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JPRS L/9543

11 February 1981

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 7/81)

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AUSTRALIA

PARTY LEADER CALLS FOR COOPERATION IN WAR ON DRUGS

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 23 Dec 80 p 2

[Text] The leader of Victoria's National Party, Mr Ross-Edwards, has called for urgent talks between the State and Federal governments to organise a national attack on the drug problem.

Mr Ross-Edwards said yesterday the Victorian Government had ignored the recommendations of the Williams report on drugs.

"Immediate steps should be taken to increase the size of the police drug squad in Victoria so it has adequate manpower to handle this serious problem," he said.

The Minister for Police, Mr Thompson, said he was confident the proposed Criminal Intelligence Bureau would be established early next year.

The bureau was the subject of one of the major Williams report recommendations.

He said a two day meeting in Perth during February would discuss the bureau's terms of reference.

Mr Thompson said major matters for discussion in Perth would include establishment of intelligence assessment units, uniform legislation and treatment and research centres.

He also promised that the size of the Victorian drug bureau would be increased next year.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

NSW POLICE GIVEN NEW SEARCH POWERS FOR DRUG CASES

Cabinet Agreement

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 4 Dec 80 p 3

[Article by Catherine Harper]

[Text] NSW police, after pressing through the NSW Royal Commission into Drug Trafficking, are to be given the power to search premises without a warrant in pursuit of drug traffickers.

This new power, agreed to by State Cabinet yesterday and due to become effective early next year, is strongly opposed by the Council for Civil Liberties, which said such powers would be open to abuse.

Defending the Cabinet decision, the Premier, Mr Wran, said it was more important to combat drug problems than worry about animosity towards itself on the question.

The Opposition is backing the Government.

The new powers will allow police officers investigating suspected drug trafficking to enter premises without a warrant in "exigent circumstances."

Declaration

Provisions to be written into the Poisons Act are:

Warrantless searches should not be undertaken if it is reasonably practicable to obtain a warrant before entry;

Police entering premises must suspect, or believe on reasonable grounds, that a trafficable quantity of illicit drugs is in the building;

Police must also believe there is a high risk the drugs would be destroyed or removed before they could apply for a warrant in the normal way.

After a warrantless search the police officer concerned should make a statutory declaration within 24 hours of:

The reason for not obtaining a warrant;

The basis for his or her suspicion or belief that a trafficable quantity of illicit drugs were on the premises;

The basis for believing that there was a substantial risk that the drugs would be destroyed or removed quickly.

Within seven days, statutory declarations together with a report by a superior officer of the Police Department should be forwarded to the magistrate who in normal circumstances would have issued the warrant.

If required by him, the Police Internal Affairs branch would investigate and any necessary disciplinary or other action could follow.

The proposals contain no specific provision for appeal by the citizen, but people already have a general right to complain to the Ombudsman about activities of the police.

To modernise the application procedures for search warrants--and to try to avoid the need for warrantless searches, permission for search warrants will be obtainable by telephone in emergencies.

At present a warrant must be obtained from at least a clerk of petty sessions or a magistrate in person.

The president of the NSW Council for Civil Liberties, Mr Malcolm Ramage, said the provision would allow for dramatic abuse of police powers because an officer could later say what he liked to justify what he had done.

How was a magistrate to check the reasons given? There was a danger that police could raid anyone they did not like and give them a hard time, Mr Ramage said.

The Council for Civil Liberties has already received complaints from members of the public that police had smashed their doors in and entered their houses without warrants.

In a case recently reported to the council, police had allegedly broken into the wrong house after obtaining a warrant but had not seemed concerned about their mistake.

"It's too easy to say we need more powers for the police. What we need is a more effective police force exercising the powers that exist," Mr Ramage said.

Opposition

The council will probably make representations to Mr Wran about the proposed changes to the Poisons Act.

The legislation will include a provision for courts to be given discretionary powers to order the forfeiture of vehicles used by drug traffickers.

Whether profits of drug traffickers should be seized is also under consideration.

Legal sources said last night that not all applications for search warrants are granted.

The Minister for Police, Mr Crabtree, with the backing of the Premier, pressed in Cabinet for the introduction of warrantless searches--although he was opposed by some Cabinet colleagues.

There are fears in some Government quarters that warrantless searches will become the rule rather than the exception.

There is opposition to the change in some Government circles which believe that someone removed from the justice system should oversee the police use of these extended powers.

Imposition of Restrictions

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 17 Dec 80 p 3

[Article by Catherine Harper]

[Text] State Cabinet is backing down on the controversial issue of police searches without warrant.

It has decided to restrict such searches to a two-year trial and there is speculation in Government circles that they will be dropped altogether next year.

The Government drew strong criticism from the Council for Civil Liberties when the Premier, Mr Wran, announced two weeks ago that police would be given the right to search without a warrant in pursuit of drug traffickers.

The council said the powers would be open to wide abuse, although Mr Wran said it was more important to combat drug problems than worry about animosity towards the Government on the question.

Some lawyers have told members of the Government that they too are opposed.

After Cabinet met yesterday, Mr Wran issued a statement saying it had been decided to amend the proposed legislation to include a "sunset clause" limiting its operation to two years.

"Cabinet's decision will enable the Government, the Parliament and the public to fully examine the effect of warrantless searches after they have been in operation for two years."

It is understood Mr Wran was behind the change to the original decision.

When he announced the changes two weeks ago, he stressed that safeguards would be provided to protect the public. These mean that:

Within 24 hours of a warrantless search, the policeman concerned must make a statutory declaration justifying it.

Searches without warrant should not be made if it is reasonably practicable to obtain a warrant beforehand.

Police must believe there is a high risk the drugs would be destroyed or removed before they could apply for a warrant in the normal way.

A vice-president of the Council for Civil Liberties, Miss Carolyn Sympson, said last night that the Government was also proposing to enable police to obtain warrants from magistrates by telephone.

The council asked people subjected to warrantless searches or those conducted on "telephone warrants" to tell the council so it can monitor them.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

NEW LAW FOR WEST AIMED AT BIG DRUG DEALERS

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 29 Nov 80 p 29

[Text] WA's new drug legislation aimed at cracking down on big operators--has been introduced in the Legislative Assembly.

The Misuse of Drugs Bill brings together all aspects of drug-law enforcement—the first time this has been done in Australia.

Under the legislation, the police will be given much greater power to seize the proceeds of drug dealings and they will be able to use undercover agents to help catch offenders.

The police power to search for drugs will also be broadened.

Another change will increase the penalty for cultivating cannabis crops of more than 100 plants to a fine up to \$20,000 and 10 years' gaol.

SERIOUS

The penalties for the most serious offences will remain at \$100,000 and 25 years' gaol.

The Government will proceed with the legislation next year.

It was introduced in Parliament yesterday by the Minister for Police, Mr Hassell, so that there would be ample time for public scrutiny.

He said that drugs of addiction had their effect not only on those who

became addicted but also in the organisation and promotion of criminal activities aimed at satisfying the greed of evil people.

"The law now proposed is substantially aimed at criminals and those who seek to profit from criminal activities," he said.

"It is to be a tough law, to deal with a tough problem."

Mr Hassell said that the Bill also contained the proper protection and control of any misuse of police powers.

PROCEEDS

The existing offence in the Police Act of being in possession of the proceeds from unlawful dealing in drugs had proved inadequate.

The police would be empowered to seize the proceeds either under stop and search provisions or search warrants. Within 72 hours of a seizure they would have to apply to a justice of the peace for an order for the continued detention of the proceeds.

If the proceeds were in a bank, the police would have to apply to a JP for an embargo order to secure the proceeds.

Within 21 days the police would have to make an application to the District Court for the forfeiture of the proceeds to the crown.

The legislation would retain the system where people were assumed to be selling or supplying when they had a certain quantity of drugs. In the case of cannabis it would be 80 cigarettes, 100 grams of cannabis material or 20 grams of cannabis resin.

Mr Hassell said that the jurisdiction would change from the Supreme Court to the District Court for indictable offences.

Magistrates would be able to deal with some of the lesser indictable offences. These would be determined by the quantity of drugs involved—in the case of cannabis 400 cigarettes, 500 grams of material or 40 grams of resin.

Heroin dealers would be dealt with only in the District Court.

A serious deficiency in the present legislation had been that there was no provision for trial by jury for the more serious cannabis offences—including big cultivation.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

COURT UPHOLDS DEPORTATION ORDER ON DRUG DEALER

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 18 Dec 80 p 13

[Article by Verge Blunden]

[Text] Canberra--The Administrative Appeals Tribunal upheld yesterday a deportation order against a man it said was withholding information which could help solve the murder of Mr Donald MacKay, who disappeared at Griffith in 1977.

The tribunal rejected an application by Saverio Barbaro, 32, of Canberra, a citizen of Italy, for a review of a deportation order made against him in September, last year.

The president of the tribunal, Mr Justice Davies, said the deportation order followed Barbaro's conviction by a jury for possession of Indian hemp for sale.

Barbaro was arrested on March 5, 1977, near a property known as Willra Station, near Euston, on which a large marihuana crop was under cultivation.

Barbaro had been sentenced to three years' jail to commence on March 6, 1978, and was released on parole in September, 1979.

Mr Justice Davies, said he had admitted into evidence the report of the NSW Royal Commission into Drug Trafficking undertaken by Mr Justice Woodward.

He said Mr Justice Woodward, in his report, had named Saverio Barbaro as a member of an organisation of persons, of mostly Calabrian descent, who were engaged in illicit cultivation, trafficking and marketing of cannabis between 1974 and 1977.

Mr Justice Woodward had found that the organisation was responsible for the death of Mr Donald Bruce MacKay, a Griffith citizen, who disappeared on July 15, 1977.

"His honour (Mr Justice Woodward) investigated Mr Mackay's disappearance and concluded that he was murdered and that it was most likely he was murdered by the organisation because he represented a threat to its activities," Mr Justice Davies said.

He said both Mr Justice Woodward and Mr Justice Williams, who conducted the Federal Royal Commission of Inquiry into Drugs, reported on the immense difficulty facing law enforcement authorities in obtaining information to enable them to act effectively.

"Moreover, it is a continuing affront to the community that the applicant (Barbaro) has knowledge which he is not prepared to impart," he said.

That there had been two royal commissions investigating the drug problem indicated the significance of relevant information, he said.

Mr Justice Davies said Barbaro came to Australia in 1968 and was married with four young children. It was clear that the family had medical problems and Barbaro's deportation would be a considerable loss to his family, parents and relatives.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

DETECTION DEVICES TO TRAP HEROIN FLIGHTS IN NORTH

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 12 Dec 80 p 3

[Text] Highly sophisticated detection equipment is to be installed on remote airstrips in the northern Australia to catch drug runners and smugglers.

Customs confirmed the plan yesterday but was not prepared to say how much equipment would be used, where it will be installed and when.

But it is likely to be put into effect at the beginning of next year on airstrips across the top of Australia.

A Customs spokesman in Canberra said that work was being carried out in this area but that it would not be in the best interests of the operation to reveal details about it.

However, a source in Western Australia said the equipment would be extremely efficient. It had been styled on technology used for space programs, particularly in moon landings.

The equipment will probably be installed about the same time another Nomad aircraft is put into use by Customs off the north-west coast.

Although the aircraft will provide something of an umbrella for the north there are so many old airstrips in there that it will still be difficult to detect unauthorised aircraft coming into Australia.

At the moment a Nomad is based at Darwin. The second one will detect vessels more than 150km away.

The planned operation comes at a time when smuggling [as published] is on the increase in Western Australia.

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AUSTRALIA

HEROIN SMUGGLERS SAID TO BE PART OF INTERNATIONAL RING

Sydney Arrests

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 15 Dec 80 p 11

[Text] Sydney: Four people who allegedly tried to import \$1.5 million worth of heroin into Australia were part of an international drug ring, the police told the Central Court on Saturday.

The police said that the four Sydney drug ring operators were uncovered after a car chase in the western suburbs on Friday night.

Sgt Peter Mason, prosecuting, said that the 1 kg of high-grade heroin was the biggest seizure of heroin in Australia. [as published]

The court should not grant bail to the four charged because they might be in danger.

During the arrest a shot had been fired, and a detective was rammed by a car during the chase.

Sgt Mason said that Florence June Knox (38), of Parramatta, flew into Sydney from Bangkok on Friday, with the drug secreted on her body.

Followed

She had been followed from Sydney Airport by members of the police crime intelligence unit.

She had then met Glen Richards (23), carpenter, of Auckland, and Peter Fulcher (40), labourer of Cronulla, and handed over a package near a hotel.

It was found to contain 79 phials of heroin.

The police had then followed the two men, who were driving a Valiant car, and tried to stop them.

Richards then allegedly reversed the car into a detective, knocking him several metres.

A detective smashed a passenger window next to where the police alleged Fulcher was sitting with a brown shopping bag.

Later the bag was found to contain two plastic bags and 79 phials of grade four heroin, Sgt Mason said.

Florence Knox was arrested at her home. A third man, Eric Ronald O'Connor (37) assistant manager, of Caringbah, was arrested later.

All defendants were charged with conspiring to import heroin into Australia. All except O'Connor were charged with possession and supply of prohibited drugs.

All were remanded in custody to appear in the same court tomorrow.

Bangkok Link

Melbourne THE AGE in English 17 Dec 80 p 15

[Text] Sydney--A 37-year-old man travelled to Bangkok with large amounts of money to arrange for the importation of heroin to Australia, police told Sydney's central court of petty sessions yesterday.

Police also said they had found 1.5 kilograms of heroin with a street value of \$1 million in a car driven by one of the man's co-defendants.

Before the court were Peter Fulcher, 40, laborer, Eric Ronald O'Connor, 37, assistant manager, Florence June Knox, 38, pensioner, all of Sydney and Glen Richards, 23, carpenter, of Auckland, New Zealand.

Mr Fulcher, Mr Richards, Miss Knox and Mr O'Connor were charged with having conspired with each other to import heroin into Australia. Mr Fulcher and Mr Richards were further charged with having supplied and possessed heroin, malicious injury and having assaulted police.

Miss Knox was also charged with having imported and supplied heroin and possession of Indian hemp.

Mr Kevin Waller, SM, refused bail for all four and remanded them in custody to appear at Central Court next Tuesday.

Mr Waller told the court that it was becoming notorious now in court for people charged with drug offences to obtain large amounts of money for bail and not to appear. Because of the seriousness of the charges and the amount of drug involved he would refuse bail.

The prosecutor, Sergeant G. Wells, alleged that Mr O'Connor had travelled to Bangkok with large amounts of money to arrange for the importation of heroin to Australia.

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AUSTRALIA

PAIR HELD IN NEW ZEALAND MAY BELONG TO ADELAIDE RING

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 23 Dec 80 p 2

[Article by Peter Blunden]

[Text] Federal police believe two Australians arrested by New Zealand customs officials are key members of an elaborate drug smuggling ring based in Adelaide.

A South Australian couple are in Auckland's Mount Eden prison awaiting High Court trial next month after allegedly being found in possession of hashish worth \$200,000.

The pair--a man, 42, and a woman, 29,--were arrested nearly four week ago but New Zealand authorities kept the coup secret to enable Australian police to step up their investigations.

More Arrests

Detectives estimate the gang has smuggled up to 50kg of top-grade hashish with a street value of more than \$1 million during the past eight months.

Eight drug running trips between New Zealand and Australia were allegedly made, with the hashish primarily distributed in the eastern States of Australia.

It is alleged a number of Adelaide businessmen are implicated in the racket, and it is anticipated up to 10 more arrests could eventuate.

Detective Senior Sergeant E. Tyrie, of the Australian Federal Police, said in Adelaide yesterday the drug traffickers bought the hashish in Bombay, India, and channelled it to Australia via New Zealand.

"They used Auckland as a transit point because passports are not required for travel between New Zealand and Australia," he said.

"It is much easier to bring it in from New Zealand than from the continent."

The drugs were smuggled into both countries using a "very clever ploy.

The gang's operation came to light when Auckland customs men stopped the couple, acting on information passed on by Australian officers and police.

The drugs are believed to have been smuggled into New Zealand disguised as being goods arriving from Australia.

Similarly, the drugs were apparently brought into Australia as though they were routine luggage belonging to local people returning from a New Zealand holiday.

The goods then became subjected to low-priority customs checks, giving them a better chance of avoiding detection.

Sergeant Tyrie said federal police had intensified their investigations since the arrests.

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AUSTRALIA

ZAMPAGLIONE, COHORTS GET 25 YEARS FOR HEROIN DEALING

Melbourne THE AGE in English 11 Dec 80 p 3

[Article by Prue Innes]

[Text] The ringleader of a heroin importation and distribution syndicate was sentenced yesterday to 25 years' jail--the longest sentence imposed for a drug offence of this type in Australia.

Mr Justice Gray sentenced the five members of the syndicate to long jail terms after a Criminal Court trial lasting nearly two months. All five had pleaded not guilty.

Antonio Zampaglione, 31, of Hardwicke Court, Frankston, was convicted of one charge of having conspired to import heroin, and two counts of possession of heroin.

He was sentenced to 20 years' jail with a non-parole period of 16 years on the conspiracy charge, and 10 years with a five-year minimum term on each of the possession charges. With concurrency, the total sentence was fixed at 25 years with a minimum term of 21 years.

His brother, Salvatore Zampaglione, 2, of McKean Street, Fitzroy, was found guilty of one charge of having conspired to import heroin, and one charge of having possessed heroin.

He was sentenced to a total of 20 years' jail with a nonparole period of 16 years.

David Quentin Jewell, 37, of Esdale Street, Nunawading, was convicted of one charge of conspiracy and one of possession. He received a total sentence of 15 years' jail, with a nonparole term of 12 years.

Helen Margaret Barnacle, 26, of McGregor Street, Parkdale, was convicted of one charge of conspiracy and one of possession. She was sentenced to 12 years, with a nonparole term of eight years.

John Alan Strike, 36, of no fixed address, was convicted of one conspiracy charge. He received seven-year jail term with a nonparole period of four years.

Passing sentence, Mr Justice Gray said he thought it appropriate to deal with the five on the basis that the maximum penalty they could face on the charges was 25 years' jail or a \$100,000 fine or both, although it could be argued a life sentence could now apply.

He said the jury obviously accepted that the drug rings' import of heroin went beyond three specific instances that had been outlined during the trial. "The business involved making the necessary arrangements for the import, preparation for sale and distribution of heroin,"

"The evidence indicates the scale of the business was such that huge profits must have been made. The evidence also shows that the conduct of the business involved the carrying of firearms, and the use of violence and threats of violence to maintain discipline. In short, the evidence reveals all the general characteristics of a large drug dealing operation."

He said that the brothers were the prominent operators of the ring, although Antonio Zampaglione was older and the dominant figure.

He told Antonio Zampaglione: "The evidence indicates you possess a naturally vicious disposition which befits the leader of an undertaking of this sort."

In an unsworn statement from the dock, Helen Barnacle described herself as a former heroin addict. The court was told that she played an active role in helping the Zampaglione brothers distribute drugs.

Mr Justice Gray said her "story reflects the horrors of the introduction of heroin in this country."

"You present a tragic example of the effects of drug addiction. But the fact that you yourself became a heroin addict did not deter you from participating in distributing the drug to others."

Earlier in the trial, the Crown prosecutor, Mr E. D. Lloyd, QC, said this was the first time in Australia that the actual instigators and financiers had been put on trial.

Mr Lloyd, opening the trial in 15 October, said the operations of the drug business in 1978-79 made James Bond pale into insignificance.

Witnesses during the trial included a travel agent who said he feared he would be murdered if he disclosed that he had arranged tickets to South-East Asia for Antonio Zampaglione, Helen Barnacle and two others.

A drug squad detective said Antonio Zampaglione offered him a \$50,000 bribe if heroin found in a raid were replaced with milk sugar to defeat charges.

A Penang heroin dealer told of negotiations to buy heroin, involving Antonio Zampaglione, Helen Barnacle, Jewell and Strike in 1978.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

TWO HEROIN DEALERS GIVEN 3-YEAR JAIL TERMS

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 26 Nov 80 p 32

[Text] Two men who received 45 grams of heroin worth \$3500 from a friend in the Netherlands and made a profit from its sale were gaoled for three years with a 14-month minimum yesterday.

They are Christopher Michael Matthew Brennan (21), telephonist, of Mary Street, Watermans, and Franco Bonanella (21), design draftsman, of Flinders Street, Mr Hawthorn.

Mr Justice Smith said in the Supreme Court that they were both heroin addicts who originally intended only to buy 10 grams of heroin worth \$1000 for their own use.

But they were asked to take more by their supplier, a friend of Brennan.

He sent them 45 grams of heroin in five separate letters to a house that they had rented in a false name in Osborne Park to use as a postal address.

They adulterated the heroin with glucose and sold it in \$120 lots.

They made about \$2000 profit on the sale. Because of them, a big quantity of the drug was disseminated.

Fortunately, 10 of these lots had been recovered by the police.

Mr Justice Smith said that the men had shown considerable expertise in packaging the drug and made a handsome profit.

Their offence could not be punished other than by gaol.

But their previous good records and references from prominent citizens must stand them in good stead at present.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

GRIFFITH FARMER GETS 3 YEARS FOR GROWING MARIHUANA

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 18 Dec 80 p 3

[Text] A Griffith farmer Francesco Sergi, was sentenced to three years' jail yesterday by a judge who described him as a major financial backer in a marijuana growing venture.

Sergi, 45, of Mirrool, near Griffith, had been found guilty by a District Criminal Court jury on December 2.

He had been charged with conspiring between early June, 1974, and November 25, 1975, with Leonardo Gambacorta, Guiseppe Agresta, Pasquale Agresta and Luigi Pocchi and others to sell Indian hemp.

Judge Godfrey-Smith told Sergi: "Your role was a behind-the-scenes one, out of the limelight, but you were still standing to make enormous profits quickly."

The judge said he was taking into account Sergi's previously unblemished record, his good record of employment and the fact that there had been a long delay caused by two earlier trials being aborted.

The judge said that he would have considered sentencing Sergi to five years' jail, the sentence imposed on Gambacorta and Guiseppe Agresta, the other conspirators.

Sergi's trial took seven days.

He was charged after police raided Gambacorta's farm at Coleambally on November 10, 1975.

Police gave evidence that they found 12.75 ha of cultivated Indian hemp in various stages of maturity.

The Crown alleged that Sergi told police: "I gave him money when he wanted it and just paid for things he wanted on the farm."

The judge fixed a non-parole period of 13 months.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

CANNABIS RESIN SMUGGLING--A crane driver smuggled cannabis resin into Australia in his shoes three times, a Supreme Court judge was told yesterday. Mr Justice Wallace was told that Allan Tombini (47) formerly of Punchbowl, Sydney, intended using the \$2000 proceeds to help his wife and seven children in Lebanon. Tombini, who was arrested at Perth Airport on August 15 this year while on the way from Lebanon to work in Darwin, pleaded guilty to three importing and three possession offences. He admitted importing 282.7 grams of cannabis resin into Australia on August 15 and possession of a prohibited import on the same day, and the importing and possession of 40 grams of cannabis resin on or about March 18 this year and June 6 this year while returning to Australia from trips to Lebanon. Tombini was remanded in custody for sentence. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 2 Dec 80 p 39]

PREGNANT TRAFFICKER--A five-month-pregnant woman was alleged yesterday to have brought more than \$400,000 worth of cannabis resin into Australia. She is Mrs Hesna Chauman, 32, of Watson Road, Padstow. Mrs Chauman who appeared in St James Court of Petty Sessions was charged under the Customs Act with possessing and importing a quantity of cannabis resin at Sydney on or about December 3. Mr G. Smyth, SM, allowed Mrs Chauman \$40,000 bail with reporting conditions and adjourned the matter to December 19. Mr David Staehli, for the Commonwealth Crown Solicitor, said Mrs Chauman arrived at Sydney Airport on a Qantas flight from Lebanon with only one large overnight bag. Customs examination of the contents revealed two plastic containers, Mr Stachli said. Each of them contained about three kilos of cannabis oil, he said. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 5 Dec 80 p 12]

COAST WATCH CALL--The Federal Government should maintain 24-hour air and sea surveillance along the Queensland coast, the Premier, Mr Bjelke-Petersen, said yesterday. He said a constant watch of the state's territorial waters would be the most effective way to stop illegal fishing, drug running and smuggling. The Premier spoke at Archerfield airport where he inspected a \$1,300,000 plane equipped for surveillance work along the Great Barrier Reef. A Queensland company, Reprographics Pty Ltd, is under contract to the Federal Government to operate the Australian-built Nomad Seamaster over the coastal waters between Rockhampton and Torres Strait. The plane, based in Townsville, will start tomorrow with patrols to cover the 200 nautical mile exclusive economic zone. The company's managing director, Mr James O'Brien, said the plane would take over from Air Force Orions, which would be free for military work. He said the

operating costs of the Nomad were one-eighteenth that of an Orion. The Nomad has radar and detection equipment similar to that of an Orion and can do most of the same work including the detection of illegal fishing boats, smuggling, drug running, damaged navigational aids and water pollution. [Text][Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 5 Dec 80 p 17]

QUEENSLAND DRUG RECORD--Brisbane--Queensland had the best drugfighting unit in Australia, the Police Minister, Mr Russ Hinze, said yesterday. He was commenting on figures which show that Queensland fined three times as many drug offenders last year as NSW or Victoria. Federal police figures show that Queensland fined 1748 people for drug-related offences and gaoled a further 112 last year. In NSW, 551 people were fined and 24 gaoled. In Victoria, 523 were fined and 38 gaoled. Mr Hinze said: "This shows Queensland is well ahead of other States in the fight against drug abuse." He said that the fight would be increased, with two special officers stationed in north Queensland and Queensland's decision to join the Australian Bureau of Crime Intelligence. "The bureau collates and disseminates information on illegal drug-trade activities," Mr Hinze said. "I am determined to beat Queensland's drug-ring organisers. I give them clear warning their activities will be squashed." [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 8 Dec 80 p 32]

CONFISCATION OF PROFITS--A Labor frontbencher has called on the State Government to give courts the power to investigate the bank accounts of drug offenders. The Opposition health spokesman, Mr Roper, said yesterday that the profits of drug traffickers should be confiscated. He said that the confiscated money could be directed into the State's drug rehabilitation programme. "It's ludicrous to send someone convicted of a drug offence to jail for five years, when in many cases offenders leave prison to enjoy the money they have made," he said. Mr Roper said that although the State Government had lifted fines to \$200,000 for drug trafficking, some pushers made profits far above that amount. The US Government had decreed that any bank cheques drawn for more than \$10,000 must be filed with the central banking agency. This had resulted in the conviction of the leader of a drug ring for tax evasion of more than \$17 million. Mr Roper said that the Opposition was preparing a private member's bill to give courts the power to confiscate drug-related profits. "Jail by itself is not enough--a bank robber isn't allowed to keep his money, so why should a drug pusher?" he said. The Williams Inquiry into drugs, released this year, also recommended that power be given to confiscate money proved to be made from drugs. [Text] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 10 Dec 80 p 3]

ADDICTION IN WEST--The seriousness of the drug problem in WA can be measured by the number of addicts who have been brought to the official attention of the Public Health Department. The department was notified of 1319 addicts from 1975 to mid-November this year. There have been 135 new notifications this year. The total now on the department's books is 176. A PHD spokesman said that heroin was the most common drug of addiction. The figures cover only those addicts who have sought addictive drugs from legal sources. They do not include the hundreds of addicts who buy their drugs illegally or who steal them. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 13 Dec 80 p 31]

BOOBY-TRAPPED FIELD--A man appeared in Brewarrina Court of Petty Sessions yesterday following the alleged discovery of a marihuana plantation with a partly completed booby trap containing explosives near the entrance. Police told the court that an electric, time-delay detonator and an instantaneous detonator had been connected to quarter sticks of gelnite buried near the gate. Before the court was Graham Robert Draper, 41, a timber cutter, of Sainsbury Park Station, 60 kilometres west of Brewarrina. He is charged with possessing explosives, cultivating Indian hemp, possessing Indian hemp seeds and stealing detonators. He was also charged over a .22 calibre rifle which police said they found loaded and cocked in Draper's car, and a silencer allegedly found in the glove box. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 18 Dec 80 p 20]

HEMP SMUGGLER--A man held on charges relating to the alleged importation of 10.5 kg of cannabis resin valued at \$120,000 was allowed bail yesterday of \$40,000 in Central Court. The police prosecutor, Sergeant John Tully, alleged that the man brought the resin into Australia through Sydney Airport from Beirut. Before the court was Fawod Eid, 33, of Balderwood Road, Blackett, part-owner of a Campsie travel agency. He was charged with supplying Indian hemp, possessing a prohibited import, namely cannabis resin, and possessing Indian hemp. No pleas were taken. Mr Kevin Waller, SM, allowed Eid conditional bail of \$40,000. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 20 Dec 80 p 18]

TOMBINI: 7 YEARS--A drug-smuggler who imported cannabis resin in his shoes three times was gaoled for seven years yesterday. In the Supreme Court Mr Justice Wallace set a minimum term of three years before parole for Allan Tombini (47), crane driver, formerly of Punchbowl, Sydney. Tombini was arrested at Perth Airport on August 5 while on the way from Lebanon to Darwin. The judge said that apart from the cannabis in Tombini's shoes, a further 27.7 grams of the drug was hidden in his body. Tombini had said that he intended to use the money obtained from importing the drug to bring his wife and seven children from Lebanon to Australia. It appeared that Tombini was addicted to the drug. He (the judge) could not understand how Tombini could afford to visit Lebanon eight times between November 4 last year and August 15 this year. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 23 Dec 80 p 18]

JAIL FOR HEROIN DEALER--A Supreme Court judge said yesterday that he had never seen as many unsolicited, glowing references for a man convicted of drug offences. Mr Justice Wallace said that they had almost persuaded him to put Graham Bruce Mitchell (24) on probation. But drug-dealing was such an evil trade that he considered he had no alternative but to gaol him for four years. However, because of Mitchell's previous good record and the references, he would set a period of eight months before he was eligible for parole. Mitchell, tyre fitter, of Pearl Parade, Scarborough, had pleaded guilty to selling or supplying heroin at Scarborough between July 1 and August 8 and possessing heroin at Karrinyup with intent to sell or supply it. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 23 Dec 80 p 18]

PHARMACISTS' CONCERNS--Sydney.--The Pharmacy Guild of Australia has asked newspapers and other media to stop using drug names and details of drug abuse. The guild's New South Wales president, Mr John Sidgreaves, said studies by the guild and the NSW Police Department found a link between drug abuse in certain areas and local media reports which named the drugs. He said robberies of pharmacies in some areas had increased after news reports named the areas and specified the drugs stolen. [Text] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 26 Dec 80 p 3]

PRISONERS IN COURT--Two prisoners from Long Bay jail appeared in Redfern Court yesterday on drug charges. Kevin John Gallagher, 27, is charged with dealing in cocaine, supplying morphine and possessing Indian hemp. Southeil Toufic Lichaa, 29, is charged with possessing heroin, possessing Indian hemp and assaulting prison officer Allan Joseph O'Connor at Long Bay on Christmas Day. Both entered Redfern Court of Petty Sessions yesterday afternoon handcuffed and escorted by nine prison officers and police. The clerk of petty session, Mr Dennis Collins, remanded them until today. No pleas were entered. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 30 Dec 80 p 11]

SIX ON HEROIN CHARGE--Six WA people have been charged with conspiring to import heroin into Australia. Four of those charged with conspiring will appear in court this morning. They are: Jennifer Dilkes (25), unemployed, of Malcolm Street, West Perth; Sarah Eve Lewis (22), student, of Victoria Street, South Perth; David Matthew Utting (22), student of Broome Street, Cottesloe; and Winton Victor Hall (25), unemployed, of Malcolm Street, West Perth. Lance Gregory Hall (25), printer of Victoria Street, South Perth, appeared in the East Perth Court yesterday on the same conspiring charge. He was remanded till January 8. A sixth person, Helen Elizabeth Mather (20), student of Kingsway, Nedlands, has been remanded to February 9. All the arrests were made by the CIB drug squad working on conjunction with the federal police. The CIB alleges that the six flew in November to Penang, where they allegedly conspired to smuggle out a quantity of heroin. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 31 Dec 80 p 9]

MARIHUANA GROWING--The efforts of government, police and courts have not stopped people growing marihuana in the Riverina, according to a NSW parliamentarian. The Member for Murray, Mr Tim Fischer (CP), said it was "a bitter notion" that nothing seemed to have changed in the four years since the disappearance of the Griffith anti-drug campaigner, Mr Don MacKay. Mr Fischer was commenting on the discovery on Tuesday of 1,500 marihuana plants on a property near Euston. The crop was worth an estimated \$500,000. Mr Fischer said: "Despite the best efforts of police it seems that people involved with marihuana in the Riverina and elsewhere have in no way been deterred by the courts, the NSW Government or anyone else. "It is a bitter notion and a very sad response to the legacy arising from the death of Don MacKay to think that four years later nothing appears to have really changed." Mr Fischer said the Government should press on with its latest antidrug proposals, including the warrantless search provisions which had drawn public criticism. A spokesman for the Premier, Mr Wran, said he could not comment because Mr Wran was away on holidays. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 2 Jan 81 p 4]

TWO HEROIN TRAFFICKERS--Two men will appear in the East Perth Court this morning on charges alleging trafficking in heroin. David Johnson Mole (23), of Blencowe Street, Leederville, and Michael James Drew (22), of Harborne Street, Wembley, were charged by drug-squad detectives on Saturday. A CIB spokesman said yesterday that Mole had been charged with selling heroin and with possessing money from the sale of heroin. Drew had been charged with selling heroin and with possessing about 30 grams of it with intent to sell or supply it.
[Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 5 Jan 81 p 40]

TWO AMERICANS CHARGED--Two American citizens appeared in City Central Court yesterday on charges of importing heroin said to be worth \$500,000. The Police Prosecutor, Sergeant J. Burns, told the court the two had been arrested at Sydney Airport at 12.30 am yesterday. Before Mr K. Webb, SM, were Daniel Ray Whalen, 49, of South East Main Street, Portland Oregon, and David Michael Ambrose, a cabinetmaker, of no fixed address. During the proceedings Whalen told the court he wanted to see a doctor. "I am a heroin addict and would like to see a doctor if that is possible," he said. After an adjournment to enable the accused to seek legal aid, a public solicitor for the defendants told the court that he had been instructed not to apply for bail in both cases. Mr Webb adjourned the matter to the St James Court of Petty Sessions on January 12.
[Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 6 Jan 81 p 4]

CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

COURT REDUCES HEROIN CASE SENTENCE--The Jakarta Supreme Court recently had a hearing appealing the Central Jakarta State Court decision regarding the case involving 1,920 grams of heroin. Last 12 April the Central Jakarta State Court sentenced Lim Teng Pheow, 46 years old, to life imprisonment. The Central Jakarta State Court, in considering the sentence, said that Lim Teng Pheow became the go-between for the purchase and selling of heroin without any authority. The Public Prosecutor, Judge Anton Suyoto, S.H. (lawyer) after the original decision, appealed to the Jakarta Supreme Court. As in the case of the Prosecutor, Lim Tent Pheow from Singapore, 126 Mulberry Avenue, also appealed to a higher court. The factor that reduced the sentence was the economic pressure experienced by Mr Ang, alias Serre Siripakorn, the man who had the heroin. He was earning 300 Singapore dollars per month which was not enough to provide for his wife and 5 children. According to the Appeals Court the 1,920 grams of heroin which were bought and sold by the accused, had not been distributed and therefore had not yet harmed the people of the nation. Based on these considerations, Lim was sentenced to 10 years in prison. [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 25 Nov 80 p 3] 9556

CSO: 8314

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

COCA ARREST--(NA)--Salta--A traffic policeman was about to give a parking ticket to the driver of a lorry when he decided to take a closer look at the vehicle. He found it was carrying 80 bales of coca leaves which had been smuggled into the country from Bolivia. [Text] [PY022140 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 1 Feb 81]

CSO: 5300

BAHAMAS

TIGHTER GOVERNMENT ANTI-DRUG MEASURES URGED

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 18 Dec 80 p 5

[Article by Etienne Dupuch]

[Text]

PRIME Minister Pindling has been making a lot of noise about the dope traffic in the Bahamas. He has blamed this activity on Americans. Now he wants the US to give his government \$25 million to clean up this murderous traffic.

I say "murderous" because I consider a dope peddler far worse than a murderer. A murderer kills one victim, a dope peddler is engaged in destroying the youth of a nation. If I had control of a country I would make the penalty for the dope smuggler so severe that only a fool would take a chance on being caught.

In the series of stories on the dope traffic in the Bahamas, broadcast on the screen of Miami's Channel Four, one of the speakers correctly said that Mr Pindling should clean up his own backyard before looking to the US for aid. He pointed out that dope was being peddled openly on Bay Street and marijuana, held by the police as evidence, was being stolen right out of the police compound in Nassau.

A Channel Four commentator declared that forty percent of the Police Force was corruptible and a crime investigator in Florida also said he believed that this traffic went as far as Cabinet level in Nassau.

How much truth there is in any of these accusations is a matter of individual opinion.

But certainly Mr Pindling's government should first take the most elementary steps needed to discourage this activity if Bahamian people and the government of the US are expected to believe that Mr Pindling is sincere in his protestations.

First step, of course, would be to amend the law so that bail could not be granted to a smuggler and that a long a very long prison sentence would be mandatory for a convicted smuggler.

Acting Magistrate Janet Bostwick, a courageous woman for whom I have a lot of admiration, recently spoke out strongly against granting bail to dope traffickers.

"Granting bail is nothing more than a farce," she declared. "It is a case of 'have money, will travel'." Her remarks arose out of a case in which she refused bail to two Americans charged with possessing 35 bags of marijuana. But she was overruled in an appeal to a Supreme Court justice who granted these men bail in the sum of \$12,000 each. Bail granted to dope smugglers, she pointed out, is always paid in cash because, when this privilege is extended to these men, no one expects them to come back to stand trial. All this means is that the traffic makes a contribution to the Bahamas Treasury!

"Instances like these make you realize," said Mrs Bostwick, "that granting bail in the Bahamas is hardly more than a farce. It's a case of 'have money, will travel.' I take a very dim view of the fact that counsel applies for bail for the accused, is granted bail, and then does not have the courtesy to appear in court," she said.

"This practice by counsel brings proof of disrespect. I will strongly advocate that something be done about it in another forum," she said.

Mrs Bostwick noted that at the time when the Americans were arraigned in court, she

refused bail on the grounds that the case was such that the men were likely to abscond if granted bail. "There are few cases, if any, where people charged with a large quantity of drugs are unable to meet the bail, no matter how high it might be," she said.

In her view anyone charged with having a substantial quantity of drugs must be in the smuggling business in a big way. This, she felt, was "tantamount to murder as it leads directly or indirectly to murder."

"I feel that the legislators should do something real and stop tying the hands of the judiciary. It's all right to shout that the problem is serious and something must be done when quaaludes are not even listed as dangerous drugs and anyone can be granted bail. It is a fact that people granted bail in such circumstances never return unless there is a big technicality in the case where the lawyer can be sure the client would win," she said.

I know you have read all this before in the news columns of The Tribune, but it needs to be repeated over and over again until members of the government stop talking out of both sides of their mouths and do something positive to show that they are not a lot of empty windbags.

Mrs Bostwick found herself handicapped in her work. I would like to see her in the House of Assembly because she has demonstrated that she is a sincere woman who is prepared to take direct action to help clean up our country.

Not only on the Bench, but in her capacity as President of the Bar Association she finds her hands tied. This Association is flooded with complaints about the questionable behaviour of some lawyers practicing at the Bahamas Bar and the Association can do nothing about it because rules giving powers to the Association are lying somewhere in the Attorney General's office ... or in some other section of the law department ... waiting to be brought into effect. Until this is done the Bar Association is a useless organization.

CSO: 5300

BERMUDA

AIRPORT EMPLOYEE ON TRIAL FOR SMUGGLING CANNABIS

Story of Arrest

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 7 Jan 81 p 3

[Text]

Airport employee Rudolph Bean smuggled a suitcase of cannabis worth \$50,000 into Bermuda it was alleged in Supreme Court yesterday. But the drugs got no further than the Civil Air Terminal, after a narcotics squad officer became suspicious, the court was told.

Bean, of North Shore, Devonshire, has pleaded not guilty to importing the cannabis on June 19. He has also denied possession of the drug with intent to supply.

Miss Elizabeth Arfon-Jones, prosecuting, said Bean was employed at the Civil Air Terminal as an aircraft serviceman. On the night of the alleged offences Bean was on duty, as passengers disembarked from a British Airways flight, which had landed from Kingston, Jamaica.

One of his duties, the court heard, was to transfer passengers' baggage from the plane to the terminal pick-up area.

He was seen to stop with a cart and take a bag from it. He was then seen to take this black suitcase into a building where his own locker room was," said Miss Arfon-Jones.

The policeman who observed Bean as he returned through the door.

"There a scuffle took place between the policeman and the defendant. Help came and then Bean was arrested

for stealing the suitcase," said Miss Arfon-Jones.

"The area was searched and the black suitcase recovered. It was found to contain a large amount of plant material. This was later examined and found to be cannabis, which weighed 25 lbs. Its street value is about \$50,000."

P.c. Simons told the jury that his suspicions were aroused when he spotted a trolley facing the wrong way in the maintenance area. He watched Bean pick up a bag from the trolley, then proceed towards the entrance.

"He seemed to strain under the weight of the bag," said P.c. Simons. "He was running with the bag. I ran after him. I got as far as a swinging door and the defendant returned through the door. I tried to get past him and he pushed me back."

A struggle took place between the two men, which ended when the Policeman was joined by Customs officers and other Policemen.

A search of the building turned up the suitcase in a storeroom.

The trial, which is being heard before the Chief Justice, the Hon. James R. Astwood, continues today at 9.30.

Jury Acquittal

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 10 Jan 81 p 1

[Text]

A man who had been accused of smuggling cannabis worth \$50,000 into Bermuda was found not guilty by a Supreme Court jury yesterday.

Rudolph Bean, an Airport employee, had been charged with importing the drug, and possessing it with intent to supply. After a week-long trial, the jury cleared him of both charges.

P.c. Jerome Simons had told the court that he saw Mr. Bean unload a suitcase from a trolley, which contained bags from an incoming Jamaica flight. The court heard that the case was later found to contain 25 pounds of cannabis, with a street value of \$50,000.

But yesterday defence lawyer Mr. David Kessaram

said when the constable was cross-examined he was very vague about what he could recall.

"It is quite possible that P.c. Simons may have got the wrong person," said Mr. Kessaram.

The evidence against Bean, said the lawyer, was very superficial. Bean, he went on, claimed he had made a statement after being threatened by Detective Inspector George Rose, head of the Police Narcotics Department.

When he appeared as a witness, the detective denied having spoken with Bean — and was accused of lying by Mr. Kessaram.

Bean, of North Shore, Devonshire, did not give evidence in the case.

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

TRAFFICKERS, COUNTERFEIT MONEY--La Paz, 3 Feb (AFP)--Interior Minister Luis Arce Gomez reported here today that drug traffickers on seeing their possibilities of action diminished, are distributing counterfeit dollar bills. Arce Gomez did not reject the possibility that international extremism, interested in destabilizing the military government, may be involved in this action. The minister warned that only banks and currency exchange offices are authorized to exchange dollars for the people. Therefore, street money changers will be detained. [Text] [PY032119 Paris AFP in Spanish 1546 GMT 3 Feb 81]

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

META ASSEMBLY WANTS TO LEGALIZE MARIHUANA

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 2 Dec 80 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Article by Arnaldo Falla]

[Text] Villavicencio, 1 Dec--The Departmental Assembly of Meta has asked the National Congress to legalize marihuana growing as the only way to do away with the wave of corruption sweeping the country and to channel the sizable resulting funds into the various social programs that the government has been unable to begin due to a lack of money.

The assembly called for the solidarity of its counterparts throughout the country, asking that they too come out for the legalization of marihuana growing, to secure a favorable ruling from Congress.

According to the deputies, marihuana is being grown over an estimated 3,000 hectares on the Eastern Plains, which means an average production of close to 120,000 arrobas [1 arroba=25 pounds], valued at 1.2 billion pesos.

This money, they explain, has a considerable impact on the department's economy, which is reflected or starting to be reflected in rising prices for land, both in the countryside and in urban areas.

The deputies then point out that there are 120 million peso farms in the plains that are not engaged in any sort of livestock production and that have been used to "launder the dirty money" from the underground economy.

Marihuana today suffers from the same marketing problems as other items; that is to say, there is a string of middlemen, just as for any other product.

For example, a marihuana grower sells an arroba for 4,000 pesos, and a Colombian exporter sells the same amount for 87,500 pesos.

"Gringo" consumers, however, pay 500,000 pesos for an arroba in the United States.

The deputies signing the proposal also point out that the income from the sale of the marihuana is concentrated, since 81 percent of the profits remain in the United States while only 19 percent gets back to Colombia.

Of this 19 cents on the dollar return to Colombia, 16.5 cents remain in the hands of the large middlemen; 1.5 cents on the dollar go to the small middlemen, and 1 cent gets back to the growers. In other words, there is also injustice in this illicit business.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

COLOMBIAN DIPLOMAT SEIZED WITH COCAINE

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 6 Dec 80 p 8-B

[Article by Hector Rodriguez V.]

[Text] For the first time in the struggle against drug smuggling in our country, secret agents seized a shipment of cocaine at Eldorado Airport from an official of the Colombian Foreign Ministry who was carrying it in a diplomatic pouch on the way to El Salvador.

The accused, Carlos Rodolfo Bolanos Correa, a 30-year old native of Florencia, Caqueta, and an official in the visa and passport section, was discovered by Judicial Police agents assigned to the airport and fled.

Although the incident happened several days ago, it was kept completely confidential by the Colombian authorities.

The official also worked for a time at the Colombian Embassy in El Salvador, where he held a high-level post.

Bolanos Correa aroused the suspicions of agents because of the frequent trips that he had been making lately to Central American countries, especially El Salvador. He carried the drug, some 2,395 grams of cocaine, in false-bottom valises with Colombian Embassy credentials.

Bolanos Correa was so shrewd that he even used his diplomatic passport to exempt himself from the taxes that everyone has to pay when leaving the country. Bolanos Correa noted that his suitcases had been removed from the SAM baggage compartment and taken to the Judicial Police for inspection and out of fear of being discovered, he fled. Later, having received clearance from the Foreign Ministry, the agents opened the suitcases and found the drug concealed in the bottom.

The authorities pointed out that Colombian diplomats have twice been apprehended abroad in possession of cocaine. In La Paz, Bolivia the husband of an embassy employee was caught as he tried to enter the country with cocaine and was recently sentenced to 15 years in prison. Prior to that, in New York the second secretary of the Colombian Consulate was arrested for the same reason but managed to flee.

Separately, a suitcase was confiscated at Eldorado Airport that has been found abandoned in the international baggage loading area. Inside it were found 10 kilograms of compacted marihuana that was supposed to be sent to the United States. A Judicial Police spokesman told EL TIEMPO that the drug trafficker might have repented before boarding the plane. The suitcase bore neither a name nor an address.

Fifty Kilos More Seized

The Judicial Police at Eldorado Airport reported last night that another suitcase with 50 kilograms of cocaine had been seized as it was about to be shipped to Curacao.

The luggage was in the Avianca storage area, and its owner, upon being caught unawares, fled. Agents have begun an investigation, and the drug trafficker could be arrested in a matter of hours.



Carlos Rodolfo Bolanos Correa, fugitive drug trafficker

8743
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

F-2 STRIKES MAJOR BLOW AGAINST MORPHINE RING

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 11 Dec 80 p 28-A

[Text] In one of the most telling blows dealt by Colombian authorities to drug trafficking gangs, the F-2 of the National Police Staff seized more than 10 kilograms of morphine at a house in Fontibon. Morphine is perhaps a more dangerous alkaloid than cocaine and is widely used in both the United States and Europe.

Five Arrests

Along with the powerful drug, secret agents seized five individuals who were identified as Jose Enrique Aranguren Urrego, Martiniano Pineros Gutierrez, Edilberto Gonzalez Espinel, Luis Alberto Maldonado Varela and Alvaro Lara Rodriguez, who were placed in the custody of a judge for the pertinent investigations.

The major drug bust took place on Tuesday of this week at No 107-79 on 37-A Street in the Versalles de Fontibon district, where in addition to the 10.1 kilograms of morphine, agents confiscated a Magnum 357 revolver with 5 bullets and a 1979 Dodge station wagon with license plate U-15239.

A Million Dollar Business

The five arrested men were caught unawares as they were discussing the sale of the morphine inside a pharmacy located in the building. The price had been set at 2 million pesos a kilogram, which is double what is usually charged for an equal amount of cocaine.

Stolen From a Ship

The successful operation, which was directed by the head of the Police Staff F-2, Col Yasin Yanine Diaz, began around a month ago after confidential reports indicated that the morphine had been stolen from a European flag ship that stopped in the port of Buenaventura on the way to the United States, where the morphine was supposed to be marketed, and that it might have been shipped to Bogota in a bid to market it among the agents of the international drug trafficking gangs.

Once the house where the morphine had been shipped was located, the F-2 proceeded to raid the building, confiscate the drug and arrest the men involved, who, as mentioned before, had set the total price of the transaction at somewhat more than 20 million pesos.

A Menace

Morphine is extracted from opium, and its name comes from Morpheus, the Greek god of sleep. Scientific circles regard the drug as extremely dangerous because like opium and cocaine, it produces a physical and psychic dependency. A person can also develop great tolerance to morphine, overdoses of which can cause organic disorders ranging from diminished respiration to death.

According to the press release that the F-2 issued about the operation, although little morphine is consumed in the country, some tablets and small vials with the alkaloid as the basic ingredient are known to be distributed clandestinely in small amounts, especially among a number of social degenerates who no longer get satisfaction from marihuana, amphetamines, barbiturates and other harmful drugs and have turned to morphine because it is new to them, without realizing the tremendous danger that it represents to their health.



Alvaro Lara Rodriguez, Luis Alberto Maldonado Varela, Edilberto Gonzalez Espinel, Martiniano Pineros and Jorge E. Aranguren, arrested with 10 bags of morphine.

8743
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA SEIZED IN SAN PABLO--Santa Marta, 6 Dec--The National Police have confiscated 600 bales of pressed marihuana by the spurs of the Sierra Nevada and arrested 5 individuals who were guarding them. The operation was carried out in the San Pablo region, in the jurisdiction of Cienaga, and the arrested persons were identified as Carlos Brito, Wilfrido Machado, Efraim Guerrero, Melquiades Rodriguez and Abidaul Hernandez, who were guarding the marihuana, which had been cached at a farm in the region. Also confiscated was a camper with a license plate P-K 4693. The 600 bales, which are equivalent to 10 tons, have a United States black market value of \$2 million. The marihuana, the arrested men and the vehicle were taken to Santa Marta. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 7 Dec 80 p 13-A] 8743

MARIHUANA, 16 TRAFFICKERS SEIZED--Barranquilla, 1 Dec--Troops from the Cordoba Battalion seized a shipment of marihuana worth millions of pesos hours before it was to be taken out of the country and arrested 16 persons at the Bahia Concha tourist beach resort in Magdalena. The shipment consisted of 552 bales of marihuana, weighing about 22,800 kg and worth 70 million pesos. The arrested individuals are: Pedro Benitez Pacheco, Ancizar Varon Galvis, Jose Dita Rivero, Victor Rojas Marun, Juan de Dios Potosi, Alfredo Serrano Vargas, Juan Mario Acosta, Jose Luis Ramirez, Alvaro Pantoja, Angel Enrique Garay and Gregorio Perdomo Tejada. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 2 Dec 80 p 20-C] 8743

CSO: 5300

JAMAICA

EDITORIAL SEES ANOMALIES IN LOCAL, U.S. MARIHUANA LAWS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 23 Dec 80 p 8

[Editorial: "The Ganja Problem"]

[Text] A televised interview on CBS "Face the Nation" in the USA on Sunday November 23, led to a misquotation by the Associated Press of what Mr Seaga said or marijuana, and this caused some stir in the States. It was good that Mr Seaga was able to clarify the matter at a press conference in Washington on December 4. He stressed correctly that marijuana was illegal in Jamaica and government did not intend to encourage the growing of marijuana. But he faced up to the fact that ganja or marijuana had literally rescued Jamaica's economy and that the more desperate the economy became the more people turned to the growing and the illegal trading of ganja.

His valid point that without importers in the States there would be no exporters from Jamaica, and his statement that in the United States some States had liberalised the use of ganja thus making the U.S. more liberal in its attitude to ganja than Jamaica, must have brought home to the American public the tendency towards hypocrisy in which countries like Colombia and Jamaica are criticised because there is an illegal practice, and yet there is no similar criticism of those in the USA who are making their fortunes out of the illegal traffic.

But the problem of ganja remains with us. Mr Seaga has said that to him it is a question of the effect on health, and that studies are inconclusive. But on the other hand we are glad that he has stated the fact that we are party to international conventions on narcotics, and we cannot appear to be breaking our word by seeming to go soft in our attitude to the drug that it undoubtedly is.

It is no answer to say that tobacco or alcohol is harmful, as if the debate must be considered on the basis of the least of the evils. The government should set up a team of scientists and social scientists to make its own study. The discussions in the Select Committee of Parliament sparked by Dr McNeil's decriminalising approach and the legalising approach of Dr Broderick were inconclusive. The whole matter must be studied afresh by a team of our own scientists, social scientists and social workers.

In the meantime, the law must remain as it is, and be applied. The former government's release of some 200 ganja offenders from prison was a blessing to the ganja traffic, and appeared to prejudge a report for decriminalising which never materialised.

CSO: 5300

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZURE--Police intercepted a private car on Monday evening, after a chase through the busy San Juan district, and detained its driver and a 30-year-old Colombian, who entered the country illegally, with cocaine worth \$1m. on the local market. Another police party had a succesful operation when four men in a car were stopped at Four Roads, Diego Martin, and searched. [as published] Two of the occupants reportedly had guns and ammunition. Consequently, searches throughout Port-of-Spain and Diego Martin districts yielded a large amount of marijuana. A .32 automatic revolver seized by the Police has since been traced to be one stolen during a breaking of Automotive Components, Ltd., on O'Meara Road, Arima, where \$45,000 was also stolen, between April 6 and 8, last year. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 7 Jan 81 p 3]

TWO PLEAD GUILTY--A Trinidadian resident in Venezuela for the past 28 years and a Venezuelan woman pleaded guilty yesterday to being in possession of cocaine, marijuana, and ammunition. However, 44-year-old Victor Lord and Carman Pacheco, 48, will return to court this morning for sentence, after they pleaded guilty before Senior Magistrate Mrs. Gladys Gafoor, in Port-of-Spain First Court. [as published] They were charged with having 500 pounds of marijuana, valued \$500,000; 9,000 cocaine tablets, valued \$30,000, possession of a .25 pistol, and 14 rounds of ammunition on December 20, at St. James. Mr. Roy Holford appeared for Pacheco; Insp. Frank Phillip for the prosecution. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 8 Jan 81 p 3]

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EGYPT

HALF MILLION POUND DRUG BUST FOLLOWS FIERCE GUN BATTLE

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 16 Oct 80 p 5

[Article: "Narcotics Worth Half a Million Pounds Seized After Battle with Smugglers"]

[Text] The Anti-Narcotics Department seized half a ton of narcotics in the Abu Sir desert at dawn yesterday after a machine gun battle between policemen and smugglers. It is estimated that the narcotics are worth about half a million pounds.

Col 'Abd-al-Khaliq al-Tahawi had received information that some Bedouin smugglers who used the Abu Sir desert as their hideout had received large shipments of narcotics. [The information indicated that the smugglers] were about to dump the narcotics on the market during the holy feast of Bairam.

Maj Gen Sami As'ad and Maj Gen Mamduh Salim drew up a plan to ambush the smugglers and seize the narcotics. The execution of the plan was overseen by Col Muhammad 'Abbas, Col Tariq Salim and Col 'Isam al-Tirsawi. At dawn yesterday large groups of men from the Anti-Narcotics Administration and from the central security in the area where the smugglers have their hideout surrounded the area. When the smugglers became aware that they were surrounded by the police, they began firing their machine guns on the surrounding forces who returned their fire fiercely. The smugglers were forced to flee into the desert with their camels.

Lt Col Sayyid Muhammadayn, Maj Muhammad Imam and Maj Samir Badawi were able to seize one-half ton of hashish and opium whose value is estimated at about half a million pounds. These substances are the brands Habib al-Sha'b [the people's favorite], al-'Ailah al-Malikhah [the royal family] and Allah al-'ati [God is the donor]. The seized narcotics were taken to a safe place.

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EGYPT

LAB PRODUCING NARCOTICS, ADULTERATING MEDICATION SEIZED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 17 Oct 80 p 8

[Article by Mustafa al-Tarabishi: "Lab Producing Makston Fort Drug and Adulterated Medication Seized; Lab Managed by Medical Instruments Salesman and Male Nurse"]

[Text] The North Cairo investigative police has arrested a medical instruments salesman and a male nurse in a physician's office for producing the liquid narcotic makston fort which drug addicts usually take by injection. The lab has been seized along with large quantities of empty bottles and vials and medication labels that were set for adulteration and distribution. Other quantities of narcotics that the medical instruments salesman produces in his lab were also seized.

The increase in drug addicts' use of makston fort [amphetamine substances] has recently been a growing phenomenon, especially after some workers in the medical field succeeded in producing this narcotic. Maj Gen Salah Amin, director of security ordered Brig Gen 'Abbas al-'Asi, director of investigations and Col 'Abd-al-Hadi Mukhaymar, chief of investigations to investigate those people so as to curb the proliferation of these destructive substances. In the course of some of the campaigns carried out by Col Fadi al-Habashi, investigative inspector in North Cairo, some information was collected about a male nurse employed in a physician's office in Rawd al-Faraj. That male nurse distributed the substance, makston fort, [to individuals] who have hideaways, such as physicians' offices, where the substance can be administered to drug addicts. He also sold the substance in the office of the physician who employed him, without the physician's knowledge. Inquiries carried out by Lt Col Shafiq Fahim and Maj Muhammad Hazim indicated that the name of the male nurse was Muhammad Ahmad Hasan, that he was 46 years old; that his clients entered the physician's office after paying the physician's fee; and that the sale of the substance took place while they were in the physician's office.

The public defender Samir Sulayman gave the narcotics prosecution [authorities] permission to search the male nurse. A large plastic container containing 5,000 cubic centimeters of the substance ready for sale was found in his possession, and the male nurse was arrested. When he was asked about the source of the substance, he confessed that he had obtained the substance from a 58-year old medical instruments salesman whose name is Jaballah Butrus Hanna and who resides in al-Sahil where he produces this substance and then delivers it to him to be sold. The male nurse said that he had made that man's acquaintance when the salesman

used to come to the physician's office for therapy. He was able to come to an agreement with the salesman to work as his distributor for money.

Maj Nazir Samir 'Abd-al-Latif and First Lt Hisham Mahmud led a surprise attack [on the lab]. It led to the capture of the lab owner in his home which consists of three floors which he and his family occupy. It turned out that he was using a room at the top of the house as a lab where he produced the substance, makstron fort, and the adulterated medication. Large quantities of local and imported medication, some devices and large quantities of empty bottles and vials were found in the lab. These had been prepared for the adulterated medication. The labels that were to be placed on these bottles were also found. Large quantities of morphine and codine vials; plastic containers containing a mixture of heroin, codine and morphine; medicines from abroad; a large number of (alphacamphine) vials, not to mention large numbers of makston fort tablets were also found.

The suspect was questioned by Col 'Abd-al-Hadi Mukhaymar. He declared that he had come to Cairo 35 years ago, that he had worked as a construction worker and that he had then joined the chamber of commerce as a clerk in the medical instruments division. It was then that he began his activities to market some instruments and devices such as scalpels and gloves. Eventually, he opened a store for the sale of medical instruments. He declared that he had purchased all these drugs from workers who got them from the pharmacies.

The suspects were arraigned by 'Adil Rashdan, narcotics prosecuting attorney. He ordered that they be held in custody and that a committee be appointed to examine the seized substances.

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IRAN

BRIEFS

OPIUM ARREST--According to the central news bureau, the gendarmerie regiment of 'Abbasi, in Bandar 'Abbas, announced that a truck driver named (Hamidollal 'Ali Bakhshi) concealed 666 kg of opium inside the roof of the driver's cabin of his truck. The opium was seized and the driver was arrested together with a passenger named (Gholam Gudarzi). They were handed over to responsible authorities. [Text] [LD270412 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jan 81 LD]

DRUG ARREST--According to our correspondent, the Revolution Guards of Birjand stationed in (Zirkuh-e Qayenat) have seized 110 kg of opium from (Latif) son of Abdolrahman, and Anvar, son of Heydar, both Afghan nationals. They also seized a [figure indistinct] of opium from ('Ali Geda-Safari), and 500 grams of heroin and some cash and gold coins from another person named (Hasan Baqi), during the past 2 days. These persons were taken to prison; their cases are being reviewed at Birjand Islamic Revolution Court. [Text] [LD270412 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jan 81 LD]

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KUWAIT

SIX-MEMBER HASHISH RING APPREHENDED

Kuwait KUWAIT TIMES in English 11 Jan 80 p 2

[Text] The CID yesterday nabbed a gang of six drug peddlars who represented different nationalities, four Egyptians including a woman, a Syrian and a Kuwaiti, also a woman. [as published]

The Anti-narcotic Department official in the guise of customers struck a deal with the first suspect Samir for the purchase of hashish worth KD 550. Later they called on him at his house, which was subjected to a thorough search with positive results.

Samir told the police that he obtained the contraband from the second suspect, whose house when searched yielded two pieces of the drug.

The second suspect, who had sold some drugs worth KD 250 to a third member of the gang, Ahmed led on the police to the latter. Police seized three big slabs and five smaller ones from his house at Rumathiya.

It was the second suspect again, who aided the police in catching hold of the fourth of the gang, Abdul Ghani, who had brought the stuff from him for KD 200.

The fifth, a Kuwaiti woman named Njaat, was linked up to the case at this juncture: she had bought the drug for KD 300.

She had carelessly left a piece of the stuff on the table at her house in the Baghdad Street. She said she had sold some of her purchase to an Egyptian woman called Fatama for KD 150.

CSO: 5300

SOUTH AFRICA

ALCOHOLISM MAY COST COUNTRY R500 MILLION

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 8 Jan 81 p 2

[Article by Andrew Walker]

[Text] Alcoholics could cost South Africa more than R500-million this year through damage to equipment, loss of production time and poor work, say experts on alcohol abuse.

A Johannesburg headmaster is worried about the drinking of his standard 5s; the country is said to have up to 900 000 people who are either dependent on alcohol or who are moving towards that state — and alcohol is a factor in 50 percent of South Africa's fatal road accidents.

But the fight against alcohol abuse is being stepped up.

The Minister of Health, Dr Munnik, has announced a new assault on abuse and the South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence believes such steps are not only overdue but vital.

Council representatives, medical officers and teachers

will meet soon to work out "lifestyle" education programmes which, Sanca hopes, will be accepted by education authorities as being a necessity for the youth of today.

"There have been attempts at such education, but the overall quality and depth of such schemes has been far from satisfactory," says Dr S de Miranda, head of Sanca's clinical services in Johannesburg.

"We have a situation where teachers and principals are becoming more aware of alcohol problems and are requesting preventive education in the schools."

Children, said Dr de Miranda, were becoming more and more exposed to alcohol and there was a "vital and urgent need" for preventive education.

It was however not possible to say whether alcoholism was on the increase in SA as no surveys has been carried out. But working from statistics

from American surveys, alcoholism in industrial workers could result in a loss of over R500-million this year.

Which, says Mrs Lee Wilcocks, Sanca's industrial and educational consultant, emphasises the need for preventive education throughout the country and not only in schools.

But while there is a grave need for education about the dangers of alcohol abuse, facilities for treating alcoholics are short.

At the Sanca clinic in Pritchard Street, Johannesburg, as many as 600 people are on the books as patients at any one time.

Fortunately, about 90 percent of all those "hooked" on alcohol can be treated as outpatients.

But even outpatient facilities are strained and Sanca has started an industrial scheme which, it is hoped, will help deal with the problem.

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

INCREASING USE OF COCAINE REPORTED

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 22 Dec 80 pp 77-80

[Article entitled: "Snorters and Sniffers"]

[Excerpts] The wave of cocaine which has been documented for years in the United States is spilling over to Western Europe: the new import center is Baden-Wuerttemberg.

According to the diagnosis of Stuttgart Chief Detective Superintendent Klaus Mellenthin, director of the narcotics division in the Land Criminal Police Office (LKA): "We have now gone beyond the initial test phase; the drug problem is richer by a new evil, the cocaine wave is coming."

If the development from the United States is fully emulated, "and there is scarcely any reason to believe it will not be" (Mellenthin), then an age group which thus far has largely resisted "will be overrun:" victims and offenders belong mainly "to the successful and sated midlife-crisis class, to so-called society."

And even though it has long since been a party custom in the United States to put out little gold dishes with cocaine for self-service, every now and again the criminal police in the FRG also seizes tiny silver or gold spoons, even small vials with dispenser tops, and onyx-covered boxes filled with the dangerous powder instead of pills.

At the beginning of December, right after the dealers had unpacked, 16 film people--directors and producers of the younger German scene--were suspected of being buyers or users in a cocaine raid in Munich. Director Klaus Lemke ("Negresco") was temporarily taken into custody; the drinkers in a Schwabing artists' bar remained in custody.

Five years ago only 800 grams of cocaine were seized in the FRG, in 1980 it was more than 21 kilos--of course, by weight alone still not parallel to the heroin boon (in 1979 more than 200 kilos), but for the narcotics searchers a "disastrous repeat:" heroin, too, had infiltrated "inconspicuously," all of 500 grams having been seized in 1969.

"In the case of heroin the situation was taken too lightly and kept quiet for too long," says Mellenthin; "as far as cocaine is concerned we must speak clearly right from the start." Of course, that will not be so easy and convincingly possible as with heroin because "whatever sails under chic colors" (Mellenthin), as "happy dust," "champagne drug" or "Charly," has much more attraction than deterrent effect and for the present has the apparent advantage of leaving behind no physical traces.

The hunt for dealers and users of cocaine is in full swing in Baden-Wuerttemberg, because the "white stuff" is infiltrating via southwest Germany more and more often and in ever greater quantities--in 1980 there were 30 successful hauls, mainly on Lake Constance and in the Baden area.

The most important finding in this connection: when the man with the coke comes, he is almost always an Italian. Probably not only because the mafia in the United States is also active in the cocaine business, but rather because the American market recently has been served in a roundabout way via Western Europe.

U.S. checks of incoming flights from South America, mainly from coca growing countries like Colombia, Peru or Bolivia, are so strict that narcotics transporters prefer to land in Miami or New York coming from European airports, even as charter tourists.

According to the findings of the narcotics and customs searchers, "there is more and more branching out" in the process, with the cocaine fliers quickly making little side deals in Europe. Amsterdam and Milan serve as cocaine centers, and in return Frankfurt has taken over the "leadership role" for heroin from Amsterdam.

In particular the three-nation corner near Loerrach, Basel and Muehlhausen, and the eastern tongue of Lake Constance near Lindau, Bregenz and St. Gallen, according to a statement by Stuttgart LKA President Kuno Bux, are still "a great white spot on the map of the struggle against narcotics;" several airports, heavy commuter, tourist and excursion traffic with mostly just routine checks, international expressways and autobahns foster cocaine traffic.

Because of the growing demand in the FRG and the increased acquisition costs cocaine is now sold at higher prices than heroin: 1 gram, good for a dozen snorts, costs between DM 200 and 500, and well-to-do prospects jump at this opportunity.

In Stuttgart, for example, a wealthy architect from the Ludwigsburg district was taken into custody just as he was passing cocaine samples in the Old City. Under the architect's waterbed addresses of coke customers were then found. Mellenthin defines the new "user stratum" in this way: "Upstairs, at the parents' party, coke is used, and downstairs in the basement the young people smoke hash."

Police and drug consultants, doctors and teachers now intend to pay far greater attention than previously to coke consumption, especially since, as the National Association for Addicts of the Evangelical Church laments, "the gray field of users is incomparably larger, they remain unknown for a longer period of time."

LKA expert Mellenthin is of the opinion that the police must embark on "new routes" in order to close in on the "group of cocaine offenders:" For the most part the snorter in high society today still escapes police investigation, the sniffer on the streets is easier to find."

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ITALY

SEVENTY KILOS OF MORPHINE BASE SEIZED

Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 14 Dec 80 p 14

[Article: "Tracking Down the Castle Alchemists, Police Uncover 70 Kilos of Drugs Worth 80 Billion Lire"]

[Text] The mafia and "brains" of Italy's new underworld are transforming this country into the world's biggest clearing house for heroin. This fact was demonstrated when an unprecedented quantity of narcotics was seized--70 kilos of morphine base, worth not less than 80 billion lire at the going retail rate--over the past several weeks by the Customs Service, working in close collaboration with nuclei of the militia in Trieste and Bologna, the narcotics division of police headquarters in Milan, and Trieste's Criminalpol branch. In the investigation, now under way, they are also cooperating with DEA, the American service which has been warring on the drug phenomenon all over the world for years. It is not improbable that magistrate Dr Dell'Osso, coordinator of the enquiry, will announce the seizure of other hard drugs in huge quantities and the arrest of persons hitherto thought to be above all suspicion.

The 70 kilos of pure morphine were discovered when the police followed up clues that led to the laboratories of death, shut down last June, located in the castle at Cereseto, near Alessandria, and at 14 Via Cardinal Mezzofanti in Milan. On the conviction that the supply channels of the drug were identical for the organization headed by Giancarlo Trombin, proprietor of the castle in Piedmont, and for other traffickers throughout the national territory, treasury agents and the police were able to trace the stages by which the morphine base, cultivated in Turkey, is imported into Italy.

Alerted by antidrug services beyond our borders, the investigators verified a warning that the drug was being shipped hidden in the tires of tourist buses.

Toward the end of last November, the investigators concentrated their search on Roccamurata, near Parma. After they had scoured the area for some 12 hours, the pilot of a revenue department helicopter radioed word that he had spotted two big wheels lying in the bed of the Taro River. Despite the swift current and the icy water, Marshal Fulco, of Trieste's "Yellow Flames" [customs officers] unit, pulled one of them ashore. While he was being treated for severe chill, his aides, in the presence of Dr Portaccio, of Milan's flying squad, cut open the tire and the air

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chamber. In this unique cache, they found about 20 plastic sacks bound in tin straps and containing some 40 kilos of raw morphine, the drug which is refined into 90-percent pure heroin.

Searching the river bed farther upstream, they discovered another tire packed with 30 kilos of morphine. As explained by Dr Dell'Osso, deputy attorney of the republic, this clamorous find--although for the time being it is not possible to ascertain whether or not it was the property of Giancarlo Trombin--has been associated with the investigation that followed the raids on the deadly laboratories in Cereseto and the Via Cardinal Mezzofanti.

Recounting the results of the operation, Dr Dell'Osso has once again appealed for a specialized Italian nucleus, on the order of similar units functioning in America and Germany, to step up the crusade against drugs. "The numerous deaths on the roads," he said, "should persuade us that we must not and cannot lose any more time. By comparison with last year, the percentage of young people killed by overdoses has doubled. In our efforts to eliminate this phenomenon, I urge that we profit by the experience gained in another [criminal] sector and mete out less harsh penalties to those addicts who agree to collaborate with the courts of justice."

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ITALY

BRIEFS

DRUG LAW REFORM--Rome--Yesterday the PLI introduced a new narcotics bill to the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. The liberals aim to modify the present drug law, primarily to fix the maximum daily dose of narcotics a user may take without incurring penal sanctions; to stiffen the penalties for those persons who produce and peddle such substances; to include heroin in the official pharmacopoeia; and to establish health centers which would diagnose the extent of each addict's dependence on drugs and administer them to him. The liberals' proposal, signed by the deputies Altissimo and Zanone, proposes that those persons who buy and keep not more than four individual daily doses would not be subject to punishment. On the other hand, those who sell heroin or other particularly toxic drugs should be punished more severely [than they are now under the present law]. In treating addicts, the bill provides for controlled dosages of heroin, to be given them in centers especially set up for that purpose. The quantity of heroin and the regular intervals at which they are to be administered would be determined according to the mental and physical condition of each patient, and the centers would keep all such data on file. [Text] [Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 13 Dec 80 p 11] 9653

HEROIN ARREST IN GENOA--Genoa--The police at the port of Genoa dealt a heavy blow against the drug traffic when they seized 3 kilos of heroin base (value: over 4 billion lire when cut and sold at retail) aboard a Mercedes with a West German license. The car was traveling on a ship inbound from the Syrian port of Latakia. A young Turk, who turned up to claim the vehicle, was arrested. Although it is widely believed that the port of Genoa is one of the nerve centers of Italy's massive drug trade, in the past 12 years the authorities have sequestered only so-called soft drugs, particularly hashish, although at times in large quantities. Such was also the recent haul of narcotics arriving from Cyprus, but on this occasion the police were on the right track. A signal was relayed to them at the moment the Mercedes was loaded aboard the "Anglia Express," of the Adriatica Line, therefore the police agents were awaiting the vessel when it made its first stop in Italy at Leghorn. Here the automobile, shipped as merchandise, was identified and kept under strict watch. Unloaded at Genoa, it was perquisitioned and partially dismantled, revealing the drugs hidden under the back seat and behind the upholstery of the two sides. When the car was put back in its original condition, the police had only to wait for the owner to appear and claim it. Yesterday, as Suleiman Yalinis, 27, Turkish citizen, was about to step into the car, he was arrested. [Text] [Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 21 Dec 80 p 13] 9653

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SWEDEN

WELFARE MINISTER SODER: SWEDEN TO URGE UN DRUG ACTION

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 2 Jan 81 p 7

[Article by Sven Thiessen]

[Text] The Swedish Government is planning action in the UN to increase international cooperation in the struggle against narcotics, Karin Soder, the minister of welfare, told the Press Wire Service (Sw) in an interview.

She will visit the UN headquarters in New York to convey to them Sweden's concern over a growing wave of narcotics.

"We are greatly concerned that the opium harvest in the Far East has been quite good--there is talk that it is four times larger in 1980 than ever before. As a result we can expect an increased flood of narcotics to Europe," Mrs Soder says.

"The supply of narcotics is also increasing as a result of the troubled situation in the Near East which has led to a reduction in the control of cultivation, for example, in Lebanon. We have also received alarming reports from Latin American countries, where more cocaine is being produced for sale in other parts of the world.

"This requires, therefore, greater international cooperation in order to cope with the problem. I think also that the UN must become involved in the narcotic question more than formerly."

In cooperation with the UN, Sweden has provided funds for alternative cultivation, so the farmers in Southeast Asia who grow opium can start with other crops.

"We are among the largest contributors to alternative cultivation, but we must get other nations to go along with us," Mrs Soder maintains. These projects have shown themselves up to now to be successful and hence should be expanded.

Wants to Forbid Cultivation

Sweden also desires increased international cooperation in the legal field in regard to the legalization of narcotics. Sweden would prefer to see the cultivation of all narcotics prohibited but the Swedes recognize that this is a long-term objective.

"In those areas where new crops have been introduced, work in regard to irrigation, health, the education matters has been undertaken," Mrs Soder says. The whole standard of the village's population has in this manner been raised. People are helped and at the same time the spreading of narcotics is hindered.

Despite increased efforts in recent years, narcotics remains a very big problem in Sweden. Recent information indicates that the use of hashish or cannabis is increasing.

▪ A Dangerous Culture

"We cannot tolerate narcotics in any form except for medical use," Mrs Soder maintains. "I say this because there are forces in Sweden and above all abroad who want to legalize certain kinds of narcotics, for example, cannabis. These are ideas against which we must defend ourselves with all our strength.

"An increase in smoking cannabis occurred in Sweden at the end of the sixties and in the beginning of the seventies, which later went down. There have been signs for a few years of an increase in the use of cannabis or hashish. Here, there is a significant connection between some music and certain films which glorify hashish smoking, for example, 'Hair.' This is deignous and dangerous.

"Recently there have been cases of hashish being given free to school children in the upper grades. In this way the children would be induced into becoming customers.

"Some people are spreading the idea that hashish smoking is harmless. All research, not least in the United States, indicates that that is wrong. Hashish remains in the body longer, for example, than alcohol. Someone who smokes hashish does not himself notice changes, but hashish slowly results in incurable damage and hence is just as demoralizing as other narcotics."

Smoking A Start

▪ "Do you believe that it is possible to create a Sweden free of narcotics?"

"That must be the goal, even if it seems far away. I think that with a united effort we can reduce usage to a minimum.

"The fact that fewer people are smoking is a positive contribution to the fight against narcotics. The person who does not start to smoke tobacco very likely does not start to smoke hashish. If we can reduce the consumption of alcohol by young people, we can also reduce the use of narcotics."

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SWEDEN

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS WORTH BILLION--Stockholm--During 1980 narcotics worth 1 billion kr were sold. More than 11 tons of hashish and marijuana was the total consumption of Swedish hashish smokers in 1980. This is the figure the police get after calculating that 5-10 percent of all the narcotics brought into and sold in Sweden in a year is confiscated. This means that the police and customs people together confiscated about 800 kilograms cannabis last year. In the same manner, the confiscation of 2.7 kilogram heroin in that year indicates a sale of about 40 kilograms on the street in 1980. According to the same calculation, the consumption of amphetamines and fenmetralin by Swedish addicts was just over 350 kilograms last year. Together with smaller quantities of opium, LSD and cocaine, narcotics sold in Sweden in 1980 have a value of about 1 billion kr. Although the quantity of confiscated narcotics seems quite small, the incidents of confiscation were double those in 1979 according to the narcotics division of the national police. Torvald Nilsson says in an interview with Press Wire Service, Inc (Sw). [Text] [Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 31 Dec 80 p 1] 6893

DRUG STATISTICS--Stockholm, Jan. 1 (AP) Marijuana smokers in Sweden consumed eleven tons of the drug in 1980, according to figures released by the police Wednesday. Including some 400 kilograms of heroin, opium, LSD and other drugs the street value of all narcotics consumed in Sweden this year amounted to one billion kronor (228 million U. S. dollars). Police statistics also show that an estimated 5 to 10 percent of all narcotic drugs smuggled into Sweden each year is confiscated. [Text] [Taipei CHINA POST in English 2 Jan 81 p 3]

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TURKEY

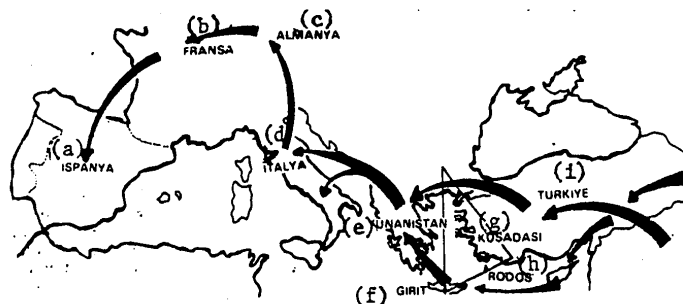
INTERNATIONAL HEROIN RING UNCOVERED

Istanbul DUNYA in Turkish 23 Dec 80 pp 1, 5

[Text] As a consequence of operations conducted in Van, Diyarbakir, Lice, Gaziantep and Kilis by teams from the Central Narcotics Division of the Directorate of Public Security and from the Narcotics Section of the Adana police, a "heroin network" has been uncovered.

It has been determined that the network which has been sending heroin to Europe via Cyprus [see map below], with the collaboration of an Armenian organization, is under the leadership of Iskender Aga, son-in-law of Cihangir Aga, otherwise known as "Celali," headman of the "Dolkhan tribe," as well as the chairman of the Gaziantep sports club, Halil Avar, and Mustafa Bayram.

Heroin from Iran was being smuggled from our southeastern provinces such as Diyarbakir and Gaziantep to Cyprus and from there to various European countries



Key:

- | | | |
|-------------|------------|--------------|
| (a) Spain | (d) Italy | (g) Kucadasi |
| (b) France | (e) Greece | (h) Rhodes |
| (c) Germany | (f) Crete | (i) Turkey |

Halil Avar Flees

Among the network's leadership, Iskendar Aga was arrested in Baskale and Mustafa Bayram in Diyarbakir, however it has been learned that Halil Avar was able to escape.

Halil Avar was arrested in Istanbul in 1974 in connection with the seizure of 600 kilograms of hashish, however he succeeded in placing the guilt upon another man and avoided conviction.

Police have ascertained that Iskender Ertus Aga served the network by obtaining the narcotics from Iran.

The duties of Halil Avar and Mustafa Bayram within the network were to transport the goods to foreign countries.

Authorities stated that members of the network, who had been placed under surveillance, were arrested in Adana with 5 kilograms 550 grams of heroin. It was further stated that additional elements of the network will be brought to light as a result of documents seized in the course of the operations and that the evidence obtained to date will be further developed.

Police Officer Who Collected Heroin Money

Certain documents obtained from Mustafa Bayram shed light on a hitherto unresolved incident. A police officer, Mehmet Bayram, who had been arrested a short while earlier on a robbery charge, was found not to have been engaged in a robbery but to have been forcibly taking a \$3-million payment for heroin owed to his older brother, Mustafa Bayram, but not paid.

Names of network members arrested as a consequence of the operations carried out are as follows: Ali Riza Eyisan (brother of heroin manufacturer Dede Ibrahim), Dogan Eyisan, Ismail Dogan, Huseyin Dogan, Kemal Kapli, Sabah Kurtoglu (previously convicted narcotics smuggler Suphi Bakirkol, who had his name officially changed to Sabah Kurtoglu), Hacı Mahir Gundogo (stated to have been known for years, and to be the owner of a large store in Kilis selling smuggled goods, but to have successfully avoided arrest until now). Mehmet Zait Taruk, Celal Taruk, Iskender Ertus, Mustafa Bayram, Fettah Halitoglu, Idris Akkoyun, Mahmut Akkoyun.

Network members Halil Avar and Mehmet Akdemir are still at large, but efforts are continuing to track them down and arrest them.

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UNITED KINGDOM

CANNABIS SMUGGLERS SENTENCED TO JAIL TERMS

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 17 Jan 81 p 3

[Article by Colin Randall]

[Text]

A PLAN to smuggle cannabis worth £330,000 into Britain in a yacht from Morocco, was "watched from the word go" by Customs men, a court heard yesterday.

And the well-laid plans went further astray when the yacht, the Aurac, in the face of wind and currents, arrived on the South Devon coast instead of her destination in Scotland, and the intended English buyer refused to accept the consignment.

According to Mr SIMON QUADRAT, defending one of five "well educated and highly intelligent" conspirators at Plymouth Crown Court, who were arrested last September within five days of landing in Britain, the venture "never had a starter's chance."

He was defending PETER WEISER 30, son of a New York businessman, who was jailed for six years after being described by Judge ANTHONY GOODALL as a ringleader in the plot.

Mr Quadrat said that Weiser, who lived in Tangier with his English wife and three children, became involved after being approached by two Moroccan businessmen when his craftwork export business ran into financial problems.

But the venture was not particularly professional and Weiser was left with more than 500 lb of cannabis

Also jailed for their part in the conspiracy were: HUMPHREY HOLLAND, 38, commercial artist of Malaga, four years; ALAN BOLTON, 38, boatbuilder, of Golborne Road, Ladbroke Grove, three years; and RAYMOND HUMPHRIES, 55, freelance yachtmaster, of Townsend Terrace, East Allington, Devon, four years.

£10,000 yacht

Humphries, won a scholarship to the Royal Naval College, at Dartmouth, but resigned his commission as a sub lieutenant.

Bolton became involved after his lucrative business taking tourists for sailing trips off Jamaica collapsed when his yacht sank.

Holland's common law wife, MARGARET CORDER, 32, a clothes designer and former music teacher, was given an 18 month sentence, suspended for two years. All admitted being concerned in the illegal importation of the drug.

Mr HAROLD HEBRON, prosecuting, said that Weiser appeared to have been the organiser of the venture in Morocco and recruited Holland and Bolton.

Holland, in turn, approached Humphries and these two sailed the yacht, which had been bought for £10,000 by Weiser specifically for the drugs run to Britain.

Judge GOODALL said: "This was importation of drugs on a large scale and the sentences must be heavy. You played for high stakes and you must pay the penalty."

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END