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(FOUO 12/80)

1 OF 1

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JPRS L/8983

19 March 1980

# Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 12/80)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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WORLDWIDE REPORT  
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

HEROIN TRAFFIC--Federal authorities say Australia has become a prime target for the importation of heroin from the Middle East, especially Turkey. A Radio Australia reporter in Brisbane says major traffickers--hampered by increased police surveillance in Southeast Asia, up to now the main supply area--are getting extra heroin from the Middle East. Our reporter says special federal investigators are taking steps to combat the new threat. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Feb 80 OW]

CSO: 5300



BURMA

BURMESE PAPER NOTES POPPY ELIMINATION PROGRAM IN SHAN STATE

Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 9 Feb 80 p 4 BK

[Editorial: "The Program of Substituting Crops for Poppy"]

[Summary] To implement its task prescribed by the Narcotic Drugs Law, the Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs had formed the Central Narcotics Control Board, state and divisional committees for narcotics control and bodies to supervise substitution of crops and livestock breeding for poppy. Here we wish to deal with the crop substitution program between 1975 and 1978-79.

"Bodies to supervise substitution of crops and livestock breeding for poppy were set up in Taunggyi, Heho, Pangtara, Loi Mwe, Ho-pang, Kutkai and Maymyo bases. Education stations were set up in Keng Tung, Pekon, Mong Hsat, Ho-pang, Tangyan and Lashio. Similar stations were also opened in Mong Nai, Laihka, Pangtara, Ywangan, Pilaung, Mong Tong, Mong Hsat and Kutkai.

"The tasks of those stations were to choose the right type of crops for the available acreage, distribution of seed grains, fertilizers and pesticides and educating people with film and slide shows.

"As a preliminary step before the crop substitution program, thousands of acres of poppy were destroyed by operations 'Blackball' and 'Lilly' from 16 December 1975 to 26 March 1976, by operation 'Agati' in December 1976, and by operations 'mountaintop flower,' 'roaring sky' and 'autumn' in 1978."

Between 1976 and 1979, some 10,000 acres were planted with cash crops and many seed grains and saplings for annual and long-term crops were distributed free of charge.

The program not only eliminates the threat of narcotic drugs but also helps develop the economy of the states and divisions. It is our belief that the people will strive to further develop the economy.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

BRIEFS

LATHA DRUG ARREST--Acting on information, a police party from the Crime Prevention Squad, Rangoon Division People's Police Force, yesterday searched the house at No 115, 18th Street, Latha Township and seized a hypodermic syringe and six packets of heroin with a street value of K 50 each. Police arrested San Aung alias Po Toke (32), owner of the house and guest Win Maung alias Pe Thar (24) of Lower Latha Street under Sections 6(b) (possession), 10(b) (sale), 11 (abetment) and 14(d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. The two men were handed over to the Latha police. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 23 Feb 80 p 5]

CSO: 5300

INDIA

BRIEFS

AUSTRALIAN GIRL CONVICTED--A 27-year-old Australian hair dresser arrested at Delhi airport on 30 November last year in possession of 910 grammes of hashish which she was taking to Goa "to smoke for happiness," was on Monday sentenced to two weeks rigorous imprisonment by Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, S. M. Agarwal, reports PTI. Miss Wendy Sylvia Morris was found in possession of the hashish in her handbag when she presented herself for security check up before boarding the Indian Airlines flight for Bombay. Mr Aggarwal taking a lenient view of the matter awarded her two weeks rigorous imprisonment. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 12 Feb 80 p 12]

OVER 500 KG OPIUM SEIZED--Hissar, Feb 3 (PTI)--Five hundred twentynine kilograms of contraband opium was seized at Tohana, about 70, km from here, according to senior superintendent of police Lachhmandass. He said one person was taken into custody in this connection. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 4 Feb 80 p 10]

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

250 KG MORPHINE SULPHATE SEIZURE--Quetta, Feb 13: The Regional Deputy Director Pakistan Narcotics Control Board Quetta Retired Maj S.M.H. Zaidi has clarified position with regard to a news item appearing in Feb 10 issue of BALUCHISTAN TIMES. He says that the correct position is that the Deputy Martial Law Administrator Sector--I, has appointed a special investigation cell under DIG (Crimes) for investigation of all big hands of narcotics seized in his sector. Pakistan Narcotics Control Board has its representation in the cell. He further pointed out that it was morphine sulphate 250 K.G. which was seized near Nushki a few days back and not opium. It was the record seizure in the country. [Text] [Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 14 Feb 80 p 4]

CHARAS, OPIUM SEIZURE--Rawalpindi, Feb. 15: An attempt to smuggle out charas and opium--worth millions of rupees--has been foiled near Khyber Agency (NWFP). The Collector of Land Customs and Central Excise, Mian Nazir Azhar told newsmen that approximately 1500 miligrams of charas and 80 kilograms of opium had been placed--in a hidden form--in a truck, that was heading towards Khyber Agency. PPI. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 16 Feb 80 p 3]

LARGE CHARAS SEIZURE--About 1646 kilograms of contraband charas was seized in an operation near Khairabad on the G.T. road on Sunday. Customs sources said that an Afghan national Ghulam Ali Khan, believed to be an international smuggler, has been arrested. It is reported that the contraband charas was concealed in secret cavities of a Karachi bound truck (No DN 4975). The truck has also been impounded. [Text] [Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 18 Feb 80 p 1]

BHANG CULTIVATION, CHARAS SEIZURE--Hyderabad, Feb. 22: The Excise authorities Dadu here yesterday disclosed that the illegal cultivation of two lakh "bhang" plants has been detected allegedly from the land owned by one Doodo Noohani. According to the official details, the Excise staff on receiving an information conducted a raid on the land of the accused person and allegedly recovered 300 kilogram of "Bhang" along with the plants. The accused person has been arrested and challenged under the Abkari Act. The police have seized contraband charas and opium worth Rs 3,12,000 while patrolling on the National Highway. As per details 78 kilogram of charas and seven kilogram of opium was seized from accused Sher Dil Khan Pathan, allegedly connected with the interprovincial smuggling gang.APP/PPI [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 23 Feb 80 p 3]

COINS, CHARAS SEIZED--Over 2,000 silver coins weighing 15 kilograms worth lakhs of rupees were confiscated at Torkham this afternoon, PTV reported tonight. The Collector of Land Custom and Central Excise Mian Nazir Azhar said the coins were being smuggled out of the country in a truck and were detected by a mobile customs squad. In another raid over 2,000 kilograms of charas were seized near Nowshera this morning. He said the cost of charas abroad values to the tune of millions of dollars. Seventy watches which had been smuggled into the country have also been confiscated. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 18 Feb 80 p 3]

CHARAS SEIZED, ONE ARRESTED--Mozang Police seized 5500 grams charas and arrested one person on Saturday. The raid was conducted on an information at Park Lane, Mozang and arrested Mohammad Saleem of Temple Road carrying the narcotics in a plastic bag. Meanwhile Shahdara police arrested two persons Mahboob Alam and Munir Ahmad and 225 gram of opium and 246 gram of charas was seized from their possession. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 18 Feb 80 p 3]

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CANADA

NORML CRITICIZED FOR METHOD USED TO CHANGE MARIHUANA LAWS

Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 26 Jan 80 p 6

[Editorial: "Courts Can't Change the Law"]

[Text]

Few Canadians would disagree with the statement that our marijuana laws needs changing.

NORML — the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws — agrees that change is needed. But it has picked the wrong way to bring about change.

NORML is urging Canadians charged with possession of marijuana to plead not guilty, in the expectation that the consequent trials will jam the courts and form a backlog which will influence Parliament to change the law.

What NORML does not stress is that the courts do not make the laws, and cannot change the laws. Law-

making is the responsibility of Parliament — and so is changing the law.

An attempt to jam the courts cannot be isolated to marijuana cases alone. The entire court procedure will be slowed. Justice is already too slow in Canada, to the detriment of the law, the courts, and those who appear before them.

Any accused person has the right to plead not guilty and have his guilt or innocence determined on the evidence. But if NORML really has at heart the changing of the law, it would do much better to devote its energies to influencing Parliament, which alone has the power to make the change.

CSO: 5320

CANADA

COURT RESERVES RULING ON HEROIN-BY-MAIL CASE

Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 13 Feb 80 p 15

[Article by Tom Van Dusen]

[Text]

A 30-year-old Ottawa painter will learn Feb. 22 whether a provincial court judge believes he had nothing to do with a 1978 scheme to mail 21 grams of 97-per-cent pure heroin from Sri Lanka and Thailand to several Ottawa addresses.

Judge Bernard Ryan reserved judgment in the case against Robert Gordon Holtom Tuesday after hearing summary arguments from the Crown and defence counsels.

Should his client be found guilty, lawyer John Piazza said he would appeal on grounds that the charge of attempted importation is not recognized in the criminal code.

Piazza has already gone to the Ontario Supreme Court and the Ontario Court of Appeal in an attempt to have the charge quashed. However, he was told to await disposition of the charge by provincial court.

Holtom was originally charged with importing heroin under the Narcotics Control Act after police in Bangkok intercepted 10 envelopes of heroin with an estimated street value of \$144,000 in Canada.

But because police intercepted the packages, Ryan ruled that the importation charge could not be applied because it was actually police who completed delivery of the heroin in Ottawa.

Holtom is also charged with possession for the purpose of trafficking 23 grams of hashish which police confiscated when they arrested him in Ottawa on May 10, 1978.

The Crown contends that Holtom travelled to Thailand and Sri Lanka early in 1978 where he purchased the heroin for about \$7 a gram. It also maintains that Holtom packaged the powder in plastic bags which

were taped between postcards and inserted into plain envelopes.

Court was told that the envelopes were addressed to fictitious oriental names at the Ottawa addresses where Holtom planned to retrieve the drugs upon his return to Canada.

But Holtom has told the court he had nothing to do with attempting to ship the narcotics. He said he met a man name Pat Phong and gave him the addresses in question.

While court was told the handwriting on the envelope is not Holtom's, other evidence placed him in Sri Lanka and Thailand about the time the drugs were mailed.

The Crown also pointed out that after the arrest was made, police found cards taped together in a fashion similar to the heroin envelopes in his Ottawa apartment.

Piazza argued that a conviction could not be registered in Canada for a criminal act that took place in a foreign jurisdiction.

But Crown prosecutor Joseph Petles countered that "extra-territorial elements" should not prevent charges from being laid in Canada.

CSO: 5320



CANADA

CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO STUDY OF MAIL-OPENING POWER IN DRUG CASES

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 4 Mar 80 p 8

[Article by Robert Sheppard]

[Text]

OTTAWA — Solicitor-General Robert Kaplan said yesterday he plans to give immediate consideration to mail-opening powers for police in connection with drug investigations "because I consider it a very serious problem."

"That is a matter I will be looking into very early."

However, he said he does not intend the same intense look at broadening mail-opening powers for security investigations under the Official Secrets Act at least until he can discuss these matters with his officials.

"I'm not prepared to finalize my statements of priorities at this point," Mr. Kaplan said yesterday during the hubbub of ceremonies at Government House.

In a brief interview he said he understood a recent Supreme Court of Canada decision found police already have considerable mail-opening authority.

"But I am aware of the problem of drugs coming into this country through the mails. I am satisfied it is a very serious problem

and I am not yet satisfied about the question of whether the existing authority which police have is adequate."

Mr. Kaplan, an MP since 1968 who has been passed over for a Cabinet post until now, also said he was especially pleased to be sworn in as a federal Cabinet minister with Bora Laskin, Chief Justice of Canada, in attendance. Pleased, he said, because he had won a gold medal for constitutional law while a student in a Laskin class at the University of Toronto.

CSO: 5320

CANADA

LARGE HEROIN HAUL IN MONTREAL

Montreal LA PRESSE in French 15 Feb 80 p A 3

[Article by Andre Cedilot]

[Text] A project set up to infiltrate the Royal Canadian Gendarmerie [GRC] which has been going on for over seven months, has just neutralized one of the most important groups of heroin distributors operating in Quebec. Nearly a dozen individuals have been apprehended thus far in connection with the affair--six of them in the last two days.

The one the federal police believe to be the head of the organization, Georges Barsikhian, 35, a native of Lebanon, appeared yesterday in Criminal Court to face five charges relative to heroin traffic.

According to the indictment, Barsikhian had been arrested the day before in a restaurant north of the city, in the course of a transaction involving one ounce and a half of the precious powder, worth \$13,000, with double agents of the GRC.

It was learned that the policemen's "dramatic coup" had been so well prepared that Barsikhian gave them a receipt for the payment for the merchandise! Irritated at having been so easily trapped, he flung himself at one of the agents who was pointing a weapon at him. A skirmish ensued, but no one was wounded.

In addition to Barsikhian five other individuals were put behind bars following that operation. They were Thomas Groppiny, 43; Osmond Raad, 27; Serop Choujounian, 35; Claude Longtin, 43; and Gerald Amsel, 27. All denied all guilt in the diverse charges brought against them, and will undergo investigation under a bail bond next Monday.

According to Inspector Gilles Favreau, who is in charge of the narcotics brigade in the GRC, the group operated out of a jewelry shop in the rue Sainte-Catherine, owned by Serop Choujounian, and a Laval firm, K-Bec Delivery, which is registered in Barsikhian's name.

In the course of the investigation GRC secret agents witnessed at least three transactions. The heroin supply seized on Wednesday came from Lebanon. The drug, which is of medium quality, was generally sold by the ounce to distributors who undertook to resell it in the Montreal and Quebec region and occasionally in Toronto.

In all, during the infiltration operation, which extended over a period of a little over seven months, the double agents of the federal police questioned about ten dealers. In this way they believe they have seriously affected the heroin market in the large metropolis. At least for some time.

It is known that no more than 20 kilograms of heroin is needed to satisfy the ~~annual~~ demand of the adherents of this drug on Quebec soil. For several years cannabis has been more the style in Montreal, and especially hashish. The last large haul by the police among heroin dealers goes back nearly a year.

8946  
CSO: 5300

CANADA

BRIEFS

DRUG SEIZURE--Two 30-year-old individuals, Robert John Notargiovanni and Allen Spark, appeared yesterday before Judge Raymond Bernier of the Court of Sessions, to answer the charge that they imported into the country 105.8 pounds of marijuana and conspired for the purpose of trafficking in it. They are also accused of illegal possession for the same purpose of 0.5 grams of cocaine, 62 grams of resinous hashish and another 15 grams of liquid hashish. According to police the marketing of these drugs could have brought the accused at least \$125,000. The offences with which they are charged were committed in LaSalle and Mirabel between 17 January and 4 February of this year. Judge Bernier refused to release them and set the 17th of this month as the date for hearing their request for bail. Meanwhile a third individual suspected of the same offences, Johnny DiFrancesco, is being actively sought by the police of the Montreal Urban Community. [Text] [Montreal LE DEVOIR in French 7 Feb 80 p 9] 8946

BAIL REFUSED--Judge Raymond Bernier of the Court of Sessions yesterday refused bail for the Montreal jeweler, Donald Cote, who is to answer the charge of conspiring to possess one pound of cocaine and possession of the same quantity of narcotics for the purpose of trafficking in it. The preliminary investigation on this double charge was set for the 15th of this month, and the same date for the alleged accomplice, Marie-Louise Nolan, who is to answer the same charges but is enjoying temporary freedom on \$25,000 bail paid by a third party. All were apprehended last 29 January by the Quebec Security Police in the basement of the Place Bonaventure, where they had taken possession of the drug in question. [Text] [Montreal LE DEVOIR in French 7 Feb 80 p 9] 8946

DRUG TRAFFICKER JAILED--Victoria (CP)--Michael John Skitt, 34, of Vancouver was sentenced Wednesday in county court to two years less a day for possession of heroin for the purpose of trafficking. Skitt was arrested Sept. 4 in Campbell River with 39 capsules of heroin. [Text] [Vancouver THE WEEKEND SUN in English 19 Jan 80 p A7]

BNA ACT CITED IN DRUG CASE--Brockville--The authority of the federal government to prosecute a city youth for trafficking in LSD under the Food and Drug Act was challenged in provincial court here Wednesday. Lawyer Duncan Fraser argued the act is unconstitutional because it doesn't fall within the powers given Parliament under the British North America Act. As a result, Fraser contended the government couldn't prosecute his client, William Cordingley. Cordingley and another youth, Gregory Lester Russell, were charged with trafficking in a restricted drug by the RCMP last September. Russell's lawyer, Peter Adams, supported Fraser's motion. The case is believed to be the first time the constitution has been used to challenge the validity of the statute which law enforcement agencies have been using to control hallucinogenic drugs. Judge John Deacon reserved judgment until Feb. 6. [Text] [Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 24 Jan 80 p 13]

CSO: 5320

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

DRUGS SEIZED--Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (TELAM)--The national gendarmerie today released a report on the operations carried out during the month of February by the 20 Oran and 21 La Quiaca squadrons in the security area near the Bolivian border. The report indicates that 1,087 kg of coca leaves were seized and that the following people were arrested: 23-year-old Argentine Guillermo H. Stamboni and 26-year-old Argentine Emilio O. Jones, who was found to be carrying 340 gr of cocaine hydrochloride. [PY062212 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2122 GMT 6 Mar 80 PY]

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE LABORATORY--A mobile cocaine laboratory mounted on a truck was discovered by customs officials in Oruro last Sunday. The well-known drug trafficker (Luis Colque Tija) was detained. [PY221119 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Feb 80 PY]

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

FORMER POLICEMEN SENTENCED FOR PROTECTING TRAFFICKERS

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Feb 80 p 15

[Text] Former detectives Lincoln Monteiro da Silva and Elias Sidral Carvalho, accused of protecting the drug trafficking being carried on by the Milton Goncalves Tiago gang, the Cabecao, were sentenced yesterday to 2 years in prison and a fine 50 times the country's highest minimum wage. The sentence was handed down by Simoes Costa, judge of the 23d Criminal Court.

The judge, drawing up the sentence when there was still no knowledge of the state governor's action discharging the two detectives for the good of the public welfare, sentenced Lincoln and Elias to the additional penalty of loss of public employment. (The governor's decree was published day before yesterday.)

The trial, instituted against 41 individuals, was broken down to 2, for some of the accused were arrested and others escaped. Yesterday's sentence involves only these 13 accused: Cabecao and his brother, Aracilio Goncalves Tiago; Euci Pires de Aragao; Jose Henrique Mattioli; court official Agostinho Alberto de Souza; former detectives Ivonio Andrade Viana Ferraz, called Vianinha, Otto Correa de Melo, Orlando Montalvani, Lincoln Monteiro, Claudir Monteiro and Elias Sidral Carvalho; reformed fire-department sergeant Jaime Martins Pereira; and police informant Leonis Fonseca.

Involvement

The involvement of the detectives with the drug traffickers was made public at the time of the arrest of trafficker Aldo de Almeida Santos, linked with Cabecao, and who allegedly died later at the penitentiary. He was counting on the gang's having the protection of Vianinha and other police officers.

In another sentence, Judge Mario Guaraci Rangel had condemned Cabecao, Aracilio and Aldo to 12 years in prison and made the decision to send the proper papers to the office of the Attorney General of Justice requesting an investigation to prove the involvement of police officers with drug traffickers.



Judge Simoes Costa said it was not within his jurisdiction to try Vianinha, Otto Correa de Melo, Orlandino Montalvani, Claudir Monteiro, Agostinho Alberto de Sena, Leonis Fonseca and Jaime Martins Pereira. This responsibility was transferred to the judge of the First Jury Court, where the group is already being tried not only for drug trafficking but also for homicide.

Cabecao and his brother, Aracilio, were absolved because Judge Simoes Costa found out that they had already been sentenced to 12 years imprisonment for the same crime in a previous trial. Jose Henrique Mattioli, who kept watch at the top of the hill, Faz Quem Quer, to facilitate the operations of Cabecao's gang, and Euci Pires de Aragao, the gang's driver, were sentenced to 2 years in prison and a fine of 50 times the country's highest minimum wage.

Lincoln Monteiro

In handing down the sentence, the judge accused Lincoln Monteiro of "using his position as a police officer, collaborating with the trafficking gang, giving it protection and interceding on behalf of its members in return for money and drugs when one of them had problems with the police."

"He also visited the residence of other traffickers on Tres Rios Highway to receive drugs. In September 1974, he was at the Second Vigilance North Headquarters Sector where he interceded on behalf of trafficker Antonio Carlos Garcez, called Toninho, who was arrested," the judge added.

8568  
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

LSN WOULD INCLUDE TRAFFICKING--Brasilia--The inclusion of drug trafficking and pollution in the National Security Law (LSN) is viewed favorably by certain ministers of the Superior Military Court (STM). In their opinion, the Military Court [JM] would act more effectively in those cases, since it is quite flexible. According to an STM minister, the transfer of the judgment of those crimes to the JM would be a way to increase the work of the court's members, diminished after the Amnesty Law. Although the government thinks that crimes of that nature are a matter of national security and should be resolved over the short term, they can be judged by the JM through a proposal by the minister of justice or the legislature. The proposal to include the drug-trafficking crime in the LSN was rejected in drawing up the new law. Meanwhile, on that occasion, some STM members believed that this subject was one of national security. They could resume that defense now with the aim of changing the position of the committee in charge of studying the new law. In view of the increase in cases of violence in the country, they could further argue that this question will affect national security. With regard to pollution, the JM would serve as a neutral element being impartial in judging cases involving multinational firms which act contrary to the environmental protection regulations. Some STM ministers believe that the JM would not be intimidated by the fact that those firms are economically powerful in the areas in which they are operating. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 29 Jan 80 p 7] 8568

COCAINE, MARIHUANA ARRESTS--Plastic artist Antonio Peticov and businesswoman Maria Lidia Pires Albuquerque were arrested yesterday afternoon at 1157 Sampaio Vidal Street by detectives of the Drug Division of the DEIC [Criminal Investigation Department]; they had been caught red-handed in the use of cocaine and marihuana. The police had been observing Peticov for more than a week; exactly 10 years ago he had been booked by the same division for trafficking and using LSD. Born in Assis, Sao Paulo, Peticov has been residing in Milan, Italy, since 1970 and returned to Brazil at the end of last year to give a number of exhibitions, the first being last Friday at the Happy Days nightclub at 613 Faria Lima Avenue, the property of Maria Lidia Pires Albuquerque. Early yesterday afternoon, three detectives and deputy Roberto Joao Juliao arrested Antonio Peticov and Maria Lidia at the woman's residence in Sampaio Vidal Street. The cocaine was in one of the artist's pockets and the marihuana in a drawer in the house. [Text] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Jan 80 p 16] 8568

CHILE

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Vina Del Mar, Chile, 4 Mar (AFP)--Former Chilean swimming champion Marco Antonio Pollier was arrested for being the head of an organization of drug traffickers. Pollier was wanted by U.S. police for trying to introduce 5 kg of cocaine into that country. [PY052339 Paris AFP in Spanish 0205 GMT 5 Mar 80 PY]

CS0: 5300

ECUADOR

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Interpol agents arrested Dolores Esther Mari-  
duena Shoveniz, accused of using minors to sell "base" [cocaine] envelopes  
according to a report from the Office of Allotments of the Guayaquil  
Superior Court of Justice. It was learned that in her "business," she  
drove a car and parked it on Luis Urdaneta and Ximena streets and, with  
the "help" of minors, distributed the envelopes to her "clients." Dolores  
Mariduená, in her testimony to Interpol, said that her husband Enrique  
Suarez Villalobos, from whom she had learned the business, had died  
several months ago. She continued in the business because her husband  
left her several debts. She revealed that two subjects known as the "El  
Paracaidista" and "Tuerto Chicho" supplied her with the drugs and used  
the Centenario and Chile parks as their distributing centers. [Text]  
[Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 25 Jan 80 p 16] 9341

MEXICO

HISTORY, RESULTS OF 'OPERATION CONDOR' DESCRIBED

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 10 Feb 80 Supplement p 9

[Text] As a result of the proliferation of vast plantations of poppies and marihuana which were considered of excellent quality, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic found it urgently necessary to begin a general search and destruction in the producing states, which were Chihuahua, Sonora and Durango. For this purpose, it was decided to pool efforts with the Army and the Federal Judicial Police; and this action was called "Operation Condor."

As a result of this government strategy, raids were started in the most inaccessible locations, where the groups of poisoners had their crops camouflaged with cultivated fields which appeared to be cornfields, but which were really plots of land producing crops ranging from marihuana to poppies of the best quality.

When these crops bore their fruit, they were removed by their growers to places where it was possible to load them on vehicles and carry them to the United States borders, to be turned over to the purchasers who were responsible for taking the drugs to the various consumption centers.

There was also air transportation, which facilitated the drug traffickers' work further still; because they had clandestine landing strips and, thus, were able to meet the demand of the purchasers of these toxic products within a shorter period of time.

This is the way in which the organized group of traffickers had been exploiting the farmers in those states of the country, whom they paid dreadful amounts of money for making their arable land available to them, to be converted into artificial paradises instead of using it to produce grain.

"Operation Condor," which is still in effect, disbanded groups which had been interfering with farming for some time, and which gave the names of the "fat fish" who were receiving millions of dollars from the sale of drugs.

In this way, complete rings of traffickers who had become international suppliers were apprehended in the country. They had also had in their service professional people, such as chemists, who were responsible for preparing products such as heroin and cocaine.

There was regret over the death of some members of both the federal police and the military, when they were caught penetrating the planting centers by the lookouts guarding these fields planted with injurious plants.

There were also seizures of high-caliber weapons which the Mafia members had and used indiscriminately when they were caught by the military or federal forces.

It was in Sonora, specifically, where the action of the "Condor" campaign was most keenly felt, because, as we learned, this state located on the Pacific coast was the "Mexican Chicago," where the law of the underworld had set up camp, and no authority could restrain the criminals.

For months at a time the federal forces were detailed to this location, where hard-fought battles were staged so as to restore calmness to this state, where every day brought murders and the extensive movement of drugs.

The action took place in Durango and Chihuahua as well, which had been selected by the Mafia groups to establish their centers of operation, in the belief that justice could never catch up with them.

Some individuals had a bad opinion of the "Condor" campaign, complaining of the brutality with which certain prisoners had been treated; but without considering the fact that, when anyone disturbed them, whether officers of the law or civilians, they were brutally murdered without regard or mercy.

This is why the decision made by the Attorney General's Office to declare war on the members of the drug traffic has been approved; because this will result in the benefit of using the fields in those states to supply the country with the necessary grain, rather than poison for destroying the youth.

As a result of "Operation Condor" there has been a 90 percent reduction in drugs in the country; and, in this way, the majority of the international rings which had been operating on all the borders have been virtually eliminated.

2909  
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

LAS NORIAS INSPECTION POST CLAIMED NECESSARY

H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 31 Jan 80 p 12

[Text] Last night, Victor Manuel Martinez Guerra, the local commander of the Federal Judicial Police, in commenting on recent statements made by tourist officials, declared: "The inspection post which the Federal Judicial Police have established at the site known as Las Norias will not be closed for any reason until instructions have been received from the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic." He said that the battle against the drug traffic and smuggling would be continued.

The Federal Judicial Police commander pointed out that an effort is made at all times not to annoy native or foreign tourists in the slightest degree; and that, so that nothing of the kind will occur, improvements have been made in speeding up the searches, so that the traveler may continue promptly on his way.

However, the police chief remarked: "If any officials describe drug traffickers, traffickers in arms and ammunition and other criminals as tourists, there is no doubt that we shall have to interfere in that type of tourist; because it is our duty to curb the drug traffic to the United States border, and the smuggling of arms and ammunition from that country to ours."

He stressed the fact that, to date, no tourist or any other individual, much less tourist officials, have made any complaint to the command under his orders, or to the agency of the Federal Public Ministry, much less his superiors in the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic.

Commander Martinez Guerra said that it is the desire of the Attorney General's Office that the vigilance at the inspection posts be strict and at the same time speedy, without troubling any traveler in the slightest degree; although there is also the order that a close search be made of any suspicious person.

He also pointed out that they are using the rule that, if it is quite evident that the travelers show no signs of carrying anything illegal, they are not even to be searched, and are to be allowed to continue immediately.

The Federal Judicial Police commander added that, nevertheless, if any of his agents commits an arbitrary act, the individual affected has every right to report the incident to the pertinent authorities.

This informant gave assurance that, unfortunately, those who complain of the searches at the customs stations or at the inspection post of the Federal Judicial Police are individuals who have been bothered because they do not have the liberty that they would like to get by with smuggled articles.

2909

CSO: 5330



MEXICO

BRIEFS

JAIL BREAK THWARTED--Ciudad Juarez, 11 February--A tunnel 9 meters long through which convicted drug traffickers intended to escape from the old prison on 16 de Septiembre Avenue was discovered in time. The escape plan which the inmates had been working on for several weeks was thwarted last Saturday by police inspection forces, in collaboration with personnel from the municipal prison itself. The fact that the pipes in the prison had been clogged with dirt recently and the dust that appeared everywhere caused the authorities to suspect that they were plotting something. There is the precedent that, in other attempts at escape or flight made with the use of tunnels, the pipes have always been covered with the dirt left by the inmates. Police Inspector Jose Refugio Ruvalcaba Munoz announced that, at the instruction of the municipal secretary of public services, Jose Luis Olguin Herrera, the surveillance both inside and outside of the prison has been intensified during the past 10 days. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 12 Feb 80 Sec A p 2] 2909

COLOMBIAN COCAINE TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT--Mexico City, 14 February--A ring of Colombian drug traffickers who were carrying 50 million pesos worth of cocaine was captured this morning at the international airport in Mexico City. The drugs were to be distributed in New York and Miami. Amparo de Jesus Castano Roldan, Lucia Cardona Velazquez, Flavio Antonio Gonzalez Restrepo and Jose Ivan Diaz Vela were arrested a few minutes after their arrival in the Federal District, on Aeromexico flight 489 from Bogota. The two women were carrying the drugs concealed between their legs and fastened with plastic bands, while their accomplices guarded them. Upon being questioned by the Federal Judicial Police, the drug traffickers confessed that they had purchased the drugs in Medellin, Colombia, to be taken subsequently to Miami and turned over to a woman named Maria N. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 15 Feb 80 p 5] 2909

CSO: 5330

PANAMA

BRIEFS

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NARCOTICS TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Colombian citizen Gloria (Morris) de Pelaez was arrested by narcotics officials at Tocumen International Airport when she tried to smuggle in 1 kg of cocaine valued at \$500,000. [Panama City RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Feb 80 PA]

CSO: 5300  
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TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

BRIEFS

GRAND TURK MARIHUANA--Two men in the Turks and Caicos islands have each been fined \$5,000 for smuggling marijuana into the country. And their small executive aircraft, valued at \$20,000 has been confiscated by the courts. Colombian James Normylc and American Stuart Cook were caught at South Caicos airport with one point six million pounds of the drug, the street value of which was not immediately known. [Text] [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 13 Feb 80 p 4 FL]

CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

TWO ARRESTED WITH MORE THAN 200 GRAMS OF COCAINE

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 27 Jan 80 p 4-40

[Text] In a raid in Bello Monte, agents of the Judicial Technical Police seized cocaine bottles worth nearly 1 million bolivares.

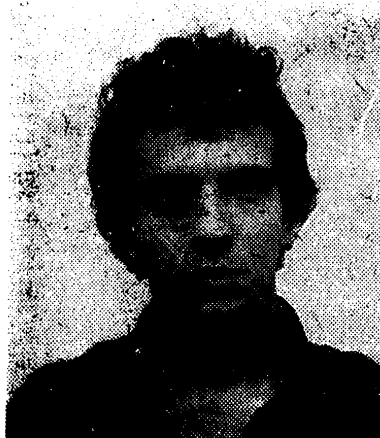
Two persons supposedly tied to international drug traffic were arrested.

The announcement was made to journalists by police inspector general Carlos Jimenez Lopez, who said the raid took place in an apartment of El Turpial, on Anauco Avenue, Bello Monte.

"Two persons who presumably were in charge of drug distribution throughout the metropolitan area were arrested in this operation," he said.

They are a man and a woman identified as Pedro Perez Contreras, 23 years old, and Lourdes Mancini Almea, 28.

The chief of police said that a huge drug contraband was confiscated from the couple: 200 grams of highly pure cocaine, valued at 300 bolivares per gram, as well as a scales and an LSD tablet. It seems these persons are part of an organization trafficking drugs by means of air transportation between Cucuta (Colombia), San Antonio de Tachira and the Maiquetia Airport.



Pedro Pérez Contreras  
—detenido— (Foto PTJ)



Lourdes Mancini Almea.  
(Foto PTJ)

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CSO: 5300

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VENEZUELA

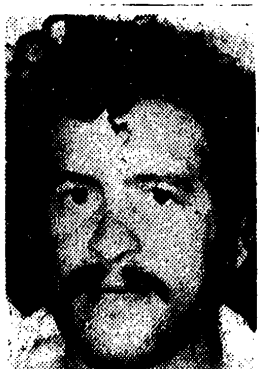
TRAFFICKER ARRESTED IN 23 JANUARY DISTRICT

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 28 Jan 80 p 4-30

[Text] Metropolitan Police agents succeeded in arresting public enemy number 1, Henry Ramon Martinez Diaz, better known as "Cara de Guante" [Glove Face], who was sought by several police departments for allegedly committing many robberies, fostering disturbances of the peace in the 23 January district and also for trafficking and consuming psychotropic drugs.

Martinez Diaz, 33 years old, was found by the Metropolitan Police between blocks 29 and 30 of the 23 January district last Saturday at about 1900 hours.

"Cara de Guante" tried to escape and, jumping over a ditch, suffered lacerations. However, the agents, who were determined to capture him to free the 23 January district from this human scourge who had become the feudal lord of lives and properties, surrounded and captured him.



Aspecto actual de Henry  
Ramón Martínez Díaz.  
(Reproducción: Francisco  
Seijas)

9341  
CSO: 5300

Current photo of Henry Martinez Diaz.

VENEZUELA

MANDRAX DISTRIBUTOR ARRESTED BY POLICE

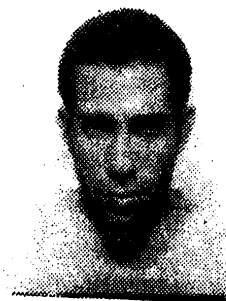
Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 27 Jan 80 p 4-39

[Text] A subject riding on a motorcycle in a suspicious way was arrested by the Metropolitan Police who, searching him, found 1,340 Mandrax pills which he apparently was going to distribute.

The Metropolitan Police Press Office identified the subject as Shail Felipe Ochoa Garcia, 26 years old, who was riding on a green motorcycle with tags 02-2000. The motorcycle was driven by Ivan Bernardo Stewart, 34 years old.

A police spokesman said that Ochoa Garcia was in the neighborhood of block 24 of the 23 January district, where he asked Stewart to give him a ride. The latter gave him a lift without knowing the subject was carrying Mandrax pills in a brown attache case.

Once the two men were arrested by the police, the drug trafficker tried to implicate the motorcycle driver as his accomplice; but investigations by Metropolitan Police agents determined that Stewart had no relationship with Ochoa Garcia.



Shail Ochoa Garcia  
(Foto PM)

9341  
CSO: 5300

EGYPT

ILLEGAL NARCOTICS ACTIVITY, EFFORTS TO CHECK IT ON INCREASE

Al-Sharqiyah Plants Seized

Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 2 Feb 80 p 14

[Text] The Anti-Narcotics Investigation [Unit] in al-Sharqiyah Governorate has seized 35,000 hashish (Indian hemp) plants and 49 kilograms of dry hashish. The plants were cultivated by a health aide on land he had reclaimed with his brother, a civil servant in the Ministry of Education. A machine gun was found with the health aide. The value of the items seized was estimated to be 200,000 pounds.

Maj Gen Hasan Khaki, chief of police in al-Sharqiyah Governorate, received information that hashish was being cultivated. He held a meeting that was attended by Maj Gen Muhammad 'Abd-al-Hamid Hindi, the deputy chief; Brig Gen al-Sayyid Husayn, the chief of investigation; Col Husayn Sulayman, chief of investigation; and Col 'Isam Abu al-Layl, anti-narcotics chief in al-Sharqiyah Governorate. They met to draw up a plan to curb the cultivation of hashish and to apprehend the one cultivating it.

The chief of the Narcotics Division led his forces in which Lt Col Ahmad Salim, Maj Ahmad Mamduh and Maj Yunis Mijalli participated. The police and the investigative forces surrounded the area, and the health aide was apprehended while he was irrigating his plants. He had a machine gun with him. Thirty-five thousand hashish plants in the area were seized, and 49 kilograms of dry hashish were also seized in his house.

The prosecutor's office is investigating the matter. A decision was made by the prosecutor's office to keep the defendants in provisional custody for 4 days and to confiscate the items seized.

Use of Airplanes

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 12 Feb 80 p 3

[Text] For the first time remote detection airplanes have begun flying over Egyptian skies to curb and to contain the cultivation of narcotics. This is the most modern method for identifying the narcotics cultivation gangs in our country.

These airplanes provide the anti-narcotics agencies with all the information [required] for the quick apprehension of these gangs. These airplanes transmit light and heat signals indicating the locations where narcotics are cultivated so that they can be seized quickly and destroyed.

In order for us to recognize the magnitude of the problem, the preliminary statistics for 1979 indicate that over 8 million opium plants and 150,000 Indian Hemp (hashish) plants were seized. In 1978, 6,045,000 opium plants and 200,000 hashish plants were seized. In 1974, 160,000 opium plants and 140,000 hashish plants were seized.

Statistics confirm a rise in the rate of narcotics cultivation and especially in that of opium cultivation. The cultivation of hashish has declined from one year to another due to the fact that hashish growers are turning to the cultivation of opium because of its high prices. The activities of the anti-narcotics agencies in discovering and seizing these large quantities of poisonous plants have also been manifested.

But how did the cultivation of narcotics plants come into Egypt? What have the anti-narcotics agencies done with this activity ever since they were established as a small office where three officers worked until they began using modern technology to eliminate it?

Col Muhammad Fathi 'Id, director of International Affairs and Technical Research at the Anti-Narcotics Department says, "In the past the cultivation of narcotics did not constitute a serious [problem] since they were only grown in small areas of Egyptian territory and were confined to personal use. But in the years that followed the June 1967 war some adventurers planted opium in remote areas and in the islands that are located in the middle of the Nile. The cultivation of opium realized enormous profits that forced others to emulate the practice. Areas cultivated with opium increased in the southern governorates and especially in Asyut and in some northern governorates. The illegal cultivation of opium has not yet reached the dense levels of its cultivation in the countries that produce the narcotic, but if growers continue to grow it, and if they were to use part of their profits in caring for it and looking for the best ways to cultivate it and to improve its production, opium can reign over the world market. This is something that Egypt can never permit."

#### Cultivation of Opium Doubling

In spite of the intense inspection campaigns that are carried out by the anti-narcotics agencies at locations where narcotics plants are grown in the governorates, the rates of their cultivation are growing in a frightening manner. In 1979, over 8 million opium plants and 150,000 Indian Hemp (hashish) plants were seized. In 1978, 6,045,000 opium plants and 209,000 hashish shrubs were seized. In 1977, 3 million opium shrubs and 290,000 hashish shrubs were seized. In 1976, 865,000 opium shrubs and 253,000 hashish shrubs were seized, compared with 103,000 opium shrubs and 639,000 hashish shrubs seized in 1974.



When one examines these figures closely, one finds that they clearly indicate that the areas that are cultivated with narcotics plants are increasing dangerously. We also find that the areas cultivated with opium are increasing and those cultivated with hashish are decreasing. This is due to the enormous profits that are realized by narcotics growers from the cultivation of opium. Hashish prices have been declining in recent years.

With regard to the concentration status of the cultivation of narcotics, the southern governorates, and especially Asyut Governorate, are in first place. In 1978, 2,327,000 opium shrubs were seized; they represented 88 percent of the total quantities seized. [In the same year] 153,000 hashish shrubs, representing 73 percent of the total hashish crop, were seized.

Maj Gen Mamduh Salim Zaki, authorized representative of the Anti-Narcotics Department says, "It is curious that organized anti-narcotics operations in Egypt began with only one officer. In 1929 after the cultivation of narcotics increased and the danger of smuggling narcotics from abroad became evident, a small agency was established. It was called the Public Narcotics Bureau for Narcotics Materials. It was headed by Egypt's chief of police. It was the real nucleus for the Anti-Narcotics Administrative Agency which is considered the oldest anti-narcotics agency in the world. In 1935 a decision was made to establish two branches for the bureau: [one] in Tanta, for the northern governorates, and [another] in Asyut, for the southern governorates. Afterwards, the establishment of scores of branches in the governorates followed.

"As far as legislation is concerned, the first law that was issued to combat the cultivation of narcotics in Egypt was the royal decree that was issued in 1879 prohibiting the cultivation and importation of hashish. The law stipulated a monetary fine of two pounds for violators. Provisions and laws gradually became more serious, and the penalties became more severe. Law No 182 for 1960, which was amended by Law No 40 for 1966 stipulated the death sentence as punishment for exporting, importing and also for producing and manufacturing [narcotics] if this is done for trade. The law stipulated the death sentence and life imprisonment at hard labor as punishment for dealing in and growing narcotics plants. But in spite of the fact that the death sentence is stipulated in Egyptian laws, the courts have not put this law into practice. The courts often issue a lower grade punishment."

#### Arduous Operations

Maj Gen Sami As'ad, director of the Anti-Narcotics Department goes on to add, "Before we go further into the methods of fighting the cultivation of narcotics, we must point out an important matter. Operations to combat the cultivation of narcotics are considered arduous; they are tied with numerous other aspects. The narcotics problem is primarily a social problem that cannot be solved by control and seizure measures only. It is a problem of supply and demand. If we were to monitor supply in the market

and increase our efforts to check the cultivation of narcotics and narcotics traffic and smuggling, narcotics prices will rise in the market and demand for them will grow. This is considered an unhealthy social phenomenon. If the efforts of the media, the family, social affairs etc are not united, the situation would be as though the police were working by themselves."

Maj Gen Sami As'ad adds, "Operations to combat the cultivation of narcotics are not easy because of the inaccessibility of the locations where such cultivation is concentrated. [Opium is grown] in the southern governorates, inside the hills and in the midst of remote islands and agricultural lands. Seizure operations are carried out not merely because information or letters from individuals concerning the existence of narcotics plants at some location were received, but also because there are hundreds of undercover officers working. We may see them working in stores, selling [goods] in the markets or farming in the fields. They carry out suicidal missions in monitoring merchants and farmers: they record their voices with accurate devices, and they photograph those farming adventurers on film and on video tapes. These provide the best evidence for seizure after permission is obtained from the prosecutor's office. Because the functions of the anti-narcotics agencies are difficult, and because of the extraordinary effort they make in reaching the locations where narcotics are grown, reliance on modern technological methods was inevitable to increase seizure operations and [to maintain] their rigor and their speed, especially after many adventurers cultivated narcotics plants after narcotics prices increased and enormous profits were realized."

#### Comprehensive Airplane Survey

An agreement has been reached with the Remote Detection Center to carry out a comprehensive airplane survey of all the suspect areas where narcotics are being grown. [This will be done] after the necessary research and studies are completed. Airplanes will be provided with adequate information about these locations so that the location of the plants can be determined and seizure operations facilitated. Work [in this area] will begin in 6 months after the research is completed.

An agreement was also reached with the United Nations Organization and with the chairman of the Narcotics Division to cooperate with Egyptian anti-narcotics agencies to bring an end to the cultivation of narcotics in Egypt. The Swedish expert, Mr (Lindburgh) was actually sent [to Egypt]. He had participated in operations to fight the cultivation of narcotics in some Asian countries, such as Afghanistan and India. The expert will set up a plan to determine the modern equipment we need to combat the cultivation of narcotics. Our needs consist of advanced methods of transportation to transport arresting forces and troops in the Nile; special vehicles for rugged and mountainous areas; air reconnaissance devices; and numerous other anti-narcotics devices.

Maj Gen Sami As'ad, member of the 13-member Narcotics Control Board, wonders, "If the law stipulates that the means used in smuggling and dealing

in narcotics, such as automobiles, are to be confiscated, why does it not stipulate that the land which is used to grow narcotics plants be confiscated? [Why does it not stipulate that this land] be used in growing food for the people instead of poisons?

#### Detection Planes Are Coming

Dr Muhammad 'Abd-al-Hadi director of the Remote Detection Center says, "Before the remote detection airplanes reveal to us the area where narcotics are grown, it is necessary to obtain adequate and specific information about these areas and especially during the early stages of growth of these narcotics plants, before they become fully mature and are harvested. We must also obtain this information regularly, continuously, effectively and rapidly because these plants can be cultivated in various kinds of soil and under the prevailing meteorological conditions in Egypt. These plants are not tied to a specific agricultural season, to a specific kind of soil, to specific kinds of agricultural fertilizers or to meteorological factors."

Dr Muhammad 'Abd-al-Hadi adds, "Two of the numerous ways for conducting remote detection can be utilized with high efficiency to reveal the areas where narcotics and narcotic plants are grown. One of them relies on taking pictures of the rays reflected in different visible and non-visible light fields from the kinds of plants in the agricultural land. This can be done by using a multi-lens air camera. The other method relies on recording the heat emitted from different plants as a result of their own radiation of long-wave infrared rays. This can be done by using a special electronic device for heat surveying. This device does not depend on outside light, and, consequently, can be operated in the darkness of night.

"From the results of this radiation one can determine [the identity] of the plant by means of special devices in the airplane where the characteristics of the different narcotics plants would be stored."

I asked him, "Can camouflage operations be used to mislead the airplanes and the devices away from the narcotics plants?"

He said, "It is difficult to utilize camouflage and deception operations the way they are utilized in military operations. This is because detection utilizes numerous and various waves to reveal these plants. If camouflage succeeded with one of the waves, it will not succeed with the others."

I asked about the progress of the plan to reveal narcotics plants and to identify the areas where they are grown.

Dr Ibrahim al-Qassas and Dr Ahmad Usamah Sa'd, two researchers at the Remote Detection Center said, "The plan to bring these locations to light depends on three stages:

"The First Stage: Laboratory experiments [are accomplished by taking some measurements and conducting detailed laboratory tests and physiological studies on samples of the leaves and parts of the narcotics plants in different stages of their growth.

"The Second Stage: Field studies [are carried out] to derive benefits from the results of the laboratory studies and to put them into practice in the field. At the same time we do take into consideration the multiplicity of environmental factors that control the light characteristics of these plants which cannot be available collectively in the lab.

"The Third Stage: Air reconnaissance and remote detection by airplane. This stage begins with flights over an experimental field of narcotics plants located in the midst of conventional crops which had previously been field tested for the purpose of obtaining measurement models that explain their distinguishing characteristics on the different figures and recorders of the remote detection equipment and airplane reconnaissance. By utilizing the results of these three stages, the locations where narcotics are cultivated may be brought to light in any other area under similar territorial, agricultural and meteorological circumstances."

Asyut Operation Checked

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 31 Jan 80 p 4

[Text] The Anti-Narcotics Department has seized 810,000 opium plants in three villages in Asyut Governorate. Their value is estimated to be 1.5 million pounds. A UN expert in fighting the cultivation of narcotics was a witness to the seizure operations. The prosecutor's offices of Dayrut and Abnub are questioning 52 defendants who own the land where the opium plants were seized.

Maj Gen Sami As'ad, the chief of the Anti-Narcotics Department received information indicating that the cultivation of opium in some villages of Asyut Governorate had become widespread. He charged Maj Gen Mamduh Salim Zaki with overseeing an investigation team in which Col Muhammad 'Abbas, director of operations; Col Tariq Salim, director of the internal activities division; Lt Col 'Abd-al-Khaliq al-Tahhawi; and Maj Ahmad Samak, chief of the Anti-Narcotics Branch in Asyut participated. The investigation confirmed the accuracy of the information and documented that narcotics were being grown in scattered areas owned by scores of farmers in the villages of al-Hawtah al-Sharqiyah, in the administrative district of Dayrut, and in al-'Atiyyat al-Bahariyah and al-Ma'abidah, in the administrative district of Abnub.

Maj Gen Ahmad Hasan 'Abd-al-Rahman, the chief of police in Asyut oversaw the plan for surrounding the three villages with police and investigative forces. These forces were led by a group of narcotics officers; by Col Imam Hasabu, the director of investigation; and by Col 'Abd-al-Hamid Jalal,

chief of criminal investigation. Six hundred officers and soldiers took part in surrounding the villages before dawn. The forces were able to seize a total of four feddans in the village of al-Hawtah. They had 108,000 opium plants. The total area that was seized in the villages of al-'Atiyyat al-Bahariyyah and al-Ma'abidah in the administrative district of Abnub was 26 feddans; 702,000 opium plants were seized there. [Police] investigation apprehended 52 defendants who own the seized plants. The capture operations were witnessed by Lindbergh, the UN expert in fighting the cultivation of narcotics.

The Dayrut and Abnub prosecutor's offices are questioning the defendants. The opium plants that were seized were estimated to be worth 1.5 million pounds.

#### Heroin Smuggling Attempt

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 8 Feb 80 p 10

[Text] Egyptian security authorities have foiled the first operation to smuggle into Egypt a large quantity of the narcotic powder heroin valued at 1 million pounds. A citizen of Yemen and a citizen of Djibouti, who are leaders of an international gang, have been arrested in an ambush that was set for them on the Corniche in Ma'adi and in a furnished apartment in al-Zamalik. They had rented this apartment for 15 days for that purpose after they were able to conceal the drugs inside some imported underwear. They went through airport customs [undetected] with these drugs when they arrived from San'a' on board a Yemeni airplane.

Information received by the agencies of the Anti-Smuggling Public Administration indicated that some international gangs known for their narcotics smuggling activity in Asia and in Europe were currently expanding the circle of their activities so as to flood some countries with narcotics. Egypt was among these countries. A state of emergency was declared at the Narcotics Agency to await the arrival of some of the persons that were identified by the information to be aides to these international gangs. At the same time some reports that were prepared by Col Muhammad 'Abbas, director of operations at the Narcotics Department and by Col Sayyid Ghayth, director of foreign activity documented that one of the leaders of this international gang had been able to enter the country last June with a large quantity of heroin powder.

When the matter was presented to Maj Gen Sami As'ad, director of the Anti-Narcotics Administrative Agency, he asked Maj Gen Mamduh Salim, the deputy chief of the administrative agency to draw up a plan to thwart attempts to smuggle this kind of narcotic.

Maj Gen Hasan Abu Basha, first assistant to the minister of interior affairs for public security was notified of the matter. He gave instructions that suspect persons coming from abroad be placed under surveillance.

The intense investigation that was carried out by a group from the Narcotics Agency led by Lt Col Mustafa al-Kashif, by Lt Col Ahmad Nada, Maj Mahmud 'Abd-al-Rashid, Maj Shafiq al-'Ashari, Maj Majdi Husayn and Maj 'Imad Rashid confirmed that two Arab young men had arrived in Cairo last 26 January from San'a' on a Yemeni airplane. They were placed under close surveillance, and their meetings and their comings and goings were recorded. It turned out that they had reserved two adjacent rooms in one of the luxury hotels in [the district of] al-Haram and also in another hotel in al-Duqqi. In addition, they had rented a furnished apartment overlooking the Nile on Abu al-Fida Street in al-Zamalik, and that they had paid 800 pounds for rent.

Col Muhammad 'Abbas, director of operations and Col Sayyid Ghayth, director of foreign activity supervised the drawing up of a plan. It was agreed that Lt Col Ahmad Nada and Maj Shafiq al-'Ashari would pose as aides to some major narcotics dealers in Egypt. They were able in fact to strengthen their friendship [with the young suspects]. Their meetings continued until the two officers in disguise were able to uncover the truth behind [the suspects]. It became evident that the name of the first one was Amir 'Umar Hasan (26 years old), a citizen of Djibouti, and that the name of the second was Muhammad Salim Muhammad al-'Alafi (38 years old), from North Yemen. It also turned out that the second one was the one who had come to Cairo last June and sold a quantity of the narcotic powder, heroin. He had also probed the market [in Egypt]. The two officers indicated to [the two suspects] that they were willing to purchase quantities of drugs and to smuggle them. The officers gained the confidence of the two smugglers, and the smugglers informed the officers that they had a large quantity of heroin. An agreement was reached to purchase 300 grams at first for 40,000 pounds provided that the heroin be delivered on the Nile Corniche in front of al-Ma'adi Hospital.

At the appointed time the first one came. His name is Amin 'Umar Hasan, a citizen of Djibouti. He had the required quantity of heroin with him. The two officers revealed their identity and placed him under arrest. He broke down immediately and confessed in front of Maj Gen Sami As'ad, the chief of the Narcotics Administrative Agency that he was the leader of an international gang along with the second man and that they had come to Cairo with large quantities of heroin which they had brought from Bombay, India. They were able to go through Cairo Airport with the drugs after hiding them inside the folds of new imported shirts. [He said] that the rest of the quantity was with his other colleague. A force led by Lt Col Mustafa al-Kashif, Lt Col Ahmad Nada, Maj Mahmud 'Abd-al-Rashid and Maj Shafiq al-'Ashari rushed to raid the furnished apartment in al-Zamalik on Abu al-Fida Street. There they apprehended the defendant, and they found with him another quantity of the same kind of drug that had been seized. Another quantity of drugs was also seized in their hotel rooms in one of the hotels and in another hotel in [the district of] al-Haram. The value of the drugs was estimated to be 1 million pounds.

Narcotics prosecutors Sami Bashar and 'Isam Ahmad are in charge of the investigation under the supervision of Chief Prosecutor Samir Sulayman. They ordered that the defendants be held in custody and that the seized goods be confiscated.

Concealed Hashish Seized

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 9 Feb 80 p 11

[Text] Egyptian security authorities were able to seize drugs worth half a million pounds. They were concealed for narcotics smugglers and dealers in al-Batiniyah by a wealthy man inside two storage houses at the orchards of the Sa'adah Farm in Sharbin, al-Daqahliyah Governorate. The wealthy man was arrested, and the prosecutor's office ordered that he be taken into custody.

The operation was brought to light in the course of the efforts that were being made by the Anti-Narcotics Public Administrative Agency to follow up on the activities of narcotics smugglers and dealers everywhere in the republic. Information had indicated that some known smugglers and dealers in the district of al-Batiniyah had moved their activity, after having vowed to repent, to some areas outside Cairo. [To ensure] the success of the smuggling operations, they were depending on some aides who had had no previous narcotics activity and who were unknown to the security agencies.

The information and the broad investigation confirmed that numerous contacts had been made between those smugglers and others to ensure the safe arrival of the shipments of drugs that they agree to smuggle across some unfrequented desert areas.

In the face of this activity Maj Gen Sami As'ad, chief of the Anti-Narcotics Public Administrative Agency prepared a plan to keep tabs on all those who are suspect, to place them under close surveillance and to record their comings and goings. Maj Gen Mamduh Salim Zaki, deputy chief of the agency; Col Muhammad 'Abbas, director of operations; and Col Sayyid Ghayth, director of foreign activity supervised the recording [on tape] of some meetings that took place between some smugglers and dealers and their aides in several locations outside Cairo. Intense efforts were made while this was taking place until the investigation concluded that a new shipment of narcotics had been smuggled and was being stored in al-Daqahliyah Governorate at the Sa'adah Farm, in the administrative district of Sharbin. The investigation of Col Sami 'Abd-al-Jawwad, Narcotics Branch chief and of Lt Col Ahmad al-Jawhari affirmed that the narcotics shipments had been stored in the orchards that are owned by al-Shahhat al-Sayyid 'Atiyyah, who is a wealthy man. Large forces led by Isma'il 'Atwah, police chief of the administrative district of Sharbin; Lt Col Sayyid Mutwalli, chief of al-Daqahliyah Narcotics Division; Maj Ahmad al-Qasabi; and Maj Sa'd 'Abd-al-Muhsin surrounded the area and raided the wealthy man's home and the orchards that he owns. Two storage houses were seized, and 2,160 packages of hashish were found.

The brands that were found were al-Hilb [the Anchor], Zahrah Lubnan [the Flower of Lebanon], and al-Hubb Kidah [Such Is Love]. The hashish was estimated to be worth half a million pounds.

The investigation was carried out by 'Abd-al-'Alim al-Jindi, the district attorney of Sharbin, under the supervision of Justice Muhammad Abu Zayd, the public defender. He ordered that the defendant be taken into custody.

#### Heroin Seized at Airport

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 1 Feb 80 p 9

[Text] Customs officials at Cairo International Airport were able to foil the largest operation to smuggle the drug heroin inside the country.

Customs Assistant Ahmad al-Zuhayri and Customs Police Chief Mahmud Qasim suspected one of the passengers from Beirut while one of the passengers coming from Beirut was going through the green area at airport customs. While the passenger was being searched, a huge amount of heroin was found hidden in plastic bags in his suitcases and scattered amidst his personal belongings. The passenger was trying to smuggle into Egypt about 250 grams [of heroin]. It is estimated that this quantity is worth approximately 80,000 pounds.

Sadafah 'Abd-al-Khaliq chief officer of the shift ordered that the passenger be turned over to Narcotics Prosecution for questioning.

#### Syrian Smuggling in Cairo

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 12 Feb 80 p 9

[Text] A Syrian passenger arriving from Amman was apprehended trying to smuggle 2 kilograms of raw opium. Customs Commissioner Sayyid 'Abd-al-Nabi suspected the passenger. He searched him and found the opium hidden in a secret compartment inside the bag.

Customs Director Sayyid Durrah ordered that the passenger be turned over to Narcotics Prosecution.

#### Pakistani Arrested in Cairo

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 13 Feb 80 p 9

[Text] First Customs Police Chief Taha al-Batal was also able to apprehend a Pakistani passenger trying to smuggle 6 kilograms of raw opium into the country.

Customs Police Chief Sayyid Durrah ordered that the Egyptian and the Pakistani passengers be turned over to Narcotics Prosecution.

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SOUTH AFRICA

DAGGA DESTRUCTION PROCEEDING IN NORTHERN NATAL

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 80 p 9

[Article by Tim Clarke]

[Text]

NORTHERN NATAL police headquarters have announced that 16 tons of dagga was destroyed by police in the Helpmekaar district in the Natal midlands, on Thursday.

This brings the total of dagga destroyed in the past week up to 35 tons.

A senior police officer said that Thursdays was the largest one-day haul he had seen.

Police started burning a dagga plantation on Wednesday but there was so much that they could not finish the job.

When they resumed the operation the next day they found that the dagga left over had been harvested during the night.

They followed footprints into the thick bush nearby and found six grain bags of dagga.

The police officer explained that the local population are concentrating more on dagga than on mielies because of the big money that can be made in dagga.

He said the cut-down in mielie fields could have a serious effect on their food stores in the long run.

Eighty-five policemen and a helicopter are being used in the raids which started in the Pomeroy district, Tugela Valley, last month.

The raids are expected to continue until all the dagga plantations have been destroyed.

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SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

CONVICTIONS FOR DRUG OFFENSES--The Assembly--More than 20 000 people were convicted of offences connected with drugs and dependence-producing substances from January to June 30, 1978. However, only 26--15 whites, seven coloureds and four blacks--were sent to rehabilitation centres during that period. Nearly half the people--9 896--were given suspended sentences, but 6 823 were sent to prison without the option of a fine. A further 12 were given a fine and jail, another eight received corporal punishment and imprisonment while 2 169 were given cuts only. Revealing details in reply to a question by Mrs Helen Suzman, the Minister of Statistics, Dr Andries Treurnicht said that of the 20 386 convictions, 1 991 were white, 4 232 coloured, 629 Asians and 13 534 were black. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 27 Feb 80 p 1]

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FRANCE

ANTIDRUG CRUSADE EFFECTS REVIEWED

Paris LE MONDE in French 6 Feb 80 p 12

[Article by A. R. [probably Anita Rind]: "Antidrug Crusade"]

[Text] Drugs! Commonplace for some, taboo for others, this topic has also become a factor of political polemics ever since the controversy which has pitted the communist party against some teachers, specifically the members of the SGEN-CFDT [SGEN-French Democratic Confederation of Labor] and the SNES [National Higher Education Association] on the subject of the distribution of leaflets, on both parts, at the gates of several secondary schools in Val-de-Marne. "Struggle, Not Drugs," was proclaimed by the PCF, calling upon the young to join its ranks by rejecting all drugs without exception. "Struggle, Not Morality," the teachers answered.

On behalf of the National Teachers' Union, which he heads. Guy Georges, insists on clarifying things: "No educator worthy of the name could consider that the solution is the free sale of a drug, as some have dared to write," he says. "It was by fighting absinthe that this type of alcoholism was eliminated, rather than by assigning a medical controller to each bar. Drugs must be pursued, rather than the young who let themselves be trapped. A violent attack must be mounted against the production and distribution of drugs (. . .).

"Yes, we must explain to the young that there are ways of life other than quitting or resigning oneself; that life is a struggle, frequently against oneself, and always for something better. We must arm them so that they may avoid running away from their responsibilities. Embarrassing? True. We are not always helped.

"Yet, checkmate surrender is the meaning of our job."

Recalling the position of the PCF, L'HUMANITE DIMANCHE published a report on the Amsterdam drug market. Its special correspondent Claude Picant describes how and where one could freely purchase drugs in the city, such as LSD, marijuana, cocaine, heroin, etc. "From laxity to tolerance, in a sort of anticipation, we have reached the point that the traffickers would

love to reach," he writes: "The fact that heroin be recognized by the authorities in order better to manage the hopelessness of a segment of the youth (. . .). The experiment is quite conclusive: the supermarket of the stuff is doing very good business." L'HUMANITE DIMANCHE emphasizes that the same danger threatens France and reasserts that the PCF will fight "against this rather profitable market."

In L'EXPRESS, Olivier [probably Todd; a line or more omitted. . . .] regret that political polemics has "turned a substantive debate into a witch-hunt."

"The moment the teachers had disseminated their counter leaflets the communists, suddenly abandoning the intellectual confrontation, triggered a real witch-hunt in a pure McCarthyist style (or Stalinist style, which generally speaking is one and the same), simply accusing their opponents of being 'defenders of drugs' and mobilizing the families against such 'poor teachers, unworthy of their work, who engage in a real aggression against the youth,' emphasizes Jean-Christian Harvet. "We had come to fear that such 'poor teachers' may be sent, for a change of ideas, to Gor'kiy-on-the-Correze, under the joint applause of Georges Marchais and Michel Droit. Luckily, Marchais has since somewhat diluted with water . . . his wine."

In L'EXPRESS Olivier Todd emphasizes the need for a "campaign of information addressed to the young." However, he as well raises questions as to what motivates the communists:

"Why would the PCF suddenly plunge into a boisterous and confusing antidrug crusade? Drugs being a structural problem, why is it that the PCF collapses on the subject of the 'H' as in heroin?" "It is looking for a credible program, it answers: Moralizing has been a classical part of the panoply of parties running short of breath. The most recent incident occurred in a communist-run department. Like elsewhere, generations of socialist-leaning, freedom-loving, leftist professors are being hired in that same Val-de-Marne. Parents and voters are communists. Whom will the young follow?"

In LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR, Jean Daniel clearly shows his anger:

"This is too much. Supporting the myopia of totalitarian socialisms which are failing everywhere, and above all in the Third World, which is the most revolutionary, and recruiting members by substituting the rites of faith and illusions for the courage of lucidity does not make anyone capable of detoxifying the youth. It even means injecting them with a drug as noxious as the others.

"We firmly oppose all kinds of drugs. All kinds, not excluding the opium which the PCF offers today to its youth."

Andre Frossard uses a very different tone of voice to denounce in LE POINT the "unreasonable initiative of some young teachers, who unquestionably are

themselves bothered by the fumes of their own poison." He expresses his concern as follows: "It would be impossible to know whether the contaminated child will stick to the euphoria provided by some plants, or will go vainly seeking through some powders the increase of his faculties. Yes, in vain, for the fraud is the following: Drugs do not sharpen the senses. They dull them, and that is precisely what encourages their use in some medical cases. The brilliance expected by the naive user never comes. 'A butcher who takes opium,' Baudelaire used to say, 'has the dreams of a butcher.' The educators in Val-de-Marne have the dreams of educators: they want students. Yet all they have to do is read their own writings to realize that the drug does not have the happy results they expected."

In TEMOIGNAGE CHRETIEN Roger Trefeu tries to dedramatize the controversy: "Let us be serious, such a trite matter should never have resulted in such exaggerations and dramatizations," he writes. "The drug problem is sufficiently grave and complex not to be treated in this way. (. . .)

"If drugs are an escape or a rejection, their advance will not be stopped either through liberalization or, above all, through repression. This could be achieved rather through proper information and understanding--which does not mean justification--and the promotion of some human values which could provide the young with an ideal."

To each his own crusade. The topic, alas, is not to be exhausted.

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ITALY

BRIEFS

HEROIN IN AUTO TRANSMISSION--Milan (Italy), Feb. 17: Police founded 15 and a half pounds of pure heroin worth \$8.6 million, hidden inside the transmission of a Turkish automobile yesterday and arrested its driver Cima Gumer [Cuma Guner], 26, of Gaziantep, Turkey, on drug smuggling charges.--UPI [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 18 Feb 80 p 4]

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UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

CANNABIS HAUL--About 2 million pounds worth of cannabis has been seized by Scottish customs and excise officers, it was disclosed today. The consignment of drugs--weighing about a ton--is the largest cannabis haul in Scotland. A customs spokesman said the cannabis came from a cargo ship, the Cariba Express, which arrived at Greenock towards the end of February from Kingston, Jamaica. [Excerpt] [LD080344 London Press Association in English 1357 GMT 7 Mar 80 LD]

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