggle against drug trafficking.

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COLOMBIA

COCAINE, MARIJUANA, BOLIVIANS SEIZED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 21 Mar 79 p 6-A

[Article by Angel Romero]

[Text] Cali, 20 March--Authorities in the Valle del Cauca dealt two severe blows to drug traffickers today when they seized more than 80 million pesos worth of cocaine and marijuana.

The first attack took place at Palmaseca Airport, as three Bolivians were getting off a Lloyd plane of a Bolivian airline with a million-peso cocaine shipment.

The Bolivians had four suitcases with false bottoms in which they carried 40 kilos of high-grade cocaine.

Arrested were Nancy Duran Cadena, Isabel Consuelo Raynel and Leonel de Jesus Gaviria. They arrived with three children, who were placed in the custody of the staff of the Family Welfare department of the police.

Authorities indicated that the cocaine shipment was worth 80 million pesos.

The cocaine was being brought to Cali so that it could be processed in clandestine laboratories operating in this city. Later it was to be sent to the United States.

Buenaventura

In Buenaventura, police made another assault against the drug mafia.

On board the Greek ship "Golden Panaqui," 75 kilos of marijuana were seized.

The grass was packed in seven bales, and its value was estimated at over a million pesos.

The marijuana was loaded onto the ship from a small boat when the Greek cargo ship was moored at buoy number 13.

Port authorities arrested the captain and other crew members of the Greek ship, who were Greeks and Italians.

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COLOMBIA

TRAFFICKER ARRESTS: 44 IN A WEEK

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 19 Mar 79 p 2

[Text] In the course of the operations that are being carried out on the Atlantic Coast in order to combat drug trafficking, 44 persons were arrested in the last week, along with 347 bales of marihuana and various types of vehicles, reported the Ministry of Defense today.

Of the arrested people, 40 are Colombian and 4 are foreigners. Two ships, a small plane and five automobiles were also seized, along with short- and long-range weapons.

Between 9 and 17 March, the report states, the following operations were undertaken by authorities:

On 1 March, at the Santa Marta Airport, a small airplane registered as M-7116K, from the United States was seized, with a crew on board.

On 1 March at Media Luna in the municipality of Maicao, an F 350 pick-up truck and a pumping engine were seized.

On 11 March at Urraise, in the municipality of Uribia, an F-301 truck was discovered to be carrying 46 bales of marihuana.

On 12 March, at Cabo de la Vela, the boat "Chata One" was seized. The English vessel had eight crew members on board, three Venezuelans and five Colombians.

On 12 March in San Juan, eight persons were arrested with four bales of marihuana and short-range weapons.

On 13 March in Las Flores an F350 truck which had been carrying 39 bales of marihuana, two pumping engines and eight containers of fuel, was seized.

On 13 March, in Zamorano, municipality of San Juan, ten persons were arrested and six bales of marihuana and a revolver were confiscated.

On 14 March in Roches, municipality of Barranca, 48 bales of marihuana were seized.

On 15 March, in a search of a residence in Barranquilla, six persons were arrested with short- and long-range weapons and a large amount of ammunition.

On 15 March, in another search of a residence in the same city, three persons were arrested for possession of a submachine gun, a rifle, a shotgun and a dozen revolver butts.

On 15 March in Palomino, Guajira, 12 bales of marihuana were seized.

On 15 March on the road from Malcao to Pajaro, five persons were arrested for possession of 150 bales of marihuana, a '78 model truck, a Nissan Patrol camper and a VHF radio device.

These thirteen operations resulted in a total of 44 arrests, including four foreigners and 40 Colombians, nine long- and short-range weapons, five vehicles, an airplane, two boats, 401 rounds of ammunition of various types, and 347 bales of marihuana.

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COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

STANDARDS FOR DRUG TESTS--The Supreme Court of Justice issued a doctrine limiting the validity of examinations undertaken on drug samples, and stated that in no case can differences greater than one percent be presented, as in such cases the difference would be invalid. This important decision was made yesterday by the Penal Appeals Court, based on a study made by Judge Jose Maria Velasco Guerrero concerning the enforcement of the Anti-Narcotics Statute of Decree 1188 of 1974. The Supreme Court of Justice struck down the process followed against two alleged drug traffickers who were found with a large quantity of cocaine. Based on the opinion expressed by the professors at the Institute of Legal Medicine, which indicates that at no time can the purity of a drug vary by more than one percent and that a wider variation would be illogical, the Court decided that the process was invalid. In the indictment which led to the legal ruling, three different assessments of the purity of the cocaine had been given, ranging from 60 to 84 percent. The Supreme Court of Justice has nullified the process, and ordered that the tests be done again to determine the quality of the substance in question. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 15 Mar 79 p 3] 8926

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MEXICO

ARMY SEIZES TRAFFICKER AIRCRAFT

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 18 Feb 79 p A-27

[Article by Rafael Medina Cruz: "Army Seizes Four Narcotics Trafficker Planes, One Trafficker Dead"]

[Text] Agents of the Federal Judiciary police and army soldiers, assigned to the region of La Barranca del Cobre, Chihuahua, seized four small planes which were being used to transport marihuana to the United States, closed two clandestine air landing strips, and, in a confrontation with narcotics traffickers, killed one, wounded two and arrested another.

The confrontation began when the federal agents tried to prevent one of the planes from taking off and the traffickers aboard the craft began firing at the agents.

Rogelio Martinez Cornejo, the plane's pilot, died, Manuel Vazquez Trujillo and Guillermo Gutierrez Lugo were wounded, and Rogelio Arturo Reyes Estrada surrendered.

The planes initially seized were three Cessnas: one model 340, license XB-PRD; one model 206, license XA-DAR; and another of the same model, license XA-HUR.

Upon interrogation, the wounded men revealed that another aircraft was hidden under a covering of tree branches on the Milpillas ranch in Sierra Madre Occidental between the states of Sonora and Chihuahua.

At that location also, the agents were greeted by weapons fire, and it appears that the pilot fled.

Sacks of marihuana that was to be sold in the United States were found aboard the seized planes.

Those arrested named other accomplices.

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CSO: 5300

MEXICO

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS IN GUN BATTLE WITH POLICE

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 6 Mar 79 Sec B p 3

[Text] A tragic confrontation involving a gun battle between federal agents and drug traffickers took place on Sunday afternoon in the settlement known as El Venado, in San Luis Potosi, where the former shot to death three unidentified persons who were attempting to rescue a criminal ring that had been arrested because of its connections with the illegal drug business.

The foregoing was announced yesterday by the coordinator of the agencies of the Federal Public Ministry, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez.

Yesterday, the Federal Judicial Police, headed by Comdr Margarito Mendez Rico, were conducting careful investigations in order to establish the identity of the three men who were shot to death during the gun battle with the agents.

This all began with the arrest of Pedro Segundo Palomo, in a town near Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, who, upon being questioned, said that he had concealed a shipment of marihuana at the "El Pozo" farm in the municipality of Villa de Guadalupe, in San Luis Potosi.

Several federal agents detailed to Monterrey went to the aforementioned farm, where they seized 13 bags filled with marihuana, and 5 kilograms of seed.

At the same time, they arrested the brothers Manuel and Francisco Segundo Rodriguez, from whom they confiscated weapons and a vehicle.

The latter said that the grass in question was from a larger volume which they had harvested at the "El Refugio" farm in the municipality of El Venado, in San Luis Potosi, where the agents subsequently seized 7 more bags containing cannabis indica.

In that location, they arrested Higinio Arriaga Hernandez and Asuncion Amador Hernandez.

When the federal agents were on the road to Monterrey, upon passing El Venado, San Luis Potosi, they were intercepted by four individuals, three on horseback, and the fourth on foot, who were carrying weapons.

"We won't let you take them," shouted the unidentified men to the federal agents, who were simultaneously attacked by gunfire, and therefore were forced to return the assault.

During the shoot-out, two of the men riding on horseback and the individual who was walking were killed. They were not identified.

The federal agents were in serious difficulty, because they were about to be lynched by the residents of El Venado, who were attempting at any cost to prevent the presumed drug traffickers' being taken into custody. But, finally, they left the town and managed to reach Monterrey, where the investigations were continued yesterday.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

TRAFFICKERS ESCAPE FROM PRISON, SOLDIERS, GUARDS IMPLICATED

Three Flee Tijuana Penitentiary

Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 14 Mar 79 Sec A pp 3, 8

[Text] Tijuana--Three dangerous drug traffickers who were serving their sentences at the La Mesa penitentiary escaped sometime between the night of the day before yesterday and yesterday morning, according to a report from the prison warden himself, Leopoldo Carrasco.

Jaime Armando Hoyos Jaime, aged 21 and a native of Mexicali, Baja California; Juan Luzania Cirerol, aged 25 and a native of Nogales, Sonora; and David Anthony Brown, aged 34 and of British nationality, are the three inmates who managed to evade the state penitentiary guards and fled immediately.

According to the prison warden, the three escapees must have left by the door of the prison, because there were no tunnels nor holes in the walls. It was also considered almost impossible for them to have jumped over the barbed-wire fence, in view of the efficient surveillance that the army keeps over it.

Carrasco said that, at 1800 hours on the day before yesterday, the disappearance of the Englishman David Anthony Brown was noticed after the roll-call made at that time. An intensive search was made until 2100 hours and, when he could not be found, the Federal and State Judicial Police were notified, as were the federal public and local public ministries, of the escape.

A few hours later, at 0700 hours yesterday, the prison authorities discovered the disappearance of inmates Jaime Armando Hoyos Jaime and Juan Luzania Cirerol, likewise when the roll was called at that time. An assiduous search was made for them also, until 1000 hours; and, when they were not found, the federal and state judicial authorities were notified, and immediately began the necessary investigation.

As of last night, the commander of the State Judicial Police in this town, Marcelo Aguilera, claimed that, although there were several clues, he could not give any information on the matter until the probe of the case was completed.

The prison warden, for his part, said that he was certain that the judicial authorities would at any moment ascertain the manner in which the escape of these three inmates occurred, and that, in the event that any of the prison's workers or officials turned out to be involved in this matter, action would be taken with all the force of the law.

It was also announced that the escapees were confined to different cells that were rather far removed from one another; and hence it is difficult to imagine that they had agreed upon their intentions to escape. In fact, each one of the three fled on his own.

Also, up until the time when this article was being written, the police authorities responsible for pursuing the fugitives had not reported anything new, and confined themselves to stating laconically that they had clues, and that the escapees would surely be recaptured at any moment.

The Mexicali native, Jaime Armando Hoyos Jaime, was arrested by the Federal Judicial Police in Tecate for crimes against health, and entered the La Mesa penitentiary in June 1977, having recently been sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment.

Juan Luzania Cirerol was captured in the Federal District by the Federal Judicial Police, also for the same crime as the other two escapees had been, and he entered the La Mesa penitentiary in February 1977. He was serving a 6-year sentence.

Finally, David Anthony Brown was arrested for crimes against health, also by the Federal Judicial Police in this town; and he entered the La Mesa prison on 30 May 1978. The Englishman had been sentenced to a prison term of 5 years and 3 months.

Soldiers, Guards, Inmate Involved

Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 15 Mar 79 Sec A pp 3, 8

[Text] Tijuana--Six soldiers, two guards and one inmate are the individuals implicated in the escape of three drug traffickers from the La Mesa penitentiary which occurred on 11 March.

The foregoing was discovered after an exhaustive investigation by the State Judicial Police, who provided the details on the manner in which the escape took place at a press conference yesterday.

Gilberto Hurtado Rodriguez, Braulio Gonzalez Gonzalez, Benito Garcia Sierra, Agustin Ibarra Gonzalez, Guadalupe Echegaray Lara and Juan Leon Dominguez are the names of the soldiers who are suspected of having assisted the criminals in making their escape.

The guards who have also been accused of aiding in this escape are Abel Acosta and Manuel Leon; as well as the inmate in charge of taking the roll-call of the prisoners, Sixto Martin Bonilla.

According to the head of the State Judicial Police, Francisco Palau, the nine persons suspected of this escape helped the criminals to the same extent, by providing them with the rope on which they climbed the barb-wire on the eastern side of the prison, making their escape immediately and fleeing.

As has been reported in a timely manner with full details, the three fugitives are: David Anthony Brown, of British nationality, and the Mexicans Jaime Armando Hoyos Jaime and Juan Luzania Cirerol; concerning whom the state prosecutor, Alejandro Rosas Romandia, said at the aforementioned press conference: "Thus far, there have been no clues as to the whereabouts of these three escapees."

Odyssey of the Escape

According to the statements made at yesterday's press conference by both the prison warden, Leopoldo Carrasco, and the commander of the State Judicial Police's Second Sector, Marcelo Aguilera, the incidents occurred as follows:

Several days ago, using a perfectly devised plan, the three fugitives built a kind of rope ladder used to hang up the inmates' clothes, which was reinforced with pieces of wood.

The ladder remained hidden in a tub next to the eastern wall. The escapees took the ladder out through an opening in the tub, and extended it until it reached the hands of the soldiers guarding this part of the barbed-wire fence, who held it firmly so that the inmates could climb up and make their escape.

The first to escape was the Englishman David Anthony Brown, who fled at about dawn last Monday; and, a few minutes later, the Mexicans Jaime Armando Hoyos Jaime and Juan Luzania Cirerol did the same.

However, the inmate Sixto Martin Bonilla, who was responsible for the roll-call, did not report the disappearance of the Englishman Brown until 0800 hours on Monday; whereas the report of the disappearance of the two Mexicans was made the next day, that is, at 0800 hours on Tuesday.

The Investigation

When the State Judicial Police took charge of the pertinent investigation, they first discovered that the three inmates had not escaped through any tunnel or hole in the walls; because they found no evidence indicating that the escape had been made in this manner. There were only two alternatives remaining: the door at the entrance to the prison, or climbing over some of the barbed-wire fence.

However, the big clue came from the fact that the soldiers implicated in this escape began to absent themselves from work on that same Monday; and therefore, the police decided to make a search for the soldier Braulio Gonzalez Gonzalez, whom they found at the home of one of his sisters just as Braulio

was preparing to turn over \$7,500.20 to his sister, whereupon they immediately arrested him.

Braulio subsequently turned over another sum of money, making a total of \$9,200, which is the amount of cash that the police have managed to recover thus far.

This incident caused the authorities to assume that each of the nine suspects had been given \$10,000 by the escaped drug traffickers in exchange for allowing them to escape.

After Braulio's arrest, the police put two and two together and reached the conclusion that both the other five soldiers and the two guards, and the inmate responsible for the roll-call had participated in the escape of the three drug traffickers; and hence they proceeded to make the respective arrests.

At the end of the press conference, the authorities said that this was all they could report at the moment, since all the suspects were still being investigated, and that they could not add anything more until the probe was completed.

Federal or Military Penalty

Both the prosecutor, Alejandro Rosas Romandia and Col Mario Bernal Castillo of the Fifth Infantry Battalion agreed in the statement that, in the case of the six soldiers, they might be subject not only to the penalties stipulated in the federal penal code, but also to those of a military type.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

TRUCKLOAD OF MARIHUANA, COCAINE CONFISCATED

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 17 Mar 79 Sec B p 7

[Text] An individual managed to escape the action of the federal agents who had set up an inspection post on the highway between Reynosa and Monterrey, Nuevo Leon; but he had to abandon a shipment of marihuana that he was taking to the Tamaulipas border.

At dawn yesterday, the federal agents seized over a ton of marihuana. The harmful shipment was being driven to the town of Reynosa, Tamaulipas, where the pertinent investigations are being continued.

The agency for coordination of the antidrug campaign in the northeastern zone was notified yesterday of the blow dealt by the federal police assigned to the office of the federal prosecutor in Reynosa, Tamaulipas.

In their report, the federal police stated that, at dawn yesterday, they set up an inspection post on the Reynosa-Monterrey highway, and that, at a certain time, they noticed a trailer truck with license plates KP-9064 stopping, and its driver assuming a mysterious demeanor; and they therefore decided to check it.

Upon realizing that the federal police were approaching, the individual fled and left the trailer truck abandoned. In a special compartment, the federal agents discovered 1,017 kilograms of packed marihuana.

They Arrest Another Trafficker

The same federal agents in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, arrested Francisco Torres Alvarez, from whom they at first confiscated 130 kilograms of marihuana.

After being interrogated, the individual in question turned over another 22 kilograms of the same drug.

Cocaine Seized in Matamoros, Tamaulipas

A total of 225 grams of a white powder which was apparently cocaine was seized by federal agents in the port of Matamoros.

The drugs were confiscated from three individuals named Jesus Ramirez Galvan, Jose de Jesus Medrano and Francisco Garcia Limones, who were driving a 1963 Ford Fairlane car in which they were carrying the drugs.

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MEXICO

MARIHUANA, POPPY FIELDS DESTROYED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 18 Feb 79 p A-27

[Article by Gonzalo Gutierrez L.: "54 Marihuana and Poppy Fields in Sinaloa Destroyed by Army"]

[Text] Mazatlan, Sin., 19 Feb--Federal agents and soldiers have, in the last 15 days, destroyed 54 marihuana and poppy fields, totaling 10 hectares, in various townships of the province. Six persons are under arrest.

Attorney Juan Jose Flores Mendellin, agent of the Federal Public Ministry, stated that the campaign had been terrestrial as well as aerial.

Those arrested are: Antonio Lopez, Victor Manuel Morales, Teofilo Noriega Canero, Aurelio Quintero Rodriguez, Macario Guevara Beltran, and Benjamin Ramos Gonzales.

The official explained that it is becoming increasingly difficult to locate the marihuana and poppy fields because they are situated in inaccessible places.

In conclusion, he said that this campaign is part of Operation Condor which is being carried out in Sinaloa and "which will not cease despite the death threats that have been issued by the narcotics traffickers of the province."

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CSO: 5300

MEXICO

BRIEFS

HEROIN PROCESSING LABORATORY--Mexico City, 7 March--In the town of Durango, the Federal Judicial Police discovered a laboratory for processing heroin in which a large portion of the poppy crops planted in Sinaloa was presumably being processed. In addition to the discovery of the laboratory they found on the site 1 and three quarters of a kilogram of heroin processed in that laboratory, the value of which was \$210,000 on the international drug trafficking market. Also confiscated were spoons, weighing devices and other laboratory implements, as well as 3 liters of anhydrous acid, 2 kilograms of ammonia and 1 kilogram of "cut," a white powder for processing heroin, with which they were engaged in converting the poppies into heroin through a chemical process. Arrested and accused of crimes against health were Alfredo Garcia Aguirre, Jose Mariano Salazar Villa, Jorge Murillo Leal and Jose Urzeta Garcia, all of whom were purchasing opium and selling heroin. At the time of the capture, Jose Mariano Salazar Villa attempted to put up resistance, but thanks to the suddenness of the federal police raid he was overcome without having an opportunity to pull the trigger of a 9-millimeter Colt automatic. In another area, it was also announced that the aviation services of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic located two clandestine landing strips for airplanes, one in Oaxaca and the other in Jalisco. In the first flight over the landing strip, it was spotted in the settlement of Zoquitán, in the state of Oaxaca, where a partially burned DC-3 plane was found, which contained traces of marihuana on the floor. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 8 Mar 79 Sec A p 5] 2909

MARIHUANA SEIZED IN CHIAPAS--The investigations begun in this town by the Federal Judicial Police ended with complete success, since, when the presumed drug trafficker, Benito Adame Luna, was arrested, he confessed that at the time of his capture he was seeking a customer to whom to sell 3 tons of marihuana which he had hidden in the Chiapas mountains. The agents went there and, in addition to confiscating the aforementioned drugs, they discovered and destroyed a huge cannabis indica plantation and, at the same time, captured two members of the ring headed by the individual in question. Filemon Bustos Bravo and Asael Lopez Rosas are the accomplices of Adame Luna. Other persons who are fugitives from justice, and the three aforementioned individuals had planted about 40 hectares of marihuana. During the investigation begun by federal agents under orders from Comdr Margarito Mendez

Rico, in this town, forces of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic detailed to Tuxtla, Gutierrez, also participated, as did several of that office's helicopters. The foregoing was announced yesterday by the agency of the Federal Public Ministry. It was on 9 March that federal agents arrested Benito Adame Luna on the highway between Mier and Monterrey, and he was closely questioned owing to his nervous, suspicious behavior. He said that, at the time, he was enroute to Ciudad Reynosa in search of a customer to whom to sell 3 tons of marihuana that he had stored in the Chiapas mountains, near Nuevo Guerrero, in the municipality of Acosingo. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 21 Mar 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

AIRCRAFT WITH MARIHUANA FOUND--On Saturday afternoon, the federal agents detailed to the town of Saltillo, Coahuila, located on a site known as "La Laguna del Rey," situated 300 kilometers from Monclova, Coahuila, a "Boehecrafft" two-engine plane which contained a shipment of marihuana that was unquestionably to be carried to the United States. Yesterday morning, the agency of the Federal Public Ministry announced the confiscation of the small plane, which is being subjected to careful investigation by the federal police. It was reported by the agency for coordination of the antidrug campaign that, on Saturday afternoon, the federal police were making an inspection tour in the Monclova area; and, upon arriving at "La Laguna del Rey," they found the apparently abandoned plane, and upon searching the inside of it, they discovered a shipment of about 750 kilograms of select marihuana. The federal agents took the aircraft to the town of Saltillo, Coahuila, and reported the incident to the agency of the Public Ministry there. On the same Saturday, two arrest warrants were executed in this border port and in Sultana del Norte. The federal police in Monterrey reported that they had complied with the arrest warrant issued against Gustavo Arriaga Caballero, for a crime against health. Two suits were pending against him. Here in Nuevo Laredo, Julian Garcia Arredondo, who was wanted by the third district judge for a crime against health, was captured. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 13 Mar 79 Sec B p 7] 2909

OFFICIALS VIEW MARIHUANA BURNING--Yesterday, 3 tons of marihuana were destroyed in the presence of the coordinator of the antidrug campaign in the northeastern zone, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez; the commander of the local military garrison, Gen Mario Murillo Morales; the director of the health center, Dr Eduardo Takasita Elizondo; federal prosecutors Nicolas Martinez Cerda, Luis Esteban Garcia Villalon and Jaime Eugenio Torres Espinoza; and representatives from the district courts. According to the officials, the large amount of drugs incinerated were the result of the recent blows dealt by the Federal Judicial Police under orders from Comdr Margarito Mendez Rico. The federal and health authorities proceeded to destroy the diabolical grass at exactly 1430 hours, on the grounds of the "General Macario Zamora" Military Headquarters. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 14 Mar 79 Sec B p 7] 2909

CSO: 5330

PANAMA

BRIEFS

DRUG INCINERATION--More than 1 million balboas in drugs were publicly incinerated this morning. Some 197 kg of marihuana and 29 kg of cocaine seized from drug smugglers over a period of 8 months by Panamanian authorities were burned today. All the cocaine was destined for the United States. Most of the marihuana came from Colombia. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 5 Apr 79 PA]

METHAQUALONE SEIZURE--The Finance Ministry's narcotics agents arrested Colombians Palmiro Jose Valenzuela and Alvaro Alvarez Garcia at Tocumen International Airport this morning and seized two bags containing 20,000 tablets of methaqualone, a hypnotic sedative. The value of the methaqualone was estimated at \$40,000 at street prices. The traffickers also had 2 grams of cocaine, valued at \$1,500. The methaqualone is also known by the commercial name of Qualude. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 6 Apr 79 PA]

CSO: 5300

URUGUAY

DANGER OF OBSCURE MEDICATIONS POINTED OUT

Montevideo LA MANANA in Spanish 21 Feb 79 p 4

[Editorial on unscrupulous physicians and pharmacists]

[Text] Once it was made public that a pharmacist who retailed presumably slimming substances (produced by mixing narcotics and medication residues) would be prosecuted, LA MANANA thought it essential to continue investigating the case thoroughly until it could be explained in all its possible ramifications.

We established then our position by pointing to the seriousness of the maneuver discovered by the police; according to the investigators themselves the concoction sold by the unscrupulous merchant had almost caused the death of one person.

From the outset it was learned--from the same sources--that there were two others involved: both foreign physicians who were writing the prescriptions filled by the pharmacist. The scheme had allowed the members of this triangle to profit comfortably at the expense of tens of credulous patients.

The group's large profit in itself would not be reproachable had it not come from the prescription of psuedotreatments capable of causing severe harm to the health of those who received it.

Hence, we now consider suitable the decision adopted yesterday by the appropriate court, which ordered the prosecution of one of the implicated physicians by charging him under the provisions of Law No 14.292 and Decree No 454 of 20 July 1976, while the other was charged with smuggling. If prosecution was instituted, it was because the investigations went beyond the first stage of the affair, with the technical cooperation of the Ministry of Public Health, and in this way it was possible to establish the common responsibility of these two professionals.

Investigations revealed the existence of a direct link between the pharmacist and the doctors, as well as the fact that the "raw material" for the tablets in question was illegally brought into the country from Argentina.

The speedy handling of this case and its results can set an example in the sense of discouraging any imitators of the trio that was sent to prison. The understandable anxiety of the human being to solve his physical--as well as psychological--problems favors the appearance of swindlers of all kinds whose thoughtless action on the fringe of a truly scientific endorsement can produce irreparable damage. This cannot be allowed; it must be penalized with all the severity of the law. This is the way in which the officials have understood it, taking suitable action.

9341
CSO: 5300

ALGERIA

BRIEFS

FOUR ITALIANS SENTENCED--In Algeria Alvare Moscatelli, a 32-year old Roman resident of 26 Via delle Giunchiglie, has received a 4-year jail sentence for attempted narcotics smuggling. Moscatelli was arrested during November in Mghabia, near the border between Algeria and Morocco. There was another Roman with him, 22-year old Filippo Malacrino of 161 Via di Torre Spaccata, who was acquitted in the trial. The Moscatelli case is now being examined by the Italian Embassy in Algeria and its officials are studying the possibility of requesting extradition of the jailed man, who is now being held in the Oran prison. This is not the first time that Algerian authorities have imposed severe sentences on youths found to be in possession of drugs. During December two other Italians, both from Siracusa, were arrested and summarily sentenced. They were 19-year old Giovanni Briffa and 29-year old Carmelo Piselli; they are still being held in Oran.
[Excerpt] [Rome PAESE SERA in Italian 2 Feb 79 p 8] 7964

CSO: 5300

MAURITIUS

INCREASED USE OF DRUGS ALLEGED

Port Louis LE PEUPLE in French 2 Mar 79 p 2

[Article by Jack Bizlall: "When Opium Becomes a Weapon"]

[Text] Mauritius Island, third world country, exploited in the most aggressive manner by the colonialist powers, has become since independence a focal point in the traffic of drugs. Drugs are sold with the knowledge of the authorities. They are consumed in large quantities by the population of the countryside as well as in the city, and its victims are numerous. The commercial aspect exists behind the drugs--as is evidenced by the enormous profits reaped by the traffickers to the detriment of the health of the total population--however, the political aspect must not be ignored. This is, no doubt, the most important fact, since it is indeed these political considerations which prevent the authorities from taking adequate measures against the drug traffickers.

Who in Mauritius does not know where to purchase drugs. Almost all the traffickers have absolute freedom. If one could be sure of the support of the authorities a list of the hotels, restaurants, pharmacies and opium dens could be published. Recently a war was waged between the important monopolies and the small traffickers which allowed the police to act severely, but who will be bold enough to attack personalities notorious in drug trafficking. It will be said that corruption exists in Mauritius to the extent that everything can be bought especially silence and protection. This is quite true, however, if we have a State Security Service which is aware of everything that goes on, from the movements of a trade unionist to private meetings held by political parties, workers, students, etc, one cannot believe that corruption is so widespread that a report could not have been submitted to the proper authorities. No, secret support exists behind these import organizations and distributors of the drugs.

Especially since independence the workers have again brought up the question of the present system. Conscious of their exploitation in the factory as in the fields, the workers have on several occasions rocked the foundation of local and international capitalism in Mauritius. It was necessary for

some to find the means to restrain this revolutionary march, all the more so due to the accelerated economic crisis; demands for wages are numerous and unemployment is rising. The authorities found that the young who constitute the vanguard of the working class, are eager for change and that it was necessary to engage this power at all costs against which beautiful promises, communal conditionality, anti-communist language were not effective. These young people have their weaknesses, but unfortunately they turn to Europe to draw their inspirations. Therefore, the ideal arms for this regime are found in drugs, prostitution in the context of sexual liberation, pornography under all its forms. In short, these are the only weapons used to divert the attention of the workers from the problems of a political, social and economic order.

Who does not remember how England lulled China to sleep. Opium imported from India was sold cheaply and in great quantity in China. And China at that time, divided and under the domination of a capitalistic power, found itself in an exploited position. The population comprised of tens of millions of people, fell asleep. It could not face reality, nor could it awake in order to contend with its enemies. Who does not know that in America blacks are literally drugged for the purpose of eliminating all resistance. Who is not aware of the American government's tactics which aim to group all the blacks in specific regions and feed them drugs. Harlem is an example among others.

The island of Mauritius finds itself in the same situation today. Chemical drugs are even sold in the pharmacies. Opium is available to everyone. It is relatively much cheaper than gandia. Smoking dens are growing like mushrooms. In Rose-Hilli, for example, there are at least 12 smoking-dens, without counting the many "solitaires" who are equipped for those who wish to get drugged in groups. Who does not know that in Barkly City there have been many young drug victims. To fight a workers' mobilization all that is necessary is to silence them through drugs. It is useless to present petitions since those who encourage the proliferation of drugs are very powerful.

It is time for the unions to take a position against drugs and to mobilize against the distributors who are well-known to us. It will be necessary, no doubt, to count on our own means to fight against a dangerous enemy, but it is of the utmost importance to strike a decisive blow against these criminals in order to make it possible for the workers' struggle to continue.

7993
CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

GOVERNMENT REPORT GIVES FIGURES ON DRUG USE

West Berlin DER TAGESSPIEGEL in German 18 Mar 79 p 33

[Text] Bonn--A shift in the drug scene is becoming evident: the majority of new drug users are not young people but, increasingly, adults. A report submitted to the Bundestag Interior Committee further indicates that there are 35,000-40,000 drug users in the FRG. During the past year there were 400 drug-related deaths; 260 of the victims were in the 18-25-year age group. The total number of drug violations was 42,500.

In spite of considerable success by police and customs in confiscating drugs, the illegal trade remains well supplied. The report states that in view of political conditions and local factors it is virtually impossible to control drug activities in the originating countries. Greater success may be possible by close cooperation with the transit countries. Turkish citizens appear to be most active in drug smuggling and trading. Competent authorities are currently engaged in instituting measures designed to control use and smuggling. The most important objective, according to the report, is to save young people from being absorbed into the drug scene. The FRG Criminal Justice Department believes that legal provisions for the prosecution and punishment of drug violators are adequate.

9273

CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

INCREASED VIOLENCE IN DRUG SCENE REPORTED

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 12 Mar 79 pp 104, 107, 108, 111

[Article: "The Drug Scene--'Just Like in the Jungle'; Drug-Connected Crime Has Become More Violent"]

[Text] The methods in the drug market are becoming increasingly violent. In the hunt for the stuff, fixers and dealers do not even shy away from murder. Even the big-shots of the heroin trade, out of fear, now resort more quickly to arms or contract killers. The authorities are afraid the situation will become the same as in the United States.

Playing billiards at the "Europa" on Kaiserstrasse in Frankfurt, a Turkish heroin dealer suddenly felt something sharp pressing against his back. "Come outside!" With a "Profi" knife, three Jordanians pushed the man down the stairs, across the street to the "Ankara" restaurant and then into a taxi. In their apartment in the Nordend, they put the kidnapped man on a chair.

One "beat me in the face, kicked me in the head, and I was bleeding," the Turk recalls. Another, he says, threatened: "You Turkish swine! I'll throw you into the Main." The Arabs were paying him back for having cheated them in a deal: for DM 3,500 they had received 50 grams of pure powdered sugar instead of heroin.

From a meeting with a dealer at Stadtbad Mitte, at noon a couple of black U.S. soldiers ran down Hochstrasse, with a juvenile fixer in pursuit. In front of 12 Eschersheimer Landstrasse, an open fight started, now three against four.

The GI's defended themselves with knives. One pursuer, according to the police report, pulled "an air pistol from a newspaper he was carrying" and fired "several shots at one of the blacks, who was already lying on the ground." The cause of the dispute: During the drug deal, the Americans

had pulled a wallet with DM 550 from a dealer's pocket.

At Rathenauplatz in the center of town, the Jordanian Habib Saliba started his yellow Porsche after midnight. At that moment a man ran toward the car, fired twice through the windshield and fled. Saliba, according to passers-by, got out of "the still moving car and after a few meters collapsed on the road."

One of the two bullets had hit the Jordanian in the tip of his lung and killed him. A 32-year-old countryman of his, who had organized a profitable barter business together with Saliba between Frankfurt and the Middle East, came under suspicion. "Cars one way, drugs the other way" is how a police spokesman described the crooked traffic; and presumably Saliba had cheated.

There has been more and more of it in Frankfurt in the past few months--vengeance executed in the open, plunder in the middle of the day. The drug business has acquired a new criminal dimension on the Main.

The victims are no longer only the consumers; whoever sells the stuff is also exposed to danger. "The greatest enemy of the dealer is the dealer himself," says Chief Commissioner Peter Loos of the Frankfurt drug department. "The former code of honor not to hurt one another is no longer in force."

The times are past when the joint made the rounds peacefully among drug consumers, when a portion of heroin was divided up altruistically in fixer communities. In the chase for the next shot, impoverished addicts now do not necessarily shy away from using a knife.

On the basis of statistics about acts of violence committed by drug addicts and dealers in the past year, Chief Commissioner Loos fears that "we will soon have a situation here like the one in the United States," where drugs play a part in almost half of all armed acts of violence.

But crime is intensifying also among the men behind the scenes of the drug business. Murder is committed to get even when one of one's own people is unmasked as a traitor or when people one does business with disobey the rules of the trade. After "jealousy, hatred and envy," notes Frankfurt Chief Commissioner Gerd Hoffmann, "there is a new motive for murder--drugs."

The cautious managers who built the network of trade for the distribution of heroin in the beginning of the seventies have had to clear the field. They were textile importers who partitioned themselves off well from their buyers, or former arms dealers who had always made it a point not to take a gun along to meetings in which deals were closed.

These were pushed out by karate fighters and dealers in stolen cars, underground people of every stripe. The market, guaranteeing big profit margins, was occupied by Turks carrying guns if only to demonstrate their virility,

and also Africans, for whom imprisonment--figured to be part of an activity entailing violence--as a heroin dealer wrote home to Nigeria, felt "like being in a hotel."

The manner in which self-administered justice is meted out has been revealed in a drug trial in Frankfurt. In the proceedings against a ring of international karateists and judoists which, with headquarters in Frankfurt, made millions shipping the basic substance "ergotamine tartrate" for manufacturing LSD to the United States, an agent infiltrated as a judoist described the rough customs.

The former Dutch karate trainer Johannes Cornelius Bluming, the witness claimed, had "put 40,000 guilders" on his head. And now he was one of the hunted. Contract killers had already liquidated five members and accessories. Whatever his testimony may be worth, one man has already been found murdered--courier Lee Frickstadt Hassler from Hannover, in a ditch in northern California with a couple of bullets in his head.

The criminal element now being revealed in Frankfurt is also already part of the repertoire in other drug scenes on FRG territory. From Koblenz, for instance, addicts went on raids all the way to Cologne and Duesseldorf. In fixer districts, it has now come out in a trial before the Regional Court of Koblenz, they would lure dealers into their car, take the stuff away from them at gunpoint and then speed away again.

U.S. soldiers are playing their part in contributing to the rough ways among drug criminals particularly in Frankfurt. After the end of the war, GI's with hard dollars revved up prostitution and through heavy demand laid the ground for the drug market--and now the weakness of the U.S. currency is driving them into raids into the districts. "At night they come down and cut down everyone," says Chief Commissioner Loos.

For instance, the 32-year-old dealer whom a black attacked in Schillerstrasse, sticking a knife between his ribs. Perhaps the dealer, Loos says, had "hawked questionable merchandise;" or perhaps the customer simply did not want to pay.

Sometimes murder is committed for one dose of heroin. A couple of U.S. soldiers stationed in Giessen drove to Frankfurt to supply themselves with the stuff. After a traffic accident, according to witnesses, they hid their guns behind an advertising pillar before the police arrived. When the police had left, they retrieved their arms.

According to investigations, the two blacks had equipped themselves for a meeting with their countryman Ron David Stuart, who had been discharged from the army because he had dealt in dope and thereafter was supplying his old comrades from Frankfurt as a civilian. On the Eschenheim grounds, while negotiating under cover of the bushes, Stuart was shot and killed.

Behind the walls of the U.S. barracks between Giessen and Heidelberg, Hanau and Geinhausen, personnel has long since been drilling in what is then executed in Frankfurt--killings and knifing. According to NCO Steve Newton, on the U.S. base of Drexheim, for example, where the amount of personnel dead from drugs, armed fights and murder threats increased considerably last year, "it is all like in a jungle," with "everything being somehow connected with drugs."

When Newton reported that three soldiers planned to avenge themselves on a GI who had stolen some drugs from them, the NCO himself found himself in the line of fire. "They threatened to kill me," reported Newton; somebody had secretly tampered with the brakes of his car.

When soldiers of the Drexheim type then scour the market in Frankfurt, they often do not pay. Even the toughest fixers only hesitantly take action to defend their interests, and "almost always are the victims" (according to Loos).

Even "Boxer Jimmy," who before his addiction had done well in the Hesse championship fights, was not meting out any blows any longer. The great big fellow, who had a few packages of heroin stolen from him, instead got himself a pawn: he took the thieves' jackets and watches, to be redeemed on returning the stuff.

Things looked peaceful when in the mid-seventies Africans started operating on the market in Frankfurt. They built a new drug route from West Africa to Germany on which they smuggled marijuana to the Main.

The Nigerians and Ghanaians of the Yoruba and Ashanti tribes, who sometimes had entered the country as "Prince of Ivbliolu Luku Ishan Sunday Kingley" or had changed name and passport up to 20 times, quickly acquired a new field of activity for themselves. They soon served as contact men between Turkish heroin importers and American consumers. They attracted addicted prostitutes with their charm and elegance.

The whores paid for the pleasant contact with willing service in the transport of heroin. "Chris" would carry a couple of ounces on her body for "Andy" during a train trip; "Gypsy" would smuggle 5 grams in her wig for her "Ola" into the Butzbach House of Correction.

The love relationship notwithstanding, even the gregarious Africans evidently were unyielding when it was a question of business. When they arrested a Nigerian heroin dealer, narcotic agents confiscated some letters which kept mentioning the "dying" of some people--possibly providing clues for a couple of deaths as yet unsolved:

--The Ghanaian Edwina Quansah in 1974 had fallen from a window of the 10th floor of the Arabella Hotel in Frankfurt. In her room the police found a slit-open suitcase. Next door lived some countrymen who were known to the police as narcotic dealers.

--The American John Paul, indicted in Frankfurt for a swindle involving millions, lost his life shortly before his trial was scheduled to begin--"because of poor health," according to a companion of Paul's, an African drug dealer. "Shot and killed in Accra," according to the Nigerian authorities.

According to Frankfurt prosecuting attorney Harald Koerner, who explains how difficult the investigative work is, whenever African or Chinese drug bosses got rid of someone they would steal "around the corner like Mack the Knife." On the Main, Turks and Arabs now take care of this openly Middle Eastern way.

At the "Rio Bar" in the railway station district, a Jordanian stabbed a countryman in the shoulder within full view of the customers. Cheating in a heroin deal was also the reason why in Offenbach several Middle Easterners attacked one another with switchblades and a clothes rail.

And "because they are now working with harder bandages at the base," Chief Commissioner Loos says, explaining the escalation of violence, "the wholesale dealer too is more apt to carry a weapon," because he too has to figure "that he may be ripped."

It was with suspicion that a couple of Turks met beginning of January at the discotheque "Number One" in Grosse Friedberger Strasse. According to witnesses, Omer Boynikiglu and "Toni" got into a fight over a MD 80,000 drug deal, which they conducted quickly in a backroom. "Toni" pulled a gun and shot Boynikoglu twice, leaving him seriously wounded on the floor.

The quick draw is also making Frankfurt narcotic agents nervous. When prosecuting attorney Wilfried Degenhardt, with 2 per mill of alcohol in his blood, felt that he was being followed in the Lorey Passage recently by a couple of people, he immediately pulled out his official gun.

The two surprised men, who themselves thoughts they were in danger of being mugged, pulled the gun away from the attorney and beat him up.

8790
CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

HEROIN RING IN WEST BERLIN BROKEN UP

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 3 Mar 79 p 7

[Text] Berlin, 1 Mar--The Berlin police, working together with customs, have broken up a ring of Turkish heroin smugglers and large-scale dealers in West Berlin. Between October 1978 and the end of February 1979, a total of 16 Turks were arrested. According to the findings of the narcotics investigators, between the autumn of 1977 and the autumn of 1978, at least 23 kilograms of heroin were smuggled from Turkey to West Berlin and sold in this city by the gang, as a spokesman announced on Thursday. This quantity of narcotics has a black market value of far more than 10 million marks. According to the information the police have, the apprehension of these gang members has rattled extensively the nerves of the large-scale heroin dealers in this city.

The large-scale heroin trade, in the judgment of the police and customs, is completely under Turkish control. The Turkish gangs of large-scale dealers have up to now supposed themselves to be invulnerable, since the top people in the drug scene hardly ever make an appearance. The sales are transacted via a dense network of small dealers and petty pushers. The narcotics are brought into West Berlin in train, airplane, and automobile trips from Turkey along different and varying routes, in part across the territory of the FRG and in part also by way of East Berlin.

12114
CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

HEROIN SEIZED, FIVE ARRESTED IN RUESSELSHEIM

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 16 Feb 79 p 18

[Text] Ruesselsheim--The criminal police of Ruesselsheim have seized some 3 1/2 kilograms of heroin with a market value of just under 1 million marks. It is the largest quantity of narcotics which they have been able to remove from circulation in recent months in the Rhine-Main area. The officers of the narcotics department arrested as dealers and consumers two women and three men, aged from 22 to 29 years old, who are being brought before the police-court judge. The heroin, which comes from Turkey, was packaged in 13 heavy plastic bags of 250 grams each, which were contained in a cloth bag. In the apartment where they found the "dope," the criminal police also confiscated an apothecaries' scale, which apparently was to be used for the packaging of "standard portions."

The apprehension of this quintet--residents of Ruesselsheim and Frankfurt as well as one woman who comes from the Odenwald area--was preceded by observations which were made over several months. On the basis of these, it was pretty clear to the police when the bringing in of the heroin was to be staged: The offenders, who could be classified as drug-dependent, were on the verge of getting themselves into a tight spot, and they apparently were afraid of suffering from withdrawal symptoms. Therefore, according to the criminal police, they planned to make this great coup in order to stock up for an extended period of time.

Those arrested--as the investigations showed--have without exception switched over to this hard drug by way of hashish. A role was also played in this by a Turk who had at first kept the five persons supplied to their satisfaction, and in a relatively short time had brought them into a condition of dependence.

Despite this fresh success on the drug scene--only a few days ago about 500 grams of heroin had been seized in Darmstadt--people connected with the Ruesselsheim police spoke merely of the "tip of an iceberg." Our extensively open borders have for a long time been inducing even small and medium-scale crooks to procure narcotics in foreign countries, which is relatively easy to do, and to smuggle them into the FRG. The Rhine-Main area is said to have thereby become a focal and pivotal point for this scene.

12114
CSO: 5300

63

ITALY

SIX ANTIDRUG PROPOSALS UNVEILED IN MILAN

Milan IL GIORNALE NUOVO in Italian 4 Feb 79 p 9

[Text] With six "practical proposals," the commune, region, province, school authorities, and the other public and private agencies involved in combating drugs, plan to fight the proliferation of narcotics here. The six proposals were unveiled yesterday by Mayor Tognoli, at a meeting at Palazzo Marino attended by Regional Welfare Inspector Peruzzotti, provincial councilmen Boioli and Begnis, city councilmen Sirtori and Cuomo, Chief Prosecutor Lapicciarella, school superintendent Tortoreto, Dr Portaccio from the Questura, Dr Pomodoro from Juvenile Court, Professor Pisapia of State University, and the field staff from the Antidrug Center, New Community, the Committee to Fight Drugs, and other agencies. The first proposal would make the specialized university institutes responsible for gathering data on the spread of the drug phenomenon in Milan. According to the Health Ministry, Mayor Tognoli recalled, in 1977 in all of Italy there were 2,538 people addicted to hard drugs, and around 800 of them were in Lombardy. "These figures are wholly out of touch with reality," said the mayor. One need only recall that over the same period, the Antidrug Center alone treated 1,500 drug addicts in Milan. The second proposal calls for setting up courses in health education (with particular emphasis on drugs) in the schools, working with the superintendent, and in factories (there are a lot of young workers addicted to drugs), working with the unions. Thirdly, the commune plans to coordinate and encourage all public and private efforts fighting drugs; for the time being there are no plans to set up a committee, but merely to hold regular meetings. The commune has earmarked 300 million lire from 1979 budget funds for the purpose. The fourth point has to do with urging the hospitals to take a decisive approach to the problem of treating addicts, who must be given care without being segregated any more than absolutely necessary. For runaway kids who often don't know where to find shelter and who are usually in the initial stages of drug use,

the commune intends to set up -- this is the fifth proposal -- hostels staffed with antidrug paramedical personnel. Finally, and this suggestion comes from the countries most advanced in the fight against drugs and from the experience of groups working in our country as well, for hardcore addicts "no longer capable of critical thought or will," there is a proposal to set up "sheltered" agricultural communities, where addicts would live and work in a state of partial isolation from the outside world.

6182
CSO: 5300

ITALY

JAILED DRUG ADDICTS LACK MEDICAL ATTENTION BUT NOT DRUGS

Rome L'UNITÀ in Italian 23 Feb 79 p 4

[Article by Giancarlo Angeloni]

[Text] Untreated addicts on a nonstop round trip from drugs to prison and back again. Hair-raising news reports: drugs in many prisons, lack of medical attention to addicted inmates underscore an intolerable situation; Trying alternative sentences; Talking to Giglia Tedesco.

Rome: How many drug addicts are in our prisons and jails? What sort of life do they live there? And how many of our children -- increasingly younger children -- are winding up in prison for minor offenses somehow connected with drug use? A comprehensive answer to those questions would be out of the question today. The best we can do on the truth about drug addiction, and about the problems connected with it, is to start picking up the ever-more-frequent warnings and "signals."

Anybody who has ever had a glimpse, no matter how fleeting, at the inside of a prison will have no trouble in surmising that the problem is most violent where there are denser concentrations of prison populations and where, as a consequence, rapport with a prisoner is more difficult, especially if he or she is an addict.

Communist Senator Giglia Tedesco, who recently inspected the women's section of Rome's Rebibbia prison, says: "Here, 20 percent of the inmates are being held on charges stemming from drugs: some are here for possession or distribution, but a lot are here for insulting and offending public officials, or for petty pilfering as a way to buy drugs. That is a very high proportion -- 20 percent, one person in every five. It is even higher, when you remember that, as a rule, women fall into the meshes of the law less often than men.

"Furthermore, drugs and prison are becoming increasingly two poles of the same sentence (of one single hell) that traps the addict in a spiral of sin, of violence, and often of arbitrary power; an individual in desperate need of care, not only will not find any adequate protection in prison because of this special condition, but precisely because of his or her vulnerability, may well serve months or even years of the cruellest and hardest kind of imprisonment, subjected as he often is to harassment, blackmail, or brutality.

"The world of drugs, too, has attracted attention for other facts, often of a totally different kind, which are uncertain and hard to explain: they range from picketing pushers to their physical liquidation, performed by dubious groups or "nuclei" who claim the right to deal out summary justice (even though it may be labelled "people's justice"); and from there to neighborhood demonstrations or files of addicts' mothers marching in front of a courthouse.

"The world of crime itself seems to be riddled today increasingly with these factors: the motivation for crime (and often for the most savage and vicious sort of crime) seems to affect young and often very young addicts.

"These are the dreadful facts we read about in the latest editions of the newspapers -- we have all read them: the case of the boy from the Roman 'borghetto' of Mandrione, a real casbah clinging to the walls of the Felice aqueduct) who fired on his mother and father with two rounds from a shotgun because they refused to give him money to buy drugs; the other two addicts who killed an office worker in a Roman trattoria just to rob him of 45,000 lire; the murder of an old man and his wife (aged 80 and 70), killed in their home on the fringe of the Roman countryside, by people who may have been acting under the influence of drugs. All they got from that crime was a paltry 300,000 lire.

"These are terrifying events which, precisely because of their ultimate finality, demand attention beyond the span of momentary recoil in horror. At this point, it no longer seems silly to worry over the conditions in which imprisoned addicts live, at the very moment when, outside those walls, other drug-crazed youngsters are committing more and equally bloody crimes.

"Let's take the case," Senator Tedesco goes on, "of the Mandrione kid: he shot his parents, but by luck he didn't kill them: but if he is taken to prison, what are they going to do with him? I am not saying, of course, that he ought not to be placed under court control, but the basic problem is to cure him of his addiction.

"No question about it," Giglia Tedesco goes on, "the main thing is to fight drugs and never to go near the prison gates, but if things go the other way, if the addict is imprisoned, then we must see to it that when he comes out of there he has been given practical support in breaking out of his addiction and his drug dependency; all this, of course, provided we still want to work on the basic assumption underlying prison reform, which is re-education.

"Today, in the vast majority of cases, it can be said that this concept is completely unheeded in Italian prisons. In many of them drugs circulate freely, creating new violence and begetting still more crime; there is vastly increased use of mood-altering drugs (it would even seem that in some cases prison doctors take the attitude of issuing prescriptions with extreme laxity); many addicts are deeply disturbed at having to be taken outside the prison, under escort, to get their maintenance allowance of methadone at public health clinics."

But that is not the worst of it, by a long shot. Let's go back and take a look at some of the newspaper stories. Around January 1978, Enzo Bullo, who was being held (in an isolation cell) in the Venice prison, killed himself during a withdrawal crisis; around the same time in Rome, another prisoner died of an overdose of drugs: that was Bruno Santini, who had obtained the drugs in the prison where he was being held (Regina Coeli). And when Giglia Tedesco and another communist senator, Generoso Petrello, raised a question on the floor to the Justice Minister, all they got was a very tardy answer from the undersecretary, asking "for more time to look into the backgrounds of all imprisoned addicts."

There is more. That same December, in Rebibbia, a 25-year-old man by the name of Claudio Randazzo hanged himself in his isolation cell; he had been imprisoned for possession of 3 grams of a drug; and in Genoa, just a month ago, another addict, 30-year-old Cosima Petracca, who had just been freed on probation, was found dead in her cell. Then there is the mind-boggling case of a Parma laborer, Antonio Montoro, 23, who was caught with 10 grams of hashish in his pocket, wound up first in jail and then in an asylum for the criminally insane; and there is the case of a young man being held in the Nuove prison in Turin for attempted auto theft, who was blindfolded with a pillowcase and beaten by ten men (was never treated for his injuries, but sent directly to an isolation cell) because he "knew too much" about the drug traffic.

It is these last several incidents in particular that lay the accent not only on prison as a place of treatment and recovery (which, as we can see, is a long way from what it is today), but also on the advisability of discarding prison terms in many cases in favor of alternative sentences. This is feasible, but even

more important, it is necessary, as the very high percentage of prisoners held in Rebibbia on minor charges, for example, goes to prove. Appellate Court Judge Ignazio Straniero is wrong, on this count, when (pursuing a line which fortunately has not many adherents on the bench) he decided to attack, in his opening report for the court year, decriminalization of possession of small amounts of narcotics for personal use, arguing in favor of measures that would keep addicts from becoming "carriers of contagion."

We all know full well that decriminalization is not enough, and one proof of that is the fact that many addicts come to grief with the law for other reasons. But we are certainly not going to achieve, by moving backward, a cure for addiction, which is the only true goal worth pursuing. Among the numerous changes that ought to be made in our penal system there is one legislative tool ready to hand that offers an initial solution: it is a bill already passed in the House and now before the Senate, and which deals with alternative penalties to jail terms for minor offenses falling within the discretion of the local magistrates (pretors) when the sentence handed down by the court is 6 months or less. It is a bill that is not designed expressly for application to drug addicts, but it offers a brand new chance to the magistrate for avoiding imprisoning a drug addict who, precisely because of his dependency, is more liable to commit a whole string of minor offenses against property. In this sense, too, perhaps, we can indirectly approach the work of healing by preventing, avoiding prison, which too often today is a place of violence and brutality, never one of care and treatment.

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ITALY

DRUGS CONCEALED IN POSTCARDS, HOLLOW SHOE HEELS

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 23 Feb 79 p 4

[Text] There is a multi-billion-lire traffic in drugs running in and out of Roman prisons. Yesterday the first figures in this ring--certainly not the least important--ended their careers, at least for the time being, as drug suppliers to prisoners. Twelve arrest warrants were issued by the office of Dr Vecchione, deputy D.A., against prisoners and ex-prisoners, almost all of them charged with armed robbery, attempted homicide, and theft. Seven people were arrested at their homes, four were already in prison, and one is in hiding. All were sending or receiving postcards "stuffed" with heroin, or were concealing amphetamine pills in hollow shoe-heels; in one shoe alone 30 such pills were found. The clever system for delivering the heroin ("almost pure," said drug-squad Carabinieri) was discovered by accident, after controls ordered some time ago by the court. Picture postcards of Rome, carrying best wishes for "a nice stay inside," were half opened, then, in the square where the stamp goes, a few milligrams of white powder were placed. This done, the postcards were sealed back together again and addressed to Rebibbia and Regina Coeli. A dozen "heroin greeting cards" were sent by 24-year-old Massimo Mole, and this was the main track followed by the investigators. In any case, hundreds of such cards were received over recent months by prisoners who were "in" on the traffic. The lucky recipients of this profitable mail were, in addition to Mole, Roberto Vera, 21; Giuliano Romani, 20, both at Rebibbia; and Bruno Franzo, held in the Aquila prison, but also a Roman. The senders, too, were Romans. Ruggeri D'Amato, 20; Vladimiro Pellegrini, 28; Giorgio Ferru, 26; Fabio Domizi, 21; Giuseppe Pugliese, 29; Giovanni Orsini, 18, and a minor girl, G.C.P., prepared and mailed the "stuffed postcards." All had done time themselves, and had kept in touch while they were inside. They took turns, creating a network of connections among the various prisons, and inventing several systems for getting their "goods" into the cells, at prices that were exorbitant by comparison with street prices on the outside market.

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NETHERLANDS

EDITORIAL ATTACKS AMSTERDAM POLICY ON DRUGS

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 17 Mar 79 p 7

[Editorial: "Heroin"]

[Text] The position of the mayor and aldermen of Amsterdam in the debate concerning the drug policy in connection with the notorious reception center for heroin addicts, the "Stadsdoelen," caused surprise as well it might. They limited themselves to the resolution to clear the center without committing themselves to the requested alternative, more small reception facilities. Under pressure from the council some noises have now been made in this direction, but the policy note which is to provide the starting point for the council debate was nevertheless characterized primarily by a great deal of vagueness, if not distaste.

What do the mayor and aldermen of Amsterdam actually want? The first alderman, Mrs Vorrink, called the problem extremely difficult, which is true, and without ready made solutions. This may be true too -- but this cannot be an excuse for the practically total lack of policy initiatives exhibited by the municipal executive.

However, there is probably a policy in there anyhow: just let those junkies wander through town. Such an approach has a certain cynical reality value: the nuisances get spread out and the small conflagrations which take place can probably still be put out. By the police then.

Without wanting to idealize the opportunities for providing help -- or to minimize the nuisance which such reception centers cause a neighborhood -- a laissez faire policy must still be considered totally inadequate. To let heroin clients run around involves the risk of an oil slick effect in terms of hard drug use and trade.

Aside from human considerations, a serious effort in favor of small scale reception centers is necessary as support for a directed police policy, that is to say not to pick up small distributors who are strongly addicted themselves, but to go after the big villains in the background. Wedges have to be driven into the heroin scene.

Whether the requested reception plan should be paired with the so-called free dispensation of heroin to addicts, as the council asks, is for the time being another matter. The necessary controls should first be built into this.

The English experience teaches that this is extremely difficult -- let alone within the up to now halting Amsterdam drug policy. This in itself is a reason finally to become serious about it.

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NETHERLANDS

THREE CHINESE ARRESTED, DEPORTED FOR HEROIN TRAFFICKING

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 8 Mar 79 p 3

[Text] Three days after their arrest three Chinese heroin smugglers were deported because the police had used illegal methods to catch them.

The Central Criminal Investigation Department of the Rotterdam police and the district attorney declared in a joint statement that they decided to waive prosecution "because methods used to arrest the smugglers were deemed inadmissible within the framework of Dutch law." The Rotterdam police did not want to go into details about "the methods used." Rumors have it that the police itself trafficked in heroin.

Last February the three Chinese were arrested in Rotterdam. They had more than 3.5 kilograms of heroin on them. On 16 February, 2 days after their arrest, they were deported.

This decision was taken while a lawsuit against a man from Rotterdam accused of heroin trafficking, was still in progress. The Rotterdam District Court dismissed the case on 21 February. It believed the defendant's statement that an undercover policeman had provoked him in supplying 3 kilograms of heroin.

The three Chinese were arrested in the night between 13 and 14 February during a "routine investigation," as the police called it. In the car of one of the defendants were two suitcases with false bottoms. The heroin hidden in them would have brought over half a million guilders on the street.

The Rotterdam narcotics brigade had worked many months on this case. The gang was suspected of bringing several shipments of heroin to Rotterdam. There was close cooperation with the police of Toronto, Canada, which infiltrated the gang with two female agents who posed as messengers. The drugs were shipped to Europe from Hong Kong and Singapore. They reached Rotterdam by train.

Second Chamber member Aarts (Christian Democratic Appeal) responded by saying that infiltration by police personnel in criminal circles is sometimes the only way to obtain information about certain crimes. However, he would like to see the Minister of Justice issue certain rules on this subject because it concerns a balancing act on the border between admissible and inadmissible procedures. He compared it with the kind of procedures used in international espionage cases.

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SWEDEN

FOREIGN ORGANIZED CRIME GANG INVOLVED IN DRUGS AFFAIR

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 25 Jan 79 p 23

[Article by Leif Dahlin]

[Text] Drugs run like a red thread through the tangled skein of crime surrounding the million-krona Stockholm Savings Bank swindle, and the outlines of a drug ring with a big-time foreign criminal at its head can be discerned. Prosecutor and police will not comment on the case for technical reasons connected with search and investigation. Several prison sentences may be in question.

A 26-year-old woman who is far advanced in her legal studies and has serious plans to follow a judicial career is becoming increasingly interesting in the case. She is alleged to be the mistress of one of the arrested bank employees and the connecting link between him and one of the men in the top echelon of the robbery and drug ring.

The woman and six other persons in the "robbery division" were questioned before the Stockholm district court Wednesday [24 January] in connection with the brutal robbery and rape in a family home on Hagagatan in Stockholm on 2 November 1978.

The head of the ring gave the woman a diamond ring valued at 100,000 kronor and other articles taken in that robbery. She presently placed the ring in a safe-deposit box of one of the bankers'. The woman also served as an intermediary in several loans between the banker and his friend. The latter got a total of 300,000 kronor in installments. In another loan case the ring leader got 120,000 kronor, leaving 5 diamonds as security. They were supposed to be worth 300,000 kronor.

False Diamonds

The banker had the stones appraised. They were false diamonds and worth at most 3,000 kronor. The banker appeared as plaintiff in Wednesday's case. The woman and the ring leader's ex-wife are accused of receiving stolen goods. They have denied the accusation.

The actual robbery on Hagagatan was carried out by the ring leader and two other men. Masked and armed with pistols, they forced their way into the home just as the family were about to go to bed. They had all taken drugs before they committed the robbery. Besides the diamond ring, the booty included a jewel box and contents worth 100,000 kronor. One of the three involved in the case denied guilt.

"I was forced to take part," he said.

He admits that he had doped himself with cocaine and that he got so excited that he forced himself on the woman, who had a pistol aimed at her head. A few meters from the wife lay her husband, who also had a pistol aimed at his head. He was unable to intervene.

Two Robbers Seized

Police spies who were among the members of the ring on the track of other crimes were able to seize two of the robbers, while a third succeeded in getting away. A fourth person who was waiting outside on the street was also seized.

The police were able to recover about 75,000 kronor's worth of the booty immediately. Since the diamond ring also turned up later, the couple's claim for compensation was 26,000 kronor plus 40,000 kronor damages for "pain and anguish." The ring leader confessed before the court that he had taken part in the robbery, saying that the reason was that he needed money for drugs.

The courtroom of the 17th precinct was crowded with the accused, their attorneys, police observers, and spectators. The testimony in the afternoon concerned the events in the apartment. It was heard behind closed doors. The trial will continue on Thursday.

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CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

COURT HANDS DOWN RECORD DRUGS SENTENCE

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 17 Feb 79 p 7

[Article by Leif Dahlin]

[Text] "I have never been able to see anything wrong in principle in selling drugs. My crime is directed against the financial structure that society represents and not against particular individuals." So said a 31-year-old businessman from Sollentuna, near Stockholm, after the Solna district court had sentenced him Friday to 10 years in prison for gross violations of the drug code--large-scale selling of amphetamines and heroin. Never before had a Swedish court handed down such a long-term sentence for a narcotics offense. The sentence will be appealed.

The business man--called "Plastic" in drug circles--had, according to district prosecutor Anders Iskander, smuggled large amounts of amphetamines and heroin from Holland and West Germany to the Swedish drug market from 1972 until he was seized in April of last year. He attached a number of assistants to his business, never brought in batches himself, and others parceled the drugs out, sold them, and rendered accounts.

1972: A woman who was convicted earlier in the same case smuggled a kilogram of amphetamines to Stockholm on "Plastic's" account.

1973: "Plastic" went to Basel and met the woman, who took over a kilogram of amphetamines and smuggled them to Stockholm. The woman admitted six such smuggling trips later.

1974: "Plastic" brought equipment for preparing amphetamines from Switzerland to Stockholm. In Värberg, in the southwestern part of the city, he rigged up a home factory and prepared 300 grams of amphetamine. After that he moved his business to a house in Vendelsö, where he made 500 grams.

1975: "Plastic" came into contact with heroin for the first time. The first shipment was twenty-five 0.3 gram capsules; thereafter, forty-five 0.05 gram bags.

1976: The heroin business really picked up steam. One of his assistants (sentenced to 4 1/2 years) took the heroin over for sale in the subway stations and at bus stops.

Confession

The others convicted in the case, including two other men who spent large amounts of money on trotting horses, made confessions which found support in court that "Plastic" had access to hundreds of kilograms of amphetamine that was smuggled in in batches of 10 kilograms each. The accounting price was 35,000 to 40,000 kronor per kilogram.

1978: "Plastic" admitted that he had contacts abroad for supplying 2 kilograms of heroin. His "runner" picked up the shipment in Humlegården. A foreign national delivered it early in February. The runner was given 475 grams by his good friend to sell. The rest was turned over to the police by "Plastic's" and the runner's lawyers at the end of the year.

At that time both were in jail and nobody wanted the shipment to fall into the hands of others.

In 1971 "Plastic" was confined in a psychiatric institution for a narcotics violation. At the time of his examination Leif Öjesjö, the head doctor, said that "Plastic" was a markedly schizoid young man who sometimes used drugs. His psychic abnormality was of such a profound nature that it must be put on a par with mental illness.

District Prosecutor Ikander found it remarkable that "Plastic" could leave just a week after he was admitted to the mental hospital.

Not Sick

In December of last year "Plastic" was examined by head doctor Leif Öjesjö, who says in his report that "Plastic" committed his narcotics violation under a certain psychic abnormality, which, however, is not of such a profound nature that it can be put on a par with mental illness. On 9 February the prison board said, "In view of what the proceedings show concerning the man's criminality, mentality, habits, and living conditions in general, the board recommends that the man be imprisoned."

Prosecutor: When "Plastic" was living anonymously in Sweden, he arranged for tennis hours, for example, under a false name. Nobody knew where he lived. He lived a life of luxury. He stayed at the most lavish hotels, ate at the "in" places. Bought a boat for 95,000 kronor, bought expensive cars, hired chauffeurs and bodyguards.

"Not Wrong"

Plastic: "I have never been able to see anything wrong in principle in selling drugs. I have never viewed narcotics as poisons, but have considered them as drugs. Narcotics addicts have not been able or have not

wanted to adapt themselves to society, which in many respects is inhuman. I have helped them to get drugs that they themselves wanted to get. My crime is directed against the economic structure that society represents. Not against particular individuals.

"My life as a man about town was an alternative to total solitude."

In setting the length of the minimum time of "Plastic's" confinement, the court noted that he had smuggled considerable amounts of narcotics, including several kilograms of "that especially dangerous narcotic, heroin." The court also decided that the 500,000 kronor confiscated at "Plastic's" home should be forfeited to the state. District prosecutor Ikander is of the opinion that "Plastic" has placed considerable sums abroad.

Earlier, a Southeast Asian national was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment by the district court of Göteborg. A West German citizen also got 10 years several years ago from the district court of Stockholm for extensive amphetamine smuggling. A short time ago the "narcotics manufacturer" in Uppsala got 10 years in prison. All of them have a chance to be freed after serving half of the sentence. "Plastic" can get about a year off the term to which he is now sentenced. Confinement for a period of at least 10 years corresponds to a nominal 20-year sentence.

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CSO: 5300

SWITZERLAND

DEALER SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS IN PRISON

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 17 Feb 79 p 27

[Text] Increasingly, a severe punishing of drug dealers is finding acceptance in the Swiss courts. Prison sentences of several years have become the rule, as is also shown by the following example: The First Criminal Division of the Zurich Cantonal Court has raised the punishment for John Bonyhadi, nearly 30 years old, by 1 year over against what the lower court imposed, to 7 years of penal servitude. In this sentence, 896 days spent under investigative arrest are taken into account. What is more, Bonyhadi must pay a fine of 8,000 francs, and following his release he will still be banished from this country for a period of 15 years. He evidently sold 168 grams of heroin and 1,000 tablets of LSD within Switzerland and thereby took in at least 53,000 francs--more than enough to classify this case as a grave one in the sense of the Narcotics Act.

Tourist From Canada

The defendant was born in Budapest in 1949. In 1963, at the age of 14 years, he emigrated with his parents to Canada. He worked for some years as a machinist and later as a taxi driver. In 1974 he married in Canada, and at the end of the same year he took a trip as a tourist with Canadian citizenship with his wife to Amsterdam. While his wife worked there for a time as a barmaid, Bonyhadi shied away from any regular jobs. On the contrary, he got into the lucrative business of drug dealing. According to his own statement, he is himself not dependent on drugs. On 13 August 1976, the Saint Gall police were able to put an end to his activities.

The "tourist" Bonyhadi became--according to the charge--the foreign representative, so to speak, of a travel agency in Amsterdam named "Great China." This was a front for a narcotics distribution organization centered around the Chinese person named Sonny. Other Hungarians also belonged to this circle of dealers. Because of this collaboration, the offender had dealings not only for his own profit but also as part of a gang.

"Loaded" Witnesses

The defendant never made a confession. On the contrary, he denied and today still denies any guilt. His attempt to make himself out to be the victim of a conspiracy or a mix-up was not successful, and his protestations of innocence both before the local court of Zurich and before the cantonal court, to which the defendant and the public prosecutor's office had appealed, were not believed.

Independently of one another, 11 witnesses had named and identified Bonyhadi as a narcotics dealer. In this connection it should be remarked that in narcotics cases the examination of witnesses often turns out to be difficult. This was so here also: Some of the witnesses seemed drug-intoxicated--they were "loaded," to use the slang expression. Some--namely former accomplices--went back on their testimony after the first examination, partly out of worry about reprisals on the part of the narcotics dealers, and partly out of fear of not being able to obtain any more drugs in case of an incrimination of the defendant.

One witness could no longer be questioned; he died of an overdose of heroin. Because of his hopeless drug dependence, some time before the arrest, Bonyhadi had ceased doing any business with him. But evidently that was by no means done out of concern for the deplorable state of health of the addict, but much more likely because customers of this sort set aside so much of the quantities of drugs obtained for their own consumption that they get into the "red" and have to owe the dealers the sums of money charged for the drugs.

Drugs By Mail

Precisely this attitude illustrates the unscrupulousness of the large-scale drug dealers. Like his accomplices, Bonyhadi knew the effects of his criminal activities and was again and again able to observe these effects on his burned-out, mortally ill victims. This degree of gravity of the wrong committed, in the opinion of the cantonal court, was taken too little into account by the lower court; therefore the First Criminal Division increased the punishment by 1 year. The fine of 8,000 francs which was pronounced does not merely exist on the sentencing document--it proved possible to confiscate around 2,300 francs plus checks with a value of \$3,000 along with the seizure of the defendant.

The defendant, as a rule in the company of an accomplice, brought the narcotics from the Netherlands into Switzerland and sold them in Saint Gall and in Zurich. But in some cases he also sent them by mail, postpaid to destination.

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