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12 JULY 1979

(FOUO 29/79)

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JPRS L/8567
12 July 1979
(FOUO 29/79)

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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WORLDWIDE
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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AUSTRALIA

QUEENSLAND POLICE OBSERVE NEWLY FORMED ANTIDRUG TASK FORCE

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 7 May 79 p 3

[Text] Canberra.--An elite task force to fight drug trafficking will be set up by the Federal and New South Wales Governments.

The force will comprise Commonwealth and State police, and members of the Federal Narcotics Bureau.

Similar forces will be set up in other States and Territories if the first one is successful.

The formation of the force was announced yesterday by the Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser) and the New South Wales Premier (Mr. Wran).

The new force will have access to all intelligence information on drugs from both Federal and State law enforcement bodies, but will operate independently of them.

The Queensland police force would watch with interest the effectiveness of the task force, the Deputy Police Commissioner (Mr. Vern MacDonald) said last night.

But it would be premature to say whether a similar force would be set up in Queensland, he said.

Unique

Any experiment with a combination of law enforcement bodies would be a step forward.

The establishment of the force is in line with recommendations made by the Commonwealth and New South Wales Royal Commissioners on drugs (Mr. Justice Williams and Mr. Justice Woodward).

As well as obtaining information from intelligence units, the special force also will act on information uncovered by the Royal Commissions.

Through their inquiries the two Royal Commissions have

probed into many areas associated with the drug problem and have been able to identify possible leads to people involved in drug trafficking," Mr. Wran and Mr. Fraser said.

"It is now the hope of both our governments that the task force will follow these leads and bring offenders before the courts, and that convictions will follow."

Mr. Fraser and Mr. Wran described the exercise as unique.

A secret squad of Commonwealth Police has been active for almost a year compiling information to lay the groundwork for task force officers.

The Federal Government will provide accommodation and all expenses for the task force except salaries, which will be shared equally.

Mr. Wran and Mr. Fraser said the effort in setting up the force showed clearly their concern at the extent of illegal drug trafficking in Australia.

Mr. MacDonald said that in Queensland, the drug squad had a close working relationship with the Federal Narcotics Bureau.

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AUSTRALIA

DRUG CENTER DIRECTOR: LSD BRISBANE'S 'POOR MAN'S DRUG'

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 7 May 79 p 3

[Text]

LSD, the popular hallucinogenic drug of the late 1960's and early 1970's, has re-emerged in Brisbane as the "poor man's drug".

Teen Challenge Drug Referral Centre director (The Reverend Charles Ringma) said yesterday poor, disadvantaged and often unemployed teenagers started turning to the drug about five months ago because it was cheaper than smoking marihuana.

that experienced from smoking dope.

"The 15 to 17-year-olds using the drug are green, fresh kids who did not experience the earlier LSD drug scene.

"People who did, in most cases, are now married. Some are dead."

The "in" drugs in Australia had been amphetamines, then marihuana, hashish, LSD and, in the last few years, heroin, Mr. Ringma said.

Cheaper

Mr. Ringma said the centre was very worried about the renewed popularity of LSD.

Apart from the dangerous effects of the powerful drug, which affected the central nervous system, the LSD coming into Brisbane was of very poor quality.

Sometimes it was laced with the poison strychnine.

"Taking LSD is cheaper than marihuana," Mr. Ringma said.

"A couple of dollars will buy one tablet. Users can get a far greater and longer lasting high, than

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AUSTRALIA

DONATIONS FOR ANTIDRUG FIGHT GO TO HARE KRISHNA

Melbourne THE AGE in English 9 May 79 p 6

[Text] A Hare Krishna sect member told a policeman she was collecting donations for the Drug Dependence Foundation of Victoria when the money was really going to the Krishna temple, the Melbourne Magistrates Court was told yesterday.

Constable James Langskail said he saw Anne Williams, of Dank Street, South Melbourne, approach several people to sell artificial flowers near Buckley's Bourke Street, City, on January 9 this year.

Langskail said he was on plain clothes duty and Williams asked if he would like to buy a flower to \$5.

When he told her he did not have the \$5, Williams said "whatever you've got will do." Langskail said.

When Langskail showed his identity card, Williams allegedly told him: "The money actually goes to the Hare Krishna movement, but people don't give to that so I tell them it's for the Drug Dependence Foundation."

Langskail said Williams had \$47.08 and was asked in a later interview whether she was obtaining money under false pretences.

"I suppose I am, but we need the money at the temple and this is a good way of getting it," she allegedly replied.

Langskail said he also interviewed Rikky Purush, of the same address, and that Purush had told him that \$13 in her bag was for the foundation.

Asked how much money she had collected that day and whether she was a member of the Hare Krishna movement, Purush had just replied "Hare Krishna", he said.

Constable Anthony Burke said that while on duty with Langskail that day he saw Purush grab Langskail by the arm.

Purush had said Williams had not done anything.

Burke said Purush tried to pull Williams away, saying "you copper bastards are nothing but a pack of dogs out to get us and you will die in hell for this".

Neither Purush, charged with hindering police and using insulting words, nor Williams, charged with begalms, appeared in court.

Mr. K. Burgess, SM, fined Purush \$50 on each charge and Williams \$200.

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AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

HEROIN SUSPECTS REMANDED--A man and a young woman were remanded yesterday on a charge of conspiring to import heroin. Kim Anthony Hunter (26), unemployed, of Barnes Street, North Innaloo, and Karen Elizabeth Moore (20), unemployed, of Paine Court, Karrinyup, were charged with conspiring to import the heroin between November and December 1977. They were remanded in the East Perth Court till May 3 on \$10,000 bail with a \$5000 surety provided they surrendered their passports, remained within the metropolitan area and reported to the Narcotics Bureau. [Excerpt] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 25 Apr 79 p 33]

HEROIN PUSHER JAILED--There was no more vile trade in the community than the illicit sale of heroin, Mr. Justice Connolly said in the Criminal Court yesterday. He sentenced William Sawyers, 31, invalid pensioner, of Douglas Street, Nashville, to four years' jail. Sawyers had pleaded not guilty to a charge of having, on January 27 last year, had in his possession \$1800 obtained by the commission of an offense against the Health Act. Sentencing Sawyers yesterday, Mr. Justice Connolly said it appeared Sawyers had been involved in the trade to a substantial extent merely for profit. Sawyers had not been pushed on by the need to feed his own drug dependence, which he had conquered, Mr. Justice Connolly said. [Excerpts] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 3 May 79 p 7]

GIRL ON PROBATION--The community owed a girl, 17, a chance to be cured of her dreadful habit of injecting heroin, Mr. Cook, Senior S.M., said in the Magistrate's Court yesterday. Mr. Cook told Barbara Lane: "But the motivation must come from yourself. It is not an easy habit to give up, but you will be given every assistance." Mr. Cook placed Lane, unemployed, of Milton Road, Milton, on two years' probation. Lane pleaded guilty of having possessed a piece of elastic used as a tourniquet to administer the drug. Senior Sergeant E. M. Murdoch said police who searched a Milton Road boarding house at 6:30 a.m. on April 19 found the elastic and a spoon in Lane's handbag. Lane told the police she used the spoon to heat heroin and the elastic as a tourniquet to inject drugs. Senior Sergeant Murdoch said Lane began smoking marihuana when she was 13 and graduated to heroin a year later. Lane at one time had been a registered addict on methadone treatment but had gone back to heroin when the methadone doses were reduced. She reverted to prostitution to obtain money for drugs, he said. The Salvation Army would look after Lane at its Coorparoo centre, The Haven. [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 5 May 79 p 21]

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BURMA

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED IN RANGOON--Rangoon, 7 Jun--Acting on information, a narcotics control squad of the Rangoon Division People's Police Force and Ward People's Police Force and Ward People's Councillors this morning seized two packets of heroin worth K 50 each from Maung Nay Aung (27) near the Thi-ha Cinema Hall on Anawrahta Street in Rangoon. Kyauktada Police are taking action against Maung Nay Aung under Sections 6 (b) and 14 (d) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. Similarly, the squad seized one packet of heroin worth K 20 from Maung Win Mying (23) of 119th Street at the corner of 119th Street and Ah-dar Street. Mingalataungnyunt Police are taking action against Maung Win Myint under Sections 6 (b)/14 (d) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 9 Jun 79 p 1]

FIVE-YEAR TERM--Rangoon, 5 Jun--The Ahlone Township Court No. 2 today sentenced Maung Myo Thein (19) of Sin-ye-kan Street, Ahlone, to five years under Section 6 (b) and to nine months under Section 14 (d) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. The sentences are to be served concurrently. Maung Myo Thein was caught on 14 Jan 1979 with 12 packets of marijuana when he was searched by the People's Council of Sinmin Ward, Ahlone Township. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 9 Jun 79 p 1]

HEROIN SEIZED IN MINGALATAUNGNYUNT--Nine packets of heroin worth about K 20 each were seized from one Thein Pe of Metta Street, Tamwe, at the corner of 123rd Street and Bow Lane by a police party yesterday. The Mingalataungnyunt Police are taking action against Thein Pe under Sections 10 (b), 6 (b) and 14 (d) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 9 Jun 79 p 1]

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HONG KONG

WHO NARCOTICS EXPERT ARRANGES HONG KONG REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Physician's Training Course

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 11 Jun 79 p 18

[Article by Adam Willians]

[Text] A doctor has to be a bit of a schizophrenic to treat drug addicts successfully.

This was the wry comment of a World Health Organisation consultant, Professor Joseph Westermeyer, who visited Hongkong last week to arrange a WHO training programme for rehabilitation and treatment of drug addicts later this year.

Prof Westermeyer said many of the moral and professional rules which govern one's own life do not apply when confronted with the problems of addicts.

And when more than 20 doctors from Afghanistan, Egypt, Pakistan, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia come to Hongkong for the training course in October, one of the first things they will have to do is to work out in their own minds their personal attitudes to addicts and addiction.

Prof Westermeyer (42) has studied the problems of drug addiction and alcoholism among Indians in Minnesota, college students on American campuses and tribesmen in northern Laos.

Besides working with WHO, he has been a consultant for the United States Government.

He said treating drug addiction is unlike any other field of medicine: a doctor has to be a sociologist as well as a physician.

The doctors who attend the four-week course will be lectured by policemen, social workers, prison officials, educationalists and lawyers.

This they might find difficult to adapt to, since most doctors tend only to accept training from other doctors and biological scientists, said Prof Westermeyer.

"There is a built-in dilemma to this problem," he argued.

"If they are to understand the total problem--which is not totally medical--they must understand what other people do."

Another problem is that doctors often have the same attitude to alcoholism and drug abuse as the local citizenry.

There is no moral choice involved when a doctor treats a case of pneumonia or malaria--but prejudices may have to be overcome when dealing with alcoholism or addiction.

And the standards used to judge one's own behaviour must be put aside when judging the addict's behaviour.

"That's quite a schizophrenic position to be in," said Prof Westermeyer.

"The physicians should try to suspend their judgments during the course and not allow pre-conceived ideas to get in the way."

The course will also involve a study of the latest scientific discoveries related to drug addiction.

He said a large amount of pharmacological data has been unearthed only very recently, such as endorphine, a narcotic-like substance which we manufacture in our own brains, which rewards us for our own behaviour rather in the manner of a drug.

The doctors will be introduced to a whole body of new information about how drugs work through the nerve cells, how genetic components can lead to a dependence on narcotics, and how childhood environment plays its part.

Prof Westermeyer said one's childhood circumstances can influence one in favour of drugs or against.

As a child of Irish stock in Minnesota, he said he was aware of alcoholism at a very early age since many of his closest relatives died because of it.

Also the severe drinking problems of the Indians in the state fascinated him.

These circumstances turned him "against" and in fact fashioned his future career, he speculated, although the same circumstances turned many of his cousins into alcoholics.

The doctors will also examine why some drugs work on some people faster than others; why one man may be dead after 50 days of addiction, and another can still be thriving after 50 years.

Prof Westermeyer said Hongkong is ideally suited for a training programme on drug rehabilitation, not only because there are probably more drug addicts per square mile here than anywhere else in the world, but also because of the many effective techniques developed here to deal with the problem.

"Hongkong has integrated its services very nicely," he said.

He particularly mentioned the work camps for addicts developed here, where they are cured through self-help and hard work.

In America there would not be the "social willingness to impinge on people's freedom like that.

"But in Asia, freedom is balanced by responsibility to group, nation or race."

Scores of doctors have visited Hongkong in recent years to study these methods on a "show-and-tell" basis.

This interest was one of the contributing factors in the decision to set what will be probably the first ever training course for drug treatment and rehabilitation here.

He pointed out that the addicts in Hongkong live in an urban environment, whereas the problem is rural in most of the countries involved in the course.

However, having studied the problem in as varying cultures as America and Laos, Prof Westermeyer argues that the similarities in the drug problem outweigh the differences.

Productivity begins to fall off, there is a decline in financial status, family problems begin, new life-styles develop centred on drug-taking, and medical problems arise out of the habit.

"These problems are constant from race to race, culture to culture," he said.

However, in different countries, there are different attitudes to drugs, and this has to be taken into consideration when the doctors return to their countries.

Expert Begins Talks

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 6 Jun 79 p 11

[Text] A visiting World Health Organisation consultant, Professor Joseph Westermeyer, yesterday started a round of visits in preparation for a WHO inter-regional training course for treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependent people to be held in Hong-kong later this year.

Prof Westermeyer paid a courtesy call on the chairman of the Action Committee Against Narcotics, Sir Albert Rodrigues, and had talks with the Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr Peter Lee, on curriculum planning and other arrangements for the course.

He will have talks with the Commissioner of Prisons, Mr Tom Garner, the Assistant Director of Medical and Health Services (Narcotics), Dr K. F. Chan, and other senior officials from Government departments and voluntary agencies concerned during his three-day visit.

The course will be held from October 30 to November 28, and will be attended by more than 20 doctors from Afghanistan, Egypt, Pakistan, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia.

The four-week course is to provide an in-depth study of the latest anti-narcotics treatment and rehabilitation policies and methods, and topics will include the medical, behavioural and social treatment of drug dependence, families and community interventions, education and prevention, legislation and training skills.



Prof Westermeyer leaves for Geneva tomorrow.

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HONG KONG

CONSTABLE LOSES APPEAL AGAINST BRIBERY CHARGE IN DRUG ARREST

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 6 Jun 79 p 14

[Text] The Court of Appeal yesterday dismissed an appeal by a police constable against a two-year prison sentence, for accepting \$3,000 from a hawker suspected of a dangerous drugs offence.

The court comprised the Chief Justice, Sir Denys Roberts, Mr Justice Huggins and Mr Justice McMullin.

Chu Kwok-on (24) told the court he was truly remorseful for what he had done.

He asked for a reduction of sentence by stressing that he had been co-operative in the investigation and had pleaded guilty at the outset.

Chu was sentenced by a District Court judge in March on three counts of accepting an advantage from a fruit hawker, Chau Chi-wai.

Chu was arrested on December 10 last year at his home and charged with possessing a small quantity of dangerous drugs.

He appeared at a magistracy and the case was set down for hearing on January 12.

Meanwhile, Chu called at Chau's home and asked him for \$500 to have the charge dropped.

Chu paid the money. However, a week later, Chu came back and asked for another \$500.

Again Chu paid the money.

On January 1 Chu once more visited Chau and this time he asked for \$2,000 not to give evidence against him.

Chu reported to the Independent Commission Against Corruption who provided him with \$2,000 in marked notes.

On January 5 when Chu called at Chau's home to collect the money he was arrested.

Mr Justice McMullin, delivering the court's judgment, said there were two particularly serious features in the case:

● In that a serving officer of some years' experience should convey to the mind of a hawker that he could influence the court should the case proceed;

● And that, having been successful in obtaining money on two occasions, the appellant steeply raised his demand on the third occasion.

It had been said on Chu's behalf in the court below that he was prompted to commit the offences because of personal financial difficulties.

The judge said it would be a very dangerous idea to consider personal financial difficulties as an excuse to commit such offences.

The court appreciated the fact that Chu had lost his position and had brought dishonour on his family, but the sentence was not in breach of principle or manifestly excessive, Mr Justice McMullin said.

Crown counsel Colin White appeared for the Crown.

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HONG KONG

THREE DEFENDANTS CLEARED IN HEROIN TRIAL

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 7 Jun 79 p 11

[Text]

Three of the defendants in a \$40,000 drugs trial were acquitted by Judge Bewley in Victoria District Court yesterday.

He discharged Chuang Yung-kang (54), Chong Ming-chuk (30) and Chong Ming-suen (25).

Chuang and Chong Ming-chuk were charged with keeping a heroin divan.

The judge ruled that the Crown had not produced evidence that heroin was being sold and therefore had not proved the keeping of a divan.

Chuang was also charged with possessing drugs for trafficking and possessing apparatus for radio communication.

Although police evidence was given that four walkie-talkie radios, an antenna and a transceiver were found in the flat with the accused, the judge said the Crown had not proved they were the property of Chuang.

Chong Ming-suen was charged with smoking heroin but the judge found there was no evidence that he was found smoking the drug.

Lui Chee-ping (27), Lim Yuet-kam (21), a woman,

and So ming (40) still face a charge of possession of 55.8 grams of a mixture containing 14.9 grams of heroin for trafficking.

So Ming was said to be the principal tenant of the flat and the others to be sub-tenants.

Fung Wai-shing (26) pleaded guilty to smoking heroin, possession of heroin and possession of apparatus for smoking drugs.

He will be sentenced at the end of the trial.

Police evidence was given that during a raid on a flat at 7 Cleveland Street, Causeway Bay, a mixture containing heroin was found in a number of small plastic bags in the drawer of a cabinet.

Smaller quantities of heroin were found in the possession of two of the accused.

Mr Nahar Singh appears for Chuang and So Ming and Mr Stephen Geiser for the other accused with the exception of Lui Chee-ping who is defending himself.

Crown counsel, Miss Claire-Marie Beeson is prosecuting.

The hearing continues today.

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HONG KONG

EMERGENCE OF COCAINE AND PCP IN HONG KONG

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 8 Jun 79 p 16

[Text]

Narcotics Bureau officers are concerned over the possible emergence of cocaine and "angel dust" in Hongkong.

They fear that the two drugs, which are becoming fairly widespread in North America, could be used by local addicts, particularly the young ones.

Their concern was expressed yesterday by the head of the bureau's investigation and operations section, Superintendent Dick Williamson, at a lunch meeting of the Hongkong Island South Rotary Club.

Supt Williamson said they fear the two "new" drugs could be used by young people to replace the traditional heroin.

Latest statistics show that a mere three per cent of the total number of addicts are under the age of 20, he said.

"While this is a most welcome discovery, we are becoming increasingly concerned as to whether or not this newly formed 'vacuum' in the flow of heroin to young

people will be filled by some other drugs," he said.

Supt Williamson said Hongkong first saw the emergence of cocaine several weeks ago, although its use is believed to be limited to a very small number of non-Chinese youngsters.

He said the drug has very definite hallucinatory effects which have been reported as a very bad "trip" where the abuser loses all physical feeling.

He said there are some gruesome reports in which abusers chopped off their hands without feeling any pain and a young mother boiling alive her three-month-old baby.

Another drug which is of concern to the bureau is marijuana, he said.

Supt Williamson said the drug has been used in Hongkong for a number of years but its use had been restricted to the more affluent.

"Marijuana is generally believed to have been imported into Hongkong by people for their own or friends' consumption," he said.

But within the past 12 months, there have been definite indications of marijuana trafficking, he said.

"And we have accordingly deployed some of our attention towards those who make a profit from its importation and sale," he said.

Supt Williamson also revealed some figures on the amount of money spent by local drug addicts.

Based on an estimate that there are about 50,000 addicts who spend more than \$60 daily on drugs, he said local addicts have a yearly expenditure of more than \$1.1 billion.

This figure is nearly twice the estimated expenditure of the whole police force, 16 times greater than the total value of property lost through crime last year and a \$100 million more than the combined profits of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank group and Hongkong Land.

"Even if we could accept the human misery which follows drug addiction on the scale we have in Hongkong, the financial implications are astounding," he said.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

DRUG TRAFFICKER'S APPEAL FAILS IN COURT

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 9 Jun 79 p 10

[Text]

A plastic's factory operator yesterday failed in an appeal against two eight-year prison sentences for possession of dangerous drugs for the purpose of unlawful trafficking and doing an act preparatory to the manufacture of dangerous drugs.

The appellant, Chau Sau-mo (44), pleaded guilty to the two charges before a High Court judge in May.

He was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment on each charge, the sentences to run concurrently.

Chau was arrested in his home in Fei Fung Street, Tsz Wan Shan, on November 9 last year following police surveillance.

He was trying to dispose of various chemicals by flushing them down the toilet when police raided his flat.

Police seized two pounds of heroin base, six pounds of caffeine, equipment and other raw materials connected with the manufacturing of dangerous drugs.

Mr A. M. Niamatullah, counsel for Chau, said that the trial judge, in passing sentence, failed to give consideration to the appellant's family circumstances.

"He had three children aged two to seven and it was a sad case that the young children had to suffer."

Counsel said the trial judge should also have considered the fact that Chau had no previous conviction, and he had admitted the offence to police at the outset.

The Chief Justice, Sir Denys Roberts, presiding in the Court of Appeal, said an offender's clear record and

family background could not be given great weight in view of the serious nature of drug offences.

"The money involved in the drug trade was high, so must be the risk to those who were caught."

The Chief Justice went on to say that the court was of the view that the sentence of eight years for doing an act preparatory to the manufacture of dangerous drugs was on the low side and would therefore not interfere even if a heavier sentence had been imposed.

The Court of Appeal also comprised Mr Justice Huggins and Mr Justice McMillin.

Crown counsel Frank Stock appeared for the Crown.

HONG KONG

DEFENDANT CLAIMS HEROIN 'KEPT FOR BOYFRIEND'

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 Jun 79 p 10

[Text]

A 23-year-old woman aided her boyfriend by keeping a quantity of heroin at her flat, it was alleged in the High Court yesterday.

The woman, Chu Sui-mei, pleaded not guilty to possessing 21.76 kilos of a mixture containing 5.57 kilos of heroin for the purpose of unlawful trafficking in her flat in Lai-chikok Road on December 14 last year.

She is being tried before Mr Justice Baber and a jury.

Her boyfriend, Lau Man-hoi (26), and two other men, Ng Chun-mo (35) and Wu Chung-kam (40), are also on trial before the same jury for possession of dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking and manufacturing dangerous drugs.

They pleaded not guilty to manufacturing dangerous drugs in a flat in Shatin, and Ng and Wu further denied possessing 6.5 kilos of heroin.

Crown counsel Jonathan

Daw told the jury that as a result of information received, Narcotics Bureau officers raided Chu's flat on the evening of December 14 last year.

Chu answered the door and indicated to the police that the dangerous drugs were in a room.

Mr Daw said the Crown alleged that she was aiding and abetting her boyfriend Lau by keeping the drugs in her flat.

She very frankly gave the telephone number of her boyfriend to police, and this led to another raid on a flat in Shatin the following day.

Police found the place to be a small factory used for the conversion and the manufacturing of heroin. Lau, Ng and Wu were present.

Mr Daw said the drugs found in the Shatin flat were linked with that in the Lai-chikok Road flat in that they were allegedly brought by Lau from the girl's flat to

Shatin.

A 45-year-old merchant, Lai Hoi-shuen, was among those arrested in connection with the case.

He was granted \$5,000 bail plus one surety in the same amount while awaiting trial.

Lai failed to turn up in court last Friday when required and Mr Justice Baber issued a warrant for his arrest.

The judge yesterday also ordered the estreatment of Lai's bail money and the surety put up by the wife of his cousin when he again failed to turn up.

Miss Esther Toh, who had represented Lai, asked to be discharged.

She is now defending Chu only.

Mr Stephen Ma is defending Lau, and the two other defendants are represented by Mr Herman Poon.

Hearing continues today.

CSO: .5300

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

TRIAL UNDERWAY FOR TRAFFICKERS--The trial of six men and a woman found in a Wanchai flat which allegedly contained heroin worth \$40,000 opened before Judge Bewley in Victoria District Court yesterday. Chuang Yung-kang (54) is charged with keeping a heroin divan, possession of drugs, possession of drugs for trafficking and possession of apparatus for radio communication. Lui Chee-ping (27) is charged with possession of heroin for trafficking and smoking heroin. Chong Ming-chuk (30) is charged with keeping a heroin divan, possession of heroin for trafficking and smoking heroin. Chong Ming-suen (25) is charged with possession of the drug for trafficking and smoking heroin. Fung Wai-shing (26) is charged with smoking heroin, possession of heroin and possession of apparatus for smoking heroin. Lim Yuet-kam (21), a woman, is charged with possession of heroin for trafficking and smoking heroin. So Ming (40) is charged with possession of heroin for trafficking. Fung Wai-shing pleaded guilty and the judge deferred sentence. The others pleaded not guilty. Evidence was given yesterday that a police party who raided a flat in 7 Cleveland Street, Causeway Bay, found a number of plastic packets of a mixture which they suspected was dangerous drugs. They also found suspected dangerous drugs in a jacket and in a notebook. Three men and a woman were lying on beds in one of the bedrooms and one of the men was in the act of smoking heroin. The trial continues today. [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 6 Jun 79 p 14]

CHARGES OF TRAFFICKING DROPPED--So Ming (40), principal tenant of a flat at 7 Cleveland Street, Causeway Bay, was acquitted by Judge Bewley in Victoria District Court yesterday on a charge of possession of heroin for trafficking. Police evidence was given that heroin worth \$40,000 was found in a cabinet drawer in a room of the flat, but So Ming said he had sublet the room and had no knowledge of the drug. Five other men and one woman said to be occupants of the flat had also gone on trial on drug charges. Three of them were acquitted the previous day. Lui Chee-ping (27) and Lim Yuet-kam (21) were remanded on the same charge for a verdict on June 15. Fung Wai-shing (26) pleaded guilty to smoking heroin, possession of heroin and possession of apparatus for smoking heroin. His counsel, Mr Stephen Geiser, told the court that Fung was a drug addict and the judge remanded him until June 21 for drug addiction centre reports. Crown counsel Miss Claire-Marie Beeson prosecuted and Mr Nahar Singh appeared for So Ming. [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 8 Jun 79 p 22]

EMPLOYMENT OF ADDICTS ENCOURAGED--For most drug addicts and ex-addicts, the greatest of all therapies is to be employed, the Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr E. I. Lee, said yesterday. "They then feel they are contributing members of the community," he said. He was speaking at the fourth appreciation certificate presentation ceremony of the employment guidance committee for voluntarily rehabilitated addicts. Businessmen and manufacturers were presented with such certificates for their efforts in employing addicts. A total of 635 ex-addicts have secured jobs through the committee since it was inaugurated in January 1976. In addition, 336 of them have benefited from the cash grant and interest-free loan assistance scheme run by the committee, which totalled more than \$29,000, Mr Lee said. [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 8 Jun 79 p 14]

ADDICTS SENT TO CENTER--A 34-year-old drug addict was sent to a drug addiction rehabilitation centre by Judge Bewley in Victoria District Court yesterday after he pleaded guilty to six charges of theft. Chan Tin-shing admitted that he lurked about buildings in King's Road, North Point, during December and January waiting for solitary women about to enter lifts, then snatched their handbags and made his get-away on public transport. [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 8 Jun 79 p 22]

HEROIN DRUG TRAFFICKER JAILED--A 52-year-old man, Tong Yuk-tim, was yesterday sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment after being found guilty of manufacturing drugs and possession of about \$1.5 million worth of heroin for unlawful trafficking. Another man, Wong Wai-man (65), was discharged by Mr Justice Garcia in the High Court after a jury found him not guilty of possession of a smaller amount of heroin for trafficking. Both Tong and Wong had pleaded not guilty. It was stated at the trial that customs and excise men raided Tong's flat at Mongkok on November 21, and found about 27 lbs of heroin and apparatus set up for manufacturing dangerous drugs. Tong's fingerprints were found on all the bowls that contained traces of heroin. Another team of officers also uncovered drugs at Wong's flat in Tai Kok Tsui on the same day. In his own defence, Wong told the court he did not know they were drugs and that they were left there by Tong. Crown Counsel I. H. Polson prosecuted. Mr Paul Fok appeared for Tong and Mr A. W. Sedgwick defended Wong. [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 8 Jun 79 p 22]

AMERICAN ON DRUGS CHARGE--Police last night charged a 33-year-old American woman with possession of dangerous drugs following a raid on her Robinson Road flat. The officers seized a small quantity of suspected heroin, cannabis, prepared opium and smoking paraphernalia. The woman will appear in Western Court this morning. [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 9 Jun 79 p 1]

POLICE AMBUSH CATCHES TRAFFICKER--Customs officers seized 19 lbs of heroin with a retail value of more than \$1 million on Saturday. They had waited in ambush at Man Ying Mansion, Yaumati, for more than 40 hours before making

the seizure and arresting a 27-year-old man. The man has been charged with possessing dangerous drugs for the purpose of unlawful trafficking. He is to appear in Western Magistracy this morning. Plainclothes customs officers intercepted the man when he arrived at the building and went to a flat, believed to be a drug outlet. Chemicals associated with heroin processing were found in the flat, along with packaging equipment. Two other flats in Yaumati and Kowloon City were also searched later, but nothing was found. Earlier on Saturday, a 32-year-old German was arrested for allegedly possessing about 1 lb of hashish in his Cheung Chau flat. The drug, allegedly concealed in a pair of shoes, had a retail value of \$15,000. [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 11 Jun 79 p 1]

MAN CHARGED WITH POSSESSION--A 27-year-old man appeared in Western Court yesterday charged with possession of \$1 million worth of heroin for the purpose of unlawful trafficking. Yeung She-wong, a sales representative, is accused of having the drugs in a flat in Man Ying Mansion, Yaumati, on June 9. No plea was taken. Mr E. S. Yanne remanded Yeung in jail custody until June 18. [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 Jun 79 p 10]

CSO: 5300

INDIA

YOUTH IN JOINT FAMILIES PRONE TO DRUG ABUSE

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 1 Jun. 79 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, May 31--The joint family system had been found to be unsafe for young people, according to a recent study by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay. Young people in joint families are prone to drug addiction because of exposure to a more liberal and individualistic atmosphere at home.

A study conducted among college students in Bombay reveals that students faring well in the examinations seem to be more prone to drug addiction than those fairing badly.

The percentage of drug-addicts is higher among those educated in convent/military/public type schools compared to those educated in other types of schools, according to the study.

Students in the professional courses are more prone to drug-taking than their counterparts in the nonprofessional courses. This runs counter to the belief that the latter are more likely to experiment with drugs as their curriculae allow them more time and leisure.

Several factors of such curiosity, a craving for adventure and peer-group influence (a desire to belong to this group) are responsible for turning young people into drug-addicts.

Delhi, Bombay and Varanast have twice as many drug-addicts as Jaipur, Hyderabad and Madras. In the last two named cities, nearly 77% of the students surveyed had never tried a drug.

The overall picture of a typical drug-addict in Bombay and Delhi is that of a well-to-do student whose childhood experiences seem to have little bearing on his drug-taking habit. This usually began when he or she started imitation of the peer group in college.

While young men prefer tobacco and alcohol, painkillers are the most popular drugs with young women possibly because of their use during the menstrual period. The percentage of male drug-addicts increases with age while among females, it decreases.

The study, however, reveals that the situation is not as "grave" as it is in the West.

CSO: 5300

JAPAN

JAPANESE 'MASTERMIND' IN MANILA ARRESTED IN DRUG CASE

Tokyo KYODO in English 0527 GMT 28 Jun 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo June 28 KYODO--The police Thursday arrested a Japanese resident in Manila as the suspected mastermind of drug smuggling linking the Philippines, South Korea and Japan after he was extradited from the Philippines.

Two national police agency investigators arrested Shizuka Watanabe, alias Jimmy Watanabe, 43, a travel agent, of Manila on a drug charge aboard a plane flying him back to Japan.

Watanabe is believed to have masterminded a drug smuggling case involving Japan's major underworld syndicate Sumiyoshi Rengo under investigation by the metropolitan police department and Aomori prefectural police.

NPA said it found so far that about 10 kilograms of drugs worth about yen three billion at street value were smuggled into Japan in the case.

Police said the case might develop into the largest drug smuggling affair in postwar Japan.

Watanabe will be taken to Aomori following arrival at New Tokyo International Airport in Narita Thursday night.

MPD arrested Watanabe's accomplice on charges on attempting to smuggle about one kilogram of drugs by air from South Korea last March.

Aomori police hold a rightist group leader in Tokyo as another accomplice in connection with a drug smuggling incident involving an Aomori gang last April.

After obtaining confessions from the two accomplices, NPA asked Philippine police through the International Police Organization (ICPO) to search for Watanabe who settled down in Manila over a decade ago.

Watanbe was arrested by Philippine police at his rented house in the suburbs of Manila last Thursday.

Watanbe was extradited on the ground that his visa for short-term stay passed its validity.

NPA believes Watanabe is "in the know" about the case of a jeweler on the international wanted list on drug charges who has been missing in Manila since late 1977.

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

RISE IN OPIUM USE--The use of opium in Punjab and Sind provinces of Pakistan had increased 30 times since it was banned in February, an Islamabad newspaper reported on Monday. [UNI] [Excerpt] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 5 Jun 79 p 9]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

AUSTRALIAN DRUG DEFENDANTS FACE LONG PRISON TERMS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 5 May 79 p 13

[Report from John Everingham in Bangkok: "Heroin Trial Gamble"]

[Text]

AUSTRALIA'S alleged heroin smuggling trio, football star Hayward, hairdresser Fellows, and Bangkok bar owner Sinclair, will take little comfort that Thailand's recently introduced stiff new narcotics law will not be used against them.

The three are lucky, perhaps, to have been arrested before the new law (which includes the death penalty for their alleged crime) became effective.

Still, the magnitude of the possible sentences before them, if convicted, became clear when convicted American heroin smuggler, Thomas

Kieley, was given 25 years on Monday for possessing 730 grams of the deadly white powder. Hayward and Fellows were arrested with eight kilos.

With the court case against the three Australians shaping up, speculation in Bangkok indicates some surprising outcomes are possible. Legal minds go as far as suggesting the alleged kingpin and financier of the operation, Sinclair, whom it was originally suggested might face a firing squad, could eventually walk away free.

But Hayward and Fellows are both sure to serve long sentences in Thai jails if convicted. Naturally, the final sentences passed will depend on what charges, if any, the Police Prosecutor can make stick.

All three have been charged with both possession of heroin, and the more serious charge of attempting to export heroin.

At an earlier hearing Hayward and Fellows pleaded guilty to the possession charge, while denying the attempt to export charge. Sinclair meanwhile has pleaded not guilty to both charges.

Under Thai law, the sentence of a convicted criminal is automatically halved if he pleads guilty. The effect is to encourage defendants to accept charges without contest, if chances of acquittal seem small. Hayward and Fellows, caught at their hotel with the heroin in their suitcases, have thus decided to take half the sentence for possession, while hoping to beat the more serious attempt to export charge.

The charge to export the heroin might not stick in court. It's reasonably assumed that, if convicted on both charges, the two will spend most of their lives in prison in Thailand. A conviction on the possession charge alone will also bring a long sentence, perhaps 20 or 30

years, though their guilty pleas guarantee them only half the term.

Sinclair's gamble with two "not-guilty" pleas is reasonably seen as "the gamble of a lifetime" — literally a lifetime either completely in or out of prison. And now it has been suggested that the Government may not have sufficient evidence to convict Sinclair.

Sinclair was not in possession of the drugs, nor has Thailand a conspiracy law that would convict him along with the other two. And legal sources in Bangkok say that neither Hayward nor Fellows will testify against the alleged mastermind. Either the Government has additional evidence that has not yet come out, or Sinclair has an odds on chance of walking away a free man.

Should Sinclair's defence fail, a conviction on either charge would almost certainly ensure that he spends the rest of his days behind bars. At his age and poor state of health he has little chance of outliving a long sentence in a Thai prison. Hayward and Fellows gamble is also one that, if failed, could send them to prison for most or all of their natural lives.

The Supreme Court of Thailand illustrated that on Monday. The actual sentence it handed down against the American was 30 years for attempted export of less than a kilo of heroin. For his guilty plea this was cut in half.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

CHINESE SUSPECTS ARRESTED FOR HEROIN POSSESSION

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Jun 79 p 1 BK

[Text]

TESTIMONY given by two Hong Kong Chinese allegedly apprehended with about four kilogrammes of No.3 heroin at Don Muang Airport last Thursday night led Customs officials to the arrest yesterday of three more suspects.

The three were identified as Tsang Kok Leung, a Hong Kong Chinese who reportedly held three passports, Yuan Tee sae Ching, a Chinese national resident in Bangkok, and Chan Yat Kwai, also a resident of the Crown Colony.

Tsang Kok Leung, who was implicated as the financier by Chan Wai Keung and Chan Ping Tong, who were arrested earlier, was nabbed by Customs officials at Don Muang Airport yesterday morning as he was about

to board a jet for Hong Kong.

Later yesterday four Customs men rushed to Soi Saensabal off Rama IV Road and apprehended Yuan Tee sae Ching. And shortly afterwards Chan Yat Kwai was taken into custody from a rented house located in the lane.

Yuan Tee was alleged to be the heroin supplier. According to the testimony given by Chan Wai Keung and Chan Ping Tong, Yuan Tee delivered four kilogram-

mes of heroin concealed in the false bottoms of two whisky cartons to the two men, who had been staying at the Hyatt Rama Hotel since May 28.

The two couldn't produce the address of Yuan Tee, but said they remembered his car, a brand-new golden Opel Rekord, carried a red plate No. 1007.

Customs officials then cross-checked with the car dealer and found out Yuan Tee's home address.

Yuan Tee flatly denied any involvement in the narcotics trade, and claimed that he is a merchant.

Customs officials, however, charged him and Tsang Kok Leung of conspiring with Chan Wai Keung and Chan Ping Tong in possessing the heroin with intent to sell and attempting to smuggle it abroad.

No formal charge was filed against Chan Yat Kwai yesterday. He was, however, booked for further interrogation.



Three heroin suspects: from left, Yuan Tee sae Ching, Chan Wai Keung and Chan Ping Tong. The latter two were arrested Thursday, and gave information leading to Yuan's arrest yesterday.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

TOURISTS, THAIS ARRESTED ON HEROIN CHARGES

Drugs in Drinking Straws

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Jun 79 p 3 BK

[Text]



SEVEN people, including five alleged drug traffickers, are seen with the boxes which police say concealed 1,785 grammes of heroin. The drug was stuffed inside 353 straws, inserted into the corrugated spaces in the walls of boxes of noodles and mushrooms, police say.

The seven are, from left, Mrs

Tabtim Chartyano, alleged owner of the drugs, Lee Namchal, alias Danai or Troung Trung, most wanted by Narcotics Police, Thao Ma Wongwilai, (now cleared) Tek-jue sae Ung, Chueihong sae Lee, a Hong Kong Chinese, also cleared, Surat Mathaworn and Aroon Klaisuwansan, manager of Prasit Tour.

The seven were arrested at Don Muang Airport just before boarding a KLM flight to Amsterdam. Police said they posed as tourists on a tour of Europe organised by Aroon. Thao Ma and Chueihong were later released when they convinced police they had joined the tour group in all innocence.

On 'Wanted List'

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Jun 79 p 1 BK

[Text] NARCOTICS policemen and Customs officials rounded up a seven-member tour group and two Hong Kong Chinese and seized over six kilogrammes of No 3 heroin in two separate arrests made inside the transit lounge at Don Muang Airport last night.

One member of the group was identified as Lee Namchai, alias Danal and Truong Trung, who has been on the narcotics police "wanted" list since 1959. Police said that he was holding a bogus Malaysian passport when he was apprehended.

Police identified the remainders of the group as Tek Jue sae Ung (60.), Surat Mathavorn (28), Aroon Kraisuwan-sarn (52), manager of Prasit Tour and alleged organiser of the tour group, Thao Ma Wongvilal (42), Chuei Hong sae Lee who is a native of Hong Kong and Mrs Thapthim Chotyano.

The group was about to board a KLM jetliner for Amsterdam when Customs officials and a police unit from the Narcotics Suppression Centre demanded a search of a cardboard box bearing the name of Mrs Thapthim. The search revealed 353 tubes of No 3 heroin weighing 1,785 grammes.

Police said after interrogation of the seven suspects last night that they believed Thao Ma, a Chinese-Laotian who has been in Thailand for about 16 years, and Chuei Hong had nothing to do with the rest of the group which was alleged to operate the narcotics smuggling racket under the disguise of a tourist group.

An hour later, at about 8 p.m., Customs officials arrested two Hong Kong-Chinese in the transit lounge as they were about to board a Thai International flight for Paris. More than four kilogrammes of No 3 heroin were found stuffed inside two empty liquor boxes which the suspects—Chan Wai Keung and Chan Ping Tong—were allegedly carrying.

The two were later sent to the Crime Suppression Division headquarters for further questioning.

[Editorial Report] In Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai on 2 June 1979 pages 1, 2 further information states that the value of the heroin was 14 million baht. The four boxes belonged to Lee Namchai, alias Tan Ahchin of Ah Tang sae Tang age 54, a Sino-Khmer who was traveling to France with Miss Thapthim Chotyano, age 37, a teacher in Thonburi. Also arrested were Mr Arun Kraisuwansan, 52; Mr Tek Jue sae Ung, 63; and Mr Surat Mathawon, age 28. It was learned from the investigation that Lee Namchai had deceived Miss Thapthim into traveling to France by telling her that her aunt, Mrs Boochuay Chareonmit was ill there. Narcotics Control officers report that Lee Namchai was an international drug trafficker who had been followed by police for two years since he arrived in Thailand in 1977. During that time he had had no fixed address and travelled abroad frequently.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

CIVILIANS, RTAF OFFICER ARRESTED FOR POSSESSION

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Jun 79 p 1 BK

[Text]

FOUR men, including a Royal Thai Air Force officer, were arrested Thursday evening at the Hotel Siam Inter-Continental while they were allegedly handing heroin to a policeman posing as buyer, police reported yesterday.

The alleged narcotics dealers were identified as Yongyuth Detrungruang, Udom Rungthongruang, Seng sae Tang and Squadron Leader Saneh Promwiwat of the 2nd Airborne Infantry Battalion.

A fifth man, identified as Viroj (last name not known), said to have actually handed the drug to the policeman, managed to escape but left two packs of 60 grammes of white heroin, police

said. He is still at large.

The group originally promised to sell two kilogrammes of heroin worth 200,000 baht, but could not provide the amount wanted, police said.

Police Major Phairot Thong-in of the 7th Branch, Crime Suppression Division, and two officers from the Drug Enforcement Authority (DEA), apprehended the four men in the hotel's coffee shop.

Squadron Leader Saneh was turned over to the Royal Thai Air Force for separate detention.

Police, who continued interrogation yesterday, said the four suspects denied charges of possessing heroin for sale. They claimed the drug found in the raid belonged to Viroj.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

YACHT LOADED WITH MARIHUANA SEIZED

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 May 79 p 1 BK

[Article by Jarin Chanya]

[Text]

EIGHT hundred kilogrammes of marijuana, allegedly en route to the United States, was seized yesterday from aboard a yacht cruising about five miles off the coast of Bang Saray, Chon Buri Province.

Customs officials and Metropolitan Narcotics Suppression policemen who intercepted the yacht, arrested an American, Raymond Texlee, and a Dane, Erik Hedegaard, and seized an M16 rifle and a radio receiver-transmitter found aboard the vessel.

The pair were charged with possessing narcotics with intent to smuggle and illegal possession of military weapons.

The officers set off in the Customs patrol boat to track the yacht after being informed of the existence of the drugs aboard it.

The yachtsmen, seeing the approaching patrol boat, tried to race ahead but were soon overtaken and stopped. Armed Customs officials boarded the 20-metre yacht and apprehended the two men.

The marijuana was found concealed in the hull and stuffed inside plastic oil cans. The yacht was later towed to Customs export checkpoint at Klong Toey,

According to authorities, the yachtsmen claimed they had sailed the yacht from the United States to Thailand and had been here for three months.

During their stay here, they said, they met an American who identified himself as Marty White and later asked them to smuggle the marijuana to the States in their yacht. He offered to pay them 10 per cent of the price of the marijuana sold in the States, they added.

White rented a house for them in Chon Buri and last Tuesday, another American and a Thai arrived at the house and gave them the rifle and the radio and ordered them to set sail yesterday.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

HEROIN SOLD OPENLY, RESIDENTS OBJECT

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Jun 79 p 3 BK

[Text] "HEROIN, marijuana and 24-hour drug injection service available here" reads a sign erected by the disgruntled inhabitants of a soi in a Bangkok suburb.

The sign went up yesterday morning at the entrance to Sub Soi Wascharoen in Phra Khanong District, in a bid to attract attention to what the local people feel is an unhampered epidemic of drug dealing in the area.

Village headman Yuen Sukprasert, who also owns the soi, located 12 kilometres from the entrance to Soi Onnuch on Sukhumvit Road, said the area is being intimidated by a heroin selling gang.

"They sell it as if the Praves police station wasn't just a kilometre away" he complained. "It's like a Sunday market where anyone can walk in and freely buy anything they want."

OPERATIONS

Yuen told Post reporters the heroin gang moved into the vicinity a year ago. He charged the pushers were the family of Phud Singthong, a notorious drug dealer widely known in the Lumpini area before he moved his operations to the soi.

For a while they acted as good citizens, Yuen said. Then about six months ago they started selling heroin to addicts who used to buy regularly from them when they were operating in Lumpini. Their clients also included a number of foreigners, he said.

He expressed the fear that

children in the soi might become addicted, because the gang used them to hand the drug over to customers.

"They even ask them to light cigarettes for them, and who's to say there isn't heroin in the cigarettes," he added.

CRIMES

In addition to the drug peddling, other crimes had increased since the gang moved in, Yuen charged.

"There have been robberies and many crimes," he said.

"The last time one of the gang broke into a house and threatened its owner's son with a pistol in order to make him let the drug be injected into him. This is intolerable."

He claimed police did not take much interest in the soi, hence the sarcastic sign.

"Actually the people in the soi agreed to march and stage a protest in front of Praves police station, but I did not want the incident to go that far. So they decided to put up that sign at the entrance to the soi."

Pol Lt-Col Anek Saengchal, chief of Praves police station, denies police are ignoring what happens in Soi Wascharoen, whatever the residents might think.

He said he had launched many raids on the gang during the month since he was assigned to head the police there.

"On April 18 alone, we arrested eight persons in that soi on heroin charges," he said.

PROBLEM

Pol Col Anek, however, accepted that the Soi Wascharoen problem is hard to deal with. There are only 33 policemen at the station, and they have to cover 62 kilometres, he said.

Some of his men have been in the area for more than six years and are well known to the inhabitants, so once they enter the soi all the drug sellers recognise them, he said.

"We seized them many times but hardly got any evidence because they were alerted by their men inside the soi," he said. "They hide the heroin before we search them, and we cannot charge them if there is no evidence," Col Anek said.

However, he said, he knows all the drug sellers in the soi and will call the residents of the soi as witnesses against the drug sellers if he can arrest them.

CSO: 530Q

31

THAILAND

DRUG DEALER GETS BOGUS PASS OUT OF PRISON

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Jun 79 pp 1, 3 BK

[Article by Pummarnie Sumondis]

[Text] **THE Criminal Court yesterday launched an intensive investigation into the release from jail several weeks ago of a notorious drug trafficker sentenced to life imprisonment.**

Convicted heroin dealer Siri Sirikul was freed from the Bang Kwang maximum security prison when an apparently authentic court order, authorising his release on bail, was presented to prison officials.

But Director-General of the Criminal Court Mr Sa-nguan Sitthichai made it clear yesterday that the court had not allowed bail or issued a temporary release warrant for Siri. A committee will investigate the case and attempt to determine at what level the document, which was properly written on court paper and bore the official court seal, was forged, he said.

The case came to light a couple of weeks ago when Siri, together with two accomplices, was summoned to the Supreme (Dika) Court to hear its ruling on their appeals against stiff prison sentences imposed for major heroin offences.

UPHELD

On April 18, 1977, Siri and William Yan Wo Chan, a Hong Kong national, were sentenced to life imprisonment and

Thai national Prasarn Riangpanichkul to 33 years and four months for possession of 8.3 kilogrammes of No. 4 first grade heroin with intent to sell. Prasarn's sentence was lower because he pleaded guilty. The Appeal Court upheld the sentences on March 15 this year.

Chan and Prasarn were present at the Supreme Court to hear the ruling, but because of Siri's absence the reading of the verdict was postponed until today.

Director-General Sa-nguan yesterday insisted that if a legitimate release order had been issued copies would be held in the court files. No such copies have been found. Furthermore, Sa-nguan noted, the court would not have summoned Siri from the prison to hear the verdict if it had been aware that he had been

released.

Siri was freed from the jail some time in the second half of March, although the exact date is not known.

Authorities at Bang Kwang prison have said he was released shortly after his life sentence was upheld by the Appeals Court on March 15 this year.

The release order was delivered to the jail in the late afternoon, and the warders, believing the document to be genuine, freed Siri immediately, prison officials say.

Director-General Sa-nguan said the Criminal Court set up the in-



Siri

investigative committee after being informed by the prison that Siri had been released. The investigation should be completed next week, he said.

Director General of the Correction Department, Mr Thavee Chouap, who had earlier declined comment on Siri's disappearance, has now confirmed that he was released after the prison received an apparently genuine release order from the Criminal Court.

The prison warders had acted according to the regulations concerning the court-ordered temporary release on bail of a convicted person, he said. He said he had received a full report on the matter from the prison authorities and would submit it soon to the Interior Ministry.

The three men were arrested on October 4,

1978 in the car park of the Dusit Thani Hotel. Siri and Prasarn were apprehended in the act of handing the heroin over to Chan.

The arrest was the result of close cooperation between Thai narcotics police and the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

Siri had been placed under close surveillance after the September 1, 1978 seizure of 43 kilograms of No. 3 "brown sugar" heroin in Bremen, West Germany, the largest drug haul ever made in that country.

The two Malaysians found in possession of the heroin confessed to Bremen police that the drug had come from Thailand and implicated Siri as supplier.

Thai police were contacted to pursue the case, leading to the eventual arrests.

CSO: 5300

CANADA

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR REFORM OF MARIHUANA LAWS

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 29 May 79 p 6

[Editorial: "Enforcing a Bad Law"]

[Text]

The sweet smoke wafting through the student lounge of George Brown College's Casa Loma campus has turned sour. A haven for students puffing marijuana during their lunch break has been disrupted by Education Minister Bette Stephenson's demand for a report on the situation, and one student has already been suspended for four days for smoking marijuana in the hallway. "Once we got into the question of what is the law and that students are breaking the law," explained administrative vice-president John Stephens, "we have to take action."

Mr. Stephens is hedging. The administrators knew what the law was all along — that possession of marijuana is, under Parliament's harsh legislation, illegal and punishable by up to seven years' imprisonment. They certainly knew, or chose not to know, that students were using hashish in the lounge; Mr. Stephens speaks of a policy of "quiet management" of soft drug use, which translated means that teachers simply stayed away from the lounge.

That this flouting of the law was at least implicitly condoned by the administrators may come as a shock to those who have never attended a rock concert and seen hundreds of joints being passed from hand to hand, or to those who have never attended parties, not least those held by professionals like doctors, lawyers and architects, where the drug was in evidence. In 1977,

Canada saw 33,281 marijuana convictions; but it is estimated that three million Canadians have used the drug. The professionals, the clusters of smokers in rock concerts, the students puffing in community college lounges, these are not the people arrested for possession; they are the quiet millions who disobey a law they do not respect — a law which, ultimately, is not enforced because it cannot be enforced, and, by the lack of even-handed enforcement, brings all laws into disrepute.

Joseph Clark said last year that a Progressive-Conservative Government would decriminalize marijuana, but that the issue would not be a priority. He has his Government now, and he should make it a priority. The criminal penalties for possession of marijuana are severe out of all proportion to the charge; they are applied unfairly, in some situations and not in others; they have given criminal records to thousands of Canadians whose only offence was using a recreational drug enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of their peers; they have been condemned by, among other informed groups, the Canadian Bar Association; and their repeal has been advocated by all three of the major political parties.

Reform of Canada's marijuana laws has been the subject of hollow promises for too many years; it is up to Mr. Clark to make last year's promise stick.

CSO: 5320

34

CANADA

VARIOUS DRUG SMUGGLING TECHNIQUES DISCUSSED

Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 19 May 79 p 54

[Text] Montreal (CP)--At first glance it looked like an ordinary Canadian quarter.

But it wasn't. It was hollow.

The coin had been used to transport heroin into Montreal and is just one of many methods used by drug smugglers.

"It's a big game of hide-and-seek," Insp. Gilles Favreau of the RCMP's drug squad said in a recent interview.

Favreau says he receives a monthly bulletin from drug enforcement agencies across North America revealing the latest techniques used by smugglers. And every month there's something new.

Tires, orange cans, records, cars, motors, furniture, fire extinguishers, oxygen tanks, stuffed anteaters and even condoms filled with cocaine and swallowed by couriers are just a few of the ways drugs are smuggled.

Last year, an Ontario man was arrested at Mirabel Airport when customs officers became suspicious at the way he was walking.

They discovered that his shoes had hollow heels stuffed with \$90,000 worth of heroin and hashish.

In another seizure, a customs officer in England couldn't understand why someone would ship 258 cases of canned fruit to Canada when the fruit was readily available here.

Then it was discovered that 72 of the cases contained 3,000 pounds of hashish.

"The chances of succeeding are on the side of the smuggler but the odds are on our side," says Favreau, whose department seizes an average of \$50 million worth of drugs a year.



Photo by Canadian Press

Insp. Gilles Favreau and smuggling items

"They might do it a couple of times and get away with it but if they keep it up they will get caught.

"The smugglers always think they have a good thing going, but there are only so many ways to conceal drugs."

Favreau says drug smugglers will sometimes flood an area with a drug-concealing item when they think they've found a police-proof method.

Recently, stuffed anteaters containing drugs were intercepted at the airport.

"The game was over but the group sending the drugs obviously didn't know," Favreau says. "It was quite comical because every time we saw a stuffed anteater we knew it was full of drugs.

"We must have seized a dozen of those anteaters before the gang realized we were on to their method and they stopped shipping them to Montreal."

CSO: 5320

CANADA

BRIEFS

23-YEAR SENTENCES--Nanaimo, B.C. (CP)--Two men convicted on various charges involving marijuana smuggling were sentenced Friday in county court to 23 years each in prison. William Harvey Shears, 31, also known as Cecil Spurrell, and Richard John Andrews, 25, also known as John Mobley Doss, were charged in July, 1978, along with 13 others after 13 1/2 tons of marijuana was seized near Tofino on the west coast of Vancouver Island. Judge Peter Millward sentenced the two to nine years each for conspiracy to import marijuana, nine years each for importing marijuana and five years each for possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking. Shears and Andrews also face charges in Newfoundland of importing 4,200 pounds of marijuana in June, 1974, on the territorial sea of Canada off the East Coast. [Text] [Ottawa THE WEEKEND CITIZEN in English 26 May 79 p 12]

COCAINE IMPORTER SENTENCED--London, Ont. (CP)--A local dentist was sentenced to two years less a day in reformatory yesterday on reduced charges of attempting to import drugs illegally into Canada. Lorne Jay Shankman, 32, was charged initially with importing but Crown prosecutors accepted guilty pleas on four reduced charges on April 18. Dr. Shankman received concurrent sentences of two years less a day for attempting to import hashish, one year for attempting to import cocaine, six months for possession of cocaine and six months for possession of hashish for the purpose of trafficking. He was also fined \$5,000 to be paid by May 31, 1980, or he must spend an additional year in jail. Evidence indicated that the drugs would have had a street value of more than \$20,000. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 29 May 79 p 9]

CSO: 5320

BULGARIA

SURVEY OF DRUG ADDICTION IN BULGARIA

Sofia POGLED in Bulgarian 4 Jun 79 p 10

[Article by Georgi Nikolchev: "In the World of 'Unworldly' Emotions"]

[Text] Sofia, the Sukhodol district. The Clinic for the Prevention and Treatment of Alcoholism and Drug Addiction. I crossed the threshold with the notion that I would encounter a world of which I had only heard. A world far from and unfamiliar to ordinary people, a world filled with the "unworldly" emotions of its dwellers.

My first impressions were very oppressive as around me were all young people, completely different from one another and at the same time united by the cruel imprint of narcotics in expression, thoughts and feelings.

R. I., a 21-year-old girl:

"I was last for treatment a year ago. After I had been discharged from the hospital and returned to work, I was fired because of the large number of unauthorized absences. In the month of October I got married. The mother- and father-in-law had fled Bulgaria 7-8 years ago. My husband and I also decided to flee. I obtained a regular visa for the GDR, while my husband falsified the passport of my brother. The attempt did not succeed. We were caught and brought back. My husband was held and I was released on bail. In the last 2-3 months, I have had the 'shakes.' Now I want to go through the withdrawal period here. I feel feeble and unable to work...."

S. N., a 22-year-old male:

"Toward the end of the effect of the narcotic, I fall asleep. This is not unusual, I know this as I have many drug addict friends. I tried to stop myself. I succeeded for just 2 months. After starting again I began to go the rounds of my friends and drugstores. And now I intend to go clean, but I lack will."

The conversation continued. The physician in charge, Dr Angelov, endeavored to predispose his patients to maximum sincerity. I understood that he was starting with liberating psychotherapy. Initially it was difficult to succeed. Later the young people relaxed and even the excited ones stopped.

I must admit that I was a little taken aback. I had imagined this meeting differently. I had expected to encounter cold glances and people who lacked a desire to be understood. But I saw suffering people before me. People tortured in the "clutches" of narcotics who themselves denied their "fashionable" infatuation and their infamous habit, people who were seeking help. But at the same time I also saw a group of young people for whom near ones and friends did not exist, without aspirations and ideals, and useless for society. I was amazed at the calmness with which they told of the large doses of opiate which had passed through their bodies and of the scores of instances of "overdosing," when death held them in its embrace for hours and it was only a miracle that they were still in the room with me. I tried to understand them. But I always reached the conclusion that straight thinking was infinitely distant from the actions of these young people. I blamed them for their weakness, for their emotional immaturity and for their excessive desire for an unusual "thrill" which had brought them to this unhappy present.

And then I wanted to begin with some of the reasons.

They were difficult to discover and submit to generalization and classification. While in capitalist countries the lack of a secure tomorrow, the hopelessness and alienation are the reason that young people in mass numbers are involved in drugs, in our nation the reason ordinarily is found in curiosity and following the leader.

This is what was said by R. S., a 23-year-old male:

"I went to a friend's on his birthday. The table was covered with food. I was very surprised when I saw what they were doing. Each person gave himself an injection and 10 minutes later was rolling on the floor. I was a little frightened but also curious. I thought that once could not hurt me. Now I cannot stop...."

Here in addition to the curiosity, a lethal role was also played by a lack of knowledge on the effect of a narcotic. How many parents are there in our nation who have spoken with their children on this question? Parental concern is not expressed just in a laden table with delicacies....

Following the leader is the other most frequently encountered reason. B. N., 19 years of age, was an outstanding student. But instead of being an inspiration for his friends and setting the example, he carefreely followed them to a nearby market before school where the "male" took some opiate from them....

That was the start. A "friendly" advice and someone is left an invalid for a large portion of his life.

Unfortunately the consequences are far more numerous.

The physician verifies them in a profound impairment of health (reduced mental activity, damaged liver, strong sexual disturbances, and so forth), the lawyer in the systematic violation of the laws, and the sociologist in unsuitability for labor and impairment in the family and society. The burglarizing of drugstores, the falsifying of prescriptions, the purchasing of narcotics on the "black market" and whatever else become the regular routine of the addicts. Inventiveness reaches such a point:

"A taxi. A young fellow is lying on the ground. His friends are clustered around. They are demanding Davilla tincture. And the unsuspecting driver opens his first aid kit. After this his other colleagues are turned into suppliers...."

Thus an "innocent" experience is gradually turned into the worst, drug addiction, a pathologic state characterized by an insurmountable desire (psychic dependence) for the systematic taking of certain narcotics, an increased tolerance, abstinent phenomena (physical dependence) with the interrupting of their taking. And also permanent, in certain instances, irreversible mental and bodily disturbances in the organism of those who abuse narcotics.

At the outset of the illness in using narcotics, pain disappears, mood improves, and a feeling of levity and a readiness for creative activity are created. This lasts several minutes or 1-2 hours, and after this mood again declines, and unmotivated irritability, nervousness, depression and constant insomnia appear. In order to relieve these unpleasant sensations, the patients must again take narcotics and thus become completely dependent upon them. Here it must be emphasized that the initial quantities of the narcotic are not capable of eliminating the unpleasant sensations, and this necessitates that the narcotics be taken in ever greater quantities (increased tolerance). At times these quantities greatly exceed the therapeutic dose employed in medical practice. Death can occur in patients who shift from smaller to very larger amounts of narcotics in a short period of time at the moment they take the narcotic.

And as affirmation: R. L. 24-year-old male:

"I have been in the game for a long while. From the time of 'good old Yalta' and 'Magareshki Paradise.' More than one-half is already dead and the rest of us are in isolation, shut up in psychiatric clinics...."

After all that I saw and heard, it was very natural for me to meet with the leader of the clinic, Prof Dr Todor Stankushev, doctor of medical sciences.

[Question] Professor Stankushev, I had the opportunity in your clinic to meet young men and women who obviously are suffering from drug addiction. This has caused me to ask outright what is the number of drug addicts in our nation?

[Answer] Recently various people, and not always sufficiently competent ones, have spoken and written of the drug addicts. The reader, listener and viewer are left with the impression that the number of addicts in our country is not small. This is one aspect, but the problem of informing our community has another, much more important aspect. There are people, some of them in responsible administrative work, who have officially stated that there is no drug addiction in Bulgaria. Imagine how the parents of these young people who you have already seen in our clinic must feel, and what their attitude toward such information must be. And in both instances we equally lose the trust of people, and we, the psychiatrists, count greatly on it as well as on their support. And now for your question: in our nation a total of 412 drug addicts of different age groups and with varying education and professions are registered with the psychiatric services. The number of young men and women is virtually the same.

[Question] Among ordinary people there is the notion that the drug addicts are encountered more often among persons with a higher educational level. Is this the case? Do you have any scientific studies on this question?

[Answer] This is a false notion which is created among the people by the behavior of the addicts as they are able superficially to maintain polite relations. Scientific studies which we made several years ago indicated that as an exception the addicts succeed in completing 10th grade. Their education is significantly lower than the young men and women of the same age groups and among the general population.

[Question] Everyone with whom I spoke began using narcotics at the end of the 9th and the beginning of the 10th grade. What in your mind are the reasons that precisely in this age group the first experiments with drugs are made?

[Answer] Youth has its very definite very specific features. During this period a person is growing and developing as an individual, and new value systems are being created. And during this period it is very important under what influences the young person falls and under what conditions he develops. In our research it has been established that a larger portion of these young people have certain character traits which are the reason that they turn to seemingly stronger experiences and deviate from the generally accepted path of their schoolmates. Thus they come under the influence of a circle of friends in the district or in school and begin to use narcotics.

[Question] Quite recently the magazine PARALELI printed material the very title of which caused both interest and concern "The Swedish Nightmare--Criminals and Addicts at Every Step." The data were taken from a Spanish

magazine and indicate that in Sweden with a population of 8 million persons there are around 15,000 "inveterate drug addicts." What would you say about this fact?

[Answer] Not only in Sweden but in a number of other Western countries the number of young men and women who take various narcotics is growing significantly. This has been the reason for some of our colleagues in these countries to speak about the "drug addiction epidemic." The reasons for the wide spread of drug addicts in the capitalist countries are well known. Scientific research made in our nation shows that in Bulgaria there do not exist the socioeconomic conditions and prerequisites for the turning of drug addicts into a broad medical and social phenomenon, and that the economic structure and the ideological, moral, sociopolitical, socio-cultural, administrative and legal factors present in our society have, on the one hand, a preventive action on the appearance and spread of drug addiction, and on the other, significantly facilitate their prompt detection and treatment.

To these factors which assist in limiting the spread of drug addiction and the prompt discovery and treatment of the sick persons, we must also add the exceptional significance created by the increased demands posed by the Ministry of Public Health for the health workers. At present, in line with the growing trend toward enlarging the number of medicines for which a pathologic dependence is created, a larger share of the physicians is showing exceptional attention and carefulness in prescribing narcotics for therapeutic use. In the pharmacies, narcotics are put under special supervision and control, and this also helps to restrict their use.

[Question] Finally, would you in a few words outline the basic directions in treating the addicts?

[Answer] In treating drug addicts the efforts of the physicians and health workers are aimed at an entire reforming of the personality of the patient. In the first stage of the treatment process, the greatest attention must be given to the overcoming of the abstinent [withdrawal] phenomena. With the help of modern medicines, detoxification is carried out, that is, after halting the use of the narcotics, medicines are administered which eliminate the toxic products found in the organism of the patients. Along with this, certain medicines are also administered for eliminating the tension, irritability and insomnia. The treatment of the abstinent phenomena lasts about 20 days. In the second stage, the efforts must be focused on creating a critical attitude in the patient to his illness. This is achieved primarily by the means of psychotherapy and culture therapy. Along with this an effort is made to involve the patients in some labor activity in the area of the hospital.

The third stage is the longest and in it the medicines give way completely to labor therapy and psychotherapy. The physician in charge, with the help of a psychologist, a social worker and the relatives of the patient, endeavor to return him to an ordinary home environment, in making a special

effort to break the ties between the patients and the group which involved them in narcotics. In this regard the family is of exceptionally great significance, as it best provides supervision of the patient during his home leaves.

The prevention of drug addiction can be provided by coordinated and comprehensive efforts of the medical, pedagogical, legal, administrative and social organs.

The restrictions in the production and sale of narcotics also prevent drug addiction. Our nation is an active participant in a number of international organizations involved in controlling the production and sale of narcotics. The MVR [Ministry of Internal Affairs] bodies and the customs services provide systematic and effective control over the illegal transporting of narcotics into the nation.

In recent years the Ministry of Public Health has introduced a special prescription blank for the sale of a large portion of the medicines which contain narcotics. In this manner the opportunities for the addicts to supply themselves with narcotics by forged prescriptions have been significantly reduced. The colored prescription blanks are kept under the strict control, accounting and personal responsibility of the position who receives them from the corresponding service. The created alerting systems and the introduction of modern equipment into the activities of the MVR bodies make it possible to detect persons who attempt to steal narcotics.

The registering of drug addicts with the corresponding MVR services has made it possible to exercise control over their behavior and when necessary take the required measures against them, including compulsory treatment for an extended time in a specialized psychiatric hospital. Article 59 of the Public Health Law gives the right to prescribe compulsory treatment for a person who suffers from drug addiction and does not want to be treated, regardless of the stage of the illness. A request for compulsory treatment can be sent to the prosecutor's office both by the health services as well as by the relatives of the patients.

All questions relating to the control over the production, sale and consumption of narcotics have been codified in Chapter 11 of the Public Health Law, and in the criminal code these violations are prosecuted under Article 354.

There is no doubt that the legislative measures are of decisive significance in limiting drug addiction, but the main place in combating this must be held by the indoctrination of the young people and creating a correct attitude among them toward the use and abuse of narcotics. The role of the family, the school, the Komsomol and the remaining social organizations for strengthening the fight against drug addiction is indisputable and their involvement in this struggle is absolutely essential.

10272
CSO: 5390

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

DRUG CONFERENCE--Buenos Aires, 28 Jun (NA)--The conference of the member countries of the South American agreement on addictive and hallucinatory drugs which started on Monday concluded here today with a speech made by Social Welfare Minister Jorge Fraga in which he expressed a severe warning on "the somber paths of drug addiction." The closing ceremony started with the reading of the results of the conference, including the election of Argentina as the seat of the permanent secretariat of the South American agreement on addictive and hallucinatory drugs. Carlos Norberto Cagliotti, current head of the National Commission on Addiction and Narcotics (CONATON) was elected as executive secretary of this international organization. The second conference to be held by the country members included in this agreement will take place in Guayaquil during the second half of next year. It will be organized by the Ecuadorean delegation. In the conclusion of his speech, Fraga stated his belief that "Latin America will overcome its many faults with the unity of ideas and actions" and at the same time the members of the conference will, with their capacity and determination, seek a solution to one of the worst problems that affects our communities. [Text] [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0150 GMT 29 Jun 79 PY]

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Jorge Alberto Mule, Nicolas Gonzalez and Daniel Horacio Figueredo Oliver have been arrested in Martinez, Buenos Aires, on charges of drug trafficking after 250 grams of pure cocaine were found in their possession. [Buenos Aires LA RAZON in Spanish 29 Jun 79 p 12 PY]

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Buenos Aires, 3 Jul (TELAM)--The Federal Police have arrested Ricardo Hector Bartolome alias Riki, Inocencio Fernandez and Ernesto Marcos Antonio Bravo. They were involved in traffic of marihuana brought in from Paraguay, cocaine and LSD. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1835 GMT 3 Jul 79 PY]

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE CONFISCATED--Santa Cruz, 20 Jun--The police at El Trompillo airport arrested Brazilian national Vinicio Leone at 1700 yesterday. His arrest took place just as he was about to board a flight to Sao Paulo, Brazil. Police confiscated 14.2 kg of cocaine, \$1,400 and 11,900 cruzeiros. Leone indicated that Roman Cruz Vaca, a known trafficker, was his supplier. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 21 Jun 79 p 6 PY]

DRUG TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT--Salta, 25 Jun (NA)--A group of drug traffickers who had been planning to take into Argentina several shipments of cocaine worth \$280,000 each has been disbanded and arrested following a year of investigations. The group was headed by Daniel Antonio Calabrese from Santa Cruz, Bolivia, and its members were Carlos Alberto Oliver from Punta Alta, Buenos Aires Province; Ana Maria Senkovich from Santa Cruz, Bolivia; and Antonio Alberto Arraya from Pocitos, Northern Salta. [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1630 GMT 25 Jun 79 PY]

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

ARGENTINIANS AMONG MANDRAX, MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 23 May 79 p 24

[Text] One of the leading rings of drug traffickers operating in the southern zone was broken up yesterday by the Narcotics Police who seized 3,766 Mandrax tablets and half a kilogram of marihuana from three prisoners.

Names of famous artists and of a manager of a soccer club in Rio de Janeiro are in the memorandum book taken by the police from Manuel Henrique Marcelo and Oscar Salvador Esteves (ring leaders), both Argentinians. Ricardo Laus and Mario Sergio Batista were also arrested.

Report

An anonymous report received by Chief Caetano Maiolino, of the Narcotics Police Headquarters, caused two policemen to be assigned to observe building No 15 on Gastao Baiana Street, in Copacabana, where a young man was said to be dealing in drugs. He would come out on the street often, talk with the occupants of cars parked in front of the building and go back inside.

The policemen learned from the doorman that the young man lived in apartment 603. One of his customers was arrested with 10 Mandrax tablets. He accused the young man, Mario Lampada, whose name is Mario Sergio Batista.

When he was arrested in his apartment with 3,650 Mandrax tablets, he admitted only that he was addicted and the drug was for his own use. But in the interrogation he confessed that he was an intermediary for the Argentinians, Manuel and Oscar, residing in the same apartment.

For every 10 packets that he sold at 600 cruzeiros (each packet has 10 tablets), Mario Sergio kept one free. The Argentinians, who had 106 Mandrax tablets, confessed that the drug was brought by bus from Argentina, a month ago, in the false bottom of a trunk. Ricardo Laus, also accused by his companions, was arrested at 209 Redentor Street, apartment 101, with half a kilogram of marihuana.

The police revealed nothing on the memorandum book seized from the traffickers. The names in it do not necessary mean that they are the names of addicts, according to the police, but they will be thoroughly investigated.

10,042
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

POLICE FIND MARIHUANA, WHITE POWDER IN RAID ON HOUSE

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 19 May 79 p 22

[Text] Policemen from Sao Joao de Meriti arrested, yesterday, two drug traffickers, reported by residents of Vilar dos Teles who thought that they were operating a subversive apparatus, because the house is in the middle of a grove of trees and there was much car traffic during the night.

According to the police, the prisoners, Clero Goncalves Dias and Jose Barbosa Cipriano, alias O Pinto, belong to an interstate ring of car thieves, judging by the amount of automobile parts, cassette-players, radios and much 32, 38, 44 and 45 caliber and 7.65 millimeter ammunition found in the house. Two Volkswagens and a Kombi, without license plates, were also seized.

In the middle of the belongings of the two prisoners, in the house on Luis Alves Cavalcante Street, Lot 18, Block 18, in Vilar dos Teles, the police found 2 kilograms of pressed marihuana, several small bottles containing a white powder (that may be cocaine and the bottles were sent for examination to the Carlos Eboli Institute) and a note addressed to a colonel, stating the following:

"Colonel: Please arrange one of those trucks and transport the automobiles that are returning to Sao Paulo. Take SP-2 [probably Sao Paulo Highway 2] and deliver in Sao Caetano do Sul, to the Confab Montagens Company. Ask for Celso Luis Lopes, at 374 Prosperidades Avenue, in Sao Caetano do Sul. Leave in the gasoline station in front. It is going to be about 20,000 or 25,000. The trucks return empty. If you meet anyone, give 1,000 cruzeiros at the most."

This fact was reported to the Inspection and Security Center of the Secretariat of Security, so that the authorities might have a message sent to Sao Paulo, in order to verify the address and name appearing in the note. Detectives Everaldo, Pedro Paulo and Jocimar were the ones who arrested the traffickers.

10,042
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

JUDGE SENTENCES COCAINE TRAFFICKER TO 15 YEARS

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 25 May 79 p 14

[Text] Yesterday, Judge Mario Guaraci de Carvalho Rangel, of the Sixth Criminal Court, sentenced a drug trafficker, Berthier Bacelar, arrested on 28 December last year with two kilograms of pure cocaine in his automobile, to 15 years in prison, in addition to a fine of 1,250 cruzeiros -- 50 fine-days at the standard unit of 25 cruzeiros -- and payment of trial costs and court fees.

Prosecutor Ekel de Sousa asked for the maximum penalty for Berthier Bacelar, alleging that "if he were a child, a misguided young man, the prosecution might have some consideration, but a 50-year-old man who does not use cocaine but only sells it to increase his fat bank account, deserves a truly severe punishment."

In addition to 15 years in prison and a fine, the prosecutor also asked for confiscation by the state of Berthier Bacelar's Ford Maverick, but the judge did not approve this request, alleging that "there is no evidence that the automobile was bought with money made from the results of drug dealing."

"Flagrant Frameup"

Berthier Bacelar's defense attorney, Ademar Gomes, maintained that his client was the victim of a flagrant frameup by three Sao Paulo policemen who came to arrest him in Rio de Janeiro, because of a 1.2-million-cruzeiro debt that he did not pay to "a certain Mister Cristiano," of Campinas. And he requested that the trial be changed into an investigation. The judge, however, rejected the request.

Berthier Bacelar was arrested in the afternoon of 27 December last year, in the Leblon Branch of the Itau Bank, by three Sao Paulo policemen. On the following day, those same policemen found his Ford Maverick, Campinas license plate RG-3030, parked 20 meters from the bank. In the trunk, they found close to 2 kilograms of cocaine, a precision scale and material for packaging the drug.

According to the testimony of the policemen who arrested him, the trafficker was one of the most important ones operating in Brazil, with an international reputation. He alleged that he had borrowed the car from a Bolivian by the name of Gutierrez, residing in Santa Cruz de la Siorra, and that he knew nothing about the drug.

But he was unable to state exactly where the Bolivian lived or even his given name. Yesterday, testimony was given in the Sixth Criminal Court by two of the policemen who had arrested Berthier Bacelar -- policeman Antonio Lazaro Lazinho and station chief Alberto Argerami, both from Sao Paulo -- the manager of the Leblon Branch of the Itau Bank, Sonia Maria Marrara Leite, and a watchman, Edson Honorio dos Santos, who picked up a small bottle of cocaine thrown out by Bacelar at the time of his arrest.

According to what the police found out, Berthier Bacelar also had a place in the town of Papucaia, on the road to Friburgo, where he kept a rudimentary distillery for preparing cocaine that he supplied to large Brazilian cities like Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and Parana. He also had an arrest warrant issued in Sao Paulo, where he has been given a prison sentence of 1 year and 3 months for fraud.

10,042
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

COCAINE, MARIHUANA INCINERATION--Campo Grande (correspondent)--In Campo Grande, the Federal Police will burn, this month, close to 1 metric ton of marihuana and 20 kilograms of cocaine. That amount of drugs was seized in raids in the capital and other cities in Mato Grosso do Sul and in on varias federal and state highways, primarily the ones leading to cities on the border. [Text] [Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 May 79 p 29] 10042

MARIHUANA PLANTATION IN ALAGOAS--Maceio (correspondent)--The Federal Police in Alagoas have discovered a marihuana plantation in a municipality located on the boundary with Pernambuco, representing the largest seizure ever made by the Alagoas police. The drug -- appraised at close to 3,000 cruzeiros -- was probably sent to the supply markets in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. There were 30 sacks, in the place, each with 30 kilograms, for immediate shipment. According to the superintendent of the Federal Police in Alagoas, Valter Carvalho Soares, more arrests should be made this month and, therefore, the policemen cannot divulge the name of municipality where the plantation was discovered. In addition to that, also according to the superintendent, there are arrest warrants issued for three persons, including the owner of the area discovered. [Text] [Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 May 79 p 16] 10042

MAJOR MARIHUANA TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Sao Paulo--Yesterday, Aurelio Gomes, 34 years old, involved in the theft of a Beretta pistol from the Army, was brought before the Third Chamber of the Second Military Court. Aurelio, who is regarded as the "King of Marihuana," was born in Ponta Pora, Mato Grosso do Sul. He was arrested when he was attempting to transport 140 kilograms of the drug from Paraguay to Sao Paulo. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 29 May 79 p 8] 10042

PERVITIN, MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Yesterday, on the border between the states of Sao Paulo and Minas Gerais, the police seized 35.4 kilograms of marihuana and 51 ampoules of pervitin and arrested two traffickers, Wander Luis Ferreira Borges, residing in Jatai, and William Vieira Silva, of Rondonopolis. A warrant for arrest in the act was drawn up and both

were placed in custody in the Igaraoava Prison. District police chief Gilberto Frejuelo arrested the traffickers and succeeded in recovering the ampoules of pervitin. [Text] (Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 May 79 p 18) 10042

PARAGUAYAN ARMS, MARIHUANA SEIZED--Porto Alegre--Federal Police agents in Sapucaia do Sul seized 20 kilograms of marihuana, worth 1 million cruzeiros, in addition to 8 sticks of dynamite, 9 meters of fuse, a 12-gage sawed-off shotgun and some small caliber pistols, in the residence of three brothers who were arrested in the act. The marihuana, coming from Paraguay, was to have been distributed in Sapucaia do Sul, Sao Leopoldo, Novo Hamburgo and Porto Alegre, the cities in which the traffickers operated. Their identity was not revealed. A large part of the drug was still in the attic of the house, drying. A trafficker, Aurelio Gomes, was arrested in Curitiba while he was transporting 140 kilograms of pressed marihuana -- ready for consumption -- in the false bottom of a truck. This grass also came from Paraguay and was intended for Sao Paulo. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 16 May 79 p 24] 10042

NARCOTICS SEIZED--Drug trafficker (Placido Geraldo Rodney Cardozo) is being hunted by the police, after he escaped from his house through the backyard on Saturday. The police had seized his car and found 181 kg of narcotics in the car's trunk, and another 48 kg was found in his house. [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Jul 79 PY]

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BUSINESS LEADERS SUPPORT MARIHUANA LEGALIZATION IN U.S.

ANIF President to Promote Legalization

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 15 May 79 pp 1-A, 6-A

/Text/ The National Association of Financial Institutions (ANIF) has announced that it will defend throughout the length and breadth of the United States its position on the legalization of marihuana.

Ernesto Samper Pizano, president of ANIF, has said that he will soon visit the leading American cities to speak to lawyers, scientists and officials regarding this difficult issue.

Samper Pizano insisted that if the two governments (Colombia and the United States) come to terms on the matter, an end will be put to criminal activity and to the high cost of law enforcement to which this traffic gives rise.

He noted that the Colombian armed forces, which operate at a level of professionalism equaled by few other such bodies in the world, are being forced into the world of bribery, and thus "we are getting a bad reputation, and, what is worse, no money."

He indicated that the Colombian passport is considered synonymous with marihuana anywhere in the world, despite the unprecedented measures being taken by the Turbay Ayala administration.

Samper made his statement to a group of journalists at the close of the Fifth Annual Convention of Association Members, held last weekend in Medellin.

Asked about Finance Minister Jaime Garcia Parra's announcement that the monetary controls will not be lifted, Samper said that the government has every right to adhere to what it believes is good for the country.

"We have reservations about the strict controls, which have led organized crime to offer industry the credit it needs," Samper remarked.

He said that under these conditions, industry is not being forced to resort to the gangs, as Fabio Echeverri Correa, president of the National Industrialists Association (ANDI), had stated.

The president of ANIF praised the announcement made by banking superintendent Francisco Morris that a new set of rules is to be drawn up regarding financial intermediaries.

"There's been a need for many enterprises and people accumulating and lending money without being supervised to be brought under control and forced to satisfy certain minimum regulations," Samper Pizano said.

He indicated that he was satisfied with the result of the convention, noting that it had been a good opportunity for a frank and friendly dialogue between the public and private sectors.

"President Turbay Ayala's presence at our gathering was certain evidence of that. But there were also six ministers and most of the members of the economic team, which is extremely encouraging," he commented.

Industrialist Offers Support

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 15 May 79 p 6-A

[Dispatch by Jose Cervantes Angulo]

[Text] Barranquilla, 14 May--Industrialist Karl C. Parrish has expressed support for the legalization of marihuana, suggesting that within some 20 years it will be necessary to erect statues to members of the "emerging class" (marihuana traffickers), just as they have been erected to leaders of the independence movement.

These thoughts were published this morning by the Liberal daily EL HERALDO.

Parrish said, "We have to follow the examples of other countries. England has already legalized drugs."

He stated, also, "In the United States, for example, from 10 to as high as 20 percent of the adult population now uses marihuana. Thus the same thing is happening that occurred during the period when consumption of alcoholic beverages was prohibited. That was a complete failure and contributed greatly to the creation of organized crime. It would be better to legalize this situation, which would become the exportation of another product, such as tobacco."

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

RETURN OF TRAFFICKERS' PLANE BEING INVESTIGATED

Explanation Requested

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 4 May 79 p 8-A

Text The Civil Aeronautics Board has asked the national Attorney General's Office to investigate the case of the American airplane which, after having been seized because of suspected involvement in drug trafficking, was returned by the government of Bolivar Department.

The request may lead to an investigation of the conduct of a number of officials; but in the end the two Americans and the plane will elude Colombian justice, for the aeronautics board can delay no further the granting of permission for the plane to leave the country in keeping with its crew members' request.

The twin-engine aircraft, which bears registration number N-777-EF, was captured on 12 February in Mompos when it made an emergency landing. Its two occupants, Paul Herman Dieckman and Arnin Virnoky Kawaikal as published, said that the plane had suffered a malfunction.

In view of the fact that the plane had no flight plan, was violating Colombian airspace and was suspected of being used in drug trafficking, the provisions of the Security Law were invoked, and the aircraft was held on the basis of Bolivar Department Resolution No 200, issued on 16 March.

The Security Law states that confiscated airplanes are to be turned over to the Colombian Air Force. However, it was naval personnel who arrived in Mompos to take charge of the plane.

In mid-April the governor of Bolivar, Elvira Facio de Espinosa, issued a new resolution revoking the previous one and ordering the return of the airplane to its occupants or to their legal representative, Alvaro Angulo Bossa.

However, the Civil Aeronautics Board refused to grant the authorization needed for the plane to leave the country, and it is holding the craft

at the Crespo Airport in Cartagena. On the basis of the decision rendered by the departmental government, it will be impossible to continue refusing permission to leave, and the plane will quickly depart from Colombian territory. The only measure available to the aeronautics board--a fine for violating Colombian airspace--has already been imposed. It is 200,000 pesos; and when it is paid, the two occupants of N-777-EF will be able to escape the reach of Colombian justice.

The aeronautics board asked the Attorney General's Office to initiate the investigation because it was learned from U.S. narcotics officials that Dieckman has a record as a drug trafficker.

A number of aspects of the case are unclear to the aeronautics board. Aside from the fact that the aircraft entered the country illegally, those aboard it did not report any emergency whatever while crossing above coastal airports. Moreover, if there had been trouble, the most logical step would have been to land at Cartagena or Barranquilla, which have suitable radio navigation equipment, rather than to continue on to the distant and poorly-equipped airstrip at Mompos.

No Grounds for Seizure

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 4 May 79 p 8-A

/Dispatch by Narciso Castro Y./

/Text/ Cartagena, 3 May--Miguel Enrique Emiliani, chief of the Government Legal Office, said today that the Bolivar Government had ordered the return of an airplane which had landed at Mompos, south of this department, "because there were not and are not any charges against the two people on board."

The commander of that community's police district carried out an inspection of the aircraft and drew up a report stating that the plane had suffered a malfunction and that its crew had not been carrying any sort of drug.

The report was sent to the commander of the National Police, Bolivar Division, Col Fausto Zambrano, who in turn transmitted it to the governor, Elvira Facio Lince de Espinosa, the suitable official to be informed about the matter.

The governor's first response was to place Joaquin Franco Escobar, secretary of government, in charge of the investigation. He went to Mompos and inspected the airplane, finding nothing that would provide grounds for charging the plane's occupants with drug trafficking.

A second report by the commander of the Mompos Police District and the two previous reports supported the statement by the two Americans. Consequently,

Henriquez Emiliani said, no legal basis was found for holding them and keeping the airplane, "and thus we couldn't commit a flagrant abuse of authority without expecting to face the consequences."

This morning Governor Elvira Facio Lince de Espinosa met with her advisors to analyze the situation; and she has promised to issue a statement later in the afternoon. That statement, according to a source close to the governor, will set forth the facts underlying the conclusion drawn by the director of the Legal Office.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

WORLD RECORD CLAIMED IN ANTIDRUG FIGHT

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 13 May 79 p 3-A

Text Criminal activity has diminished notably in Colombia during the past 4 months, thanks to an intensive effort on the part of the government and to the effectiveness of the measures adopted to reduce crime of all types, according to a communique issued by the press office of the president of the republic.

The communique states that comparative studies drafted by the staff of F-2 for the years 1978 and 1979 show clearly how satisfactory the results have been.

Operations which have been carried out have made it possible to markedly reduce such crimes as kidnapping, extortion, subversive activity and drug trafficking.

The government asserts that this partial triumph over crime does not constitute a complete victory, but rather a resolute step toward guaranteeing security and restoring full confidence in institutions to the benefit of the community.

The determination with which the authorities have worked during the months of January, February, March and April--the communique says--has led to a considerable reduction of the number of crimes against people and property.

The bulletin says that during the first 4 months of 1978, 45,588 crimes were recorded, whereas in 1979 the number was 44,817, a reduction of 771 crimes, or 1.69 percent.

The bulletin notes that one of the most positive accomplishments in the war against crime is in the sphere of crimes against people. The research conducted by the F-2 statistics section, national police bureau, shows that the decline in this activity, due to the campaign carried out by the authorities, makes it possible to see how magnificent results benefiting society are achieved when citizens work together to insure the existence of a friendlier, more secure country.

The communique also states that in 1977, 20,958 crimes against people were committed, whereas in 1978 the figure was 20,816. In 1979 it was 18,975, which indicates success.

Kidnapping

This crime, which in 1977 caused a considerable stir in the community, has declined to its lowest level as the result of vigorous governmental activity and laws in effect.

The campaign against this crime has had such excellent results that during the first 4 months of 1979 only 6 people were kidnapped. Thus far, 3 have been freed, and 28 members of kidnapping gangs active in the country have been captured.

The communique provides the figures for kidnappings, which illustrates the decline in this crime in our country.

It shows that in 1977, 13 people were kidnapped; in 1978, 12; and this year, 6. It notes, too, that in the course of efforts to rescue 3 of the 6 kidnapping victims, investigating agents killed 5 criminals considered to be extremely dangerous.

The official bulletin says that in the struggle against drug traffickers, the campaign carried out by the present administration is setting a record not only in America but in the world.

The staff of F-2 has reported that during the months of January, February, March and April, the narcotics section handled 74 cases, apprehending 145 people, including 137 Colombians: 126 men and 11 women.

Also arrested during those operations were 8 foreigners, including 5 men; and psychotropic substances valued at 779.950 million pesos were seized. This figure is the highest recorded in the history of the country's struggle against drug trafficking, the bulletin said.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

DAS BREAKS INTERNATIONAL COCAINE RING

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 May 79 p 9-D

/Text/ The DAS /Administrative Department of Security/ has discovered a modern laboratory for the processing of cocaine, seized 34 kilograms of the drug, captured 8 traffickers and broken up a powerful nationwide network operating in the country's leading cities.

The blow was struck at "Eucrania" farm, on the outskirts of Armenia.

The factory was found in operation: While some of the suspects were engaged in weighing the 34 kg which had already been processed, the others were using such equipment as filters and driers to obtain an additional amount of cocaine not specified in the official reports.

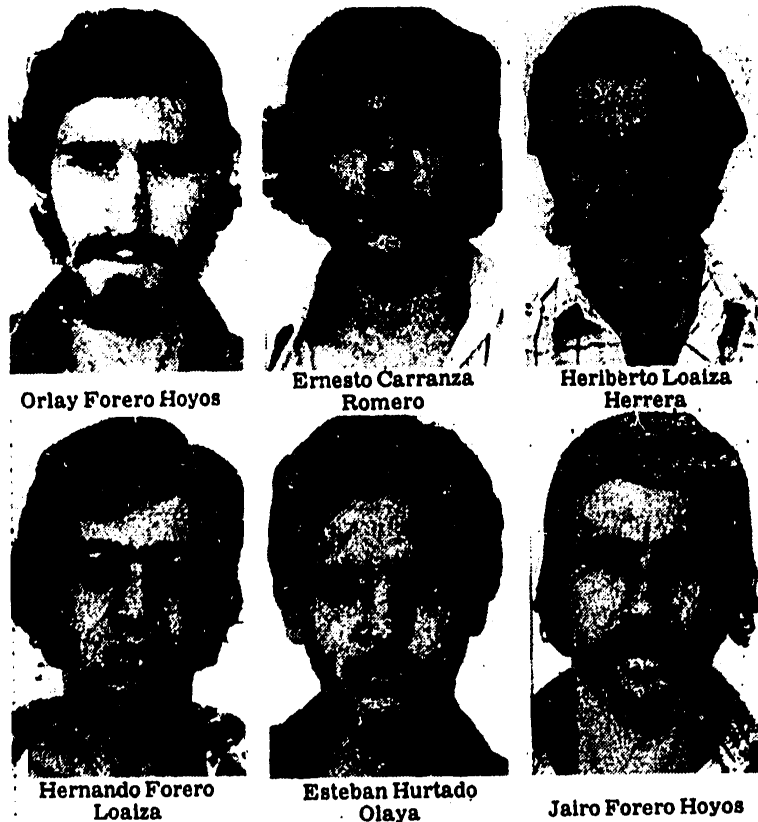
The people arrested were identified as Heriberto Loaiza Herrera and Ernesto Carranza Romero, who were said to own the shipment and the laboratory, Esteban Hurtado Olaya, Jairo Forero Hoyos, Orlais Forero Hoyos, Hernando Forero Loaiza, Ana Lili Salcedo and Aida Maria Londono. The six last-named included the laboratory's "cooks" and "chemists." Moreover, one of the women was supposed to serve as the "mule," transporting the large shipment of cocaine to the United States.

The owner of the farm, Pedro Antonio Forero Duarte, was not found in the house at the time of the raid, but an intensive search for him has been launched.

The laboratory seized at "Eucrania" farm had extremely sophisticated equipment for the processing of the drug. In fact, in addition to the hundreds of cans, kegs and drums of chemicals used in the processing of the cocaine, the authorities found high-quality driers equipped with thermostats intended to maintain a constant temperature, which makes possible a maximum yield of cocaine from each kg of paste, and it helps to achieve a high level of purity. The extremely precise scale is also of the highest quality.

Besides breaking up the gang of cocaine manufacturers and traffickers at the farm in the Quindio Pass region, the authorities uncovered their connections in Bogota, Medellin, Cali and Barranquilla. These connections extended to Colombians and foreigners living in the United States, especially in the states of Florida and New York.

The names of those other drug traffickers located in Colombia and the United States were not given to the press, but it was expected that the first arrests would soon take place.



[Photos continued on following page]



Aida María Londoño



**Ana Lily Salcedo
Salamanca**

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

DEFENSE MINISTRY ANNOUNCES DRUG BUSTS

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 7 May 79 p 11-A

/Text/ A marihuana farm covering over 10,000 hectares has been found by military authorities in La Guajira. The Ministry of Defense estimated that a crop of that size could produce 30,000 tons of the drug, the value of which would approach 30 million pesos.

The large cultivated tract was found in the area between La Cuchilla del Mico and the Cascajalito area, on the Tapias River, Tomarrazon Corregimiento, Riohacha district.

The official report states that the military unit began destruction of the crop, one of the largest ever found in the country.

Other Operations

The Ministry of Defense also reported that during the past week several operations were carried out successfully along the country's northern coast, with the following results:

The apprehension of 21 drug traffickers, including 1 foreigner.

Items seized included 7 long-range firearms, 3 short-range firearms, 49 cartridges of various calibers, 2 vehicles, 2 airplanes, 1 boat and 3,082 bales of marihuana.

A detailed breakdown of these operations:

27 April 1979: The following materiel was seized at the place called Caricari:

1 F-100 truck; 1 F-350 truck; 12 drums of gasoline; 18 bales of marihuana.

28 April 1979: Off San Juan del Guia the fishing boat "Soavina-7," under a Panamanian flag, was seized and the eight people aboard it, held.

29 April 1979: At the place called Buritica 100 bales of marihuana were seized.

29 April 1979: At the place called Wayanepamjana 2 trucks which had been stolen in Riohacha were recovered and 90 bales of marihuana were seized.

29 April 1979: At the place called Cardon a twin-engine airplane bearing registration number N-689-S was seized. One of the two people aboard was wounded by an Indian.

1 May 1979: At the place called Rancheria, at kilometer 32 of the road from Riohacha to Cuestecitas, 10 suspects were arrested and the following material was confiscated:

Five M-1 rifles; 49 .30-caliber cartridges; 5 clips for an M-1 rifle; 5 .22-caliber pistols; 5 hydraulic presses; 1 smoke bomb; 125 grams of TNT with primer and wire; 30 tool boxes; 2,500 bales of marihuana.

1 May 1979: At Plato (Magdalena) an American DC-7 airplane was seized, and one suspect (apparently the pilot) was held; and the following items were confiscated:

Two M-1 rifles; 2 shotguns.

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CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

PLANES' DISAPPEARANCE ATTRIBUTED TO DRUG TRAFFICKERS

Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 May 79 p 1

[Article by Jorge Jurado]

[Text] Quito, 17 May (AP)—The president of the Ecuadorean Chamber of Commerce, Carlos Ponce, yesterday asked for the cooperation of Brazil, Colombia and Peru in investigating the disappearance of two planes belonging to the national company SAETA that were carrying a total of 116 passengers. According to him, they were hijacked by drug traffickers.

"The two planes, which disappeared under identical circumstances on flights between Quito and Cuenca, have unquestionably been hijacked by organizations involved in drug trafficking in Latin America," he stated upon leaving a meeting with President Alfredo Poveda.

He did not go into detail or clarify what facts he was basing that assertion on.

Nationwide Operation

He said that he had told Admiral Poveda that it was necessary to provide every technical safeguard for flights in the country and to undertake "a nationwide operation" to look into every possible clue until the disappearance of the two planes is cleared up. Poveda pledged government assistance to this end.

This past 23 April a SAETA Airlines Viscount with 57 persons on board disappeared in flight between Quito and Cuenca, the capital of Azuay Province, 400 kilometers to the south.

On 15 August 1976 another SAETA Viscount with 59 occupants met with the same fate along the same route.

Both planes disappeared just a few minutes before their scheduled landings.

In both cases great efforts were made to locate the planes, including assistance from U.S. Air Force units. But all efforts were fruitless, and mystery continues to surround the two planes and their passengers.

Ponce said that the Chamber of Commerce decided to intervene in the matter and to advocate international action with cooperation from the governments of Colombia, Brazil, Peru and Ecuador to reopen the investigation.

Panic

The chamber indicated that a search is imperative because "we cannot ignore mysterious incidents without a serious risk that panic will result and erode people's faith in air transportation in Ecuador."

It is asking the Directorate of Civil Aviation to conduct a detailed study on the Quito-Cuenca route, which is termed "the route of death" because of the series of air accidents that have occurred on it over the last 10 years.

The chamber noted that Ecuadorean legislation does not provide for cases of airplane disappearance, and therefore the principle of presumption of death or disappearance cannot be applied unless a definite conclusion is reached beforehand that an accident has occurred.

As an example it cites the case of a missing father who leaves a wife and children who cannot be regarded as a widow or as orphans under the law.

Among those missing on last month's flight are 25 employees of the Office of the Comptroller of the Nation, which has offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the location of the plane.

8743
CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

LARGE COCAINE SHIPMENT SEIZED, EIGHT ARRESTED

Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 10 May 79 p 11

[Text] Valued at 200,000 sucres an important cocaine shipment, which had been smuggled into the country from Peru was seized by local INTERPOL agents on the grounds of the Santa Teresa ranch, located on the 55th kilometer of the Duran-Tambo highway.

In this heavy blow against drug traffickers, in addition to 142 kilograms of the drug confiscated, 4 vehicles and a motorcycle were seized and 8 members of the group were captured. These members, it has been learned, were acting through "couriers" and liaison men in several towns of Ecuador, Peru, Colombia and the United States of America.

INTERPOL announced that its agents would continue exhaustive investigations to arrest foreign and national elements connected with the already disbanded group who were able to evade the police blockade.

Large-Scale Traffic

Officially, the provincial headquarters for the struggle against drug traffic announced that from confidential reports it had been learned about mid-April that the cocaine shipment had been smuggled from Peru. After the initial investigations, it was established that the cocaine was transported on a yacht to Puerto Callao, Peru, owned by Peruvian trafficker N. Vargas.

The agents unfolded their operation through several places within the country when it was learned that the drug had been moved in a trailer truck normally transporting cement sacks to Pacasmayo, camouflaged with the rest of the shipment until it reached Huaquillas. This is why they had been able to outwit surveillance at the Ecuadorean and Peruvian customs and police border posts.

It was also learned that in Huaquillas, the cocaine, packaged as cement, had been transferred to a national trailer and driven to El Triunfo parish,

where it was put into a private van to be taken to the Santa Teresa ranch by Felix Pizarro Herrera, brother of drug trafficker Nicanor Pizarro, owner of the above-mentioned ranch, who had been posing as an honest banana merchant and cattle buyer.

The Operation Works; Arrests

According to the information received, it had been known that at Nicanor's house in Milagro there had been meetings between Peruvian and Colombian traffickers who formed the band, the Santa Teresa ranch had been under surveillance and agents had been deployed to the capital to occupy Nicanor Pizarro's house and try to arrest the individuals implicated in the traffic of drugs which would bring millions.

For this reason, it was pointed out, Ecuadoreans Nicanor, Hector Vanegas Flores alias "Orlando" and Elio Quezada Carrion and Colombian Guillermo Rios Morales were arrested.

Simultaneously, INTERPOL agents went into Santa Teresa and apprehended Felix Pizarro who, as the owner's brother, was the administrator and his brother-in-law, Luis Abril Heras. A vast sector of the property was searched and a house, conditioned and equipped with apparatus for refining cocaine was discovered, a kind of laboratory where there were washbasins, bathrooms, electricity, adhesive ribbons, a precision balance and other equipment. Dogs specialized in detecting drugs were used in the search which yielded 1.5 kilograms of the drug in a package protected with polyethylene and jute and 200 pounds of paper used for packaging cocaine in a corner of the house, underground. Later, after a thorough search, the drug hiding place was established, underground, in plastic bags, where the drug traffickers had put it when they arrived in the early morning. The drug traffickers are Alfonso Pizarro Herrera, Jose Luis Guevara Gamboa alias "Pepe Lucho," who escaped, and Carlos Astudillo Noriega who is under arrest in Santa Rosa.

In addition, Jose Ventura Rodriguez Pizarro, who was one of those collaborating with Felix Pizarro in the transfer of the drug from one trailer truck to the other to transport it to El Triunfo, was arrested in the town of Huaquillas.

The 142 kilograms of cocaine confiscated represent the heaviest blow received by national and international drug traffickers here. It is estimated that one kilogram is worth 15,000 dollars or a total of 2.13 million dollars and, in Ecuadorean currency, 59,650,000 within the country and, upon being resold in the black markets of consumption abroad, each kilogram is worth 50,000 dollars, that is, 7.1 million dollars, or 198.8 million sucres. Three vans, one automobile and one motorcycle used by the drug traffickers in their illicit activities were confiscated. INTERPOL will turn them over to the courts so a penal judge can prosecute them for drug possession and trafficking.

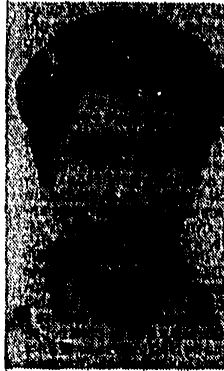


Ello Quezada Carrión

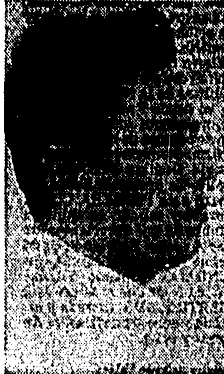


Luis Abril Heras

Prisoners at the Modelo prison, drug traffickers Nicanor Florencio Pizarro Herrera; Guillermo Rios, Colombian and Felix Pizarro, implicated in the smuggling of a cocaine shipment worth millions of sucres.



Carlos Luzziaga Noriega



José Rodríguez Pizarro

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GSO: 5300

ECUADOR

FOUR COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 25 May 79 p 20

[Text] Four international drug smugglers were captured by Pichincha Interpol agents just as they were trying to make a deal for 10 kilograms of cocaine paste, which have an estimated value of more than \$500,000, about 14 million sucres.

Ecuadorean citizens Victor Manuel Cueva Quezada, Jose Maria Paz Jimenez, Olme Alcides Mosquera Cadena and Guillermo Felix Paz Jimenez have been placed in police jails. According to their declarations at the Interpol police station, they bought the 10 kilos of cocaine in Cariamanga, Loja from Lorgio Moncayo, an Ecuadorean who is at large. The drug was transported in a 1979 Datsun Havana station wagon to Quito, where it was seized along with the four drug traffickers as they were allegedly making a sale in Chillogallo Park.

When agents searched the station wagon, they found seven packages of cocaine with a gross weight of about 10 kilograms.

After the pertinent investigations, the four arrested men were sent to Quito State Jail on orders from the prison selection office of the judiciary to await trial on drug trafficking charges.



Drug traffickers captured by Pichincha Interpol agents as they were trying to sell 10 kilograms of cocaine paste, valued at 14 million sucres. Beside the drug are Victor Manuel Cueva Quezada, Jose Paz Jimenez, Olme Mosquera Cadena and Guillermo Paz Jimenez

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CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

BRIEFS

COLOMBIAN TRAFFICKER FLEES PRISON--Guayaquil (AEP)--A Colombian drug trafficker identified as Harvy Mora Ospina, who has ties with one of the worldwide gangs involved in this criminal business, has escaped inexplicably from the Litoral Penitentiary, where he had been placed on orders from the seventh criminal court judge of Guayas, Dr Marco Martillo Murillo. The Ecuadorean Press Agency learned that Mora Ospina escaped from Pavillion "A" of the penitentiary last Saturday; he left by the prison door, having passed himself off as a person who had come to visit. Personnel within the penitentiary are assumed to be accessories. Harvy Mora Ospina was captured some time ago by agents of Interpol's Guayas Section, and based on their report, plus the evidence accumulated against the defendant, the seventh criminal court judge sentenced him to 7 years in prison, but he has now escaped under the aforementioned circumstances. [Text] [Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 29 May '79 p 24]

8743

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING RING CAPTURED

Five Arrested, Laboratory Found

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 16 May 79 Sec B p 3

[Text] The Federal Judicial Police detailed to this border port captured an international drug trafficking ring which was operating in the states of Guerrero and Tamaulipas, and in Illinois, in the United States, consisting of five individuals.

The drug traffickers were conducting purchase-sale transactions involving heroin, cocaine and opium, in large quantities, which were processed in a clandestine laboratory that they had in Guerrero.

The first to be arrested were Jacinto Vega Vega, Jose Mercham Huertado and Jose Gregorio Perez Vargas, while they were enroute to Reynosa in a car to collect \$31,000, resulting from the sale of half a kilogram of cocaine.

Upon being questioned, they disclosed that they were to be given this money by Francisco Parra Vega and Juan Martinez Rodriguez, who were in Ciudad Reynosa when arrested.

Based on the investigations carried out by the federal agents detailed here in Nuevo Laredo, it was learned that Juan Martinez Rodriguez, a Mexican-American, was responsible for shipping the drugs from our country's northern border to Chicago, Illinois.

Parra Vega was charged with storing the drugs which they purchased in various states from other drug traffickers in Ciudad Reynosa.

Gen Joaquin Figueroa Luna, deputy director of the Federal Judicial Police, learned that this ring had branches in Guerrero, and ordered a group of special agents to go to the settlement of Barranca de Agua Fria, in the municipality of Chilpancingo, Guerrero, to investigate a clandestine laboratory in which the drugs of the aforementioned ring were being processed.

The agents located the laboratory, and also seized 2 kilograms and 350 grams of already processed pure heroin, and 750 grams of opium gum to be processed, as well as 1 kilogram and 105 grams of cutting substance for heroin.

The individuals under arrest and the laboratory implements were placed at the disposal of agents from the Federal Public Ministry assigned to the states in which the drug traffickers were operating.



Jacinto Vega Vega had a large shipment of heroin in his residence, located in Barranca de Agua Fria, Guerrero.

Details on Other Members

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 20 May 79 Sec B p 3

[Text] A powerful international criminal ring of public poisoners has been completely disbanded in Mexico and the United States with the arrest of Jacinto Vega Vega, and continuous arrests are being made.

Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, coordinator of the agencies of the Federal Public Ministry in the northeast, stated yesterday morning that agents of the Federal Judicial Police had succeeded in arresting Jose Marchand Hurtado, a notorious "narco" from the state of Guerrero, who had lived for a long time in Reynosa, then in Morelia, and recently in Cuernavaca.

Also arrested was Jose Gregorio Perez Vargas, who was responsible for shipping the drugs from Guerrero to the various locations on the border; while Francisco Parra Vega was responsible for storing the drugs in Reynosa, and Juan Martinez Rodriguez was sending them to the United States for distribution in the city of Chicago.

He announced that, in order to supplement the investigation, federal agents had gone to Cuernavaca with Jose Marchand Hurtado and, in an office which he had in the downtown section, they seized 10 grams of very pure heroin that he was using as a sample, so as to sell large amounts which would be supplied to him by Jacinto Vega Vega.

A great deal of secrecy was being kept regarding Jacinto at the Federal Judicial Police preventive jail.



Jose Gregorio Perez Vargas was charged with carrying the drugs from the state of Guerrero.



Francisco Parra Vega stored the drugs in Reynosa



Juan Martinez Rodriguez was responsible for shipping them to the United States and distributing them in Chicago.



Jose Marchand Hurtado, a notorious drug trafficker in the country, is under arrest.

Ringleader Confesses

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 16 May 79 Sec C p 7

[Excerpt] It should be explained that the Federal Police went to Chilpancingo because it was suspected that Vega Vega had drugs there; and this was how they discovered the heroin and opium, as well as a bottle of acetic acid, a bottle of hydrochloric acid, some receptacles, a precision scale, portable ovens, flat clay dishes and charcoal.

The Federal Police reported that Jacinto Vega Vega was arrested last Sunday on the highway between Mier and Monterrey. After being taken into custody, he was subjected to close questioning.

Vega Vega confessed that he had been engaged in drug trafficking for some time, and that he had recently shipped an undetermined amount of marihuana to the border recently. The drugs were subsequently confiscated, and were estimated as having a black market value of about \$80,000.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

HEROIN TRAFFICKER REPORTED ACQUITTED, THEN JAILED

Insufficient Evidence Claimed

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 5 May 79 Sec B p 5

[Text] On Thursday evening, Alberto Vazquez Castillo, alias "El Marciano," and Ernesto Diaz Reyes were acquitted by the second district judge, Luis Garcia Romero, who did not find sufficient evidence with which to take penal action against them for a crime against health in the degree of attempted heroin trafficking.

The two aforementioned individuals were granted a release with legal reservations; in other words, if the federal representative provides further proof, they may return to prison.

It should be noted that Alberto Vazquez was required to remain incarcerated in the municipal prison, because his legal status in another action that had been initiated against him is due to be resolved today in the third district court.

"El Marciano" and Ernesto Diaz Reyes were captured in mid-April by the Federal Judicial Police. The apprehension of the former led to the arrest of the Sinaloan fugitive from justice, Luis Guillermo Gonzalez Velarde, from whom they seized 3 kilograms of cocaine and 700 grams of heroin.

An order for the official imprisonment of Gonzalez Velarde was issued in the second district court; and therefore he is still confined in the Social Rehabilitation Center.

'El Marciano' Officially Jailed

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 8 May 79 Sec B p 7

[Text] Yesterday, the third district judge, Andres Cruz Martinez, initiated proceedings against Alberto Vazquez Castillo, alias "El Marciano," for being presumed guilty of a crime against health.

An order for the official imprisonment of the individual in question was issued after Cruz Martinez found sufficient evidence with which to take penal action against him in case No 29-79.

Cruz Martinez decided that there was, indeed, evidence against Vazquez Castillo as an individual presumed guilty of heroin trafficking, and declared him officially imprisoned. Therefore, "El Marciano" was incarcerated in the Social Rehabilitation Center.

In the same proceedings, action was taken against Antonio Garcia Espinoza, Alejandro Gonzalez Antu and Javier Montoya Perez, who were arrested by the Federal Judicial Police during February for being engaged in drug trafficking.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

HEROIN, COCAINE, TRAFFICKERS SEIZED

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 3 May 79 p 8-A

[Text] During the last 3 days of April 1979, the Federal Judicial Police in collaboration with the Army arrested 37 drug traffickers, confiscated 1.623 kilograms of heroin, 1.3 kilograms of cocaine, 2.5 tons of marihuana, and also impounded various vehicles which had been used to transport drugs.

Federal officials were most active in Sinaloa, Chiapas, Coahuila, Tamaulipas, Guerrero and the Federal District, though the arrests took place in 21 different locations within the nation of Mexico.

Police impounded a bimotor plane from the United States, No. N-7920Y, which had been abandoned on a hidden airfield in San Ignacio, Baja California, as well as three autos and guns of various calibers.

Also, the national Attorney General's office, working with planes, detected during the same period some 1,183 opium poppy fields with 4,243,842 plants and 83 marihuana fields with 374,640 plants.

These fields were discovered in San Nicolas Tumbiscatio, near Morelos, Michoan, at Potrerillo Gap near Tamazula, Durango, at Ozaltepec, Oaxaca, in Misantla, Veracruz and in Panindicuaro, Michoacan.

11,989
CSO: 5300

MEXICO

HEROIN, OTHER SEIZURES DESCRIBED

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 24 Apr 79 p 8-A

[Text] Some 20 traffickers have been arrested, and the Federal Judicial Police have impounded half a kilogram of heroin, 2 tons of packaged marihuana, half a kilogram of opium and several vehicles used to transport the drugs, all as the result of actions in 10 states of the nation during the past 48 hours.

Various hidden airstrips were found, including two in Caleta, near the town of Lazaro Cardenas, one in Playitas, near the town of Tlambiscatio and three in Tupina, Mexiquillo and Huahuatototan, town of Aquila. The heroin and the opium were in the possession of traffickers in Tamaulipas and Sinaloa.

In the settlement of Otalillas, near Badiraguato, Sinaloa, the opium was found in an abandoned house, and presumed traffickers Celia del Carmen Robles Almazan, Agapito Munoz and Flavio Pruneda, who had the heroin, were found later.

In Tijuana, police captured Jose Santa Maria Medina, called "The Saint," for being in possession of 20 grams of heroin.

In Paso del Humo, Tamaulipas, Federal Judicial Police intercepted a 1977 Ford pickup without license plates carrying half a ton of packaged marihuana and 3 kilograms of seeds.

Presumed traffickers arrested at the time are Jose Luis Cantu Campos, Francisco Frias Lozano and Santos Martinez Velazquez.

The states with greatest activity are Tamaulipas, Jalisco, Michoacan, San Luis Potosi, Sinaloa, Sonora, Veracruz and Baja California.

11,989
CSO: 5300

MEXICO

MARIHUANA FOUND IN BANANA CARGO

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 24 Apr 79 p 8-A

[Text] The Federal Highway Police have confiscated a truck which had been carrying a ton of marihuana camouflaged as a load of bananas. This occurred on the Ciudad del Oro-Salttillo section of the Manzanillo-Ciudad Mier highway.

Officer Arnoldo Garcia Leal stopped the truck, Dina model with license number C-2326, property of Pedro Salas Arellano, driven by the owner accompanied by Alfonso Ochoa Mata.

The truck, its cargo of marihuana and bananas, the driver and his companion were placed under the jurisdiction of the Public Ministry of Saltillo, Coahuila.

The Federal Judicial Police stated that the permanent campaign against drug trafficking is continuing throughout Mexico, in cooperation with the proper authorities.

11,989
CSO: 5300

MEXICO

FLORES: WE NO LONGER EXPORT DRUGS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 May 79 p 39-A

[Text] Mexico no longer exports heroin or marihuana to the United States as a result of the 80 percent reduction in the cultivation of cannabis indica and opium poppies, according to a statement made on 30 April 1979 by the Attorney General of Mexico, Oscar Flores Sanchez.

The official stated also that during the past 2 years, in carrying out "Operation Condor," the Federal Judicial Police along with the Army have destroyed more than 40 billion pesos worth of drugs.

"The traffickers have had to emigrate to other nations in order to continue growing these harmful substances, since now in Mexico it is impossible for them to make any money," Flores Sanchez added.

The Attorney General said, "The struggle of the Mexican government against narcotics has been supported by the other nations who share the problem."

11,989
CSO: 5300

MEXICO

PRESUMED TRAFFICKERS CRASH IN JALISCO

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 26 Apr 79 p 26-A

[Article by Eduardo Chimely: "Survivors Flee Jalisco Plane Wreck"]

[Text] Guadalajara, Jal., 25 April--A Cessna 306 aircraft bearing No. N-71905 crashed while attempting to land at a clandestine landing strip and exploded in flames. Its four occupants, presumably drug traffickers, fled the scene.

The accident occurred near dawn at San Nicolas, near the town of Zapopan. Police found only the wrecked plane.

Farmers of the area told Federal Judicial Police agents that they saw the four persons flee, and added that this airstrip is equipped with lights for night landings and that planes have been landing there often.

It was learned also that the land on which the strip is located belongs to Fernando Gallo Lozano, the secretary of the city government of Tlaquepaque.

According to Mario Alberto Cuevas, coordinator of the Campaign Against Narcotics, the plane was worth 2.5 million pesos and had been stolen in the United States.

11989

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

BRIEFS

TAXI DRIVERS WITH HEROIN--Forces from the Federal Judicial Police under orders from Comdr Jose de Jesus Garardo Serrano arrested Adelaido Galaviz Arredondo and Jose Gonzalez Duarte, well-known taxi drivers from the Corona taxicab stand located at Obregon Avenue and Ochoa Street, with half a kilogram of pure heroin in their possession. The investigation of the case made by the Federal Police indicated that Galaviz Arredondo and Jose Gonzalez Duarte were engaged in heroin trafficking. The former supplied it to drug addicts and contacts from the United States, and the latter processed it in his residence on 15 de Enero Street in the Lomas development of Nogales, the site where he was arrested while "cutting" the drug with acid which was confiscated. The traffickers had been in the illegal drug business for several years, concealing their sinister activities from society and justice by spending their "free" time as taxi drivers, which did not net them a minimum of what they earned from the drug traffic, until they were arrested by the Federal Police in this major investigation conducted under the direction of Comdr Gerardo Serrano. Yesterday, they were placed at the disposal of the coordinating agent of the Federal Public Ministry, Manuel Delgado Duran. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 17 May 79 p 4] 2909

MARIHUANA SHIPPING PLANE SEIZED--Forces from the Federal Judicial Police confiscated a light plane in which marihuana is presumed to have been shipped to the United States, and which had landed 3 kilometers south of the municipal airport in Reynosa, Tamaulipas. There was a large amount of marihuana traces inside the plane. The Federal Police observed that the rear seats were missing, and hence concluded that they had been removed purposely in order to make room for the marihuana shipments that were to be taken to the United States. At a press conference yesterday morning, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez released the "news report" sent by telex from Ciudad Reynosa, in which the federal agents detailed to that location announced the occurrences of 4 May. The Reynosa Federal Police reported that, while on guard duty at the municipal airport in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, they heard that a small plane had made a forced landing about 3 kilometers south of the airport; whereupon they mobilized immediately. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 8 May 79 Sec B p 7] 2909

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/09: CIA-RDP82-00850R000100070012-0

12 JULY 1979

(FOUO 29/79)

2 OF 2

MARIHUANA SEIZED, TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT--The Federal Judicial Police detailed to this town under orders from Comdr Jose de Jesus Gerardo Serrano dealt another blow to the marihuana traffic when they seized a large shipment of marihuana which several drug traffickers had hidden in a warehouse on Arreola Street, and also succeeded in arresting two presumed traffickers. Humberto Garcia de Alba, agent of the Federal Public Ministry in this town, gave the aforementioned information to DIARIO, adding that, after a difficult investigation, the federal agents managed to learn that a large amount of marihuana was in a warehouse located at 1294 Arreola Street. The agents went to that location, and succeeded in capturing Jose David Castaneda Sanchez and Lorenzo Luis Melendez Fernandez, who were guarding the drugs in a Volkswagen car. Yesterday, the traffickers were turned over to the coordinating agent of the Federal Public Ministry, Garcia de Alba. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 16 May 79 p 4] 2909

CSO: 5330

PANAMA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZURE--Over the weekend, customs officials at Tocumen Airport confiscated more than 2 million balboas worth of cocaine. On Friday morning, Jorge Alfonso Escobar Araque, a 23-year-old student living in Los Angeles, California, and Manuel Tomas Amador Navarro were arrested when 1 kg of pure cocaine was found hidden in the false bottoms of their shoe soles. They were on their way to Nassau. Yesterday, Guatemalans Santos de Jesus Berganza and Oscar Perez Jimenez were arrested when cocaine paste was found in their possession. They said they were taking the drug to Mexico. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 11 Jun 79 PA]

CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

MANDRAX SEIZED, TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 28 May 79 p D-25

[Text] The Narcotics Bureau of the Judicial Technical Police (PTJ) announced that three persons have been arrested and that in their possession were found 9,000 tablets of the drug "Mandrax," valued by police at 300,000 bolivars.

Those arrested are Emiliano Bello, Roberto Elpidio Cordovez and Hector Perez Ramirez, said Police Commissioner Leopoldo Yerena, the chief of the Narcotics Bureau.

He indicated that they are on the trail of Felicia Medina, who has ties with the group.

The drug, which came from Colombia, was beginning to be distributed in the metropolitan area. The arrests took place in La Guaira and Caracas.



Emiliano Bello,
arrested

Hector Perez,
arrested

Felicia Medina,
wanted

Roberto Cordovez,
arrested

8743
CSO: 5300

91

BELGIUM

BRIEFS

AUSTRALIANS ON TRIAL--Brussels (AAP-Reuter).--Two Queenslanders pleaded guilty in court here yesterday to charges of drug smuggling. They are John Greer, a musician, from Brisbane, and Garry Campbell, 39, an engineer, from Cunnamulla. A third Australian, William Phillips, 38, a tattooist from Brisbane, was being tried in absentia. Phillips, as well as two others of the 12 accused, failed to appear in court after being released provisionally last year. The prosecution asked for the maximum penalty of 10 years in jail for the Australians. They were arrested at a Brussels hotel in April last year while allegedly buying 25 kilograms of Bolivian cocaine, worth about \$3 million on the black market. During questioning in court, Greer alleged that Campbell was a security agent. Campbell said Phillips was not involved, declaring that he, Campbell, had put the drug in Phillips' luggage to hide it. [Excerpts] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 5 May 79 p 6]

CSO: 5300

DENMARK

SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTER: MORE HARD DRUGS USED

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 18 Jun 79 p 3

Text Narcotics abuse appears to have peaked and there are signs of a reduction in the number of young drug addicts.

- Increasingly, current problems involve a hard core of drug addicts over 25 years of age. This information was revealed by the Minister of Social Affairs Erling Jensen in a consultation with the Social Affairs Committee in Parliament.

This was the reason for a consultation between the Social Affairs Committee and a contact committee on 29 May regarding narcotics.

The chairman of the Social Affairs Committee Bernhard Tastesen said that the material received by the committee in connection with that meeting points toward a more liberalized treatment of drug abuse and private clinics. The chairman also said we are now seeing more criminal cases in connection with drugs and drug abuse. Bernhard Tastesen pointed out that this is due to stepped-up efforts to deal with such matters.

8953
CSO: 5300

DENMARK

ARRESTS MADE IN GANG ALLEGED TO HAVE SMUGGLED COCAINE

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 11 May 79 p 18

/Article by Anders Wiig: "Disclosure of Narcotics Gang With Sales Worth Millions"/

/Text/ Since the beginning of the year narcotics police in Copenhagen has disclosed still another narcotics gang, which is referred to as the "heroin gang" at police headquarters. One of the principal defendants is a 54-year old Danish woman, who has allegedly been in charge of smuggling millions worth of hashish and heroin into Denmark from Turkey. She has denied it, but she has been pointed out as an accomplice in connection with substantial sales of narcotics. Two criminal assistants, Kjeld Orla Jensen and Henry Munch Nielsen, have devoted themselves to this case for almost 6 months and, according to Police Inspector P. Gauguin, "have carefully constructed a complicated mosaic." Police continues to withhold important details because further arrests are yet to be made. Police estimates that the smuggled goods have a "street" value of almost 15 million kroner.

Loaded Pistols

The case began with a tip concerning the sale of cocaine early in 1979 and two men were arrested. One of them, Mogens Christiansen, a craftsman from Farevejle, is the principal defendant. A large amount of money, together with some heroin and hashish were confiscated. Through repeated searches police found 701 grams of heroin and three pistols, two of which were loaded.

Together with other gang members, Christiansen admits the gang has been responsible for smuggling 200 kilograms hashish, 3 kilograms medicinal morphine, 1 kilogram opium and 5.9 kilograms heroin into Denmark and Sweden from Turkey and India. The drugs were of poor quality, but usable. Acting as wholesalers, they sold the drugs for about 8.5 million kroner and it is estimated that Danish and Swedish drug addicts purchased these goods for about 15 million kroner.

The 54-year-old Eva Fink, who lives in Turkey, was arrested 2 February on Storstrom bridge after a police chase. The gang pointed her out as the person who had arranged the contact with Turkish exporters of hashish and heroin.

Police knew she was coming to Denmark on a visit and her Rover had just passed through customs when the Narcotics Division sounded the alarm. Mrs Fink, who has been involved in the importation of farm machinery among other things into Turkey, denied the charges. She said the allegations and the serious charges by police were fictitious. They did not find 1 gram of narcotics in her car, but she is still charged with several instances of smuggling.

8952
CSO: 5300

FINLAND

BRIEFS

DRUG POLICE ARRESTS--A Swedish man and two women from Gambia and Kenya respectively have been arrested by the head of the police's narcotics squad in Helsinki. The man and the women were stopped in a traffic check. Since the Swede was intoxicated, all three were taken for interrogation and the car was searched. Thereupon, several grams of marijuana and some documents pointing to drug dealing were found. Now the man has confessed that he has smuggled six kilograms of marijuana from Africa to a town in southern Sweden and to Stockholm. However, the police suspect that the man has smuggled much more narcotics to Sweden. A Swedish investigator from the federal police's narcotics squad has gone to Helsinki to assist his Finnish colleagues. [Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 5 May 79 p 8] 9336

CSO: 5300

GREECE

SWEDE ARRESTED ON RHODES FOR SMUGGLING HASHISH

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 12 Jun 79 p 24

Text A 26-year-old Swedish woman was arrested at the end of last week by the police in Rhodes. The woman is now in custody, suspected of smuggling narcotics.

She had 2.5 kilos hashish in her baggage when she was arrested in a harbor in the company of her mother. The couple had just arrived in Rhodes from Turkey.

The woman, whose home is Stockholm, runs the risk of a very long prison sentence.

When the woman was apprehended by the Rhodes police, she was carrying the hashish in belt around her waist. Her mother, it is said, was unaware of the woman's narcotic dealings which have been going on since December last year.

DAGENS NYHETER has learned that several Greek citizens are also involved in the smuggling tangle. The woman, who supposedly operated as a courier between Greece and Turkey, has been interrogated at length by the police. The Swedish ambassador in Athens is involved with the matter and has obtained a lawyer for the woman.

The woman herself is a narcotic user and has been examined by Greek physicians. It was the ambassador who decided that the general state of her health was so poor that she was in need of medical care.

If her crime is judged serious by the Greek police, she runs the risk of punishment of many years duration.

6893
CSO: 5300

NORWAY

COCAINE USE IN OIL FIELDS CAUSES SECURITY CONCERNS

Copenhagen INFORMATION in Danish 26-27 May 79 p 3

Article by Ole Kromann: "Cocaine in Norway's North Sea Oil Fields"

Text The use of cocaine, which is seven times stronger than any narcotic stimulant known up to this point, has now been discovered in the North Sea oilfields and is causing security concerns in what is known as the world's most dangerous places of work.

It is also feared that the cocaine which is now appearing in the North Sea oilfields and in stavanger is being channeled through Norway into Sweden and Denmark. Lately, cocaine has turned up in street sales in Swedish cities, not least in Stockholm, where it is being sold for 2,500 Swedish kronor per gram.

Cocaine sales in connection with the North Sea oil activity were disclosed the other day when eight men--four Norwegians and four "foreigners"--were arrested in Stavanger, Norway's "oil capital."

They all pleaded guilty to the importation, sale and use of cocaine and other narcotics, like hashish. The four foreigners all work on the oil platforms, where they have sold cocaine and other drugs for some time.

The drugs sold for between 1,000 and 3,000 Norwegian kroner per gram. Authorities knew that 150 grams of cocaine had been smuggled into stavanger via Sola, the city's airport, and police received the first tip in January when 4 grams of cocaine were found hidden some place within the city.

Authorities fear there will be a growing number of accidents if the use of narcotics continues to spread in the oilfields.

8952
CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

CUSTOMS SERVICE INCREASES EFFORT TO STEM DRUGS IN MAIL

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 18 May 79 p 60

Article by Leif Dahlin

Text The smuggling of narcotics into Sweden by mail is steadily increasing. The ability of the Customs Service to stop "mail gangs" is limited, but the ambition to do so has risen considerably around the country. The Customs Service has made one confiscation after another. Small amounts are often involved, but not infrequently they lead to the police's unraveling big tangles. For example, the Postal Customs in Stockholm recently found a small amount of cannabis in Turkish children's books. A big gang with three branches has now been connected with the smuggling of 200 kilograms of cannabis.

Gunnar Thuland, chief of the Customs Service Criminal Section in Stockholm says,

"There is a definite indication that more and more people are smuggling in narcotics of all kinds by mail. In the eastern region from Gävle in the north to Oskarshamn in the south and Örebro in the west, five investigative groups are now working with good results. The freight control group which was established tentatively almost 2 years ago is now functioning well, and has detected a pattern, about which, for tactical reasons, I shall not comment on further."

One of the group's members, Bo Gustavsson, says, "Although we have 25 freight terminals and mail customs point in Stockholm as our work area in the search for narcotics. We have become an integrated group. It is stimulating and interesting work. We have relatively great freedom, and that is a condition for good results. The statistics show that the group has made 66 confiscations of narcotics in less than 2 years, leading to several large gangs' being destroyed, in cooperation with the Criminal police.

'Tips'

There is indignation within the group that the authorities permit the open sale of magazines which advocate drug misuse. At one sale place in a section of Stockholm, one can purchase Kronor a U.S. magazine for 20. It is a cheap weekly magazine, which describes how to cultivate cannabis, how one uses narcotics, and gives other "valuable" tips.

The purpose of the group is to stop the sales.

The chief of the Investigative Section of the Customs Service Criminal Division, Stig Dahlberg, showed us some confiscated packages in which narcotics have been found to demonstrate the cunning of the smugglers.

A shining green Indian velvet box with spangles was sent from Bombay. The customs declaration read: Contents: glass. The package was opened with the greatest of care, and in the double bottom of the box there was a cake of cannabis.

The confiscation led to the Customs Service Criminal Division's being able additionally to trace six more such boxes to different addresses. Two men were apprehended and sentenced to 1 and a half years' imprisonment.

A pair of attractive Indian women's slippers appeared to the naked eye completely intact, but there was a pin in the heel of one of the slippers. When the pin was removed and the customs official applied pressure, a drop of cannabis extract trickled out. The recipient was a man in Uppsala. He was apprehended and sentenced to 2 and a half years' imprisonment.

Only a few weeks ago an Indian Food broker received 2 years' imprisonment for trying to smuggle in a kilogram of raw opium in a can of preserves. It was the Labrador Asta, one of the section's four narcotic dogs out of the total of 21 in the Customs Service, that reacted to the contents of the can.

Narcotic scout Folke Leven is with his dog 24 hours a day. They both participated in some of the five confiscations which the Customs Service made in Stockholm Wednesday and Thursday.

To Draw Attention

Asta is a welcome guest at the Postal Customs premises at Klarabergs Viadukt in Stockholm. Her master lets her loose among the mountains of packages from abroad--up to 2,000 a day. The personnel follow her search for narcotics with great interest. For the benefit of the photographer, Torgny Svedberg of the Control Group had hidden a well-wrapped package of narcotics on a package shelf. In a short time the Labrador held the package of narcotics in her jaws.

"She has been in service 3 years and, as far as I know, earned her pay many times over," says Folke Leven, who proudly recalls that Asta was responsible for the large cannabis find in a Pakistani Hercules airplane at Kungsängen airfield in Norrköping several years ago.

Torgny Svedberg emphasizes that the Control Group should not be too big. Only a few people from the extensive personnel at the Postal Customs can be involved.

"We move with the greatest caution when we find a suspect package. In the event that we make a mistake the package must be restored to its original condition. All these investigations are done in our own laboratory. One of the problems is the international rules (no compulsory identification) for obtaining general delivery packages.

"There are cases where we ourselves have sat as clerks at the post office on Vasagatan for several months and waited for some one to come to fetch a narcotic shipment. We have now worked out a system which lessens that surveillance. Moreover, the risks have increased for a smuggler if he continues to make use of general delivery," Torgny Svedberg says.

6893
CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

POLICE ARREST SIX IN INTERNATIONAL DRUG RING

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 26 Apr 79 pp 1, 5

[Article: "The Drugs Came On The Ferry"]

[Text] For several years--no one knows how many--an international gang has smuggled in over 100 kilograms of drugs worth around 10 million kronor in Sweden.

The drugs have been smuggled over Oresund on the ferries between Helsingborg and Helsingor. The affair is one of the largest ever in Sweden.

The prosecutor in Helsingborg has arraigned six persons and kept another in custody. During the past few months they have smuggled in drugs worth several million on trips from Amsterdam to Helsingborg and farther to Stockholm or Uppsala.

The first smuggler was caught 19 April with a large quantity of cannabis stashed away in his car. A narcotics dog at customs in Helsingborg discovered the drugs. Later, 14 kilograms of cannabis were taken from under the car's front fender.

After that, in the greatest of secrecy, the police in Helsingborg have been picking up, one by one, members of the smuggling ring, which apparently has had its headquarters in Uppsala. This is probably a drug syndicate that has provided Stockholm and Uppsala primarily with cannabis for several years. The whole affair was revealed Wednesday by Helsingborg prosecutor Carl Gustaf Pfeiff. How large quantities are involved is not known, but estimates in the hundreds of kilograms are considered realistic. If this is the case, its value is around 10 million kronor.

A storage box in a self-service store in Uppsala served as a drop.

Stopping drug smuggling over Oresund is impossible. Between Helsingborg and Helsingor alone, a ferry leaves every ten minutes.

9336
CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

POLICE HOLD OVER 150 SUSPECTS IN SWEEPING RAIDS

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 5 May 79 p 8

{Article: "Giant Drug Ring"}

[Text] Very large drug cases are being investigated by police in two places in western Sweden. In Gothenburg, during the course of several months, 146 persons have been apprehended, of which 76 have been arraigned. In Vanersborg, 14 people have been charged and some ten more have been apprehended. So far there, around 60 people are suspected of having committed crimes, but it is thought that in the end the case may involve several hundred. Amphetamines valued at 60 million kronor have been distributed in Gothenburg.

"We have been quite successful in Gothenburg, but we have stretched our resources to the utmost," says commissioner Arne Bjork. The number of narcotics offenders apprehended and arraigned is a record for such a short time.

Narcotics Worth 60 Million Kronor

In the Gothenburg case where two large groups probably have been working independently, cannabis and amphetamines valued at around 60 million dollars on the black market have been sold.

It has become apparent that a large part of the hundreds of kilograms of cannabis and amphetamines involved has been brought to Sweden by airplane.

Mysterious flights at night by business aircraft have been reported from Varmland on the one hand and an area of Kungälv some miles north of Gothenburg on the other. The flights have been guided by fires in order to drop the contraband at the right spot.

Narcotics have also been smuggled along with food--food cans have contained half amphetamines and half water so they would splash inside. The machine that seals the food cans was delivered from West Germany to Holland.

Part of the amphetamines are said to have been produced in Sweden, but this has not been proved, says Arne Bjork.

During the investigation, it has become clear that many people have been able to earn money from the drug trafficking without lifting a finger. By way of their banks, they have lent out their capital for drug purchases and gotten their money back many times over in a short period.

There have been problems during the investigation because many of those apprehended do not speak Swedish and because it has been difficult to get sufficiently qualified interpreters.

Well Dressed Men With Pistols

On the outskirts of the investigation, a pair of very well dressed men--they had expensive East European fur coats--were apprehended selling a powder at Gothenburg's central station. Both were armed, one with a Luger in a shoulder holster. However, they did not manage to take out their guns before being ordered to put their hands on a car roof and lean forward. Later, police in the two men's native country expressed admiration toward the Swedish police for being able to capture the men.

The Vanersborg case is not as large as the drug ring in Gothenburg, but hashish and amphetamines valued in the millions have been sold, according to chief prosecutor Thore Lovberg.

"The intention was clearly that an amphetamine distribution center should be established in Vanersborg," Thore Lovberg went on.

During the investigation it was found that narcotics passed both in and out of hospitals and corrections institutions in Vanersborg. Syringes and morphine, among other things, have been stolen from hospitals.

Most of the narcotics come from Holland and Denmark and have been smuggled in by mail. It has not been clarified whether any have been manufactured in Vanersborg.

Most of the 60 suspects interrogated so far are themselves drug abusers.

It will take time before the investigation in Vanersborg is complete. Some people who are suspected of serious crimes are still on the loose, both in Sweden and abroad.

P. S. On Vanersborg

The drug affair in Vanersborg continues to grow. Fourteen have been arraigned, seven of them last Thursday. Ten or so more have been apprehended, bringing the total of those apprehended to around 40. Around 60 suspects have been interrogated.

Chief prosecutor Thore Lyberg believes the number of those apprehended will reach over 100 before the investigation is complete.

The rings, there are at least two, had headquarters in common in an apartment a couple of hundred meters from the police station in Vanersborg.

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SWEDEN

HELSINGBORO-MALMO POLICE ROLL UP DRUGS GANG

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 8 Jun 79 p 11

/Text/ A new big narcotic tangle has been unwound in the last month by the police in Helsingborg in cooperation with the Malmö police. On Friday, Chief Prosecutor Carl-Gustaf Pfeiff in Helsingborg will bring indictments against three persons who are together under arrest in Helsingborg, suspected of serious narcotic crimes.

One of them, a 27-year-old man from Göteborg admits that he received during the years 1972-78 at least 54 kilograms of cannabis from a resident of Helsingborg for resale in Göteborg. He will not reveal who the customers were.

According to the prosecutor, the Helsingborg inhabitant has received at least 13 kilos of cannabis from a person who is now under arrest in Malmö.

A 28-year-old man admits that he has imported about 35 kilos of cannabis including the 13. He has been arrested along with seven other persons residing among other places in Emmaboda, Jönköping and Malmö. The 28-year-old man himself lived outside Kalmar.

The Helsingborg man admits to his narcotic deals with the 28-year-old but on the other hand does not admit to having had extensive deals with the Göteborg man. The latter states that had began to purchase cannabis on a small scale from the Helsingborg man in 1942 and that the deals expanded greatly during the years 75-77. Toward the end, cannabis cost up to 30 kronor per gram.

The third person arrested in Helsingborg is a 25-year-old man, a resident of northwest Skane. He is suspected of serious narcotics crimes with reference to about 6 kilos of cannabis. According to the prosecutor, he participated, among other things, in a purchase of 4 kilos in Malmö last year. (TT, Helsingborg).

More and more people are now being indicted in Goteborg for narcotic crimes, while the police unravel a big narcotic tangle in south Sweden. The latest indictment is against a 19-year-old student from Malmo who has recently sold amphetamines worth 2 million kronor.

His profit has been 120,000 kronor, while the supplier received 320,000 kronor for the narcotic. The rest, about 1.5 million kronor ended up with those who organized the sale.

When the 19-year-old was arrested, he owed the supplier 80,000 kronor which he had not been able to work off.

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SWEDEN

BRIEFS

AMPHETAMINES SEIZED--A 35-year-old resident of Malmo has sold during the last 2 years more than 50 kilograms of amphetamines to buyers in Malmo and Stockholm. A shipment of only about 10 kilograms of amphetamines to some individuals in Stockholm brought half a million kronor. On Thursday the resident of Malmo was indicated at the district court in his hometown for serious narcotic crimes, among other things. [Text] [Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 18 May 79 p 14/ 6893

CSO: 5300

WEST GERMANY

POLICEMAN, ACCOMPLICE ARRESTED AS DEALERS

West Berlin DER TAGESSPIEGEL in German 24 May 79 p 14

[Article by Tsp.: "Police Sergeant Caught Dealing in Narcotics"]

[Text] Late Tuesday evening, in front of a restaurant on Luederitz Street in Berlin-Wedding, officers of the narcotics detail and of the customs search office arrested a 31-year-old police sergeant and his accomplice, a 23-year-old man, on suspicion of having engaged in drug trafficking. Searching the apartment of the younger man, the police also temporarily arrested his 19-year-old girl friend. The officers seized a total of 3 kilograms of hashish concentrate, an amount equivalent to the active substance of 90 kilograms of hashish.

The police were able to make the arrest on account of a sham drug purchase. According to a spokesman of the narcotics detail, investigations concerning the seizure of 1 kilogram of hashish concentrate at another place had disclosed that the Luederitz Street restaurant managed by the police sergeant was said to harbor a narcotics trade center. An undercover narcotics agent thereupon pretended to be interested in buying an additional 3 kilograms of hashish concentrate. On Tuesday evening, the officer and his accomplice, a 23-year-old dental technician, arrived at the police sergeant's restaurant which is presently closed for purposes of renovation. In the restroom of the restaurant, the undercover agent received 3 kilograms of hashish against payment of DM 43,000.

After the agent had bought the hashish and departed, the two accomplices sat down in some chairs in front of the restaurant. Immediately, they were surrounded and overpowered by members of a special police unit. The police sergeant was found to carry a Czech 7.65-caliber pistol and nine rounds. The weapon was cocked, with the safety released. The officer also carried the money. Both of the men arrested refused to make a statement. Upon strong suspicion of having engaged in narcotics trafficking, they were brought before the investigating judge for the purpose of obtaining an arrest warrant. The police sergeant had been doing office work at a police station.

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WEST GERMANY

GANG MEMBERS, OTHERS SENTENCED FOR DEALING

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 5 Jun 79 p 12

[Article by Norbert Leppert: "Long-Term Prison Sentences for Members of the 'Singapore Gang'"]

[Text] Long-term prison sentences handed down this week by the Frankfurt judiciary concluded several court proceedings against narcotics dealers who as members of smuggling rings had been involved in smuggling drugs into the Federal Republic.

On Friday, two Turkish businessmen who had played a leading role in narcotics deals involving hashish and heroin valued at over DM 1 million were sentenced to 9 1/2 years' imprisonment by the First Criminal Court, thus getting their deserts.

According to the evidence, the Turks and their compatriots--six men and four women were on trial--had in 1977 distributed several 100 kilograms of hashish and approximately 6 kilograms of heroin in the Rhein/Main area. Among other stratagems designed to smuggle the drugs into the Federal Republic, they had rented a minibus and had hidden over 100 kilograms of hashish in its door paneling and inside the seats.

On another occasion, three Turks had posed as tourists traveling by bus from Istanbul to Munich, in order to get approximately 1 1/2 kilograms of heroin across the border. The Turks had also tried to outwit the customs officers through elaborate schemes: Crossing the border from the Netherlands to the Federal Republic, one of the smugglers--sitting in the back--pretended to be ill, in order safely to get across the border the heroin attached to his body. However, the trick was detected--and finally, at the beginning of last year, the entire ring was exposed, when the police succeeded in infiltrating agents.

The trial had originally been expected to take a year. Under the chairmanship of judge Christel Forester, the trial, in which tapes of tapped telephone conversations were the key evidence, was concluded within 1 month.

On Friday, when the judgment was pronounced, only 6 of the original 10 defendants were in the dock: The proceedings against one of the defendants have not yet been concluded; one of the women had evaded the trial, returning to her native country; a young Turk will be tried in juvenile court, and another man had already been acquitted.

Immediately after the judgment had been pronounced, the trial had to be interrupted, when one of the defendants collapsed, requiring medical attention; it was not one of those convicted, but the only defendant acquitted on that day: Out of anxiety over the impending sentence, he had not been able to sleep the night before.

In the middle of the week, the Frankfurt judiciary had convicted four Chinese members of a Far Eastern ring of narcotics dealers, which according to the police had since 1977 smuggled approximately 200 kilograms of heroin into the Federal Republic. Other members of this ring, which reportedly made the hitherto most extensive illegal heroin transaction (involving 100 persons), will be brought up for trial.

The four Chinese, who hail from Malaysia, were convicted on the same day-- in two separate proceedings--of having illegally imported narcotics. They were sentenced to 7 1/2, 6, 3 1/2 and 2 years' imprisonment, respectively. Since some of the dealers were under age, they were sentenced to juvenile detention. District Attorney Harald Koerner suspects that the ring prefers to use young people, since they would "only" be in for juvenile detention.

The proceedings before the Eighth Criminal Court illustrated the mode of operation of the group dubbed "Singapore Gang" by the police. On 17 May 1978, traveling by plane from Kuala Lumpur, the 20-year-old Fong--wearing shoes with extraordinarily high heels the soles of which concealed 310 grams of heroin--arrived in Frankfurt. The short Chinese with the high-heeled shoes aroused the suspicion of the customs officials; he was searched and finally arrested.

Among Fong's belongings, the officers found an address book containing coded entries. Fong was willing to work for the narcotics agents, and in sentencing him (3 1/2 years), the court took this into consideration as a mitigating circumstance. Fong directed the agents to a Mr Tan in a Frankfurt hotel, who was the contact man for the narcotics carriers arriving in the Federal Republic.

The claim that he had nothing to do with the heroin traffic and that he was looking for a job as a cook in Frankfurt was of no avail to Tan and his defense. The court and the district attorney pointed to an abundance of evidence which--considered in its entirety--established beyond all doubt that on account of attempted heroin trafficking Tan was liable to prosecution. Tan was sentenced to 2 1/2 years' imprisonment.

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WEST GERMANY

LSD, SPEED DEALERS ARRESTED

Munich SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 30 May 79 p 16

[Article by "bay": "Dope Dealers Caught Red-Handed"]

[Text] Bad Toelz. Fighting the narcotics trade in Bad Toelz, a district capital notorious as a transshipment center, the Weilheim police scored a big success. The narcotics agents put an end to the activities of two dealers and arrested a juvenile drug addict.

On 25 May, the 25-year-old man had aroused the suspicion of the agents who watched him--in a parking lot between Bad Toelz and Lenggries--preparing a fix of heroin and injecting himself. Questioned by the officers, the 25-year-old made a full confession and admitted that he had been addicted since the age of 12. After having been initiated through hashish, he had needed stronger and stronger drugs, ending up using heroin.

In the evening of the same day, the narcotics agents scored a second time. At their observation post in front of a Bad Toelz discotheque, they noticed two young men, who had arrived in a blue car with Fuerstenfeldbruck license plates, trying to sell the discotheque patrons hits, i.e. small paper strips soaked in LSD, and finally making three sales. When the agents were certain that the men were in fact dealers, they wanted to arrest them. However, having noticed the police, the men drove off in a hurry. Trying to make their escape, they thought it advisable to get rid of incriminating evidence and they threw the drugs and a pistol out of the car. Near Obergries, the police finally caught up with the fugitives and arrested them.

Searching the apartment of one of the two dealers, a 23-year-old student, the police seized numerous chemicals and 1 kilogram of speed, a stimulant, which like heroin belongs to the hard drugs and produces psychological and physiological dependence. The student had produced the hits in his apartment and sold them for DM 150 a piece.

The police estimate that if the two dealers had succeeded in selling the hot goods they would have made at least DM 150,000. According to the initial

findings of the officers, the two youths practically derived all of their income from drug sales, for the student--who had previously been convicted of trafficking in drugs and of theft from pharmacies--and his 21-year-old accomplice--who likewise had a criminal record--were unemployed. The younger one in particular was heavily addicted, although he had on several occasions undergone withdrawal treatment, and prompted by their addiction, they started to deal in drugs, hoping thereby to improve their financial situation.

Warrants were issued for the arrest of the two dealers. However, the police fear that the arrest of the two youths is merely the tip of an iceberg. They feel that the principal wirepullers of the Bad Toelz drug scene are still going about their dirty business.

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END