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**24 OCTOBER 1979**

**(FOUO 45/79)**

**1 OF 1**

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JPRS L/8731

24 October 1979

# Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 45/79)

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WORLDWIDE REPORT  
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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BURMA

BRIEFS

MOULMEIN COURT JAILS FIVE--Moulmein, 18 Sep--Moulmein township court No 4 chaired by U Ba Tin after completing its hearings on charges filed under Sections 6.B, 10.B, 11.B and 12.B of the Narcotic Drugs Law, yesterday sentenced Ma Ohn Yi of Moulmein's Milaungpyin ward to 5 years imprisonment with hard labor under Section 6.B; Hok Thein, alias Akauk, of Daungmin ward, to 3 years imprisonment with hard labor; and Khin Maung Aye and Myint U to 18 months imprisonment with hard labor. The case was brought to trial after people's police personnel, in cooperation with ward people's councillors of Moulmein's Mandalay ward, interrogated Mya Han and Myint Un near the pagoda in Mandalay ward and later raided the residence of Ma Ohn Yi. Hok Thein, alias Akauk, and Khin Maung Aye, who were found at the residence, were also arrested together with some penicillin bottles containing heroin, which they had thrown away. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 25 Sep 79 p 6 BK]

FIVE YEARS FOR POSSESSION--The Pabedan Township Court No (2) chaired by U Tha Oo sentenced Maung Myo Thant (21) of No 57, 138th Street, Maugon, Tamwe Township, to five years' imprisonment under Section 6(b) (possession) and two years under Section 14(d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law Wednesday. The sentences are to be served concurrently. A small packet of heroin was seized from Myo Thant by a police party at the Open Air Market at about 7 pm on 14 July 1978. Lawpita, 18-Sep--Loikaw Township Court today sentenced Tin Maung alias Ahtu of Dawnaku Ward, Loikaw, to five years' imprisonment under Section 6(b) (possession) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.--(066) [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 27 Sep 79 p 8 BK]

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JAPAN

JAPANESE SMUGGLER SHOT DEAD IN MANILA

Convicted Smuggler Found Dead

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 23 Sep 79 p 12

[Text]

MANILA (Kyodo) — A Japanese smuggler was shot dead in Manila Friday, Philippine police reported Saturday.

Hiroaki Kunitomo, 31, of Shinjuku, Tokyo, was found lying dead on the road in front of the Intercontinental Hotel by a traffic policeman.

Kunitomo was arrested with an accomplice, Takeshi Yoshino, 36, last Jan. 13, while in possession of seven pistols and 320 grams of am-

phetamines just before his departure for Japan from Manila airport.

Four days later, he was sentenced to 12 years in jail. He was then brought to trial for unlawful possession of arms.

After he was released on bail in the course of the trial, he took up residence on the outskirts of Manila with his Philippine wife.

Police said they believe he was slain in connection with some trouble with a smuggling gang.

Morphine Found

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 26 Sep 79 p 12

[Text]

MANILA (Kyodo)—The National Bureau of Investigation searched the Manila home of a slain Japanese smuggler Sunday and reported finding 50 firearms, some 1,400 rounds of ammunition, several kilograms of marijuana, morphine and other items of contraband.

Investigators said Hiroaki Kunitomo, 31, of Shinjuku, Tokyo, who was found shot dead on a Manila street last Friday, must have been involved in a large smuggling operation, probably with a Japanese criminal syndicate. They said the NBI would try to unravel the smuggling route.



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The seized weapons consisted of 43 handguns, including 13.45-caliber pistols, 24 .38s, four silencer-equipped .22s and two .32 automatics, plus two air guns, two harpoon guns, two rifles and one automatic rifle, according to the NBI.

Officials were questioning Kunimoto's common-law wife, a Filipina who said she knew nothing about his activities, and seeking to determine whether the guns had been used in past crimes.

Kunimoto's body was found on a street around 5.30 p.m. on Friday. According to his wife, he had left home early that morning in a borrowed car in the company of two Philippine women and four Japanese men who had visited the house.

Kunimoto was arrested last January at Manila Airport on charges of attempting to smuggle out guns and drugs. He was sentenced to 12 years in prison but was free on bail pending the outcome of another trial for illegal possession of firearms.

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JAPAN

KOREAN CAUGHT WITH DRUGS AT OSAKA

Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 23 Sep 79 p 12

[Text]

A Korean trade firm manager was arrested Friday at Osaka International Airport Customs as he attempted to smuggle stimulants to the U.S. through Japan.

Arrested was Yun Gian Il, 38, of Seoul, Korea who had hidden 1.016 kilograms of crystallized stimulants worth about 300 million yen (street value in his doubled-bottomed suitcase.

Yun confessed that he was asked at a bar in Seoul to carry the drugs to Los Angeles for

\$2,000. He said that as a further reward he would be introduced to U.S. customers for his company.

Yun is the foreign trade manager of a trading company in Seoul which exports cassette tapes and other electrical appliances.

Since his company suffered a 30-million-yen loss in foreign trade, he was going to offset the loss by finding new customers in the U.S. and accepted the offer, he said.

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JAPAN

BRIEFS

OSAKA SMUGGLING RING ARRESTS--Osaka 29 Sept KYODO--Police had arrested by Saturday 18 members of a narcotic smuggling ring in Osaka on suspicion of violation of the stimulant drugs control law, it was learned the same day. They also seized 571 grams of amphetamines, a pistol of Italian make and a Japanese sword from the homes of some suspected smugglers. Police said Masatoshi Bo, 33, bought one kilogram of amphetamines from Kim Ju Hak, crewman of a South Korean freighter, for yen 4 million in September last year. In total, Bo smuggled into Japan from the same source 11 kilograms of stimulant drugs worth yen 3.3 billion in street value before his arrest in July, police said. The smuggling ring was affiliated with Sugaya-gumi, a gangster organization in Osaka, they added. Police were still investigating the routes through which this ring was selling drugs. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 29 Sep 79]

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MALAYSIA

FOLK DOCTORS SUCCESSFULLY TREAT DRUG ADDICTION

Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 26 Aug 79 p 20

[Excerpts]

**Prof. Roland Werner, Chief Medical Director in Bremen, West Germany, who recently completed 30 months of research on traditional medicine in Malaysia, has said: "After years of research, I've come to the conclusion that there is nothing better than homoh cure in the treatment of drug addicts, mainly because of the spiritual effect involved..." KHOR ENG LEE reports on the use of herbs to fight drug abuse.**

ON THE top floor of a shophouse opposite the Rex in bustling Jalan Sultan, Kuala Lumpur, a middle-aged Chinese physician or sinseh has successfully treated junkies with the use of herbs and the power of prayer.

Poker-faced Chang Chon Ming, 44, can be described as an odd man in an unlikely place. He has specialised in bonesetting and treatment of rheumatism, having learned the healing art from his grandfather.

Now he's operating under the wings of a registered company of fortune tellers known as Kim Soh Yoon which opened last December. Before that he was practising in Johore. According to Sinseh Chang, treating drug addicts is an extra occupational activity which he picked up in Thailand.

His method of treatment is quite simple. In most cases, the course of treatment is completed in three weeks.

In the first week, the patient is treated to a combination of traditional herbal remedies concocted of roots and leaves of plants with curative powers.

The concoction, he says, is very bitter. Its purpose is to purge the addict's system. In the first week the patient has to come three times a day for this bitter medicine.

Unlike treatment in a detoxification unit or rehabilitation centre, the patient is free to go home.

The detoxification process is often finished after the first week.

In the second and third weeks of treatment, the detoxified patient is put on a "crash" body-building regimen. The special diet includes some of the choicest and most expensive herbal medicines from tongkwee, the root of a herbal plant known technically as *Angelica sinensis* (Olive) Defels, to the legendary ginseng root.

His treatment takes care only of the physical side of addiction. The patient himself has to uproot the psychological root of it.

Sinseh Chang also advises his patient to do physical training such as skipping or jogging at home.

Of eight young addicts treated by him so far this year, two have gone back to drugs. This is a relapse rate of twenty-five per cent. One of them, a promising sales executive, fell into the same old trap laid by his peers. The point here is not to go back to old colleagues who are hard-core junkies.

One who still stays on top is a young man of 20, S.P. Wong. Like the great majority of addicts, he started out of curiosity.

Another one, C.M. Lau, a 24-year-old electrician, was "saved" by Sinseh Chang about six months ago. Still looking rather shrunk with sunken eyes, he recalled his experience as if he had just survived a great crash.

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MALAYSIA

PENANG CUSTOMS AGENTS SEIZE 11 POUNDS OF HEROIN

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 15 Aug 79 p 4

[Article: "Seizure of Three Million Dollars Worth of Heroin at Penang International Airport"]

[Text] Recently agents from the anti-smuggling unit of Penang Customs Department seized 11 pounds of heroin at the Penang International Airport. The seized drug has an overseas market value of approximately \$3 million and a domestic market value of about \$60,000.

This batch of drugs was uncovered in air passenger baggage, which was being arranged for shipment to Europe.

The owner of the baggage concerned was preparing to leave Penang for Belgium via Kuala Lumpur.

According to our source, however, while the customs agents were inspecting the baggage, the passenger concerned has flown to Kuala Lumpur and is en route to Europe.

Now the Customs Department, the Kuala Lumpur Criminal Investigation Department and the Interpol have closely coordinated to track the drug courier.

According to Superintendent General of Northern Malaysia Customs, Yuchialiya, the abovementioned drug was seized at the airport on 3 August.

He said: "Since the end of last year customs personnel have begun routine inspection at the Penang International Airport. At 6:45 pm on 3 August three customs agents led by Thomas were monitoring passenger baggage at the airport. Their attention was attracted to a green bag with a perfume smell, and it was about to be loaded on an airplane. They were suspicious and opened the luggage (which was unlocked) and saw just clothing in it. But after the clothing was removed, the luggage was still heavy. Thus the agents sawed open the inside layers and then some brown powderlike substance leaked out. The customs agents suspected it to be heroin."

Upon searching the inside of the luggage, the agents discovered 70 bags of heroin in its upper layer and 90 bags in its lower layer. Each bag weighed 25 grams, and the total weighed nearly 5 kilograms or about 11 pounds with an overseas market value of approximately \$3 million.

Although the luggage contains no identification card of the owner, the departments concerned have found out about the owners identity. It is known that when the customs agents seized the drug, the luggage owner was on the original flight to Kuala Lumpur and then en route to Europe.

This case is being investigated closely by the customs, Kuala Lumpur Criminal Department and Interpol in order to track down the drug courier.

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MALAYSIA

SCENT OF PERFUME LEADS TO HEROIN DISCOVERY

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 15 Aug 79 p 1

[Text] **A STRONG** scent of perfume led four Customs officers to the discovery of 11 pounds of heroin — worth about \$3 million in the international market — which was concealed in the hidden compartments of a bag at Penang Airport on Aug. 3.

The officers, from the anti-smuggling division here, were conducting a check for drugs at the airport when they were attracted by the strong scent from the bag as it was being delivered to a plane about a fortnight ago.

News of the seizure, believed to be the biggest so far this year, was withheld to facilitate follow-up operations by Customs and CID officers from Police Headquarters in Kuala Lumpur.

The head of the anti-smuggling division, Senior Supt. Othman bin Zakaria, said the heroin was believed to be bound for Brussels in Belgium when it was intercepted in transit.

**Syndicate**

"We believe the drug was brought here by a courier working for an international syndicate for distribution in Europe," he added.

Encik Othman said that on that day, a four-man Customs party was at the airport to conduct surprise checks on baggage for drugs, especially those bound for Europe.

"At about 6.45 p.m. the officers saw a green bag coming down from the luggage conveyor. The bag gave out a strong smell of perfume," he added.

"The officers then picked up the bag for closer examination.

"After 45 minutes, the officers managed to cut a small hole in the bottom of the bag and found packets of a brownish powder hidden inside."

The bag was then brought back to the Customs base where it was forced open.

Encik Othman said: "We found 160 small packets of heroin No. 3, each weighing about 25 grammes, glued on both sides of the bag."

He added that the drugs were believed to have come from a neighbouring country and that "an international drug trafficking syndicate is involved."

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MALAYSTA

NARCOTICS ARRESTS, TRIALS, SENTENCES REPORTED

Life Sentence

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 7 Aug 79 p 24

[Excerpt]

**KANGAR, Mon. — A trisha man, Drahim bin Majid, 39, was sentenced to life imprisonment and ordered to receive three strokes of the rotan by the Sessions Court today after he pleaded guilty to trafficking in 1,064 gm of ganja.**

Drahim committed the offence at the taxi stand in Padang Besar on April 13.

Court president Mr T.S. Marbeck told Drahim that life imprisonment was the only sentence he could impose under the law for anyone convicted of drug trafficking.

Singaporean Gets Life

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 10 Aug 79 p 6

[Excerpts]

**PENANG, Thurs. — Justice Datuk Fred Arulanandom today sentenced a building contractor to life imprisonment for drug trafficking and told him that his was the gravest crime — "much more serious than murder."**

Cheong Weng Fatt, 55, pleaded guilty to trafficking in 2,909.4 gm. of heroin in a hotel in Chulia Street on March 1, last year, jointly with another person still at large.

The DPP, in pressing for the death sentence, said the amount of drugs could give 640,800 shots and was worth about \$75,000.

He said Cheong had come from Singapore to involve himself in drug trafficking here.

In giving the facts of the case, the DPP said a police party raided a room occupied by Cheong in the hotel that day.

During the raid, a man ran out of the room and managed to escape but Cheong, who also tried to escape, was detained.

In the room, police found a briefcase containing 12 packets of a granular substance which was later confirmed to be heroin and two Singapore passports.

In mitigation, Cheong's counsel Mr V. Muthusamy, said his client had been misled into the offence by the man who ran out of the room, and regretted what he had done.

"Cheong, who has a wife and children in Singapore, was suffering from high blood pressure, semi-paralysis of the right side of his body and arthritis," he said.



Shortage of Heroin

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Aug 79 p 10

[Text]

**SEREMBAN, Fri.** — The price of opium here has leapt five-fold because addicts have switched to it as a cheaper substitute, the State CID Chief, Supt. B.D. Henry told the *New Straits Times* today.

He said the switch was caused by a shortage of heroin and the increase in its price.

Supt. Henry said a small packet of opium which earlier cost \$1 now sold for \$5.

"Several addicts confessed to police that they resorted to

opium because it was cheaper and also because they could not get heroin," he said.

The price of a straw of heroin has also jumped due to a shortage in supply and police harassment," he added.

Up to June, Negri Sembilan police arrested 84 drug addicts and three pushers and 34 grammes of heroin and 40 grammes of opium were seized in the first six months this year.

He said as a result of police action, drug haunts in the town were deserted.

Policeman Held

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 11 Aug 79 p 2

[Text]

**MIRI.** — A police constable told a Miri court recently he had been given a "sample" of opium from a man and later intended to get more from the man so he could arrest him.

Before magistrate Encik Joannes Golokin was Zaharin bin Mohammad Zahari, 29, of the 18th Battalion of the Police Field Force, Miri, charged with possessing 0.47 grams of opium on Sze Chuan Wharf, Miri, on April 21.

Encik Golokin refused to accept his guilty plea and remanded him on bail to appear for trial on March 27 next year.

The court was told Zaharin had been stopped on the wharf in River Road by Inspector Goh Beng Hock who found a plastic container with the opium in Zaharin's trouser pocket.

Zaharin claimed the opium was a "sample" and he intended to return later, get more opium from the man and arrest him.

### Heroin Raid

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 18 Aug 79 p 13

[Text]

KUCHING. — A police superintendent and a corporal were drinking in a Sekama Road, Kuching, coffee shop on June 23 last year when they were told a man was selling drugs from a rented house in Batu Lintang Road.

The officers went to the house, the superintendent shouted through the front door while the corporal climbed through a window, senior magistrate Madam Agnes K. L. Wong heard last week.

Haron Salleh bin Haji Hassim, 32, unemployed, of Batu Lintang Road, Kuching, denied two charges of possessing heroin at his home on June 23 last year.

The case was adjourned until October 3 after Madam Wong was told two witnesses had to be found.

Inspector Stanley Teng, prosecuting, said one man, Nyan Mee Lee, is in Brunei, and the other, Corporal Ahmad bin Mohamad Yunus, originally at Camp One in Palm Road, Kuching, is now in Peninsular Malaysia.

Madam Wong heard that Superintendent Leong Shak Chiang led a raid on the house in Batu Lintang Road; during the raid Haron was seen throwing away a matchbox containing heroin.

Supt Leong said he was attached to the drug

section of the Criminal Investigation Department in Kuching and was in a coffee shop when he was told Haron was selling drugs in a house only 50 yards away.

He went to the house with Inspector Goh Beng Hock and Corporal Malcolm Voon and they saw Haron's wife signalling to her husband that someone was coming.

Supt Leong said that as Cpl Voon climbed through a window Haron's wife "looked stunned and pale" and Haron himself tried to throw away a matchbox containing heroin.

In a bedroom there were four youths who were detained but were

later released.

Haled bin Rambli, 24, said he had been a drug addict for six years and had gone to Haron's house to "chase the dragon" (smoke heroin) and watch television.

Mr Mohamad Asfia appeared for Haron.

### Morphine Laboratory Raided

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 22 Aug 79 p 13

[Text]

ALOR STAR, Tues. — Police raided what they believed to be a home-made drug processing laboratory in a hut near the Thai border and seized 305 grammes of morphine.

They also detained two men found in the hut in Kampung Napoh Ulu at the mile six, Jitra-Changloon Road.

News of the raid, which took place last Tuesday, was withheld until today to enable police to make further investigations.

Kedah-Perlis Deputy CID chief, Supt. Mohamed Saman Ibrahim, told reporters that the morphine was sufficient for 25,000 "shots."

The raiding party, comprising five police personnel, was led by Inspectors Zainuddin bin Abdul Aziz and Aftab Khan.

The officers peeped through a hole in the hut and saw the two men squatting in front of a burning stove. There was a glass jar filled with a liquid substance on the stove.

When the policemen burst into the hut, one of the men threw away a packet while the other tried to grab the jar, but the officers quickly took it away from him.

The packet was found to contain morphine.

A weighing machine and two stoves were also seized.

Heroin Sentence

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 31 Aug 79 p 1

[Excerpt]

**JOHORE BARU, Mon.**

— A mother of five, Puteh binte Lajek, 36, was today sentenced to three-and-half years' jail for the illegal possession of 19.35gm of heroin.

Puteh pleaded guilty to illegally having three packets of heroin in her house at Jalan Datuk Abdullah at 10.15 p.m. on March 10, 1977.

Sessions Court President Yap Cheng Boon said he took into consideration the facts that

Puteh had pleaded guilty and that she was a first offender.

Mr Yap said he had to impose the jail sentence because of the quantity of heroin involved and in the interest of the public.

In mitigation for Puteh, defence counsel R. K. Menon said prior to Puteh's arrest she was divorced by her husband who left her with five children to support.

He said the drugs were given to Puteh for safe keeping by a man who had refused to come forward as a witness for her.

Drugs Seized

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 31 Aug 79 p 1

[Text]

**THE** Kedah-Perlis police special anti-drug squad scored a major success two weeks ago when they seized 3½ lb. of raw opium, 1 lb. of heroin and ½ lb. of morphine.

The drugs, valued at \$1 million in the international market and sufficient for 50,000 "shots," were seized after a chase along the Gurun-Jenang Road.

Kedah-Perlis CID chief ACP P.N. Muttiah told reporters today the car driver and a passenger, both Malaysians aged 43 and 27, were arrested.

The car was also detained. A third suspect was arrested by police here.

The seizure was made by the Gurun police anti-drug squad led by Sgt. Awtar Singh on Aug. 17 but the news was withheld.

Sgt. Awtar Singh and his men were manning a road-block near the Gurun police station along the Alor Star-Butterworth Road when a car with two men inside crashed through and turned

into a side road leading towards Jenang. Sgt. Awtar Singh and his men gave chase in a Land Rover.

During the chase, the police saw a bundle being thrown out of the car. They caught up with the car and forced the driver to stop but nothing was found on the two men or inside the car.

The police took the suspects to the spot where the bundle was thrown and found that the bundle contained three packets of drugs.

Three days ago, the Jitra police special anti-drug squad came across a drug processing laboratory during a raid on a hut in Kampung Napoh Ulu near the Thai border.

Aged Opium Smokers

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Aug 79 p 6

[Excerpt]

**KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Mr Justice Harun Hashim said in the High Court here today aged opium smokers should be treated differently from the young who smoked heroin and morphine.**

The old, he added, should be pitied as they were the victims of circumstances due to changes in Government policy.

Before the war, it was not an offence to smoke opium and the Government then was the pedlar who sold the drug to labourers.

However, after the war, Government policy changed and it was decided that opium smoking was bad.

The judge said that some old people had been smoking opium all their lives and the punishment imposed should not exceed \$10.

He said this when he quashed the conviction and set aside the jail term imposed on a 66-year-old man whose case came up for revision following a letter from his counsel, Mr A. Kanesalingam.

Leng Chow Teng alias Lim Chor Jin had pleaded guilty in the magistrate's court in February this year to a charge of having under his control 0.10 gramme of prepared opium, a plastic packet containing 1.46 grammes of opium dross and six plastic containers containing 21 pills of prepared opium dross.

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

AMERICAN WOMAN ARRESTED AT AIRPORT

Drug Concealed on Body

Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 30 Aug 79 p 9

[Text] AIRPORT customs officials yesterday arrested a 50-year-old woman allegedly with about 100 g of heroin worth \$50,000, just before she boarded a flight for San Francisco.

That amount of No 4 heroin would have fetched a street value of \$100,000 if the woman, an American from Texas, sold it in the United States.

Acting on a tip-off, customs officers, who took along narco dog Kava, searched her luggage before she boarded the Singapore Airlines flight with a woman friend at about 12.40 p.m.

When they found no evidence of drugs in the luggage, they had the woman bodily searched by woman officers, who, according to the customs, found an object concealed in her vagina.

Senior Superintendent of Customs, Airport Division, Mr Kwok Siew Guan, said the heroin was stuffed in a condom.

He said this was the first time the customs had detected a woman hiding drugs in such a manner.

He said the woman's friend has also been detained for questioning but so far there was no evidence to suggest her involvement.

He added that customs officers were trying to find out if the drug was bought here.

A woman will appear in court today.

**LEGAL NOTE:** Under the Misuse of Drugs Act, anyone in possession of more than 15g is presumed to have had the drug for trafficking and for this amount, the accused, if found guilty, faces the death penalty.

Charged with Trafficking

Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 31 Aug 79 p 18

[Text]

**A 50-YEAR-OLD** American woman antique collector who was arrested at Paya Lebar Airport on Wednesday afternoon as she was preparing to board a flight to San Francisco was charged in a district court yesterday with trafficking 117.8 g of diamorphine at the airport departure lounge.

Alene Calloway Finley, from Houston, Texas, was with a younger woman described as her travel-

ing companion.

District Judge Rahim Jallil ordered Finley to be remanded at Central Police Station pending further mention of her case in Court 26 on Sept 6.

Conviction in Singapore on a charge of possession of more than 15g of an illegal drug carries a mandatory death penalty on the assumption that anyone with that amount is guilty of trafficking.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

RTG TO FREEZE ASSETS OF DRUG OFFENDERS

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Sep 79 p 1

[Article by Pummarnie Sumondis]

[Text] The Office of Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) is drafting a powerful new law which will allow authorities to freeze and confiscate the assets of drug offenders suspected to have been obtained through narcotic trading.

And the onus would be on the drug dealers to prove that their properties had been acquired legally.

Secretary-General of the ONCB, Pol Maj Gen Pow Sarasin revealed that the proposed draft is part of an overall strategy to turn the full pressure of law on narcotic offenders inside Thailand.

Similar laws have already yielded good results in other countries such as the United States and Australia, he said.

The general principle of the bill, Gen Pow said, is that when a person is arrested on a drug charge his assets would be frozen until it is proved that it had not been acquired through narcotic dealings.

The proposed bill comes on the heel of the Narcotics Act B.E. 2522 which came into effect in April this year. Under the act, which was also drawn up by the ONCB, convicted traffickers face stiff sentences ranging from 10 years jail and a fine of 10,000 — 100,000 baht to the death sentence.

The penalties in the act had been drawn up in accordance with an international convention on drug control, Gen Pow said.

He commented that despite unrelenting efforts by the ONCB in the suppression of narcotic trade in the country, there are still many difficulties because of the unique nature of the drug trade.

Unlike other crimes, the victims of the drug trade — the addicts — would tend to help the traffickers rather than the police because they are so dependent on narcotics.

Gen Pow added that crops substitution projects for the hilltribes have gained good results between 1973-1978.

In surveying four key villages in Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Mae Hong Son provinces where crops substitution projects have been introduced, opium is still grown on only 515.7 rai of land, compared to 1,697 rai in the same areas in 1977.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

LARGE MARIHUANA SEIZURE IN RAYONG

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 18 Sep 79 p 1

[Text] Rayong--Eighty-four boxes of marijuana weighing 1,553 kilograms were found hidden in a house near Utapao airbase, police reported yesterday.

A team of highway police, led by Pol Maj Borvorn Sirimachan, raided the house at 137/24 Tambon Bankord, Satahip District of this eastern coastal province after being informed by the narcotics agents that the marijuana had been transported to the house for smuggling to ships anchored in three coastal provinces of Chonbur, Rayong and Chanburi.

The highway police later took all the marijuana, which was estimated to be worth about 10 million baht, to the Police Department's narcotics division.

The highway police did not find the owner of the marijuana but detained Mid Bamphen, the housekeeper, for interrogation.

Mid told police that the house belongs to Ms Trani Visetsook, who earlier built about 20 houses for renting out to US air force personnel while the former American-run airbase was still in operation.

Mid said after the US forces withdrew in 1973, all the houses became vacant.

Mid said he was the only person who took care of the 20 houses of Ms Trani and it was difficult to know what activity was going on in the houses. He said he suspected that the area had been used as an unloading site of smuggled goods.

[Photo caption] Boxes upon boxes...all in all, 84 boxes of marijuana are being taken away by highway police after the raid. Keeper of the house, Mid was detained for interrogation.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

UN DRUG ABUSE ASSISTANCE--A memorandum of understanding was signed yesterday at the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation by representatives of the Government of Thailand and the UN Drug Abuse Control Agency. The memorandum provides a basis for UN assistance to Thailand's program of crop substitution among the northern hilltribes for a period of 3 years beginning next year. [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 27 Sep 79 BK]

HEROIN PUSHER ARRESTED--Chiang Mai--A team of local policemen yesterday arrested a middleaged man at Kamthorn Hotel in Muang District on a charge of possessing heroin for sale, a report from the northern province said. The suspect, identified as Indho Ubngern (47), was apprehended as he was about to leave the hotel. Police said they seized about 700 grammes of grade A No 4 heroin found neatly hidden on his body. Police said they had watched the suspect in Phrao District, where he lives, and later when he traveled to Muang District. The suspect allegedly confessed he was on his way to meet a foreign tourist to sell him the drug when he was arrested. Police are now looking for the tourist. [Text] [Bangkok POST in English 24 Sep 79 p 3 BK]

AMERICANS ARRESTED--Chiang Mai--Three American tourists were arrested yesterday by the local police with 350 grams of No 4 heroin in their possession inside their hotel room, police reported. The three Americans--Ford Cornson, 30, David Marlrov, and Greff Jemenmuson--were reported to have packed heroin powder in 11 small plastic bags and hidden the bags under their beds in room No 701 of the President Hotel in this northern city. Police said the arrest of the three American tourists was carried out after a tipoff by narcotics agents. Meanwhile, a 44-year-old Thai woman, identified as Prani Suriya, was also arrested separately on the same day with 350 grams of No 4 heroin hidden in her house at 146/8 Tambon Changpuek, Maung District of this province. [Text] [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 22 Sep 79 p 8 BK]

SPANIARD ON DRUG CHARGE--Chiang Mai--Provincial police yesterday arrested a Spaniard and seized 300 grammes of number four grade heroin allegedly in his possession, a police report said today. Arrested was Juan Diua Luge Torres (25), who was intercepted by policemen when he was entering



a hotel about 10:30 p.m., police said. Lague who arrived in Chiang Mai three days ago, reportedly told police during interrogation that he bought the heroin from a northerner for 70,000 baht. Meanwhile in Bangkok, Crime Suppression Police yesterday afternoon arrested a 40-year-old woman allegedly in possession of 5,000 baht worth of heroin police reported. The woman, Miss Ladda Kanchanasuroj, was intercepted while driving her car along Tee Thong Road. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 27 Sep 79 p 3 BK]

TOURISTS IN DRUG RAID--Five American tourists and a Thai were arrested Saturday in two separate raids at major Bangkok hotels and charged with possessing heroin, a police officer said. A team of Metropolitan Police Narcotics Unit policemen arrested four suspects--identified as Albert Charles Lewis (28), Barbara White (35), Barbara Sanders and Sithipong Intharachiansiri (43)--at the Hyatt Rama Hotel upon receiving a report from US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents. Police reportedly found about 100 grammes of No 4 heroin in their hotel room and also seized about \$30,000 cash allegedly for drug purchases. The police team then set off to the Oriental Hotel to arrest another suspect, identified as Terrance Wakefield (25)--allegedly a member of the same gang. Also arrested was Cynthia Bridges (28) from the Century Hotel. All six have been held for further investigation at Yan Nawa police station. Mrs Bridges was scheduled to leave for New York today. She told police that she had bought the heroin for 20,000 baht. [Text] [Bangkok POST in English 24 Sep 79 p 3 BK]

MARIJUANA IN PHU KRADUNG--Police seized nearly four tons of marijuana and arrested two people in a raid in Ban Nong Hin of Phu Kradung District, Thursday, a delayed report said yesterday. A 50-man police team led by Pol Lt Col Sarith Suthikhiri, the deputy superintendent, set off in three trucks towards Ban Nong Hin village after a tip-off that a huge marijuana plantation was located there. The policemen stopped their trucks seven kilometres from the spot and proceeded by foot for three hours. They said they found a big plot of land covered with marijuana plants. A couple, identified as Choo Sala (65) and his wife, Mrs Haew (65), who were in a cottage at the scene, were arrested. Four other people escaped before the police arrived. The policemen reported they chopped down marijuana plants weighing about 3.7 tons and took them in the three trucks to the police station. [Text] [Bangkok POST in English 16 Sep 79 p 2 BK]

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

LARGE MARIHUANA SHIPMENT SEIZED, TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT

Driver Arrested, Accomplices Identified

H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 6 Sep 79 p 12

[Text] A ton and a half of marihuana was confiscated by agents of the Federal Judicial Police under orders from Comdr Gerardo de Avila Avila who were stationed at the Las Norias inspection post. One individual was arrested, and several drug traffickers from both the state of Guerrero and this border were also identified.

The valuable marihuana shipment was seized at about 0200 hours on Tuesday morning, from a truck with high railings, which was equipped with a special compartment having a false bottom.

The marihuana shipment, the vehicle carrying it and the individual under arrest were immediately taken to Nuevo Laredo, to the area commander of the Federal Judicial Police, Margarito Mendez Rico, who is continuing a series of investigations there for the purpose of apprehending the owners of the drugs.

The drug trafficker in custody is named Humberto Perez Patino, a resident of the state of Oaxaca who, after being subjected to close questioning, gave the identity of his accomplices and of the owners of the drugs.

The marihuana was raw, and was being shipped in a 1970 Dina model truck with Federal Public Service license plate J-7498, which had been outfitted with a special compartment under the body in which the marihuana was well pressed.

According to the announcements made by the Federal Judicial Police, the total load weighed 1,450 kilograms, and it is of the type known as "lamb's tail," commanding a high price on the market.

The large shipment was coming from the Tuxtepec area of Oaxaca, and it was scheduled to be taken to the United States market, where such a load would have a price in excess of 5 million pesos.

The individual in custody gave the Federal Judicial Police the name of the producer of the marihuana who had sent him with it to this border, and he also identified the customer who was to receive it, both of whom live on the American side.

It was, moreover, noted that the identity of several other drug traffickers in collusion with this underworld ring has now been obtained, and it is expected that further arrests will take place.

Humberto Perez Patino said that this was the first time that he made a shipment of marihuana, after which they offered to pay him several thousand pesos.

However, it was indicated that he would be subjected to close questioning, because he might have in his possession several large shipments of the injurious grass.

It was added that the Federal Judicial Police from Tuxtepec, Oaxaca, are seeking the whereabouts of the person who sent the drugs to this border, and that they expect to arrest him at any moment.

Tuxtepec, Oaxaca, has become prominent lately because of the fact that large marihuana shipments seized by the Federal Police have been brought from that very region, where clashes between the Federal Police and drug traffickers have also taken place.

The individual under arrest, Perez Patino, will be placed at the disposal of the Federal Public Ministry agent, Alfredo Olivares Osuna, today, so that he may carry out the preliminary investigation.

It was also commented by the Federal Judicial Police that the inspection station that they have at Las Norias has brought good results to date, because it has curbed the drug traffic further still.

It was added that the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic is constantly issuing orders to intensify the vigilance at the inspection stations, even though some individuals have complained of the annoyance caused them. It was pointed out that the very ones who complain are those whose illegal activities are upset thereby.

#### Trafficking Run From Jail

H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 8 Sep 79 p 10

[Text] The 1.5 ton shipment of marihuana seized 3 days ago by agents of the Federal Judicial Police at the Las Norias inspection station was owned by Javier Eleno Gonzalez, better known as "Chito Gonzalez," who is currently incarcerated in jail, after two "bronco" type pickup trucks which had been stolen in the United States were confiscated from him.

Last night, the commander of the Federal Judicial Police, Gerardo de Avila Avila, announced that, according to the statements made in Nuevo Laredo by the carrier of the drugs, Humberto Perez Patino, the only owner is Chito Gonzalez, who intended to have the drugs taken subsequently to the United States, through his accomplices.

The police chief stated that it was inferred from the investigation that the federal criminal, Gonzalez Saenz, is still operating his illegal business activities from inside the jail.

De Avila said: "We have now studied all the details and clues concerning the owner of the drugs, and the only one we have found is Chito Gonzalez. There is no other individual that I know of that name besides the one in jail."

When the individual in custody, Humberto Perez Patino, was captured at the Las Norias inspection station, as he was driving a truck carrying 1.5 tons of marihuana, he was taken directly to the town of Nuevo Laredo, where the regional commander of the Federal Judicial Police, Margarito Mendez Rico, took over the investigation, with the participation of Gerardo de Avila.

According to reports from the commander detailed to Matamoros, yesterday the Federal Judicial Police ended their investigation, and the conclusion was reached that the owner of the marihuana was Chito Gonzalez. Perez Patino will remain in custody for several offenses, including the transportation and possession of marihuana, and others.

In the morning, Gerardo de Avila was in Nuevo Laredo in order to close that investigation; and he said that the federal prosecutor would request a warrant for the arrest of Javier Eleno Gonzalez Saenz, for crimes against health.

In Nuevo Laredo, Humberto Perez Patino stated that they had sent him from Tuxtepec, Oaxaca, with the marihuana shipment, which Javier Eleno "Chito" Gonzalez had purchased.

The carrier of the drugs claims that he did not know that Chito Gonzalez was in jail, and gave the names of other accomplices.

Comdr Gerardo de Avila said that the investigation would continue, in order to make some arrests in connection with the same case.

At first, upon being arrested with the valuable marihuana shipment, Humberto Perez Patino had declared that the owner of the grass was a resident of Valle, Texas; but when in Nuevo Laredo, where he was subjected to close questioning, he said that the owner was actually Chito Gonzalez. It is a noteworthy fact that, according to certain rumors, this convict has been entertaining himself at nightclubs, possibly with the consent of prison guards.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

MASSIVE MARIHUANA PLANTATION DESTRUCTION IN NUEVO LEON

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 15 Sep 79 Sec B p 4

[Text] Despite the fact that devastating blows have been dealt to the drug traffic in Monterrey, there are individuals who are still engaged in the planting and cultivation of marihuana, which they subsequently ship to the Mexican border to be exported to the United States, where there is a magnificent market for the drug.

Putting into service all the resources at their command, agents from the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic are making daily raids into various sections of the state of Nuevo Leon, in search of marihuana plantations.

Last Thursday, forces under the command of Manuel Espindola performed a splendid job, evoking the satisfaction of Oscar Flores Sanchez (attorney general of the republic) and Gen Raul Mendiola Cerecero; inasmuch as it proved that no quarter is being given to those operating outside of the law who are engaged in producing cannabis indica.

They Locate and Destroy 19 Marihuana Plantations

At a press conference, the coordinator of the antidrug campaign in the northwestern zone, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, announced that, last Thursday, the Federal Judicial Police had destroyed 19 marihuana plantations located over a vast region of the state of Nuevo Leon.

As soon as the cannabis indica crops were discovered, they were sprayed with herbicides and the drugs were destroyed, in accordance with the instructions issued by the attorney general of the republic.

Juarez Jimenez reported in detail the sites on which the crops had been discovered.

According to Juarez Jimenez, a total of 15 plantations were found on "Los Aguacates" hill, a part of the municipality of Reynosa, Nuevo Leon. The crops covered a total of 18 hectares of land, and had a density of 10 plants

per square meter, and each plant was 1.60 meters tall. In other words, the discovery of them was timely, because, within a few more days, the grass would have been ready to be harvested for shipment to the distribution centers.

Also "located" were three marihuana plantations in the municipality of Santa Catarina, covering an area of 10,000 square meters, with a density of six plants per square meters, and a plant height of 1.30 meters.

In the same operation, a plantation was discovered in the town known as "Del Rio," in Nuevo Leon. The crop covered an area of 1,000 square meters, with a density of 10 plants per meter, and a plant height of 1.20 meters.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FURTHER DETAILS ON ARRESTED COCAINE TRAFFICKER

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 8 Sep 79 p 6

[Text] Mexico City, 7 September--An American drug trafficker who was traveling enroute to the United States was arrested at the Mexico City International Airport by Federal Judicial Police agents, who seized 2 kilograms of excellent quality cocaine from him, out of which as many as six "cuts" could have been made, with a black market value of about 16 million pesos.

Eugene Nesti was arrested after leaving Ecuadorean Airlines flight 042 arriving from Quito, Ecuador.

Nesti appeared nervous in the customs inspection room, arousing the suspicion of the agents, who immediately made a search. They discovered four polyethylene bags inside the lining of a navy blue sports coat with gold buttons, which he was carrying in a garment bag; and, in an attache case there were five more plastic bags concealed between the newspapers EL TELEGRAFO and EL UNIVERSO, which are published in Quito. The amount of drugs totaled 2 kilograms.

Nesti, a native of California, residing at 3766 Blue Canyon Avenue, in Studio City, stated that he had purchased the drugs from two individuals whom he knew only by the names Lester and Cesar, in the town of Tumbe, near Quito, Ecuador, where he had gone for that purpose.

He said that it was very easy for him to travel constantly, because he was an aviation mechanic, and that the Quito-Mexico City-Tijuana flight would enable him to board a taxi in the latter border town in which he could take the drugs into the southern United States.

The agents under orders from Comdr Armando Martinez Salgado confiscated from the international drug trafficker U.S. passport No 2829774, \$1,000, 5,700 sucres, a pipe containing traces of marihuana, personal effects, an airplane ticket and an aircraft engine generator.

Gen Raul Mendiola Cerecero, chief of the Federal Police, placed the individual in custody at the disposal of Ramon Herrera Esponda, an agent of the Federal Public Ministry.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

## BRIEFS

'VICE CZAR' JAILED--Yesterday, Rafael Chavez Baldazo, who for years has been considered the vice czar on this border and in the area, known as "the general of the addicts," was sentenced to 7 years in prison and was given a fine of 20,000 pesos by the federal judge of the second district court, Eduardo Aguilar. Chavez Baldazo, who was tried for a crime against health in the degree of heroin sales, a trial which lasted over 2 years, was first identified, during the course of the proceedings, by Ricardo Rivera as the individual who had sold him a dose of heroin. After 2 years, he later claimed that it was not Chavez, but his son who had done so; but by then it was too late. His status was determined by his first two statements to the prosecutor and the judge. The records also contain statements made by Chavez' son, Ruben, who said that he did not know Ricardo Rivera Ura, much less recall having sold heroin to him; claiming that he was not engaged in such business. This testimony from his son convicted Chavez Baldazo. His son is also subject to trial for a crime against health in the degree of marijuana possession; however, this is only in juvenile court. And the latter as well as Chavez Baldazo's wife are subject to trial for the same crime. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 10 Aug 79 Sec B p 1] 2909

THREE DRUG OFFENDERS SENTENCED--According to authorized personnel of the second district court, three federal criminals captured recently by Federal Judicial Police agents who were investigating them concerning their ties with the drug traffic were given prison sentences by the magistrate of that court. One of them is Julio Moreno Calchado, who will serve a jail sentence of 7 years and 3 months for his guilt of committing a crime against health. This individual was captured in Matamoros on 25 July of last year. In a closet in his residence, he had concealed two bags filled with marijuana. Another prisoner who was sentenced was the hardened criminal Juan Manuel Salas Pina, on whom the judge imposed a sentence of 5 years and 3 months in jail. On 10 August of last year, SS [? Secret Service] agents arrested Salas Pina, for whom an arrest warrant had been issued; because, some months earlier, federal agents had found a moderate amount of cannabis indica in his home. Finally, it was announced that the criminal Rosendo Vazquez Colin was sentenced to 8 years in jail and given a fine of 10,000 pesos. A ton of marijuana was being carried in a truck by this individual, whom federal



agents arrested on 20 December, at an inspection station located on the outskirts of Ciudad Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 8 Sep 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

JAILED TRAFFICKER ESCAPES--Federal Judicial Police agents and forces from various Reynosa police entities were continuing intensive searches yesterday in an attempt to locate and capture the drug trafficker Roberto Salinas Hernandez, who escaped from the Ciudad Reynosa jail on Thursday afternoon. The escapee was at the disposal of the General Directorate of Coordinated Crime Prevention and Social Rehabilitation Services. He was serving a sentence of 9 years in jail imposed on him by the third district judge, in connection with proceedings No 80-975, for his guilt in committing a crime against health. The Federal Public Ministry announced that, at about 1700 hours on Thursday, the head of the Reynosa municipal jail reported that the dangerous federal convict, Roberto Salinas Hernandez, had fled from that jail a few minutes earlier. Several federal agents were assigned to investigate the suspicious escape of Salinas Hernandez, because, it was claimed, the possibility that he might have been aided by several prison guards has not been rejected. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 15 Sep 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

HEARING FOR HEROIN TRAFFICKER--David Alonso Ramirez will have to appear before the district court to attend a hearing and, afterwards, he will be required to await the sentence that will be handed down against him by the federal judge, Eduardo Elizondo. It was said that, at the hearing, the conclusions regarding guilt will be heard, for which purpose the prosecutor and the defense attorney must be present, so that the aforementioned conclusions may be established. David Alonso Ramirez was arrested by forces of the Federal Judicial Police after having been accused in Eagle Pass, Texas, by a couple who had been arrested in that town, and who charged him with being the individual who had sold them heroin in Sabinas, Coahuila. The couple materially implicated David Alonso when they explained that they had made heroin purchases in the residence of the accused on several occasions. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 18 Sep 79 Sec B p 1] 2909

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--The third district judge issued a verdict sentencing the drug trafficker Jose Luis Barron-Valdez to 6 years in jail and imposing a fine of 10,000 pesos upon him, as an individual penally guilty of committing a crime against health in the degree of marihuana transportation. Barron Valdez was prosecuted in trial No 127-978. The accused was captured by officers of the Federal Highway Police on 2 June 1978, along Highway No 40, in the section between Reynosa and Pena Blanca. The officers forced him to stop, since he was caught driving a 1966 Dina stake-body truck without license plates, in which he was carrying unauthorized merchandise. The nervous conduct of the driver, that is, Jose Luis Barron, aroused the suspicion of the agents who, upon removing the canvas from the vehicle, discovered that he was carrying 55 bags filled with marihuana. They therefore proceeded to arrest him and turn him over to the Federal Public Ministry. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 20 Sep 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

CSO: 5330

NICARAGUA

DRUG-RELATED INCIDENTS REPORTED BY CHINANDEGA AUTHORITIES

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 10 Sep 79 p 4

[Text] At a press conference, the Chinandega General Staff, headed by Commanders Esteban, Alfonso and Hernan, announced two instances of smuggling in the area, one of marihuana and the other of cocaine.

First, the Sandinist National Police, which devotes its efforts to maintaining order in the new Nicaraguan society which is conscientiously progressing within our revolutionary process, discovered a marihuana plantation giving a total of 5 quintals of the plant in the foothills of the San Cristobal volcano on property belonging to Teofilo Gonzalez Cruz.

The Chinandega General Staff officers said that the marihuana was distributed by Marta Vanegas among 46 users, mostly young students from the principal centers of the area.

The owner of the land asserted that he was not aware of what had been sown there, since he had leased the property in question to four persons who told him they were going to plant sesame. Within a few days the marihuana will be burned by the authorities of the city's FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] in the presence of newspaper people and organizations working toward the welfare and reconstruction of Chinandega.

Cocaine Smuggling

Secondly, on the Guasaule border with Honduras the Sandinist police seized 2 kilograms of cocaine valued at 10 million cordobas from two persons whose names were not disclosed.

News sources indicated that this smuggling had been going on for 2 years as a product of the corruption of the Somoza regime which for 46 years had tried to brutalize our people, especially the youth, so that they would not demand their rights and the freedom to which they aspired and which is now a reality.

The smuggled cocaine was transported by private boats via Peru, Colombia and Nicaragua.

This is an indication of the positive effort the Sandinist police are making to control drug smugglers and pushers.

8568  
CSO: 5300

NICARAGUA

BRIEFS

AUTHORITIES FIGHT ADDICTION--A positive campaign is being carried on by the Leon Narcotics Division through the Luis Cabezas Operation whose objective is to declare a "war to death" on drug addiction. The campaign, which began with the circulation of a communique among the Leon citizenry, is centered on enlightening addicts as to the effects of marihuana, making it clear to them that today's police, contrary to what was done during the Somoza regime, will not permit our youth to fall into the clutches of that vice. In the communique the Leon Narcotics Division appeals to the youth to measure up to the role they are playing in society and urges them to stop using drugs, since that habit is used by imperialism to manipulate youth, keeping them away from the reality in which they are living. Three marihuana plants which were being regularly watered and cared for by a person who is now arrested were recently found in an abandoned house in the heart of Leon. This gives an idea of the importance being attached to the antidrug campaign and should be taken into consideration by our youth so that they will break away from the vice and honor the memory of the heroes and martyrs who gave their lives for a free and sound country. [Text] [Managua BARICADA in Spanish 16 Sep 79 p 11] 8568

CSO: 5300

SOUTH AFRICA

SEVERAL DRUG RINGS SMASHED IN PAST FEW MONTHS

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 23 Sep 79 p 5

[Article by Ray Joseph]

[Text]

IN THE past few months South African police have smashed at least five international drug syndicates operating out of the country and have confiscated hundreds of kilograms of dagga.

Dozens of fast, expensive cars, used by the pushers to run the dagga, have also been confiscated.

The breakthrough, which included the confiscation of large quantities of LSD from Holland and potent Mandrax tablets smuggled in from India, came after intensive police activity.

The majority of arrests have been made in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

In another development, the head of the South African Narcotics Bureau (Sanab), Lieutenant-Colonel S J J "Basi" Smit, said police were at present questioning a man arrested in Cape Town in connection with a dagga-smuggling syndicate operating between South Af-

rica and Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Colonel Smit said that his department was receiving "the fullest co-operation from other countries in our war against drugs."

"South Africa is not that far from the international drug scene anymore. We have become part and parcel of international drug trafficking rings. Drugs are a problem worldwide... we must accept that. Almost every country has a drug problem, ours is marijuana," he said.

He said that the dagga problem was not unique to this country, but that the low price, and the fact that it was relatively easy to obtain, could be responsible for the upswing in international syndicates operating out of the Republic.

"I call it the money game. The people involved are highly financed, well organised and most unscrupulous. The cars we have been seizing are almost always in excellent condition, fast and expensive."

Colonel Smit said the main dagga-growing areas in South Africa were in the Eastern Transvaal and Natal. Other major sources where Transkei, Lesotho and Swaziland.

**Arrested**

Last week police arrested two blacks travelling in a stolen vehicle near Maritzburg and recovered 35 bags of dagga. A week earlier in the same area, police confiscated a total of 37 bags of dagga in two separate incidents.

Over a period of six months police have seized 112 vehicles carrying dagga in the Queenstown-East London area, just outside Transkei. And in a period of 10 days police confiscated 10 vehicles on the Natal side of Transkei's border, carrying 122 bags of dagga.

"Our task as I see it is to concentrate on the growing areas and supply routes. If we can cut down the supply we are halfway to winning our battle," said Colonel Smit.

CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

WITH LARGEST DRUG TRAFFIC, HESSE PLANS ENFORCEMENT DRIVE

Frankfurt FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 20 Sep 79 p 7

[Article by Alfred Behr: "More Surprise Raids in Hesse Against Narcotics Dealers"]

[Text] Wiesbaden, 19 September. The fact that there is more drug traffic in Hesse than anywhere else in Germany, that this Land is at the top of all FRG Laender with regard to the number of so-called drug-related deaths, the fact that, finally, Frankfurt has now replaced Amsterdam as the center for European drug traffic, induced Ekkehard Gries, Hesse's minister of the interior, to prepare a program for combating narcotics crimes which is to start immediately and to be carried out as intensively as the battle against terrorism.

The number of narcotics agents within the police-detective department, for instance, is to be raised from 70 to 135 people. As a consequence, however, the police will not get approval for additional personnel. The new narcotics agents are supposed to be transferred from other agencies, even at the risk that the work of these agencies might suffer from it, for instance that the number of solved robbery cases will continue to decline. Gries stated that he is willing to put up with the grumbling of the police.

Now all the police departments in the Land are supposed to establish narcotics commissions following the Frankfurt example. The minister of the interior was apparently impressed by the raids which took place in Frankfurt in recent weeks (password: "Narko 79"), during the course of which German and American policemen confiscated rather large quantities of narcotics while carrying out surprise actions. Some 197 persons were arrested and the drug scene was shaken up. It appears that he would like to introduce actions of this kind all over the Land. Anyway, the police will not be alone when performing this difficult task. In the future they will be assisted by 20 dogs who are trained in sniffing narcotics; to date there have been only 12 dogs in Hesse who are able to do that.

On Wednesday Gries stated in Wiesbaden that the development was so alarming that narcotics crimes could no longer be fought in the same manner as other forms of crime. The "trend" is moving more and more in the direction of harder drugs, the increase in cocaine traffic is creating new problems for

agents, the large quantities which are being smuggled in are causing a drop in prices and making it easy for interested people to get to the "stuff." The largest amount of narcotics by far is not coming in by air but over the road. It is passed to local dealers and then to users. And the so-called Balkan route has achieved a particularly sad notoriety. For that reason Hasse wants to survey dealers and carriers already on the road, for instance, on certain routes and on Autobahn parking lots.

The minister explained that during these actions consumption was not the primary factor and the "fixer" was not of central concern. The thing that is most important is to cut off the production and transport of drugs--across national borders, which is only possible with assistance from the Federal Criminal Police Bureau, the narcotics department of which would have to be strengthened even more. Incidentally, the minister for developmental aid is trying to figure out how to target assistance to certain countries in order to get them to restrict the cultivation of poppies.

According to Gries it is difficult to control the import of narcotics in view of the open borders; for instance, 450,000 foreigners are living in Hesse; among them are more than 100,000 Turks. According to information gathered in Frankfurt, the heroin market in that city is almost exclusively in the hands of Turkish Kurds, who to a certain degree are conducting the sale of the white poison as a large family business.

This year (from 1 January to 19 September) 86 persons died in Hesse from narcotics, which equals the number for whole of last year. The number of registered drug addicts has increased from 4,000 to 6,000, the number of narcotics crimes increased by 20 percent when compared to last year. In Gries' opinion the police can no longer ignore these things as it has done to date. According to his estimates, the raids which he wants to initiate against dealers will cost approximately DM 4.5 million.

FDP Minister Gries is opposed to the proposal by Young Democrats that the sale of hashish no longer be considered a crime. On the contrary, he warns of the danger of calling hashish a harmless substance, because in almost every case, so he said, it is the "introductory drug" to heroin.

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

FARMER LEGALLY PLANTS HEMP, STIRS CONTROVERSY

Munich SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 30 Aug 79 p 3

[Article by Theo Wurm: "From the Rugged Alps Into the Realm of Dreams. In the Ehingen Area, Germany's Only Hemp Grower Is Annoyed With the Officials Because Thieves Extract Drugs From his Plants"]

[Text] Stuttgart, 29 August. The Swabian Alb is good not only for wandering through juniper meadows but also for some trips into the realm of dreams and hallucinations; this has been a well guarded secret so far. It became known only through a public disagreement between the governmental presidium in Tuebingen and the Federal Health Office in Berlin that, for years, members of the drug environment have supplied themselves with the "stuff" from the Ehing area. Although the product is not one of the best. Nevertheless it is still good enough for the "green Turk" quality of hashish. And, smoken in a pipe, the stuff from the rugged Alb enjoys such popularity that U.S. soldiers on their fall maneuvers do swarm out once to get fresh supplies from the German countryside. During the "Reforger" maneuvers in 1977 some GIs had no less than 18 kilograms of marijuana on them when they were caught by the police.

Nobody can tell what amounts have been handed over so far at the narcotics distribution places. The fact is that, since 1949, a small contractor has been cultivating fiber hemp of the species "Cannabis Sativa" on leased fields of up to 100 hectares. To be sure the man himself is in combat with the drug traffickers or addicts. They break into the hemp fields before mowing time in order to harvest more blossoms and leaves than could be theirs according to the rules of stealing for immediate consumption. The contractor himself does not particularly value these parts of the plant. Yet the thieves trample the stalks which he wants to press into chipboards for filling doors. Since for 30 years he has been making his deals with these and not with the tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) of the blossoms and leaves, the officials had no objections.

Resignation on the Part of the Public Health Office

This did not change until after 1971, when the narcotics law came into effect. Since that time the cultivation of hemp without any restrictions



has been subject to a permit from the Federal Public Health Office in Berlin. And ever since that time the producer of building materials has been fighting with the officials about the state of his hemp possessions on the Alb. He has already taken some steps on his own not to completely endanger his middle class existence. He decreased the cultivated area to 13 hectares. He changed the location of the fields repeatedly in order to secure his hemp against the unwanted, steady customers of the drug scene.

Every year he has obtained a new permit for the cultivation of hemp. For the first time in 1976 he had to go without hemp stalks because the Federal Public Health Office denied the permit. The officials found that public health considerations stood in the way of granting the permit. Because in 1975--like many years before--there were confirmed pilferings since the fields could not be securely guarded against theft.

The man did not give up because his business was based on a unique process of chipboard manufacture imported from Yugoslavia. He again re-submitted his request. In response the Federal Public Health Office softened its stand. It gave him the permit with the injunction that "a possible recall will be kept in reserve for the case since the cultivated Cannabis plants can produce addiction because of their tetrahydrocannabinol content." This was in practice an unlimited permit. Because how could the construction man determine whether the tips of the hemp produced in the thieves a true dependency as well, in addition to their continued interest in it. The entrepreneur also complained about the injunction to the Administrative Court of Justice in Berlin. The court found the injunction excessive and lifted the recall proviso in April of this year. The Federal Public Health Office gave up. End of July it formulated a permit as unconditional as could be wished by the hemp planter and his customers: The man was allowed to continue hemp cultivation but "only for processing into hemp fibers and hemp chipboards." He never intended to do anything else. The only condition: The exact areas of cultivation and thefts, if any, must be reported.

Because this season the police again discovered 1.8 kilograms of hemp tips and leaves from the Alb in a car, the governing presidium in Tuebingen began to involve itself more closely with the FRG's only hemp cultivator. Over a weekend the fields have been watched around the clock by 87 police officers in shifts. Seven people were caught by the officers. They will continue to watch the blooming hemp with decreased manpower. "The stuff is getting better every day" thinks Udo Andriof, the governing vice president of Tuebingen and he fears an increased congestion on the Alb. However he does not consider the dangers so directly pressing that the police would have to step in right now and burn the fields. After all, no one drops dead after using the Alb hemp, Andriof added. Destruction of the approved hemp fields would also cost the state much in compensation. But Andriof finds that the condition is already unbearable because the fields cannot be protected without the massive presence of the police.

"Guarding to such extent is not possible in the long range." On the other hand, it would not do to simply acknowledge the entrance of these supply grounds into the drug scene and to pick up the addicts and their dealers later. "The stuff is either harmless--in that case no one should be prosecuted for possession of hashish and marijuana--or it is dangerous--then the thefts here must provide grounds for revoking the permit"--says the official indignantly.

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

TWO HEROIN DEALERS SENTENCED TO LONG TERMS

Munich SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 31 Aug 79 p 14

[Text] The 17th Criminal Court of the Munich Land Court has condemned the 36-year old Turk, Ahmed C., "a notorious dealer," to a 9-year, 6-month prison term. His codefendant Peter A. (22) got away with 6 1/2 years of prison and admission into an institution for withdrawal treatment. The presiding judge, Franz Wickop, took into account that, on the one hand, as a drug addict of long duration, he could hardly have had any other choice than to deal in heroin himself and, on the other hand, he withdrew from a heroin deal "voluntarily and without being under any pressure" in one case. The public prosecutor, Karl Puskajler, had demanded 13 years for C. and 9 years for A. in his speech for the prosecution.

As the demonstrated heroin addiction resulted in a milder punishment for the 22-year old son of a bank director, the absence of such addiction resulted in an increased punishment in the case of the Turkish dealer. "One may perhaps count as extenuating the fact that C. is not the most intelligent of men"--explained Judge Wickop in his opinion. But in any case it must be evaluated to his disadvantage that he has had "no understandable motive" for dealing in heroin. Because he himself is not an addict and as a baker's helper he has also not been in pressing need, a cold, calculating striving for profit remains his only motivation.

High Profits Via Vienna

Nevertheless a striving for profit, coupled with a considerable dose of business acumen, should have been attributed by the judge to Peter A. as well. With the 3-gram heroin shipments which he sent to Vienna in numerous letters to the similarly addicted girl he was engaged to, he cleverly used the price gradient between Germany and Austria. She was allowed to take out her own supply, to stretch the rest of the "stuff" with milk sugar and sell it. For the total of 170,000 schillings which she sent to him now and again, he was able not only to pay for the supply for both of them but he also pocketed some profit.

With this exceedingly cautious system A. would never have been found out if the narcotics agents had not gotten him together with another addict

whom he has known since his boarding school days. Only at his urging did A. take up contact with Ahmed C. and start dealing in large amounts of the narcotic. In the course of a sale transaction at a location on Augustenstrasse, where several kilograms were involved, he was finally spied on by narcotics agents. The informer who suggested the deal was no longer able to testify: He died during the investigations from consequences of his addiction.

"One of the Ugliest Crimes"

"Heroin is the most dangerous narcotic that we know"--said the presiding judge in explaining the strict sentence. There are practically no chances for recovery from that addiction. The addicts either ended up in locked institution or they died. "Even in the shadows of this very process, dead people appeared repeatedly on the peripheries." Therefore, dealing with the murderous drug is "one of the ugliest and most reprehensible crimes" we have to deal with here in connection with the narcotics law."

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FRANCE

DRUG SITUATION IN FRANCE 'NEVER SO BAD AS NOW'

Paris LE POINT in French 10 Sep 79 pp 60-61

[Article by M.-T. Guichard and J.-M. Pontaut: "Red Alert on Drugs"; passages enclosed in slant lines printed in boldface]

**Text** The silence surrounding drugs is becoming habitual, "customary." In France, however, the situation has never been so bad.

"The situation is bad, but public opinion must not be alarmed," they kept telling us. They have let the situation come to a head: it has become irreversible, and drugs are gaining ground every day..." This exasperated officer of the "narc" squad is reproaching the government for playing ostrich.

In order not to arouse interest drugs remain tabu--a discreet silence which could lead one to believe that consumption is diminishing. Wrong: last year 109 "junkies" died of overdoses, versus 72 in 1977. This year in the department of Alpes-Maritimes alone there have already been 16 deaths: heroin overdoses, medicine-alcohol cocktails, accidents under the influence.

Two other statistics are entering the red: in 1978 there were 68 percent more arrests than in the previous year. And more than a thousand burglaries of drug stores. The young are the most affected, particularly in Paris (70 percent of arrests), but drugs strike all regions and all classes indiscriminately. In the Southeast, for example, an employee in the Toulon Navy Yards (22 years old), some twenty Marseilles "blousons dores", a farmworker (23) at Hyeres, a french-fries vendor (26) at Apt and two medical students.

At the same time that they are becoming democratized, drugs are leaving their "reserved" neighborhoods: in Paris they are no longer sold only on certain streets of Belleville or in the Latin Quarter; they are also found in certain cafes on the Grands Boulevards. In the country few departments have been spared, and in Brittany, which up to now has been safeguarded, the number of drug addicts increased by 68 percent in one year.

More alarming, in June for the first time the Paris narcotics squad arrested a heroin dealer in a cafe across from a high school of the 17th ward. Of course heroin addicts are rare in the school world and are quickly spotted. But some principals recognize that use of "H" [hashish], which is less dangerous, is becoming very widespread. One of them claims that certain students have been smoking since the fourth grade. By senior year many have tried marijuana at least once (one boy out of six and one girl out of ten according to the National Institute of Health and Medical Research).

Should this subject be discussed in high school, then? "Talking about it is an incitement to use it. If any cases were found in my establishment they would be handled sensibly, in secrecy, by the school health services," explains the principal of Racine High School. Undoubtedly he is unaware that according to the police no high school is completely free of the problem. At Rodin High School the principal has adopted the reverse strategem: eighty parents attended a meeting and a film. "Our information depends on the good will of the head of the establishment, and many refuse to take an interest in what is happening at the door of the high school where the traffic is going on," notes Jean-Pierre Castella, advisor to Monique Pelletier, Minister of the Status of Women.

In view of this rise, the measures being taken are ridiculous. Even if the new Minister of Health, Jacques Barrot has decided to convene the interministerial commission on drugs (grouping 10 ministries) this week, an act which will follow a rather weak offensive.

The first work of this supercommittee will be to hear Monique Pelletier again present her dossier on the past year, prepared at the request of the VGE [expansion unknown] and then forgotten. The rest is only puttering.

--13 September: Addition to Table B drugs of two abused medicines, including a reducing product, "scrounged" by addicts.

--National education: Christian Beullac is to sign a circular "inciting" principals to create other "health clubs" in the high schools. A "paper" of good but futile sentiments.

--The principals will see a 45-minute film with Monique Pelletier and social welfare workers. Another round table.

--The pharmaceutical laboratories are doing their PR for doctors: one of them is going to distribute a cassette on drug addiction to 6000 general practitioners. A speech.

--The Minister of Health is asking prefects for a brochure on those combatting drug addiction locally. It is never too late..

--The only measure which risks being a little effective: regulation of ether (a substitute for drugs). It will be sold on prescription.

Scattered measures are not a policy. Will an organization for sheltering drug addicts in distress be created, as Monique Pelletier has asked? "People don't know whom to turn to any more. All the mail is coming to us," says Jean-Pierre Castella.

Will a chair of toxicology be created? (No medical student is receiving instruction on drug addiction.) Will what the specialists call a "complete therapeutic chain" from reception to reintegration of the drug addict, be set up?

The police are not waiting for answers to these questions. For them, before they can dry up demand, supply must be suppressed. Wednesday at Orly, customs officials seized 5.5 kg of heroin worth Fr 5.5 million. Now, the traffic has diversified since the dismantling of the French Connection in Marseilles in 1974. They must now fight outside the borders. Example: Bangkok where a man from the "narcs", inspector Michel Humbert, 38, keeps watch over French nationals, small users who disembark from charters in order to buy two-gram doses of heroin in tubes, reselling part of it in Europe in order to pay for their trips. Some of them thus become "miniwholesalers": in August five of them bought for Fr 70,000, 500 grams of heroin which they resold for Fr 800,000 in Paris.

What specialists fear is that France may become a turntable, fears which are in part well-founded since on 5 February 1978, after the arrest of a "chemist" Raymond Silvani, 43. The morphine base seized in his laboratory came from the Middle East via a channel which apparently replaces that of the Asian "triangle".

Heroin from the Middle East is becoming increasingly purer. The kilogram of heroin intercepted on 6 May 1979 in Antibes was 99 percent "smack". On 16 August the Italian police arrested five traffickers at Vintimille and seized two kilograms of heroin coming from France which was to have gone to the United States via Palermo.

These affairs provoked a meeting of the French, Italian and American services in Genoa on 20 August: is the French Connection being rebuilt from a laboratory the existence of which cannot be seriously denied but which they have not been able to locate? The chemists, drawing lessons from the past, have set up an itinerant laboratory...

A poor consolation: In France drug addicts are less numerous than elsewhere. The frontrunner is the United States: hasn't White House Chief of Staff Hamilton Jordan been suspected of sniffing cocaine?

In Europe it is West Germany which is breaking the records with 430 deaths from overdoses in 1978 and 325 for the first seven months of 1979. And this goes right up to Director General of the respectable weekly newspaper DER SPIEGEL, Rudolf Augstein, arrested last month by Italian customs officials with 40 grams of "H". Peaceful Switzerland has 84 deaths for last

year. If this figure were put in terms of our demography, this would be the equivalent of 640 deaths!

The last open frontier is the countries of Eastern Europe, which have been considered to be sheltered from this pure product of the corrupt West. But in Moscow while the existence of drugs is being fiercely denied, burglaries of pharmacies are beginning to be counted. And Czechoslovakia, which boasts of being spared, is discreetly constructing centers for drug addicts.

#### 30 Years for 13 Grams

/On the road again./ A knapsack on the back, a "joint" in the pocket, the price is not the same at Place Saint-Michel and in Istanbul. Thirteen grams of hashish: thirty years of prison. This heavy penalty was inflicted on a young French horticulturist, 23, Francis Lamaignere. Arrested on 1 October 1977 in East Turkey with this small amount of "H", he goes to trial eight months later. He does not have the means to retain counsel and can understand nothing of what is being said at the hearing. An interpreter from the French Embassy translates the essential to him: his sentence. The only European in a cell of 45 Moslems, the nightmare begins. He is hungry, the prison provides only bread; the rest must be purchased. Malnourished, he falls ill. In March he learns that his sentence has been reduced by half and he is transferred to an Istanbul prison.

Judicially his situation is a dead-end. Review of the trial is impossible, and Turkey agrees to extradite foreign prisoners only on condition that they serve their sentences in their own country. His fate is in the hands of the French government: it alone can request his release as one of the "humanitarian cases."

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FRANCE

BRIEFS

HASHISH SEIZED IN PARIS--Paris, Oct 18 (AFP)--A record haul of 113 kilos (248 pounds) of hashish was seized by French customs today at Charles de Gaulle International Airport near here. Angolan Edouard Nzuzi, 23, and Zairese Kende Iloko, 30, were arrested as they arrived from Zaire with hashish hidden in four double bottom trunks, officials said. [Text] [Paris AFP in English 0954 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC]

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END