

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000100090024-5

18 SEPTEMBER 1979

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS  
(FOUO 39/79)

1 OF 1

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

JPRS L/8665

18 September 1979

# Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 39/79)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

For further information on report content  
call (703) 351-2811.

COPYRIGHT LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING OWNERSHIP OF  
MATERIALS REPRODUCED HEREIN REQUIRE THAT DISSEMINATION  
OF THIS PUBLICATION BE RESTRICTED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

JPRS L/8665

18 September 1979

WORLDWIDE REPORT  
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 39/79)

CONTENTS

PAGE

ASIA

BRUNEI

Narcotics Seizure, Arrest Reported (BORNEO BULLETIN, 7 Jul 79).....	1
Largest Heroin Seizure Opium User Jailed	
Drug Pushers Given Five-Year Terms (WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, 24 Aug 79).....	3
Opium Seized in Tatkon (THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, 21 Aug 79).....	4
Drug Pushers Caught (THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, 23 Aug 79).....	5
Briefs	
Five Years for Opium Smoker	6
Three Held for Drug Offense	6
Stiff Goal Term for Drug Offense	6

HONG KONG

Rising Price of Heroin Linked To Increase in Crime (Tommy Lewis; SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 14 Aug 79).....	7
Pressure To Relax Marihuana Laws Ignored (Humphrey Hawksley; SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 15 Aug 79)....	8
China Accused of Frameup (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 10 Aug 79).....	9

- a -

[III - WW - 138 FOUO]

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Police Seek Chiu Chow Man in Drugs Probe (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 19 Jul 79).....	11
Estimated 60 Pounds of Heroin Seized at Airport (Tommy Lewis; SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 29 Aug 79).....	12
Letter to Narcotics Commissioner Challenges Official Statistics on Addicts (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 16 Aug 79).....	13
Number of Addicts Seeking Treatment on the Rise (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 15, 18 Aug 79).....	14
Addicts Rush for Methadone Two More Clinics Added	
Briefs	
One Defendant Set Free	16
Addict Gets Three Years	16
Drug Defendant Changes Mind	16
 INDIA	
Smugglers' Syndicate Discovered (THE STATESMAN, 21 Aug 79).....	18
Briefs	
Drug Ring Leader Arrested	19
Opium Peddlers Held	19
 JAPAN	
Farmers Watching Out for Hemp Stealers (ASAHI EVENING NEWS, 9 Jul 79).....	20
 MALAYSIA	
Drug Seizures, Arrests, Sentences in Sabah, Sarawak (Various sources, various dates).....	22
Sabah Drug Seizures Rehabilitation Centers Planned Addict Ordered to Hospital Heroin Arrest Soldier Held Heroin Sentence	

- b -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Narcotics Arrests, Trials, Sentences Reported (Various sources, various dates).....	25
Heroin Sentence	
Three Years for Possession	
Rearrested After Acquittal	
Defendant Denies Ownership	
First Female Traffickers	
Trafficker Escapes Death Penalty	
Life Sentence for Trafficking	
Heroin Trial	
PAKISTAN	
Briefs	
Opium, Charas Seizure	29
PHILIPPINES	
New Decree Strengthens Laws Against Drugs (Editorial; PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 24 Aug 79).....	30
Isolated Plantation Raided, Harvest Seized (BULLETIN TODAY, 28 Aug 79).....	31
Briefs	
Marihuana Seizure in Three Raids	32
Hashish Seizure in Olongapo	32
Caloocan Drug Drive	32
SINGAPORE	
Narcotics Arrests, Sentences Reported (STRAITS TIMES, 7 Jul 79).....	33
Sentenced for Possession	
Opium Arrest	
CANADA	
Bulk of Illicit Drug Use Reported Shifting Away From B.C. (Editorial, Mike Bryan; THE VANCOUVER SUN, 2 Aug 79).....	34

- c -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Federal Government 'Interested' in B.C. Heroin Aid Program (THE VANCOUVER SUN, 26 Jun 79).....	36
Briefs	
Morphine Import Charge	37
Drug Offenses on Decline	37
LATIN AMERICA	
BOLIVIA	
Cocaine Seizures Increase During First Half of Year (PRESENCIA, 16 Aug 79).....	38
Briefs	
Cocaine Seized During 1979	40
Drug Traffickers Escape	40
BRAZIL	
Health Ministry Task Force To Censor Drug-Related Material (JORNAL DO BRASIL, 3 Aug 79).....	41
DPF Report Shows Increased Drug Use Among Youth, in Interior (Various sources, 1 Aug 79).....	42
Drug Users Becoming Younger Settlements in Interior Affected	
Briefs	
Drug Control Discussion	44
Cocaine Dealers Arrested	44
Traffickers Sentenced	44
Rio de Janeiro Addicts	45
MEXICO	
Marihuana Traffickers Suspected in Slaying Arrested (EL MANANA, 10 Aug 79).....	46
Five Marihuana Traffickers Captured (EXCELSIOR, 31 Jul 79).....	49

- d -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Briefs	
Deserters Arrested as Traffickers	51
Marihuana Plantations Destroyed	51
Tijuana Traffickers, Drugs Seized	51
Trafficking Ring Seized	52
PANAMA	
Briefs	
Drug Traffickers Arrested	53
VENEZUELA	
Two Cocaine Traffickers Arrested in Caracas (EL UNIVERSAL, 5 Aug 79).....	54
LSD, Cocaine Seized by Police (EL NACIONAL, 3 Aug 79).....	55
Briefs	
Mandrax Trafficker Arrested	57
NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	
IRAN	
Rise in Opium Production, Government Countermeasures (DER SPIEGEL, 13 Aug 79).....	58
WEST EUROPE	
AUSTRIA	
Briefs	
Hemp Cultivation	61
CYPRUS	
Narcotics Smuggling Reportedly Led by International Ring (ELEVETHERI KYPROS, 24 Aug 79).....	62
TURKEY	
Constitutionality of Drug Law Challenged (CUMHURIYET, 19 Aug 79).....	63

- e -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Poppy Growers Disgruntled About Prices (AYDINLIK, 21 Aug 79).....	64
UNITED KINGDOM	
Cannabis Haul Called 'Tip of Iceberg' (THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, 14 Aug 79).....	66
Briefs	
Heroin Seizure	68
Cannabis Find in Banana	68

- f -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

BRUNEI

NARCOTICS SEIZURE, ARREST REPORTED

Largest Heroin Seizure

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 7 Jul 79 p 24

[Text]

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN. — Police have seized a two pound packet of heroin worth more than \$1 million in by far the biggest drugs haul in the history of Brunei.

They believe a network brought it into the state from Bangkok via Port Klang.

"It might even be worth more than \$1 million because heroin is in short supply now, with the Golden Triangle drying up," the Commissioner of Police, Pengiran Jaya bin Pengiran Haji Rajid, said.

The consignment of heroin was seized in the centre of Bandar Seri Begawan early last month.

It is understood a man surrendered the packet when he realised he was being kept under police surveillance.

Recently the police expressed concern at the increasing amounts of heroin being smuggled into the state and said they were stepping up their vigilance.

"We have identified

several pushers and are just waiting to catch them in the act before we pounce.

"Then we can close the net on the big fish," said Pengiran Jaya.

The Commissioner last week returned from Kuala Lumpur where he attended a conference organised to get countries in the region to co-operate in their fight against the drug menace.

With him as another observer at the Commonwealth Working Group in the Asian and Pacific Region on Illicit Drugs, was the Deputy Controller of Customs, Awang Omar bin Haji Serudin.

"Ways were discussed to standardise methods and co-operate to take action against the drug problem," Pengiran Jaya said.

"It was a high level meeting and several recommendations were made," he added.

Ten Commonwealth countries in the region sent delegates and there were 12 observers from other countries and org-

anisations, including Interpol and the United Nations.

Early last month Pengiran Jaya said increasing amounts of heroin had been getting into Brunei, with eight people being caught so far this year — five of them in May.

The Commissioner said police thought heroin was being smuggled into the state on scheduled flights and the smugglers were resorting to increasingly ingenious ways of smuggling their wares.

He said he thought more drugs were being found because of the formation of a narcotics squad.

In Singapore, the Central Narcotics Bureau said it was getting increasingly difficult to smuggle heroin out of the Golden Triangle of Burma, Thailand and Laos, because of the political situation in Indochina.

Because of this, the bureau said, the street price of heroin has gone up considerably.

Opium User Jailed

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 7 Jul 79 p 4

[Text]

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN. — A man who claimed he took opium to ease the pain of an illness was sentenced to three months' imprisonment last Saturday.

Chua Chong Seng, 69, was charged with having prepared opium in his possession at a house at Kampong Sultan Lama on May 23.

The court heard police raided the house following a tip-off.

They searched the premises but failed to find anything.

Then they searched

the accused and found two small plastic bottles containing a black substance.

A chemist later found this to be prepared opium.

Chua pleaded guilty to the charge and told magistrate Encik Syed Ahmad Idid he took the drug because it lessened the pain he suffered.

He promised the court he will try to stop taking it in future.

Encik Syed Ahmad Idid said the charge was too serious for a fine to be imposed.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

DRUG PUSHERS GIVEN FIVE-YEAR TERMS

Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 24 Aug 79 p 1 BK

[Text]

RANGOON, 23 Aug—U Nam Sin *alias* Kin Mein (43) of 24th Street, Rangoon, was sentenced five years' imprisonment on conviction of an offence under Section 6 (b) (possession) of the Narcotic Drugs Law by Latha Township Court No 4/6 chaired by Daw Aye Aye Than today.

The case was that a hypodermic syringe and a needle with heroin traces were seized from U Nam Sin by members of a crime prevention squad of Rangoon Division People's Police Force at the corner of 22nd Street and Maha Bandoola Street in Latha Township.

**Other cases**

Similarly, the court today sentenced one Abdul Munna *alias*

Hla Shwe (35) of Seinmyaing Ward, Mayangon Township, Rangoon, to five years' imprisonment on conviction under Section 6 (b) (possession) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. Abdul Munna was sent up for trial as he was found to be in possession of three packets of marijuana with a street value of K 1 each.

The Latha Township Court No 3/5, chaired by U Hla Pe, also sentenced Maung Sein *alias* Hoke Sein (31) of No 20, Lower Street, Latha Township, to five years' imprisonment on conviction under Section 6 (b) (possession) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.

A crime prevention squad of Rangoon Division People's Police Force seized a packet of heroin with a street value of K 500 from Maung Sein.—(304)

CSO: 5300

BURMA

OPIUM SEIZED IN TATKON

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 21 Aug 79 p 4

[Text]

RANGOON, 20 Aug—Police personnel from Meiktila, Pyawbwe, Yamethin and Tatkon Townships led by Assistant Divisional People's Police Force Commander U Oin Maung have launched the Mo Net Drug Abuse Control Project in Tatkon Township since 16 August.

Under the Project, a team of police personnel seized one viss and 25 ticals of opium kept in a Bebelac milk powder tin, 47 and a half ticals of opium kept in a glass jar and seven ticals of heavy opium solution from the house of one Daw Khin Nu, a shop owner of Lamadaw, Bo Min Young Ward, Tatkon, at 5.30 pm on 16 August.

Police are taking action against Daw Khin Nu under Section 10 (b) (possession) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.

The team also seized materials used in packing and selling opium from the house and goldsmith shop of U Tun Kyi at Myawaddy Ward in Tatkon on 17 August. Action is being taken against U Tun Kyi.—NAB

BURMA

DRUG PUSHERS CAUGHT

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 23 Aug 79 p 4

[Text]

RANGOON, 22 Aug—A crime prevention squad of the Rangoon Division People's Police Force seized a packet of opium residue worth K 50 from one Tin Oo (35) of No 30, 54th Street at the No 8 bus stop at the corner of 17th and Maha Bandoola Streets this afternoon.

Tin Oo was handed over to Latha Police Station. The police are taking action against him under Section 6 (b) (possession) and Section 14(d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.—(H)

**Heroin seized**

A packet of heroin with a street value of K 25 was seized from a young man at the corner of 27th and Anawrahta Streets at about 8 pm on 21 August by a crime prevention squad of the Rangoon Division PPF.

The young man was identified as Nyi Nyi Kyaw (21) of No 98, 27th Street, Rangoon.

Police are taking action against him under Sections 6(b) (possession) and 14(d)(failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.—(300)

BURMA

BRIEFS

FIVE YEARS FOR OPIUM SMOKER--Rangoon, 25 Aug--The Latha Township Court No (6) chaired by Daw Aye Aye Than with U Soe Maung and U Tin Oo as members today sentenced three persons to five years' imprisonment each on conviction under Section 6(b) (possession) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. The three are Ah Phu (75) of No 103 (first floor), 21st Street, Latha Township; Phway Sit Yon (66) of No 144 (first floor), 19th Street; and Ohn Phwan (68) of No 120, 19th Street. Ah Phu, Phway Sit Yon and Ohn Phwan were found smoking opium at Ah Phu's house by a police party from Latha Police Station on the night of 28 November 1976. They were accordingly sent up for trial before the Latha Township Court under Section 6 (b) (possession) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 25 Aug 79 p 1 BK]

THREE HELD FOR DRUG OFFENSE--Taunggyi, 20 Aug--Acting on information, a drug suppression team led by Subinspector of Police U Tun Myint together with Ward People's Councillors raided the house of Ko Soe Myint and Ma Khin Sein in Okpo Street, Yadanathiri Ward here and seized two packets of heroin containing five grammes each and valued at K 400 on 19 August. Ko Kan Nyunt of Circular Road, Bazaar Quarter, who was found at the house at the time of the raid was arrested together with Ko Soe Myint and Ma Khin Sein. Police are taking action against them under Sections 6(b) (possession) and 10 (b) (sale) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 25 Aug 79 p 4 BK]

STIFF GOAL TERM FOR DRUG OFFENSE--Chaungzon, 16 Aug--The Chaungzon Township Court yesterday sentenced Maung San Win of Mayanchandan village of Chaungzon Township to ten years' imprisonment under Section 6(b) (possession) and 10(b) (sale) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. The case was that Moulmein Township Customs officials searched Aung Win Myaing, a schooner berthed in Kwanthe creek here on 10 November 1976 and seized 24 packets of raw opium weighing about 70 pounds. Vessel agent Maung San Win was accordingly arrested and sent up for trial before the township court in connection with the opium seized. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 21 Aug 79 p 4]

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

RIISING PRICE OF HEROIN LINKED TO INCREASE IN CRIME

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 14 Aug 79 p 1

[Article by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

The soaring price of heroin has led to an increase in crime, especially in north Kowloon.

Police statistics show that in the first six months of this year the number of robberies reported was 2,855 compared with 2,624 during the previous six months.

And the number of burglary cases was 3,039 compared with 2,765 in the previous six-month period.

Police believe there are two main reasons for the upsurge in crime:

- Addicts turning to robbery to get money for drugs, the street price of which has risen by more than 500 per cent in the past three months.

- Illegal immigrants from China, who have not been able to find jobs, stealing to live.

Kowloon's chief of the CID, Senior Superintendent Toby Emmet, said yesterday

that his officers are doing their best to stem the crime wave.

Yesterday 170 policemen were redeployed from border duties to the urban areas.

The Assistant Commissioner of Police, Mr Jack Johnston, said of the redeployment: "We don't want to lose ground in the fight against crime in the urban areas."

But he emphasised this does not indicate any slackening in border patrols.

According to Superintendent Dick Williamson of the Narcotics Bureau, the price of a small packet of heroin with a purity of 25 per cent sold on the street for \$40 three months ago.

Now a packet with a maximum purity of only 15 per cent costs \$200.

"I have never before seen a shortage on this scale," Supt Williamson said.

"Heroin is so scarce in Hongkong today that some people are passing off small packets containing chunam (whitewash powder) and salts of morphine as heroin," he said.

Genuine heroin is only sold to old customers, Supt Williamson added.

He said his officers had not come across any case involving opium in recent months as this is also in short supply in Hongkong.

He said there have been isolated seizures of small quantities of heroin but the purity of the drug ranged from six per cent to 15 per cent compared with 25 per cent a few months ago.

Supt Williamson said it was estimated that heroin was worth three to four times the value of gold at the beginning of the year but now it would be safe to say it is a good five times more valuable than gold.

And he is not surprised that addicts are turning to crime for money to buy their daily supplies.

He also believes the high prices could tempt more people into trafficking in drugs.

According to intelligence reports, drug prices have risen because of poor crops in the Golden Triangle and the sustained crackdowns in Thailand and Hongkong.

CSO: 5300



HONG KONG

## PRESSURE TO RELAX MARIHUANA LAWS IGNORED

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 15 Aug 79 p 13

[Article by Humphrey Hawksley]

[Text]

Hongkong's tough laws on cannabis users and traffickers are here to stay, despite reports that Britain might relax its laws.

Marijuana abuse is penalised on the same level here as highly addictive drugs such as heroin and morphine.

The maximum penalties are life imprisonment and a fine of \$5 million for pedlars and three years' imprisonment and a fine of \$10,000 for possession.

Several states in America have put cannabis users on an equal footing with traffic offenders and a seven-year study in Britain has suggested worldwide pressures might sway the Government into relaxing the laws.

But in Hongkong the Government's view is a firm "No" to decriminalisation.

The acting Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr Bowen Leung, said yesterday: "At the moment we are still very much of the opinion that the use of cannabis is harmful to the human body.

"Medical reports have shown that long term use can cause brain damage.

"I do not see any possibility of relaxing our laws."

The British report, compiled by the Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence, warned that "irresistible" pressures might force the Government to drop the law.

It said: "It is clear that marked shifts in public opinion have occurred in recent years.

"The possibility cannot be ruled out that at some time in

the future there might be very strong, perhaps irresistible pressures to relax the present prohibition."

If this happens the report predicted that consumption would initially be doubled by people taking advantage of a new fad.

Plants might be grown in back gardens, or marijuana cigarettes might be marketed through "authorised sellers."

However, when the drug loses its mystique — after a few years — the level would drop "and come to be looked on in much the same light as tobacco or alcohol."

This view is in direct opposition to Hongkong's drug experts, who put cannabis alongside heroin rather than alcohol.

It is heroin, however, which is the main problem in Hongkong.

Unlike Europe and the United States where users are mainly young people, 65 per cent of addicts in Hongkong are over 30.

According to head of the police Narcotics Bureau, Superintendent Dick Williamson, they come from low-income families living in harsh environmental conditions.

Ninety per cent of drug users in Hongkong take heroin, five to six per cent use opium and the rest take pills and marijuana.

Cannabis is almost exclusively used among expatriates — either students or itinerant travellers.

Supt Williamson said the

relaxed laws in the West have caused a certain amount of confusion here.

"They come thinking that the drug will be tolerated — which it is not," he said.

Previously marijuana was mostly imported in small quantities for use in small, private groups.

But recently cannabis smuggling has become more organised in the hands of professional traffickers.

A stick of cannabis costing \$45 in Thailand has a street value of \$100 here.

"These are the people we are trying to crack down on," said Supt Williamson.

Together with other drug experts Supt Williamson predicted a rise in traffic accidents if the drug was allowed to be smoked unchecked.

Although it is not as popular among local Chinese, observers believe consumption would soar if it was legalised.

Drug experts here have got to rely mainly on overseas reports on the effects of marijuana.

But those published recently have produced the school of thought that prolonged marijuana smoking causes blurred perception, blurred mind, hallucinations, and a decay of personal hygiene.

As one expert said: "There is a tendency among users to forget their personal cleanliness, this could lead to a range of illnesses including malnutrition. They just don't seem to care anymore."

Another expert said it could lead to crime.

HONG KONG

CHINA ACCUSED OF FRAMEUP

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 10 Aug 79 p 1

[Text] China was yesterday accused of framing 21 Hongkong people it said ran drugs to Canton.

And it was also blamed for the death of a 22nd man in a jail cell.

The accusations came at a press conference hurriedly called by the 21, who had just been deported from the mainland. The group denied the charges, which cost them fines, a week in a Canton jail and a prominent position on the front pages of leading leftwing Hongkong newspapers.

They claimed that the dead man--Tse Siu-ming--died of food poisoning in his cell on Wednesday morning when they were all released. His death was due to negligence, they added.

The local newspaper reports about their "crimes" angered the 21 men, who are aged between 20 and 30. One of them, who would only say his name was Chan, admitted he had been taking heroin for 10 years, since he was 14. But he said he had gone to Canton merely "to kick the habit."

The TA KUNG PAO, and other newspapers, said the men took, and trafficked in, dangerous drugs during a visit to China last month. The report said that they were detained and fined between 100 renmimbi and RMB2,600 each--the equivalent of the value of the drugs in which they had trafficked.

The communist paper said Tse Siu-ming died of a suspected overdose of sleeping pills while under detention.

It claimed: "Tse and his cousin smuggled heroin into Canton from Hongkong twice last month--on the 24th and again on the 26th." The paper said they made RMB380 from the sale of drugs.

The 21 men were arrested in a series of midnight raids on Canton hotels on August 1.

A spokesman for the Public Security Bureau was quoted as saying that overseas Chinese as well as visitors from Hongkong and Macau had been selling and taking dangerous drugs in Canton recently.

He said: "These illegal activities have to be uprooted for the sake of our reputation, our constitution and our people's health."

Hongkong police are not considering taking action against the 21.

A senior policeman said China had not forwarded any information to Hongkong.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

POLICE SEEK CHIU CHOW MAN IN DRUGS PROBE

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 19 Jul 79 p 11

[Text] Narcotics Bureau officers are anxious to contact a 41-year-old Chiu Chow businessman who may be able to assist investigations into a drug trafficking syndicate.

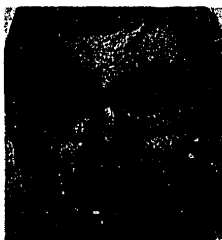
The man, Mr Lau Honsum, has been missing from his home in Ma Tau Wai Road, Kowloon City, since early this year and his present whereabouts are not known.

Police believe Mr Lau is still in Hongkong. The Immigration Department does not have a record of his leaving.

His family is still living in the Kowloon City home.

Police have been investigating a syndicate which smuggles drugs from Thailand and Hongkong into Canada.

Mr Lau is about 5 ft 3 in tall, and has a fair complexion, dark brown eyes. He usually wears spectacles.



Lau Hon-sum

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

ESTIMATED 60 POUNDS OF HEROIN SEIZED AT AIRPORT

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 29 Aug 79 p 1

[Article by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

Customs officers have some idea of the people involved in the attempted smuggling of 60 lbs of No 3 heroin, which was seized at the airport yesterday.

It was the largest single seizure so far this year.

Officers from the Investigations Bureau, led by Superintendent K. S. Tong, were early this morning probing the background and movements of the suspected consignees.

And the head of Custom's Investigations Bureau, Senior Superintendent Jim Prisk, said last night that the authorities in Singapore and Bangkok had been informed of the seizure and are assisting in the inquiries.

Supt Prisk said that the heroin, with a purity about 30 per cent, has a street value of \$30 million.

But it could be double that figure if diluted as 0.1 of a gram of heroin with a purity of between nil and 10 per cent is currently being sold for between \$120 and \$150.

Supt Prisk said the bureau had received word a week ago that racketeers were attempting to smuggle a large quantity of drugs into Hongkong by air because of the acute shortage here.

Two customs investigation teams at the airport and the Joint Customs-Police Investigations Unit were placed on full alert.

Supt Prisk disclosed that two unmanifested cartons were found on a Singapore Airlines flight which arrived on Sunday from the island republic via Bangkok.

The cartons were addressed to Dodwell Trading Co in Star House, Tsimshatsui, which had been defunct since March.

Customs officers opened the cartons and found 32 one-pound packets of No 3 heroin in one and 28 packets in the other, Supt Prisk said.

He said his officers took over investigations and waited for two days for someone to collect the consignment but no one showed up.

The drugs were seized yesterday and will be handed to the Government Chemist today for analysis.

"We are conducting in-depth investigations into the people involved in Hongkong and we are waiting for the results of investigations in Singapore and Bangkok," Supt Prisk said.

He added that the people who worked for Dodwell Trading Co are not involved.

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

## LETTER TO NARCOTICS COMMISSIONER CHALLENGES OFFICIAL STATISTICS ON ADDICTS

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 16 Aug 79 p 11

[Text]

THIS is a copy of my letter to the Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr P.E.I. Lee, in response to a letter from him in The Journal of Toronto, Canada, on drug addicts in Hongkong.

Dear Mr Lee,

My attention has been drawn to a letter from you, published in The Journal on June 1 in which you challenge a statement of mine with regard to the number of drug addicts in Hongkong in 1972 being in the region of 250,000 or one in 16 of the population.

I should be very interested to have a copy of The Central Registry of Drug Addicts report 1976-78 which you quote in support of your own figures.

I recall with considerable scepticism the Central Registry being initiated, I think in 1972, the interim report of which stated:

*An estimated 10 per cent of Hongkong's drug addicts have registered voluntarily with the Central Registry of Addicts, set up seven months ago by The Action Committee Against Narcotics . . . more than 13,000 addicts have responded to the call by ACAN to help in its colony-wide addict registration scheme. ACAN Secretary Hui Pui-lam said yesterday the registration had been "quite successful" . . . but Mr Hui admitted that the number of addicts who had signed up so far represented only a small percentage of the actual population.*

May I draw your attention to the fact that 10 per cent would give a total of 130,000 and five per cent — which would accord with the "small percentage" of the official statement — would give 260,000.

These and other statistics were compiled by my husband when he was officially appointed by the Hongkong Government to investigate and write a book about Hongkong's drug problem.

He made a point of asking the head of every relevant department where the

then official figure of 100,000 drug addicts came from, and *not one Government official knew*, including your predecessor as Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr Norman Rolph.

It was based, my husband had found, on an obscure set of *prison addict* figures calculated on a five per cent basis and multiplied by 20 and even in the original official report was said to be only an estimated guess.

In view of Hongkong's well-known history of addiction, and lack of any internationally known adequate programme of treatment or cure, I find a figure of 50,000 or below not only surprising, but incredible.

In 1929 when Hongkong's population was well under 800,000, there was an official figure of 125,000 drug addicts.

Between 1960 and 1970 with a five-fold increase in population, a generally accepted but less conservative official estimate was 150,000.

In 1936 it was stated in a Government report that between 200,000 and 300,000 heroin pills were being smoked daily, with about 24,000 taking drugs in this manner.

A report of the Working Committee for the Aid, Treatment and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts in 1960 stated:

*It is estimated that approximately one-third of the whole male population over 15 years in the lower income group are addicts.*

A progress report of the Hongkong Narcotics Advisory Committee in 1960 stated:

*Any figure, however, must be a guess: there are not enough reliable data.*

In 1965 ACAN presented its report and concluded: it is impossible to estimate the total number of narcotic addicts in Hongkong.

It was the aforementioned committee which made an attempt at

an estimate from the recorded statistics of the Police Identification Bureau by taking a five per cent random sampling from the files 1945-1965, discarding those files which contained no record of a dangerous drugs offence. The report went on to state:

*"We estimate that the present number of male narcotic addicts who have been convicted in Hongkong is in the region of figures of 30,660 — 66,300" (my italics) and that "this was based more on intuition than evidence."*

The ACAN report 1967 declared: *The number of addicts known to social or medical agencies form an insignificant proportion of those known to the law.*

Finally, the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts (SARDA) Annual Report 1979 stated:

*"An addict makes 30 more addicts in his addiction lifetime"* and that it was only in the previous two years that the problem of multi-dependent persons within a family had emerged to their notice. It also noted:

*Women tend to learn to abuse drugs from a family member more so than men and once addicted, influence more family members to use drugs than men in Hongkong.*

I record these statements taken from official sources over the past 20 years in Hongkong, all indicating that the scope of addiction in Hongkong was never fully understood or appreciated by Government officials, despite heavily publicised official statements to the contrary, and that any bland assurance without supporting evidence must be viewed with a high degree of scepticism.

I repeat, I will be interested to receive and peruse your report.

Dr MARGARET PATTERSON  
MBS, MBChB, FRCS  
Broadhurst Manor  
Horsted Keynes  
Sussex RH17 7BG

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

NUMBER OF ADDICTS SEEKING TREATMENT ON THE RISE

Addicts Rush for Methadone

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 15 Aug 79 p 1

[Text] Contingency plans are in hand to cope with an unprecedented wave of drug addicts--averaging 8,000 a day--converging on methadone centres for treatment.

The plans include new centres in districts of high demand and an extension of operating hours for the 20 existing centres.

The additional services are expected to be implemented by the Medical and Health Department in the next two weeks.

The department's Assistant Director (Narcotics), Dr K.F. Chan, said yesterday that apart from "redeploying our own staff we also have Auxiliary Medical Service personnel helping out."

While confirming that contingency plans are in hand, Dr Chan declined to disclose the number of new centres to be opened.

Commencing on the upward trend in the number of addicts seeking treatment, the acting Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr Bowen Leung, predicted that the figure will go even higher because of the scarcity of drugs in Hongkong.

There are now 9,700 addicts on "effective registration" and more than 8,000 of them turn up daily at the methadone centres.

An addict is "effectively registered" if he shows up for treatment at least once every four weeks. Otherwise his name is struck off.

Mr Leung said he expected the remaining 1,000-or-so addicts will turn up for methadone treatment shortly if drug supplies continue to dwindle.

He sounded a warning to addicts that due to the scarcity of heroin, some pushers are selling lime mixed with a very low content of the drug; a lethal dose if taken by injection.

And because it cost as much as \$200 for a packet of heroin, he said, some addicts who cannot afford the drug are trying to "kill" the withdrawal pains by taking cough syrups containing codein.

But he dismissed this as "a problem which will take care of itself" because the addicts will soon discover it is more economical to seek treatment at methadone centres.

On the existing centres, Mr Leung said that they are looking at the locations and hours of demand with a view to changing them to cater to the addicts' needs.

#### Two More Clinics Added

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 18 Aug 79 p 10

[Text]

Two more full-time methadone centres will be opened on Monday.

And the existing five centres will extend their operating hours to cope with the massive demand for treatment.

A Medical and Health Department spokesman said last night the two new centres will be in the densely populated northwest Kowloon area "where demand is particularly great."

One will be in the Li Po Chun general outpatient clinic in Mongkok and the second in the Shamshui dispensary at Yee Kuk Street.

They will operate from 7 am to 10 pm.

Five evening clinics are at present open in the northwest Kowloon district from 6 pm to 10 pm daily.

In the past few months the average daily attendance at these clinics has leapt from 818 in June to 1,100 last month and 1,380 in the first week of this month.

"The increasing trend is likely to continue because of the success in Hongkong's battle against heroin, and more full-time methadone clinics are needed to cope with the expected increase in demand," the spokesman said.

Hongkong only has five full-time clinics at the moment.

Two are on the Island — Violet Peel clinic in Wanchai and the Eastern Street clinic in Western District.

The others are the Robert Black Clinic in Sanpokong, the Homantin clinic in Princess Margaret Road and the Lady Trench Polyclinic in Tsun Wan.

CSO: 5300



HONG KONG

BRIEFS

ONE DEFENDANT SET FREE--One of four defendants in a dangerous drugs case-- a 27-year-old unemployed man, Cheng Shi-sang--was discharged by Mr H. Caine at North Kowloon Court yesterday when the prosecution entered a nolle prosequi against him. The other three accused are an inspector of the Customs and Excise Services, Lau Hon-tung (33), a flight purser, Raymond Chan Kwok-hung (34), and a 30-year-old housewife, Kitty Lau Kit-ye. They are alleged to have, between June 1 last year and January 31, conspired with others not in custody to traffic in dangerous drugs. The prosecuting officer said that approximately 90 lbs of dangerous drugs, with a retail value of about \$13 million were involved, and applied for the defendants to be remanded in jail custody for seven days. The application was granted. No plea was taken. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 5 Jul 79 p 15]

ADDICT GETS THREE YEARS--A 24-year-old drug addict, Lai Kwok-wah, was sent to prison for three years by Judge Evans in Victoria District Court yesterday for possession of drugs for unlawful trafficking. The court was told that Lai was found by a police raiding party in a flat in Chee On Mansions, East Point Road, Causeway Bay, on March 18. Also found in the flat were 64.40 grams of heroin, \$2,550 in cash, tin foil, weights and measures and a quantity of plastic bags. Lai, who pleaded guilty, told the police party that the drug had been bought for his own use and he had paid \$10,000 for it. In court he admitted trafficking in the drugs. He said he was a drug addict and admitted a number of previous convictions for drug offences. He was represented by Mr Bernard Gunston. No evidence was offered against a 26-year-old man found in the flat, Chow Kam-ching, who was originally charged with trafficking. Mr Alan Hoo appeared for the Crown. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 16 Aug 79 p 9]

DRUG DEFENDANT CHANGES MIND--One of two men standing trial on a charge of possessing dangerous drugs worth \$800,000 for unlawful trafficking changed his plea to guilty yesterday after the morning hearing. Mr Justice Garcia will pass sentence on Tam Sik-tay (32) this morning. The other defendant, Chu Ching-cheong (31), pleaded not guilty and hearing of his case continues today. Crown Counsel P. Hawkes told the court that Narcotics Bureau officers

ambushed a car in Central on April 3 and found about 19 lbs of heroin under the driver's seat. At 9 pm that day, detectives waited outside a building in Wing Lok Street near a car parked in Connaught Road. About an hour later Tam and Chu came out of the building. Tam was carrying a black briefcase and Chu a white plastic bag. The two got into the car and drove off, followed by the officers. When the car stopped at a red light in Connaught Road Central, the officers leaped forward, revealed their identities and searched the car. Inside the briefcase were 19 packets of suspected drugs. The plastic bag contained seven small packets of suspected drugs. A chemist report revealed the drugs were 8,222.74 grams of a mixture containing 3,308.63 grams of salts of morphine. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 23 Aug 79 p 9]

CSO: 5300

INDIA

SMUGGLERS' SYNDICATE DISCOVERED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 21 Aug 79 p 10

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Aug. 20.—An international smugglers' syndicate operating with the help of diplomats, has been unearthed by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, and 100 kg of hashish worth Rs 30 lakhs have been impounded, reports UNI.

According to official sources, the hashish smuggled into India from Nepal via Raxaul in an imported car was to be sent to Copenhagen through "diplomatic middlemen."

Five people—three Nepalese and two Indians—believed to be senior members of the syndicate, have been arrested. Two more members are still at large. All international drug enforcement agencies, including Interpol, have been alerted by DRI.

The Mercedes, which brought the hashish, concealed in a cavity inside the boot, has been impounded.

According to sources, this was the biggest haul of narcotics by the department this year.

Sources said the modus operandi of smugglers was to send the hashish from India in a diplomatic bag. Later two members of the gang were to go abroad and receive the consignment through a "diplomat" in that country.

Two major consignments of almost equal quantity had been smuggled out of India during the past six months but the attempts to smuggle out a third consign-

ment were foiled, the sources added.

A trap was laid by DRI following information that a smuggler from Nepal, carrying narcotics in a Mercedes with a Nepalese number plate, was in Delhi and was trying to smuggle the drugs to a Scandinavian country. A close watch was kept on his associates staying in good hotels in the capital. These men are believed to be key links in the international chain.

The sources said DRI officials stopped the car when it was heading for a guest house in the Karol Bagh area where one of the members of the gang was staying.

In the seized suitcases, the officials found 100 kg of hashish packed with carbon paper impervious to X-rays. The smugglers were immediately arrested. A search revealed that the space between the boot and rear seat of the car had been used to store the hashish.

Two other members of the gang were arrested in Delhi and one in Bombay.

The sources said the members of the gang revealed that they had links with a notorious narcotics merchant in Hong Kong, who exported the consignments to different parts of the world.

The syndicate is reported to have sophisticated factories in several countries for compressing and packing hashish and hashish oil.

INDIA

BRIEFS

DRUG RING LEADER ARRESTED--New Delhi, 29 Aug (AFP)--Police in Uttar Pradesh, in north India, arrested the leader of an international underworld syndicate of dope smugglers and recovered one quintal of charas (drugs) hidden in a secret chamber of a jeep at Nawablanj, near Bareilly, earlier this week, PTI news agency reported today. Reports said that two members of the gang managed to escape but its leader, a Nepali citizen, who was arrested revealed about the dope traffic from Nepal to Delhi and to other foreign countries. He reportedly told the police that they had been smuggling charas to Pakistan, the United States, Britain, some Arab and North African countries for the last many years. The value of the contraband seized was estimated to be Rupees 150,000 (\$18,750), the reports said. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1342 GMT 29 Aug 79 BK]

OPIUM PEDDLERS HELD--Madras, 22 Aug--Five persons who were allegedly engaged in the clandestine disposal of opium worth Rs 45,000 in Madras were taken into custody by the Narcotic Intelligence Bureau, CID, on Sunday night. They were travelling by a taxi which was intercepted. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 23 Aug 79 p 10]

CSO: 5300

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

JAPAN

FARMERS WATCHING OUT FOR HEMP STEALERS

Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English 9 Jul 79 p 3

[Text]

Farmers of Kanuma City and Kamitsuga County, Tochigi Prefecture, are keeping a close watch over visitors, particularly those from the Tokyo area to prevent the hemp they grow from being stolen.

Tochigi produces about 90 percent of the hemp grown in this country. There has been an increasing number of youth who steal the plant to make marijuana out of it for smoking. One year more than 30,000 hemp plants were stolen.

About 3,200 plants have already been stolen this year. The hemp stealers come from all parts of the nation mainly by car. Some of them are American soldiers stationed here.

The farmers, who have been suffering from the damage caused by the plant thieves, have begun a campaign to keep an eye on automobiles from outside by attaching stickers on their own cars.

Recently, the farmers have begun to develop a new strain of hemp which does not have the hallucinatory agent in it. The development is being conducted in cooperation with an agricultural experimental station.

Awano-machi, Kamitsuga County, is a quiet town surrounded by mountains and located about 30 kilometers from Nikko. As a visitor goes

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

along the road in the mountains, hemp fields can be seen on both sides of the roads. The hemp are almost as tall as a man.

About 100 farming houses grow hemp in 15 hectares. There is a large number of hemp growers in the town, although the demand for hemp has been declining. This is because hemp is one of the few cash crops left.

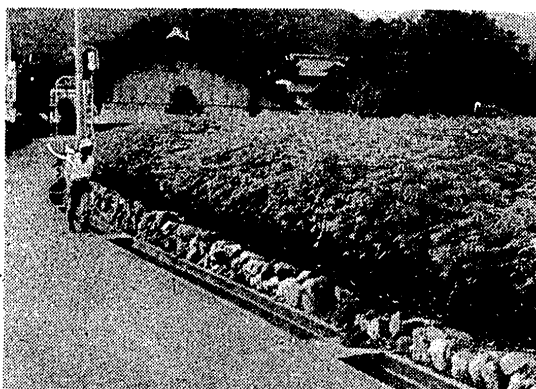
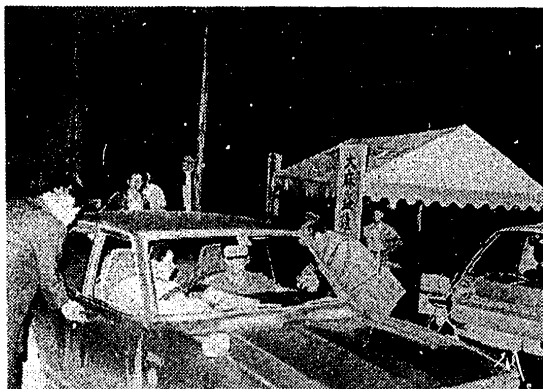
Since the end of the last world war, the demand for hemp has decreased because of chemical fabrics. In Tochigi, there was only 34 tons of hemp produced last year. The prefecture produced less than 100 tons of hemp for the first

time in 1974.

Hemp was used in old times for rope, fishing and mosquito nets, and for other things. Now it is only used for the thongs of geta, ropes for hanging bells at shrines, and the ropes for "yokozuna," the grand champions of sumo.

About 60 percent of the hemp today is used for the geta thongs. About 15 years ago, people began stealing the hemp for marijuana.

Photo at left shows farmers of Awano-machi checking cars from outside the village to prevent the hemp from being stolen. Photo at right shows a hemp field in the village. One can easily touch the hemp near the road.



COPYRIGHT: Asahi Evening News 979

CSO: 5300

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

MALAYSIA

DRUG SEIZURES, ARRESTS, SENTENCES IN SABAH, SARAWAK

Sabah Drug Seizures

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 9 Jul 79 p 2

[Excerpt]

One of Sabah's criminal problems is that of drug trafficking, and tough laws have been introduced under which anyone caught in possession of 100 grammes of heroin or more can face life imprisonment or the death sentence.

But the figures by no means support the idea that the state is overrun with drug users or traffickers. Last year, the total amount of illegal opium seized by the police was 52 grammes. In addition, they seized 310 grammes of heroin and 107 grammes of hashish. The worst case this year has been the arrest of a trafficker selling to local people. Police confiscated 640 grammes of drugs, of which 228 grammes were pure heroin, valued at more than US\$20,000.

Rehabilitation Centers Planned

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 7 Jul 79 p 36

[Text]

KUCHING. — Treatment and rehabilitation centres for drug addicts are to be established in all divisions of the state by the Medical Department.

The first will be operating shortly in Kuching, with another also opening soon in Kapit. The others will follow in Sibul, Sarikei, Bandar Sri Aman, Miri and Limbang.

The news came from Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, during a drug abuse education effort organised last weekend by the St John Ambulance.

He praised the police and other government agencies for doing "yeoman work" in fighting the drug problem. He said they had recorded "significant" success in their efforts to cut the narcotics pipelines into the state from Peninsular Malaysia and other supply sources.

But there was need also for full support from the public: "Drug abuse can become rampant in Sarawak if we do not attack it now."

The Chief Minister said there had to be a multiple drive against the spread of drug abuse —

enforcement, medical, rehabilitation and educational activities must be maintained and upgraded.

Datuk Ang Lai Soon, St John chairman, said innocent people became drug addicts without knowing the side effects and consequences of drug misuse; as a result their lives were ruined.

He suggested schools, colleges and youth organisations conduct more public forums, exhibitions, speech and essay competitions on drug misuse to create a greater awareness of the drug danger.

Addict Ordered to Hospital

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 7 Jul 79 p 36

[Text]

KUCHING. — Older drug addict "friends" of a young heroin user visited his flat and forced him to get them supplies, beating him up, smashing windows and slashing cushions when he didn't.

There had been many such incidents for 19-year-old Yeo Eng Pheng, with the result that both he and his mother now lived in fear of those "friends," a court hearing was told.

He won't have to worry about them for some time though, because District Court magistrate Mr Chan Kay Poh ordered him to three months' hospital treatment in a bid to cure his addiction.

Yeo, of the Kuching Municipal Council's Sebuyau flats in Ban Hock Road, had pleaded guilty to being in possession of 0.05 grammes of mor-

phine at the flat on the night of June 19 last year (and for which Mr Chan bound him over on two years' good behaviour).

Senior probation officer Mr Wang Teck Huat traced Yeo's downfall on drugs, starting in 1976 when he began by experimenting with ganja (Indian hemp). It became complete when he moved on to morphine and heroin and found himself hooked.

He took ganja for three months, using it daily, then tried morphine injections. Eventually, by last year, he was taking heroin two or three times a day, by injections or inhalation. He said he obtained supplies from friends of other users.

Realising his plight, Yeo tried to kick the habit. In April last year he voluntarily sought

help and was admitted to hospital for "detoxification."

But he only stayed three days; he left hospital against medical advice and also failed to keep appointments with the Welfare Division for further counselling and advice. On his own admission he returned to drugs.

But lately he had been trying to get off them again, and was using the compound Roche 2 to minimise his withdrawal sickness.

Mr Wang said Yeo had an unfortunate home background and had lost his father when he was three; his mother had to go out and work, first as a domestic servant then as a barber, to support the family.

Yeo and his elder brother had fallen victim to drugs. Because the mother's presence or influence

in the home was little felt, it became a "haven for his peer group," and, like him, most were drug dependants.

The magistrate said because the amount of drugs Yeo was found with was small, he would be on probation, and under the supervision of a social welfare officer.

After his three months in hospital he would have to appear for periodical tests and other requirements the medical officer in charge of the hospital might have.

Heroin Arrest

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 21 Jul 79 p 3

[Text]

MIRI. — When Miri police officers raided a house in Riam Road last Sunday they found 108 tubes of white powder they think is heroin plus some suspected stolen property, Miri District Court heard on Monday.

Before magistrate Enik Anthonious L. Sindang was Tan Ban Ning, 30, unemployed, of Jalan Chantek, Sim Choo Jin, 30, a draughtsman of Rokop Road, both of

Miri, and Kenneth Chin Yaw Kheng, 19, house painter, of Middle Road, Kuching.

Superintendent Ambrose Chung, prosecuting, asked for a 14 day remand so investigations could be completed and the white powder could be sent to a laboratory in Kuching for analysis.

Supt Chung said apart from the powder, which police suspect to be he-

roin, they also found syringes, needles and utensils used for taking dangerous drugs.

Earlier Superintendent Stephen Jinggut said the three were suspected to be drug addicts and apart from the equipment connected with drug taking police also found an amplifier, some \$1 coins issued by a savings bank and an identity card, property they suspected was stolen.



Soldier Held

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 21 Jul 79 p 12

[Text]

KUCHING. — An Army corporal caught with heroin when police raided a house, admitted that he was a drug addict. He is now under treatment from an army doctor for his addiction.

Basar bin Suratni, 27, of Pending Camp, Kuching, pleaded guilty to having the heroin at a Kenyalang Park house on February 6.

Magistrate Mr Chan Kay Poh said because Basar was a first offender and the amount of the drug small (0.15 grams) he would only be fined \$1,500.

The magistrate also said the offence carried a maximum penalty of five years' jail or a

\$20,000 fine. Inspector Jamal Mohammad, prosecuting, said members of a police party were just about to enter the back door of the house when Basar came out and during a

search three straw tubes containing heroin were found on him.

Basar, single, said he had been in the army for seven years and was promoted to corporal last year.

Heroin Sentence

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 21 Jul 79 p 18

[Text]

KUCHING. — When police raided the Fata Building in Kuching they found heroin and Indian hemp under the bed a young couple were occupying, Kuching District Court heard last week.

Tan Chek Jang, alias Rony, 19, of Nanas Road, Kuching, was jailed for a total of 18 months on three charges of possessing heroin, In-

dian hemp (ganja) and opium in a room in the Fata Building.

The girl, 18-year-old Kuan Sin Chu, of the Fata Building, was bound over to be of good behaviour for a year after admitting the same three charges as Tan.

Kuan told senior magistrate Madam Agnes K.L. Wong she had asked her boyfriend (Tan) not to take drugs.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

NARCOTICS ARRESTS, TRIALS, SENTENCES REPORTED

Heroin Sentence

Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 1 Jul 79 p 8

[Text]

IPOH, Sat.— Lai Kai Hing alias Abdul Wahab bin Abdullah was convicted for the 26th time today when he pleaded guilty to having heroin.

Magistrate Zainal Adzam bin Abdul Ghani sentenced him to one year's jail to begin from the date of his arrest on May 24.

Lai admitted having one straw tube containing heroin and a syringe at 2.30 a.m. on May 24 in Jalan Yee Mah Loo in Kampung Rapat.

He was among six people charged with a

similar offence today. The others received six months jail sentence each.

According to the prosecution, Lai was first convicted in February 1953 at the Johore Baru magistrate court for theft. The last conviction was in July 1976, also for theft.

His other convictions were for offences ranging from housebreaking, customs tax evasion, possession of stolen property to escaping from lawful custody and failing to report while under police supervision.

Three Years for Possession

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 3 Jul 79 p 11

[Text]

KOTA BARU, Mon.— The Sessions Court here today sentenced Mohamed Yusof bin Mohamed, 29, of Kampung Badang, near here to three years' jail and six strokes of the rotan, when he pleaded guilty to possessing 5.84 grams of heroin.

He was jointly charged with Abdul Hadi bin Che Long, 32, of Jalan Atas Paloh and Rosli bin Jaafar, 25 of Kampung Paya Bemban, in Kota Baru.

The trial was before the Sessions Court President, Mr M. Mahalingam. Datuk R. L. Vriglesworth appeared for Mohamed Yusoff.

### Rearrested After Acquittal

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 3 Jul 79 p 4

[Text]

**KLANG, Mon.** — One of the three men accused of drug trafficking, Teoh Kim Bee, had a brief moment of freedom today.

He was rearrested and taken to the Klang police lock-up minutes after he was acquitted and discharged without his defence being called at the Sessions Court here.

Teoh, 32, who has been in jail for nearly two years, walked out of the dock with a smile on his face for a brief reunion with his wife and parents.

A few minutes later, Narcotics officers escorted him to the Klang police station as he was about to leave the Court House.

This was after Sessions Court president Enck Mohamed Ali Abdul Aziz ruled that there was no prima facie case against Teoh and acquitted and discharged him.

Teoh's wife, who had been present throughout the past hearings, wept.

She later handed him a plastic bag containing toothpaste, a towel and other personal items at the Klang police lock-up.

Teoh was jointly charged with Ibrahim Ahmad, 38, and Mokhtar Minin, 39, with the intention of trafficking in 676 grammes of heroin in Hotel Jaya Puri in Petaling Jaya on Aug. 8, 1977.

Hearing against Ibrahim and Mokhtar was postponed to Monday.

### Defendant Denies Ownership

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 5 Jul 79 p 4

[Text]

**PENANG, Wed.** —

The manager of the Golden Sands night club in Butterworth, Ang Boon Foo, 35, told the High Court today that two European patrons of the club left behind two packages, which later turned out to contain morphine and heroin, when they came to his home one day.

Ang was making his defence on a charge of possession of 3,029 grams of heroin and 184.28 grams of morphine at his Jalan Permatang Pau home in Butterworth on Jan 20, 1977.

Ang said the Europeans, Mark Philip and Willie, came back to his home from the club on the day in question.

While serving them two glasses of beer, a Chinese man came to the house on a motor-cycle.

**Taken aback**

The motor-cycle stopped in front of his house, and both Philip and Willie, excused themselves and went outside the house to see the man.

Ang said he saw the man handing over two packets to Philip who brought them into the house telling him he would like to leave them there temporarily.

He told Philip to leave them in his room.

After they had left, two or three persons rushed into the house.

He said he was taken aback when they detained him after telling him that they were police.

They then found the two packages on the floor in his room, and he told them the packages were brought into the house by the two Europeans who had just left.

The hearing continues.

#### First Female Traffickers

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 4 Jul 79 p 24

[Text]

**KUALA LUMPUR, Tues.** — Police have detained four people, including two women, believed to be involved in trafficking drugs and seized 3.4 lb of heroin near a hotel in Butterworth.

The suspects were picked up by CID officers from the Bukit Aman police headquarters here following a tip-off from the public on Friday.

Director of CID Datuk Abdul Rahman Ismail said in a press statement that the team had laid an ambush in front of the hotel at about 4.30 p.m. He said two women arrived at the "ren-

dezvous" on a motor-cycle soon after that.

Two men believed to be "buyers" then arrived and the police went into action.

After a chase both the women and a man were caught but the fourth suspect escaped.

Police however managed to pick up another man 30 minutes later not far from the vicinity.

Datuk Rahman said that this was the first time police had come across women involved in trafficking drugs.

He said both the women were in their late twenties and thirties.

The drugs seized could provide 327,243 shots, Datuk Rahman said.

#### Trafficker Escapes Death Penalty

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 9 Jul 79 p 28

[Text]

**ALOR STAR, Sun.** — A 25-year-old taxi driver was sentenced to life imprisonment and ordered to be given six strokes of the rotan by the High Court today after he was found guilty of trafficking in 1191.09 grammes of heroin.

Loo Lian Hock was charged with committing the offence at the Hotel Samila car park in Leboh Darul Aman at about 1.20 p.m. on Jan. 13 last year.

Mr. Justice Syed Agil Barakbah said that he was not imposing death penalty because Loo was a first offender and according to Loo's counsel Mr. Karpal Singh, Loo was only a "small fry."

The judge said the evidence against Loo was overwhelming, even without the caution

statement being admitted as evidence.

DPP Abdul Malik bin Haji Ishak pressed for the death penalty saying that according to the government chemist, the heroin could be converted into 252,700 shots.

In his defence, Loo said his friend, Ah Hai, left a plastic bag in his taxi with instruction to deliver it to a man named Thean Soo.

He said he was taking the packet to Thean Soo when he was arrested. Loo added that he did not know that the bag contained heroin.

Earlier, Insp. Zulkifli bin Yunus, the officer-in-charge of the Kedah/Perlis Police Narcotics Division, testified that he and five other police officers arrested Loo after waiting in ambush at the car park for three hours that day.

Life Sentence for Trafficking

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 13 Jul 79 p 9

[Text]

**KUALA LUMPUR,**  
Thurs. — A canteen assistant, Lee Look, 28, was sentenced by the Sessions Court here today to life imprisonment and ordered to be given two strokes of the rotan after he was found guilty of trafficking in 15.29 grammes of heroin.

He was charged with committing the offence on Dec. 6 last year at Jalan Tiong Nam.

PC Hong Ah Heng of the Jalan Campbell police station told the court he laid an ambush, together with some other policemen, at Jalan Tiong Nam at about 1.45 p.m. that day.

**Two packets**

Shortly after, he spotted Lee. He then identified himself and searched Lee.

Lee was holding two packets containing a substance which he suspected to be heroin.

PC Hong added he arrested Lee and handed him to Inspector Anuar bin Mohamed.

Inspector Anuar said he recorded a cautioned statement from Lee with the help of a Chinese police constable.

In defence, Lee told the court he was not involved in trafficking.

The heroin was found near him and he was not holding the drug, he added.

Heroin Trial

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 17 Jul 79 p 7

[Text]

**KUALA LUMPUR,**  
Mon. — A police officer told the Sessions Court here today that he found two packets of heroin and \$650 in the trouser pockets of a man whom he suspected to be a drug pusher.

Inspector Abdul Latif bin Noor, said the man, Tan Yew Hong, shouted *tolong, tolong samun* ("help, help, I'm being robbed") when the money was seized from his pocket.

He said Tan was stopped and searched at Jalan Sungei Besi in the early hours of Oct. 29 last year and then arrested and taken to the

Jalan Bandar police station along with his motor-cycle.

Insp. Abdul Latif said three more packets of heroin were found wrapped in a piece of cloth and hidden under the seat of the motor-cycle.

**Two charges**

Tan, 33, is charged with having two plastic packets containing a total of 8.10 grammes of heroin at Jalan Sungei Besi at about 12.45 a.m. on Oct. 29. He also faces another charge of having three packets containing a total of 11.88 grammes of heroin at Jalan Bandar police station at about 1 a.m. the same day.

Insp. Abdul Latif said Tan was stopped as a result of information received.

The hearing continues.

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

OPIUM, CHARAS SEIZURE--The Peshawar customs authorities have seized 220 kilogram of opium and charas in two operations here on Wednesday. According to a customs press release 148 kilogram of opium were seized from a car in Swabi during a "Nakabandi" on the G.T. Road. Three occupants of the car including a woman have been arrested. In another operation 72 kilogram of opium and charas was recovered from two suitcases of a PIA passenger at the counter. The owner of the suitcases Malik Taj Mohammad Khan has been taken into custody. [Text] [Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 16 Aug 79 p 1]

CSO: 5300

PHILIPPINES

NEW DECREE STRENGTHENS LAWS AGAINST DRUGS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 24 Aug 79 p 4

[Editorial: "Boost in Drive Against Drugs"]

[Text] **T**HE PAST WEEKS, the Manila police conducted a series of raids and arrests on pushers of dangerous drugs and narcotics in the Sta. Cruz and Tondo districts. Results of the operations indicate a growing number of youths addicted to various kinds of drugs. The proliferation of trade in illicit drugs in almost all population centers in the country has perhaps impelled President Marcos to sign a new decree which strengthens existing laws on dangerous drugs.

The decree penalizes the use, possession or unauthorized sale to minors of volatile substances which can cause intoxication, dependency and distortion of mental processes — in other words, drug substitutes that are equally harmful. This law, in effect, bans the sale to minors and the use as intoxicant of the airplane glue, popularly known as "Rugby," which up to recently was being sold by manufacturers and hardware dealers to just anybody.

In spite of penal sanctions and the exemplary anti-narcotics operations of the military and the local police, drug traffic persists in society — maybe because of the high returns, spawned by an ever-increasing demand for the contraband. Why some youths, and even adults, turn to drugs could be explained by the various psychological, material and moral problems modern man has to contend with anywhere. The very nature of the problem, therefore, calls for solutions directly aimed at the individuals. These should go hand-in-hand with the purely military operations to contain the menace.

As years pass and drug traffickers become more and more sophisticated with their methods, it is incumbent upon the government to institute measures that should further strengthen the laws that back up the campaign against drugs. The Dangerous Drugs Board has drafted a list of proposed amendments to the Dangerous Drugs Act of 1972, among them the inclusion of marijuana seeds and certain types of cough syrups in the list of prohibited/regulated items. They also want to give incentive compensation to military personnel raiding marijuana plantations.

Perhaps it is time to consider these proposals, in the light of the growing incidence of addiction especially among the youth. We may not totally break the narcotics and illicit drugs business here, as other countries with that problem have found, but at least we should limit it to manageable levels.

CSO: 5300

PHILIPPINES

ISOLATED PLANTATION RAIDED, HARVEST SEIZED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 28 Aug 79 p 5

[Text]

Government agents seized Sunday marijuana plants worth P800,000 and arrested a suspected cultivator during a raid in an isolated plantation in Bansod, Oriental Mindoro.

A wire received by the national bureau of investigation (NBI) said the raiding team uprooted more than 700 fully grown marijuana plants and confiscated seven kilos of dried marijuana leaves in a forested area in sitio Mainom, barangay Rosacana, Bansod, some 80 kilometers from the capital of Calapan.

Reports said the prohibited plants were due to be harvested next week and be brought to a buyer in Metro Manila when NBI agents assisted by local Constabulary and police raided the plantation. Arrested and now under the NBI's custody was Anastacio Dimaileg y Bunquin, age unknown, a resident of barangay Rosacana.

Dimaileg told the NBI that after harvest the marijuana leaves are being shipped to a prospected buyer in Metro Manila. The reports added that the raid was carried out after weeks of surveillance by NBI agents in coordination with the local constabulary and police operatives. (AR)

CSO: 5300



PHILIPPINES

## BRIEFS

MARIHUANA SEIZURE IN THREE RAIDS--Baguio City, Aug 18--An estimated ₱500,000 worth of marijuana was seized in barangay Pao, Kasibu, Nueva Vizcaya, last Thursday in three separate raids. Seized were 1,500 full grown plants, 300 seedlings and 100 kilos of dried marijuana leaves. The raiders, led by Maj Enrique Cuadra of the Constabulary antinarcotics unit (CANU), were composed of elements of the Baguio police and the PC-INP team of Nueva Vizcaya. Two suspected cultivators were arrested. Their identities were withheld pending the arrest of the other suspects. Maj Cuadra said that the raids was brought about by the arrest of a suspected dope pushers last week who pointed to barangay Tao in Kasibu as the source of prohibited plants which was found in his possession at the time. The raided plantation was located some 45 kilometers away from the vehicular road. The law enforcement agents hiked for eight hours to reach the isolated barangay of Tao. (ISC) [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 19 Aug 79 p 40]

HASHISH SEIZURE IN OLONGAPO--The illegal activities of an American merchant mariner were exposed yesterday when government agents seized ₱250,000 worth of hashish from his wife in Olongapo city. Hashish is prohibited drug extracted from marijuana plant but 10 times more potent than marijuana leaves. Hashish usually comes from Pakistan. The American sailor and his wife were identified as John McGraw and Milagros McGraw y Paraiso of 65 Elicano st., Olongapo city. John McGraw was on a trip abroad. A team of agents from the PC and the Finance Ministry's intelligence bureau (FMIB) arrested Mrs McGraw while she was about to sell 800 grams of hashish and marijuana "Thai sticks" to a government decoy. [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Aug 79 p 12]

CALOOCAN DRUG DRIVE--Caloocan city Mayor Virgilio Robles sought yesterday the involvement of every sector of society, particularly the media, to help the government in its drive against drug addiction which has been reported to be on the rise. Robles made the appeal after meeting school officials, barangay leaders and police authorities in an effort to eradicate or prevent drug addiction particularly in schools. The mayor directed the police and barangay officials to arrest minors roaming in the streets during night time without justifiable reasons. Robles also directed school officials to conduct room-to-room lectures and to discuss with students the ill effects of drugs. The mayor said that the involvement of everybody, particularly the media, will help boost the government drive against drug addiction. [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 28 Aug 79 p 5]

CSO: 5300

32

SINGAPORE

NARCOTICS ARRESTS, SENTENCES REPORTED

Sentenced for Possession

Singapore STRAITS TIMES in English 7 Jul 79 p 12

[Text]

LEE BU GEE, 22, unemployed, was jailed for 18 months by a district court yesterday when he pleaded guilty to having 6.61 gm of heroin, and another four months for having 0.73 gm of morphine at the junction of Lorong 17, Geylang and Sims Avenue on Feb 28. The jail sentences are to run concurrently.

Opium Arrest

Singapore STRAITS TIMES in English 7 Jul 79 p 15

[Text]

TAN Kool Ooi, 25, a Malaysian was fined \$650 by a magistrate yesterday after he admitted having 5.7g of opium with him at the Woodlands customs checkpoint on June 14.

CSO: 5300

CANADA

BULK OF ILLICIT DRUG USE REPORTED SHIFTING AWAY FROM B.C.

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 2 Aug 79 p A5

[Editorial by Mike Bryan]

[Text]

When federal Health Minister David Crombie emerged from a meeting with B.C. Health Minister Bob McClelland last week he expressed concern over the compulsory features of the province's Heroin Treatment Act but said he was interested in supporting its voluntary aspects.

Noting that B.C. "has a higher rate of heroin use and its consequences," he agreed to a meeting of federal and provincial ministers in the fall to explore how the federal government could give aid to B.C.'s heroin treatment program.

Crombie's desire to work with the province under its Heroin Treatment Act may be the dawn of a new era in Canada's approach to illicit drug use. On the other hand, it may be but a symptom of a new minister, eager to be of help but failing to grasp the real dimensions of drug use in B.C. or in the country as a whole.

Drug offence statistics reported by Crombie's own department suggest a significant decline in heroin use in B.C. in recent years. They also show a dramatic shift in the bulk of illicit drug activity from B.C. to other parts of the country.

Convictions for heroin offences in B.C. have been declining since 1973 as follows: 1973 — 892; 1974 — 532; 1975 — 324; 1976 — 228; 1977 — 215. A look at earlier statistics shows there were more heroin convictions in B.C. during the period 1958-80 (939) than during the period 1975-77 (767). Considering the dramatic increase in resources devoted

to drug-law enforcement in B.C., particularly during the past decade, declines of that magnitude are significant indeed.

That those offences have been dropping does not contradict Crombie's impression that B.C. has more heroin users than other parts of the country. (The 215 convictions for heroin offences in B.C. in 1977 were 57 per cent of all heroin convictions in Canada that year.) But they do suggest that the new minister ought to be wondering about the wisdom of bolstering any aspect of a multi-million-dollar compulsory treatment program for a declining number of heroin users — all of whom are already targets of our vast and growing criminal justice system.

The bulk of illicit drug activity has clearly shifted from B.C. to other parts of the country. In 1958, 60 per cent of all narcotics convictions in Canada occurred in B.C. That proportion has been declining steadily since then. By 1977 only 15 per cent of all narcotics convictions in Canada occurred in this province.

To think of Canada's narcotics problem in terms of heroin alone is a delusion that has led to patently false assumptions about its extent and its solution.

Consider, as an example, this advice of the Alcohol and Drug Commission to the B.C. minister of health two years ago: "It should be obvious from the staggering burden our society carries in terms of the

financial, medical and social costs of heroin dependency that a decision must be made concerning this major national and regional problem. In British Columbia the whole criminal justice system is on the verge of collapse as a result of the cost . . . alone, and the costs escalate monthly." (*A Plan for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Heroin Users in British Columbia*, April 1977.)

To those who, like the commission, feel the need for compulsory heroin measures in addition to those already available to the police and courts, our national narcotics statistics may be somewhat disconcerting. What they may be overlooking is that the term "narcotics" refers to all of the drugs under the federal Narcotic Control Act. They include cocaine, phencyclidine (PCP), and cannabis, as well as heroin.

A look at all narcotics convictions in 1977 places B.C.'s heroin problem in its proper national perspective. Of a total of 5,920 convictions in B.C., 5,590 were for cannabis offences and, to repeat, only 215 for heroin. In all of Canada, out of a total of 39,293 convictions, 37,812 were for cannabis, 375 for heroin. Convictions involving PCP, cocaine, and "other" narcotics offences are similarly dwarfed by the cannabis statistics.

Some may argue that since cannabis, cocaine, and PCP aren't true opiate narcotics

their inclusion misrepresents the real narcotics problem. On the contrary, it doesn't matter whether we call them narcotics, hallucinogens, or soft drugs. People who use or distribute them without authority are treated as criminals.

Whether that legal assimilation of dissimilar substances is based on unsound moral or empirical judgments is beside the point. We are bound as a nation under law to treat them the same, and the statistics are just a reminder that we do.

Canada's drug problem is not peculiar to B.C., nor is B.C.'s drug problem peculiar to heroin. The nation's drug problem resides to a great extent in outdated policies expressed in the Narcotic Control Act — policies that under the terms of that act are the responsibility of the minister of national health and welfare.

Crombie would do little to alter the situation by the infusion of a few thousand or even million federal dollars to divert some heroin users into treatment under B.C.'s Heroin Treatment Act (if and when its legality is upheld by the courts). Would he not do better to accept the challenge of formulating a reasonable drug treatment and control policy for the country as a whole? □

CSO: 5320

CANADA

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT 'INTERESTED' IN B.C. HEROIN AID PROGRAM

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 26 Jul 79 p A10

[Text]

VICTORIA — Health Minister David Crombie said Wednesday the federal government is interested in funding the voluntary part of the B.C. government's controversial heroin treatment program.

This would be a reversal of the previous Liberal government's policy of shunning the whole project.

Crombie said, however, that the federal government did not like the compulsory aspects of the plan.

Crombie told reporters after meeting with provincial Health Minister Bob McClelland that B.C. has one of the worst heroin problems in Canada.

"We are therefore interested in participation with respect to the voluntary aspects of the program," he said. "We don't want that to stand in the way of the federal government carrying out its responsibility."

But he added: "We have some concerns with the program . . . to do with the principles upon which the program is based."

He said he and McClelland will meet in Ottawa in September to discuss the provincial government's application for funding of the heroin treatment program.

Crombie said McClelland also asked that the solicitor-general take part in the fall meeting.

The two health ministers met for an hour here on the subject but failed to reach any agreement on funding.

Opposition members attacked the program in the legislature last week, charging it was a waste of money on an unworkable experiment while cutbacks are being made in needed hospital funding.

Heroin addicts are currently taking treatment as volunteers at the Brannan Lake treatment facility and McClelland said about 350 people have been processed so far.

The constitutionality of the program has been challenged in B.C. Supreme Court and, pending the decision in that case, the Alcohol and Drug Commission has not invoked the compulsory aspects of the Heroin Treatment Act.

McClelland said after the meeting with Crombie that the provincial government feels federal authorities should either share proportionately in the entire program or at least cover the costs of treating addicts referred after being arrested for federal offences.

CSO: 5320

CANADA

BRIEFS

MORPHINE IMPORT CHARGE--Kamloops (CP)--Naginder Singh Sidhu, 32, of Kamloops was sentenced in county court Friday to eight years in jail after pleading guilty to importing morphine, valued at \$40,000, into Canada from India. Sidhu, who had first pleaded not guilty and elected to be tried by judge and jury, changed his plea after his lawyers met with Crown counsel Thursday. He was charged in December, 1978, after an extensive RCMP investigation. Harinder Singh Gill, charged with Sidhu, has pleaded not guilty to importing morphine and his trial is expected to begin this month. Ten other Kamloops residents charged with conspiracy to traffic in morphine have yet to be tried. [Text] [Vancouver THE WEEKEND SUN in English 11 Aug 79 p F16]

DRUG OFFENSES ON DECLINE--Ottawa (CP)--The number of drug offences reported in Canada dropped nearly 8 per cent last year to 60,747, Statistics Canada said yesterday in a preliminary report on crime in 1978. [Excerpt] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 14 Aug 79 p 8]

CSO: 5320

BOLIVIA

COCAINE SEIZURES INCREASE DURING FIRST HALF OF YEAR

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 16 Aug 79 p 10

[Text] The National Directorate for Control of Dangerous Substances seized 269 kg of cocaine during the first half of this year. Last year 236 kg of that drug had been seized.

According to sources in the Narcotics Directorate, the difference is due to personnel specialization and also to increased drug traffic.

Statistics

In La Paz Department during the first 3 months of 1979, 97.56 percent of the total was sulfate of cocaine, the base or first step in the preparation of the chlorhydrate that makes up the 99-percent-pure drug crystals.

Among those arrested, 82 percent were peasants from the regions of Yungas, Apolo, and Iturrealde Province where coca is grown.

According to the reports, drug traffic and the greatest numbers of seizures occurred in Santa Cruz, with 64.82 percent chlorhydrate of cocaine and 35.18 percent cocaine sulfate seized.

The sulfate seized and being sold was prepared in a region near Chapare.

Cochabamba is the third distribution center for cocaine, where 68.42 percent sulfate and 31.58 percent chlorhydrate of cocaine were seized.

Arrests

During the first half of this year, the Narcotics Directorate arrested 137 people, of whom 71 were arrested for drug traffic and 29 for refining; 37 were held for questioning.

Narcotics Director, Victor Ameller said that his office's mission is investigation and judicial police work and that they are then the judges in the administration of justice who determine the arrest of persons who have been implicated.

To achieve this, he added, the directorate is a unique body, doing four different things: preventive and educational work through campaigns against drug use; medical work through rehabilitation centers for drug addicts; control and rationing work for coca growing through personnel presently assigned in the provinces and on the borders; and finally, work he calls operative, which is the arrest of drug traffickers.

#### Rehabilitation Center

The Narcotics Director gave the Associated Engineers Construction Company a check for 399,741 Bolivian pesos to begin construction of the second stage of the Drug Addicts and Alcoholics Rehabilitation Center in the Aranjuez district.

The cost of this second stage of the project will be 1,998,705 Bolivian pesos, and it must be completed within 157 days.

The center will have 60 beds, and will be supplied with the necessities for them through a grant from the United Nations.

The UN has promised a donation of 80,000 dollars for the necessary equipment.

The representatives of the Associated Engineers Company have agreed to complete the project within the time stipulated in the contract.

8587  
CSO: 5300



BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZED DURING 1979--The National Directorate for the Control of Dangerous Substances has reported that it seized 269 kg of cocaine during the first 6 months of this year. During the first 3 months of 1979, 71 people were arrested on charges of trafficking in drugs, 29 for manufacturing drugs and 37 for investigation. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 16 Aug 79 p 10 PY]

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ESCAPE--An American named Daniel Chackman, 28 years old, and two Colombians, Ricardo de la Torre and Augusto Gutierrez, escaped from prison in Santa Cruz today. Chackman, who was arrested 8 months ago for carrying 2 kg of cocaine in his guitar, died in a shootout. Ricardo de la Torre and Augusto Gutierrez took part in an operation involving 10 kg of drugs worth more than \$2 million. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 14 Aug 79 pp 9, 13 PY]

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

HEALTH MINISTRY TASK FORCE TO CENSOR DRUG-RELATED MATERIAL

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Aug 79 p 9

[Text] Brasilia--Every text, speech, lecture, film, radio or TV program, poster, performance, course, seminar or publicity published concerning the use of narcotic substances or those leading to psychological or physical addiction must be examined in advance, even where a preventive campaign is concerned, by a work group appointed yesterday by Minister of Health Mario Augusto Castro Lima.

The work group, which will henceforth review all texts pertaining to drugs, will include the director of the National Health Education Division, Mrs Rosa Pavone Pimont, Mr Geraldo Mendes Xavier (a member of the Technical Section on Drugs and Narcotics of the National Health Council, and Federal Police representative), Mrs Maria Assuncao Lopes, head of the Health Education Service, and her assistant, Mr Carmenzito Antonio Pereira.

Operation

The four members of the work group will be available at the Ministry of Health to examine materials making reference to the use of drugs for interested parties. In assessing applications, the group is to base its decisions on guidelines established by the Technical Section on Drugs and Narcotics of the National Health Council, by means of normative resolutions.

Technicians at the National Health Education Division stated yesterday that beginning immediately, the commission will maintain careful surveillance of matters related to drugs, serving as a permanent advisory source for the Federal Police Department. Although the Ministry of Health has made no statement at all, technicians at the ministry refute the charge that the recently appointed commission may establish a new type of censorship.

5157  
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

DPF REPORT SHOWS INCREASED DRUG USE AMONG YOUTH, IN INTERIOR

Drug Users Becoming Younger

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 1 Aug 79 p 8

[Text] Brasilia--The Federal Police Department (DPF) has sent the Ministry of Justice a comparative table showing drug traffic and consumption in the country between 1972 and 1978, noting a "substantial drop in the age range of consumers" as the most serious index revealed by the statistics, and admitting difficulties in police control.

The report, released in Brasilia yesterday, adds only one new aspect to preceding ones. "Substances for veterinary use--used to excite bulls and stimulate horses--are appearing on the market, and are now being consumed by young people, because of their hallucinogenic and mental stimulation effect."

Epidemic

The opening statement in the document coordinated by the Drug Control Division warns that "with more campaigns directed toward young people, the best market, drug traffic is assuming epidemic proportions, with effects on all the related strata."

It then indicates marijuana as the type of drug most heavily consumed in the country, followed by cocaine. Between 1972 and 1978, 464,426 tons of marijuana and more than 200 kilograms of pure cocaine were seized. Some 87 kilograms of cocaine were seized in 1978 alone; after cutting for sale in the streets, this would have yielded 436 kilograms.

In this same period, the joint activities of the DPF and the state police resulted in the filing of 6,424 charges against 9,807 defendants. Of the 5,000 individuals arrested in 1978 alone, more than 2,000 were charged with drug trafficking.

Settlements in Interior Affected

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Aug 79 p 16

[Text] Brasilia--The Federal Police have released a report terming drug traffic and consumption one of the main problems facing society, and warning that the age of addicts has been dropping in "significant and worrisome" fashion. It also says that the consumption of narcotic substances and drugs is gradually spreading out from the major urban centers to the smaller settlements in the interior.

According to the report, the main producers of the drug most heavily consumed --marijuana--are the states of Maranhao and Pernambuco, which accounted for 264 of the 273 tons confiscated by police authorities in 1978, more than triple the volume seized the preceding year.

The drug control division confiscated 87 kilograms of cocaine, 542 Pervitin ampules, 212 LSD ampules and 57,625 units of various psychotropic agents, as well as varying quantities of sheets of cocaine hydrochloride, amphetamine salts and heroin, in addition to the marijuana, in 1978. In that year, 1,093 police charges were filed involving 1,647 individuals. According to the Federal Police, the increase in drug consumption is directly linked to the spread of crime, juvenile delinquency in particular.

5157  
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

DRUG CONTROL DISCUSSION--The norms for the establishment of the National Drug Abuse Prevention, Supervision and Penalization System (SNPFRE) drafted by technicians at the Ministries of Health and Justice will be discussed by the Social Development Council (CDS) at one of its next meetings, Minister of Health Castro Lima announced, stressing the pedagogical orientation which will guide the action of the two ministries. The establishment of hospitals specializing in the treatment of addicts, planned under the last administration, is not within the program of the current government, which will place priority on the establishment of a SNPFRE for each state. In addition to this, the Ministry of Health will sign contracts with the army and air force with a view to more intensive health instruction at the country's airports and frontiers, particularly in the Amazon region, where strengthened measures to ban drug traffic are contemplated. [Text] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Jul 79 p 17] 5157

COCAINE DEALERS ARRESTED--The arrest of an Englishman, a U.S. citizen, a Frenchman and two Brazilians at a residence in the Rio de Janeiro Jardim Botânico quarter, and the seizure from them of 900 grams of cocaine described as of extraordinary purity, estimated at about 95 percent, was announced by police agents of the drug control office "as the end of a long chain we will shortly destroy." Although only five names have been released, Police Chief Arlindo Chanca revealed that other individuals will be named in the charges already sent to the courts. The arrest of Englishman Constantine Benckendorff, his wife, U.S. citizen Lynne Ellen Leitman, a Frenchman, Nicolas Regnier, and two Brazilians, Jane de Carvalho and Jose Edmundo Ramos Panisset, took place on the night of 27 July at a house on J. J. Seabra Street in Jardim Botânico. It was established that the drug was not intended for sale in Brazil, but for the consumer markets in Europe and the United States. The cocaine was purchased in Bolivia, brought to Rio, and from there sent to other foreign drug traffickers. It was carried by young people recruited on the Rio beaches, who were paid a sum of \$2,000, in addition to the round trip tickets. [Text] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Aug 79 p 28] 5157

TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED--The judge of the Sixth Federal District, Carlos Augusto Thibau Guimaraes, sentenced Guglielmo Casalini, a naturalized Brazilian

citizen, and Lelio Paolo Gigante, to three years in prison on charges of belonging to the international drug trafficking gang of Tommaso Buscetta, who was exiled from Brazil in 1972 by presidential decree. The trial, which began on 18 December 1972, it was hoped, would put an end to the activities of a group of individuals affiliated with heroin traffic in Brazil and other Latin American countries. The prosecutor general, Samuel Auday Buzaglo, stated in his bill of indictment that "interest in new drug marketing circuits was the main reason the defendants came here." In all, 19 individuals were named as members of the drug trafficking group. Some of them were charged with aiding individuals sought by the police in the United States, France and Italy to enter Brazil. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 10 Jul 79 p 13] 5157

RIO DE JANEIRO ADDICTS--Rio de Janeiro has a million young drug addicts in the 12 to 17 year age range, mainly concentrated in Copacabana (Stations 4 and 6) and Lagoa, which contain the quarters where drugs circulate most freely. This statement was made by Police Chief Caetano Mayolino of the Drug Division yesterday in a speech at the Palace of Culture auditorium during the First Social Integration Week. The Symbolic Freemasons' Confederation of Brazil, meeting at the Gloria Hotel, decided to support the motion proposed to the congress by the grand master of Sao Paulo, Erwin Seignemartin, calling for an end to secrecy in trials of those dealing in drugs, with a view to facilitating the campaign against drug addiction. If the Sao Paulo motion is approved, the masons will ask the government to revoke Article 26 and its single paragraph, and Article 17 of the drug control law. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 Jul 79 p 13] 5157

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS SUSPECTED IN SLAYING ARRESTED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 10 Aug 79 Sec C p 3

[Text] A phenomenal blow was dealt to the organized drug traffic by agents of the Federal Judicial Police who, with the cooperation of the State Judicial Police, captured the members of a well organized ring of marihuana dealers. Two of them are apparently linked with the murder of cattleman Hector Pena Garza and of a young woman named Maria del Rosario Sepulveda Salinas, according to a disclosure made by the authorities.

The main suspect in this double homicide answers to the name of Felipe Cantu Gonzalez. He was arrested in Morelia, Michoacan, by State Judicial Police agents who were sent from this town for that express purpose.

The capture took place at a hotel in Morelia (Michoacan), where Cantu Gonzalez was staying while waiting to conclude a transaction involving the purchase of a large shipment of marihuana.

He named as a participant in the aforementioned crime his brother, Juan Francisco Cantu Gonzalez, who was arrested here on Tuesday night by the State Judicial Police, since he was known to have been engaged in drug trafficking.

Francisco Cantu was arrested as a result of the statements obtained from the presumed drug trafficker Oscar Guerra Sierra, alias "El Grey," who had been arrested a few hours earlier, and who identified him as a member of the ring which he headed, which was engaged in drug smuggling.

Thereupon, the Federal Judicial Police agents, under orders from Comdr Margarito Mendez Rico and group chief Mario Aragon Zambrano, intervened, and arrested Juan Francisco Gonzalez, Eligio Ortiz Reyes, alias "El Lito," and Baltazar Guillen Alvarez.

All of them admitted that they had been exporting marihuana for several years. It was shipped to this town by Felipe Cantu Gonzalez, and they concealed it in the tires of various vehicles, to be taken to Laredo, Texas, where they sold it to a taxi driver.

During the investigation, a 1971 Ford Galaxie with license plates FUR-434, and a 1967 Ford pickup truck with license plates PR-763, which they had used for exporting the marihuana, were seized; and two 22 caliber automatic carbines were also confiscated.

The Federal Public Ministry explained that the federal agents had seized from the individuals under arrest a "spare" tire filled with marihuana, which was all ready to be taken to the neighboring town of Laredo.

#### Double Slaying Partially Explained

Yesterday, several agents undertook the transfer of Felipe Cantu Gonzalez, who is being awaited today for the pertinent questioning.

The State Judicial Police will request the appearance of several witnesses who observed the double slaying, which took place on the night of 17 September of last year, at a parking lot located at Juarez and Victoria.

On the tragic night, the cattleman Hector Pena Garza was in his 1976 Chevrolet pickup truck with his girlfriend, Maria del Rosario Sepulveda Salinas. They were 39 and 23 years of age, respectively.

A yellow 1971 Ford car was parked near the pickup truck, and an individual (apparently Felipe Cantu) emerged from it and fired at the cattleman with a 38 caliber revolver, dealing him a fatal wound.

The bullets hit Maria del Rosario, who died instantaneously.

Red Cross ambulance personnel found Hector Pena at the point of death, and therefore proceeded to take him to the "San Jose" clinic, but he died enroute.

#### Two Proceedings Will Be Initiated Against Them

In the event that the investigations show that Felipe Cantu Gonzalez did not participate in the double murder, in any event penal action will be taken against him for his presumed guilt of committing a crime against health.

If Felipe Cantu admits his participation in the tragic incident, he will have to reveal the identity of his accomplices, who will be captured in turn, according to the conclusion of the State Judicial Police report.





Oscar Guerra Sierra, alias "El Grey," Juan Francisco Gonzalez, Eligio Ortiz Reyes, alias "El Lito," and Baltazar Guillen Alvarez are the presumed drug traffickers who were captured by the Federal Judicial Police. The first of them gave information which was used to break up the ring; and, at the same time, he revealed that Felipe Cantu Gonzalez was the one who participated in the slaying of cattleman Hector Pena Garza.

2909  
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FIVE MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 31 Jul 79 p 8-D

[Text] Five persons were arrested by Investigation Division agents for drug trafficking. The General Directorate of Police and Transit [DGPYT] also reported that six other persons were arrested for illegally carrying fire arms.

According to Investigation Division agents in the Heroes de Chapultepec section, they discovered that five persons were distributing marijuana to several addicts. When the police attempted to arrest them the drug traffickers took refuge in a house located at No 7 Cozumel and fired at them.

The criminals were later captured and during interrogation gave false names. Nevertheless, the true identity of the drug traffickers was established by the criminal records they had at the DGPYT.

They are: Clemente Hernandez Moreno, Jose Antonio Pina Corona, Jorge Perea Suarez and Antonio Olvera Rosales, from whom firearms and 1 kg of marijuana were seized. The police are searching for their accomplices.

The six persons who were carrying firearms and who were arrested by Investigation Division agents are: Hugo de Leon Acosta, Julio Cesar Dominguez Luna, Francisco Perez Capilla, Benigno Samperio Hernandez and the brothers Pedro and Enrique Sanchez Gonzalez.



Antonio Olvera Rosales, Clemente Hernandez Moreno, Jose Antonio Pina Corona, Jorge Perea Suarez and Jorge Alfredo Corona, who were arrested for drug trafficking by agents of the Investigation Division.

9204  
CSO: 5300

MEXICO

BRIEFS

DESERTERS ARRESTED AS TRAFFICKERS--Filiberto Chavez Gonzalez, 22 years old, and Hugo Segovia Soria, 28 years old, both Army deserters, were arrested by agents of the Federal Judicial Police of Mexico [PJF] while distributing certain narcotics, such as marijuana and toxic tablets, to soldiers going in and out of the Secretariat of National Defense [SDN]. When interrogated by Commander Francisco Ballesteros Picaso, Filiberto Chavez stated that he had been in the Army 3 years ago with the rank of corporal at the Military Hospital and that he had met someone there who turned him into a marijuana addict, but who mysteriously disappeared. Since he was already an addict he looked for someone else to supply him with the drug and he made the acquaintance of Hugo Segovia with whom he later collaborated in the sale of marijuana, toxic tablets and even cocaine to persons of the SDN. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 29 Jul 79 p 9-A] 9204

MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS DESTROYED--Matehuala, S.L.P., 2 Aug--Two marihuana crops worth 2 million pesos, were destroyed by the military in San Antonio de Coroados and Cedral, municipalities in Real de Catorce and San Luis Potosi, respectively. However, the army detachment in this city did not arrest any of the drug traffickers, who escaped. Librado Castillo, chief of the finance office, acting as federal government attorney, said that the narcotics police will investigate the owners of the 2 hectares which were planted with marijuana to identify those responsible. [Lorenzo Diaz Garcia] [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 3 Aug 79 p 8-D] 9204

TIJUANA TRAFFICKERS, DRUGS SEIZED--Tijuana, B. C. 27 Jul--A half million toxic tablets valued at 20 million pesos were seized by Federal Judicial Police [PJF] agents from Jose Manuel Fernandez who maintained a residence in La Mesa. Commander Clemente Moreno Hernandez reported that Jose Manuel Fernandez confessed that he has been trafficking in toxic tablets along the border here for 3 years. Fernandez transported the drugs to supply centers in his car. He used several rooms in his house as storerooms. The psychotropic drugs were found in bags containing 12,500 tablets each. The head of the antidrug campaign, Carlos Aguilar Garza, stated that other persons regarded as the real heads of the narcotics ring were being investigated here on the border. [Consuelo Lo de Avalos] [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 28 Jul 79 p 8-D] 9204

TRAFFICKING RING SEIZED--A Federal Judicial Police [PJF] investigation which began on 18 July led to the arrest and imprisonment yesterday of the members of a drug ring which transported marijuana in large quantities from Oaxaca to Nuevo Leon where they retailed it to Americans from the South of the United States. Anselmo Contreras Ceballos and Francisco Contreras Hernandez, were arrested in Rio Playa Vicente on the Tuxtepec-Palomares, Oaxaca, highway over which they were transporting marijuana seeds in a gasoline tank. There was a rifle in the vehicle in which they were riding. When interrogated they said that they were coming from Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon, for the purpose of obtaining marijuana seeds to sell to American traffickers. The marijuana was to be delivered to Manuel Avendano Borgia in Nuevo Leon, who would distribute it at the frontier. Under the order of Gen Raul Mendiola Cerecero, chief of the PJF, the investigation was continued and shortly thereafter Jorge Miguel Lopez was arrested in Tuxtepec, Oaxaca. The information given by the prisoner enabled the police to arrest Juan Trapaga Beltran and Dora Canseco Utrera, at a plantation in Los Amantes in the public lands of Los Leones, Vera-cruz. During the interrogation, Avendano Borgia stated that he had killed two drug traffickers who had attempted to cheat him in a drug buying and selling operation at El Milagro ranch. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 28 Jul 79 p 11-A] 9204

CSO: 5300

PANAMA

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Panamanian Internal Revenue Office inspectors have arrested Guillermo Ontiberos Cabrera of Mexico and Luis Eduardo Gonzalez of Colombia at Tocumen Airport. They had in their possession approximately 2 kg of cocaine powder worth over \$1 million on the black market. They were on their way to Mexico from Bolivia. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 29 Aug 79 PA]

CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

TWO COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN CARACAS

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 5 Aug 79 p 4-44

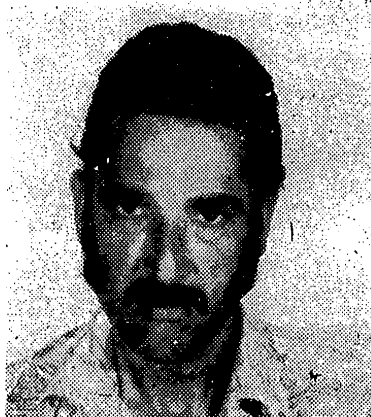
[Text] Smuggled cocaine estimated to be worth 400,000 bolivars was seized yesterday by the Metropolitan Police from a taxi driver arrested together with two accomplices on a section of Avenue E in the El Pinar development of El Paraiso, according to Col Fortunato Mora Salas, head of the Intelligence and Anti-Vice Division.

The prisoners were identified by authorities as Alfredo Moreno Vegas, 32 years of age; Vicente Alvarez Guerrero, 40; and a minor whose name was not revealed because of his age.

Col Moro Salas said that Intelligence and Anti-Vice Division agents caught the three men in a blue 1977 car with license MB-33620, whose regular driver is Alfredo Moreno Vegas who has the "Macarao-Silencio" route.

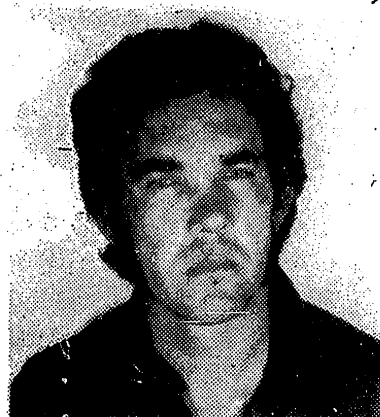
When the cocaine smuggling was discovered, detectives of that division of the Metropolitan Police began investigation to establish what connections the group under arrest may have with other drug traffickers.

Col Fortunato Mora Salas announced that the three men arrested will be turned over to the Antidrug Division of the Judicial Technical Police for indictment.



Vicente Alvarez Guerrero

8587  
CSO: 5300



Alfredo Moreno Vegas

54

VENEZUELA

LSD, COCAINE SEIZED BY POLICE

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 3 Aug 79 p D-26

[Text] Drugs worth half a million bolivars were seized from two international traffickers by the Judicial Technical Police.

Some 200 LSD tablets, half a kilogram of cocaine and several pounds of marihuana in bricks were seized by detectives of the General Antinarcotics Division, according to Commissioner Leopoldo Yerena Wiebe, head of that department.

Leonardo Enrique Marin Duran, a Colombian, and Felix Omar Ibarra Perez, a Venezuelan, brought the drugs into the country to be distributed in the night spots on the east side of the city. They were both arrested in a home in the El Marques development.

There had been reported seizures of LSD tablets reported for 4 or 5 years.

Commissioner Yerena believes it is a small organization with few international connections, although he revealed that the cocaine seized is 90 percent pure; after being mixed with lactose it would reach the consumer market at 3 to 5 percent purity.

The marihuana seized had been compressed to make its shipment to this country easier.

Possible connection of the prisoners with other probable gang members is now being investigated.





Venezuelan Felix Omar Ibarra and Colombian Leonardo Enrique Marin Duran,  
who were arrested. [no other photo printed]

8587  
CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

MANDRAX TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--A drug trafficker was arrested with 10,000 Mandrax pills, according to the Antinarcotics Bureau of the PTJ [Judicial Technical Police]. The pills, worth 50,000 bolivars, were taken from Humberto Loggiovini Sevilla (35), who was turned over to the regular courts. The Antinarcotics Bureau believes that the prisoner had been distributing the pills on the west side of the city. Apparently he had been under surveillance by the Judicial Technical Police for 3 months. [Text] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 29 Jul 79 p D-29] 8587

CSO: 5300

IRAN

RISE IN OPIUM PRODUCTION, GOVERNMENT COUNTERMEASURES

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 13 Aug 79 pp 113-115

[Text] Because it is not forbidden by the Koran, Khomeyni the moralist has been tolerant of narcotics so far--but now the first peddler has been executed.

Anyone caught drinking hard liquor receives up to 100 floggings, prostitutes and procurers are threatened even by death--only those enjoying the intoxication of new freedom with help of the opium pipe can do it in relaxed draws.

The addicts, estimated at about 2 million (5.2 percent of the total population), profit from the twisted legal logic of the pious Ayatullah Khomeyni: In contrast to alcohol, the Koran does not expressly forbid the use of narcotics. To the hero of the Islamic revolution, who derives the code of human behavior exclusively from the Holy Script, this is apparently reason enough to consider narcotics a sin forgivable by Allah.

Khomeyni's legal norm has already had devastating consequences. Until the fall of the shah, Iran imposed the death penalty for possession of only 10 grams of heroin or 1 kilogram of opium. In addition, sharp pressures by a special police in the classical opium provinces on the Western border--Kurdistan, Laurestan and Azerbaidzhan--reduced the cultivation of poppies to a 15,000-hectare area under state control.

Yet, after the fall of the shah, the Persian poppy farmers returned to their trade without delay. In the estimation of the Tehran narcotics authorities, at least 26,000 hectares were planted with poppy during this summer, and the crop gathered during this time and processed to yield 600 tons of opium was the largest in this century. Associates of the shah are using heroin as currency in their flight from the Ayatollah.

The oversupply suppresses the prices. Although two-thirds of the crop flows through uncontrolled channels to Europe and the United States, even the merchants in their own country offer opium in such amounts that addicted Persians, who had to pay \$11 for 1 kilogram of opium during the shah's reign, can now have the same amount for half that price. A sarcastic comment by the Tehraners: "Cheaper than coffee."

The drug is an ancient tradition in Persia. The greatest poet of the country, Firdausi, who is used as a national hero by the revolutionary regime as well, already sang about opium as the "illuminating moon above the world" in the 11th century.

His compatriot and contemporary, Hassan Sabah ("old man of the mountains"), founder of a fanatical sect, has even lent his name to hashish. Hassan's followers, the much feared "Hashashmin" pulled out from their mountain hideaways in a drugged state on their commando attacks in order to kill unfriendly adversaries and adherents to other beliefs.

Just like the use of tobacco in the West, smoking an opium pipe in Persia was a daily evening custom for everyone and, up to the most recent times, opium was used as the universal medicine against painful and contagious diseases--even against measles--by the majority of the Persian country physicians.

As producer and exporter of the national poison, Persia supplied up to 30 percent of the world's demand during the early twenties. Before the discovery of petroleum, Persian merchants became rich from narcotics trade. Opium alone produced 15 percent of the foreign trade profits.

Only the father of the shah, who was a Cossack-ataman when he conquered the throne of the Persian Empire in 1925, took serious steps against the national addiction to narcotics--from fear that he might not be able to find a sufficient number of soldiers and workers among the many addicts for his ambitious plans at modernization.

Yet he could not completely prevent the cultivation of poppies in the impassable land, just as his son Reza Pahlevi could not later. Mostly in response to pressure from the United States, which wanted to dry up the supply to its addiction-prone armed forces, Iran was the first state in the world to officially prohibit the cultivation of poppies. For the loss of about \$40 million yearly income from medicinal opium export the shah received compensation by Washington.

Yet 14 years later the rigorous law was again lifted by the emperor ostensibly because Iran's neighbors, Turkey, Afghanistan and Pakistan, did much too little against opium cultivation and opium smuggling in their own countries. In reality he did not have the power to control the illegal cultivation of poppies.

Henceforth, in Iran, the sale and possession of narcotics were punishable by death: Between 1969 and 1976 nearly 400 individuals were executed by the military tribunals as alleged dealers.

As suspected already at the time by Amnesty International, not all were caught with narcotics contraband. Under charge of being a narcotics dealer, many political adversaries of the shah regime were also shot. In any case this was confessed by agents of the earlier Savak to Khomeyni's revolutionary tribunals.

Meanwhile the Ayatollah himself looks at narcotics as the work of the devil. In one of his earliest speeches on Islamic morality, he referred to narcotics dealers as "traitors first class and a danger to society."

Yet the attempt to buy up raw opium from the peasants by doubling the state price to 16,000 rials (about 400 German marks) and thereby to withdraw it from illegal trade has largely met with failure. The fact that Khomeyni declared the use of narcotics as "un-Islamic" did not decrease the number of addicts in the slums of Tehran.

Thus only the usual call for the judge remains for the Ayatollah. End of July, in the city of Sari, a man was condemned to death and executed for the sale of narcotics, rape and sodomy.

2473  
CSO: 5300

AUSTRIA

BRIEFS

HEMP CULTIVATION--Recently a new kind of agriculture has developed in Austria that is strictly prohibited and constitutes a crime against public health: the cultivation of Indian hemp for producing hashish and marihuana. Police authorities have appealed to the people to immediately report any observations regarding the cultivation of hemp. In upper Austria alone, more than 30 kilos of Indian hemp were seized in the past few months. Hemp needs much sun. The hidden plantations thus are to be found mostly in sunny places, primarily on southern edges of forests, in shut-down quarries-or in the middle of grain fields. Some addicts who grow Indian hemp primarily for their own consumption are doing it nowadays in their own gardens. It is possible without special expert knowledge to make both hashish and marihuana from Indian hemp grown in Austria. According to police, persons growing hemp for their personal use face jail sentences of up to 6 months. Anyone growing it on a larger scale for sale is committing a crime against public health and must reckon with a prison term of up to 10 years. [Summary] [Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 1 Sep 79 p 6 AU]

CSO: 5300

CYPRUS

NARCOTICS SMUGGLING REPORTEDLY LED BY INTERNATIONAL RING

Nicosia ELEVETHERI KYPROS in Greek 24 Aug 79 p 1 NC

[Text] Limassol, 23 August--According to authentic reports, a big international gang of smugglers has been engaged in the illegal trafficking of large quantities of narcotics from Arabian countries to Europe using Cyprus as a transit center.

Specifically, the recent arrest of a Lebanese, Victor Louis 'Aziz, on the Limassol-Nicosia highway after 60 kilos of hashish was discovered in his car is not unrelated.

According to reports, police investigations in the 'Aziz case have established that the transfer of narcotics from Limassol to Nicosia was being watched from a distance by the leader of the gang himself, who is said to be a citizen of a European country.

When the large-scale smuggler saw his agent being arrested by Cypriot policemen near Yermasoyia, he immediately headed for Larnaca airport, boarded the first plane out and disappeared, using an open return ticket.

After his arrest 'Aziz disclosed the name of the gang leader to the police. However, all efforts by the authorities to apprehend him before he could leave Cyprus territory failed because the wanted merchant of slow death had already arrived at his point of destination.

According to the same reports, Interpol had already been notified about the case and Interpol officials have disclosed that the said gang leader is very well known for his "activities" in Europe and that he is also wanted by the police in all European and Arabian countries.

CSO: 5300

TURKEY

CONSTITUTIONALITY OF DRUG LAW CHALLENGED

Istanbul CUMHURİYET in Turkish 19 Aug 79 p 5

[Text] Edirne: In a case held in the Edirne Court for Serious Offenses, the Attorney General has maintained that the 1st and 2nd paragraphs of Article 403 of the Turkish Criminal Code, which provide for life imprisonment for those who either bring narcotic substances into the country or take them abroad, are contrary to the principle of equitableness set forth in Article 12 of the Constitution. The court, considering the objection serious, has decided that the matter is to be sent to the Constitutional Court.

In another case held in the same court, defense attorney Osman Kiper claimed that these paragraphs had been drawn up in 1953 under the influence of the United States of America, pointing out that for a sentence to be imposed in a case of smuggling one gram of hashish into or out of the country which would not be imposed for more serious offenses is contrary to the principle of equitableness. The court, assenting to these views, decided that the claim of unconstitutionality was valid.

9173  
CSO: 5300



TURKEY

POPPY GROWERS DISGRUNTLED ABOUT PRICES

Istanbul AYDINLIK in Turkish 21 Aug 79 p 2

[Letter from Huseyin Saglik of Selcen village]

[Text] Ecevit, who calls himself "the Hero of the Poppies and of Cyprus", has made peasants regret that they ever planted poppies.

Poppies are one of the most important crops grown in Turkey. We can summarize the benefits to the Turkish economy accruing from poppies in the following three points:

1) It is a fact known to all of us that opium is utilized in 80 percent of the pharmaceuticals industry. This indicates that, of every 100 citizens who fall sick in Turkey, 80 of them require this product.

At the same time, it saves the economy from buying the raw materials of the pharmaceuticals industry from abroad. This is a great benefit for a Turkey which is begging for foreign exchange from abroad.

2) Poppy oil cake is also very important from the standpoint of animal nutrition. At the same time, it is a rare blessing from the standpoint of meeting people's needs for such food products as meat, milk, and eggs, as well as from the standpoint of earning badly needed foreign exchange by being sold abroad.

3) A third benefit of poppy oil cake is the leather and wool obtained from animals fed on it.

The oil extracted from poppy seeds could also be used to meet Turkey's need for oil. With their undeveloped resources, our people are using the oil which they extract from poppy seeds.

Now let us look at what the government is doing in the matter of such an important crop.

In spite of the 100-percent and 200-percent rise in the cost of living since last year, the price of poppy capsules has gone nowhere. Poppy capsules are currently being bought for 23 to 25 liras. No importance whatsoever is being ascribed to the seeds of the poppy.

This means: "You pay for the field, the fertilizer, the plow; you do the work: the crushing, the cutting for months at a time, taking care of the land until the harvest, you have the crop crushed in the machine and bagged, you pay for the transport, and we'll do the eating."

Have the poppy producers become the guarantors of all Turkey's debts? If the government, instead of placing such a high penalty on poppy capsules, would say to me either "grow one donum [about 1/4 acre] of poppies for nothing" or "don't plant any poppies", it would be acting in a much more straightforward manner.

Let me explain to you my own situation: This year I turned in 136 capsules to the office. At 25 liras per kilo, this makes 3400 liras. They deducted 48 liras for transport, so I got 3352 liras.

In order to obtain the 136 kilos, I had had expenses of 4365 liras. There was also all the labor of my wife and family. Even in we don't count these, I lost 1013 liras.

The situations of all the villagers are either similar to mine or worse.

To the politicians who have exploited the poppy-planting villagers for years, and to Ecevit, "the Hero of the Poppies and of Cyprus", we have this to ask: Is this the way development is going to begin with the villages? Is this the way that the poppy producers, all of whom are losing money, are to advance, to develop the country?

We ask: Is the poppy question also, like the U-2 spy plane affair, a matter for bargaining? Is this included in the letter of intent that you gave to the IMF?

It is said that opium is poisoning the youth of the world. We are totally against this, totally against the poisoning of youth. But opium smuggling cannot be stopped by starving the peasants. The ways and means of stopping it are clear.

We want the government and the politicians to set a price which will brighten the faces of the poppy growers. The politicians must speak more forthrightly. Poppy blossoms must not be hung on cars in election rallies, poppies must not be exploited in this way; the peasant must not be deceived; the prices which the peasant deserves must be given.

9173  
CSO: 5300

.65

UNITED KINGDOM

CANNABIS HAUL CALLED 'TIP OF ICEBERG'

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 14 Aug 79 p 6

[Text] Six men were accused yesterday of being part of an international drugs ring involved in smuggling 250,000 pounds worth of cannabis into Britain.

The six were in court following a nationwide swoop by police and Customs officers last week.

The haul was described by Mr Monty Featherman, magistrates chairman at Bradford, as perhaps "only the tip of the iceberg."

One of the leading members of the organisation was alleged to be Eric Beecroft, 42, a businessman of Harden Grange, Bingley, Yorkshire.

Two other leading members were said to be Mohammed Sabir, 42, of Bishop Street, Bradford and Saber Hussain Mir, 44, of Portia Street, Ashington, Northumberland.

In the dock with them were Hukmat Khan, 43, of Greaves Street, Bradford and Abdul Rauf, 56, of Thornhill Place, Bradford.

The five were remanded in custody for three days.

A sixth man, Neil Andrew Harriman, 27, of Ulverley Green Road, Olton, Solihull was remanded on bail until September 27.

All six are charged in connection with the illegal importing of cannabis into Britain.

Mr Stephen Couch, for Rauf, applied for reporting restrictions to be lifted.

A Customs and Excise officer, Mr Bernard Tarleton, told the magistrates that the case involved the smuggling of cannabis resin worth 100,000 pounds, and cannabis oil, known as hash, worth 150,000 pounds.

"We have established that this is a large operation, operating in Pakistan and Bradford. There are international implications and many further inquiries have to be made."

Opposing bail for Rauf, Mr Tarleton said it was feared he would interfere with witnesses if released.

Mr Tarleton claimed Beecroft had admitted receiving ten drug parcels, each worth 10,000 pounds. "And I understand firearms were found on his premises."

CSO: 5320

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZURE--Customs men who are working to rule seized heroin worth over 1 million pounds on the black market at Heathrow Airport yesterday. It was said to be the largest find in Britain this year. The haul was discovered in the luggage of a man who had arrived from the Middle East. Customs men pounced as he got into a taxi and was about to leave for London. He had just walked through the green "nothing to declare" channel unchallenged. Mr Geoffrey Eteson, national officer of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, said: "This backs up our argument that we need more customs officers to prevent this sort of thing happening, not less as the Government seem to think." [R. H. Greenfield] [Excerpt] [London SUNDAY TELEGRAPH in English 5 Aug 79 p 1]

CANNABIS FIND IN BANANA--A big haul of cannabis, hidden in a banana, was found by Customs officers working to rule at Heathrow Airport yesterday. On Saturday, customs men seized three kilos of heroin worth 300,000 pounds and arrested two Iranians. In the case involving 25 lb of cannabis, officers became suspicious while checking a Nigerian woman's baggage in the green "nothing to declare" channel. They opened one of a bunch of bananas and found that the fruit had been removed and the skin filled with cannabis. The skin had been carefully stitched. Other seizures made by Customs at the weekend included half a kilo of morphine worth 100,000 pounds, and a large quantity of pornographic films. The Customs men, who are members of the Society of Public and Civil Servants, are protesting against Government plans to cut staff by 1,800 this year and a further 6,000 next year. [Robert Bedlow] [Excerpts] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 6 Aug 79 p 1]

CSO: 5320

END