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JPRS L/9505

26 January 1981

# Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 4/81)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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AUSTRALIA

POLICE WANT NEW LAWS, POWERS IN DRUG WAR

Melbourne THE AGE in English 21 Nov 80 p 15

[Text] One fact has emerged in the mountains fo transcripts from an assortment of royal commissions, inquiries and task forces which have investigated Australia's drug trafficking in recent years: simply, the police have failed. [as published]

Drug investigations have been set back by corruption, parochialiam, jealousies and incompetence in law enforcement agencies. But police forces argue that they have not had the manpower, equipment, political commitment or legislation to fight such crime.

"You've got to look at the name of an informant," he says. drug problem in the context of 60,000 burglaries and 600 armed robberies in Victoria each year," says the head of the Victorian Crime Department, Assistant Commissioner Rod Hall. [as published]

One way to ease the resources problem, Mr Hall suggests, would be to allow law enforcement agencies to invest money seized in big drug raids and held, sometimes for years, pending trial.

Instead of gathering dust in police safes, this money would gather interest to be spent on equipment. He says that in America, agencies use seized vehicles and even aircraft to assist other investigations.

The head of the Victorian drug squad, Detective Chief Inspector Goeff Baker, wants legislation to protect an informant's anonymity. "Obviously we try to keep information confidential, but under present conditions if we are hard pushed--in court, for instance--we would have to divulge the name of an informant," he says. "We must be able to give guarantees to these vital sources of information."

Trend

Mr Baker would also like a freer use of indemnity for some offenders (only the Attorney-General can grant indemnities). "It's a case of letting little fish go to catch bigger ones," he says.

State police would also like legislation giving them power to arrange for a doctor to search a drug suspect internally. Mr Baker says there is now a trend--begun in America--for sellers to carry caps of heroin inside small balloons in their mouths. If they see police coming they simply swallow the balloon.



Police also want:

\*Uniform laws and penalties for drug offences throughout Australia.

\*A permanent crime commission or grand jury with powers to force people involved in the drug trade to answer questions. In Victoria there is a push for the Royal Commission which will investigate the Clark heroin syndicate to become a permanent drug investigating body.

\*Speedy formation of a national intelligence body, the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence, which would have links to agencies around the world. [as published]

\*Tighter bail conditions.

\*The charge of possession extended to include a group of people.

\*Powers of search without a warrant.

\*Power to tap telephones and examine income tax returns and bank accounts.

\*More interpreters so police can properly investigate ethnic groups involved in trafficking, and more expert ethnic policemen.

\*Improved forensic science facilities and more fulltime scientists.

The Australian Federal Police chief, Sir Colin Woods, favors a national body for forensic analysis of drug crime. In Melbourne, the antiquated police laboratory in Spring Street has a backlog of 600 drug examinations, which has caused delays of up to 12 months in court hearings.

\*Drug offenders to be obliged to tell the source of drugs found in their possession.

\*The State Government to build "safe houses" to protect witnesses in drug trials. At present guarding them ties up too many officers.

\*More staff and better forensic facilities at the Coroner's Court. Victorian police say lack of facilities makes it impossible to estimate the number of drug-related deaths in Victoria.

Sir Colin Woods also wants Australian addicts to be registered, as in England. Sir Colin, formerly assistant commissioner of London's Metropolitan Police Force, says police can often lose sight of the fact that the addict is a victim. He says the English system is open to abuse, "but the British record in hard drugs isn't too bad".

Answer

"After 40 years in law enforcement I am totally alienated at punishing the inadequate who have become addicted because they have not been able to cope with our society," Sir Colin says.

In reply to the question that some of the changes they want would infringe civil liberties, senior police have stock answers: "The innocent have nothing to fear," and, "The choice is these restrictions or unrestricted, rampant organised crime."

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

HEROIN PROFITS DOOM EFFORTS TO CONTROL TRAFFIC

Role of Economics

Melbourne THE AGE in English 20 Nov 80 p 4

[Article by Alfred McCoy]

[Excerpts] For the farmers who produce its basic ingredient, the criminal chemists who refine it and the merchants who market it, heroin is just another commodity. Like wheat, sugar or coffee, heroin has a world market price that responds to consumer demand, weather conditions and access to foreign markets.

Although the target of investigation by at least six international police agencies, Bangkok's heroin merchants are protected by the drug's escalating profit margins. A kilo of heroin brought at a mountain laboratory for \$2000 is worth \$4000 when it reaches Bangkok and \$8000 when sold to Australian smugglers. [as published]

After sale and concealment in commercial cargo or personal luggage at Bangkok, the heroin disappears into a maze of air and seaborne transport until it emerges on the streets of Sydney and Melbourne. Smugglers use an enormous variety of routes and methods to bring heroin shipments into Australia--light aircraft flights through Indonesia or Papua New Guinea, commercial cargo routed through Manila, tourists who transit through New Zealand to conceal their trip to Bangkok, flotation drops from freighters and every orifice or artifice imaginable on the ordinary tourist.

Australia's long, unguarded coastlines and enormous volume of passenger and cargo traffic with Asian ports make interception at the customs barrier, at best a chance happening.

While the myriad smuggling techniques are almost impossible to detect, the drug dealers and organized crime figures behind the heroin traffic are public personalities. As in Thailand, the key to their survival lies in the escalating profit margins of the heroin traffic.

Landed in Sydney, a kilogram of 90 per cent pure heroin brings \$40,000. Adulterated with icing sugar or glucose powder to a purity of only 40 per cent and split into 60 dealers' "bags", that same kilogram fetches \$90,000. Packaged in 5000 "hit" packets each containing 0.2 grams of 20 per cent pure heroin, the kilogram earns more than \$300,000 in street sales.

Assuming a national addict population of 40,000, Australia's heroic traffic generates \$240 million a year in street sales. What happens to the profits? A large percentage is, no doubt, consumed by petty street dealers in food, rent and legal fees.

The profits that accrue to organised crime syndicates probably merge into Australia's "shadow economy" through money laundering to finance property investments, illegal gambling, and lavish lifestyles. We are only now beginning to discover the extent, the power and the corrupting influence of this shadow economy.

If the economics of the heroin traffic remain mysterious, its social impact is more obvious. Those areas of Sydney and Melbourne with high concentration of heroin addicts seem to be developing the same demi-monde of violence that accompanies heroin trafficking wherever it appears.

Heroin induces a strong state of painlessness that numbs all sensation, physical and emotional. The ethics of "shoot" and sharing, the conviviality among alcohol or marijuana users, is completely absent from the heroin subculture.

Heroin use evokes no alternative morality, no theology, no ideology. The drug's amoral ethos of self-maximisation combines with its remarkable economics to fashion a universe in which the violent predator is the natural survivor.

Heroin's only use for the young and healthy, the bulk of Australian addicts, is its capacity to make time go away. If both heroin trafficking and long-term youth unemployment continue to grow, the murderous New Zealand drug syndicate, recently investigated by the Melbourne Coroner's Court, may be our first glimpse into Australia's urban future.

#### Police Corruption

Melbourne THE AGE in English 21 Nov 80 pp 1, 15

[Excerpts] A woman walking her dog along the back beach at Flinders on a summer night last year came across a group of men standing near two four-wheel drive vehicles, each with a trailer and a power boat.

It could have meant nothing; there are plenty of people who muck around with boats on summer evenings, some of them rude, perhaps some who don't put plates on their trailers. But the fisherman's wife may unwittingly have stumbled across that rarely sighted bird, the sea dropper.

This is the species of drug importer who travels by small craft to a shipping lane at a prearranged time and, at a spot marked by a buoy, takes on board a large plastic drum or two. The drum has been dropped from the deck of a passing freighter which has called at a South-East Asian port, probably in Thailand. In it is hashish, buddha sticks, or some other form of cannabis.

Minimal

Along Australia's 36,835 kilometres of coast the chances of spotting a sea dropper are minimal, and the police know it.

Detective Chief Inspector Geoff Baker of the Victoria Police drug squad says: "We know about sea drops and have mounted a number of operations in Westernport Bay, but without success. I've heard of sophisticated devices that emit signals, and devices that surface after 24 hours in the water. There may be some fantasy about such intelligence, but there has got to be some truth, too."

The responsibility for stopping the import of illicit drugs rests with the Federal police, but the job of controlling smuggling generally is left to the Customs Bureau.

Between Geelong and the South Australian border there are only two permanent Customs officers, who work from Portland. They do not have a boat capable of taking them to sea and spend most of their time checking duty free cargo in the busy Portland port.

Westernport Bay--believed by police to be a regular drop-off point for ships carrying illicit drugs--has only two fulltime customs officers.

Chief Inspector John Mitchell, head of the Federal Police drug units in the southern half of Australia, says: "The only thing which limits the way traffickers bring drugs into Australia is their own imagination."

The heroin importer needs both imagination and a gambler's daring. He does not use sea drops. Because the heroin trade is so prone to rip-offs, most heroin syndicates never allow the substance out of their sight. A courier is always seen on to a plane and met as soon as he or she has cleared airport customs. Frequently an "overseer" unknown to the courier will travel on the same flight.

#### Internal

Another reason why boat drops are not used for heroin is that a tiny amount of the drug is worth a fortune, while cannabis products can involve tonnes. A small packet of heroin can be hidden in a courier's baggage, on his body--or in it. The latter form of smuggling is becoming more popular, and is making life even more difficult for law agencies.

An example of how the "internal" courier works was provided when an Australian customs officer learned what was in the baggage of a 27-year-old man flying to Bangkok in June last year. He had a small set of scales, 48 contraceptive sheaths, one tube of petroleum jelly, one roll of dental floss, one packet of Senokot (purgative), one packet of Lomotil (treatment for diarrhoea) and one packet of Codosomal (painkillers).

When the man returned to Australia on 31 July customs men at Perth airport searched his bags and personal belongings, but found nothing.

Knowing what equipment had been taken out, they had him examined by a doctor. X-rays indicated a foreign object in his stomach and police charged him with possession of a prohibited import, although they did not know what it was.

After 24 hours in custody the man admitted to police that he had swallowed three lots of heroin packaged inside several layers of contraceptives. Had a package burst he would have died almost immediately of an overdose.

In hospital he passed two of the packages. The third had to be removed by surgery. They contained a total of 41.5 grams of good quality heroin, worth about \$6500. The man is now serving an 18-month sentence.

In one Melbourne airport check this year a man and a woman were found to have heroin worth about \$30,000 hidden in their bodies. The man had a package in his stomach and the woman four packages in her body cavities. The reward for taking such a risk, according to John Mitchell, is usually about \$3000, plus a paid holiday.

In fact, airport customs officers have no power to request internal examination of a traveller by a doctor unless they have reasonable suspicion that he or she is carrying a prohibited import.

Dogs trained to sniff for drugs are now used at capital city airports, but are effective only in searching baggage. Mr Mitchell says there would be an outcry if the dogs were allowed to sniff people, too.

Mr Mitchell, like other senior Australian police, says the answer to catching drug importers lies not in random airport checks and attempts at coastal surveillance, but in intelligence gathering--"the ability to pinpoint the coming and going of the smugglers".

But the biggest requirement for a top-level police intelligence body sharing information among the various law enforcement agencies is trust. Trust and police corruption do not go together.

The head of the Australian Royal Commission on drugs, Mr Justice Williams, in his final report submitted in March this year, said that there were numerous allegations that police fabricated or destroyed evidence in drug cases, engaged in trafficking or were influenced by payment of money to turn a blind eye to criminal activities.

One policeman said of his own State's drug squad: "I would not tell them what time it was, to be quite candid with you."

It is a simple fact that big drug syndicates need help from the law if they are to survive for long. And they have plenty of cash to buy it.

Victoria's Assistant Commissioner (Crime), Mr Rod Hall, gives an example of just how much. He tells of two members of the now-disbanded Federal Bureau of Narcotics. They were arresting a drug suspect when they overturned a mattress and found nearly \$200,000 in cash (some people DO keep it there).

"Where'd you get this money?" the agents asked the man.

"What money. I can't see any," came the reply.

Because the agents were "straight" Mr Halls knows the story.

The biggest drug syndicates uncovered in Australia in recent years have had "contacts" in law enforcement agencies. The Sydney-based syndicate which murdered, among others, Douglas and Isobel Wilson, who were buried at Rye in April last year, is said to have paid for information from the Customs Department computer.

Among Victorian detectives it is often said that part of the NSW force is corrupt.

Another Victorian, a detective sergeant, says: "Over the years you decide for yourself who is straight, you find out who your friends are. Of course the majority of policemen up there are honest, but if I want something done in Sydney I telephone one bloke--at home."

Indeed, Victorian police have found the Murray River a much more imposing boundary than a few hundred metres of water. In the Sunraysia district families with links to Griffith and Sydney crime figures are now said to be planting almost all of their marijuana crops among the vines growing in NSW, where there is less "police activity".

The Victoria Police force, now generally accepted as one of the "straightest" in the country, is not untainted. INSIGHT has learned that some detectives in the special squads at Russell Street believe a criminal has been receiving information that only they should have. The criminal has been active for many years, but detectives have not been able to charge him with anything but minor offences.

This suspicion that somebody in the police building is in the pay of a criminal has caused some detectives to keep quiet about their work except to colleagues they are sure of.

The system of paying police informers also makes police forces vulnerable to corruption. Assistant Commissioner Hall confirms the existence of "slush" funds, although he dislikes the word because of its connotations of impropriety. He says one fund uses money contributed by the big banks and by the TAB to reward informants whose tips lead to the conviction of armed hold-up men. "We make sure we get value for money," Mr Hall says.

The CIB in Melbourne also runs a slush fund of its own. Typical payments are believed to be between \$100 and \$200, although much more has been paid on occasions. Because of the nature of the payments--to people who insist on anonymity--traditional methods of accounting are difficult. The money for this fund comes out of the public coffers.

Distrust among officers and outbreaks of police corruption are not the only obstacles to a united fight against drug syndicates and organised crime. Politics comes into it, too.

The setting up of an Australian bureau of criminal intelligence, a national body designed to target big criminals controlling drugs and other crime, has been delayed because of what some policemen claim are "parochial" attitudes.

The head of the Bureau of Criminal Intelligence in Melbourne, Detective Superintendent Fred Silvester, says a national bureau is needed urgently. "Our present attempts to fight organised crime are like David taking on Goliath, without the stone," he says.

But just who should be in charge of this national intelligence body is causing problems. Western Australia's Minister for Police and Traffic, Mr Bill Hassell,

says his State will not co-operate in setting up a Canberra-based bureau unless it is under the sole control of the recently formed Australian Police Ministers' Council.

"Law enforcement, whether concerned with Federal or State law, remains a matter for State police forces under the concept of our Federal system of responsibilities," Mr Hassell says. "We will not co-operate if the Federal Police seek to use the bureau to establish an FBI-type agency in Australia."

But the suggestion that the police Ministers should jointly control such an agency is certain to be rejected on the grounds of "political interference" by the chief commissioners of police. They recommended the establishment of a national crime intelligence unit at a conference in Hobart late last year, and want to control it themselves.

There are 74 policemen in the Victorian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence, but the bureau has to provide surveillance for all the other sections of the force that want suspected criminals watched. In any week senior officers will agree on about 40 "targets" to be kept under surveillance, but the Victorian BCI can usually cope with only four of those targets, meaning that 36 people who should be watched are not.

Mr Silvester says he has no doubt that the Victoria Market and marijuana are "closely allied". He says "it probably controls the marijuana market in Victoria". He adds that he has "a gut feeling" that there are one or two marijuana growing operations in Victoria on the scale of Griffith.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

REVIVAL OF DRUG SYNDICATE IN AUSTRALIA FEARED

Melbourne Boss

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 19 Nov 80 p 21

[Text] Detectives in Australia and New Zealand believe the "Mr Asia" international drug syndicate is operating again in Melbourne and Sydney.

The drug ring, which was thought to have been broken by police after a series of murders in Australia and overseas, is believed to have been re-formed.

Detectives believe the new boss of the international drug syndicate is a New Zealand property speculator based in Melbourne. The businessman, about 34, has a conviction in New Zealand for supplying heroin.

The property speculator was once the Melbourne "half" of the "Sydney-Melbourne connection"--the key heroin distributors for the multi-million dollar drug ring.

The man, who has property interests in Queensland, travels regularly to Sydney and Queensland.

The syndicate was believed to have been destroyed after a group was arrested in England on a murder charge last year.

Terrence John Clarke, one of the syndicate's tycoons, was among those arrested over the murder of "Mr Asia," Christopher Martin Johnstone.

The body of Johnstone, about 35, was found in a quarry near Chorley, England, on October 16 last year.

Clarke is wanted for questioning in Melbourne about the murders of Isabel and Douglas Wilson whose bodies were found in a shallow grave at Rye on May 18, last year. They were murdered after syndicate chiefs discovered they had been talking to police.

Detectives warned earlier this year that the heroin trade was too profitable for the syndicate to fold completely.

New Zealand and Australian police said yesterday it appeared the syndicate was operating again.



"The same old faces are beginning to turn up," a New Zealand policeman said yesterday.

"The question is not whether it has re-started but whether it ever really stopped," a federal detective said. "It's like a cancer growing larger and larger."

Police said the drug ring was responsible for importing millions of dollars worth of heroin into Australia. Police believe a big stock of the drug still is hidden in Sydney.

Detectives said yesterday the property investor in Melbourne could be working in partnership with Sydney businessmen.

The New Zealand man, who is believed to have been involved in the drug underworld since he has been in Melbourne, is said to be wealthy.

'THE AGE' Report

Melbourne THE AGE in English 19 Nov 80 p 1

[Text] The heroin business is the most lucrative trade in the world. Royal Commissioner Mr Justice Woodward said recently: "To refer to heroin as being 'worth its weight in gold' is certainly to downgrade heroin and to upgrade gold."

An INSIGHT investigation into the drug trade in Australia has revealed that:

One Melbourne drug ring has been making up to \$30,000 a day selling heroin it has either imported direct from South-East Asia or bought from a Sydney network.

An "old school tie" set in the eastern suburbs is distributing drugs with impunity.

Much of the heroin entering Australia is being smuggled inside the bodies of couriers. They put the drug inside contraceptive sheaths, swallow them and walk through customs at capital city airports.

There is no 'Mr Big' in the drug trade. A number of large syndicates operate virtually independently.

Political jealousies are threatening the proposed national body to attack organised crime, the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence.

The distrust by Melbourne police of their Sydney colleagues has caused a breakdown of working relationships in the drug field.

The INSIGHT investigation also confirms what senior police have known for a long time...that the international drugs syndicate, run by Terrence John Clark and involving up to 100 people, has not been broken.

In fact, while Clark and others await trial in England over the murder of "Mr Asia", Martin Johnstone, a small group of fellow New Zealanders has taken over the syndicate.

At least three men made plans to keep the syndicate going at a series of meetings in the Sydney suburb of Mosman in January this year.

A report that Clark has been running the syndicate from his jail cell since his arrest in England in October last year was described last night by a reliable police source as "highly unlikely".

#### Royal Commission

And the head of the Victorian Crime Department, Assistant Commissioner Mr Rod Hall last night criticised a report in yesterday's HERALD quoting him about the syndicate.

"I was telephoned about an airy-fairy story from New Zealand and all I said was that it could well be true," Mr. Hall said. "A Royal Commission will be held into the syndicate and I don't want to pre-empt it."

INSIGHT's inquiries show that one of the self-appointed new heads of the Clark syndicate is a 29-year-old Brighton "investor" who worked in Melbourne for the syndicate until Clark was arrested--soon after Martin Johnstone's body was recovered from the water-filled quarry in Lancashire on 14 October last year. [as published] The "investor" divides his time between his luxurious, two-storey Brighton home and land he owns off the Queensland coast.

At least two other New Zealanders attended the Sydney meetings. One, a 26-year-old man, has since been arrested for possession of heroin. The other, a 30-year-old, is said to be the "heavy" of the group.

The Brighton man was released from jail in New Zealand in February 1978 after serving 14 months of a two-year sentence for selling heroin to an undercover policeman.

He arrived in Australia in April 1978. Within three months, heroin supplied by the Brighton man was being distributed and sold. One of the pedlars was a trafficker arrested recently in Thailand. [as published]

The value of the heroin distributed through this channel was about \$1 million.

#### "Mr. North"

A close associate of the Brighton man has been referred to in New Zealand papers as "Mr North", a large-scale heroin and marijuana trafficker. "Mr North" left New Zealand hurriedly in 1978. After arriving in Australia, he set up a large number of companies and established close links with the directors of an apparently legitimate American-based franchise firm.

State and Federal police who have investigated the Brighton man have been unable to gather enough evidence to charge him. The Brighton home of the new head of the Clark syndicate is said to be equipped with the latest in counter-surveillance gear.

There is no doubt it is needed. The Clark syndicate has been under close scrutiny since the bodies of couriers Douglas and Isobel Wilson were discovered in a shallow grave at Rye on 18 May last year.

In August, the Melbourne Coroner, Mr Kevin Mason, issued a warrant for Clark's arrest over the Wilson murders. His trial over Johnstone's murder is due to start in January.

The Clark syndicate is said to have imported \$96 million worth of heroin into Australia in one year.

#### Organized Crime Links

Melbourne THE AGE in English 19 Nov 80 pp 4-5

[Excerpts] Martin Johnstone set out to drive from Leyland, in Lancashire, to Scotland on the evening of 9 October last year. He had flown to London from Singapore two days earlier and was on his way to Glasgow to conclude a big drug deal.

Johnstone, a tall good-looking New Zealander, relaxed in the passenger seat of a brown Jaguar driven by a long-time accomplice in the drug trade. A third man, a Scot, sat in the back.

From Leyland, the three drove until they were north of Lancaster on the A6 road. The driver then asked Johnstone to take a turn at the wheel and pulled to the side of the road. As Johnstone opened the door to walk around and swap places, a .38 bullet hit him in the head from point blank range. He buckled to the road and a second shot was fired into his head.

Twelve people have been sent for trial in Lancaster on various charges, including murder, conspiracy to murder and drugs offences. One of those accused over Johnstone's murder is Alexander James Sinclair, formerly named Terrence Clark, the alleged leader of the drug ring. The trial is due to begin in January.

In August this year, the body of a man involved with another drug ring was found near Lilydale airfield. John Desmond Gordon, an addict pusher, died of shotgun blasts. Police had hoped to use Gordon as a witness in a trial.

These and several other drug-related killings are evidence that this sordid, violent trade is booming. Senior Australian police admit they are not equipped to fight it. Even the Clark syndicate has not been broken completely.

Clearly, some groups now operating in Melbourne are making small fortunes from the world's most lucrative trade. One operation which INSIGHT has learned of, has earned a Melbourne Italian family as much as \$30,000 a day from importing heroin, although their methods appear to be little more skillful than Clark's.

Two brothers, one in his early thirties, the other in his late twenties, have been buying heroin from Sydney and also importing their own supplies by courier from Malaysia. At one stage, they were distributing as many as 600 capsules of heroin a day in Melbourne, at \$50 a cap.

The brothers use addicts to push the drug, "paying" them one capsule for each four they sell on the streets. But frequently the family has been "ripped off" by pushers who have been allowed to pay for "caps" after they have sold them. The brothers, who carry guns, have often had to extract their money by using violence, or the threat of it.

One Melbourne ring is made up almost entirely of old boys of public schools, including Melbourne Grammar, Carey, Scotch College, Xavier and Geelong Grammar. There are about 20 in the group, most of them in their early thirties.

The group deals in marijuana, hashish and cocaine. They consider these drugs to be no more harmful than alcohol or cigarettes, but they refuse to deal in heroin "for moral reasons". The group is a loose arrangement between friends, most of whom operate individually or in pairs. Last year they made a total profit of about \$500,000, tax-free financial icing on their normal incomes.

Demand is well ahead of supply. A girlfriend of a member of the group told INSIGHT: "Lots of people like to have a joint next to each place setting at their dinner parties. Not every guest will smoke, but it's a sign of style. Snorting coke (cocaine) is the rage, but it's not always easy to get, and it's not cheap. [as published] A line (one snort) costs between \$8 and \$12, and a user may take five in an evening." A gram of cocaine provides up to 20 snorts.

Federal and State police admit that they have put little effort into investigating cocaine trafficking. "We know it's growing, but we have more than enough on our hands with heroin," said one drug squad officer.

Police believe the wholesale vegetable and fish markets at Footscray and the Victoria Market are distribution points for Australian-grown marijuana. Cocaine comes into the county in various ways, as do hashish. Sometimes it is imported inside furniture.

The group has many ways of distributing drugs. Two members put the drugs they sell into a second-hand car they have bought cheaply, not having transferred the registration papers. A buyer telephones and asks for a few "elbows" (pounds) of "heads" (good quality marijuana) and is told where the car is parked in some suburban street. It has to be someone who is known personally or who has been given a reference by someone else in the group.

The idea of the car is to never have drugs on their premises or at their homes. After a week or 10 days, the car is moved, washed and put in another suburban street.

The safety of the system is that it is a closed market because of the school backgrounds of the sellers and buyers. Some of the bigger boys of the drug trade have let it be known that they would like the group to distribute for them and to get into heroin, but the approaches have been rejected.

The old-school-tie set bears a remarkable resemblance to a Sydney group called the Windsor Castle set. It was made up of trendy, well-educated friends who drank at the Windsor Castle Hotel in Paddington in the early Seventies.

The Windsor Castle set cruised along gaily, and profitably, until the "heavies" decided they were on to a good thing. A bunch of serious, violent criminals known as the Double Bay Mob took them over.

The trendies left the business, the Double Bay Mob prospered, and still does. One of the organisations the mob oversaw and profited from was that run by Clark and Martin Johnstone. So far, none of the old-school-tie set has been "heavied" the way the Windsor Castle set was. But then, Melbourne is always a bit behind Sydney.

And Melbourne certainly has its own "heavies". These are the violent criminals who stand over people for money (often other criminals) and who dispense underworld justice. They are usually in the employ of someone with a criminal brain, if not brawn, who the media loves to label "Mr Big".

In August 1979, Inspector Peter Lamb of the Commonwealth police told the inquiry headed by Mr Justice Williams that the results of "Operation Gaslight", a special investigation into organised crime and drugs, indicated that "there does not appear to be a 'Mr Big' of crime in Australia." Mr Justice Williams replied that there are "plenty of Mr Big Enoughs".

Many of those who fit this bill are Sydney-based, but most of them have strong links to Melbourne crime.

INSIGHT has learned that one of the main crime groups in Melbourne has close connections with a Sydney SP bookmaker who has ties to several Mafia figures in America.

A key figure in the group is a Greek man called Peter who is deeply involved in illegal bookmaking. Illegal gambling and drugs frequently go hand in hand. SP bookmaking can provide the cash to finance a drug syndicate in its initial stages and later is a way of laundering some of the vast revenue from the narcotic trade.

The Melbourne SP Peter has dealings with Melbournes foremost heavy, a man named Charlie. Charlie controls standover men, has links with criminals who work on the waterfront and has his own illegal gambling interests.

Some of the figures who have been named under privilege as having links to organised crime are:

Leonard Arthur McPherson, 59: Described by Commonwealth police in documents submitted to the Moffit Royal Commission in 1974 as "a vicious, powerful criminal who is so well entrenched in organised crime activity in NSW that he is often referred to in the media and by his associates as 'Mr Big'". Arrested more than 70 times but convicted on only five serious counts since World War II. Has been acquitted murder charge. Denies involvement with drug trade.

Stanley John Smith, 44: Recently released from Pentridge after serving a sentence for possessing cannabis. Close associate of McPherson and described before NSW Parliament as a standover man.

David George Freeman, 45: Friend of McPherson and Smith. Describes himself as a gambler and betting commission agent. Thought to have strong associations with

Melbourne gambling. Has been named in NSW Parliament by Country Party Leader Leon Punch as an "organised crime figure".

Murray Stewart Riley, 47: Former NSW detective. Organised crime relies on "bent" policemen, but Riley has been an entrepreneur in his own right. Now in jail over attempt to bring \$46 million worth of cannabis into Australia by boat. Has US mafia links.

Robert Trimbole, 49: Griffith. Refused to give evidence at inquest on Douglas and Isobel Wilson on grounds that he might incriminate himself. Supreme Court confirmed this right to silence on 8 August. Coroner Mason said: "There is no doubt Trimbole was involved with Terrence Clark while the drug ring operated in Australia."

Kari Frederick Bonnette, 43: Melbourne-born and record here for firearm offences in the early fifties. Has connections here, in Queensland and overseas. Named in NSW Parliament in 1978 as a leading underworld member. A memo seized by police who raided Bonnette's home in 1978 referred to him as 'The Godfather'. On oath before the Woodward Royal Commission, Bonnette described this as a joke between another man and himself. He also said: "I have had nothing to do with drugs". Commission counsel Mr Bill Fisher QC said: "It is my submission that once you get away from street level the indications of drug trafficking are not drugs but money and associates." [as published]

Antonio Sergi, 45: Italian winegrower. Mr Justice Woodward said of him: "... together with Robert Trimbole, one of the senior members of an organisation which existed in Griffith for the purpose of producing and distributing marijuana". He said that Sergi's net assets in 1977 exceeded \$2 million "...the bulk of which came directly or indirectly from his involvement in the marijuana industry".

The big problem is that there is a vast difference between politicians naming such people and the police being able to charge them with any offence which will stand up in court.

It is this gap that has angered the few senior policemen who have read the report compiled by Victorian Liberals Ken Aldred (who lost his seat in the recent election) and Don Saltmarsh, a State Member of the Legislative Council.

They regard the Aldred/Saltmarsh report as long on allegation (going as high as a certain industrial knight), but short on hard, useable evidence. Messrs Aldred and Saltmarsh have refused to make their report public, but INSIGHT has learned that while many of the people they name are involved in organised crime, certain other important figures, such as the Melbourne heavy Charlie, mentioned earlier, are not included.

#### Street Drug Prices

Melbourne THE AGE in English 19 Nov 80 p 5

[Excerpt] Going prices for the main drugs in Melbourne are:

Heroin: Capsules, or "caps", \$50 each; gram, \$150, "bag" (half an ounce), up to \$3000.

Cocaine: Similar to heroin prices. A "line" (one snort) costs between \$8 and \$12. A gram of cocaine gives about 20 lines.

Marijuana: Heads of plants bring more than lower leaves and seeds. An ounce of "grass" brings about \$60, 1 lb brings between \$500 and \$700.

Hashish (concentrated from the plant) brings \$25 a gram, \$400 to \$500 an ounce and up to \$6000 a lb.

Buddha sticks: Ones from Thailand bring \$15 to \$20 each and the bulk price is about \$9000 for 1000 sticks. Australian-produced sticks are about half this price.

Hallucinogens: Main one is LSD or "acid". One "tab" costs \$5 to \$7, 100 tablets \$300 to \$500 and 1000 between \$1000 and \$2000.

Pills: Both "uppers" and "downers" are cheaper than other "trips". Abuse of legal drugs such as Tuinal and Mandrax is increasing rapidly.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

SOUTHWEST COAST VULNERABLE TO DRUG SMUGGLING

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 22 Nov 80 pp 1, 9

[Article by Andre Malan]

[Excerpts] The south and south-west coasts of WA have become the weak spot in Australia's defence against illegal drug imports.

Customs officers believe that drug traffickers may already be penetrating the coastline between Geraldton and Esperance. But they have no way of knowing, because the level of surveillance is so low.

Their fears are based on the belief that upgraded surveillance of the northern Australian coast has exposed the vulnerability of the South-West.

Withdrawal

This has coincided with the withdrawal of preventive customs staff from Bunbury, Albany and Esperance because of Federal Government staff ceilings.

The biggest worry is that the coastline, including metropolitan beaches, is wide open to sea drops of drugs from vessels lying off the coast.

According to the 1979 royal commission into drugs, sea drops offer an excellent opportunity to deliver big quantities of drugs close to major markets with limited risks of detection.

The commission's report said there was a consensus among Federal and State police that sea drops of drugs were taking place off the WA coast.

Yet the Bureau of Customs does not even have a dinghy with which to patrol the metropolitan and South-west coast. The nearest customs vessels--J-class launches, criticised in evidence before the commission as being unsuitable for the job--are based at Geraldton and rarely venture south.

Customs men were also worried about the number of small craft that clustered around foreign vessels tied up in Fremantle.

They said that the level of surveillance and searches at Perth Airport was adequate, but for the wrong reasons.

But the main area of concern was the coast between Port Hedland and Townsville, which was closest to South-East Asia and within range of light aircraft from Asian countries.

CSO: 5300



AUSTRALIA

WEALTHY SYDNEY RESIDENT LINKED TO DRUG RING

Melbourne THE AGE in English 20 Nov 80 p 5

[Excerpts] An attractive, slight 25-year-old former kindergarten teacher, identified only as Miss X, did not realise the significance at the time, but police grasped it and quickly changed their thinking on Australia's drug syndicates.

Until Miss X travelled from London to Melbourne in April this year to testify against her former boyfriend, Terrence John Clark, police believed that the marijuana rings in Australia worked independently of the heroin rings.

At the time she arrived, the country's two biggest known drug syndicates had been exposed but not broken. A 2-month investigation into the murders of New Zealanders Douglas and Isobel Wilson had uncovered a heroin syndicate run by Clark with links around the world. The New South Wales Royal Commission into drug trafficking had accused an organisation of widespread marijuana growing in the Griffith area of New South Wales.

On the surface, the only thing in common was that both syndicates were prepared to kill. Police said Clark's syndicate had murdered at least 10 people including the Wilsons, whose bodies were buried at Rye.

Mr Justice Woodward, who headed the NSW Royal Commission, said the Griffith Organisation was responsible for the disappearance and murder of anti-drug crusader Mr Donald Mackay in July 1977.

In April, Miss X gave evidence at the Coroner's Court inquest on the Wilsons: She identified from a picture a man she knew as Bob Jones or "Australian Bob". She had overheard a conversation between him and Clark in London in July last year.

She said she believed the man arranged for the Wilsons to be murdered. The significance of that simple statement in the Coroner's Court was that police said the picture was in fact Robert Trimbole, formerly of Griffith and now of Sydney-- the same man who Mr Justice Woodward accused in October last year of being involved in the Griffith marijuana syndicate.

Mr Justice Woodward said Trimbole was one of the top men in the marketing and distribution end of the operation. Trimbole was one of two men who were excused from giving evidence at the Wilson inquest on the ground that questions they may be asked may incriminate them. This followed an earlier ruling in the Supreme Court that Sydney law clerk Brian Alexander need not give evidence.

Police produced evidence at the inquest that Trimbole travelled to England three times in 1979. The Coroner, Mr Mason, said this corroborated Miss X's evidence.

Trimbole was declared bankrupt on 1 November 1968. His statements of affairs showed a deficiency of \$10,986. About 1969, Trimbole's business was burnt to the ground, destroying many of the business assets and any of the records then available. An investigation of the fire was carried out by Detective Sergeant John Ellis, who was stationed in Griffith.

Ellis and two other NSW policemen were charged in early August this year with conspiring to pervert the course of justice with each other and Antonio Sergi at Griffith and elsewhere between 1 February 1974 and 24 November 1978. The three will face the charge early next year.

In the following years Trimbole's business interests expanded greatly. He invested big amounts into real estate and other businesses. He was discharged from bankruptcy of 4 July 1975 after receipts had shown he had spent more than \$250,000 in the previous years. [as published]

He soon became a man of obvious wealth. There were six family cars and two speed boats in 1977. Trimbole claimed that he won \$1.5 million from betting over five years.

Mr Justice Woodward said of Trimbole, "...he has been guilty of a number of offences against the general criminal law, the taxation laws and the bankruptcy laws of this country. [as published] He has conspired with others to cultivate, produce and distribute marijuana in large quantities. He has made false taxation returns.

"He has, as an undischarged bankrupt, committed a number of offences which are proscribed by the Bankruptcy Act. [as published] He has failed to keep proper books of accounts and I am satisfied that in the answers to many of the questions that were put to him in the witness box he has deliberately lied in order to mislead this inquiry.

"The conspiracy to which I have referred arises out of his membership of some organised crime syndicate involved in the marijuana industry. From the investigations that have been made by officers of my commission, I assess that Trimbole has, between 1 July 1971 and 30 June 1978 acquired assets in excess of \$1.5 million in addition to what he has squandered in betting, living expenses, alleged loans and gifts." [as published]

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

HEROIN DEALER GETS 8 YEARS IN JAIL FOR POSSESSION

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 20 Nov 80 p 20

[Text]

A MAN charged with possession of heroin with a street value of up to \$274,000 was sentenced in the Criminal Court yesterday to eight years' jail.

Mr Justice D.M. Campbell said he was convinced John Robert Conway had been in the heroin trade not only to service his own habit but also to make easy money.

Conway, 27, bricklayer's laborer, pleaded guilty to two charges of having had heroin for sale.

He pleaded guilty also to a charge of having had about \$300 obtained from the sale of heroin; a charge of having had scales used to weight heroin; and a charge of having had syringes he had used to inject himself with heroin.

The Crown Prosecutor, Mr P.M. Drew, said two girls aged 13 and 11 saw a man burying a bottle in bushland at Belmont, Brisbane, on April 14 last year. They told their stepfather, who contacted police.

Police detained Conway when he drove into the area containing the cache about 2.30 p.m. next day.

The bottle contained 286.3 gm of white powder in 10 bags and 6.78 gm of white powder in 10 foil packages.

The powder contained 60.56 gm of pure heroin. If broken down to about 5 percent strength, the heroin would have yielded 2288 deals, which were then bringing \$120 each.

On this basis, the heroin had a maximum street value of \$274,000. Mr Drew said Conway first denied all knowledge of the cache, but later admitted that he had undertaken to deliver the heroin for \$100 a delivery.

Mr H.C. Fong (for Conway) said Conway's addiction had cost Conway \$30,000, his home, his marriage, and a business prospect in just 18 months.

Conway's role was solely to deliver heroin. The fee for each delivery was either \$100 or a small sachet of heroin for his own use.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIANS IN THAI JAILS ON DRUG CHARGES RELEASED

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 17 Nov 80 p 10

[Excerpt] Bangkok, Sunday.--Three Australians have been released from Thai jails along with eight other Westerners under a Royal clemency edict.

They are David Gluyas, 30, of Gosford, New South Wales, who served 2 1/2 years of a three-year sentence for possessing marihuana; Richard Raymond, 34, of Melbourne, who served two years three months of a 2 1/2-year sentence for possession of heroin; and John Dutton, 30, originally from England and now living in northern NSW, who served one year one month of an 18-month sentence for credit card fraud.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

TROOPS DEPLOYED TO DESTROY POPPY FIELDS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 5 Dec 80 p 5

[Text]

BANGKOK, Thurs. — Thousands of Burmese troops have been deployed to destroy poppy fields in the "Golden Triangle", which officials fear will produce a bumper yield of opium after a two-year drought. Burmese security officials visiting here said today soldiers last week began converging on poppy-growing areas on the rugged mountains in eastern Burma, east of the Salween river.

Their aim is also to beat back heavily-armed groups of traffickers who buy the crop from hill tribes and transport the opium in mule trains to financiers who process it into heroin at the Thai-Burma border.

The officials said it was still too early to assess the results of the operations but they were confident the opium available for traffickers would be drastically reduced.

Strikes

Thailand was informed of the operations and Gen. Pow Sarasin, chief of Thailand's Office of Narcotics Control Board, announced the Burmese action to an in-

ternational narcotics conference in the northern city of Chiang Mai.

Both countries began exchanging information four years ago, coordinating their action against the tribal rebel groups which traffic in opium and seek refuge in Thailand.

Burma regularly makes pre-emptive military strikes — usually with considerable troop casualties — at the opium fields before the harvesting in January and April every year.

American Drug Enforcement Agency officials estimate that 75,000 square miles of the Golden Triangle, formed by Burma, Laos and Thailand, normally produce between 450 and 500 tons of opium.

It competes with supplies from Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan for European and North American markets.

But poor harvests in the last two years reduced the opium yield to just over 200 tons.

International narcotics officials fear that the harvest next year may reach 600 tons because of good weather

and intensified cultivation by the hill tribes.

Burmese officials declined to speculate on the amount of opium poppy planted this year in Burma, the major source of the Golden Triangle's production.

They said the yield in the traditional and remote opium-growing Wa State on the border with China had not been estimated.

Wa State, now under the control of pro-Peking Burma Communist Party (BCP) rebels, has remained wild and unadministered throughout its history, including the 100-year British rule which ended in 1948.

The economics of the drug trade means that hill tribes who grow poppy make little profit.

Interpol Secretary-General Andre Brossard told the three-day meeting of narcotics officials in Chiang Mai last week that it was the financiers who made money in the drug traffic.

Financiers fund the heroin-processing factories along the Thai-Burma border where the product is smuggled to destinations in the West. — Reuter

CSO: 5300

BURMA

BRIEFS

OPIUM POPPY DESTROYED--Loikaw, 2 Dec--Members of the Operation Nga-ye-pan comprising Pekhon Township Party and Council functionaries, Tatmadawmen, policemen and the working people destroyed 165 acres of opium poppy in Yi-nwe and Khaung-ei villages in Pekhon Township between 25 November and 1 December. The Party and Council functionaries persuaded the farmers to cultivate rice and other crops in the place of opium poppy. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 14 Dec 80 p 1]

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

FRENCH OFFICIAL DENIES SAYING HONG KONG PRODUCES HEROIN

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 11 Dec 80 p 14

/Text/

A French anti-drug chief has denied a recent agency report quoting him as saying that Hongkong is a major producer of heroin reaching Europe.

The Controller of France's Central Office for the Repression of Illicit Narcotics Trafficking, Mr Francois Le Mouel, made the denial after Hongkong's Narcotics Bureau head, Chief Superintendent John Thorpe, sought clarification of the report yesterday.

In a cable to Hongkong later in the day, Mr Le Mouel said he was interviewed by Agence France-Presse about a recent international drug conference in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

"My only reference to Hongkong," he said, "was quoting your seizure of heroin base coming from Pakistan."

"At no time did I mention the role played by Hongkong in the manufacture of heroin from Southwest Asia which is exported to Europe."

"In fact I am in a perfect position to determine that this heroin (Southeast Asian heroin) no longer comes from your territory."

Mr Thorpe said he was pleased to receive the speedy clarification from Mr Le Mouel.

CSO: 5320

HONG KONG

ACUPUNCTURE SAID BETTER THAN METHADONE TREATMENT

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 Dec 80 p 18

[Text]

Both local and overseas surveys and experiments have proved that acupuncture has a higher rate of success than methadone in the treatment of drug addicts, a Chinese University lecturer claimed yesterday.

This is because acupuncture, coupled with electrical stimulation, is capable of suppressing withdrawal symptoms which cannot be done with the use of methadone — "a substitute drug" — said the lecturer, Mr Li Cheuk-yun, who has been studying the subject for the past few years.

It has been found, he said at the Lion's Club (Tai Ping Shan) lunch meeting, that drug addicts undergoing acupuncture did not experience the usual withdrawal pains, for instance, diarrhoea, abnormal posture and shivering — and this reduces the

consequences of the patients.

He said: "Since this is achieved without further morphine intake, the vicious circle is broken.

"The body will have the time and chance to adjust itself to the deprivation of drugs, the excessive receptors are done away with, the patient lost his craving for drugs and he was 'cured'."

And the method involved is not complicated, said Mr Li.

This consists of inserting sterile, stainless steel acupuncture needles into the middle of the concha of the ear, one in each ear, at the "lung point" in the traditional acupuncture chart.

The needles are connected to an electrical stimulator which delivers a pulse current with a frequency of 125 pulses per second.

"The electrical current is

an effective substitute of the more traditional twirling of the needles and the voltage applied is usually five to six volts, the optimal to be determined by the patient himself based on subjective feeling," he said.

The treatment will give patients a feeling of euphoria and relaxation and they will show no desire for drugs, said Mr Li.

He said: "The best time to give the treatment is when a patient is beginning to have mild signs of withdrawal.

"Usually 30 minutes is enough to suppress the patient's craving for drugs and withdrawal symptoms will not appear again for many hours.

A total treatment period of seven days will "restore the patient's body functions to their pre-addiction state" and can help the addict to "kick the habit."

CSO: 5320



HONG KONG

## RECORD HAUL OF HEROIN BASE FOUND ABOARD POLISH SHIP

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 17 Dec 80 p 1

[Text]

Customs officers have seized 21 kilograms of heroin base found on board a Polish freighter — the largest seizure in Hongkong.

If converted into heroin, the drug would fetch \$38 million on the local market, said the divisional commander of the Harbour Division of Customs and Excise Service, Superintendent Anthony Sanders.

The seizure was made after a 21-hour search of the Polish-registered freighter, Jastarnia Bór, which arrived on Sunday afternoon from Bangkok.

The assistant superintendent of the Customs Investigation Section, Mr K. L. Mak, said last night no arrest had been made and that the 50 officers and crew were still helping with inquiries.

Mr Mak said the Bangkok authorities had been informed of the seizure and their cooperation was being sought in the investigation.

Checks on Polish freighters in Hongkong were intensified after \$100 million worth of heroin was seized on board a Polish vessel in Gdynia, Poland.

According to intelligence gathered by Hongkong customs, the heroin seized in Poland was originally intended to be unloaded here but for unknown reasons, the drugs were taken to Poland.

Customs officers believe that the 27 parcels of drugs — 17 parcels of heroin base blocks and 10 parcels of her-

oin base powder — seized on Monday were taken on board in Bangkok and intended for Hongkong.

A customs officer said: "The drugs were wrapped in Thai newspaper and were concealed among 2,100 bags of fertiliser to be exported to Kobe, Japan.

"If the drugs were intended for Kobe, they would not have been concealed so near the surface among the fertiliser," the officer said.

The vessel left Bangkok for Hongkong on December 4 after loading fertiliser, tank logs and other goods.

As soon as the Polish freighter arrived here 15 officers led by Senior Inspector C.B. Chan searched it.

At 2.30 pm on Monday they found the drugs in a green canvas bag in the No 2 cargo hold.

The number of officers was then increased from 15 to 30, but no more drugs were found.

It was the second seizure of drugs from Polish vessels in Hongkong in the past 10 years.

In August 1971, about 40 kilograms of morphine worth \$2 million at the time were found in a freighter.

So far this year, a total of 36.83 kilograms of heroin base has been seized by police and the customs.

This compares with 18.66 kilograms for the whole of last year and 47.84 kilograms for the whole of 1978.

CS0: 5320

HONG KONG

## TWO THAIS, THREE LOCALS CHARGED WITH SMUGGLING HEROIN

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 16 Dec 80 p 28

[Text]

Two Thai nationals and three Hongkong men went on trial in the High Court yesterday, charged with conspiracy to traffic in dangerous drugs.

Mr Commissioner Hooper and a jury heard of a massive haul of drugs found in a suitcase in a Hongkong hotel after two of the defendants had been followed from the airport by customs officers.

The Thais, Deera Dugkoonvottibas (36) and Vichien Suwanalitret (37), and the local men, Ying Chai-on (19), Lam Che-keung (32) and Yip Kam-wing (31), pleaded not guilty to conspiracy to traffic in drugs during March and April.

Over 1,000 grams of heroin are involved in the charge.

Another Thai, Lert Hewphong (35), pleaded guilty to the charge at the outset of the trial and will be sentenced later.

Senior Crown counsel Kim Longley in his opening outlined a chain of circumstantial evidence against the accused.

He said that on April 17 Hewphong arrived at Kai Tak airport and was met by Dugkoonvottibas.

Later Suwanalitret arrived.

Hewphong then travelled on his own in a taxi to the Imperial Hotel while the other two men went to the same destination in another taxi.

Unknown to the three men they were being "tailed" by officers of the Customs and Excise service.

The three met in the lobby of the hotel and then went in a lift to room 1810.

Shortly afterwards Ying and Lam entered the hotel and went up to the 18th floor.

Dugkoonvottibas had checked into room 1804, but was seen shortly afterwards going into room 1810.

He was carrying a brown brief case.

About 10 minutes later he came out of room 1810 carrying the briefcase and also a red suitcase, and accompanied by Ying.

The room boy took the red suitcase and went down in the lift with the two men.

On the ground floor they walked to the reception desk where Dugkoonvottibas said he was going to check out.

The two men were intercepted by an inspector of customs and taken up to room 203 where their luggage was opened and they were searched.

A brown bag containing seven packets of a mixture which was later found to contain a large amount of heroin was found inside the suitcase.

The packets were found inside the false bottom of the brown bag.

Inside the lining of the red suitcase were found three more packets of the mixture.

Counsel said that customs officers also went to the staff canteen of Kowloon Hospital where Ying, Lam and Yip worked.

They interviewed the three and found two suitcases — one red and one blue — in a small storeroom adjacent to the canteen.

Customs officers found signs that the blue suitcase had been adapted to have false compartments.

No traces of drugs were found in the suitcases but with them was a brown bag identical to the one found in the Imperial Hotel. Traces of heroin were found in this bag.

The trial continues today.

Mr Finny Chan appears for the defence.

CSO: 5320

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

DRUG COURIER JAILED--Instead of a reward of \$6,000 for delivering \$1.2 million worth of dangerous drugs, an unemployed man yesterday received a term of seven years' imprisonment. Chan Sai-tat (43) pleaded guilty before Mr Justice Baber in the High Court to possessing 2,733.72 grams of a mixture of salts of esters of morphine for unlawful trafficking. He told police on his arrest that a man had promised to pay him \$6,000 to deliver the drugs to another man. [Excerpt] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 4 Dec 80 p 22]

HEROIN SMUGGLER--A 52-year-old man will appear in San Po Kong Court today charged with possessing dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking. On Saturday at 11 pm, Customs officers at Kai Tak searched the man, who was a passenger from Bangkok, because he behaved suspiciously. Subsequently, he was sent to United Christian Hospital, where doctors found a packet in his anal cavity. The packet contained 220 grams of heroin base. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 8 Dec 80 p 1]

MORPHINE POSSESSION--A transport worker was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment yesterday for possessing \$400,000 worth of dangerous drugs at his Causeway Bay home. Lee Kam-fai (25) was found guilty by a High Court jury of a charge of having 906.96 grams of a mixture of salts of esters of morphine for the purpose of unlawful trafficking. The jury also found Ng Choi-hing (29), Lee's woman companion, guilty of the charge. But Mr Justice Addison deferred sentencing her until December 29 pending reports from the probation officer and the Social Welfare Department. The pair, who lived in a flat in Nan Fong Road, Causeway Bay, were arrested on June 23 during a police raid. [Excerpt] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 13 Dec 80 p 12]

DRUG RUNNER SENTENCED--A 24-year-old barber told Victoria District Court yesterday that a customer gave him a packet containing drugs and asked him to deliver it to an address in Happy Valley. Ng Shek-sum, however, pleaded guilty to possessing dangerous drugs for trafficking and was sentenced to four years' imprisonment. When arrested Ng was carrying a mixture totalling 70.55 grams and containing 18.6 grams of heroin. [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 17 Dec 80 p 28]

CS0: 5320

MALAYSIA

ANTINARCOTICS COOPERATION WITH WEST GERMANY

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 5 Dec 80 p 16

[Text]

**KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. —** An agreement on the prevention, investigation and prosecution of illicit trafficking or dealing in narcotic drugs and psycho-tropic substances was signed today between the Royal Customs and Excise Department and the Customs Administration of the Federal Republic of West Germany.

The agreement was signed by the Director-General of the Customs Department, Datuk Abdul Rahim Tak, and the Ministerial Director of the West German Finance Ministry, Mr Hans Hutter.

Under the agreement, both Customs administrations would exchange information on nationals or residents of the other country observed or suspected of being involved in the offence.

This also includes vehicles registered in the other country used or suspected to have been used to commit the offence.

Information would also be exchanged on smuggling methods used in the illicit trafficking or dealing in drugs and on the success of new control methods.

Datuk Abdul Rahim said the agreement was suggested at one of the conferences organised by the Customs Co-operation Council of which Malaysia and West Germany are members.

Datuk Abdul Rahim said the agreement was historical to both Governments.

"With this agreement both sides will work closely to fight the common enemy, 'dadah', which is taboo to all human beings," he said.

The Government of the Federal Republic of West Germany is also donating 10 specially selected dogs to the Royal Customs and Excise Department, thus enabling the Narcotic Unit to be expanded to 50 dogs.

Datuk Rahim said the Department is taking all possible steps to seal the flow of 'dadah' into or through the country. With the aid of the German Customs Administration the Department will open Narcotic Branches in other parts of the country.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

DRUG DOGS--Director General of Customs Datuk Abdul Rahim has announced that four Customs officers will leave for Australia Saturday for a 3-month dog handling course. They will each return with a dog. The Customs now has 12 drug detector dogs and hopes to acquire 30 more by the end of next year. Rahim also said that as of August this year his department had seized 12,000 grams of heroin, 9,000 grams of morphine and 86,000 grams of opium. He noted that the drug situation was relatively static although there had been a marked decrease in the supply of drugs from the north. He ascribed this to the unstable political situation in the Golden Triangle. [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Nov 80 p 7]

DRUG OVERDOSE--A 33-year-old man has died in Sarawak General Hospital in Kuching from an overdose of drugs. This is the fifth death of this type in 2 years. A syringe was found near the man and there were fresh injection marks on both arms. [Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 29 Nov 80 p 1]

HEROIN SENTENCE--Lim Thian Chai, 25, of Lorong 9, Krokop, Miri has been sentenced to 4 years in jail and 6 strokes of the rotan for heroin possession. Police found 14.306 grams of a brownish substance, later analyzed as heroin, in straws and packets at various locations in his home in Miri in December 1979. Lim received a 3-month sentence for drug possession in Kuala Belait, Brunei in July 1975. Under the law, a person convicted of possession of from 5 to 100 grams of heroin or morphine can be sentenced to from 3 to 14 years and not less than 6 strokes of the rotan. Possession of more than 100 grams can result in execution or a life sentence, plus the whipping penalty. [Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 29 Nov 80 p 3]

SABAH DOG UNIT--Two members of Sabah Customs left for Australia last week to attend a 3-month dog handling course. They will form Sabah's first drug dog unit on their return. Two officers from Sarawak recently returned with their dogs to form the first drug dog unit in Kuching. In a related development, Kuching Police Superintendent Vincent Khoo said there were about 800 known drug addicts in Kuching, 10 percent of them women. He said this was the figure on the police files and that the unofficial figure could be much higher. As of 31 August this year Kuching police have detained 72 addicts and sent them to the rehabilitation center. [Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 29 Nov 80 p 3]

CANNABIS BURNED--Some S\$ 8 million worth of cannabis was burned at the Ulu Pandan incinerator in Singapore today and the remaining 1.35 tons will be burned tomorrow. The cannabis, 2.7 tons, was seized from a container in October. [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 2 Dec 80 p 8]

SENTENCE INCREASED--The High Court in Kuala Lumpur has increased the sentence of a man found guilty of heroin possession on 21 July. The original sentence was a fine of \$M 500 and 3-months jail, the new sentence a fine of M\$ 500 and 12-months jail. The prosecutor had appealed the sentence of the lower court because the man, See Tong Seng, 46, had six prior convictions, the last on 17 June 1979 for a similar offense. [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 2 Dec 80 p 21]

HEROIN POSSESSION--A 25-year-old housewife who admitted having four tubes of heroin hidden by a sanitary napkin she was wearing was today given a sentence of 7 months in jail or a fine of M\$ 2,000. Aloyah binti Abdul Hamid plead guilty to having 2.03 grams of the drug on 13 November. A police constable in Kuala Lumpur told the court that he saw her acting in a suspicious manner and took her to the station house where she was searched. [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 3 Dec 80 p 12]

MORPHINE TRIAL--Ahmad bin Noor, 28, a butcher in Perlis, is on trial before the High Court in Alor Star on a charge of trafficking in 1,325 grams of morphine. Another suspect in the case, Ah Kiang, cannot be found by the police. The offense took place on 21 August 1978 in Alor Star. [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 3 Dec 80 p 14]

DRUG SENTENCES--Goh Kim Keat, 58, has been fined MS 2,000 or 200 days in jail for possession of 0.16 grams of morphine on 29 November 1977. Zambri bin Mohamed Jan, 25, has been sentenced to one year in jail for possession of 0.09 grams of heroin on 13 November 1980. Both offenses occurred in Kuala Lumpur. [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 4 Dec 80 p 8]

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

POLICE AIDED AUSTRALIANS IN ARREST OF MAJOR DRUG FIGURE

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 15 Dec 80 p 1

[Report by police reporter Bruce Watson]

[Text] New Zealand police played a major role in the capture of this country's most wanted criminal in Sydney on Friday night.

Auckland Peter Fulcher, alias "Mr Suburban," was arrested by Australian police in the western Sydney suburb of Ermington after a car chase.

Heroin with a street value of \$1,800,000 was seized as Fulcher, 40, and three other New Zealanders were arrested in what was Australia's biggest drug bust.

New Zealand police knew their Australian counterparts were to move in on Fulcher, and had co-operated in a six-month operation to catch him.

"It was a joint operation between Australian and New Zealand police," according to the New Zealand deputy director of drug enforcement and intelligence (Inspector Gerry Cunneen).

"It was an operation that went very smoothly and, as far as we are concerned, has reached a very satisfactory conclusion," Mr Cunneen said.

"Fulcher is a man who has been actively sought by the New Zealand police for some time, but particularly since the beginning of this year," he said.

It is believed he was one of three kingpins in the multi-million dollar drug-smuggling ring.

It is alleged that the organisation was run by Terrence John Clarke ("Mr Big"), the late Christopher Martin Johnstone ("Mr Asia") and Fulcher.

Fulcher was dubbed "Mr Suburban" because it is alleged he ran the New Zealand end of the international syndicate.

"There are a number of matters the New Zealand police wish to talk to Mr Fulcher about," Mr Cunneen said.

But he added that New Zealand police moves would not be made until the outcome of Fulcher's Court case was known.

He appeared in Sydney's

Central Court on Saturday charged with conspiracy to import heroin into Australia.

New Zealanders Glen Richards, 44, Florence Knox, 38, and Erick O'Connor, 39, also appeared, and the four were refused bail. They will appear again on Wednesday on charges of conspiring to import narcotics.

Mr Cunneen said there were no plans to fly New Zealand police across the Tasman to speak to Fulcher, at least until the outcome of the Court case.

Mr Cunneen said the capture culminated an operation lasting six months.

"The New South Wales crime intelligence unit was reliant on us filling in some of the gaps as to the movements of certain New Zealand people," he said.

New Zealand police knew, he said, that Fulcher had flown to Sydney after an attempted-armed robbery of an Auckland bank in February in which he was allegedly involved.

"It has been said that Fulcher disappeared from this country after the Auckland attempted robbery," Mr Cunneen said. "But the New Zealand police were aware of Fulcher's whereabouts."

"We knew he was in Sydney, but because of the operation which was mounted no direct moves were made by us to interfere with his activities in Sydney."

Instead, New Zealand police helped mount in the middle of this year a properly organised plan to get him.

### Target

"The target was Fulcher," Mr Cunneen said.

The New Zealand side of the operation was to monitor the movements of Fulcher's colleagues across the Tasman and feed that information to New South Wales police.

Mr Cunneen said he believed the four arrests were part of a new drug syndicate operating from Australia.

CSO: 5320

PAKISTAN

CHARAS INTENDED FOR OVERSEAS MARKET SEIZED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 30 Dec 80 p 4

[Excerpt] The Pakistan Coast Guards and the Excise police have seized seven maunds of charas worth Rs. seven crore in two different raids at the Bara market on Super Highway.

They also arrested two persons in this connection. Those arrested include Gul Hasan and Lal Din Khan.

The haul was made on a tip that a big quantity of charas was being kept at Bara market for smuggling abroad. The police raided the house of one Gul Hasan and recovered three maunds of charas from his house.

The area was later cordoned off and the Excise police searched for more charas in the locality.

The smugglers had also concealed the charas in a cellar where four maunds of more charas were recovered. The police arrested one Lal Din Khan from whose house the charas was seized.

The authorities said that the charas was meant for smuggling abroad and the accused persons have connections with international drug traffickers.

CSO: 5300



PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

OPIMUM SEIZED AT AIRPORT--Contraband opium weighing 203 kilograms was seized from a PIA Suzuki cargo pickup at the tarmac minutes before it could be loaded on a Dubai-bound flight on Saturday. No arrest has been made, as the four men, carrying the contraband, disappeared after dodging past the armed Security Guards. The raw opium was kept in two wooden boxes which had no address or any other marking except a red ink strip. The case has now been handed over to the Customs. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 5 Jan 81 p 8]

CSO: 5300

PHILIPPINES

## MARIJUANA FARMING MAJOR INDUSTRY IN BENGUET PROVINCE

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 18 Dec 80 p 19

[Text] IGOROT farmers in the upland province of Benguet used to be known as the country's No. 1 vegetable producers.

They still are. But today, they are also known as the country's major marijuana producers. Like the hilltribes in South-East Asia's "Golden Triangle," the Igorots are fast learning the cash value of the "peace" weed.

Popularised in the Philippines by the "Flower Children" of the 1960s, marijuana farming now probably rivals mining and vegetable-raising as Benguet's major industry.

And this is so despite the recent imposition of harsher penalties on cultivators, drug pushers and users.

Aside from marijuana, authorities are also alarmed over the country's emergence as a major transshipment point of international drug syndicates.

The Philippine Constabulary (PC) chief, Maj. Gen. Fidel Ramos, reported in early November that Manila has become a transit area in the illicit drug traffic to points in Asia, Australia, Europe and the US.

Foreign-based criminal syndicates are using Manila as a transshipment point for such exotic drugs as hashish, Buddha grass, heroin and other opium derivatives, he said.

In late October, three Hong Kong Chinese were arrested for smuggling US\$500,000 worth of heroin from Bangkok. The suspects, believed to be members of a big drug

smuggling syndicate, are now under military custody.

A government prosecutor said he would seek the death penalty on the suspects who have been charged with violations of the country's anti-narcotics law before the courts.

General Ramos also reported that marijuana farms are found in almost half of the country's 73 provinces.

And grudgingly, military authorities are beginning to admit that Benguet, about 250 kilometres north of Manila, has become the country's major marijuana producer.

"Region 1 (which embraces Northern Luzon) as a whole, and Benguet, in particular, have the biggest number of arrests in connection with marijuana farming and use," said Brig. Gen. Santiago Barangan, PC regional commander.

In the first week of November, government agents raided three big plantations and uprooted about 20,000 marijuana plants in Benguet. Their total value was estimated at 22 million pesos (US\$3 million).

As of last July, 140 marijuana-related cases have been awaiting action in the Benguet provincial fiscal's office and

the Benguet Court of First Instance. This doesn't include cases docketed in different courts in nearby Baguio City.

But what apparently alarms authorities most is the discovery that marijuana plantations have expanded to isolated areas at the foot of the Cordillera mountain ranges from the provinces of Pangasinan in Central Luzon to Ilocos Norte in the north.

Whatever escape the eyes of law enforcers find their way to ready markets in Baguio, Metro Manila and the American military bases in Olongapo, Zambales and Angeles City, Pampanga.

How come that traditionally law-abiding Igorot farmers have resorted to planting marijuana?

For one thing, claims of ignorance of the law by many of those arrested no longer hold water. The seemingly most valid reason has been given by a vegetable farmer. It all boils down to a question of economics.

He said: "You plant potato or cabbage, spend 50 centavos (US\$0.05) for every kilo you produce and wait for four months to harvest your crops. The middleman buys your produce at 60 centavos (US\$0.06) per kilo

which he then resells mainly to the lowland at three or four times its farm price.

"But marijuana farming is different. Without pesticides or fertilisers, you can harvest your crop also within four months, dry the leaves and then sell them at 1,000 pesos (US\$137) per kilo in hard cash without any question asked."

As it is, middlemen now have an almost total grip on Benguet's vegetable industry.

But there are other strong reasons why marijuana farming continues to thrive in the mountain provinces despite an unrelenting government campaign.

There include remoteness of places where marijuana is grown plus the ruggedness of the terrain.

For instance, the main highway cutting through Benguet, aptly called "Mountain Trail" by the Igorots, has been in a state of utter disrepair for years. This makes surveillance almost impossible.

Provincial and municipal roads are worse off, except those leading to two mining camps. The town of Bakun, for example, could only be reached by hiking a 16-kilometre foot trail. — Depthnews Special

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

OPIUM SEIZED FROM SHIP--Authorities seized a Panama-registered cargo ship in Cebu Wednesday after customs agents found a still undetermined amount of raw opium allegedly concealed in ping-pong balls aboard the vessels, customs officials said. A customs spokesman said the ship's captain, identified as Julius Fulu, and the rest of the 11-man crew, whose nationalities were not immediately known, were ordered to confine themselves aboard the ship pending further investigation. [Text] [Manila DAILY EXPRESS in English 18 Dec 80 p 7]

CSO: 5300

TAIWAN

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZURE--Hongkong, Dec. 25 (AP)--Customs officers have seized heroin worth about 10 million Hongkong dollars (about two million U.S. dollars) on board the Panamanian-registered freighter Singapore Island, a government spokesman reported Friday. The spokesman said the 11 pounds of drugs were found hidden in a hold of the 5,605-ton vessel on Thursday, shortly after it arrived here from the Taiwanese port of Kaohsiung. The freighter left Hongkong early Friday to continue its journey to Singapore but three crew members have been detained by police for investigation. [Text] [Taipei CHINA POST in English 27 Dec 80 p 6]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

## THAILAND STILL NARCOTICS TRADING CENTER OF THE WORLD

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 9 Dec 80 p 6

[Text] THAILAND has more heroin addicts than the rest of its partners in Asean combined, according to the Thai Narcotics Control Board.

A confidential document obtained by *Agence France-Presse* said Thailand had 500,000 addicts, compared with 300,000 in Malaysia, 15,000 in the Philippines, 13,000 in Singapore and 10,000 in Indonesia.

The document with statistics compiled last May, was presented to top narcotics officials from Europe and Asia who met in the northern Thai city of Cheang Mai last week.

It said most of the Asean addicts were under 30 years of age, but the pattern of drug abuse varied widely in the grouping. Hong Kong, by contrast, is estimated to have about 35,000 addicts.

American officials estimate that the US has 500,000-600,000 addicts, roughly the same number as Thailand, in a population five times as large.

The most consumed drug in Thailand was top-grade No. 4 heroin, while in Malaysia and Singapore it was No. 3 "brown sugar," less pure and less expensive.

In Indonesia, the top seller is marijuana followed by opium, morphine and heroin. Marijuana was also reported to be the main drug in the Philippines, where demand is also strong for valium and co-

caline.

While international drug syndicates reap an estimated US\$40 billion a year from heroin sales in the United States alone, the hill tribe farmers are paid relatively little for their crop, about US\$1,000 a kilogram.

Ten kilos of opium yield one kilo of morphine base, an intermediary product often preferred for smuggling because it is more compact than pungent, powdery heroin, sometimes called "slow death."

The heroin, converted into a 34 per cent pure product from an equivalent amount of morphine base, sells for about US\$18,000 a kilo in Bangkok and US\$200,000 wholesale in New York.

The same stash, cut with assorted powders from quinine to strychnine until it is less than four per cent pure, brings an estimated US\$2.4 million on the streets of New York, according to the US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

The annual crop cycle begins in late summer or early fall after farmers prepare the ground by slashing down vegetation, burning it and using the ashes for fertilizer.

By January, brightly coloured flowers have blossomed and dropped away exposing an egg-shaped bulb containing the resinous white opium sap, which has a bitter taste.

Using a sharp flat knife, the farmers cut a series of shallow slits longitudinally across the surface of the bulb.

The next morning the sap, by now brown with oxidation, is scraped into banana leaf bundles, tied and gathered for the trip to the processing plant.

Heroin manufacturing is a relatively complex six-stage process which requires the knowledge of a master chemist.

The first step, converting the opium to morphine, is the easiest. It begins with water heated in an oil drum over a wood fire.

When the temperature is right, raw opium is dumped into the drum and stirred until it dissolves. Adding lime fertilizer, the chemist then precipitates out organic wastes leaving the morphine suspended near the surface.

The water is then filtered through flannel cloth and reheated with concentrated ammonia, which causes the morphine to solidify and drop to the bottom, according to a detailed description in the *Politics of Heroin in South-East Asia* by Alfred McCoy.

To turn the morphine into heroin, two special chemicals are required — acetic anhydride and acetyl chloride. Thailand has banned them in the border area as part of its anti-narcotics strategy.

The Deputy Chief of Thailand's Narcotics Board, General Chavalit Yodmani, told last week's conference in Cheang Mai that substantial progress had been made in cutting down the number of clandestine refineries.

Gen Chavalit said Burmese military sweeps and the drought-related cuts in opium output had reduced the number of jungle labs from 25 in 1978 to 13 in 1980.

But he conceded that Thailand remained the narcotics trading centre of the world and that suppression operations were hindered by shortages of "manpower, transport, equipment and funds."

The problem is complicated by the fast-changing trafficking routes which fan out by land, sea and air to reach Europe and North America as well as South-East Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

Even as surveillance increases in the "Golden Triangle," the traditional "French Connection" heroin pipeline to the West has been re-establishing itself with opium from Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan — source of the bulk of production, narcotics officials told the Chiang Mai meeting.

— AFP

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

POPULARITY OF AMPHETAMINES WORRIES DOCTORS

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 25 Nov 80 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Doctors Are Worried By the Spread of Amphetamines"]

[Text] Doctors are becoming worried by the spread of amphetamines. They say that the police have not taken serious action to suppress this type of drug and this has resulted in children as young as 3 years old becoming addicted to this drug.

Dr Hathai Chittanon, the director of the Somdet Chao Phraya Hospital, has disclosed that, at present, amphetamines, which are also called "horse medicine" or "uppers," are becoming very popular among laborers and other workers. And from surveys, it has been learned that truck drivers, tour bus drivers, miners, farmers and workers in various factories in all the provinces have to use this type of drug regularly. Recently, it turned out that large numbers of workers in Samut Songkhram and Pathum Thani went to the Somdet Chao Phraya Hospital for treatment.

"There are even children as young as 3 years old who are addicted to this type of drug," stated the director of the Somdet Chao Phraya Hospital.

Dr Hathai stated that amphetamines are a nerve stimulant and they keep people from falling asleep. The great danger is that use of amphetamines may lead to severe nervousness, nerve degeneration, loss of memory and loss of efficiency at work. Amphetamines act as a poison on the nervous system. They may cause the blood vessels to burst and may even cause death. And once a person becomes addicted to this type of drug, the person must continually keep increasing the dosage taken.

Dr Hathai also stated that this type of drug is a restricted drug but officials cannot control it and, therefore, it is secretly sold in various places -- even at service stations. Some employers have made large purchases in order to give them to their employees to take regularly so that they can do much work. But in the end, these workers lose their efficiency at work and become like people with few capabilities.

11943

CSO: 5300

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THAILAND

OPIUM SEIZED IN KAMPHAENGPHEI

Bangkok TAWAN SIAM in Thai 18 Nov 80 pp 1, 16

[Article: "Woman With Seven Pellets of Raw Opium Hidden In Her Vagina Has Been Arrested"]

[Text] Police have arrested an old man with opium in his possession. He said that he had purchased it from a woman. The police went to the home of the woman and asked to search the house but they did not find anything. Because of her suspicious looks, the police had a policewoman search her. Seven tiny bags were found in her vagina. She was, therefore, placed under arrest for further handling of the case.

From an investigation by Police Staff Sergeant Wattana Phanhong, the head of the detective squad at the Kamphaengphet District police station, it was learned that a house with no address in Bo Sam Saen village in Nongping Commune, Muang District, Kamphaengphet Province, was a narcotics distribution point. Thus, at 1230 hours on 14 November, Police Staff Sergeant Wattana Phanhong reported this to Police Lt. Colonel Bamrung Keotdi, the chief inspector and to Police Captain Phairot Anmi, an inspector. They went to this house and met Mr Klieng Songpradit, age 68, who lives at 255 Village 7, Wangkhaem Commune, Khlong Khlung District, Kamphaengphet Province, coming out of the house. The police officials asked to search him and found a small quantity of cooked opium in his pocket. He confessed that he had purchased it at the home of Mrs Khit Phikunthong, age 30. When the police went to search the home of Mrs Khit, they did not find any illegal goods. They arrested Mr Klieng and Mrs Khit and turned them over to Police Captain Chalo Sirikun, the officer on duty at the Muang District, Kamphaengphet Province, police station for investigation. While Police Captain Chalo was conducting the investigation, he noticed that Mrs Khit had a suspicious look and so he ordered Police Sergeant Namfon Phetcharat (a policewoman) to search the body of Mrs Khit. Seven tiny bags of opium were found hidden in her vagina. She was thus held for further handling of the case.

11943

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

HEROIN TRAFFICKER ARRESTED IN HAT YAI

Bangkok TAWAN SIAM in Thai 10 Nov 80 pp 1, 16

[Article: "Police Seize [Heroin] In the Middle of the City"]

[Text] Heroin valued at 16 million baht was seized in the middle of Hat Yai City just before it was to be sent to a Malaysian trafficker. Police arrested the man and seized four bags of heroin. The suspect confessed to the charges.

At 1510 hours on 9 November, Police Captain Samnieng Sangkhachan, the head of the Narcotics Suppression Unit, together with Police Sub-Lieutenant Thirasak Kanin, Police Sub-Lieutenant Somphong Sinthicharoen and policemen from the Narcotics Suppression Unit, who had learned that heroin was to be sent from the Hat Yai trade center in Thailand to a Malaysian, went and waited in the area mentioned above, that is, at the Hat Yai trade center square on Kanchanawarit Road in Hat Yai District, Songkhla Province. At that moment, Mr Charoen Prasithicharoen, age 50, who lives at 8 Soi Rin Thon 2, behind the Hat Yai President Hotel, arrived carrying four brown paper bags of pure No 4 heroin each weighing 350 grams for a total of 1400 grams. He was bringing them in order to ship them to a Malaysian dealer. The heroin was valued at approximately 400,000 baht here or 16 million baht abroad.

The police arrested Mr Charoen and confiscated the heroin as evidence. Mr Charoen confessed that the heroin belonged to him.

11943  
CSO: 5300



THAILAND

BRIEFS

FOREIGNERS SENTENCED--Two Dutch nationals of Indonesian origin were sentenced by the Bangkok Criminal Court yesterday to 25 and 33 years and four months in jail terms after being found guilty of heroin charges. The couple, identified as Siaila Sritz Victor, 38, and Christian Kainama, 28, were arrested at Don Muang Airport on Dec 30, 1978 with 80.78 grammes of heroin. Victor who firstly pleaded guilty was handed down with 25 years imprisonment while Kainama, pleading guilty later, was given 33 years and four months. [Text] [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 20 Nov 80 p 3]

YASOTHON NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION--Yasothon: Yasothon Province has submitted its 1981 narcotics suppression plan. It includes four programs and calls for a budget of 205,000 baht in order to expand the narcotics suppression activities in the districts, communes and villages of the province. The plan to be implemented includes a training program to train village headmen about narcotics suppression. There are three projects in all the communes of Kutchum, Khowang and Muang districts and there is a narcotics training program for the people in Loeng Noktha District. [Text] [Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 8 Nov 80 p 6] 11943

CSO: 5300

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

DRUG RING BROKEN--Salta--Seven kilos of pure cocaine found in possession of four drug traffickers on the frontier with Bolivia, were on their way to Geneva, Switzerland, according to police sources. The head of the gang was reported to be Juan Ibarra, 39, who has his home in Holland, although he originally came from Santa Fe. Ibarra is alleged to have purchased the cocaine from a clandestine laboratory in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, and paid a large sum of money to four women to carry the cocaine across the border to Argentina. Ibarra, who was with the women, was also arrested at the time. [PY112001 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 10 Jan 81 p 9 PY]

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

DRUG CONTROL ACTIVITIES—Sucre, 6 Jan (PRESENCIA)—The Office for Control of Dangerous Drugs has carried out intense activities with the purpose of suppressing drug addiction and drug trafficking. It has solved four important cases involving cocaine and one involving marihuana. Col Efrain Imana Savatier, who heads the office, made a short report on its activities. He said that four cases of cocaine trafficking and processing were discovered. Thirteen persons were detained and put at the disposal of the court, while five escaped. Among the most notorious cases was the discovery of the distribution of marihuana and the inducement of minors to consume that and other drugs, known as the Maldonado (alias El Cuate) case, in which the leader of the gang was detained and in which 18 minors are involved. Maldonado tried to escape twice but he was recaptured and sent to a tight-security prison. Other cases of cocaine processing were discovered near Yotala and other areas of the city. It is reported that the drug traffickers looked for places under less control after being persecuted in Santa Cruz and chose some areas of Chiquisaca as a base for their operations. [Excerpt] [PY112021 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 7 Jan 81 p 2]

CSO: 5300

PANAMA

BRIEFS

MAJOR DRUG ARREST--Four Panamanians, three men and one woman, were arrested for possession of 8 kilos of cocaine, worth \$4 million, as they arrived at Tocumen from Brazil. The drug traffickers, believed to be members of a well-organized gang, were identified as Benigno Jesus Herrera Guevara, a student; Jaime Johnson Aguero, a salesman; Melida Jimenez Perez, a manicurist; Rene Eloy Alvarado Pacheco, an accountant, and Jesus Antonio Gonzalez Montoto, a football player. [names as heard] The traffickers were carrying the drug in bags attached to their legs, with each person carrying two 1-kilo bags. [PA281545 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 26 Dec 80]

CSO: 5300

BAHRAIN

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS SEIZED--Police and customs officials seized BD 10,000 worth of narcotics during a drugs raid on Bahrain Airport. A suitcase packed with heroin powder, morphine, marijuana, opium and mandrex was discovered after the arrival of a flight from Bombay. The drugs were concealed under a false bottom of a suitcase. Narcotics men were waiting at the airport when the aircraft arrived. A man is helping police with their inquiries. [Text] [GF020853 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 31 Dec 80-2 Jan 81 p 3]

CSO: 5300

IRAN

NEW LAW IMPOSES SEVERE PENALTIES ON DRUG OFFENDERS

Tehran JAVANAN-E EMRUZ in Persian 1 Dec 80 pp 22-23, 43

[Article: "Understanding of This Law Is Necessary for all People: Importers, Manufacturers, and Sellers of Narcotics Will Be Executed Immediately."]

[Text] Last week we discussed a law that concerned the subject of narcotics, smugglers, and addicts. This law, entitled "An Act Stepping Up Penalties for Drug Offenders and Providing Measures for Security and Treatment with the Objective of Curing and Employing Addicts," was enacted and put into effect. An understanding of it is essential for all Iranian people and foreigners living in Iran, because we are resolved to destroy the ghouls of addiction in society, and we will either reform those animals called smugglers or send them to the land of oblivion in order to secure the well-being of our society.

The people and the government have done everything possible for addicted people. They have satisfied their conscience and expended the necessary funds from the treasury. Clearly, in the end they had no other expectation than the addict's recovery. If we find that we still have useless people with no willpower, then where is all this effort and money going?

We warn addicts that society's patience has run out and that it is better that they maintain the same expectations of themselves that they have of the people. If they do not they should go about their business outside society and not take so much of the people's time. To the smugglers, we have said many times, and we stress again, you must come and refrain from these unworthy acts against your compatriots. We ask you to use that capital that you expend for smuggling and drug sales in the task of reconstruction. Think about your children a little, and your father, mother, brother, and sister. They are addicts, and you continue to toil and suffer without result for their well-being. What good does it do you? So come and work for reconstruction instead of destruction and desolation.

As for the officials of the Ministry of Justice, the police departments, and all other organizations who enforce this law, we ask them to strictly enforce this law, and to know that if we hear of the slightest oversight contrary to the law, we will immediately make it known to the people. These officials themselves know how they will answer to the people for their oversight. Again we stress the minute application of this law. Officials must realize that the people want full enforcement of the law and that they support the law. As for the law in question, this law appears below, and we ask for your full attention to it:

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
Office of Narcotics Control

An Act Stepping up Penalties for Drug Offenders and Providing Measures for Security and Treatment with the Objective of Curing and Employing Addicts

Enacted 1359/3/19 9 June 1980

A Bill Stepping up Penalties for Drug Offenders and Providing Measures for Security and Treatment with the Objective of Curing and Employing Addicts

Article 1. Narcotics, a complete listing of which is found in a decree dated 2 Mordad 1338 [24 July 1959] are divided into two categories.

1 - Opiates, which include opium, burnt opium, opium residue, and all other compounds that contain the above substance.

2 - All other narcotic drugs (including opium derivatives) such as morphine, heroin, cocaine, and synthetic and chemical narcotics, which have been identified in the United Nations narcotics list and the use of which the World Health Organization considers it necessary to supervise.

Article 2. Anyone who cultivates poppies will have his plants destroyed. In addition, if he is a first offender he will be imprisoned for a period of 3 to 15 years in a first degree criminal prison. If he is a repeat offender he will be executed.

Note: Whenever it is proven that poppies are grown at the behest of a landlord, tenant, or a legal guardian, these persons will receive the maximum punishment stated in the above article, and the cultivator will be sent to a second degree criminal prison for a period of from 3 to 5 years.

Article 3. In any area where poppies are cultivated, the village head is required to report the particulars immediately to the nearest gendarmerie post. It is the responsibility of the chief of the gendarmerie post in the area or his representative to go to the area immediately after receiving the notification. They must destroy the poppy field in the presence of the village head, a clergyman, two reliable witnesses from the area and the person accused of cultivating the poppies. They must compile an account of the incident, which includes the above particulars, and after completion of a preliminary investigation, a file on the matter along with the accused person or persons must be sent to the nearest court or precinct or some other competent authority.

The absence of the accused shall not be grounds for delaying or preventing the execution of this order.

Article 4. In any area where poppy cultivation is discovered, be it before, during, or after the harvest, if the village head, having knowledge of the poppy cultivation, fails to report the particulars to the gendarmerie post, or if the chief of the gendarmerie post, upon receiving notification from the village head, fails to destroy the poppy field, to establish a preliminary file and to send it to the judicial authorities, each one will be sentenced to imprisonment in a

second degree criminal prison for a period of 2 to 5 years. In addition the chief of the gendarmerie post will be permanently discharged from government service.

Note: Village heads, lt governors, and gendarmerie chiefs are required to maintain continual vigilance in order to discover poppy cultivation. In the event of their negligence in this and the discovery of poppy fields in their area of responsibility, the village head will be permanently barred from service as a village head. The lt governor and the gendarmerie chief will also be discharged, and they will be prosecuted for negligence of responsibility in the administration of justice and/or law enforcement, and punished according to law.

Article 5. Whoever keeps, conceals, or transports poppy seeds or pods will be sent to correctional prison for a period of 6 months to 3 years.

Article 6. Whoever imports opium or any of the other opiates listed in the first section of article 1 of this law and/or manufactures them and/or sells them or makes them available for sale and/or possesses, conceals, or transports more than a kilogram of the above substances, if it be proven that this was done knowingly and intentionally, shall be punished by execution. Whenever the quantity of opiates discovered is less than one kilogram and more than 50 grams, the punishment shall be imprisonment in a first degree criminal prison for a period of 2 to 10 years. If the quantity is less than 50 grams, the offender will be sentenced to imprisonment in a misdemeanor prison for a period of 1 to 3 years, but the court may, in place of imprisonment, impose an appropriate financial penalty on the basis of established penalties, or corporeal punishment (whichever will be effective in making the accused desist from the crime).

Article 7. Whoever imports, produces, sells, or makes available for sale any of the other narcotics in section 2 of Article 1 of this law, be it morphine, heroin, cocaine, synthetic or chemical narcotics, anhydride acid, chloral, and/or possesses, conceals, or transports more than 5 grams of the above substances without authorization, in the event that it be proven that this was done knowingly and intentionally, shall be punished by execution. Whenever the quantity of the substance is less than 5 grams and more than 1 gram the offender's punishment shall be imprisonment for a period of from 3 to 5 years in a first degree criminal prison.

If the quantity of the narcotic is less than 1 gram the offender shall be sentenced to imprisonment in a second degree criminal prison for a period of from 2 to 5 years, but the court may, in place of imprisonment, impose an appropriate financial penalty on the basis of established penalties, or corporeal punishment (whichever will be effective in making the accused desist from the crime).

Note 1: The narcotics mentioned in this article, when used for medical or industrial purposes, are exempted from this law.

Note 2: In all cases, if it is proven that the one transporting substances listed in articles 6 and 7 of this law does not own them and is transporting them for another party, in the event that he knows he is carrying narcotics, he shall be accountable as an accomplice and an agent in the owner's crime, and he shall be sentenced to the same penalties as the initiator of the crime.



Article 8. Whoever uses the narcotics mentioned in this law without medical authorization or is a vagrant addict and is apprehended by officials or is reported by his family or neighbors and is medically proven to be a habitual user of narcotics shall be prosecuted and sentenced to imprisonment in a misdemeanor prison for a period of from 6 months to 3 years. In the event he is using heroin, morphine or such things (the narcotics listed in section 2 of article 1) he shall be sentenced to imprisonment for a period of from 1 to 3 years in a misdemeanor prison, but the court may, in place of imprisonment, impose an appropriate financial penalty on the basis of established penalties, or corporeal punishment (whichever will be effective in making the accused desist from the crime).

Note: Sentences of the above persons may not be reduced below the minimum penalties listed in the above article even though they may be under full medical treatment during the time of imprisonment for the purpose of alleviating addiction.

Article 9. Whoever administers narcotics to another unnecessarily and without medical authorization shall be imprisoned in a second degree criminal prison for a period of from 3 to 5 years.

Article 10. The manufacture, importation, possession, concealment, and purchase or sale of implements and devices related to the use of opiates is absolutely forbidden, and will result in 2 to 3 years imprisonment in a misdemeanor prison. At the same time, the above implements and devices, upon discovery by police agents, shall be destroyed.

Article 11. Whoever operates an establishment for the consumption of narcotics or is in any way a partaker of the profits of the place and/or who collaborates with the initiator of the crime, on the first offense shall be sentenced to imprisonment for a period of from 3 to 15 years in a first degree criminal prison, and, in the event of a repeat offense, shall be sentenced to death. Whoever collaborates in any way in the aforementioned crimes shall be sentenced to imprisonment in a second degree criminal prison for a period of from 2 to 10 years. Whoever accepts employment in the aforementioned establishments shall be punished by imprisonment in a misdemeanor prison for a period of from 6 months to 3 years.

Article 12. Establishments for the consumption of narcotics shall be closed immediately upon discovery by order of the municipal prosecutor and/or the local Justice of the Peace. In the event the aforesaid establishment is part of a residential home in which other people are living, only that portion being used for narcotics consumption shall be closed. In the event that the operator is the owner of the establishment, the aforesaid property shall be confiscated by the government. If the aforesaid establishment is rented, the rental contract shall be cancelled and the property returned to the landlord in the presence of a representative of the court. In the event that the landlord subsequently knowingly rents and/or allows the aforementioned establishment to be used for narcotics consumption, he shall be punished as a partner in the crime.

Note: In the event that the establishment sells narcotics, its financial records shall be confiscated immediately, and if the accused is convicted, its property and funds shall be confiscated by the government.

Article 13. Whoever makes a public facility such as a hotel or apartment building or the like available for the use of opiates shall be sentenced to imprisonment in a first degree criminal prison for a period of from 3 to 15 years, and in case the offense is repeated shall be sentenced to death.

Article 14. All portable and non-portable properties of persons who are prosecuted for commission of crimes listed in articles 2, 6, 7, 11, and 13 of this law shall be confiscated by order of the prosecutor, and after issuance of a final order shall become the property of the government. The means of transporting the narcotics, after issuance of a final order, shall be placed at the disposal of the organization that discovered the crime, for use in the campaign against narcotics smuggling.

Note: In the event that the aforementioned persons have dependent families, the court issuing the order, after placing part of the convicted party's property, whether place or residence or other property, in the custody of his dependent family with the intent of securing them a home and livelihood, shall order the confiscation of the remainder of the property by the government.

Note 2: Persons addicted to narcotics use found in possession of no more than 50 grams of opium and/or other opiates, and/or one gram of heroin or a similar drug shall be guilty of the crimes listed in Article 5 and exempt from having their property confiscated.

Article 15. Any person who accuses another and/or evades his own punishment, or in any way makes the narcotics in this law available in a place so that they lead to the prosecution of another and in the course of investigation and research are shown to be innocent themselves, this conspirator will receive the maximum punishment for conspiracy. Moreover, if he falsely or with ill will attributes one of the crimes listed in this law to another, the slanderer will be sentenced to imprisonment in a misdemeanor prison for a period of from 3 months to 3 years.

Article 16. Persons who are responsible for prosecuting the crimes listed in this law who fail to fulfill their responsibility to prosecute and expose knowing that the crimes listed in this law have been committed by some persons, will receive the same punishment as the perpetrators in question.

Article 17. All persons to be prosecuted under accusation of committing crimes listed in articles 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 16 of this law, if circumstances and evidence are sufficient to support the accusations, an order will be issued to detain the accused. If this detention continues until the trial date, the accused will be freed upon issuance of a verdict of innocence by the criminal court and investigation of him for the crimes listed in this law will cease.

Article 18. All persons prosecuted and detained on charges of use of and addiction to narcotics, and also of concealing, possessing, and transporting said substances, on the condition that the quantity of the substance be no more than 50 grams if opiates and no more than 1 gram if heroin or similar narcotic and that these persons be addicted to narcotics use, after issuance of the detention order, and with the purpose of curing and completely eliminating the addiction, employing them during the period of treatment and finding a profession for them if necessary, instead of prison they shall be sent to centers that the government shall establish

and kept there. The period of treatment shall be included in the period of imprisonment. If the period needed for treatment exceeds the period of imprisonment the accused shall remain in said center, and this point shall be specified in the court's verdict.

Article 19. The government is required to establish centers equipped to detain and treat those guilty of the crime of addiction, and to set up industrial shops and agricultural projects in the centers for the purpose of putting the addicts to work, teaching them a profession and acquainting them with possibilities for working and earning money after their release from prison. These centers will be administered according to a regulation which will be approved by the ministries of Justice and Health.

Article 20. From the date of enactment of this law all narcotics addicts shall be given a 6 month period of grace in which they may go to treatment centers and hospitals that the Ministry of Health shall establish for the purpose of being cured. Failure to do this within the specified period will result in prosecution and punishment.

Article 21. As of the date of this law's enactment regulations providing for opium rationing to addicts shall be cancelled and ration cards shall be void. It is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health to authorize adequate means and facilities for quitting addiction and curing addicts.

Article 22. The court may order that those who are to be imprisoned in criminal prisons in accordance with provisions in articles 2, 6, 7, 11, and 13 of this law (excepting persons listed in Article 17 of this law) be sent to an exile camp. Detention in exile camps shall replace punishment by imprisonment. Those sentenced to exile shall be employed in industrial shops, agricultural projects, work camps, and other such situations.

It is the responsibility of the government to establish said exile camps at various points in the country within a period of 3 years for narcotics addicts and all other habitual criminals who are dangerous to society.

Regulations for said exile camps shall be prepared and approved by the Ministry of Justice.

Note: Since in many existing prisons, such as Qizilhissar Prison, which specializes in prisoners with long terms, there are already facilities for employing prisoners in industrial shops and agricultural projects, the court may, therefore, while sentencing, stipulate prison employment for the convict, in accordance with what is available in the prison to be used.

Article 23. Marriage, traveling abroad, government and non-government employment, employment of workers in shops, holding a work permit, and having a business license, a drivers license or a chauffeurs license shall require presentation of an affidavit of non-addiction to narcotics. It is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health to establish and publicize centers for issuing said affidavits within 6 months.

Article 24. Investigation of the crimes listed in this law is the responsibility of the judicial authorities, and/or other competent authorities, according to the appropriate laws.

Article 25. All laws and regulations forbidding poppy cultivation and narcotics use and providing punishment for narcotics offenders excepting the regulation dated Mordad 1338 [23 Jul-22 Aug 1959] are cancelled as the date of this law's enactment.

Seyyed Abolhassan Bani Sadr  
President of the Republic and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council  
The Islamic Republic of Iran

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KUWAIT

## THREE-MAN HASHISH RING BROKEN BY INVESTIGATORS

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 30 Oct 80 p 5

[Text] Investigative officers of the governorate of Hawalli, under the supervision and direction of Lt Col Fahd al-Yasin, deputy inspector of investigations for the governorate of Hawalli, were able to capture an Egyptian suspect named Husayn B. in a narcotics case. Information received by al-Jabiriyah investigative officer Capt 'Ali Husayn al-Sarraf indicated that the suspect was involved in hashish trafficking. In the light of this information a search and seize order was issued by the public prosecution, and a plan was drawn up to capture the suspect who is known to be extremely careful and cautious. Lt Col al-Yasin and Capt al-Sarraf outlined the arrest operation.

The investigative officers carried out the plan through one of the secret informants who led the suspect to believe that he wanted to buy a large piece of hashish for 300 dinars. The informant and the suspect agreed that delivery would take place in the informant's home in Khaytan. After the informant was provided with the agreed upon funds, the suspect drove his car to the informant's house, which was being watched by the investigative officers. The suspect stopped his car near the house. A short while after he went into the house, the suspect came back, got a bag out [of the car] and went back into the house again. Then the two emerged from the house together. It was then that the informant gave the agreed upon signal that the delivery process had been completed. The investigative officers raided the place and arrested the suspect. When he was searched, the money from the sale was found in his possession, and a small piece of hashish was found in his pocket. The investigative officers found the large piece of hashish that had been sold inside the informant's house. When the suspect's car was searched, three other oblong pieces of hashish wrapped in transparent paper were found.

The suspect acknowledged that the narcotics were in his possession, and he admitted his involvement in drug trafficking and distribution. He said that he obtained the hashish from two persons. The name of the first was Basyuni, and the second was Mimi. He said that he did not know the rest of their names and that he did not know where they lived or where they worked. [He knew] they were Egyptians whom he meets in one of the cafes to obtain what he requires when he wants it. The investigative officers searched [the suspect's] house in Khaytan, but did not find anything. It became evident that the car belonged to a person named 'Abbas from whom he had borrowed the car. The owner of the car was in no way related to the narcotics and knew nothing about them. When the owner of the

car was summoned, he indicated that the suspect had borrowed his car on the day the capture was made and that he knew nothing about the narcotics.

The search is underway for both Basyuni and Mimi so that they may be questioned about the incident. It would then be possible to turn the defendants and the materials that were seized over to the public prosecutor in preparation for their trial.

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CSO: 5300

KUWAIT

SUSPECTS ARRESTED IN HASHISH CASE

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 20 Nov 80 p 4

[Article: "Two Suspects Arrested in Drug Case"]

[Text] The officer of the al-Fiha' department of investigations has arrested two individuals named Samir and Wajdi on the charge of drug possession and drug trafficking. Seven packages of hashish were discovered in the home of the first suspect.

Information obtained by al-Fiha' investigation department personnel indicated that the first suspect was trafficking in narcotics. The case was submitted to capital governorate investigations department inspector Lt Col 'Abd al-Ghafur Muhammad al'Awadi. Al-'Awadi issued instructions that the first suspect should be arrested in the act. A plan was drawn up which was carried out by the al-Fiha' investigations department officer. One of the investigation department's secret informants was able to make the first suspect believe that he wished to purchase a package of hashish for 250 dinars. The informant met the suspect in the agreed upon place in the vicinity of al-Salimiyah Theater where he gave the suspect the sum of money. The suspect then took the source to his dwelling in the area under the observation of investigations department personnel.

After the two had entered the dwelling and remained inside for a period of time, investigation department personnel grew suspicious and judged that the suspect might attempt to flee or hide the drugs. Thus, the investigations officer and his men conducted a raid on the dwelling. The suspect was arrested with the investigation department's money in his possession. In addition, a quantity of hashish amounting to seven packages was found in the kitchen.

Upon questioning, the suspect confessed that he trafficked in drugs and that he had agreed to sell a package of hashish to the informant for 250 dinars, which he had received from the informant.

He also confessed that he worked as a seller for the second suspect. Investigations indicated that the second suspect carried on a drug trafficking operation and was a member of a drug trafficking network. An investigation of the individuals in this network is currently in progress.

When the second suspect was interrogated, he persistently denied the charges against him. The two suspects and the confiscated materials were turned over to the district attorney's office, which ordered that they be held pending an inquiry.

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KUWAIT

SUSPECTS JAILED FOR SMUGGLING HEROIN

Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 22 Nov 80 p 6

[Article: "Two Suspects Jailed in Drug Case and a Third Fined for Drug Use"]

[Text] In a recent session of criminal court, two individuals named Muhammad and Khalid were sentenced to imprisonment for 2 years and 4 months with labor, and no reprieve, for their involvement in a drug case. Another individual named 'Adil was fined 100 dinars for drug use.

The facts of this case were summarized in the testimony of the officer of the al-Mitla' area department of investigations. The officer stated that the inspector of the al-'Abdalli customs station apprehended the first two suspects while they were attempting to smuggle five packages of heroin into the country in the first suspect's vehicle. Secret investigations revealed that the first suspect trafficked in narcotics. Upon questioning, the two suspects confessed to ownership and possession of the impounded substances. They also confessed that they had procured the narcotics from Iran at a cost of 800 dinars and had attempted to smuggle the drugs into the country. The first suspect stated that he had previously sold a quantity of heroin to the third suspect for 50 dinars and that he had also made sales to other individuals about whom he was unable to provide any information.

Al-'Abdalli customs personnel testified that while performing their jobs they arrested the two suspects attempting to smuggle five packages of heroin into the country in the first suspect's vehicle. The suspects confessed to owning the narcotics and admitted that they had procured the narcotics from Iran.

The first suspect stated that he had traveled to Iran in his vehicle with the second suspect, and while they were staying at a hotel, the second suspect asked him for the key to his vehicle. He gave the second suspect the key, but did not know what he did with it. He said that when he returned to Kuwait, the customs inspector at al-'Abdalli station searched the vehicle and discovered a nylon bag containing five packages of heroin above the gas tank. The first suspect said he was surprised at the presence of the drugs.

The second suspect stated that he had traveled to Iran with the first suspect and they had purchased five packages of heroin for 800 dinars, each of them paying 400 dinars. He said they took the packages and put them in the vehicle, the first suspect concealing them in the vehicle. He further stated that he had procured the drugs for his own use.



Questioning of the third suspect established that he was a friend of the first two suspects and had previously purchased heroin from them for his own use. It was also established that he had not used drugs for the past 3 months.

During the trial, the first two suspects denied the charges against them. However, the court found that the charges against the first and second suspects were substantiated.

With regard to third suspect, it was established from the trial records, the investigations, and the suspect's admission of drug use that he had bought the drugs from the first two suspects. However, the trial records contained no evidence that the suspect had trafficked in drugs, and thus it was necessary that the charge against him be changed to consumption of narcotics.

Therefore, the court pronounced the sentence mentioned previously. The court was presided over by Hasan Kawdash. The other members of the court were Judge al-Sayyid al-Jundi and Judge Muhammad Bu Hindi. Present at the trial were Muhammad al-Za'bi, representative of the district attorney's office, and Sharif Fawzi, court secretary.

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KUWAIT

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS SUSPECT ARRESTED--According to the plan that was drawn up by the director of the Public Administration of Criminal Investigations Lt Col Fahd Ahmad al-Fahd, narcotics officers were able to capture the suspect Husayn in a narcotics case. A quantity of narcotics was found in his possession. The narcotics department officer had been able to gather the necessary information about the suspect and had found out that he was distributing and selling narcotics. After confirming the accuracy of the information that anti-narcotics officers were able to gather and after the suspect's business as well as the contacts he makes while selling the narcotics were established, a full plan was drawn up to capture him and to catch him redhanded. One of the undercover detectives was able to make the suspect believe that he needed to purchase a quantity of hashish for 240 dinars after a determination was made that the suspect had a quantity of narcotics in the area of Mashrif, which is the place where his apprehension in the act had been agreed upon. In one of the coffee shops in the eastern area, the informant met with the suspect who gave him two pieces of hashish. When the informant handed the suspect the sum that had been agreed upon, the Anti-Narcotics Administration officer apprehended the suspect and found a packet of narcotics hidden inside his pocket. When asked about the source of the narcotics, he confessed that they came from a man named Faruq. The suspect had come from Cairo last 27 September, and it is not unlikely that he brought the narcotics with him. The investigation with the suspect, who admitted the incident, is underway so that all the details of the case can be learned. [Text] [Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 9 Oct 80 p 4] 8592

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AUSTRIA

BRIEFS

DRUG RING--Austrian and Bavarian police each have arrested five members of an international drug smuggling ring and confiscated 15 million schillings worth of hashish. In September Austrian police discovered 23 kilos of hashish and 10 kilos of hashish oil in a parked white Mercedes with a Lebanese registration number. Members of the ring were later arrested when they unlocked the car and the police investigation subsequently led to further arrests of distributors and suppliers. Police believe that the 10 arrested persons have so far sold about 154 kilos of hashish and 10 kilos of hashish oil. [Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 11 Dec 80 p 5]

DRUG DEALERS' ARREST--Vienna police have arrested six Jewish emigres from the USSR, who did not like conditions in Israel and ended up in Vienna, for drug trafficking. The ring was headed by 26-year-old Boris Baeov, who during his short stay in Israel established contacts with Lebanese hashish dealers. Together with five compatriots he sold 55 kilos of hashish and 400 grams of heroin in Vienna within a year, at a net profit of about 3 million schillings. [Vienna VOLKSSTIMME in German 24 Dec 80 p 5]

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

SUCCESSFUL THERAPY FOR HEROIN ADDICTS

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 20 Nov 80 Supplement p 1

[Article by Asmus Finzen: "Compulsory Treatment of Heroin Addicts Successful"]

[Text] Generally, the compulsory treatment of drug addicts is viewed as a wasted effort: Addicts remanded by the courts consider the therapy a form of punishment. They balk at the treatment and attempt to evade it by escaping. Many simply serve their time, which has been limited by the legislature in the penal code to a maximum of 2 years. All of these current notions have been called into question by a study conducted by the physician, Christoph Kurtz, conducted with the assistance of the Federal Ministry for Youth, Family and Health and presented as a doctoral dissertation in medicine under the supervision of Prof J. E. Meyer of the University of Goettingen.

Kurtz studied 75 young people addicted to opiates who had been sent by the courts in 1973 and 1977 to the drug department of the Hessian Psychiatric Hospital in Merxhausen for treatment. On admission the young people averaged 19 years of age, took an average of 1.7 grams of heroin per day, spent DM 370 a day on hard drugs, and had been addicted for 3 years on the average. They picked up three-quarters of their living costs from illegal sources and had been prosecuted up to 15 times (on the average 3 times).

In view of this information skepticism and reserve regarding any possible successful therapy seem to be justified. Nonetheless therapy, as Kurtz demonstrates, is not without promise if there is an outlay like that in Merxhausen: A physician, a psychologist, and two social workers work principally in the drug department of 30 patients; additionally, there are 24 nurses, both men and women. There are also an occupational therapist, a physiotherapist, two teachers, and service personnel from the other operations of the hospital.

The therapy is laid out in stages, the individual stages being physically separated from each other. The patient is kept in the admissions stage at least 2 months, in mid-stage at least 4 months, and in the "limited release stage" at least 3 months. At first the newly-accepted patient is not allowed to have any contact with the outside world. Gradually he gets more privileges, rights, and duties, until he is assigned work on the hospital grounds and allowed to go off-grounds in a group. Decisions are made on further stages in the weekly discussions, in which all members of the team take part and have an equal voice. The

therapy is behaviorally oriented. Only in group therapy and individual conversations do psychoanalytical elements play an important role. The daily regimen of the patients consists of work and occupational therapy, sports and instruction, as well as productive leisure, which is encouraged.

As a result of this costly treatment Kurtz in a followup study conducted after an interval averaging 2 years notes in 40 to 60 percent of the cases relative therapeutic success, depending on how wide or how narrow criteria for success are drawn: At the time of the followup study 35 percent were free of drugs, and the number of sentences was drastically reduced. The results are, however, rather negative regarding school or professional reentry. Only a few manage to complete school or vocational training. After therapy only 10 percent live exclusively from their own labor. To be sure, at the time of the followup study 40 percent were being educated or held a job. In toto the results for compulsory treated drug addicts (length of treatment between 6 months and 2 years) were no less favorable than for drug addicts who submitted voluntarily to therapy. What is striking is that the length of treatment appears to have no significant influence on success.

The results of the study by Kurtz are certainly not incontestable in every respect. In particular, the criterion for success in avoiding new criminal sentencing must be questioned. The researcher in this context drew upon entries in the criminal records. Sentences are entered into the records only after a legal judgment has been made. With a followup interval of 2 years it must be considered that most potential trials have not yet been completely concluded. On the other hand, it is certain that the compulsory treated patients 2 years after treatment are doing considerably better. A great deal has already been achieved. Further studies are certainly needed. This study, however, introduces a little optimism into the otherwise dismal picture of the compulsory treatment of heroin addicts.

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CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

DRUG-RELATED CRIMES STILL RISING

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 18 Nov 80 p 28

[Text] Bonn 17 Nov--During the first half of this year the number of drug offenses rose 28 percent in the FRG in comparison to the first 6 months of the previous year. This figure was provided by the chairman of the Bundestag's internal committee, Axel Wernitz, in a release of the Bavarian SPD Land organization. According to information supplied by Wernitz in the first 6 months of 1979 there were 23,240 drug offenses; whereas, in the first 6 months of this year 29,700 such offenses were registered, which can, of course, also be attributed to improved police reporting.

According to the opinion of the SPD politician drugs in the FRG represent a greater threat to internal security than terrorism. Wernitz supported this contention by noting that the number of drug victims was four times greater than the victims of all terrorist attacks since the founding of the FRG.

This year 227 kilograms of heroin, 21.2 kilograms of cocaine and 2.4 tons of hashish had been seized by 27 October. In 1979 this amounted to a total of 207 kilograms of heroin, 19 kilograms of cocaine and 6.4 tons of hashish.

The number of drug deaths rose, according to information supplied by Wernitz, from nine in 1969 to 623 in 1979. On 27 October the 1980 figure, in fact, was only 394, but according to Wernitz it is still too early to hope that the feared increase to a total figure of 700 dead for 1980 will not occur.

The SPD politician appealed to all Federal, Land, and community interests as well as other responsible parties to establish "a united front against drug abuse." The touchstone of such decisiveness is the rapid reintroduction and final passage of the reform narcotics law, whereby among other things more severe penalties are provided for drug pushers and the preeminence of the principle of treatment for drug-dependent offenders prior to sentencing is recognized.

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CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

OFFICIAL REPORT ANALYZES ABUSER STATISTICS

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 19 Dec 80 p 35

[Text] Slightly more than 8,200 of the reported narcotics abusers in all of Sweden are heavily addicted--that is, they inject drugs or take various preparations every day. A total of 5,600 of them are connected with the three big-city administrative provinces.

That is apparent from the final report on heavy drug abuse in Sweden.

The committee on the extent of narcotics abuse was set up by the government in the spring of 1977. Earlier, the committee produced an overall study. After a number of regional conferences in the spring, they now are reporting the final compilation on drug abuse throughout the entire country.

In addition to the three big-city administrative provinces, there are fairly large numbers of heavy addicts in the administrative provinces of Sodermanland, Uppsala, Orebro, Ostergotland and Jamtland. However, abuse by injection was relatively uncommon in the provinces.

The countries of Norrbotten, Skaraborg, Kristianstad and Halland are the least troubled with heavy addicts.

From the cases which were actually reported, the committee calculated the true extent of heavy addiction. The number of heavy addicts in the administrative province of Stockholm is between 3,000 and 4,500, in that of Goteborg och Bohus it is between 1,400 and 2,000, in that of Uppsala it is between 400 and 600, in that of Sodermanland it is between 500 and 700, in that of Ostergotland it is between 400 and 600, in that of Jonkoping it is between 400 and 600 and in that of Orebro it is between 500 and 700.

Heavy addiction is also most frequently concentrated in one district, or a couple of districts, in the administrative province, the committee says, and of course those are most often the largest towns. There are 29 districts in the country where there are more than 10 addicts per 100,000 inhabitants.

There are 8 such districts in the administrative province of Stockholm. They are Huddings, Haninge, Upplands-Bro, Stockholm, Sodertalje, Sundbyberg, Solna and Sigtuna. In the administrative province of Malmohus, there are 5 districts with considerable heavy drug addiction. They are Bjuv, Malmo, Lund, Landskrona and Helsingborg.

Other central districts for heavy narcotics addiction in Sweden are Uppsala, Oxelosund, Norrkoping, Jonkoping, Varnamo, Vaxjo, Karlshamm, Ockero, Goteborg, Karlstad, Orebro, Borlange, Ragunda, Stromsund, Ostersund and Pitea.

The estimate in round numbers of how many heavy drug addicts there are in the entire country amounts to between 10,000 and 14,000 people, according to the committee.

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SWEDEN

BRIEFS

PSILOCYBIN APPEARS ON MARKET--A new type of narcotic has appeared on the Swedish market lately. It is a hallucinogen--that is, it causes hallucinations--and consequently it is as unpredictably dangerous as LSD. The preparation is called psilocybin and is classified as a narcotic. The first thoroughly-investigated case in which psilocybin occurred took place in Dalarna. In Mora, 13 people have now been indicted for narcotics offenses. Most of those who are implicated are young people between 20 and 25. The leading individual is a woman who previously had been sentenced for serious narcotics crimes. She is now suspected of having sold LSD and the new drug, psilocybin. Exactly like LSD, psilocybin can produce genetic damage and so-called flashbacks or "kickbacks," as they are also called. That means that the reaction which appears when a person takes a dose can be repeated later. [Text] [Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 15 Dec 80 p 6] 9266

HASHISH SEIZED IN STOCKHOLM--A big delivery of narcotics was uncovered and put a stop to Wednesday night in Stockholm. About 60 kg of hashish valued at about 3 million kronor in drug addict circles were found in an automobile in a hotel garage in downtown Stockholm. Two men were arrested. The amount of narcotics confiscated was one of the largest ever taken in Stockholm. The Narcotics Police have known for a long time that large quantities of dope were being smuggled into Sweden from France in automobiles. In recent times, the police have gone through parking garages in downtown Stockholm as if with a fine-tooth comb in search of French drug dealers. Late Wednesday evening they began to investigate the automobiles in a hotel garage. With the help of a dog trained to detect drugs, the police found 60 kg of hashish in an automobile registered in France. The drug was covered up and was lying loose in the vehicle. The consignment probably was to be delivered to recipients that very night. Two men living in the hotel were arrested immediately. They had moved in there on Wednesday. The police are convinced that this consignment was supposed to be sold to addicts in Stockholm before Christmas. "We do not know who ordered the drug and how many people are implicated in the affair," says Superintendent Karl-Erik Augustson. [Text] [Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 19 Dec 80 p 35] 9266

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UNITED KINGDOM

CUSTOMS SEIZE RECORD AMOUNT OF DRUGS IN 1980

LD311059 London THE TIMES in English 31 Dec 80 p 3

[Report by Craig Seton: "Drugs Worth 500,000 Pounds Are Seized at Gatwick"]

[Text] Three men will appear in court today after the seizure of cocaine valued at 500,000 pounds at Gatwick Airport [London]. Customs officers discovered the 3-kilo haul after the arrival of a flight from La Paz, Boliva, on Monday.

The three men, all Bolivians bound for Amsterdam, will appear before Crawley [Sussex] magistrates charged in connection with the illegal importation of cocaine.

It was announced yesterday that smuggled drugs with an estimated street value of more than 52 million pounds, a record amount, were seized by customs and excise this year. But there are fears that the "golden triangle" of Southeast Asia is again emerging as an important source of heroin.

One of the biggest increases was in the interception of cannabis, still the most easily obtainable drug in Britain. The amount of herbal cannabis seized increased threefold to over 20 tons worth more than 25 million pounds.

Mr Peter Cutting, chief investigator for the customs and excise, told a press conference in London: "Our successes have continued unabated."

Seizures of all types of cannabis, cocaine morphine, LSD tablets and amphetamines had increased substantially, the total value of intercepted drugs rose from 33 million pounds last year to more than 52 million pounds in 1980.

The amount of heroin seized had dropped during the year by 4 kilos to 36 kilos, worth nearly 5 million pounds. Mr Cutting said that a new trend could be emerging. In 1976 Southeast Asia had dominated the market in heroin but over the past 2 years heroin from the Middle East had played a large part in seizures of the drug coming into Britain.

Then, after the first few months of this year, Iranian heroin declined sharply and this month about 2 kilos of Southeast Asia heroin had been seized, the first of that size for some time.

He said: "We are concerned that this year's crop from that area has been a good one so there might be a resurgence of heroin from that source."

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The so-called "golden triangle" is a remote, rugged mountain area bordered by Burma, Thailand and Laos which has been long-established supplier of heroin for the world's drug market.

Mr Cutting explained that while the interception of heroin had declined, cocaine worth nearly 6 million pounds on the streets had been intercepted on its way into or through Britain. There were also signs of diminishing interest in the use of LSD.

Mr Cutting was unable to say whether the increasing amount of drugs seized meant that smaller supplies were available to users in Britain. But he said: "Our hit rate is second to none in the world and United Kingdom customs are held in high international regard for their efforts in intercepting drugs."

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