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JPRS L/9635

30 March 1981

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 14/81)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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AUSTRALIA

QUEENSLAND PUSHES FOR NEW ANTI-DRUG INTELLIGENCE BODY

Federal Role

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 31 Jan 81 p 3

[Text] QUEENSLAND would push for the immediate establishment of the Australian Criminal Intelligence Bureau to fight illicit drug trafficking, the Police Minister, Mr Hinze, said yesterday.

He said he would ask other states to co-operate with Queensland to establish the bureau at a conference in Perth next week of Federal and State Police ministers.

"The bureau primarily will concentrate on illicit drug trafficking," Mr Hinze said. "It will allow police at Commonwealth and State levels to combine to fight the big boys of the drug trade."

He said Queensland for many years had supported establishment of the bureau.

"It is particularly relevant to this state because suspected large quantities of illegal drugs are finding their way into Australia through our inadequately patrolled coastline," he said.

The bureau was in line with the major recommendations of the Williams Royal Commission of Inquiry into Drugs, he said.

Mr Hinze said the states would retain existing field and surveillance operations relating to drug trafficking and organised crime.

He said the Australian Criminal Intelligence Bureau would provide facilities to collate, analyse and disseminate information on criminal activity.

The Police Commissioner, Mr Lewis and senior police officers will attend the conference on February 5-6.

Mr Hinze said the conference also would look at proposals for a national exchange of police information.

Initial proposals were that computer information on crime would become freely available between states on request, he said.

The Victorian Police Minister, Mr Thompson, said the Federal Government would fund the proposed bureau which would take key staff from Commonwealth, Northern Territory and state police forces.

The bureau would focus also on illegal gambling, the infiltration of legitimate business and the international movement of profits from organised crime.

Queensland Cabinet this week appointed the Justice Minister Mr Doumany, as Queensland's representative on the Commonwealth-State steering committee on drugs.

Establishment of the committee was agreed on at the Premiers' Conference last June, following release of the Drugs Commission report.

The committee is expected to be headed by the Federal Health Minister, Mr MacKellar.

It is to determine where the Commonwealth and States can assist each other in the battle against drugs and drug smuggling.

Police Go-Ahead

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 6 Feb 81 p 4

[Text] CANBERRA: A national police information gathering unit, the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence, was given the go-ahead yesterday.

Police Ministers and commissioners meeting in Perth have agreed on a format for the bureau which is expected to be operating by July.

A formal agreement ratifying the bureau will be signed today and full details of its operations will be released then.

However, its main role will be to gather and store criminal intelligence to be made available to the federal police and the State police forces.

It will have no powers to arrest or prosecute and will be jointly responsible to the federal and State police commissioners.

The bureau is expected to have a wide mandate and will mainly investigate organised crime in Australia, with particular attention to the drug trade.

It is understood that the bureau, which will be based in Canberra, will be computer-linked with international police such as Interpol.

The bureau is also expected to be empowered to use bugging devices to gather information.

links with international crime syndicates.

It will also tackle illegal gambling, white-collar crime—including share frauds—and Australian

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AUSTRALIA

GOVERNMENT TO BEEF UP CUSTOMS IN WAR ON DRUG SMUGGLING

Melbourne THE AGE in English 10 Feb 81 p 5

[Text] SYDNEY. — Customs officers yesterday attacked Federal Government plans to spend between \$5 and \$10 million on improving the Customs Bureau's efforts against drug smuggling.

The plan includes hiring 100 more officers, improving training and buying more sophisticated detection equipment. The Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs, Mr Moore, announced the Government's scheme yesterday.

Customs officers claim they are 20 per cent understaffed already and are concerned about their loss of importance compared with clerical grades in the Customs Bureau.

The New South Wales president of the Customs Officers' Association, Mr Peter Bennett, said the extra staff would increase customs strength by only about three officers per shift in each capital city, and said that Mr Moore was wrong to present the moves as a fait accompli.

"In the past three or four months Mr Moore has been trying to fill the gaps left by bad management in the bureau. He is the first Minister to get interested, but the bureau needs restructuring in a much more efficient way than increasing staff," he said.

Mr Moore said the anti-smuggling moves followed recommendations of the Federal Royal Commission on drugs. He said much more professionalism was required from staff to combat the increasing professionalism of smugglers, particularly those importing drugs.

Customs officers would have the benefit of national and international computerised information, electronic detection equipment and an extensive training programme which would make them "multi-role customs officers" who could fill any role at short notice.

Mr Bennett said this meant that clerks would be retrained as law enforcement officers and vice versa. The staff association had been kept out of talks on these changes for two years and the move was "an underhand bureaucratic reallocation of offices". Present staff should be given the benefit of the training programme first and additional staff recruited to fill the gaps.

Mr Moore said his department's evidence pointed to most drugs being smuggled into Australia through Sydney and Melbourne, especially through the airports and both by individuals and in cargo. Increased staffing was probably overdue and the moves reflected the Government's intention to combat drugs in particular among illegal imports.

The Customs marine section will get seven new vessels for coastal and harbor patrols by the end of this financial year. Three more aircraft will be used and the first pieces of electronic equipment for surveillance of smugglers in northern Australia would be installed soon.

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AUSTRALIA

PLANS OUTLINED FOR INCREASED AIR SURVEILLANCE OF COAST

Nomad Flights

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 11 Feb 81 p 23

[Text] THE oil and trading group, H.C. Sleigh, has cornered the market in Federal Government contracts to operate aerial surveillance flights along Australia's remote coastlines.

The last of three major contracts has just been awarded to the Sleigh subsidiary, Executive Air Lines, to fly a reconnaissance Nomad aircraft along the north-west coast of Western Australia.

Executive Air already holds the two other contracts to operate similar aircraft from Townsville and Darwin.

The planes are owned by the Bureau of Customs and are to be used as part of a major clampdown of drug running. The aircraft will be flown by the contractor, H.C. Sleigh. Executive Air Lines, a subsidiary of the Australian agents for the Nomad, and will be crewed by Customs personnel.

The specially-fitted Nomad aircraft will fly into Perth on Thursday to supplement the Bureau of Customs' increasing drug detection capabilities in the remote north-west of WA. The primary role will be to support land and sea operations against offenders and to carry out covert surveillance.

Concern about drug-running operations from South-East Asia and the belief that a major bird smuggling operation is based in the area has increased the Bureau's surveillance needs. Its search radar is capable of detecting launches at 35 nautical miles, trawlers at 55nm and larger ships at 100nm.

The Nomad will be based at Port Hedland and will be maintained on one-hour standby. On a typical mission, the Nomad could cover 800nm and stay airborne for about six hours.

The aircraft used, the Customs Searchmaster, is a development of the basic Nomad. The bureau will also soon introduce sophisticated detection equipment to remote northern airstrips in a further move to combat drug and bird smuggling operations.

It has been fitted with sophisticated Litton search radar and modern navigation equipment.

It will join two Customs launches at Port Hedland and Broome to give the Bureau extensive reconnaissance capabilities along the north-west coast.

Aircraft Details

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 14 Feb 81 p 7

[Text] **The pod under the nose of the Nomad searchmaster aircraft is the key to the Customs Bureau's upgraded anti-smuggling effort in the north of WA.**

Housed in the bulbous nose is sensitive sophisticated radar equipment which can detect shipping and aircraft up to about 460km away.

The aircraft will be based at Port Hedland. The WA Collector of Customs, Mr P. Murphy, said at Perth airport yesterday that policing illegal and unauthorised movements along the vast unpopulated northern Australian coastline was a difficult task.

The isolation encouraged smuggling, including drugs, by aircraft through remote airstrips or by boat.

In addition, Asian boats had been landing and replenishing supplies for hundreds of years.

The extent of their activities and potential to import exotic and dangerous diseases was just becoming known.

REPORTS

Reports of these movements were being received regularly but the bureau response had been hampered by the difficulty to mount co-ordinate land and sea operations against offenders.

With the Nomad stationed at Port Hedland, the three activities could act jointly on suspicious sightings reported by coastal and

defence surveillance and the coast watch.

The Customs Bureau senior inspector of air services, Mr Ken Mitchell, said that the government had decided in 1978 to base Nomad searchmaster aircrafts at Townsville, Darwin and Port Hedland. A Federal royal commission into drugs had supported this action.

The Darwin aircraft has been used in a successful surveillance operation at Port Hedland which had resulted in a court conviction, Mr Mitchell said.

The Nomad is on contract to the Customs Bureau. The normal crew is one pilot and two customs officers who act as observers.

All except four seats have been removed to make room for radar equipment which during a demonstration flight yesterday picked up a ship about 90km south of Perth as well as the U.S. Navy Task Force anchored off the coast.

The aircraft has a cruising speed of about 250kmh a range of 1480km and can stay airborne for up to 7½ hours.

At Port Hedland, a staff of four customs officers and three pilots will keep the aircraft on one hour's notice 24 hours a day.

Electronic Detection Devices

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 11 Feb 81 p 1

[Text] **Special electronic detection equipment will be installed in northern WA soon as part of the fight against drug-runners operating through isolated airstrips.**

The portable units will link into the Customs Bureau's Australia-wide communications network.

The remote-control equipment will warn customs officers when planes land at unused airfields.

A bureau spokesman said yesterday that the equipment could be shifted easily and would raise an alarm at the nearest customs office when a plane landed at a monitored airstrip.

The new equipment is part of major changes to the bureau's operations announced by the Federal Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs, Mr Moore, in Sydney on Monday.

Launches

WA will also get three more customs launches next year to fight drug-smuggling. Eleven new launches will be supplied Australia-wide.

One 20-metre launch will be stationed at Geraldton. Twelve-metre and seven-metre launches will operate from Fremantle for use in harbours, estuaries and port approaches.

Under the new scheme 100 new customs officers will be recruited at a cost of between \$5 million and \$10 million.

The bureau spokesman said that it had not yet been decided how many would be based in WA.

Drugs with a street value of more than \$15 million were seized in Australia last year by Federal and State authorities.

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AUSTRALIA

WA JUDGES URGED TO GIVE STIFFER DRUG SENTENCES

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 14 Feb 81 p 4

[Text] **The WA crown counsel yesterday urged judges to impose harsher sentences on drug offenders in an effort to control drug abuse.**

Mr M. J. Murray, till recently the chief crown prosecutor, said that the level of sentences imposed for cannabis offences in WA was significantly lower than in other States and Britain.

The average cannabis trafficker in WA could expect a maximum sentence of between one and two years, with a minimum of about half that. In Britain and elsewhere in Australia the going rate was from three to four years.

Mr Murray, speaking at the 21st law summer school at the University of WA, said it was clear the community recognised that drug abuse was a serious and still-growing social evil.

MAXIMUM

This was reflected in the Australia-wide maximum penalties of 25 years' gaol or a \$100,000 fine or both for trafficking in hard drugs.

"What is required in my view is a more realistic appreciation of

what can be done by the courts," he said.

"It is certainly true that harsh penalties will not cure drug addiction.

"But if we make the consequences of continuing the addiction painful enough, this can give rise to a motivation to drop the addiction."

Mr Murray said that the drug problem would only be controlled by a three level approach:

- Educating potential users to the dangers involved.

- Attacking the availability of the prohibited drugs.

- Action by the courts designed to punish and thereby deter those users and suppliers of the poison for profit.

Where dealer were involved, tough sentences were essential to punish the offenders, to deter others and to protect the community.

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AUSTRALIA

MIDDLE EAST BUREAU CONSIDERED TO STOP NEW HEROIN SOURCE

Melbourne THE AGE in English 11 Feb 81 p 5

[Text] The Federal Government may establish a drug bureau in the Middle East to gather intelligence on the area's increasing role in supplying heroin to the world market.

Traditionally, Australia's supply of heroin has come from Thailand, Laos and Burma, with almost all police efforts directed to that area.

But the South-East Asian stranglehold on the world market has been all but removed in the past two years by the poppy growers of Iran, Afghanistan and to a lesser degree, Pakistan.

It is estimated that these south-west Asian countries now supply almost 90 per cent of Europe's heroin. Police believe this change has created opportunities for larger quantities of heroin to be imported into Australia.

They are worried that a smaller European market for the South-East Asian growers will leave more heroin available to Australian drug rings and that some ethnic groups in Australia, who have links with the Middle East, may take the chance to expand the south-west Asian trade.

The problem has been compounded by the political upheavals in Afghanistan and Iran which have left little time for police to monitor heroin production and distribution. The Federal police want a bureau in the Middle East so they can get up-to-date information.

In recent years police have confiscated south-west Asian heroin in Melbourne and are disturbed by the possibility of a second avenue opening. The Federal Government is considering setting up additional overseas drug bureaus and increasing the strength of those already operational. It is believed the Foreign Affairs Department is looking closely at a Middle East country for one of the new posts.

Distribution of south-west Asian heroin is done in the Middle East. Federal police say they are concerned that there already exists in the Turkish and Lebanese communities a network being used to import cannabis. Police fear the network will turn to the more lucrative and easily concealed heroin. So far only relatively small quantities of heroin have been imported from this area.

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AUSTRALIA

MARIHUANA LEGALIZATION BACKED BY YOUNG LABOR GROUP

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 27 Jan 81 p 10

[Text] **MELBOURNE. — The Australian Young Labor Organisation yesterday urged the Australian Labor Party to support the legalisation of marihuana.**

The movement adopted as policy the legalisation of possession and growing of marihuana for personal use at its national conference in Melbourne.

The policy stipulated that commercial cultivation of the crop should be undertaken exclusively by an Australian Cannabis Authority.

An amendment was added calling on the ALP to adopt the same policy, which proposed the introduction of satisfactory methods to detect dangerous levels of intoxication in drivers.

A South Australian delegate, Mr Mark Duffy, said drivers under the influence of marihuana should be penalised.

"We do not want people whacked out of their minds driving around the highways when there is no way of detecting whether they have been smoking dope," he said.

He said more research should be done to determine at what level of intoxication people were dangerous on the roads.

The Young Labor national president, Mr Paul Pearce, of Sydney, said marihuana would have to be kept away from tobacco companies and big business if it was legalised.

"It should not be advertised — if people want to take it, that is their business," he said.

Mr Pearce said marihuana was infinitely less dangerous than alcohol and tobacco. He said the tar content in marihuana cigarettes was the main health risk.

He stressed the need to stop heroin trafficking and provide addicts with proper treatment.

The conference passed a motion calling for heroin and other opiate addiction treatment to follow the system used in Britain.

Addicts in Britain are placed on a register and supplied with heroin from government organisations, which removes the need for them to acquire it through criminal sources.

A motion was also passed demanding that heavy penalties be enforced against heroin and opiate trafficking and that police concentrate on arresting people financially involved in the trafficking.

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AUSTRALIA

SYSTEM PROPOSED TO STOP DRUG PRESCRIPTION ABUSES

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 29 Jan 81 p 3

[Text] STRINGENT checks on doctors' prescription forms, with serial numbering and color coding, are being sought by the Federal Department of Health to help stamp out drug abuse. Its stand was supported yesterday by a leading member of the Australian Medical Association.

A spokesman for the Department of Health said it would like to see national serialised numbering and color coding for all prescriptions for addictive drugs. This would help in the fight against a growing number of printers who forge doctors' letterheads on fake prescription forms.

The spokesman said: "Doctors in Western Australia have been using this procedure for two years voluntarily and are meeting with moderate success.

"If doctors and pharmacists in each State got together and backed the idea, the Commonwealth would support them."

The vice-president of the AMA, Dr Lindsay Thompson, said in Sydney he believed other States should seriously examine the NSW example of pharmacists checking with GPs before dispensing drug prescriptions.

"And we would support the serial numbering and color coding scheme on a voluntary basis, but not a compulsory one," he said.

In a crackdown on the increase in forged drug prescriptions, NSW doctors and chemists have called for pharmacists to be compelled to check with GPs before dispensing drugs of addiction.

Chemists and doctors in NSW have been following the procedure voluntarily for almost two years.

According to the chairman of the NSW Health Commission, Dr Roderick McEwin, there has been a "marked effect" on the number of fraudulent prescriptions being dispensed.

When a pharmacist either does not recognise the patient

or the doctor's handwriting, he immediately contacts the GP for confirmation.

If he cannot reach the doctor, he dispenses only two days supply of the drug.

Recent pharmacists' reports to the NSW Health Commission have indicated an increase in the number of forged prescriptions being presented.

A spokesman for the National Pharmacy Guild in Canberra said people who forged prescriptions were very difficult to catch.

"That's why our members would like to see the NSW example followed on a national basis, or color coding introduced," he said.

The report of the Royal Commission into Drugs, tabled in Federal Parliament last year, recommended that the NSW method of detecting forged scrips be made standard procedure throughout Australia.

The inquiry also produced evidence of printing shops being set up to forge doctors' letterheads and suggested the national numbering and color coding of prescription forms would deter this.

The deputy chief pharmacist of the NSW Health Commission, Mr John Lumby, said the scarcity and inferior quality of "street" heroin caused a continuing problem with forged prescriptions.

"But doctors must also be alert for patients who attempt to con them into writing scrips for addictive drugs," he said.

Doctors who prescribe too much narcotics can be called before the Medical Board and disciplined.

Forging prescriptions for addictive drugs carries a maximum penalty of \$2000 and/or two years imprisonment.

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AUSTRALIA

INVESTIGATION OPENED INTO POLICE DRUG BUY OVERSEAS

Customs' Charges

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 29 Jan 81 p 3

[Text] MELBOURNE.— The Australian Federal Police Commissioner, Sir Colin Woods, has launched an inquiry into allegations that police were involved in buying heroin overseas.

A police spokesman said Sir Colin contacted the Business and Consumer Affairs Department head last Saturday after he learned of the allegations.

The Customs Officers' Association federal secretary, Mr Bob Spanswick, told a Business and Consumer Affairs task force of the allegations late last year.

He said earlier this week that he feared the allegations had not been

passed on to police. He offered to talk to federal police.

Mr Spanswick said he was told by fellow customs officers that a senior federal police officer left Sydney Airport with \$40,000 and returned with about a kilogram of heroin, worth \$250,000.

Mr Spanswick said the officer flew to Bangkok in mid-1980. He said he wanted to know any legitimate reason that police would need to buy the prohibited drug.

An Australian Federal Police spokesman said: "An investigation is being conducted into Australian Federal Police operations involving overseas countries towards the end of last year."

Police Defence

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 3 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] CANBERRA. — The Australian Federal Police have dismissed as ill-informed gossip claims that a detective was improperly involved in an overseas drug deal.

The Federal Police Chief, Sir Colin Woods, said yesterday the officer had been working on an authorised operation during which heroin entered Australia.

Sir Colin said the officer's investigations led Asian police to arrest and charge several people with drug offences.

His comments follow allegations last week by the Customs Officers' Association that a Federal police officer brought heroin into Sydney.

The association federal secretary, Mr Bob Spanswick claimed that the se-

nior policeman flew to Bangkok last year and returned with heroin worth more than \$250,000.

Sir Colin said that the officer left Australia for "an Asian country, not Thailand," at the request of the police in that country.

He took \$40,000 with him and was to assist the Asian police in their investigations of a drug trafficking case with Australian connections.

Sir Colin said the officer later returned with the money but organised for a "sample of material" seized during the operation to be brought to Australia.

Although analysis in Asia indicated the substance was not heroin, Science and Technology Department analysts in Sydney rechecked it.

It was found to be 19 percent heroin and the Asian police moved after receiving this information.

Sir Colin said co-operation between Australian and overseas police was necessary in the battle against illegal drug importing into Australia.

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AUSTRALIA

HEROIN, MARIHUANA DROUGHT HITS SYDNEY AFTER RAIDS

Weaker Heroin

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 21 Feb 81 p 3

[Article by Paul Molloy, Police Reporter]

[Text] Supplies of heroin and the softer drug marihuana are drying up on Sydney's streets following major police operations against local pushers and growers in recent months.

Police say there is now a heroin "drought" in Sydney because months of work by CIB Drug Squad detectives has led to successful raids against dealers and users.

The heroin still available is less pure because dealers have been forced to "cut it" (dilute it).

And, in a separate but larger operation against marihuana growers in NSW and northern Victoria, police have seized quantities of marihuana so far alleged to be worth \$80 million.

The operation continued on the Far North Coast this week with a series of raids on plantations near Mullimbimby.

The State-wide operation led to the discovery of what police allege is Australia's largest-ever plantation. Plants allegedly worth \$50 million were found on a property at Bairnald on February 5.

The raids have led to the arrest of about 70 people on marihuana-related charges.

The acting chief of the NSW Drug Squad, Detective-Sergeant Ken Astill, said the heroin drought had followed many "successful busts" by detectives late last year and this year.

He said: "These led to a number of dealers and users being arrested and a large seizure of heroin. This had dried up quite a few watering holes."

A good feature of the drought was that addicts were not able to get the very pure heroin which led them to overdose.

When heroin is in short supply, pushers and users tended to cut it to a lower concentration to make it go further.

But there was still a dangerous variation in the purity of Australian heroin which could lead to overdosing.

Mr Graham Cook, the senior analyst in the drugs section of the division of analytical laboratories at Lidcombe Hospital, supported the theory that the heroin currently available was less pure.

The section, which analyses the street drugs seized by NSW police, has noticed a drop in the purity and quantity of samples it has examined in the past three months.

"At present it averages 20 per cent purity, which is really very high considering that in America the purity level of heroin is standard at five per cent," Mr Cook said.

"But whereas you find little fluctuation in standard in America, here the purity varies wildly.

"In any one week we see samples that contain as little as 1 per cent heroin or as much as 85 per cent--which could be the cause of a lot of the overdose trauma we see."

Mr Cook said Australian pushers and users had no idea of the strength of the heroin they buy and use.

"One time they might use something that is 5 per cent pure. But the next time they might use the same quantity in terms of weight--but it has 15 times the purity level."

Mr Cook said a "foil" of heroin, which costs between \$30 and \$40 and contains about four injections, now contained 80 to 120 milligrams of heroin, smaller than in the past.

In the February edition of the NSW Drug and Alcohol Authority magazine, CONNEXION, Mr Cook warned of a trend towards LSD, a hallucinogenic drug commonly used in the sixties and early seventies.

He said the potency of the LSD they had tested had also increased.

"When the LSD market dried up several years ago, a new drug became common in Australia called bromo-dma, which is an amphetamine derivative.

"Currently, LSD is back on the market in reasonably large quantities, so we have these two forms of hallucinogens going at the same time," Mr Cook said.

Detective-Sergeant Astill said there had been a slight increase in the number of people charged over LSD, "but nowhere near the level of 1975 when it was last popular."

Marihuana Crackdown

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 21 Feb 81 p 3

[Article by Paul Molloy, Police Reporter]

[Text] Detectives from Lismore on the Far North Coast this week continued the State-wide crackdown on marihuana growers.

The detectives, led by Detective-Sergeant Eric Strong, say they raided five plantations and seized more than \$1.5 million worth of marihuana.

Twenty-five men and three women have been charged with various offences relating to cultivating, supplying and possessing Indian hemp.

The five raids, on plantations at Mullumbimby and Pottsville, north of Lismore, took place during the week.

Two people were arrested on Monday, five on Tuesday, 13 on Wednesday, five on Thursday and three yesterday.

The police enlisted local help from noxious weeds officers and forestry commission workers because of their expert knowledge of the area.

All the arrested will appear before the Mullumbimby Court of Petty Sessions on March 4.

The raids followed the successful Operation Leo on the Riverina and northern Victoria regions earlier this month.

They were centred on the Balranald raid, after which 12 men appeared in Broken Hill Court of Petty Sessions on drug charges.

A NSW police spokesman described the operation, which has involved dozens of detectives in both States, as "an outstanding success".

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

RAID ON NORTH VICTORIA FARMS YIELDS HUGE MARIHUANA HAUL

Red Cliffs, Katunga Targets

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 4 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] MARIJUANA with a street value in excess of \$1 million was seized by police in raids on farms in northern Victoria yesterday.

Detectives swooped in simultaneous dawn raids on the properties at Red Cliffs and Katunga, in the Mildura district, after a massive surveillance operation over the past month.

The raid on a property at Katunga, 235km north of Melbourne, netted several plastic bags of dried marijuana ready for shipment to cities.

Police who raided the farm also found hectares of mature plants growing among citrus trees.

The Red Cliffs raid recovered about 50kg of marijuana from the property.

Detectives were last night still questioning three men and searching for a fourth in connection with the drug haul.

The raids came after an intensive intelligence and surveillance operation in the Mildura area over the past month.

Operation Leo started when detectives flew to the northern Murray River district on January 12 and raided more than 50 properties in the Swan Hill district.

But the raids failed to uncover any drugs and senior police believe marijuana growers in the area were tipped off before the raids were carried out.

The head of the Melbourne CIB, Chief Superintendent Phil Bennett, said last night yesterday's raids were stage two of Operation Leo.

He said the sorties were based on information collected by police working in the area and that more raids were likely in the next few days.

\$25 Million Valuation

Melbourne THE AGE in English 7 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] Police now estimate the street value of this week's drug hauls in northern Victoria to be about \$25 million.

The Victorian seizures and the discovery of a \$10 million cannabis plantation at Balranald, in New South Wales, are likely to create a market shortage in the big cities, they said.

Police had previously estimated the street value of the eight tonnes of cannabis, found on fruit properties at Katunga and Strathmerton north of Shepparton, at \$30 an ounce. But sources said yesterday the asking price in Sydney was now up to \$35 a half-ounce.

Three-quarters of the Katunga-Strathmerton haul was packed in bags, and police believe they were ready for distribution.

Drug squad detectives from Melbourne flew to Swan Hill yesterday afternoon to make further inquiries after unsuccessful raids on 50 fruit properties in the area in January. Police believe this week's raids led to a summit meeting of chief growers in the Australian Capital Territory.

Detectives from the major-crime squad and Shepparton detectives checked out a Katunga farm on Tuesday morning. In following days, they found about 600 bags of dried cannabis. They found a drying area and a storage depot.

Plants from the Katunga property were burned on Thursday night. Yesterday police rechecked properties but found only small amounts of cannabis.

10 Arrests

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 9 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] POLICE began the mammoth task at the weekend of destroying more than 600,000kg of marijuana with an estimated street value of \$20 million, seized in a series of raids last week.

A huge quantity of the substance, in various stages of growth and packaging, was recovered by police in two successful operations in NSW and Victoria.

Much of the marijuana, seized in raids on farms and properties along the border between the two States was ready for distribution.

Thousands of bags were found hidden in haystacks, under water tanks and in farmhouses.

Police also discovered hectares of the drug growing on irrigated plantations.

They seized thousands of mature plants awaiting harvesting in a raid on a property 30km from Balranald in south-western NSW.

Work began at the weekend on pulling the plants out of the ground and burning them.

The job is expected to take some time because of the immense size of the plantation, which contains thousands of three-metre plants.

Police raided the property after spotting the 4ha plantation from a helicopter patrol.

In Victoria, extra police were sent to the "citrus belt" to help in the destruction of thousands of bags of marijuana seized during Operation Leo.

Samples of marijuana are being retained by police for use as evidence in pending court cases.

Eighteen people have been charged in connection with the raids on both sides of the border.

The charges relate to offences ranging from cultivation to distribution and possession of marijuana.

Court Appearances

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 10 Feb 81 p 11

[Text] A NUMBER of people charged in connection with a series of drug raids in northern Victoria last week all stood to gain financially from the sale of a marijuana crop estimated to be worth as much as \$6 million, a court was told yesterday.

Six people appeared in Shepparton Court in connection with the seizure by police of huge quantities of marijuana during Operation Leo.

They have all been charged with possession and conspiring to traffic in indian hemp.

Before the court were Antonio Sergi, 29, Joseph Sergi, 24, and Francis Sergi, 22, all of Kallangra, Victoria; Antonio Ferre, 33, of Queanbeyan, NSW; Francesco Ferre, 40, of Griffith, NSW, and his wife, Francesca.

Detective-Sergeant Dennis Hanna told the court police had seized large amounts of marijuana in a series of raids in northern Victoria.

He alleged that the Sergi brothers each owned property where marijuana had been discovered ready for harvesting.

Mr Brian Cosgriff, SM, granted bail for Antonio Ferre of \$50,000. The Sergi brothers were each released on \$15,000 bail and bail for Francesco Ferre was posted at \$25,000.

His wife was released on bail of \$10,000.

All six were remanded to appear again on March 2.

Threat to Grower

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 10 Feb 81 p 24

[Text] **SYDNEY: Threats had been made against the life of the owner of a property where marihuana with a street value of \$50 million was found, the police told the Broken Hill Court yesterday.**

Sgt Brian Bennett, prosecuting, said that the owner's family had also been threatened.

He asked for Christopher David Joseph Murphy (31), farmer, to be remanded in custody for his own protection.

Murphy, of Gooparle station, north-east of Balranald, is charged with supplying, cultivating and possessing Indian hemp on February 5.

Sgt Bennett said it would be alleged that Murphy was one of the main principals in the operation.

Murphy was one of 12 people who appeared in court yesterday as a result of a helicopter raid on the station last week.

Detectives said outside

the court that it was the biggest marihuana haul in Australia.

12 were charged with supplying, possessing and cultivating Indian hemp.

Magistrate J. E. Smith remanded them in custody till Monday when he said he would review his decision.

Sgt Bennett asked Mr Smith to refuse bail, saying that the men were facing fines of up to \$50,000 and 15 years' hard labour.

Refusing bail, Mr Smith said it was the experience of the courts that people on serious drug charges absconded even when big amounts of bail were set.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

MARIHUANA GROWER GETS 5 YEARS; COHORTS ABSCOND

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 14 Feb 81 p 16

[Text] **SYDNEY. — A man who helped establish a \$500,000 marihuana crop in isolated bushland near Batemans Bay on the New South Wales south coast, was jailed in Wollongong District Court yesterday for five years.**

Judge Gee, setting an 18 months non-parole period, said he had taken into account the fact that the man remained to "face the music" while his two accomplices absconded on bail.

Judge Gee also commended a Batemans Bay police officer, Det. J. Fogarty, for his bravery in arresting the three men at gunpoint while he had a high-powered rifle aimed at his stomach.

John Klavdianos, 23, laborer, of Marrickville, pleaded guilty to having cultivated Indian hemp at Cabbage Tree Creek on November 20, 1979.

Con Mihalas, 26, of Brighton Le Sands, and Theo Nicolopoulos, 35, of Sans Souci, also were due to appear to plead on the same charge.

Det. Fogarty said Mihalas and Nicolopoulos had failed to answer their bail of \$10,000 each lodged by relatives, and they were believed to have returned to Greece.

Judge Gee was told Det. Fogarty was led by a ranger to an area 25 kilometres west of Batemans Bay.

As Det. Fogarty ap-

proached the Indian hemp plantation Mihalas pointed a loaded rifle at his stomach.

Det. Fogarty drew his own revolver and walked towards Mihalas, who dropped the rifle to the ground.

Det. Fogarty said he arrested the three men, binding their arms with handcuffs and rope.

The plantation contained 3470 Indian hemp

plants. Klavdianos told police they had expected to sell the drug on the Sydney market for \$500,000.

They had planted the seeds six weeks before their arrest and were going to harvest the crop after three months, Det. Fogarty said.

Judge Gee said Klavdianos appeared to have been the "odd man out" of the trio, not being well educated and easily led.

CSO: 5300

Hayward went with a Thai car driver they knew as Noi to collect samples of marihuana sticks. When they returned to their hotel with two bags of samples they found the bags did not contain marihuana. "We sat down and opened the bags and instead of finding blocks of marihuana we saw many plastic bags of white powder," Fellows said. [Excerpt] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 3 Feb 81 p 11]

GOLD COAST DRUGS--Southport--In some areas of the Gold Coast, 90 percent of young people being assisted by church committees and youth groups are or were smoking marihuana. But the incidence of hard drug taking, such as heroin, and LSD, was not as great a problem as might have been expected. These claims were made yesterday by a deputation to the Premier, Mr Bjelke-Petersen, at Southport, on the illegal drug problem at the Gold Coast. The deputation of 12 was made up by representatives of churches, youth groups and local police. The Premier was told that by far the greatest incidence of drug abuse still involved alcohol. He told the deputation he would take action on the issue, but asked for a detailed submission which he could evaluate where more effective government measures could be taken. The deputation said that drug abuse on the Gold Coast was mainly confined to the 10-to-25-year-old bracket. A big problem was the abuse of alcohol in the home, which gave young people no ability to rationalise the community's attitude to drink and the bad home situation which it could cause. The deputation asked for more assistance from the government for drug referral centres and field work operations. [Excerpts] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 12 Feb 81 p 3]

HEROIN IMPORTATION--A 29-year-old man charged with importing 120 grams of heroin into Australia was remanded yesterday in the East Perth Court. Michael Vickers, a greengrocer and resident of France, was arrested in a Sydney hotel on February 22 and extradited to Perth, as the alleged offence was said to have occurred in this State. Mr S. R. Chapkhana, for the Commonwealth, said it would be alleged that Vickers had \$23,000, the proceeds of the sale of the heroin, on him when he was arrested as well as a one-way ticket to France. Magistrate C. Zempilas remanded him till March 11 and set bail at \$25,000 with a similar surety, with the stipulation that the person going surety must be resident and own property in this State. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 3 Mar 81 p 10]

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

HEROIN IN THROAT--A Karratha man had to undergo an operation at Royal Perth Hospital to remove a container of heroin that was lodged in his throat. The East Perth Court was told on Saturday that Andrew Bruce McKellar (26), bricklayer, had asked doctors in Malaysia to remove the container which he swallowed to get past customs. The doctors were not able to, and with the container still lodged in his throat, McKellar flew back to Perth. McKellar pleaded guilty to possessing heroin at Perth Airport last Wednesday and to illegally importing the drug. He was fined \$500 on each charge. Mr I.G. Brown, for the Commonwealth said McKellar recently travelled to South-East Asia and bought the heroin for his own use. [Excerpts] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 2 Feb 81 p 9]

REHABILITATION PROGRAM-- A public meeting has been organised by a new drug-rehabilitation group to discuss alternative treatment methods for drug addiction. The newly established Drug Research Rehabilitation Association is a community-based group whose members include a psychiatrist, a solicitor, a social worker, a minister and a drug therapist. It has the support of the WA Alcohol and Drug Authority and operates an administration headquarters and drop-in centre in Perth. Two former addicts are available at the centre on a 24-hour basis. The association also holds meetings for drug offenders at the Bandyup women's prison and the Bartons Mill prison. The public meeting at the Community Development Centre in Shenton Park at 7.45pm on February 11 will discuss plans for a therapeutic community in Perth for about 25 men and women residents. Therapeutic communities offering alternative non-drug treatment programmes for addicts already operate in NSW and Victoria. The DRRA hopes that the meeting will arouse public interest in the project and make the public aware of options other than methadone. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 2 Feb 81 p 38]

HEROIN TRIAL--Bangkok, Mon--A Sydney man accused of attempted heroin trafficking told the Criminal Court in Bangkok, Thailand, today that he came to Bangkok to buy marihuana, not heroin, for a man in Australia. Warren Fellows (27), hairdresser, of Manly NSW, said he preferred not to name the financier in Australia because he did not wish to incriminate him. He was not pressed to give the name. Fellows said he paid \$43,200 for 350,000 cannabis sticks--Thai marihuana compressed into the shape of sticks. He is accused of trying to smuggle 8.4kg of heroin from Bangkok to Sydney. Two other Sydney men--Paul Hayward (27) and William Sinclair (67)--and a Bangkok taxi-driver have been charged with the same offence. Fellows and Hayward pleaded guilty to illegal possession of the heroin but not guilty to attempted trafficking. Sinclair denies all charges. Fellows told how he and

BURMA

DESTRUCTION OF POPPY FIELDS

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 19 Feb 81 p 3

[Text]

BURMA has been waging a relentless campaign for the suppression of opium poppy cultivation and drug trafficking.

Many countries of the world, according to news reports, have lately been hit by heroin and other narcotic drugs. While the international drug traffickers are expanding their horizons, Burma is taking every possible means at her disposal to wipe out narcotic drugs in accordance with the resolution passed by the fourth session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw calling for a national drive to combat narcotic drugs abuse which could endanger the entire mankind.

As part of the on-going programme for wiping out the drug menace, Operation Nga-ye-pan Phase I was launched on 25 November 1980 by the Central Narcotics Control Board under which Tatmadawmen, police personnel and the working people under the leadership of the local Party and Council took part in the destruction of poppy cultivation fields.

About 5,210 acres of opium poppy have so far been destroyed under Operation Ngaye-pan Phase I. The result was recently inspected by Secretary of the Central Narcotics Control Board Deputy Minister for Home & Religious Affairs Col Min Naung and party on Loikyant Range in Monghsat Township.

Although most of the poppy grown are in regions which are not easily accessible, the authorities have been making continuous efforts to search out and destroy the poppy cultivations while at the same time substituting income-generating activities in place of poppy growing.

The crop substitution scheme is being carried out with considerable success. But due to the terrain of the poppy growing regions, it should prove more beneficial if arrangements can be made to locally process the raw products from substitute crops as this would reduce the growers' need to travel long distances to dispose of whatever they may produce in place of opium.

Since the intensive campaigns waged by the State to wipe out the drug menace is being done in the interest of the entire mankind, such activities merit all-out support and we expect that all individuals and organizations, in full awareness of the physically debilitating, socially degrading and economically disastrous effects of the drug menace, will take more active participation, whether direct or indirect, in the efforts to stamp out the drug menace which threatens the entire mankind.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

BRIEFS

IMPRISONMENT FOR HEROIN USERS--South Okkalapa Township Court on 18 February sentenced Ma Kyi Kyi San of Konbaung Street, No 6 Ward in South Okkalapa, to 5 years imprisonment with hard labor under Section 6.B of the Narcotic Drugs Law and to 1 year imprisonment under Section 14.D. Both sentences are to be served concurrently. The court also sentenced Ma Myint Kyi, who was found guilty under Section 14.D, to 1 year imprisonment with hard labor. Ma Kyi Kyi San and Ma Myint Kyi were found using heroin with hypodermic needles during a police raid at a house in Konbaung Street in South Okkalapa on 8 September 1980. Both were tried under Sections 6.B and 14.D of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 19 Feb 81 p 6 BK]

HEROIN SEIZURE IN LASHIO--Acting on a tip-off of an impending heroin deal on Phongyi Street, Aung Thida Ward, Lashio, police subinspectors U Win Myint Maw and U Chin, together with ward people's councillors, placed that street under surveillance and later searched Shafie, alias Than Tin, of Mong Tawng village, Tangyan Township, on 5 February. The search uncovered 30.65 grams of heroin worth 6,300 kyat. Sai Kyaw Lwin, accompanying Shafie, was also arrested and both of them were charged under Sections 6.B and 10.B of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 27 Feb 81 p 6 BK]

REWARDS FOR SEIZURES OF NARCOTIC DRUGS--Rangoon, 18 Feb--The Council of Ministers has already issued an order for giving rewards on seizures of narcotic drugs and raw jade, raw gemstones and jewelery classified as precious stones and contraband seized under the Customs Act. In each case, the value of seizure will be determined. Out of 100 parts thereof, 50 will go to the State and the remaining 50 will be allocated to be given as reward. Out of the 50 parts for reward, the first 20 will be given as reward to the person who gives information leading to the seizure. The second 20 parts will be credited into a Central Fund to be established to finance welfare activities of all State service personnel. The remaining ten parts will be given as reward to organizations that carry out investigations, searches and seizures. On the basis of the approximate value of the seizures, the amount to be given as reward will be calculated, and half of the amount will be paid out immediately as reward to the person who gives information and the organizations that carry out investigations, searches and seizures. The difference will be paid out to them after calculating the actual value of the seizures. The reward is exempt from income-tax assessment, it is learnt. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 20 Feb 81 p 1]

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

THAI TOURIST FACES DRUG CHARGES--Hongkong, Feb. 21 (AP)--Police Friday charged a Thai tourist with possessing and trafficking in dangerous drugs. Vichai Saetang, 42, was arrested on Thursday on a street near a hotel where he was staying. Police seized 1.5 kilograms of heroin base in a biscuit can carried by Saetang. [Text] [Taipei THE CHINA MORNING POST in English 23 Feb 81 p 6]

CSO: 5300

INDIA

BRIEFS

SWEDISH NATIONAL ARRESTED--Mr Be Peder Flykt, a Swedish national, was produced before Mr S. B. Putatunda, Chief Judicial Magistrate, 24-Parganas, Alipore, on Friday. He was arrested under the Customs Act for unlawful possession of two packets of hashish weighing 435 grams, one packet of opium weight about 15 grams and \$5,642 while leaving Calcutta airport for Bangkok on Thursday. The Magistrate remanded him in judicial custody till February 23. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 14 Feb 81 p 3]

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN BANGKOK WARNED OF RISKS

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 25 Feb 81 p 16

[Report by Karen Brown]

[Text] Some of the worst drug traffickers in Bangkok are New Zealanders who are taking extremely great risks and endangering their lives.

This is the view of Horowhenua MP Mr Geoff Thompson, the chairman of the Government's caucus committee on the misuse of drugs.

Mr Thompson was interviewed by the "Post" yesterday on his return from a five and a half week tour of Bangkok, Hong Kong, Washington, the United Kingdom, Geneva and Brussels. The tour was at the invitation of the British Government.

While he was away the government backbench MP studied a wide variety of issues from access to the EEC for New Zealand butter, lamb distribution, farm support schemes and politics to Britain's heroin maintenance programme, and narcotics generally.

But what the MP saw in his three days in Bangkok, Thailand, convinced him of the need to warn New Zealanders of the drug dangers to be encountered there.

Worst

"Some of the worst drug traffickers in Bangkok are New Zealanders; they're either greedy or naive," Mr Thompson said.

"They're either greedy because they think they're

going to make vast profits at no risk, or naive to think that they can do all this and not be caught in the very sophisticated police activity that's being undertaken.

"They stand to be shot, or if they're lucky, 100 years in jail.

"Even Thai people agree that the conditions in Thai jails are some of the worst in the world, but there are a number of New Zealanders going there and some actually settling in Bangkok who are taking very, very great risks dealing in narcotics..."

Notorious

During his stay in the notorious city in South-East Asia, Mr Thompson had discussions at the highest level of Thailand's Narcotics Control Board, with the general in charge of the Bangkok metropolitan police, and with the two New Zealand police stationed there, headed by Chief Inspector Brian Duncan.

Mr Thompson said he could not say how many New Zealanders were involved in the drug trade through Bangkok but said the authorities were aware there were a number of New

Zealanders who went to Bangkok thinking of easy pickings.

"Indications are there are New Zealanders at a very major level in organising trafficking, living there or visiting.

"You get the holidaymaker who is going to do a little bit of trading on the side, but you also get the hardened criminal who is in this for the money."

Profits

And the money could not be better. The drugs committee chairman said that a unit of pure — 2 or 3 percent purity — heroin weighing, approximately 700 grams and purchased in Bangkok for \$US11,000 would be worth \$NZ 2.3 million "back on the streets" in New Zealand.

The fact that the heroin is so pure causes further problems: "Those who go there and think they're going to shoot up the pure heroin don't realise it's different from the supplies in New Zealand..."

"They're overdosing and they don't realise they're blowing themselves up... overloading the central nervous system. They

die within seconds — New Zealanders have been found like that."

Methods

Mr Thompson said New Zealanders had also been discovered to have been involved in trafficking narcotics in Bangkok using condoms either swallowed or in their rectums.

If the condom carrying the narcotics was to burst it meant instant death, the MP said.

Commenting on the fact that the Thai Government had introduced the death sentence for drug trafficking, Mr Thompson said while he was visiting the city a medium range dealer — "a local Thai, not a Mr Big" — had been sentenced to three consecutive life sentences for trafficking.

The sentence was reduced to 100 years because the man co-operated with the police in a prosecution.

"Some trials can take three or four years while you're in prison in shackles.

"New Zealanders are quite notable in international drug trafficking, they're as notable as Americans," Mr Thompson said, adding, on the lighter side:

"New Zealanders do well overseas in just about every field they tackle, in fact . . ."

Set up

But the Horowhenua MP also warned of the danger of "being set up" in the Thai city "in all sorts of ways."

"Bangkok's a delightful place but just don't get into positions where you could be put at risk, travel in groups and that sort of thing," he warned intending travellers.

As for implications of his findings within New Zealand, Mr Thompson said the country needed more information on what was happening on its own drug scene.

"We're thrashing around in the dark as far as our approach to drug abuse is concerned," he said.

"We, as a government, should be looking more realistically at the resources required for drug education and treatment. However, I'm satisfied that our surveillance and enforcement laws and facilities are as good as any I've seen."

CSO: 5320

NEW ZEALAND

REPORT OF BUGGING OF POLICE BY DRUG SYNDICATE DISMISSED

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 11 Feb 81 p 1

/Text/

NEW ZEALAND police do not believe they were electronically bugged by the "Mr Asia" drug syndicate.

"There is no evidence of any bugging of any police station in New Zealand by the 'Mr Asia' or any other drug syndicate," the Commissioner of Police, Mr Walton, said.

The "Mr Asia" trial jury in Lancaster, England, heard on Monday that New Zealander Alexander Sinclair,

told police the syndicate did not need anyone on the payroll of the New Zealand police because it had a police station electronically bugged.

However, Mr Walton said bugging would need to cover a number of locations to be even remotely effective.

"And precautions are taken against such action at critical points," he said.

CSO: 5320

PAKISTAN

NATION BECOMING LARGEST HEROIN SOURCE

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 23 Feb 81 pp 1,8

[Article by Sikander Hayat]

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 12: Not less than 800 metric tons of raw opium — twice the combined production of Mexico and the notorious Golden Triangle — was harvested in Pakistan during the last poppy-growing season.

The experts, who keep track of such information, believe that half of this quantity was converted into heroin for illicit foreign markets by about 15 mobile labs now in operation in the NWFP, which process the bulk of this crop.

The opium production in 1979 was about 700 tons. It was then hoped that due to crop substitution programme, the produce would fall to about 100 tons in 1980, with chances of further decline this year.

It has also been learnt that the draft legislation proposing a comprehensive law to replace the existing more than a dozen drug-controlling enactments and to regulate and control narcotics in the country has been shelved.

It is generally believed that

Pakistan is now emerging as the single largest exporter of opium and pure heroin to European and American markets. Together with Afghanistan and Iran, it now forms the 'crescent Triangle', which has reportedly outclassed the well-known opium-producing Golden Triangle comprising Burma, Thailand and Laos.

It is said that Pakistan's heroin is purer and cheaper than that of the Golden Triangle. Its wholesale value upon entry into the U.S. is about 175,000 dollars per kilo.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has estimated that "hundreds of tons" of raw opium is stockpiled in the Crescent Triangle region. (The illicit drug trafficking generates about 54 billion dollars in retail sales in the U.S.).

The Balkan States are the major overland transit routes for Pakistani heroin smugglers to Western Europe.

Greece and Hungary are also used as alternate routes to avoid inspection at the Yugoslav-Bulgarian border checkpoints.

A source said the U.S. intelligence agencies had now identified Italy as the "key transit country" for Pakistani heroin destined for the United States.

CS0: 5300

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

CONVICTED DRUG TRAFFICKER HANGED--Singapore, 20 Feb--A convicted drug trafficker, Ong Ah Chuan, was hanged at the Changi Prison this morning--the seventh person to be executed under the drugs law. The 27-year-old unemployed Ong was sentenced to death by the High Court in April 1978 for trafficking in 209.84 grammes of heroin. Ong's appeal to the Court of Criminal Appeal in Singapore was dismissed in January 1979. Later he appealed, again unsuccessfully, to the Privy Council. His final appeal for clemency to President Benjamin Sheares was also turned down. Ten others, two women and eight men, are now under sentence of death under the drugs act which made death sentence mandatory for trafficking in 30 grammes or more of heroin. Of the 10, two have their appeals pending in the Court of Criminal Appeal, while six others have appealed to the Privy Council. Another two appealed to the President for clemency. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 21 Feb 81 p 4]

CSO: 5300

SRI LANKA

BRIEFS

GANJA SEIZED IN VAN--Here are the highlights of reports on crime from around the country received at Police Headquarters yesterday. A Hiace van heading towards Colombo from Moneragala was searched and a large haul of ganja discovered concealed under the seats, by the Pettah Police on Wednesday. Police sources said that the estimated cost of the ganja seized was around Rs.36,000. Three men were arrested in the van, and another at a house in Thotalanga where more ganja was recovered. The arrests were made by a Police party led by SI Wilfred Mahanayake. [Text] [Colombo SUN in English 27 Feb 81 p 3]

RECRUITMENT OF GIRLS IN DRUG RING--Young Sri Lankan girls have become the latest recruits of big-time drug smugglers bringing in hashish and opiates from the infamous "Golden Crescent" (region round Pakistan and Afghanistan) into the country, Customs sources said yesterday. They are the newest among the lengthy procession of narcotic couriers who were detected by the Airport Customs last year bringing in over a million rupees worth of hard drugs. Customs said that these girls are recruited by the big-time narcotic traders when they are either stranded in Karachi airport, or when they are found in Pakistan, looking for a way to come home. These desperate girls are given upwards of Rs.35,000 to make the hashish run to Colombo, and are equipped with an array of gadgets to avoid detection these sources said. Last year, when the first large scale smuggling of hashish into Sri Lanka began, the first few couriers detected were Pakistanis, these sources said. Later Sri Lankan boys who were on their way to West Asia and were stranded in Karachi were recruited and the latest brand of couriers are girls these sources said. The couriers used several ingenious methods to avoid detection during the last year. The first method was the traditional false bottom, which when detected gave way to the concealment of the drugs on the body of the courier. Lately they are said to be bringing the drugs in the false bottoms of welded steel trunks and the hollows of the sides of suit-cases. Over the past year one hundred and fifty kilogrammes of hashish were detected by the Airport Customs, of which each kilogramme is valued at over 10,000. In all 15 detections were made they said. [Arjuna Ranawana] [Text] [Colombo SUN in English 21 Feb 81 pp 1, 12]

SENTENCED FOR HEROIN POSSESSION--Bangkok, Friday. The Criminal Court today sentenced a 25-year-old Thai to 100 years in jail for possessing and trafficking heroin. Charoon Inthachan pleaded guilty to three charges of possessing and distributing the drug. Possession of more than 100 grams (0.2 pound) of heroin is a serious criminal offence here carrying a maximum penalty of death. The court said Charoon was given a long jail term because he had previous convictions for drugs offences. [Text] [Colombo THE CEYLON DAILY NEWS in English 14 Feb 81 p 1]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

WAR BETWEEN CROPS, OPIUM POPPY IN N. THAILAND

Taipei THE CHINA POST in English 23 Feb 81 p 6

[Text]

Bang Ong, Thailand, Feb. 22 (AP) A war is being fought on the hillsides of the notorious Golden Triangle between coffee, kidney beans, fruit trees and the opium poppy.

Advocates of crop substitution—getting farmers to replace their opium with other cash crops—say it is the only way to literally get to the roots of one of the globe's great menaces: heroin. Critics say it is little better than a public relations effort.

In this village set in a rugged, remote corner of northern Thailand, one can see the war unfolding. Peach, apricot and apple trees are beginning to appear on a gentle slope below a government-built water reservoir. The fruit trees, however, are still vastly outnumbered by hectares of lovely, red and white opium poppies.

The poppy bulbs bear tell-tale knife scrapes. They have already been harvested for the thick sap which is refined into heroin.

This year's harvest in the Golden Triangle—a swath of Burmese, Thai and Laotian territory where opium thrives—is being called the best in several years, and it will soon supply thousands of addicts in Western Europe, the United States and Asia with the deadly drug.

Replacement

Thailand's Queen Sirikit and the two royal princesses, who recently came by helicopter to Bang Ong, walk without embarrassment among the opium fields and talk amiably with their cultivators. It was King Bhumipol Adulyadej who in 1969 began one of the world's first efforts to eradicate opium through crop replacement, but he was cautioned that this must be gradual lest the hill tribes people lose their main source of income and—and possibly join a festering Communist insurgency out of anger at the authorities.

This approach is echoed by Richard Mann, an American ex-missionary who has been one of the driving forces behind a United Nations crop replacement project in northern Thailand.

"What's the alternative? If you don't replace it you have to destroy it and if you do that you will either have a relief operation or a rebellion on your hands," he said.

Critics—which include some diplomats and Western drug enforcement officials—are less patient.

They say that every harvested field of opium translates

into deaths by heroin overdose. They note that some areas where crop substitution was introduced almost a decade ago are still growing substantial quantities of opium. They argue that when and if crop substitution becomes a serious threat to the operations of the traffickers, they will simply raise the prices they pay to opium-growing farmers—or possibly use violence against those working in the program.

The hardliners say that more political will by the Thai government and the actual destruction of opium fields is needed to make a real dent in the trade. An estimated 350 to 500 tons of opium—or 35 to 40 tons of heroin—will be produced in the Golden Triangle this year, although only about 10 percent will originate in Thailand. Most of it comes from areas of Burma controlled by rebel groups and therefore not accessible to such programs as crop substitution.

Mann said that the United Nations program, which began in 1973 and to which he is now the senior advisor, has been slow to show results because it has involved not only the planting of crops but establishing a system for transportation and marketing to compete with the opium buyers who show up at a farmers doorstep, cash in hand.

Benefits

Coffee is especially successful and Mann said that opium-growing farmers are only

now becoming aware of the benefits of switching since plants which were put in the ground when the project began are just beginning to bear beans. With a United Nations subsidy, the farmer this season can earn about three times more per hectare for coffee than opium, Mann said.

Kidney beans, lettuce, apples, strawberries and other crops are also fetching good prices, often for less work than involved in opium cultivation.

Between 10,000 and 12,000 hectares (25,000 and 30,000 acres) of land is still under opium cultivation in northern Thailand and in many areas opium remains at the core of village life. It is not only the major source of income but is used for medicine and consumed by the large number of addicts among the various hill tribe groups.

Shortly after the Queen's visit to Bang Ong, the Thai monarch invited 15 ambassadors and their wives to his project at Doi Intanon—an annual ritual which is said to reap more foreign aid for the opium-growing areas.

This year the envoys clamored up hills to see irrigation works, a coffee plantation and facilities for some of the area's 1,400 villagers. The Israeli ambassador donated 340 fruit tree saplings and the diplomats feasted on spicy roast chicken, cold cuts and fresh strawberries—picked from fields where once the opium poppies bloomed.

CSO: 5300

BAHAMAS

BRIEFS

50-TON MARIHUANA HAUL--Nassau Wednesday (UPI)--A. Bahamas defence forces patrol boat seized a Colombian freighter laden with more than 50 tons of marijuana off the Berry Islands, authorities disclosed Tuesday. The 100-foot vessel Cordobes with its cargo and 13-crew members were taken to Nassau Tuesday afternoon. Bahamas police said the marijuana totalled "more than 50 tons." One police official estimated the total would reach "double that." Police said the skipper of the vessel, an American, escaped aboard a smaller vessel before the Cordobes was seized. Marijuana was being transferred to the smaller boat when the patrol boat Marlin approached, defence forces officials said. The seizure occurred more than 60 miles northwest of Nassau in the 40-mile-long Berry Island chain, that extends from the tip of Andros Island to northwest Providence Channel, some 125 miles east of Miami. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 19 Feb 81 p 3]

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

NEW COUNCIL TO COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING

PY122126 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Text of Bolivian Government Decree No 18,121, issued in La Paz on 11 March 1981]

[Text] Inasmuch as Gen Luis Garcia Meza Tejada, president of the republic considers:

That drug trafficking has increased alarmingly because of an inordinate foreign economic stimulus and has thus grown beyond the jurisdiction exercised by the National Board for Control of Dangerous Drugs, both because of the shortage of personnel of the board and its lack of adequate means to confront that campaign throughout the country;

That it is the constitutional duty of the armed forces to preserve the human capital, prestige and security of the nation;

That the planting and cultivation of coca has a particular social importance which makes it necessary to plan the marketing of this product in the mining and peasant sectors in order to meet natural and traditional consumption through a simultaneous and gradual eradication [as heard], he decrees in the Council of Ministers:

Article 1. The National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking is created. It will comprise: A) one representative of the president as director of the armed forces National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking; B) one representative of the Interior, Migration and Justice Ministry; C) one representative of the Social Welfare and Public Health Ministry; D) one representative of the Education and Culture Ministry; E) one representative of the Peasant Affairs, Agriculture and Livestock Ministry; F) one representative of the National Mining Chamber; G) one representative of the Peasants Confederation; H) one representative of the social communications media; I) one representative of the Red Cross; and J) one representative of civic or similar social institutions.

Article 2. The National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking will be the highest organization entrusted with fighting against the processing, marketing and consumption of narcotics. It should limit production of coca leaves to certain areas subject to legal rules and regulations in order to meet the demand of mineworkers and peasants.

Article 3. The National Board for Control of Dangerous Drugs and the Coca Marketing Department, hitherto responsible to the Interior Ministry, will now be organizations responsible to the National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking.

Article 4. The National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking is authorized to coordinate its activities with all international organizations, such as Interpol, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and others which have the duty of controlling drug trafficking.

Article 5. The National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking will comply with all former legal rules regarding this subject, as long as they do not contradict the present decree.

Article 6. All legal rules contrary to the present decree are repealed.

The ministers at their respective posts are responsible for the execution and fulfillment of this decree.

Given at Government Palace in the city of La Paz on 11 March 1981.

CS0: 5300

BRAZIL

RIO POLICE UNABLE TO CURB WAVE OF DRUG-RELATED CRIME

Sao Paulo VISA0 in Portuguese 2 Feb 81 pp 20-25

[Special VISA0 feature: "Every Man for Himself"]

[Text] The figures are for 1980: There were 2,826 murders in Rio de Janeiro, 24 percent more than in 1979. There was a holdup every 20 minutes in Sao Paulo. In Rio, 131 people are affected by robbery or theft every day. The number of crimes committed with firearms in Sao Paulo increased 268 percent in 15 years.

A survey by the IBOPE [Brazilian Public Opinion and Statistics Institute] in Greater Rio between 17 and 19 January showed that 84.6 percent of women are afraid to venture into the streets (68.8 percent of the men share that fear). Of the women interviewed, 33.3 percent have already been held up, as have 38.9 percent of the men. Of those who were not held up, only 5 percent do not have a close relative who has been affected by the violence of the city. In that crisis, the people lost their faith in the present policeman: one-half of the population asks that the armed forces be added to the police force for policing the streets.

At this time it would not be of any use. Although the police are poorly equipped, although a certain number of policemen are corrupt or incompetent, although problems such as unemployment contribute to increasing the crime rate, the present upsurge of violence in Rio has a more serious cause: gang warfare, organized crime. Behind it all, financing the criminals, is cocaine.

Spread of Crime

Urban violence in Brazil is not only concentrated in Rio and Sao Paulo. Cities such as Belo Horizonte and Curitiba, previously calm, are testing new policing systems. Campinas, in the interior of Sao Paulo, is studying the possibility of going on a "state of emergency," with respect to crime.

In Campinas, robbers violated a grave in the Saudade Cemetery to steal a gold chain from the body of a young girl. They stole articles valued at 50 million cruzeiros from a jewelry store. They held up banks in the center of the city. All this at the beginning of the year. "I am alarmed at the crime rate which is increasing at a frightening pace," says Prefect Francisco Amaral.

Governor Francelino Pereira put the troop of Military Police on the streets to confront violence in Belo Horizonte.

Curitiba has a more imaginative system, however: The return to the old days, with the police stationed at fixed posts scattered throughout the city. "The police must protect the residents, not just pursue the criminals," says Colonel Bonilauri of the Military Police. This means that he must be in place before the thieves arrive and he must seek to mingle with the people, improving the discredited image of the police.

From Grass to Cocaine

A few years ago the war among criminals was waged for control of marihuana dens, place where marihuana was sold to criminals. The increasing prevalence of cocaine, however, brought greater sophistication to the traffic, sales became internationalized and, more particularly, the sums of money involved increased. Thus, the road was opened for the organization of crime and, in the ways of the Mafia, with the settling of accounts, sales of protection and the buying of corrupt policemen.

One of the first symptoms that showed that the loafers and thieves of the hill slums were beginning to become addicted [as published] to cocaine, was a wave of holdups some years ago in the Rio suburb of Rio Comprido. Violence was so great that businessmen closed their shops in protest. The reason for the holdups: A group of thieves of a nearby hill slum became addicted to cocaine. A more expensive vice calls for more money, more crimes.

These battles of petty thieves were, however, quickly ended. The criminals were attracted to the distribution networks of the organized gangs, which gave them a source of income and access to cocaine. The interests in play today are great and the gangs are fighting for control of the market.

Since the beginning of the year, for example, an all-out war is being waged in the hill slum of Salgueiro for control of the cocaine distribution points. The number of dead grows day by day and there is the suspicion that the police are impassively watching the duel from a distance, waiting for the bands to destroy each other.

However, deaths do not occur only in those battles: In the narcotics traffic system, any betrayal is punished by murder. The distribution network has several links, therefore, it is difficult to identify its chiefs. The weakest links, those who come into contact with the addicts, are generally the victims of this type of punishment (they are also delivered to the law as scapegoats whenever necessary).

Example: Death

For the traffickers who come in contact with the addicts, the temptation of obtaining an extra profit is great. Sometimes the addict needs the drug but has no money. The dealer can then carry him on credit, demanding a higher price to be paid in 2 or 3 days. However, the risk is great. If the addict does not pay, if the higher-ups discover the ploy, someone is going to die to serve as an example.

The continuing dumping of bodies in the Rio de Janeiro low areas is not the exclusive result of the "death squads." The unlucky narcotics dealers are also found there, victims of the dog-eat-dog law of the gangs specializing in narcotics traffic. These are brutal crimes, bodies riddled by tens of bullets, abdomens sliced open with a knife and filled with rocks, mutilations, signs of torture, castration, and killing in front of relatives, neighbors and friends-- an example of what happens to traitors. Sometimes the murderers, in order to throw the police off the track, leave notes which attribute the crimes to figures created by the sensationalist newspapers, figures such as the "Mao Branca [White Hand]" or "Killing." However, more than one investigation has already proved the link between the deaths and organized crime.

With the ascendancy of cocaine, activities such as the selling of protection and extortion, burgeoned. Common criminals, former policemen, corrupt civilian and military policemen, those on the periphery of police activities: officials, civilians, bailiffs, members of private security forces and law-breakers' body-guards are all mixed together in them on an absolute equality of conditions.

Corporal Julio

This legion of criminals supposedly acts within the law, arresting traffickers and extracting information from them, with or without torture. Later they sell that information to rival gangs and they offer protection to the jeopardized gang. The recent death of businessman Julio Goncalves Martins Leitao, "Corporal Julio," kidnaped by a group who confessed being in the pay of a Military Police captain (now in prison), took place when he bravely refused to pay 100,000 cruzeiros for his release and supply the names of the network of traffickers with whom he maintained contacts.

The poorly paid, poorly equipped police have usually had the worst of it in confrontation with organized crime, which not restricting itself to winning the dispute, has undermined the adversary, corrupting policemen and turning them into partners in crime. An example: A Rio de Janeiro policeman arrested a policeman, Edir Marins, "Bizoka," accusing him of being responsible for the kidnaping of Misaque Jose Marques and Luis Carlos Jatoba. Edir was precisely the man responsible for protecting Maria do Carmo, the wife of Jatoba.

The complicity of corrupt policemen in crime does not take place in Rio only. In Sao Paulo, Roseli Corrale da Silva, a female thief specializing in stealing jewelry from apartments, worked together with civilian policemen. In the DETRAN [Traffic Department] of Sao Paulo, police investigator Miguel da Silva Lima, "Miguelzinho," was fingered as the chief of a gang which sold drivers licenses.

It is in Rio, however, the complicity between some policemen and the underworld is more intense. Perhaps because of the old days when the animal lottery [jogo do bicho] was prohibited, the principal bankers always surrounded themselves with corrupt policemen, giving them large handouts, thus insuring excellent relationships within the organization which was supposed to harass them. Recently the home of lottery banker Aniz Abrahao David was robbed. The animal lottery banker held a meeting with nearly 20 policemen, offering them a reward and receiving in exchange the promise that they would recover the booty of the theft and give a lesson to the robbers.

The animal lottery-police liaison reached such a point that any criminal knows that he must not be active near a bank or he will almost certainly be captured. Today, moreover, there are no more animal lottery banks in Rio; the lottery sales points are very well installed in their own stores without any fears of police raids.

With narcotics, the liaisons of corrupt policemen appear to be heading toward arrangements as comfortable as those with the animal lottery. Carioca criminal lawyer Virgilio Luiz Donnici, confronting many police and court officers, confirmed that of all the narcotics indictments recorded and registered in police circles, only one-third reach the courts. In 1978, for example, of the 3,107 narcotics violations officially recorded by the police, only 1,004 were taken before the judiciary. Two thousand three were lost on the roads which run from the precincts to the Court of Justice.

Strange Prison

In Rio Grande do Sul on 7 January, Judge Luis Francisco Barbosa and Prosecuting Attorney Justo Martins visited the Sao Leopoldo Prison, where 85 prisoners are serving sentences. They discovered a number of Brazilian prison defects.

First surprise: The prison administrator, Mario Mercio, left his post to spend the summer in Camboriu on the Santa Catarina coast. Since the administrator was not there, the prisoners had not eaten for 2 days. In the presence of the judge, kitchen personnel said that there would be sago pudding with milk for dinner. However, there was neither sago pudding nor milk there. The judge exploded and referring to the administrator, declared: "He is a perfect scoundrel!"

In the investigation, Luis Francisco Barbosa discovered that the first thing done by Mercio when he assumed the post was to reduce the size of the dining hall. In the remaining area he had a canteen installed where the prisoners had to pay for meals. The prisoners were forced to stitch balls for a factory in the city. Of the 50 cruzeiros which the factory paid them, they kept 16, which were paid in canteen checks. The judge immediately requested the preventive arrest of Mario Mercio for misappropriation of funds and ill treatment of prisoners. The investigation should be concluded within 90 days, in April.

And the Names?

Which are the organized gangs which distribute narcotics, fight for control of cocaine distribution points, kill informers and terrorize the people? There are not many names yet. There are the criminals linked in other times to the Death Squadron, led by policemen or former policemen; there are the robbers of the hill slums, such as "Digato," who acquired the modern techniques of crime; there are, according to charges by the police themselves, the team of robbers commanded by Military Police Captain Levi de Araujo Rocha, imprisoned as the mastermind behind the kidnaping, torture and murder of "Corporal Julio."

There is much talk about other gangs, international gangs, but there is no proof. There are those who say the Mafia is responsible for a crime wave, saying that the organization was already established in Brazil (it was the owner of a legal company); there are those who say that Alpha-66, an organization of exiled Cubans, who shifted from the anti-Castro struggle to fighting for hire, is involved in the narcotics traffic. However, it is only talk, there is no certainty about anything; there is nothing specific. Only one thing is certain: The Rio or Sao Paulo police are not in a condition to face organized crime.

Police on Strike

In Sao Paulo, civilian police investigators in a general assembly held a year ago decided to carry out an "operation turtle" to demand more pay. "Operation turtle" is being maintained today. The Military Police, also asking for a raise in pay, decided to arrest only those caught in the act or through a legal warrant, in keeping with the law. The result? In 1979 there were 70 arrests per day, in 1980 there were 30.

There is one policeman for every 400 inhabitants in Rio. In Europe, where there is no history of urban violence, there is one policeman per 100 inhabitants. According to Sao Paulo Military Police Commander Col Arnaldo Braga, 40 percent of his soldiers do not have revolvers. There is a shortage of 1,000 vehicles, according to Governor Paulo Maluf. Not all existing vehicles have radios.

In Rio de Janeiro, the precincts have a monthly ration of 1,500 liters of gasoline. When that is gone, they cease patrolling. The Military Police firing range has five targets. A soldier is considered to be ready for police duty after having fired 12 rounds.

And incidents continue. In Sao Paulo, at the end of last year, industrialist Howard Welch was held up at the door of his house. His wife saw it and before the robbers entered she asked the maid to call the police. The police were called three times unsuccessfully. They turned up at the house an hour after the holdup "because of a lack of vehicles" (a detail: the Howard Welch house is near the Palace of Government). In Rio, a retired military man, Prefect Julio Coutinho, said that he is afraid to go to the beach by himself. His colleague in the government, Secretary for Security Gen Edmundo Murgel, answered him saying that it is always good to be careful when leaving home: when passing under a scaffolding one must watch out for a brick falling on one's head, when crossing the street one must watch out for a speeding automobile, and so forth. Behind the impotence of the police against the escalation in crime there is a political problem: The role of the Military Police in Brazil from 1964 to now.

The Army of Adhemar

In 1964, Governor Adhemar de Barros used the police of Sao Paulo in the fight against President Joao Goulart and threatened to use them shortly thereafter against interim president Ranieri Mazzilli. The federal government then took measures so that no other governor would have such a great military machine in his hands. It placed the Military Police under the direct control of Brasilia, commanded by army officers.

The results were not foreseen. To prevent the Military Police from becoming state armies, the numbers of their personnel were frozen. In the meantime, Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo were growing and policing became insufficient. At the same time, the Military Police were being trained for military not police functions. That can be seen even today: A military policeman policing the city, carrying some gas grenades on his belt, great for dispersing an infuriated mob but useless against some juvenile delinquent or minor altercation. Federal control over a typically state force reduces the speed of decisions. In Sao Paulo, Governor Paulo Maluf ordered the contracting of another 3,000 soldiers for the Military Police. The request first had to be approved by the Military Police Inspector General's Office in Brasilia. Now it will have to be approved by the Legislative Assembly (after the recess), which authorizes the funds. Nearly three months will have passed between the time of the decision and the taking of action.

What is the Solution?

Minister of Air Brigadier Delio Jardim de Mattos, proposed that the armed forces begin to police the streets of the big cities, but mainly, based on the argument that the young recruits do not have enough training or experience for facing criminals, the idea was discarded. Moreover, it would be strange for the armed forces to help the Military Police, which is itself an auxiliary body of the armed forces.

A committee of specialists convoked by the now-deceased Minister Petronio Portella, prepared a diagnosis in which it advocates, among other things, a reduction in the sale of alcoholic beverages and something it called a "distribution of revenues." Minister Abi-Ackel simply filed the plan, while some of his aides said that the report, in addition to being long-winded, was very theoretical.

Another proposal, which always appears in these times, is that of the death penalty. Its proponents argue that if he is subject to the death penalty for homicide, the criminal will hesitate before killing, perhaps he would be satisfied with the wallet without also demanding someone's life. An objection: After his first homicide, the criminal could kill as many as he wanted, since his penalty could not be made any greater.

Minister of Justice Ibrahim Abi-Ackel proposed that the police all be used in visible policing, not as typists or any office work. Judge Alberto Motta Moraes, in a paper presented in the Superior War School, proposes doing away with the Military Police, since in his opinion they are inadequate, and the creation of a National Guard such as that existing in the United States.

Indeed, there is no single solution; solutions are numerous. The fight against unemployment, improvement of prisons, speeding up justice, visible policing, cleanup of the police, all that must be done at the same time. One solution by itself will perhaps moderate the present escalation of violence, but it would not be enough for all problems. We would at all times be running the risk of the return of fear.

Military Opinion

Why not put the armed forces to policing the streets?

"I cannot order a tank to fire on criminals or the artillery to shell a slum," explains First Army Commander Gen Gentil Marcondes Filho. "We do not have the equipment or training for that."

Second Army Commander Genl Milton Tavares believes that to use the armed forces for fighting crime is "an almost absurd idea." In the opinion of Milton Tavares, an actual reduction in the crime rate will only be obtained if there is more money for police.

"As long as the police do not receive better pay, more and better means for fighting crime, things will not go as the people want. The present number of civilian and military police is insufficient, the wages they receive are low and the material means they receive are not enough for the fight against crime."

In the opinion of Gen Milton Tavares, however, the great enemy of the people is not urban violence: "The danger comes from the communist movement, which attacks the Brazilian population."

The only military voice which defended the use of the armed forces in policing was that of the minister of air, who asserted that the troops are capable of pacifying the streets.

8908
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

RIO DRUG RING BELIEVED RESPONSIBLE FOR 20 AREA KILLINGS

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Feb 81 p 9

[Text] A gang of traffickers that controls all drug sales points in Penha, Quitungo, Vista Alegre, Iraja and Vicente de Carvalho is being indicated by the Homicide Department as responsible for about 20 killings in the area. The gang is headed by Celso Moreira, known as Celsao, 22 years old, who a few days ago was accused by his own brother, who was arrested red-headed while drug trafficking by police of the 27th precinct.

The first murder attributed to the gang, which was solved yesterday by police from Section 7 of the Homicide Department, was that of the holdup man. Ricardo Esteves Coutinho, 22 years of age, whose bullet-riddled body was found with its hands tied with electric wires at the end of Goncalves dos Santos Street, Sereno Hill, in Penha. The crime occurred on 15 September 1979 and the first clue leading toward its solution was the desposition given by local resident Jose Raimundo Alves.

According the investigations by Detective Jamil Warwar, what let to Ricardo's murder was the fact that whenever the victim committed a hold--up and that happened very frequently--he ran to Sereno Hill, attracting the attention of the police to the place, which was the Celsao Gang's drug disposition "general headquarters." Since the constant police raids were upsetting the drug business, Celsao decided to kill Ricardo.

To do that, he used another holdup-man Joao Carlos Ribeiro de Araujo, 21 years of age, who was a close friend of Ricardo's. The plan was to attract Ricardo to the drug-selling point, where the traffickers overpowered him. Later, they took him to the top of the hill, tied him with electric wire and then shot him.

The Celsao gang's "general headquarters" in now located between the Jorge and Geraldo curves on Caixa D'Augua Hill in Penha. The gang was formerly under the command of trafficker Iran da Silva Trindade, who was killed ast July in the 33d police precinct area (in Realengo) in a shootout with the police. Celsao, who was the gang's "security" man, assumed control of all trafickers and the gang's sales points at that time.

8711
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS, REFINER SEIZED IN SAO PAULO

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 24 Feb 81 p 22

[Text] Following 3-months' surveillance, agents of the Federal Police Narcotics Control Department arrested Joao Magalhaes Silva, Rubens Flores Roman and Carmen Tapia de Fernandez, with 3 kilos of cocaine that was to be distributed in Italy and among people connected with clubs that are sponsoring carnival balls in the next few days.

Joao Magalhaes Silva, known as Dr Silvana, lives in Belo Horizonte and, according to the federal police, he has one of the largest cocaine refinement laboratories in Santa Cruz de la Sierra In Bolivia. He also has a file in the Unitee States, in the FBI, which considers him "one of the most famous chemists in the refinement of cocaine in Bolivia."

Caught Red-Handed

Three months ago, when it received the information that Joao Magalhaes Silva had the laboratory in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, where he refined cocaine to be sold in Brazil and other countries, the federal police began to keep him under surveillance. Last Friday, he arrived in Sao Paulo and had contacts with Rubens Flores Roman, a farmer in Corumba (Mato Grosso do Sul,) as well as with the Bolivian, Carmen Tapia de Fernandez, a secretary, who lives in Santa Cruz de la Sierrs.

The three were caught red-handed. More than 1 kilo of cocaine ready for consumption packed in a pillow, was apprehended in the possession of Joao. There was a 38 caliber revolver in his attache case. Another 2 kilos of pure cocaine and 1 kilo in the form of cocaine sulfate, which the federal police believe was to be refined in Brazil--were apprehended in the possession of Rubens and Carmen, professional transporters of cocaine from Bolivia to Brazil.

The traffickers said that in order to circumvent detection, they put the drug in plastic bags which they attached to their legs with adhesive tape. They also confessed that the part of the cocaine in their possession would be taken to Italy and the other part would be distributed among people connected with clubs that are going to sponsor carnival balls.

They revealed that the sale of the cocaine to Italy had been arranged by telephone contact and that it would be taken there by plane--attached with adhesive tape to

the legs and other parts of the body. According to Joao Magalhaes Silva, "the deal with the Italians would be a great contact for making future large shipmnets to that country, which would become a new route for that traffic."

8711
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

COCAINE ARREST IN SAO PAULO--Sao Paulo--Narcotics Division investigators yesterday arrested Antonio Alberto Portugal, the proprietor of a jewelry store in Itu, in a hotel, with half a kilo of cocaine appraised at 2 million cruzeiros. Antonio Portugal told police official Gustavo de Oliveira that he bought the drug from a Bolivian and planned to distribute it among people he knew. However, the police have information that Antonio Portugal is the contact man for a powerful trafficker with customers in Sao Paulo. Before arresting him, the police followed him for 3 days, and everyone he had contact with is being questioned. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 26 Feb 81 p 6]

COCAINE SEIZED IN CAMPO GRANDE--Campo Grande--The Federal Police Department of Mato Grosso do Sul expects to arrest by this morning at least two of the members of a gang of cocaine traffickers who yesterday afternoon tried to ship a traveling bag with 18 kilos of cocaine aboard a VASP plane. The cocaine, bought by the gang for 600,000 cruzeiros per kilo in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, would be taken to Sao Paulo, where the drug is selling in the consumer market at around 3.5 million cruzeiros per kilo. After checking the passenger list of VASP Flight No 372, the police took the name of the trafficker and concluded that the cocaine shipment apprehended belonged to a group of traffickers that is now in Corumba, seeking to take a larger quantity of the drug to Rio and Sao Paulo to be distributed during the carnival. The names of those involved and their connections in Rio and Sao Paulo are expected to be announced this morning. [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Feb 81 p 5]

8711
CSO: 5300

CHILE

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The police have arrested four persons and seized 2 kilograms of cocaine base at the Santiago International Airport when the drug traffickers were about to leave the country. The drug traffickers are (Josefa del Pilar Vicente Sotero), (Francisco Inocencio de la Calle Soto), (Isais Armando Silva de la Calle) and (Victor Alberto Valerio Gonzelez). [PY121848 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 12 Mar 81]

CSO: 5300

DOMINICA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA FOR GUNS--Roseau, Dominica, Monday, (CANA)--Marijuana is being used as a tool to create conditions for gun trafficking in Dominica, Attorney General Ronan David has said. His statement, in a Government Information Service release (GIS) follows last Thursday's abduction of a prominent farmer here by armed members of a marijuana-smoking cult called The Dreads. "It is the exchange of guns for marijuana which has given some people the impression they can, in addition to their unlawful trade, commit any crime with impunity and use their guns to resist arrest and to threaten the peace and stability of this country," the Attorney-General said. Mr David said no instruction has been given to the police or anyone else to shoot, arrest or otherwise take action against any particular group or sect or section of the community. Mr David urged Dominicans to "rally behind the Government in its determination to secure the release of Mr Honychurch and to bring an end to terrorism and terrorist activities in Dominica. [Excerpts] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 17 Feb 81 p 3]

CSO: 4220

FRENCH GUIANA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SMUGGLERS--Cayenne, French Guiana, 27 Feb (AFP)--Police have reported that two U.S. citizens were arrested at Cayenne's airport smuggling 3.6 kg of cocaine. The couple arrived from Lima en route to the United States. [PA042331 Paris AFP in Spanish 0432 GMT 28 Feb 81]

CSO: 5300

SURINAME

FIRED JUSTICE MINISTER SAID TO HAVE IMPEDED HEROIN INVESTIGATION

Paramaribo DE WARE TIJD in Dutch 7 Jan 81 p 1

[Article: "Minister Haakmat Relieved of His Functions and Accused"]

[Text] Minister Andre Haakmat was yesterday relieved of his functions. Around the noon hour this news exploded like a bomb, also because of the accusations against him and the statement that he has to remain available for an investigation by the police.

The news that once again a minister was fired and with serious accusations against him caused clearly noticeable tensions in the society and became the topic of the day.

The official statement on this development reads as follows:

Spreading Dissension

The government, the army command, and the NMR [National Military Council] decided on Tuesday January 6 1981 to relieve Minister of Justice, Army and Police, and Foreign Affairs A. Haakmat of his functions. The decision is based on the actions of this government leader and his statements which endangered the revolutionary process.

Again and again it appeared that Mr Haakmat tried to create dissension within the army command on the one hand, and between the government and the army command, on the other hand.

It was also established that the former government leader tried many times to discredit the government. In interviews with the publicity media he disagreed openly with the government's policies without accepting the consequences.

Heroin Affair

The decision of the government, the army command, and the NMR is to an important degree based on the fact that Mr Haakmat seriously impeded the police investigation of activities in connection with the trade in heroin, by violating its secrecy.

On the basis of additional information the government, the army command, and the NMR decided in consultation with the fired minister that he will remain available for a continued police investigation.

As a result of the above-mentioned disclosures Mr Haakmat could no longer be maintained in his job as minister. However, the possibility of assigning him to another job is under investigation.

10319
CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

LSD, COCAINE TRAFFICKER ARRESTED

Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 19 Jan 81 p 23

[Text] With the arrest of a Venezuelan traveller returning from New York, a huge traffic was discovered in LSD and other drugs, which were arriving destined for users who frequent luxurious discoteques, in East Caracas. Officials of the antinarcotics division of the Judicial Technical Police, after a chase, arrested Jorge Eliecer Pina Rodriguez, 30, a native of San Cristobal.

On arriving at the airport in Maiquetia, Pina Rodriguez started walking to the Los Palos Grandes section, where 233 drops of lysergic acid (LSD) were seized from him. The police then raided his house in Valencia, where they found 200 more drops of the hallucinogen hidden in ordinary white paper. Moreover, 50 grams of cocaine and a small quantity of marihuana were seized from Pina Rodriguez.

According to police information, Pina Rodriguez usually travelled to the United States to supply himself with the LSD to distribute it in Caracas and Valencia in the most popular nightclubs, where he is known as "a film maker by profession."



Jorge Eliecer Pina, accused of trafficking LSD in Venezuela.

9545
CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

COCAINE, MARIHUANA CONFISCATED--San Felipe, 18 Jan--In a Judicial Technical Police [PTJ] operation in San Felipe against trafficking in and use of drugs, several persons have been arrested in two raids. Compressed marihuana, tablets, 80-percent cut cocaine, a gold watch and several wads of bank notes were confiscated. The operation succeeded because of the energetic cooperation of the State Police and other official bodies, including the Public Prosecutor's Office, disclosed Pedro Martinez, chief inspector of the Yaracuy PTJ. In the first raid and search in a house in the Andres Eloy Blanco section, the suspects arrested as drug traffickers were identified as: Jose Rafael Mendoza Sanchez, 34 and Simon Alberto Blanco Petit and Pedro Pacheco Pena, who were turned over to the regular courts. Another raid and search followed in the neighboring town of Marin and in Taria, under the jurisdiction of Veroes district, where marihuana, tablets and a firearm were also confiscated. Martinez said this was the first operation in 1981 against trafficking in and use of drugs in Yaracuy. [Text] [Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 19 Jan 81 p D-19] 9545

CSO: 5300

IRAN

BRIEFS

HASHISH SEIZED--The Shiraz drug squad has seized 4.7 kg of hashish from three individuals. Citizens have been asked to report any narcotics dealings to the drug squad. [GF051641 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 5 Mar 81]

HASHISH SEIZED IN KHORASAN--The Khorasan Revolution Committee seized 3,000 bars of soap, 300 boxes of cigarettes, 100 rolls of foreign-made cloth as well as 1,650 grams of hashish from an individual last night. The investigation continues. [GF091919 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 9 Mar 81]

OPIUM DISCOVERED IN TORBAT-E JAM--Torbat-e Jam gendarmerie personnel arrested an individual for possession of 1.3 kg of opium and confiscated the drug. [GF120725 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 11 Mar 81]

OPIUM SEIZED IN TORBAT-E HEYDARIYEH--Torbat-e Heydariyeh gendarmes have confiscated 2 kg of opium and arrested an individual in connection with this offense. [GF120725 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 11 Mar 81]

OPIUM DISCOVERED IN KHORASAN--Torbat-e Heydariyeh gendarmes have confiscated 1.9 kg of opium from an individual and arrested him in connection with possession of the drug. [GF171854 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 17 Mar 81]

HEROIN DISCOVERED IN SHIRAZ--The central headquarters of Shiraz Revolution Guards has announced the confiscation of nearly 1 kg of heroin from five Afghans by Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guards. Members of the same organization discovered 45 grams of heroin from another three Afghans and 25 packets of 25 centigrams each of heroin from an individual in Shiraz. All offenders have been delivered to the Islamic Revolution Court in Shiraz. [GF171854 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 17 Mar 81]

OPIUM SEIZED IN KHORASAN--Torbat-e Heydariyeh gendarmes seized 20 kg of opium and 250 grams of heroin from an individual this morning. He has been arrested for possession of narcotics. [GF121720 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 12 Mar 81]

NARCOTICS SEIZED--Torbat-e Heydariyeh gendarmerie has seized 28.5 kg of opium from a truck driver. [GF141638 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 14 Mar 81]

OPIUM CONFISCATED IN MASHHAD--Mashhad revolution guards in the past 15 days confiscated 1 kg of opium and 500 grams of heroin as well as a quantity of arms and ammunition. [GF151711 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 15 Mar 81]

CSO: 5300

ISRAEL

BRIEFS

HASHISH SEIZED--The police have foiled an attempt by two Israelis to smuggle 7 kg of hashish from the Gaza Strip into Israel. The Israelis were stopped at the permanent roadblock at the entry to the Gaza Strip. The hashish, which apparently came from Lebanon, was purchased in the Gaza Strip for 40,000 shekels; it was worth about 200,000 shekels on the Israeli market. The dealer who sold the Israelis the hashish has also been arrested. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 10 Mar 81]

CSO: 5300

KENYA

NAIROBI-EUROPE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 5 Mar 81 p 3

[Text]

FOUR men who used Nairobi as a base for drugs trafficking to Europe were jailed yesterday between 18 and 24 months each.

"I consider the offence very serious, more so because it was being committed on an international level," senior resident magistrate Joyce Aluoch said.

She sentenced Omar Alankhya Umar Ajab, Nazirali Jinan Madha and Hussein Adam Khamisa to 18 months in jail each and Mohamed Harif Abubakar Mohamed, who had similar previous conviction, to two years.

They were convicted on their own plea of "Guilty" to a charge that on August 28 last year at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport they were found with 69 kg. of cannabis resin worth Sh. 2.4 million on the international market.

Mrs. Aluoch recalled that the men were arrested at the airport on suspicion when they were on the way to Paris. It was interrogation by Insp. Kimutai arap Rono that led to the discovery of the drugs. The magistrate said from the facts it was clear that the men were part of an organised group dealing in cannabis resin. It appeared that they were involved at an international level and that the destination of their trade was Paris.

Mrs. Aluoch said the police intercepted the men when they had already "cleared" themselves and were waiting to board their flight. She said: "This is a kind of offence it is difficult to root out unless those caught are dealt with stiffly."

Mrs. Aluoch said it was clear from the case that many other people were involved and had not been arrested.

CSO: 5300

LIBERIA

BRIEFS

\$100,000 Marihuana Seizure-The Joint Security Forces at the Roberts International Airport on Monday seized two large wooden boxes containing about \$100,000 worth of marijuana. The unclaimed boxes, with no address written on them, were brought into the country Monday by the Ghana Airways DC-9, flight 546. The chief of the joint security forces at the airport Col. Daniel Doe, revealed to the NEW LIBERIAN in telephone interview that the "grass" was discovered when his agents began to search passengers' baggages after reaching the security checkpoint at the airport. Col. Doe said the two boxes, containing the marijuana, have been forwarded to the Defense Ministry. No one has claimed them yet. [Text] [Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 24 Feb 81 p 8]

CSO: 5300

CYPRUS

SEAMAN GIVES EVIDENCE IN NARCOTICS CASE

Nicosia CYPRUS MAIL in English 5 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] One of the crew of the 500-ton vessel "Arouat" on which Cyprus police found four tons of narcotics (cannabis resin) last October said that the narcotics were loaded at Beirut and were intended to be delivered to a boat at a spot "50 miles off Italy."

The evidence was given before the Assize Court yesterday when the hearing continued into the case against eight seamen, all foreign nationals, accused of possession of 4.182 kilos of narcotics on 21 October last at Limassol.

The accused are the captain and crew of the small vessel "Arouat" and they come from four countries: three from Lebanon, two from Italy, two from Chile and one from Egypt.

Their names were given as: Jawdat Mohamed (Lebanon) captain and owner of 45 percent of the vessel, Khalil Mohamed (Lebanon) engineer and owner of 10 percent of the vessel, Mochen Mouhamed Raad (Lebanon), Neri Francesco and Annibaldi Antonio of Italy, Rafat Segundo Lawna and David Manuel Barrientos of Chile and Abdel Mornen Mohammed Hanta of Egypt, the crew.

On instructions from the Attorney General, a nolle prosequi (stay of prosecution) was filed against Mouchen M. Raad of Lebanon and Abdel Mornen Mohammed Hanta of Egypt.

Yesterday Abdel Mornen appeared as a prosecution witness and told the Court that the load was taken at Beirut and the vessel's destination was "50 miles off Italy."

The hearing of the case started on Tuesday and according to the facts disclosed before the Assizes, on the 20th October last, the 500-ton vessel "Arouat," flying the Italian flag, had developed engine trouble and was towed to Limassol port.

To the port police who boarded the vessel the captain delivered a list of the crew and said it carried nothing, and that it had to undergo repairs.

On the following day, October 21st, the police, acting on information, searched the ship and found in its hold a large quantity of narcotics in 123 plastic bags. A further quantity was found in thirty bags in the anchor room. A "Browning" pistol was also delivered to the police by the Engineer of the vessel who said he carried it for the safety of the ship. The Captain said that he had bought the ship and did not know what it carried.

CS0: 5300

CYPRUS

OVER THREE TONS HASHISH SEIZED

Nicosia I SIMERINI in Greek 4 Feb 81 pp 1, 16

Text Larnaca, 3 Feb (Larnaca Press). Seventy two automobile tire tubes each containing 40 okas of hashish were found today (yesterday) on a fishing boat 9 miles south of Cape Kition. The value of the hashish which surpasses 3 tons is estimated at more than 1 million pounds. It was well packed and wrapped in Christmas and other holiday wrapping paper.

The crew of the Turkish craft named "Iki Arkadas" ("Two Friends") consisting of six Turks and one Egyptian were arrested by the police and will be brought tomorrow (today) to the Larnaca court where the order for their detention will be issued. The capture of the craft followed a lightning action by the police coastguard boat "Kimon." The hashish was covered like regular cargo on the vessel's deck. Concerning the relevant events we are informed that:

The information on the hashish shipment was relayed to the Cypriot police authorities by Interpol yesterday (day before yesterday). A while later Lieutenants Panikos, Khatziloizou, and Neofytos Sofokleous arrived from police headquarters to Larnaca. Following instructions, the coastguard boat "Kimon" sailed under the command of Lieutenant Kyriakidis for the Kition open sea. It stayed at sea all night waiting. At about 1100 hours (yesterday) Kimon's crew sighted the "Iki Arkadas" which started diversionary moves and attempted to escape. The coastguard boat fired warning shots and the Turkish vessel stopped. Police with automatic weapons boarded the vessel and the six Turks and the Egyptian who seemed to be the captain were transferred to Kimon which towed the Iki Arkadas to the Larnaca port at about 1300 hours. The whole force of the Criminal Investigation Department, men of the Larnaca Police Department under the command of Lieutenant First-Class Prokopis Georgiou, the Larnaca customhouse authorities and Port Commander Mikellidis as well as reporters, photo reporters, and TV cameras waited at the pier.

After the Iki Arkadas was moored it was found that it carried 15 barrels of oil, a fact that proved that it was not scheduled for a long trip. It had left Lebanon and most probably was headed for Egypt. The arrested were led to police vehicles and a policewoman was in charge of translating from Turkish into Greek. The six Turks did not seem disposed to talk but made no effort to hide from the cameras.

The policemen who undertook to transfer the hashish-filled rubber tubes from the Turkish vessel to a police truck spent 1 whole hour doing so. This quantity is

perhaps the largest ever captured in police history. It is worth noting that it was the first time the Larnaca police had assisted the reporters and photo reporters so well in covering the event. A police announcement issued yesterday states:

"Around 1100 hours today a port police launch which patrolled the area of Cape Kition intercepted the fishing boat 'Iki Arkadas' whose captain is an Egyptian and whose crew of six hail from Turkey. Following a search of the craft it was found that it was transporting a large quantity of hashish in plastic bags.

"The vessel and its crew was led to the Larnaca port where, following a thorough search, it was ascertained that another quantity of hashish was packed in auto rubber tubes. The total quantity is estimated at 3.5 tons.

"The Larnaca Criminal Investigation Department is investigating the affair."

7520
CSO:5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

BRIEFS

DRUG SEIZURE--Heppenheim, 14 Mar (DPA)--Police in Hesse have reported yet another success in the fight against drugs. After smashing a drugs ring in Kassel on Friday, authorities in Gernsheim (Gross-Gerau District) confiscated 2 kg of heroin worth on the market about DM 4 million. A police spokesman said today that eight Turkish Kurds were detained while conducting a drugs deal. At the same time German and American cash was found. On Friday customs officials in Kassel arrested two Germans, two Indians and one Pakistani aged between 20 and 25 who are charged with having smuggled into the Federal Republic during the past 8 months about 50 kg of "black Afghan" brand hashish. [Text] [LD150444 Hamburg DPA in German 1401 GMT 14 Mar 81]

CSO: 5300

ITALY

BRIEFS

TON OF HASHISH SEIZED--Trieste, Northeast Italy, 18 Mar (AFP)--A ton of hashish valued at 5,000 million lire (five million dollars) was seized by customs men on the frontier between Yugoslavia and Italy today aboard a refrigerated truck. The two Lebanese manning the Kuwaiti-registered truck, which was bound for the Netherlands, were arrested, police said. The Hashish was found packed in plastic bags 10 metres (32 feet) long behind false linings inside the truck. [Text]
[NC181349 Paris AFP in English 1339 GMT 18 Mar 81]

CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

STOCKHOLM CITY, PROVINCE VOW CLOSER DRUG TREATMENT TIES

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 16 Feb 81 p 8

[Article by Lotta Welinder: "Better Coordination in Narcotics Treatment"]

[Text] Treatment of drug addiction and alcoholism in Stockholm is to be better coordinated so that treatment can more readily be made continuous. The provincial council and the municipality are responsible for different areas of the treatment of the two problems. This has in the course of time led to many cooperation problems.

In narcotics treatment the municipality has complained that the provincial council does not see to it that detoxification functions. Thus the municipality's homes for treatment cannot be occupied.

There has also been trouble about the alcoholism centers. In the municipality's opinion that occupation has been too low at the LOB [expansion unknown] unit of Soder Hospital and that drunks have been turned away and forced to sober up in jail cells.

For the purpose of sorting out the disagreements and getting a functioning cooperation going a meeting has been held between Mats Hulth of the municipal social council and Stig Ridnberg of the provincial health council, as well as administrative heads of the municipality and the province.

As a result of the meeting a working group was established consisting of Assistant Social Director Kjell E. Johansson and Assistant Health Administration Director Goran Rado.

"There are, of course, existing organs of cooperation between the municipality and the provincial council at various levels," says Kjell E. Johansson. "But the new overall group is necessary since two main figures in the same health care sector are involved; a sector that in addition has many contending groups of personnel." Detoxification of drug addicts is the first area in which the group is to be involved.

At Sabbatsberg there are two sections, each of 10 beds. One of the sections has been closed at intervals for various reasons, a shortage of physicians, among others.

The provincial council therefore thinks the municipality should gradually take over responsibility for these accommodations because the provincial council operations are to have a medical content.

But the municipality does not agree to this. The detoxification should be undertaken under medical supervision, in Kjell E. Johansson's opinion.

"This problem also brings into question whether there should not be one head man for addict welfare, and who he should be, of the municipal council or the municipality.

11256
CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

JUSTICE MINISTER, POLICE OFFICER DESCRIBE STOCKHOLM DRUG SCENE

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 29 Jan 81 p 8

[Article by Ann Rehnberg: "3000 Misuse Heavy Narcotics"]

[Text] "We have 3,000 heavy drug addicts in Stockholm," said Hans Holmer, "and more than one half of the inmates of Kronoberg prison were in that category last year."

A large part of the discussion dealt with drugs when Justice Minister Hakan Winberg and Chief of Police Hans Holmer spoke before the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday.

Store owners in the city are disturbed over the rapid increase in crime. They demand immediate steps for order to be maintained. The justice minister and the chief of police were therefore invited to speak, and the following demands were made: Abolish the 50 kroner limit on petty larceny, intensify investigation of professional fencing, fight organized drug crime and violence, and give private enterprises the opportunity to maintain their own trained guards.

Controversial Demand

The latter is a controversial demand. Justice Minister Hakan Winberg admitted this when he stated that as of the first of the year new legislation has been in force that makes it possible to arrange for special guards to maintain order in public places. To be sure, the police have had the authority to establish such guards, but it has now been specified in law.

"In addition to public places where gatherings of various kinds take place, indoor market places and subway stations will be included," said Hakan Winberg.

Police Chief Hans Holmer presented the latest statistics on crime:

"Total crime increased by 60 percent, charge card crime by 50 percent, and bank robberies from 37 to 65 [percent]."

Knife Point Robberies Every Day

A crime is committed in Stockholm every 4.5 minutes, and there is an interval of 2 minutes 45 seconds between calls to the police. Each week, two stores are robbed, as are two retired persons. In addition, there are a couple of robberies at knifepoint every day.

"A new type of burglary has cropped up, characterized by severe violence. This is typical of heroin addicts," said Hans Holmer. "Crimes of violence are connected with the availability of narcotics," Holmer went on. "For the time being, heroin is most available. But there is a demand for amphetamines, easily produced in laboratories. Cocaine addiction will probably increase in the future."

Policemen Available

Despite the need for private guards it is Hans Holmer's opinion that there is no shortage of policemen in Stockholm:

"Recruitment is higher now. Between 325 and 500 men on duty." The policemen themselves are not satisfied with the private guard law. Mats Dahl, secretary of Kamraterna, the policemen's trade union, commented:

"Our general position is that we must guard our purely police tasks. There is nothing wrong with private guards, but they have very limited training compared to our three-year police school. The police force is not being expanded, but more and more guards are being employed. One might ask whether purely financial considerations are behind it."

Justice minister Hakan Winberg wonders what will be done when the resources of the police prove inadequate.

"It is a matter of reality. If one does not have the best one must use the next best. It is society's duty to guarantee security, and the best must not become the enemy of what is good."

11,256
CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

NORRKOPING POLICE CHIEF: COCAINE, HEROIN AMONG YOUTH

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 14 Feb 81 p 11

[Article by Sture Ryman: "Forty Young People in Court; Cocaine Confiscated"]

[Text] As late as 6 months ago it was practically impossible to sell cocaine in Norrkoping. Some months ago, however, both heroin and cocaine became the most desired drugs among young people.

So said Criminal Inspector Gote Engstrand, chief of the Norrkoping narcotics police, to DAGENS NYHETER at the time a very large court case involving about 40 young people began in Norrkoping. "As far as we know, the first package of cocaine arrived in Norrkoping two years ago. Those who brought it here were unable to sell it, most likely because the drug wholesalers simply refused to have anything to do with the sellers.

"A little over 6 months ago the situation was the same, but when we began to untangle this case, we were forced to accept that heroin and cocaine have come to stay in Norrkoping.

Invested 10,000 Kroner

Many of the youths involved in the narcotics affair come from Aby, a community some kilometers outside Norrkoping. A man in Aby furnished capital, 10,000 kroner, to finance the purchases. The promised profit of 8,000 kroner did not materialize, and the capital disappeared after the police had arrested the main culprits, among them two old classmates.

Few Burglaries

They now sit in court, with an attorney between them. The man regarded as the leader of the gang denies guilt, while his comrade openly reveals all details.

"During the time we investigated this case we noted that no burglaries were being committed in Norrkoping. We know that there are enormous amounts of hashish in Norrkoping, but nobody dares sell. Besides, heroin and cocaine are so expensive that it only can be financed by burglaries," says Gore Negstrand.

Ever Younger

Today, 2,543 persons have been listed for narcotics burglaries. "Today, heroin and cocaine are becoming common among addicts, who are found at ever younger ages," says Engstrand. I dare not imagine where we shall be in 10 years. In many small towns there is no narcotics police since the State Police centralized it in some larger cities.

"We know with certainty that addiction exists in small cities, but is never discovered. In the meantime more and more young people are breaking down."

11256
CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

SWEDISH PROSECUTOR WANTS DENMARK TO STIFFEN DRUG SENTENCES

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 13 Feb 81 p 6

[Article by Claes von Hofsten]

[Text] Denmark must stiffen its penalties for narcotics violations. That is the opinion of Prosecutor Carl-Gustaf Pfeiff, head of the Office of the Public Prosecutor in Helsingborg, where persons who have bought drugs in Denmark are arrested daily.

"Danish liberalism is clearly unsatisfactory. In order to combat drug crimes, it is urgent that we have uniform sentencing throughout Scandinavia."

Chief Prosecutor Carl-Gustaf Pfeiff has expressed his views in a letter to Chief Public Prosecutor Magnus Sjoberg. Pfeiff suggests that the chief public prosecutor take the initiative in beginning talks with our neighboring countries for the purpose of producing uniform rules.

According to Pfeiff, sentencing as applied in Sweden and Denmark differs markedly. While 10 kilograms of hashish brings 1 year of prison in Denmark, getting caught with 1 kilogram in Sweden is enough to bring a 1-year sentence.

In one case Carl-Gustaf Pfeiff got a person sentenced to 7 years in prison. The defendant had sold 100 grams of heroin and attempted to smuggle 240 grams of heroin.

In Denmark, a man got 2.5 years in prison for attempting to smuggle in 2.1 kilograms of heroin. The maximum penalty in Denmark is 10 years. Possession of up to 100 grams of hashish is in practice exempt from punishment.

Carl-Gustaf Pfeiff explains, "I want the Danes to get tougher. The objective in a Scandinavian agreement should be to follow court practice in Sweden."

11798
CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

PAPER LAUDS GREATER CONCERN ABOUT NARCOTICS ABUSE

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 28 Jan 81 p 2

[Editorial by Tore Winqvist]

Cocaine now seems to be on the way in in certain Swedish "in circles." This means a considerable increase in the heavy burden that narcotics already mean for Swedish society and the misery that it involves for thousands of young people who are at first thoughtless and later addicted.

The world is more and more indivisible, and the cynical export trade that Colombia, e.g., largely lives on cannot be stopped entirely by the customs authorities and the police alone. Most important of all is for a broad public to take a serious view of abuse of drugs, even the "mild" ones.

There is an incontestable connection between the general mentality in a certain milieu--e.g., reckless enjoyment of the day, regardless of the morrow--and its susceptibility to infection with narcotics. A massive influence on and surveillance of the style-setting artistic world can surely produce effects.

This year, fortunately, the attitude among members of parliament has become palpably stricter. Gabriel Romanus, e.g., who was formerly quite skeptical about compulsory treatment, now insists that drug use not only is dangerous for the individual but also must lead to penal sanctions. Against that background a great many possibly well-intentioned contributions to the mass media in which narcotics addicts recount their everyday, obviously criminal existence in the pursuit of drugs are quite double-edged. Society should have the capacity to take charge--through the police and medically--of all publicly known narcotic addicts. When numbness appears to have overtaken the system many react with irritation and finally indifference, while others are enticed to try the seemingly tolerated preparations themselves.

This spring the government and the Riksdag should see to it that the front against all narcotics is more clearly marked. Pushers try to sell to a great many people who turn them down; if such "mistakes" were just as dangerous as being caught red-handed in crime, the market would immediately dwindle radically.

8815
CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

PROSECUTOR: DRUG OFFENDER PRISONS OVERCROWDED

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 13 Feb 81 p 6

[Article by Hakan Bergstrom and Margit Silberstein: "Crowded Prisons Threaten Security"]

[Text] Prisons in the country are overcrowded with suspected narcotics criminals. The lack of space leads to persons suspected of drug crimes often being sent across the country to various prisons.

"Malmo investigators must spend four-fifths of their time on travel. Custody times are lengthened and justice is endangered," says Sten Runerheim, chief prosecutor in Malmo.

In Malmo the situation is chaotic. The prosecutor, the police, and the criminal custody director are preparing to call upon Justice Minister Hakan Winberg to seek a solution to what is regarded as "a desperate situation."

The Malmo police are considering preparing a report on how much money is spent on travel, meals, and telephone calls, which could be avoided if adequate space were available in the Malmo prison.

Today, Malmo has accommodations for 59 in its old, worn out prison. One hundred would be needed if transportation of arrested persons to Boras, Jonkoping, Mariestad, Kalmar, Kristianstad, Visby, and other places were to be avoided.

"What good will it do us that we shall have more investigators when their time is spent only on travel? As long as the present situation exists we shall never be able to stop the drug dealers," says Sten Runerheim.

Suspects Separated

But it is not the lack of space alone that causes problems. Prosecutors often demand that suspected drug criminals involved in the same affair be kept separate during their time in custody. This also leads to many long and expensive transports.

"The transportation is both a waste of time and expensive. One should therefore consider remodeling police stations so that they could serve as jails," says Olof Edlund, chief prosecutor in Handen outside Stockholm.

Kronoberg prison is located in the Stockholm area. The nearest prisons are in Uppsala and Hall, outside Sodertalje. Claes Edlund remembers cases in which trips had to be made to prisons in Vasteras, Uppsala, and Norrkoping, even to Falun and Karlstad to question persons involved in an affair.

"I believe it would be cheaper to remodel the police jail premises. It would make trips shorter for attorneys and prosecutors, and give those indicted a chance to have relatives visit," says Claes Edlund.

"System Inhuman"

"It is an inhuman system. We are talking about people to be regarded as innocent until convicted. Those arrested have a legal right to meet with their lawyers. But it goes without saying that a lawyer who lives in Malmo and has a client in Boras does not travel there more often than necessary," says Rune Lundahl, criminal custody director for Belkinge and Skane.

Ruen Lundahl is of the opinion that pending construction of a new prison in Malmo, quick provisional steps must be taken. Among other things, the police stations in the Malmo region could be used as provisional jails.

"It happens that a client and a lawyer only have one day in which to discuss proof because of the long trips and distances," says Gunnar Thomee Malmo lawyer for 30 years. He is just now on his way to Kristianstad to meet with a client, a trip of three hours.

11256
CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

POLICE REPORT NUMBER OF DRUG SEIZURES DOUBLED IN 1980

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 3 Feb 81 p 14

[Article by Leif Dahlin]

[Text] Last year police took action in 10,806 cases involving narcotics violations throughout the country. That is an increase of nearly 4,000.

According to Inspector Thorvald Nilsson, head of the Information Section in the Narcotics Division of the Criminal Police Corps, the increase is due mainly to two things: the new rules on refusal to prosecute a case, combined with more frequent police raids aimed at coping with the street traffic, and the general public's tendency to tip off the police to a greater extent than formerly.

Inspector Nilsson said, "There are no great differences in the size of the quantities of narcotics seized in 1979 and 1980, but the number of seizures increased last year by a full 2,203 to a total of 5,772."

In connection with those seizures and subsequent investigations, 3,576 arrests were made last year--an increase of nearly 1,000 over the year before.

"The rising curve is not due to greater police efforts. Last year, 335 police officers were assigned primarily to combating the drug traffic--an increase of 10 police officers over 1979.

"My own opinion is that 5 percent at most of all the narcotics smuggled into this country is seized. Considering that police seized about 350 kilograms of cannabis and 1.5 kilograms of cocaine last year, the market is very big. Cannabis is found all over the country, and the generations using it are getting younger and younger.

"It is strange that older people have not reacted sooner to the warning signals of hashish use--even though it has long been documented scientifically that hashish is dangerous."

Thorvald Nilsson said, "I often go around giving talks on these matters, and I think I notice that more and more people understand what 'it is all about.' And it is even possible to talk about certain foreign profit motives without being accused of racism."

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SWEDEN

WELFARE OFFICIAL TELLS UN SWEDEN AGAINST DRUG DECRIMINALIZATION

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 7 Feb 81 p 14

[Text] Swedish officials are deeply concerned over the debate underway in certain countries over whether to decriminalize and legalize cannabis. A number of medical studies show that using cannabis preparations--hashish and marihuana--causes more serious damage than was previously known.

Sweden is therefore proposing increased efforts within the United Nations against the use of cannabis and other narcotics. That is what Ake Pettersson, under secretary in the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, told the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs as it met in Vienna on Friday.

The United Nations should take stock of the steps being taken in different countries to halt the abuse of cannabis. The United Nations should also collect and disseminate information on the harmful medical and social effects of cannabis use.

Drug abuse is on the increase in the world, and greater efforts must therefore be made in the United Nations and other international organizations. Ake Pettersson noted that we will never be able to cope with drug abuse unless there is effective international cooperation.

The reports presented to the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs show a sharply increased flow of narcotics, chiefly into Europe, and this includes heroin as well as cannabis and cocaine. Slightly more than a ton of heroin was seized in Europe in 1980, and that figure considerably exceeds the combined heroin seizures in the United States. The quantity of cannabis seized in Europe in 1980 totaled 69 tons.

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SWEDEN

STOCKHOLM COURT HANDS CHILEAN LIFETIME BAN FROM SWEDEN

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 13 Feb 81 p 6

[Article by Claes von Hofsten]

[Text] The Stockholm District Court has sentenced Mao Duhalde Cabroler, a 31-year-old Chilean citizen, to a lifetime ban from Sweden for his complicity in gross narcotics violations and complicity in attempted gross narcotics violations.

It was Mao Duhalde Cabroler who, together with another Chilean, persuaded a 25-year-old Swedish woman to go to India to buy heroin. On the way home to Sweden with just under a kilogram of heroin, the Swedish woman and the second Chilean were arrested in London. They are being held in jail there pending trial.

The Chileans had told the Swedish woman that the profit from sale of the heroin would be used for the political struggle in Chile. But neither man has ever been active politically.

The convicted Mao Duhalde Cabroler has lived in Sweden since 1973. The harmful effect that a lifetime ban would have on him was given "considerable weight" by the district court in passing sentence. Despite that circumstance, the court sentenced him to 3 years in prison.

Mao Duhalde Cabroler has consistently denied the accusations brought against him, but the court found the evidence against him convincing. At the hearing in London, the Swedish woman told all she knew. Moreover, she had written everything down in her diary. The diary was taken from her when she was arrested at Heathrow Airport, and it was used as evidence in the Swedish trial.

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SWEDEN

POLICE SEIZE 225,000 MANDRAX PILLS

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 30 Jan 81 p 7

[Article by Hakan Bergstrom: "225,000 Pills Confiscated"]

[Text] Two hundred and twenty-five thousand sleeping pills have been seized in Stockholm by the state police. The pills were found in a private car under way from Switzerland to Finland, stopped while approaching Stockholm.

The whole car and a trailer were fully loaded with sleeping pills of the Mandrax brand. It was the thus far largest drug seizure ever made in Sweden.

In Sweden (Mandrax is) classified as a narcotic, and in 1979 was banned as a medication because of certain side effects. In Finland, Mandrax is still approved as a sleeping potion, but a ban is expected there as well.

Three persons, 27, 37, and 41 years of age, are not in custody in Stockholm, suspected of smuggling and narcotics crimes. Two of them, both Finnish citizens, started from Finland about 2 weeks ago in a car towing a trailer. The trailer carried an ice-racing motorcycle. The Swedish police received a tip from their Finnish colleagues and had the car under surveillance.

One Hundred Kilograms of Pills

Nothing of suspicious nature was discovered, and the car disappeared from Sweden. A week later, the car was found by accident in Jonkoping on its way north. At the entrance to Stockholm the car was stopped on Saturday by a police patrol. The seat and the seat back were hollowed out and stuffed full of sleeping pills. On the trailer and even under the engine cover plastic bags containing Mandrax pills were found to a total weight of 100 kilograms.

"The whole thing was sloppily and unprofessionally done," says Commissioner Lars-Erik Pettersson of the state police.

Another person had joined the Finns on the continent and was in the car. The three had bought the pills more or less legally from drug dealers in Geneva in Switzerland for a little over 100,000 kroner. In Finland the pills are worth approximately 2.5 million kroner in the street.

Mandrax, a strong sleeping potion, is relative common in Finnish prisons, being used, among others, by heroin addicts as a replacement.

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SWEDEN

STOCKHOLM PROVINCE POLICE ARREST GANGS SELLING COCAINE

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 11 Feb 81 p 6

[Article by Sune Olsson: "Sixty Show Up in Two Big Drug Gangs"]

[Text] A total of 60 persons have been taken into custody or arrested in connection with two big narcotics investigations under way at the same time in Stockholm province, one of which involves large amounts of marijuana, the other heroin.

In both gangs there are suspects arrested in absentia and being sought on the continent. Some of them have been arrested and extradition procedures initiated, involving at least four countries, France, England, Austria, and West Germany.

The cleaning up of the drug scene has caused problems for prison authorities. No place is available for those arrested. They have had to resort to improvisations and transportation far out into the country. It has happened that the police and prosecutors have not been informed until 5 minutes after the arrests whether space could be found for those arrested at all.

Investigation Since Last Fall

Police from the provincial narcotics group, the Huddinge theft sections, and the state police are engaged in the investigation, which has been underway since last fall.

The affair is centered in Huddinge, where the district court has sentenced most offenders to jail. About 15 have been dealt with in Sollentuna district court.

One of the affairs originated in the big drug gang unmasked in Huddinge last fall, when the drug history of singer Tommy Korberg provided a slight sidelight. Thus far, a total of 38 persons of the gang have been jailed and two have been requested to be sent to jail. In the majority of the cases, marijuana has been involved.

Of those committed the court has during the past few months convicted the 17 persons who were members of the original group. Sentences varied--2,4 and 5 years have been most common, the longest being 6 years. A young, peripherally involved girl, was given protective supervision.

Some main figures are still missing, among them a couple of men with connections to the cocaine districts of South America. It is suspected that these men could explain how some of the marijuana sellers also could sell heroin.

Unsuccessful Smuggling

The other gang was unmasked in an unsuccessful smuggling attempt at Arlanda. It has largely been cleaned up, even though some of the main figures are awaiting extradition to Sweden. About 15 members of the gang have been sent to jail by the district court of Sollentuna for smuggling and sale of heroin. Prosecution is expected within a couple of weeks.

Recently, a branch of the heroin gang was discovered. Late last week, five men were taken into custody. They will go before the sentencing judge in Huddinge on Wednesday.

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CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

STOCKHOLM POLICE MAKE COUNTRY'S LARGEST COCAINE SEIZURE

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 16 Feb 81 p 9

[Article by Claes von Hofsten: "The Thus Far Largest Cocaine Seizure"]

[Text] After an intensive investigation of a discoteque, the Stockholm narcotics police seized the largest amount of cocaine ever. On Friday two South Americans and two North Africans were arrested, suspected of dealing in cocaine. The police had heard rumors that cocaine was being sold at the discoteque, not one of the best known. According to the rumors only small quantities were sold, but since the police are also charged with combatting the so-called street sales, it was decided to watch the club.

In time, two persons who from time to time visited the discoteque came under suspicion. The police decided to check on them as they sat in a car outside the club.

The suspicion proved justified. They had cocaine and hashish in their possession, but only in small quantities. When their home in one of the southern suburbs was searched one kilogram of cocaine and a hectogram of hashish were found.

The two were arrested. Their apartment was put under surveillance. After a couple of days there was a nibble there as well, when the two South Americans rang the doorbell. They were stopped and searched. When their apartment in northern Stockholm was searched, 400 grams of cocaine and 50,000 kroner in cash were found.

One of the South Americans had been living and working in Sweden for several years. The other had come directly from South America on a visit shortly before Christmas.

In total, the police confiscated 500 grams of cocaine. Sold in small amounts, this could have brought in at least 500,000 kroner. How much the involved persons had been able to sell before the police caught them is not known.

Only in a few earlier cases have the police succeeded in confiscating such large amounts of cocaine. Last year, the Swedish police seized a total 1,485 grams of cocaine. Customs seized 146 grams.

Cocaine Ever More Common

"I have a feeling that cocaine dealing is increasing. It is showing up more and more often in our searches," says Commissioner Hugo Nyberg of the narcotics section of the State Police.

He fears a great increase in cocaine use. In his opinion, the South Americans who bring the cocaine here have had difficulties in finding buyers in the usual addict circles. Hugo Nyberg fears that cocaine is becoming established in the street trade.

The crowded jails SVENSKA DAGBLADET reported on in Friday's issue are causing problems in this case as well. Two of those arrested have been put away far outside Stockholm.

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CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

PROVINCIAL PROSECUTORS: NOT POSSIBLE TO JAIL SMALL USERS

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 13 Feb 81 p 6

[Article by Hakar Bergstrom and Margit Silberstein]

[Text] Last year the chief public prosecutor urged the country's prosecutors to make a vigorous effort and to bring an indictment for possession of even very small amounts of narcotics. But what would happen if those instructions were really followed everywhere in the country? Would the total of 1,185 places for remand prisoners suffice?

Gunnar Oldfeldt, division head at the National Correctional Administration, says, "The situation would become extremely complicated. We would be overcrowded everywhere. The jails would have to be used to a greater extent, and we would be forced to provide accommodation by some other means." And he says that that is a problem for those who control the purse strings.

Until a few years ago, a relatively liberal view of so-called soft drugs prevailed. Hashish, for example, was considered rather harmless. Today that view has changed, and it was against that background that in January 1980, the chief public prosecutor sent out instructions to the country's prosecutors to tighten the rules under which cases would not be prosecuted. Since then, the number of narcotics cases has risen sharply, especially in Stockholm. Rune Lindahl, director of the Skane-Blekinge Correctional Administration Region, estimates that there are 300 more people in custody throughout the country than there were last year.

In Karlstad and Arvika, for example, 10 people are in custody for dealing in amphetamines. Five men from the Mora Police are investigating the sale of kilograms of hashish in the small community of Orsa. Four persons have been arrested so far, and warrants have been requested for the arrest of two more.

In Norrkoping, just over 10 people have been involved in the cocaine traffic. Four have been arrested.

In Sundsvall, six persons are currently in custody on suspicion of gross narcotics violations. Cannabis hashish worth 30,000 kronor was seized.

Not Enough Time

Despite the chief public prosecutor's instructions concerning a strong drive against the small traffic, police everywhere do not have the funds and time for it.

Police officials in Helsingborg said, "We seldom or never have time to go after the small abusers. We have our hands full with the drug smugglers." The situation there is special because of the proximity to Denmark and the continent. It is the same in Malmo, where there are big problems with heroin. Possession of heroin is considered a narcotics violation, no matter how small the amount. When it comes to arrests for possession of cannabis, the minimum amount has been set at about 100 grams.

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SWEDEN

BRIEFS

HELSINGBORG COCAINE TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--Helsingborg (TT)--Following a big seizure of drugs in Helsingborg on 18 January this year, a 28-year-old Stockholm man was sentenced on Wednesday to 3 years in prison. The Helsingborg District Court found the 28-year-old man guilty of serious smuggling of merchandise and gross narcotics violations. The Customs Service made the find in a train lavatory, where nearly 4 kilograms of cannabis and 20 grams of cocaine were discovered. [Text] [Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 12 Feb 81 p 3] 11798

CSO: 5300

TURKEY

COUP RESULTS IN HEROIN TRAFFIC CHANGE

Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 8 Feb 81 pp 1, 12

[Text] At one time Turkey had a worldwide position for being a haven for the production of "White poison." Following operations conducted by Narcotics Police following the September 12 intervention, Turkey has become "hell" for merchants of "White death." It has been announced that 40 kilos of heroin with a street value of 800 million liras in the United States have been seized by the Turkish Narcotics Police since the military intervention. The September 12 Operation is being credited with the removal of political pressures that had earlier been exerted upon this branch of the police. While over the past few years seizures in Turkey had been restricted to opium and morphine, the seizure of 40 kilos of heroin within five months has been hailed as a "record" by Turkish and American experts.

Turkish and American narcotics authorities have stated that following widespread operations by the police, heroin sources in Turkey had begun to dry up. They added that the merchants of "White poison" have begun to direct their efforts towards other countries. The authorities stated that the rectangle of "White death" consisting of an area including Turkey, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran came into being five years ago to supply the highly lucrative market consisting primarily of the United States and West European countries. The opium grown in these countries was being converted into heroin in production facilities located in southeastern Turkey, before being exported towards the United States and West European countries. Turkey thus became a production center as well as a land bridge for the smuggling of heroin.

While up to 5 or 6 years ago heroin (production) was measured in grams and even miligrams, recent production has involved the export of several kilograms. According to a report prepared by American narcotics experts this represents a shift in the "heroin traffic." While in the past opium converted into morphine was processed into heroin to be brought to the United States by sea, the new traffic pattern has involved production in southeastern labs (in Turkey) and introduction into Western Europe. According to information obtained by Turkish narcotics police in the course of operations, 1600 tons of opium have been produced in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Iran between October 1979 and October 1980. It has been determined that 160 tons of heroin could be derived from this amount. Authorities have maintained that this quantity of heroin would be sufficient to meet the requirements of the American and West European Mafia for several years.

Investigations have revealed that heroin which has been labelled as "White death" on the world market is being shipped to Bulgaria from the southeast by way of Ankara and Istanbul. From Bulgaria, the heroin is introduced to West European countries.

According to reports reaching the World Center for Narcotics and Interpol, the disturbances and the change of regime in Iran as well as the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan have served the interests of the smugglers. The Mafia has been able to benefit from the disturbances in these countries to introduce several kilos of heroin and morphine into Europe by way of Turkey. During this period, seaborne smuggling occupied an important place in narcotics traffic over an itinerary beginning in Sicily and ending in New York. However, the removal of political pressures previously exerted upon the police after the September 12 Operation and the rapid succession of operations by Narcotics teams have had the effect of cornering heroin smugglers. The information obtained from these operations has revealed that the smugglers have removed heroin conversion laboratories from south-eastern Anatolia and placed them within the western regions of Iran where police effectiveness is at a very low level. It has also been learned that as the result of the effectiveness of Turkish police, the opium trade has been shifting towards Syria and Lebanon.

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TURKEY

BRIEFS

DRUG CACHE DISCOVERED--In Gaziantep, security forces found 1,860 liters of acid anhydride which is used for making heroin as well as 2 kilograms of morphine. Twelve persons have been detained. [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2000 GMT 10 Mar 81 TA]

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END