

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

JPRS L/9800

19 June 1981

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 27/81)

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

COPYRIGHT LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING OWNERSHIP OF MATERIALS REPRODUCED HEREIN REQUIRE THAT DISSEMINATION OF THIS PUBLICATION BE RESTRICTED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

JPRS L/9800

19 June 1981

WORLDWIDE REPORT
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
(FOUO 27/81)

CONTENTS

ASIA

AUSTRALIA

Report Gives Drug Offense Statistics for New South Wales (Tom Ballantyne; THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 4 May 81).....	1
Briefs	
Australian Heroin Bust	2
New Drug Penalty	2
Drug Inquiry Delay	2

BURMA

Briefs	
Drug Suppression in Rangoon	3
Opium Seizure in Indaw	3
Opium Dealer Arrested	3
Heroin Seizure in Moulmein	3

HONG KONG

Customs Officers Smash Thai Heroin Courier Ring (Tommy Lewis; SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 4 May 81).....	4
Briefs	
Policeman Jailed	5
Heroin Possession Sentences	5

- a - [III - WW - 138 FOUO]

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

INDONESIA

Member of Heroin Smuggling Ring on Trial (SINAR HARAPAN, 29 Mar 81).....	6
Riau Described as Narcotics 'Trouble Spot' (Mulyadi; SINAR HARAPAN, 5 Apr 81).....	8
Morphine Smugglers Arrested in Riau (SINAR HARAPAN, 7 Apr 81).....	11
Briefs Morphine Arrest in Jakarta	12

NEW ZEALAND

Briefs	
Drug Crime Clearance Rate	13
Death Penalty Rejected	13
Heroin Importer Sentenced	13
Two on Morphine Charges	13
Cocaine, LSD Importation	14
Charges Against 39	14

PAKISTAN

Briefs	
Karachi Heroin Haul	15
Peshawar Hashish Oil	15
Charas Seized	15

THAILAND

Phuket, Hat Yai Said To Be Major Drug Routes (THE NATION REVIEW, 20 Apr 81).....	16
Editorial Calls for Tougher Punishment for Narcotics Violators (Editorial; BANGKOK POST, 27 Apr 81).....	17
Case of Police Colonel Implicated in Trafficking Discussed (THE NATION REVIEW, 23 May 81).....	18
Colonel Sought for Heroin Trafficking (BANGKOK POST, 14 May 81).....	20
Opium Crop Good, Heroin Arrests Likely (John Laird; BANGKOK POST, 26 Apr 81).....	22
Drug Trafficker's Sentence Confirmed (BANGKOK POST, 26 May 81).....	23

- b -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

New Brand of Heroin Seized (BANGKOK WORLD, 31 Jan 81).....	24
New Zealander Sentenced for Heroin (BANGKOK POST, 5 Mar 81).....	25
Shan, Haw Chinese Arrested in Heroin Raid (BANGKOK POST, 14 May 81).....	26
Briefs	
Marihuana Seizure in Sakon Nakhon	27
Morphine Seized in Hat Yai	27
Cooperation With Malaysia	27
Chiang Mai Opium Seizure	28
Australian Arrested	28
Another Australian Sentenced	28
18 KG Raw Opium Seized	29
Three Frenchmen Held	29
Two Held in Foiled Delivery	29
Opium Haul	30
Italian Held for Drugs	30
Four Arrested in Chiang Mai	30
3,000-Kilo Marijuana Seizure	30
Foreign Tourists Arrested	30

LATIN AMERICA

BAHAMAS

Ship With Marihuana Cargo, 10 Colombians Seized (Athena Damianos; THE TRIBUNE, 10 Apr 81).....	31
Second Marihuana Ship With Colombian Crew of 10 Seized (THE TRIBUNE, 15 Apr 81).....	33
Three Colombians Arrested in Samana Cay Marihuana Haul (THE TRIBUNE, 25 Apr 81).....	35

MEXICO

Army Seizes 8 Tons of Marihuana in Reynosa (EL MANANA, 1 Apr 81).....	37
Police Commander Exposed as Wanted Heroin Trafficker (EL BRAVO, 29 Apr 81).....	38

- c -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Convicted Traffickers Protected by Police (EL MANANA, 3, 4 Apr 81).....	40
Officials Fail To Act Probe To Continue	
SSA: Addiction Is Acute Mental Health Problem (Yolanda Garcia M.; EL DIA, 11 May 81).....	44
Poppies, Marihuana, Other Drugs Destroyed (Manuel del Castillo; EL SOL DE MEXICO, 7 May 81).....	45
Sicilia Falcon Receives Additional Sentence (Rafael Medina Cruz; EXCELSIOR, 3 May 81).....	46
Cocaine Trafficker Seized at Capital Airport (Rafael Medina Cruz; EXCELSIOR, 28 Apr 81).....	47
Members of Marihuana Trafficking Ring Sentenced (EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO, 25 Mar 81).....	48
Briefs	49
Farm Workers Claimed Drugged	49
Plantation Destruction Intensified	50
Traffickers' Accomplices Caught	50
Heroin Seized in Nogales	50
Army Drug Destruction Report	51
Traffickers Battle Troops	51
Opium Gum Traffickers Arrested	51
Senior Prison Officials	51
Colombians, Cocaine in Tijuana	52
 PERU	
Briefs	53
Drug Traffickers Arrested	53
Cocaine Seized	53
Drug Seizure	53
Cocaine Found	53
Drug Traffickers Arrested	53
Drug Trafficker Arrested	53
 VENEZUELA	
Briefs	54
Cocaine Smuggling	

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

EGYPT

Million Pounds Worth of Hashish Seized in Minya al-Qamh (Husayn Ghanim; AL-AHRAM, 16 Apr 81).....	55
Hashish Powder Seizure Reported (Husayn Ghanim; AL-AHRAM, 19 Apr 81).....	57
Hashish-Smuggling Attempt Foiled (Irfan Mustafa; AL-AHRAM, 5 May 81).....	59

ISRAEL

Briefs	
Hashish Found	61
Coast Guard Hashish Discovery	61
Hashish Found	61

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

CONGO

Briefs	
Indian Hemp Seller Sentenced	62

SWAZILAND

Reportage on Trial of Mandrax Possessors (THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND, 26, 27 May 81).....	63
Several Arrests Made	
Case Hits Snag	

WEST EUROPE

DENMARK

Briefs	
Hashish Gang Broken Up	66

FRANCE

Briefs	
Saint-Tropez Drug Traffic	67

- e -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ITALY

Rome Connection in International Drug Traffic (L'UNITA, 17 May 81).....	68
--	----

NORWAY

Briefs Cocaine in Kristiansund	72
-----------------------------------	----

AUSTRALIA

REPORT GIVES DRUG OFFENSE STATISTICS FOR NEW SOUTH WALES

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 4 May 81 p 9

[Article by Tom Ballantyne]

[Excerpts] The latest report of the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, not yet issued publicly, shows an 11.7 per cent increase in the number of drug convictions in NSW.

The rise was caused by an increase in the number of cannabis offenders.

The ratio of drug using to drug pushing offences in the relevant year, 1979, also departs significantly from those of previous years.

Drug using offences dropped from 88 per cent of the total in 1978 to 83 per cent in 1979. Drug pushing offences rose from 12 per cent to 17 per cent.

The report, the latest on crime trends in NSW, is expected to be issued officially in about three weeks.

On the drug scene, the report says the 11.7 per cent increase in 1979 resulted mainly from a rise in the number of cannabis offenders, up from 2,494 in 1978 to 3,167 in 1979.

The number of opiate offenders dropped from 1,037 to 787.

"Although the increase in cannabis convictions may be explained by a change in drug usage, it may also be a reflection of police activity," the report says.

"During 1977 and 1978, police activity was directed towards the suppliers of cannabis and the 1979 figures may reflect the results of this policy."

While 33 per cent of the opiate users convicted were jailed, only 2 per cent of cannabis users were sent to prison.

About 86 per cent of drug offenders were males. Males aged between 20 and 24 accounted for 40 per cent of all drug convictions.

These drug statistics involve only those appearing on offences under the NSW Poisons Act and not higher criminal court convictions.

CSO: 5300/7558

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

AUSTRALIAN HEROIN BUST--Federal police say they have uncovered a heroin conspiracy following a series of raids in Sydney and Melbourne. In Melbourne federal detectives arrested a man at a city hotel and seized 560 grams of uncut heroin with a value estimated at U.S. \$170,000. Later, federal and New South Wales police raided a number of houses in Sydney's western suburbs and two men and a woman were arrested. [Text] [OW080117 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1130 GMT 4 Jun 81]

NEW DRUG PENALTY--People convicted of drug offences in Queensland soon will have to pay for the cost of their detection. An amendment to the Health Act approved by State Cabinet yesterday requires guilty people to pay all the fees and expenses for laboratory tests of drugs necessary for their conviction. The new regulation to be included in the Act also will apply to contaminated foods or anything needing tests or examination. The regulation provides for standard penalty fees of \$81 for an analysis and \$37.50 for an examination in addition to any fine or penalty imposed by a court. The Health Minister Mr Austin, said it was wrong that the community should have to pay for the establishment of an offence. [Text] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 28 Apr 81 p 3]

DRUG INQUIRY DELAY--Melbourne: A three-State judicial inquiry into the activities of major criminal groups involved in drug-trafficking is unlikely to begin for several months. The inquiry, which will involve investigations in South Australia, Victoria and NSW, was announced last September by the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser. It arose from the findings of a Victorian coroner, Mr Mason, SM, on the deaths of Douglas and Isobel Wilson at Rye in 1979. The terms of the inquiry have yet to be set and its priority among other inquiries has to be established. Apart from the Wilson deaths, the terms of reference are likely to include the activities of the "Mr Asia" heroin smuggling ring. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 13 May 81 p 36]

CSO: 5300/7558

BURMA

BRIEFS

DRUG SUPPRESSION IN RANGOON--Police rounded up 203 persons, including 9 women, in connection with 116 drug cases between January and March 1981 in Rangoon division. Of the total 116 drug cases, 10 were connected with opium, 13 with heroin, 48 with marihuana and 45 with failure to register for treatment. The amount of drugs seized were 83 grams of opium, 119.5 grams of heroin and 13.164 kilograms of marihuana. Total value of the drugs seized was 27,228 kyat. [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 27 Apr 81 p 7 BK]

OPIUM SEIZURE IN INDAW--Police and people's councillors of Indaw Township on 27 April raided the residence of U Nyan Tun in Meza village and seized .85 viss [viss equals 3.6 pounds] of opium and paraphernalia used in selling opium. Action has been taken under the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 5 May 81 p 6 BK]

OPIUM DEALER ARRESTED--A police force from Twante Township led by station officer U Tun Shwe raided the residence of U Tha U in Kabingyi village on 27 April and seized .40 viss [1 viss equals 3.6 pounds] of opium, opium smoking paraphernalia and hypodermic syringes used for injecting opium solution. Action was taken under the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 30 Apr 81 p 6 BK]

HEROIN SEIZURE IN MOULMEIN--Acting upon information received, members of the ward people's council and the joint state and district police force on 27 April searched the house of Ya Bit in Maider quarter, Phet Taw ward, Moulmein. The search yielded a packet of heroin and an unlicensed hypodermic needle. Police are taking action against Ya Bit under Sections 10.B and 14.D of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 9 May 81 p 5 BK]

CSO: 5300/4598

HONG KONG

CUSTOMS OFFICERS SMASH THAI HEROIN COURIER RING

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 4 May 81 p 16

[Report by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

A group of couriers, recruited in Thailand to smuggle drugs hidden in their bodies into Hongkong, has been smashed by customs officers.

Five of the couriers were detained on their arrival from Bangkok on Saturday and condoms packed with 900 grams of heroin base were found concealed in their rectums.

They were removed in hospital.

Another two of the couriers of the same syndicate were arrested at the airport last month and 300 grams of heroin was similarly recovered.

Customs Investigations Bureau's Assistant Superintendent K.L. Mak said that one of the arrested men is alleged to be the organiser and he is responsible for the outlet of the smuggled drugs to Hongkong's traffickers.

Most of the arrested had been in Hongkong at least twice this year and a few, including the alleged organiser, were frequent visitors.

Supt Mak said they will be contacting their Thai counterparts today to check on the backgrounds of the couriers and their associates in Thailand.

"We want to know their Hongkong contacts so that we could have their movements watched," Supt Mak said.

The rewards for the couriers are 10,000 baht (about HK\$2,500), plus return air fares and a night's stay.

Investigations began when one syndicate member was arrested on arriving on April 3 with two concealed condoms packed with drugs.

Investigations revealed that a fellow courier, who arrived with him, had escaped detection.

The courier's name was placed on the "blacklist" and he was arrested when he returned three weeks later where 100 grams of heroin base was found and extracted from his rectum.

After the second arrest, customs officers obtained more information on the syndicate which led to the latest arrests.

CSO: 5320

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

POLICEMAN JAILED--A police sergeant was jailed for 21 months by Mr H. J. Duffus at South Kowloon Magistracy yesterday on a charge of trafficking in dangerous drugs. Lau Chun-wah (28) pleaded guilty to unlawfully trafficking in 0.18 grams of a mixture containing 0.04 grams of salts of esters of morphine. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 1 May 81 p 15]

HEROIN POSSESSION SENTENCES--A mini-bus driver was yesterday sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment by the Chief Justice, Sir Denys Roberts, in the High Court for possessing seven kilograms of heroin worth more than \$3 million for the purpose of unlawful trafficking. Chim Chung-man (30) had pleaded not guilty, but a jury convicted him after deliberating for 3-1/2 hours. The jury also found him guilty of another charge of possessing three packets of heroin weighing a total of 1.6 grams at his home in Hunghom. Sir Denys imposed a sentence of six months' imprisonment on the latter charge to run concurrently with the 10-year sentence. [Excerpt] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 9 May 81 p 10] A 34-year-old restaurant cook, who was found with 36 packets of a mixture containing 2.13 grams of heroin in his underpants, was yesterday sentenced to 2-1/2 years' imprisonment after being convicted of possessing dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking. Judge Evans was told at Victoria District Court that on January 22 Lam Tim-hei was stopped by police in Aberdeen after they had observed him behaving suspiciously. He was searched and the packets were found. Lam told police he bought the heroin for \$900. He said he was an addict and that he usually took two to three packets a day. [Excerpt] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 16 May 81 p 7]

CSO: 5320

INDONESIA

MEMBER OF HEROIN SMUGGLING RING ON TRIAL

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 29 Mar 81 pp 1, 12

Excerpts The heroin smuggling case being tried in the East Jakarta Court clearly demonstrates the danger in the current rampant influx of narcotics from abroad.

The existence of the "Penang-Medan-Jakarta-Amsterdam Connection" is proven by the testimony of the defendant, KS, and the principal witness, Mrs RU. A "Mafia" figure from Malaysia plays an important role in this case.

That figure traveled to Medan and Jakarta to arrange the smuggling of 20 kg of heroin from Halim to Schiphol, Amsterdam. He met with AL from Medan; KS; and Mrs RU in the Hotel M. in Jakarta in 1979. The four sat in the lobby planning the heroin smuggling.

Later in the year, they held a further meeting, in Medan. KS and Mrs RU went to Medan, and checked into the Hotel DT. Mrs RU stayed in Room 513, while KS and the Malaysian took another room. At the hotel, they discussed further plans for narcotics smuggling.

AL played the key role in procuring "antiques," which were taken from Medan. At subsequent meetings in Medan, Brastagi and other locations, it was decided that the Malaysian "Godfather" would wait for them in Amsterdam.

The trip to Amsterdam was arranged. KS and Mrs RU were to smuggle the "antiques" from Halim to Amsterdam by air.

Several days before the scheduled departure for Amsterdam, KS and Mrs RU went to Medan to get the "antiques." Although original plans called for 20 kg, there were only 5 kg in this batch, in ten plastic bags, each containing .5 kg. AL brought the heroin to Medan's Polonis Airport in a briefcase. KS and Mrs RU landed in Jakarta's Kemajoran Airport that afternoon.

They took the briefcase from the airport to Mrs RU's home. On the proper day, Mrs RU brought the briefcase to Halim Airport, where she was arrested by state officials. KS was later apprehended at his home in Jl. Gilincing. AL successfully eluded capture in Medan.

It was later revealed that Mrs RU was a customs informant, who had gone along with the smuggling plot. She played a key role in the breaking of the Mafia narcotics smuggling ring supported by Malaysian figures.

Customs officials indicated that according to plan, Mrs RU flew to Amsterdam on 3 May, carrying the 5 kg of heroin. At the last minute, KS canceled his trip to Amsterdam with Mrs RU. Shortly thereafter, he was arrested at his home in Jl. Cilincing, North Jakarta.

Mrs RU's departure with the "antiques" was closely monitored by state officials and an American narcotics investigator. The Malaysian was waiting at Schiphol Airport. Dutch Interpol officials and others observed the meeting of Mrs RU and the Malaysian, and made the arrest. They seized the heroin, which contained 2 kg of pure heroin, and 3 kg of filler. The Malaysian, Tah Ahmeng, was sentenced to prison by a Dutch court.

At the trial, KS indicated that AL, who gathered the "antiques" in Medan, is his uncle.

In a unique turn of events, KS and Mrs RU differed in identification of the evidence. When the judge showed the heroin to KS, and asked if the few grains displayed were part of the heroin in question, he confirmed that they were. However, when the judge displayed the evidence to Mrs RU, she said that it was not the heroin she had seen previously.

9197
CSO: 5300/8335

INDONESIA

RIAU DESCRIBED AS NARCOTICS 'TROUBLE SPOT'

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 5 Apr 81 pp 6, 8

[Article by Mulyadi: "Riau is a Trouble Spot for Narcotics"]

[Excerpts] Pekanbaru. For a long time Riau has been known as a trouble spot for narcotics. Cases of narcotics abuse and the illegal importation of that "stuff" are like a story with no end.

The head of Police Region IV Riau, Brigadier General Hudioro, M.A., has continually stressed that one of the factors that has made the eradication of narcotics abuse difficult is the geography of Riau Province.

There is truth in what Hudioro says. Riau Province has 3214 islands scattered from the Straits of Malacca to the South China Sea. Almost 65 percent of the islands are uninhabited, and there are only 2.1 million inhabitants in Riau Province itself.

What is no less important in causing difficulties for the [eradication of] narcotics abuse is that the government agencies who have this task are not fully equipped, in addition to the eternal problem of "lack of personnel."

This reporter's investigation of the flow of narcotics into Riau Province indicates that there are two main sources, [one foreign, the other domestic]. One foreign route runs from Ketam Island (Malaysia) to Panipahan--Bagan Siapi-api--Halang Island--Sinaboi and the surrounding areas.

Another foreign route runs from Malacca (Malaysia) to Tanjung Medang--Hutan Samak--Dumai--Bengkalis and the surrounding area. Narcotics traffic also follows the route of Pontian (Malaysia)--Rangsang Island--Selat Panjang--Tanjung Balai Karimun and near-by areas. Still another route is Singapore--the Riau Archipelago--Rangsang Island and the surrounding areas.

These routes originate abroad, but there are other routes that originate domestically (outside of Riau Province). The domestic routes begin in Aceh and North Sumatra, proceed by land to Pekanbaru and Dumai, and then spread out.

According to SINAR HARAPAN's investigations into the abuse of and traffic in narcotics, those involved include merchants, sailors, fishermen, as well as "certain" influential people. They are of various ethnic groups and races.

The main types of narcotics which enter and circulate in Riau Province are opium, morphine, marijuana, etc. These types of narcotics are in liquid, crystal and powder form.

Government agents from the areas affected by narcotics have also succeeded in confiscating evidence in the form of syringes. In certain areas it is even suspected that the narcotics are brought in inside a type of shrimp-paste. Various types of narcotics have been found smuggled from abroad in hidden compartments in sailing vessels as well. Those involved in the smuggling are not just Chinese opium addicts, but include many other residents of Riau Province.

The head of Police Region IV Riau, Brigadier General Hudioro, M.A. told SINAR HARAPAN that sometimes people who understand Chinese are needed to uncover foreign smuggling nets.

The reasoning of the head of the police region makes sense considering that there are Chinese who understand no Indonesian in some areas that have a narcotics problem. Examples are Bagan Siapi-api, Sinaboi and Halang Island, among others.

According to SINAR HARAPAN's notes, between 1978 and 1980 there were several interesting narcotics cases. Hariadi bin Hasan and his followers were arrested while distributing narcotics in Teluk Berkey, Bagan Siapi-api, along with Hariadi, Darmawan and others. In this case 400 packages of opium were confiscated. One of those involved was a thirteen-year-old.

In another case 7,200 milligrams of morphine was seized in Bagan Siapi-api. The suspect is Z.

In a similar case in Bagan Siapi-api, morphine was brought in from Ketam Island (Malaysia). The suspects in this case are R, M, AK and S.

In another incident in Bagan Siapi-api 3.2 grams of morphine were seized by government agents on Utama Street. The suspects include LPY and others.

According to LPY, there are three places (houses) in Bagan Siapi-api where morphine is injected, namely, the homes of IT, KS and TB.

Bagan Siapi-api is not the only place for the traffic and importation of narcotics. Selat Panjang is also an affected area.

It happened that a Chinese man was arrested for committing a crime. While under arrest he showed the symptoms of morphine addiction. He shivered and his eyes bulged.

When questioned he admitted that he was a morphine addict and said that he usually obtained morphine at the house of EP, alias S.

Government agents who carried out a search at EP's house confiscated one cekak [.08 gram package] of morphine in crystal form, one package of morphine, one small box containing 2.5 grams of white powder and one plastic syringe.

In Selat Panjang area a citizen of Singapore named ACS (72 years old), who holds passport No. 0969091 and was captain of the sailing ship Chye Noh Min, was arrested when he was discovered carrying 24.890 grams of liquid morphine and 78,700 grams of crystalline opium. This case was turned over to the district attorney and has been tried before the State Court.

In Tanjung Balai Karimun a man named JB (24 years old), employed as a fisherman, was discovered in possession of 21,390 milligrams of morphine. JB had bought the morphine from IB, a member of the crew of a ship from Singapore.

In Pekanbaru, the commander of Police District 401, Lieutenant Colonel Ignatius Sumitro, announced the round-up of a marijuana ring. This case involved a person named ZS, students, cigarette sellers, and others. In this case 600 grams of marijuana were seized in evidence.

Y, an employee of the Riau Sub Project for the Opening of Tidal Rice Fields S and Z also were involved.

All of the incidents would probably fill up this newspaper if they were related one by one. For example, there is the case of Ng S H and others who were involved in the distribution and selling of opium and morphine.

This case had important consequences, for government agents confiscated 1,600 milligrams of morphine, 7,950 milligrams of opium and 8,800 milligrams of prepared opium.

First Assistant of Police Region IV Riau, Police Lieutenant Colonel Kusparmono Irsan, M.A., states that the narcotics problem must receive serious attention not only from the authorities, but also from the public at large, parents, teachers and students.

This is because the people who traffic in and abuse narcotics are not just merchants, fishermen and sailors, but also students.

The eradication of narcotics abuse and traffic requires the full cooperation of all parties closely connected with the problem. Let us hope the problem receives the attention it deserves.

9846
CSO: 5300/8336

INDONESIA

MORPHINE SMUGGLERS ARRESTED IN RIAU

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 7 Apr 81 p 3

[Article: "One kg of Morphine Seized as Evidence. Coast Guard Patrol Arrests Narcotics Smugglers in Riau"]

[Excerpts] Tanjung Balai Karimun. That Riau is a problem area as a channel for narcotics traffic was proved by the seizure of one kg of morphine by a Coast Guard patrol from the Tanjung Balai Karimun Unit in Naval Area 2 on March 11th. The suspects, a 45-year-old woman named S, a man D (46 years old) and M, the owner of a speedboat which carried the two smugglers from Malaysia, are now under investigation.

Navy Colonel Joko Surohardjo, the chief of staff of Naval Area 2, believes that illegal activities in Riau waters that border on the Straits of Malacca have been increasing recently.

Joko Surohardjo said that according to the results of the laboratory investigation by the regional office of Customs Area II in Tanjung Balai Karimun, the white powder which was seized by the Coast Guard was definitely narcotics.

The smugglers were arrested near Tukong Hiyu Island, just as they were about to get away. It is only about 40 miles across the Straits of Malacca from Batu Pahat, Johore, Malaysia, to the Riau Archipelago.

Navy Corporal First Class J. A. Siregar, who led the arresting patrol, told SINAR HARAPAN that he didn't realize that he was going to find the narcotics. Some of the prohibited substance was hidden in a worn-out bag wrapped in old newspapers, and some of it was wrapped in pieces of old newspaper in small packages. S, who was transporting the narcotics, claimed it was only a kind of alum. She intended to sell the small packages as a tonic for women.

The Assistant for Operations of Naval Area 2, Navy Lieutenant Colonel Sembiring, added that when their lies did not succeed in convincing the officers in charge, the smugglers tried to negotiate their release but their offers were ignored. Lieutenant Colonel Sembiring said that according to the preliminary investigation, the suspect had been smuggling narcotics since 1979.

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

MORPHINE ARREST IN JAKARTA--The commander of the Investigative Unit of the Metropolitan Police Regional Command of Greater Jakarta, Police Lieutenant Colonel Hindarto, M.A., when contacted by a SINAR HARAPAN reporter on Monas Avenue early Sunday morning, said that during the night his men had apprehended persons trying to sell 100 cekak of morphine worth 500,000 rupiah. According to Police Lieutenant Colonel Hindarto, the morphine dealers, a husband and wife, were arrested in Menteng Dalam, Central Jakarta. They claim they received the morphine from a friend. [Excerpts] [Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 6 Apr 81 p 2] 9846

CSO: 5300/8336

NEW ZEALAND

BRIEFS

DRUG CRIME CLEARANCE RATE--Crime is up 8.6 percent on the first three months of this year compared with the same period last year. However, figures released by Police National Headquarters today show that the clearance rate by police has also risen. The highest clearance rate at a national level was in the drugs and "anti-social" field, where 93.3 percent of the crimes reported had been successfully dealt with. [Excerpt] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 9 May 81 p 5]

DEATH PENALTY REJECTED--Tauranga, Today (PA)--A suggestion by Otahuhu National Party members that convicted drug dealers should be executed, does not have the support of their Tauranga counterparts. The suggestion, which proposes convicted dealers be executed within 24 hours of the trial without right of appeal, has been put forward as a remit to the National Party's Auckland divisional conference, later this month. But today the chairman of the National Party's Tauranga electorate, Mr D H Johnston, said the remit was unacceptable to Tauranga people. "You can't execute people without the right of appeal," he said yesterday. "It is not the way of British justice." [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 9 May 81 p 48]

HEROIN IMPORTER SENTENCED--Auckland, May 1(PA)--A man who imported heroin with a street value of about \$40,000 by putting it in 10 condoms and swallowing them was sentenced in the High Court at Auckland today to seven years' jail. Allan William Thomas Hughes, 32, screen printer, of Dunedin, had pleaded guilty in the District Court to importing a class-A controlled drug. Mr Justice Prichard said Hughes was a heroin addict himself, as was often the case. Hughes was caught bringing into the country 53 grams of 20 percent pure heroin with a street value said to be around \$40,000, he said. He said Hughes had previously made four trips to countries known to be heroin suppliers. [Excerpts] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 2 May 81 p 2]

TWO ON MORPHINE CHARGES--Auckland, April 28 (PA)--Two men were committed to the High Court for trial yesterday on morphine charges after a depositions hearing in the Auckland District Court. Thomas Arthur Adderley, 49, entertainer, of Epsom, and David John Gapes, 38, cafe proprietor, of Birkenhead, denied two joint charges of supplying morphine and possessing morphine for supply. Adderley also denied two further charges of supplying morphine and a charge of permitting his car to be used for the purpose of a commission of an offence against the Misuse of Drugs Act. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 29 Apr 81 p 4]

COCAINE, LSD IMPORTATION--Christchurch, May 11 (PA)--A company manager facing charges of importing cocaine and LSD into New Zealand had been allowed out on bail of \$50,000 by the Court of Appeal last week, said his counsel Mr G R Lascelles in the District Court today. His client, Terry Ivan Ormandy, 32, was further remanded on bail to May 28 when, said Judge P J McAloon, a plea must be made. Ormandy is alleged to have imported the two class B controlled drugs into Auckland on February 8. [Excerpt] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 12 May 81 p 4]

CHARGES AGAINST 39--Wellington (PA)--A special sitting of the Wellington District Court was held yesterday to deal with 39 people accused of 160 offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act. Forty-one people were arrested during dawn raids by police in Wellington, Porirua and Levin on Wednesday. Two accused appeared that afternoon before Judge R. R. Kearney. Judge A. J. Ryan presided over yesterday's special court sitting, which lasted an hour. Charges included possession of cannabis, cannabis seeds, needles and syringes; burglary; permitting vehicles and houses to be used for committing offences against the Misuse of Drugs Act; cultivating cannabis; supplying cannabis, cocaine, cannabis resin and morphine; possession of pethidine; and possession of and supply of LSD. [Excerpts] [Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 8 May 81 p 4]

CSO: 5320/9072

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

KARACHI HEROIN HAUL--The Central Division Excise Police yesterday apprehended two Bahrain nationals and recovered 100 grams of heroin from their possession. The accused, identified as Ibrahim Ahmad and 'Abbas Ghalum Muhammad, have been staying at a local 4-star hotel. [GFO41735 Karachi DAWN in English 2 Jun 81 p 8]

PESHAWAR HASHISH OIL--About 33 kg of hashish oil was seized by Peshawar customs from a garden situated along the Grand Trunk Road here today. The oil was being stocked in the garden in mobile oil cans for onward shipment abroad via Karachi. [GFO41735 Karachi DAWN in English 3 Jun 81 p 12]

CHARAS SEIZED--The excise police seized 80 kilograms of contraband charas worth about Rs. 40,00,000 in the foreign market, after a raid on a den in the Liyari Quarters area, it was reported yesterday. The den keeper, identified as Sher Mohammad was arrested, by the excise police, during the raid. The reports said that a gang of smugglers had hoarded the contraband cargo in a den in the Liyari Quarters area for transmission abroad. However, before the cargo was to be dispatched, the excise police, after a tips off, raided the den and seized the charas. Sher Mohammad, who was arrested, is under intense interrogation to reveal links if any. [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 27 May 81 p 5]

CSO: 5300/4596

THAILAND

PHUKHET, HAT YAI SAID TO BE MAJOR DRUG ROUTES

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 20 Apr 81 p 3

[Text] The famous resort island of Phuket and the tourist town of Hat Yai have become major routes for heroin and other drugs being smuggled abroad, Secretary General of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) Pol Maj Gen Pow Sarasin said over the weekend.

Pol Maj Gen Pow said in a speech to open a course for narcotics officials in Phuket that both the famous island and the commercial town of Hat Yai are well served by land, air and sea transport and offer good routes for drug smuggling.

He said the southern region was still short of police trained in drug investigation and suppression and this was one of the reasons for heroin and other drugs from the Thai-Burmese border to be smuggled through the South.

Local police in Hat Yai and Phuket have during the past several months cracked down on a number of drug smugglers.

In March alone, police

in Hat Yai arrested at least eight persons on charge of drug trafficking in two separate cases.

They also seized heroin worth over 500,000 baht in the two cases.

Meanwhile, on Friday police in Chiang Mai arrested three men after seizing a consignment of ether and chloroform which was believed to be destined for heroin refinery along the Thai-Burmese border.

The 1,600 litres of chemicals seized were capable of being used to process at least 100 kgs of heroin from opium, police said.

The two types of chemicals are banned by authorities from being brought into many of the northern provinces as a preventive measure against drug production.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR TOUGHER PUNISHMENT FOR NARCOTICS VIOLATORS

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Apr 81 p 4

[Editorial: "The Next Step in the Drug War"]

[Text]

DRUG enforcement agents the world over are preparing to do battle with a fresh wave of drug traffickers expected to stream out of the Golden Triangle. By their own admission the conflict is unwinnable; they can at best hope to control but never entirely stop the heroin from filtering through the borders of the producing countries. But the 5 to 7 per cent success rate they claim is by any account far too small. It can, indeed must, be increased. How?

Ideally, the best way would be through nipping cultivation of the opium poppy in the bud. But this has its share of problems. One, it requires too large a chunk of the drug-combatting budget. Two, it is extremely difficult to enforce. Some farmers may switch to growing other cash crops but as each year adds to the number of farming families, the lure of quick money is difficult to avoid particularly as it can be made through the sneaky cultivation of a few acres of poppy on a remote hillside.

Increasing the size of the force, particularly undercover agents and informers, has its advantages but is not always possible, essentially because the job is risky and thankless. Despite greater awareness among children about the dangers and harm of drug-takings, there are still the depressed, soft-minded juveniles who become the prime targets of the pusher.

The one certain way of deterring the chain of crime is by inflicting severe punishment on everyone involved. The people who grow the drug are just as responsible for it as those who refine it, smuggle it or push it. Thus, if the Singaporeans can execute couriers found with even a milligramme of heroin and our more lax laws set the death penalty for possession with intent to sell of over 100 grammes, there is no reason why farmers who produce it should not also face criminal charges. One might be inclined to side out of pure sympathy with the poor farmers but if it is acknowledged that their re-

sponsibility in the chain is no less serious, then the punishment should fit the crime.

Certainly, some of the poppy is produced for medicinal purposes. But either the Government should take this into its own hands or assign specific farmers the job of producing the required amount and declare the rest of the holdings illegal. Many claim to be personally addicted to the drug but again, is the suspect who claims to be carrying heroin for his own personal consumption treated with any special leniency?

Parliament is due to reconvene next month. It might be worthwhile for it to have a second look at the anti-drug penalties and revamp them into a more stringent, forceful package. That, backed by adequate warning publicity through the airport authority, travel agencies and airlines, should make opium poppy growing, heroin production and smuggling an unpardonable crime. It is the enforcement agencies' prime weapon and it should not be denied them.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

CASE OF POLICE COLONEL IMPLICATED IN TRAFFICKING DISCUSSED

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 23 May 81 p 10

[Text] It was as many as five years back that anti-narcotics agents got wind that Pol Gol Niran Vittayavuthikul, who was then Chiang Mai's deputy police chief, was to some extent allegedly implicated in the drug traffic coming down from the North.

Sources said the anti-drug agents were then eager to see Pol Col Niran moved out from the North which makes up the famous Golden Triangle — one of the world's biggest source of heroin.

However, persistent attempts to have the police officer removed from his area of influence were somehow thwarted, they said.

Today Pol Col Niran is on the run. Police in the entire country is after him.

Niran was last week named as the mastermind behind a shipment of heroin from Chiang Mai which was intercepted by the police in Bangkok.

Niran was formerly an anti-drug officer himself.

Sources in the Police Department ad-

mitted that it is very easy and tempting for anti-drug officers to get involved in the dirty business themselves because of their exposure to frequent dealings with the traffickers.

Many high-ranking police officials — and even junior policemen — themselves indulge in petty drug trafficking or simply accept bribe from Chinese Haws and ignore the drug traffic that go on under their nose.

"In many cases, policemen became drug couriers themselves because they could not resist the temptation of money," a senior anti-drug official said.

The Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) shored up its image last week by smashing a gang of drug couriers and seized 58 kilogrammes of No 3 heroin estimated to be worth over 10 million baht here.

Its secretary general, Pol Maj Gen Pow Sarasin, claimed that the drug haul was the biggest in three years.

The drug was moved down from Chiang Mai and was awaiting delivery at Liberty Hotel in Sapan Khwai when police struck.

Two sets of police walkie-talkie and an .38 mm pistol were also seized from the four suspects who quickly named Niran as the man behind the traffic.

Police investigations revealed that the walkie-talkie and the pistol seized belonged to the police officer.

Pol Maj Gen Pow subsequently asked newly-appointed Police Director General Pol Lt Gen Surapol Chullapram to issue a nation-wide arrest warrant for Niran the same evening.

But Niran presumably anticipated this and disappeared immediately.

Niran was before the scandal commander of the Personnel Division of the Zone 3 Provincial Police and as Chiang

Mai's police chief had worked hand in hand with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) of the United States.

He was transferred to Surin under the capacity of deputy police chief of the province, two years ago.

At this stage, DEA came up with a report that there was something fishy about the way Niran was doing his job.

Three months after his last posting, he was moved to Mae Hong Son and finally to Lampang.

Niran is the elder brother of Pol Col Narin, the former chief of the Technical Division of the Police Department who was a close aide of Pol Gen Montchal Pankongchuen.

The sources claimed that Niran's influence had blunted any attempts to have him transferred out of Chiang Mai in the first place.

Provincial police, the sources said, were still reluctant to lay their fingers on him even after the seizure of the drug shipment in Bangkok.

Pol Lt Gen Narong Mahanont, deputy police director general, was reportedly compelled to

despatch a special unit of crime suppression police to Chiang Mai to hunt him down.

There were unconfirmed reports that Niran was still in hiding in Mae Ai District of Chiang Mai where he was nabbed by local policemen one day after the arrest warrant was sent out.

"But the Chiang Mai policemen decided to set him free claiming that they had not yet received any arrest warrant," a police investigator said.

Pol Col Sakon Kangkaket, deputy commander of the Crime Suppression Division, said Kam-al Kampimai, one of the four drug suspects arrested in the swoop, was identified as a big-time trafficker belonging to a drug syndicate which operates a heroin refinery located in the jungle in Baan Pa Pae, Pai District of Mae Hong Son.

Pol Col Sakon, who was named chairman of the commission probing the incident, said the refinery had been operating

for over 10 years.

Niran, he said, got involved in the syndicate at a latter stage by supplying the refinery with necessary chemicals through Kam-al.

Chiang Mai has long been known as a centre of drug traffic in the North and some unscrupulous local policemen have been having a good time making money from extortions.

Police reports show that it is common for junior policemen to deliver drug to their customers, mostly foreigners, right in their hotel rooms.

"Once the drug is in the hand of their customers they would begin extorting money from them," said an old-hand anti-drug officer.

The policemen, he said, either get what they want or simply send their victims to jail.

The sources in the Police Department observed that the suspects arrested in the crackdown last week had chosen to move down No 3 instead of the much more dangerous No 4 heroin.

The No 3 heroin has yet to be refined to be turned into No 4 heroin for which much heavier punishment is imposed.

A person who possesses over 100 grammes of No 4 heroin is now liable to either life imprisonment or death sentence.

Both foreign and local anti-drug agents have painted a rather gloomy picture for the drug trafficking scene this year following reports of triple production of opium in the Golden Triangle.

It is expected that more than 600 tons of opium from the Golden Triangle will be supplied to the dozens of heroin refineries located in the jungle along the Thai-Burmese border later this year.

Officials of the US Embassy here have also expressed fears that news of good crop might entice both amateur and professional traffickers to try their chance here in larger number.

The newly harvested poppies, sources said, are probably on the way to the refineries.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

COLONEL SOUGHT FOR HEROIN TRAFFICKING

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 May 81 pp 1, 3

[Text]

POLICE in Bangkok and the North are searching for a former senior narcotics unit police officer who is wanted in connection with one of the biggest heroin seizures in Thailand in years, an authoritative source told the Post yesterday.

Police Chief Suraphol Chullapram yesterday issued a nation-wide warrant for the arrest of the officer, Pol Col Nirand Vithayawuthikul, the superintendent of the Zone 3 Provincial Police Logistics Unit in Lampang.

Col Nirand, who headed the Chiang Mai Provincial Narcotics Unit from 1977-79, is believed to have fled to Lampang from the capital on Tuesday night only hours after four men were arrested in the parking lot at Bangkok's Liberty Hotel with 58 kilogrammes of heroin base.

Those arrested in the raid, mounted by an Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) team, included a former Zone 3 Provincial Police private.

ONCB Secretary-General Pol Maj Gen Pow Sarasin described Tuesday's seizure as the "largest haul in three years" and estimated its value on the local market at about 10 million baht.

Those arrested on Tuesday were identified as Inkham (alias Kham-ai) Kanthama, 49, Sawas Duangkeo, 31, Boonlert Pantasri, 41, all Chiang Mai residents, and Pol Pvt Mangkorn Duangsaeng, who was formerly attached to the Zone 3 Provincial Police.

The three Chiang Mai men have records for drug offences while Pol Pvt Mangkorn is also wanted on an assault charge in Chiang Mai following a shooting in October last year in which a policeman was seriously wounded. He received disciplinary punishment and was dismissed from service but is still wanted on the assault charge.

The heroin base, packed in 120 blocks, was found hidden in secret seat compartments in a white Toyota pick-up truck bearing Chiang Mai licence plates. It had

been driven to Bangkok by Sawas with Mangkorn as his passenger. The other two men travelled in Inkham's Volvo sedan.

In each vehicle police found walkie-talkie radios reportedly owned by the Zone 3 Provincial Police and signed out of its office by Col Nirand.

Col Nirand reportedly came to Bangkok the same day as the other four to oversee the delivery operation.

Maj-Gen Pow said it was believed that the heroin base was to be delivered to a man identified as Suriya Kuanrakcharoen (alias Juitang or Kung sae Kow). He said police are searching for both Suriya and his wife who had managed to evade arrest.

The heroin base, which can be processed into either No. 3 ("Brown Sugar") or high-grade No. 4 heroin is believed to have been destined for overseas markets. It was possibly going to be processed at a refinery along the bandit-infested border with Malaysia before being smuggled abroad.

ARMS

Maj-Gen Pow said the gang had been closely watched by the ONCB and US Drug Enforcement Administration

(DEA) agents since 1979. He also alleged that Inkham had for many years been supplying arms to Burmese minority groups operating in the North.

Meanwhile, the Commander of the Zone 3 Provincial Police, Pol Maj-Gen Surachit Panyarachun has ordered police in the North to track down Pol Col Nirand in an effort which will be concentrated in Lampang and Chiang Mai Provinces.

Col Nirand was reportedly seen in Lampang Province yesterday afternoon driving a brown Toyota Corolla. Chiang Mai police found no trace of him yesterday during a search of his house in Saraphi District on the outskirts of the Northern capital.

SEIZURES

During his term as chief of Chiang Mai Provincial Police Narcotics Unit, Col Nirand figured in some major drugs seizures.

According to a narcotics official in the North, he also played a major

role in the March 1976 arrest of alleged Chiang Mai drug dealer Arun Nanavichit who was nabbed with a large quantity of opium and morphine in his possession.

Col Nirand is the second senior police officer from the North to be implicated in a big narcotics deal.

In 1974, a joint Thai-US narcotics team raided a heroin refinery in a lamyai plantation owned by the then deputy chief of Lamphun Police, Pol Lt Col Sawai Phuttharak.

Lt Col Sawai was in his house at the time of the raid, but managed to escape arrest and has since been in hiding.

by Pummarie Sumondis



Col Nirand.



THE FOUR drug suspects arrested in a major drug haul on Tuesday are interrogated by Deputy Premier Gen Prachuab (with glasses) at the Office of the Narcotics Control Board.

From left: Kham-eye, Boonlert, Sawat and Pol Pvt Mungkorn

CSO: 5300/4603

THAILAND

OPIUM CROP GOOD, HEROIN ARRESTS LIKELY

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Apr 81 p 3

[Article by John Laird: "Heroin Arrests Likely To Soar"]

[Text]

A BUMPER crop of opium in the Golden Triangle this year is expected to result in an upsurge of young Europeans, Australians and Americans landing in Thai jails, where they face life imprisonment for possession of relatively small amounts of heroin, according to US sources.

Bangkok narcotics agents are expecting about 30 tons of pure heroin to emerge from June onwards from the Golden Triangle — where the borders of Thailand, Burma and Laos meet — following two years of drought. They expect that smugglers will try to move eight tons of the heroin to addicts in America, Europe and Australasia.

The sources say that Thailand, with its easy access and free movement for tourists, is a favourite smuggling route. With intensified narcotics detection in recent years, Thai jails are already crowded with foreigners serving long sentences.

There are 14 Italians serving sentences and 14 more in custody pending trial; 14 French sentenced and 13 others in custody; 10 Britons sentenced and three others in custody; 10 Australians serving sentences and as many awaiting trial; seven Swiss sentenced and three in custody; five Dutch sentenced, and 21 Hong Kong Chinese are held.

Of 23 convicted Americans, 10 are serving sentences of 25 years or longer. Another 18 are on trial or about to go to trial.

A two-year-old law provides for life imprisonment or execution for

anyone convicted of possession of more than 100 grammes (3.5 ounces) of heroin, or a term of five years to life for possession of between 20 to 100 grammes (0.7 and 3.5 ounces).

The sources stress that parole or clemency for drug offenders is not available under Thai law.

The typical Western drug courier is in his late 20s to mid-30s, from a middle-class background, not very well educated and easily fooled, said the sources.

They point to cases of would-be couriers who have approached room boys in lower class hotels, or taxi drivers in Bangkok or Chiang Mai, only to be nabbed by narcotics police soon after they buy the heroin.

The informers collect 10 per cent from the heroin dealers and another reward for informing, said the sources.

Most of the couriers arrested in Thailand are not heroin addicts and about half are believed to be first-timers.

They are often seeking heroin which may cost up to 360,000 baht (\$18,000) a kilogramme (2.2 pounds) in Bangkok and usually get about \$10,000 (about 200,000 baht) on delivery.

A heavily diluted kilogramme of heroin on the New York market, for instance, may bring well over \$1 million. —AP

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

DRUG TRAFFICKER'S SENTENCE CONFIRMED

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 May 81 p 3

[Text]

THE Appeal Court yesterday upheld the Criminal Court's decision of life imprisonment against a notorious drugs trafficker Pak Yok Lin, a Hong Kong national, on charges of possessing 15.3 kilogrammes of No.3 "brown sugar" heroin with intent to sell.

At the same time, the jail terms against his two accomplices, who appealed was also upheld in yesterday's Appeal Court's decision.

Vichai sae Koo, alias Jin Ping, a Chinese Haw from northern Thailand received 44 years, five months and 10 days imprisonment while Taiwanese Tsai Fu-tung had his 33 years jail term confirmed.

They were arrested with another 10 men during a series of raids in Bangkok May 21-22, 1979 staged jointly by Thai narcotics police and US Drugs Enforcement Administration agents. The raids led to the discovery of 15,350 grammes of "brown sugar" about to be smuggled to Hong Kong aboard a Panamanian freighter.

Six alleged accomplices of Hong Kong and Taiwanese nationality were acquitted for lack of evidence.

In handing down the verdict yesterday, the Appeals Court said that it rejected the three men's appeal on grounds that they had committed the crime which endangered the lives of several people and also national security.

It added that Pak's penalty was reduced from death sentence to life by the Criminal Court's decision while others had received the penalty that suited their crimes.

The court said that Pak was once arrested on May 1979 after 4.45 kilogrammes of heroin was found hidden in a golf bag allegedly belonging to him, but the case against him was dropped by the public prosecutor. During these periods, he was given a chance to become a good citizen, but instead had re-committed the crime.

Two other Taiwanese, who were convicted to 33 years and four months jail terms each, did not appeal.

CSO: 5300/4603

THAILAND

NEW BRAND OF HEROIN SEIZED

Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 31 Jan 81 p 3

[Text]

CRIME Suppression Division (CSD) police from Bangkok yesterday arrested two Laotian refugees and a Thai national in Udon Thani Province and seized three kilogrammes of "KKK" brand of pure heroin.

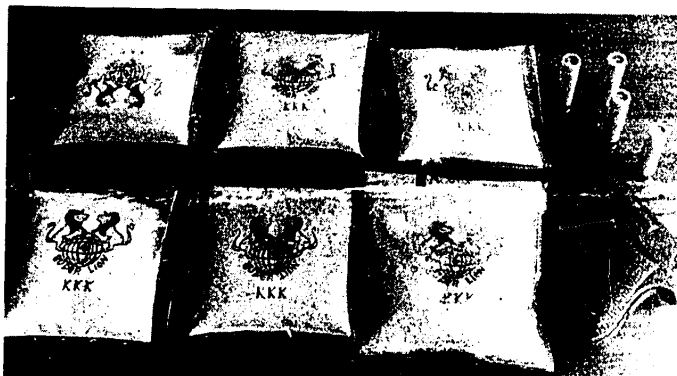
CSD Deputy Narcotics Chief, Lt-Col Nitiphand Singhoraka, told the World this morning that the heroin was produced in Laos and smuggled across the border by refugees. He said this was the

first time that Thai narcotics officials seized this brand of heroin in the country although such a brand has been known for quite some time.

According to Col Nitiphand, CSD police searched rooms in the

Charoen Hotel and Coconut Hotel in Udon Thani yesterday and arrested Thao Saeng Chullamani, 30, and Anusorn Chanthaburi, 18, both illegal immigrants from Laos, and a Thai, Suthin Suwanmacho, 30.

A home-made gun and the drug were discovered in their possession, he said.



These are the heroin and gun that CSD police said they seized from two Laotians and a Thai in Udon Thani yesterday.

CSO: 5300/4603

THAILAND

NEW ZEALANDER SENTENCED FOR HEROIN

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Mar 81 pp 1,3

[Text]

CHIANG MAI
CHIANG MAI Provincial Court yesterday sentenced a young New Zealand woman to more than 30 years in jail after she was found guilty of having possessed heroin with intent to sell.

Andrea Karmela Resetar, who had pleaded not guilty to the charge, was sentenced to 33 years and four months in jail.

Miss Resetar, 26, from Auckland, appeared stunned at the sentence, but said she would appeal.

She was initially sentenced to life imprisonment, but Judge Suree Tangsriwong said the sentence was reduced because her admissions to the police and testimony in court had been beneficial to the case.

Miss Resetar was arrested together with a New Zealand man, Matthew Cosio, on November 28, 1979, after police found 700 grammes of No. 4 heroin and some syringes in their room at the Chiang Inn Hotel.

The public prosecutor withdrew the case against Cosio in late September last year and he returned to New Zealand within days after his parents had spent more than six months in Chiang Mai seeking his release on the grounds of ill-health.

During the trial, Miss Resetar had denied any knowledge of the heroin.

She had told the court that she was only Cosio's travelling companion

and knew nothing of his involvement with drugs until their arrest.

Miss Resetar will be transferred to a jail in Bangkok to serve her sentence and await results of the two appeals she is allowed.

The appeal procedure, which allows for no new evidence and no further court appearances, will probably take at least six months.

Miss Resetar said earlier that the controversial release of her co-defendant had raised her hopes of going free.

She arrived in court looking pale and thin but wearing bright make-up.

Miss Resetar, who is divorced, has an eight-year-old daughter in Auckland.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

SHAN, HAW CHINESE ARRESTED IN HEROIN RAID

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 May 81 p 2

[Text]

CHIANG MAI — A police private attached to provincial Police Narcotics Unit was stabbed in a fight when police caught five Thai Yais and Chinese Haws allegedly making a heroin delivery in front of Siriwattana market yesterday afternoon.

The police managed to arrest four men, a Thai Yai and three Chinese Haws, and seized 1,400 grammes of No. 4 first grade heroin. An alleged accomplice escaped in a Toyota pick-up.

The arrested Thai Yai, Wailong sae Kaw (27) and Chinese Haws, Sawang Boonlong (40), Jai Seangsi (40) and Sangju sae Yang (40) reportedly admitted to police that they had brought the heroin from Chiang Dao District to deliver to customers at a rendezvous in front of the market.

Acting on a tip-off, the police team led by Pol Capt Payung Jinachit laid in waiting in front of

the market and saw a white Toyota pick-up carrying five men, arrived at about 2 p.m.

The police stopped the men to search them when a fight started. Sawang allegedly drew a knife and stabbed Pol Pvt Suchart Muangmool in the ribs, but was overcome by other policemen.

The driver of the pick-up sped away during the fight.

The four arrested were initially charged with possessing heroin with intent to sell and were detained at Chiang Mai Muang District police station for further questioning.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA SEIZURE IN SAKON NAKHON--Sakon Nakhon--Acting on a tip-off provincial police seized a 10-wheel truck loaded with 5,670 kilogrammes of marijuana and arrested the driver in Tambon Tha Kwang of Muang District on Tuesday, it was reported yesterday. Following information that a large consignment of marijuana was being transported to Bangkok via this province from Nakhon Phanom Province's Tha Uthane District, local police led by Police Superintendent Col Chai Pandthudej, set up roadblocks on the Sakon Nakhon-Udon Thani Road in a bid to intercept the cargo. Another police unit patrolled the area to track down the vehicle allegedly transporting the drug. According to police, when the patrol unit reached Tha Kwang they noticed an apparently abandoned truck by the road. Residents nearby told police that a driver was inside a nearby house. Police got hold of the driver, Mr Thawil Rangrikaew and brought him out to the truck which was then searched. A thorough search revealed 162 sacks filled with marijuana weighing 5,670 kgs hidden beneath 15 sacks of tapioca pellets. The driver was taken to Muang District police station where he reportedly confessed that he had been hired to transport the marijuana to Bangkok. He did not, however, reveal the identity of the consignment's owner. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Apr 81 p 2]

MORPHINE SEIZED IN HAT YAI--Police yesterday raided a Hat Yai hotel room and seized two blocks of morphine which they said was being readied for smuggling into Malaysia. The morphine weighing about three kilogrammes and worth about 600,000 baht, was found under the bed in a room of the Metro Hotel. A 51-year old man, Niwat Tantayalamkarn, was arrested after the raid on the room by eight officers from Hat Yai's Muang District police station. Chief of the Hat Yai Narcotics Suppression Unit Captain Samrieng Sangkachand, who led the raid, said the morphine number 999 was to be sold in the hotel and then smuggled into Malaysia. Niwat, questioned by police, denied owning the morphine but did not say where it had come from. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 May 81 p 2]

COOPERATION WITH MALAYSIA--Penang, Malaysia--Malaysia and Thailand are tracking down five newly uncovered multi-million-dollar international drug syndicates trafficking between the two countries, Malaysian Director of Criminal Investigations, Datuk Abdul Rahman Ismail said yesterday. Both governments are working on information on individuals involved in these syndicates, he told newsmen after a two-day meeting between the Malaysian police and Thailand's Narcotics

Control Board. He said Malaysian and Thai authorities were aware of a bumper crop in the Golden Triangle of Burma, Thailand and Laos which would increase the flow of opium, morphine and heroin into Malaysia and other countries. Greater joint-efforts are therefore required between the two countries to check the trafficking, he added. Datuk Rahman said ways had been worked out to enable enforcement agencies of the two countries to curb the drug menace more stridently. Malaysian police would intensify efforts to suppress drug supplies and prosecute the culprits.--REUTER [Text] [Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 26 Apr 81 p 1]

CHIANG MAI OPIUM SEIZURE--Chang-Mai--Police over the past two days seized a total of 44 kilogrammes of raw opium during raids in Chiang Dao and Mae Ai districts. Following a tip-off on Thursday, 20 Border Patrol Policemen went with a tracker dog to Soi Sam Mhuen village in Chiang Dao District. The dog led them to the house of 45-year-old Jabchai sae Jang. Police searched the house and found 26 kilogrammes of raw opium in 11 packages, an informed source said. Jabchai was arrested and charged with possession of opium for sale. Early yesterday, police raided a hilltribe village known as "Jana," located on a mountain range in Mae Ai District. Entering the village, the police saw a Muser tribesman running away and carrying a bag. The source said police shouted at the man to stop, but he kept running and fired a M-2 carbine at his pursuers. Police returned fire and the tribesman took cover. After a ten-minute gun-battle, the tribesman's rifle went silent and police advanced to his hiding place. The tribesman, later identified only as Jajo, was found dead with a bullet in the neck, the source said. He said 18 kilogrammes of opium in ten packages were found in the bag Jajo carried. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Apr 81 p 3]

AUSTRALIAN ARRESTED--Chiang Mai--An Australian tourist was arrested and charged with having in his possession, 300 grammes of No 4 first grade heroin at Prince Hotel in Muang District, police said. Officers of the Chiang Mai Provincial Police Narcotics Squad searched the room of Richard William Montgomery, 31, after being tipped off that he was planning to smuggle the drugs into Bangkok by plane. As the Australian was about to leave for the airport, police apprehended him. Montgomery had tied a package of heroin on each of his thighs and wore a pair of baggy pants to avoid detection by Customs officers at the airport. He was initially charged with possessing heroin with the intent to sell and has been detained at Chiang Mai's Muang District police station for further questioning. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 May 81 p 2]

ANOTHER AUSTRALIAN SENTENCED--The Criminal Court yesterday sentenced an Australian to 33 years and four months in jail after finding him guilty of two drugs charges which followed his arrest at Don Muang Airport nearly a year ago. Richard Alan Blades, 36, had been charged with being in possession of 84.59 grammes of No 4 first grade heroin with intent to sell and with having tried to smuggle the drug abroad for sale. Blades, a self-confessed addict, had contested the charges on the grounds that the heroin was for his own use. In handing down its sentence, the court referred to the Narcotic Drugs Act 1979 which states that anyone arrested with more than 20 grammes of heroin is

regarded as having possessed it with intent to sell. The court also said that Blade's arrest at the airport shortly before he was to board a flight to Singapore was clear proof that he had attempted to smuggle the drug abroad. Blade's arrest on May 3 last year came after Customs narcotics officers demanded to search him after noticing that he was behaving strangely. The heroin was found in two plastic bags in his underwear. Syringes were also found in his possession. Blade was initially sentenced to life imprisonment but the court reduced the term by a third because he had confessed to possessing the heroin and trying to smuggle it abroad. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Apr 81 p 2]

18 KG RAW OPIUM SEIZED--Mae Hong Son--A Zone 3 border patrol police team yesterday morning arrested four Chiang Rai residents and allegedly seized 18 kilogrammes of raw opium from their van at a checkpoint between Mae Hong Son's Muang and Khun Yuam districts. The four men, identified by police as Suthat Suprakarn, Boonsong Tangchai, Choo Jaiman and Thong Chomkeo reportedly admitted to police that they came to the area to buy the opium. Also found in their possession were 127,000 kyat (Burmese currency) and 6,000 baht cash. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 May 81 p 2]

THREE FRENCHMEN HELD--Three Frenchmen were arrested in their Indra Hotel room on Sunday afternoon after about 400 grammes of No 4 heroin was found hidden in a wheelchair used by one of them, Phya Thai police reported yesterday. Police identified the three as Josef Carpentier, 24, Patrick Gabriel Ojeda, 22, and Jean Michel Vinet, 22, the wheelchair's owner, who was born crippled. Police said the three had visited Thailand several times and were suspected of dealing in narcotics. The trio had visited Chiang Mai since arriving in Thailand last week, police said. The three were arrested after police team led by Chief Inspector Lt Col Chalerm Arakrath raided their room on the hotel's 16th floor at about 3 p.m. An initial search failed to produce any drugs but after becoming suspicious of the concern the trio showed towards the wheelchair, police decided to search it. They said the heroin packed into 15 condoms, was found hidden inside its wheels. Police said the trio had admitted buying the heroin for 100,000 baht from a Chiang Mai taxi driver and reportedly said they would get 20 times that amount for it in France. The three, who have each been charged with possession of heroin with intent to sell, were detained at Phya Thai police station for further questioning. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 May 81 p 2]

TWO HELD IN FOILED DELIVERY--A team of policemen from the Narcotics Suppression Centre yesterday arrested two men with 1.4 kgs of No 4 heroin in front of St John's School in Lard Prao. Yesterday afternoon's arrest came after a week-long investigation by police who said the heroin had been smuggled in from Laos and brought to Bangkok via Nong Khai. The arrested men were identified as Mr Uthai Chanpun--a resident of Sakhon Nakhom Province--and Mr Amnuey Keomungkhun. Police, who were waiting for the delivery to take place, said that at about 5 p.m. yesterday they saw a white Datsun car stop near the school. Reportedly, they saw Mr Uthai emerge from the car with a yellow bag. He was immediately approached by Mr Amnuey. When the transfer was taking place, police walked up to them and asked for a search. They found the drug packed in four plastic bags stamped with the double-lion brand. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 May 81 p 3]

OPIUM HAUL--Crime Suppression Division police yesterday arrested four people at Hua Lampong railway station and charged them with possessing 10 kilogrammes of raw opium with intent to sell, police reported. The four, three Chiang Mai residents and a Yao tribesman from Chiang Rai, were arrested as they were about to board a train for Hat Yai. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Mar 81 p 2]

ITALIAN HELD FOR DRUGS--An Italian was arrested at Don Muang Airport last night allegedly trying to smuggle 1.3 kilogrammes of high-grade No 4 heroin out of the country in a false-bottom suitcase, a Customs official reported. The official said narcotics officials of the Customs Department found Gianenrico Beretta, 23, acting suspiciously when he checked in his luggage at a check-in counter. They subjected him to a body search but found nothing illegal. The narcotics officials then searched his luggage and allegedly discovered a false bottom in a suitcase, containing the heroin wrapped in plastic bags. The drug was estimated to worth about 200,000 baht at local prices, the official claimed. [as published] [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Apr 81 p 2]

FOUR ARRESTED IN CHIANG MAI--Chiang Mai--Northern Narcotics Unit yesterday arrested three men and a woman as they were transacting the sale of 1,750 grammes of No 4 first grade heroin in front of Wat Pacharoentham in San Pathong District here. They were identified as Niam Fanmao, former kamnan of Ban Om-goy village, Intha Tanchorntong, Duangkeo Sriboonruang and Mrs Bua-riew Seang-aj. The heroin was found packed in five plastic bags bearing the Double U Globes brand. The four persons initially pleaded guilty to the charges of possession of heroin with intent to sell. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 May 81 p 2]

3,000-KILO MARIJUANA SEIZURE--Khon Kaen--Police here on Saturday seized over 3,000 kilogrammes of marijuana from a truck which was carrying paddy as a pretext. Pol Maj Chatri Rattanasiri, chief of the Muang Khon Kaen District Police station, said the marijuana was believed to be part of an international drug syndicate. He said the driver of the truck was nabbed but denied any knowledge of the narcotic. The marijuana weighing 3,100 kilogrammes, was found hidden in 120 zinc boxes placed under several sacks of paddy, he said. The truck, which came from Maha Sarakham, was stopped on a highway by police who were tipped off by an unidentified person. The marijuana was estimated to be worth over one million baht. The truck, the police officer said, was destined for a farm in Chachoengsao. [Text] [Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 4 May 81 p 5]

FOREIGN TOURISTS ARRESTED--Three Americans staying at the Grace Hotel were arrested late Thursday night when police found in their possession 220 grammes of No. 4 heroin, police said yesterday. The three tourists, Donald Hunt, 35, George Hribar, 31, and Anthony Nyeste, 33, all from Detroit, denied the charge of possessing the drug with intent to sell, but initially admitted that they had bought the heroin for their own consumption, police said. A team of Metropolitan Narcotics Unit police led by Capt Surachet Noiphan and Lt Manaspong Dirawong raided a room in the Grace Hotel in Soi Nana, off Sukhumvit Road, shortly before midnight and found the three men with the heroin. Police also found a small amount of cocaine and marijuana. The three had reportedly entered the country last Friday and planned to leave yesterday. They have been handed over to Lumpini police for further questioning. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 May 81 p 3]

BAHAMAS

SHIP WITH MARIHUANA CARGO, 10 COLOMBIANS SEIZED

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 10 Apr 81 p 1

[Article by Athena Damianos: "Big Haul of Drugs by Defence Force"]

[Text] At least 600 bales of marijuana, a mother ship and 10 Colombians were arrested by the Bahamas Defence Force near Great Sturup Cay in the Northern Berry Islands yesterday.

The ship--a dilapidated 100-foot freighter--was sinking when she was brought to Nassau by officers of HMBS Inagua at 3.30 this morning.

Lieutenant John Foster said Inagua was on a routine patrol when she spotted MN Activa. Crewmen aboard the patrol boat, under the command of sub-lieutenant Jackson Ritchie, became suspicious of the freighter because the bow was lying low in the water.

Also, Lt Foster said the boat had some "lines" thrown overboard to give the impression that it was a fishing vessel.

The Ministry of Defence said today it presumed that Activa was on her way from Colombia and her cargo was destined for the US.

"She was apparently planning to offload her cargo in the Berry Islands when she was seized by Inagua," said the Government press release.

The mother ship was found in the same area where the Defence Force arrested another boat, Cordobas, and what was believed to be the largest quantity of drugs ever seized in Bahamian waters a few weeks ago.

Although Activa is in a run-down condition, it is equipped with a sophisticated radar system and good engines.

Lt Jan Poole said the ship has an eight-inch hole in the bottom which he was trying to patch.

The white ship with blue trim was in a filthy condition. Beans and cigarette butts were strewn over the floor of the galley and dirty dishes were scattered about.

The marijuana was stored in the ship's hold in large green plastic bags--each weighing perhaps 60 pounds. The plastic bags were wrapped in crocus sacks.

The 10 Colombians, who were arrested, were being processed by police this morning. They are expected to be formally charged in the Magistrate's Court either later this afternoon or Monday morning.

Activa is tied up at Prince George Wharf, along with several other boats which were seized by the Defence Force.

The Ministry said its vessels are now constantly patrolling the waters off the Berry Islands.

[Editor's Note: THE TRIBUNE on 14 April, page 1, reported that the ten Colombians, charged with possession of 3,800 pounds of marijuana, were remanded in custody after admitting to Magistrate Shirin Edun that they would not return for trial if granted bail. Charged were: Jose Carriazo, 37; Alden Herbert O'Neill, 47; Jose Correa, 55; Jose Carriazo, 33; Victor Torres, 28; Ismael Aguirre, 45; Profilio Casiani, 29; Dimas Hernandez, 29; Luis Adrahams, 33; and Rafael Nunez, 45.]

CSO: 5300

BAHAMAS

SECOND MARIHUANA SHIP WITH COLOMBIAN CREW OF 10 SEIZED

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 15 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] Police officers stationed at Andros seized a boat Monday with 360 bales of marijuana, each weighing 100 pounds off Little Sturup Cay in the Berry Islands.

Ten Colombians, arrested aboard the 75-foot freighter, were brought to Nassau yesterday by plane while the freighter anchored at Prince George Wharf at 10.50 last night.

Supt of Police Milan Gittens said today that the arrest was made by Sgt 383 Fines, Corp 249 Josey, Corp 972 Farquharson and other police officers 4.30 pm. Monday when they saw a boat anchored a mile and a half off the coast of Little Sturup Cay.

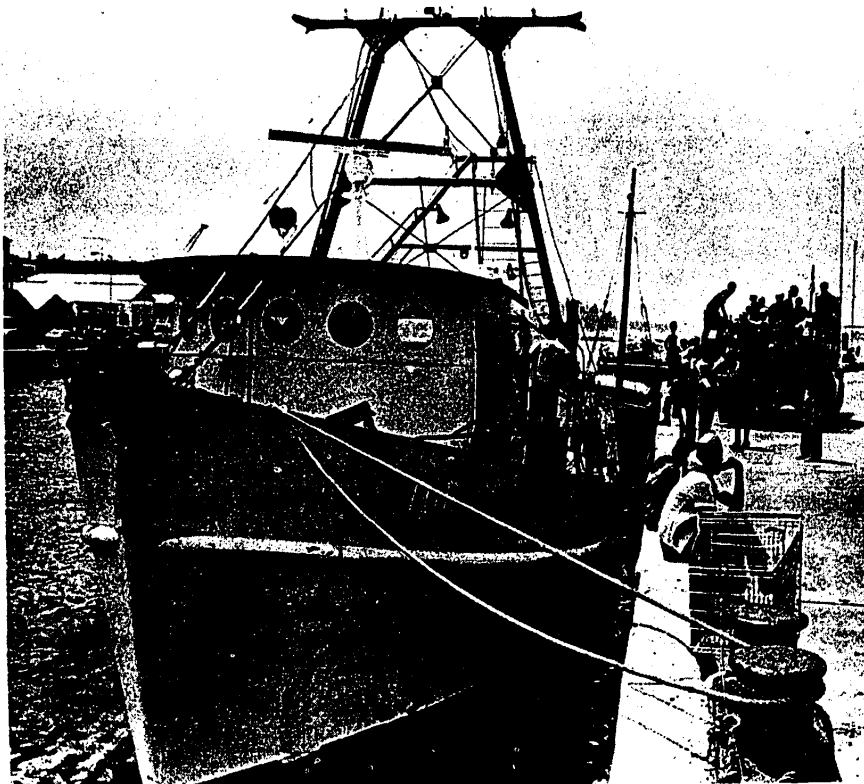
The dilapidated freighter bore the name "Miss Irma." This name had superimposed on it the name "Bobby 2." The police officers became suspicious of the freighter and boarded the vessel.

Today officers were kept busy unloading the bales of marijuana, wrapped in plastic bags and covered with crocus sacks, from the hold of the ship, which was white and trimmed with black.

Members of the Bahamas Defence force on HMBS Inagua made a similar arrest near Great Sturup Cay in the Northern Berry Islands April 9. Ten Colombians, 760 bales of marijuana, and a mother ship MN Activa, were seized.

The Colombians appeared before Magistrate Shirin Edun yesterday when they were refused bail.

Both MN Activa and the Bobby 2 were seized in the same area as "Cordobes," which was taken on February 16, when 1,500 bales of marijuana with a street value of \$100 million was found aboard.



Three hundred and sixty bales of marijuana, each weighing 100 pounds, was off-loaded from the "Bobby 2," this morning. Ten Colombians were arrested aboard the freighter which was seized off Little Sturup Cay on Monday.
[Photo by Derek Smith]

CSO: 5300

BAHAMAS

THREE COLOMBIANS ARRESTED IN SAMANA CAY MARIHUANA HAUL

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 25 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] Three Colombians were arrested and 250 bales of marijuana seized on Samana Cay Thursday, by members of the Bahamas Defence Force vessel HMBS Marlin, under the command of Commanding Officer Amos Rolle.

The three Colombians and 100 bales of marijuana were brought to Nassau yesterday evening aboard HMBS Marlin. Another 150 bales were destroyed on Samara Cay, 30 miles east of Acklins and Crooked Island.

Commanding Officer Amos Rolle said he went to the cay when he was told a large cache of drugs was being guarded. On arrival at the cay three unarmed Colombians were found. The police believe they had been on the island three or four days.

The 100 bales of marijuana were off loaded from HMBS Marlin by Defence Force members at Prince George Wharf yesterday and the three Colombians handed over to Criminal Investigation Department officials for questioning.



Our picture shows the three Colombians aboard the Marlin when they arrived in Nassau yesterday.

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

ARMY SEIZES 8 TONS OF MARIHUANA IN REYNOSA

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 1 Apr 81 Sec B p 5

[Text] Members of the Mexican National Army confiscated slightly over 8 tons of marihuana at a residence in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, from the dangerous gunman and drug trafficker Jesus Carrillo Barraza, who was captured by the militia along with nine other criminals, including a "protector" from the Federal Security Office [DFS], who had been giving them "tips" on the activities of the federal authorities.

Arrested with Carrillo Barraza were Gregorio Saavedra Torres, Albino Cornejo Ibanez, Jose Alberto Sevilla, Douglas H. Hidalgo Tavares, Celestino Balderas Soberanes or Celestino Baldovino Tavares, Ernesto Ortiz Pescador, Ramon Arteaga Ortega, Miguel de la Cruz Gomez and the DFS "protector," Jesus Montes Rivera.

Under orders from Gen Guillermo Pulido Gordillo and Gen Alvaro Montenegro Flores, the troops and officers raided a residence located at No 205 Laguna de Maira, in the Valle Alto development in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, where Carrillo Barraza lived and where the 8 tons of cannabis indica were seized.

The ring was attacked at its origins when the militiamen first arrested Gregorio Saavedra Torres, who was found with traces of marihuana in a pickup truck, and who confessed that he had just left a shipment of grass at Carrillo Barraza's house.

Miguel de la Cruz Gomez was the one who carried the marihuana shipment in a tank truck filled with the grass from San Luis Potosi to the La Copa communal farm.

The investigations continued yesterday, under the supervision of Gens Guillermo Pulido and Alvaro Montenegro, who reported that the individuals under arrest, and the drugs weapons and vehicles that had been seized were to be held in Military Camp No 1 in Mexico City, at the disposal of the competent authorities.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

POLICE COMMANDER EXPOSED AS WANTED HEROIN TRAFFICKER

H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 29 Apr 81 Sec A p 12

[Text] Because of his record as a large-scale drug trafficker on the international level, his possible participation in the death of an individual in Chicago, Illinois, and his status as a fugitive from justice in the United States, at 1400 hours yesterday the Preventive Police commander, Francisco Chavez Sarabia, who had found a haven for his own personal protection in that force, was suddenly dismissed. Chavez Sarabia had been dealing chiefly in heroin.

The police inspector, Capt Alvaro Ceron Alvarez, had been collecting information for several weeks on Chavez Sarabia's despicable record; and, upon obtaining sufficient data, decided to take action to discharge the bad police official who had taken advantage of the confidence placed in him.

Taking part in the investigation conducted by Ceron Alvarez was the group of investigators from the Federal Security Office, headed by Jose Magdaleno Gonzalez. After it had subjected Francisco Chavez to close questioning, the latter eventually confessed to his criminal career on an international scale.

Francisco Chavez Sarabia had spent 3 and a 1/2 months as commander of the Preventive Police, wherein he was accommodated by the municipal administration, since he was among those who had helped in the last political campaign.

The History of the Now Ex-Police Commander Francisco Chavez Sarabia

According to the records held by the police inspector, and the reports in the possession of the Federal Security Office, the now ex-commander of the Preventive Police, Francisco Chavez Sarabia, was discovered to be involved in international drug trafficking about 4 years ago, and since that time he has been a fugitive from American justice.

He was arrested by federal agents from the DEA [Drug Enforcement Administration] at dawn on 27 March 1977.

This took place in a suburb of the city of Chicago, Illinois, where Francisco Chavez Sarabia, along with two other persons, one nicknamed "El Judio," were taking a shipment consisting of 3 pounds of pure heroin worth many millions of dollars.

However, the valuable heroin shipment did not reach its distributors, because the DEA federal agents had already learned about it, and set a trap for them, wherein both Chavez Sarabia and his companions were arrested.

On this occasion, there was an exchange of gunfire and, according to the direct reports in the possession of Capt Alvaro Ceron Alvarez, one person presumably died in the confrontation, but it was noted that there is not yet any confirmation of this.

The three drug traffickers, including the former Preventive Police commander, were arraigned, and all three secured their release on bail after being jailed for 3 months; but, within a few weeks Francisco Chavez Sarabia took refuge in Matamoros, so as not to be recaptured, after being found totally guilty. Since then, this individual has been a fugitive from American justice.

Precisely because of that action, on several occasions in recent weeks municipal officials urged Francisco Chavez to return to the American side; but he never agreed, and now the reason that made it impossible for him to go the United States has been disclosed.

Moreover, it was taken for granted that the police officials decided to intervene so as to dismiss Francisco Chavez on this occasion, since he was the only Preventive Police commander who, on many occasions, disobeyed orders and was often able to take action against his own fellow officers.



Francisco Chavez Sarabia was dismissed yesterday as Preventive Police commander, when it was found that he had an extensive record in international heroin trafficking and, in addition, is a fugitive from American justice.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

CONVICTED TRAFFICKERS PROTECTED BY POLICE

Officials Fail To Act

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 3 Apr 81 Sec B p 6

[Text] For the third time, the drug trafficker and pickup truck thief Jaime Gonzalez Bath held a shootout with representatives of the law because, in an incident which occurred early yesterday at the intersection of Juan F. de la Garza and Bolivar, he and his brother Juan fired a pistol and submachine gun volleys at two Secret Service agents. However, after heavy gunfire, they were captured.

Shortly after 0930 hours yesterday, Juan F. de la Garza Avenue between Bolivar and Washington Streets became a gateway to hell. Agents Juan Jose Arambula and Fernando Moreno were miraculously saved from being riddled with bullets when the two criminals fired a pistol and a submachine gun at them, with the intention of rescuing the culprit Enrique de la Cruz (a pickup truck thief) who had been arrested by the detectives a few moments earlier.

When faced with the police defensive reaction, the gunmen took shelter behind a vehicle and fired simultaneously against the representatives of the law.

The shootout began and lasted over 10 minutes, until forces from the State Judicial Police, Secret Service, Uniformed Municipal Police and Federal Security Office arrived. The pursuit caused the gunmen to take shelter in a residence where they had been taken into custody moments earlier. The weapons which they used to fire at the agents were not found.

Fernando Moreno and Juan Jose Arambula, of the Secret Service, agreed in stating that, moments before the shooting, they had intercepted a 1978 Camaro car, with license plates VPN-327, at Bolivar and Juan F. de la Garza, because they identified its driver, Enrique de la Cruz, who was wanted for questioning about vehicle thefts. They put him in the official vehicle and had driven only half a block when they were approached on one side by Jaime Gonzalez Bath, who was holding a heavy caliber squad pistol and, on the other, by Juan, with a submachine gun.

They pointed the guns at them and demanded that they get out of the pickup truck; but, upon observing the agents' defensive action, they began firing at them, starting the incident as described.

Bungling by Judicial Police

On another of many occasions, the State Judicial Police agents acted again in a bungling manner because they seized the arrested Jaime Gonzalez in an improper way when he was handcuffed and aboard a municipal radio-patrol car.

Without heeding the comments by the patrolmen, they rescued him and took him to the offices of that entity to prevent his being questioned, arguing that there was a warrant pending for his capture issued by the Miguel Aleman penal judge of the first instance.

Cowardice Among Secret Service Chiefs

Allegedly, the weapons used by the Gonzalez Bath brothers in their attempt to kill agents Arambula and Moreno did not show up; however, as of yesterday afternoon, the individuals under arrest had not been questioned about the concealment thereof.

Visibly intimidated, possibly for fear of reprisals, or possibly afraid of the influence that the criminals have always enjoyed, the Secret Service chiefs flatly refused to allow the agents to question the prisoners. Delegate Luis Soto Silva "disappeared" from the offices.

Arguing that only the aforementioned official could order the steps to be taken, the Secret Service chief and deputy chief refused to act directly in the questioning.

Plates and Weapons Confiscated From Them

The representatives of the law seized a large number of sets of license plates for vehicles, many of them adjusted, others from Texas and a large number Mexican, as well as ammunition of different calibers, from the residence of the Gonzalez Bath brothers.

Most of the license plates belonged to vehicles stolen abroad.

The Federal Judicial Police Did Not Intervene

At the headquarters of the Security Commissions, it was reported that a large amount of marihuana traces was found in the Z-28 type Camaro car seized from Enrique de la Cruz. Despite the foregoing data, at no time were they concerned about seeking the intervention of the Federal Judicial Police.

The coordinator of the Federal Public Ministry agencies, Carlos Aguilar Garza, will finally have to act in this case, inasmuch as it involves criminals engaged in stealing cars abroad and possibly also in drug trafficking, as proven by the traces of cannabis indica collected from de la Cruz's car, the latter being associated with the Gonzalez Bath brothers in illegal activities.

Among the shady maneuvers carried out by the director of the Social Rehabilitation Center is the improper release of the drug trafficker, Jaime Gonzalez Bath, who despite the fact that he had been sentenced to 5 years and 9 months in prison, was out of jail although he had been arrested under 3 years ago.

Omar Lopez Chapa, director of La Loma, has established strict control of information in that prison, to prevent the improper releases from becoming public knowledge.

Among others, there is the case of Jaime Gonzalez Bath, who entered the jail on 20 April 1978 at the order of the third district court. He was sentenced to 5 years and 9 months in prison for his guilt in committing a crime against health in its various degrees and for carrying arms reserved for the exclusive use of the National Army and Navy. Despite his youth, Gonzalez Bath is considered a very dangerous criminal.

Although the foregoing had been proven, and using possibly illegal maneuvers, the General Office of Coordinated Crime Prevention and Social Rehabilitation Services granted him the benefit of prerelease, by way of "daily exit with incarceration on weekends." He left the jail on 17 March 1981.

As a result of the illegal acts in which he participated yesterday morning, in shooting at representatives of the law, the director of the Social Rehabilitation Center must send a report to his superiors, notifying them of the foregoing.

Thus, it is possible that his prerelease benefits will be revoked, and he will serve the sentence originally imposed on him for the aforementioned crimes.

Probe To Continue

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 4 Apr 81 Sec B p 5

[Text] The brothers Jaime and Juan Gonzalez Bath, as well as the criminal Enrique de la Cruz Rodriguez, were held yesterday at La Loma at the disposal of the Federal Public Ministry agent, and it was reported that the second-named subject would be tried for drug trafficking, since a warrant for his capture was in effect. Juan Gonzalez Bath was wanted by the third district judge in connection with a trial that began in 1979.

This action related to the seizure of several high-powered automatic weapons and some suitcases containing marihuana which were confiscated at Gonzalez Bath's residence. On that occasion, an individual was arrested who stated at the time that the aforementioned subject was in Corpus Christi selling marihuana which they had brought him from the interior of the republic. As for the incidents which prompted the arrest of the two brothers, it will be the Federal Public Ministry agent who will complete the respective preliminary penal investigation. Both the brothers Juan and Jaime Gonzalez Bath and the criminal Enrique de la Cruz Rodriguez will be questioned by the Federal Judicial Police in connection with the marihuana (traces) found in the 1978 Camaro car that the latter was driving. The leniency with which the arrested individuals were treated by the Secret Service and the State Judicial Police was the reason for the failure to find the submachine gun and pistol that the Gonzalez Bath brothers used in their attempt to kill two Security Commission agents.



The brothers Jaime and Juan Gonzalez Bath attempted to kill two Secret Service agents who had arrested the criminal Enrique de la Cruz, a member of the ring that they head. The latter was driving a car in which marihuana was found. The weapons used by the gunmen were not found.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

SSA: ADDICTION IS ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEM

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 11 May 81 p 9

[Article by Yolanda Garcia M.]

[Text] Drug dependence has become a major mental health problem in this country; it is the fourth most common problem encountered in the epidemiological consultations of the psychiatric and mental health services provided at the Health Centers of the Secretariat of Health and Assistance (SSA), stated Dario Urdapilleta Bueno. Dr Urdapilleta Bueno is professor of adolescent child psychology at the Mexican Psychiatric Institute.

If the cases are broken down according to age groups, he said, the result is that 5 percent of the drug addicts are between 5 and 14 years of age; 35 percent are 15 to 19 years old; and approximately 50 percent are between 20 and 24. Drug addiction tends to be rare after about 49 years of age.

With regard to sex, Dr Urdapilleta Bueno stated that 95 percent of drug addicts are men.

As in all health problems, he said, hygiene is a factor; drug addiction can lead to infection, which must be controlled. He pointed out that doctors must also pay attention to drugs such as nicotine, caffeine and alcohol, as they are the most dangerous substances.

The SSA also indicated that the population must be given more information about the health risks involved in drug use. However, he said, that information should be aimed specifically at prevention; care should be taken not to arouse the curiosity of potential drug users.

Finally, he said that the most serious problem is that of children who sniff substances, since they are the ones who most often become drug addicts.

8926
CSO: 5300/2337

MEXICO

POPPIES, MARIHUANA, OTHER DRUGS DESTROYED

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 7 May 81 p 10-A

[Article by Manuel del Castillo]

[Text] In the ongoing campaign against drug trafficking, troops of the Condor VII Task Force and those of Plan Canador have destroyed many hectares of poppies and marihuana, and have thus prevented more than a billion pesos' worth of drugs from being put on the market.

This information was revealed by the secretary of national defense, Gen Felix Galvan Lopez, as he left a meeting with President Lopez Portillo. He stressed that the Mexican Army is waging a continuous battle against drug trafficking, planting and cultivation.

This year troops destroyed 424 hectares of poppies, which would have produced 4,240 kilograms of opium, and 622 hectares of marihuana. They also seized 45,433 kilograms of marihuana in packages and in stacks, valued at more than 55 million pesos. In addition, 13 kilograms of poppy seeds and more than 11,000 kilos of marihuana were burned. In this manner, a total of 1,017,020,462 pesos' worth of drugs were kept off the market, assuming that the market price is 120,000 pesos for a kilogram of opium and 1,214 pesos for a kilogram of marihuana.

Gen Galvan Lopez also stated that the Army is providing personnel for the Secretariat of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources in Campeche, and the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit. The former is engaged in a campaign against pests in Campeche's agriculture sector, and has fumigated 6,612 hectares. The latter is building customs facilities in Cancun, Quintana Roo and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, and the troops have made possible a considerable reduction in building costs.

The official also pointed out that he had informed the chief of state that two Mexican Air Force planes had been used to transport 129 students of the Chihuahua University School of Dentistry from Chihuahua to the capital to participate in the Second Dental Students' Meeting, organized as part of the Program of Continuing Medical Education of the University of the Army and Air Force and the Military Dentistry School.

8926
CSO: 5300/2337

MEXICO

SICILIA FALCON RECEIVES ADDITIONAL SENTENCE

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 3 May 81 p 35-A

[Article by Rafael Medina Cruz]

[Text] After nearly 5 years behind bars, having been prosecuted in a federal court in Tijuana and in the court of equity of the Federal District, drug trafficker Alberto Sicilia Falcon will receive a new sentence from Third District Penal Judge Vicente Munguia Diaz in this capital city.

Sicilia Falcon was sentenced by a judge in Tijuana to 10 years in prison for crimes against health, and to 15 years by the court of equity of this city for participating in the escape from the Palacio Negro of Lecumberri.

Now he will receive a new sentence next week, reported Munguia Diaz. This could be the final sentence, so we will know how many years the drug trafficker will spend in prison.

Along with Sicilia Falcon, other drug traffickers will also be sentenced. According to the Regional Attorney General's Office, they made up one of the most powerful bands in the world.

Among those who are to be sentenced, one is dead, another is mentally disturbed, and the others are awaiting news of their sentence.

Carlos Kiriakides Villasenor was hanged at the Federal District Penitentiary in an apparent suicide.

Alberto Hernandez Rubi is mentally disturbed, and his physical condition is very poor, according to information provided by the jail.

Enrique Palacios Echazorretti, Alfonsco Rivera Uribe and Alberto Sicilia are the ones who will be sentenced, and they could receive the maximum sentence. Luis Antonio Zucoli Bravo will not, however, because he was never recaptured after the escape at Lecumberri.

Sicilia Falcon and his codefendants, according to their statements, have waited longer than any other drug trafficker to be sentenced, and their trials have been delayed the longest in federal courts.

The sentence, said Munguia Diaz, will be handed down after 5 May.

8926
CSO: 5300/2337

MEXICO

COCAINE TRAFFICKER SEIZED AT CAPITAL AIRPORT

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 28 Apr 81 p 7-D

[Article by Rafael Medina Cruz]

[Text] After a chase through the corridors of the International Airport, agents of the Federal Judicial Police caught an American drug trafficker who arrived on Aeroperu Flight 622 with 3½ kilos of almost pure cocaine, valued at more than 200 million pesos.

William Langille, who had the drug taped to his calves and back, got off the plane and saw the agents searching people, so he abandoned his luggage and ran away.

Federal Judicial Police agents gave chase and soon caught up with him. The drug trafficker, a corpulent man, swung at the police when they reached him. When he saw that he was about to be overcome, he drew a gun. But he was disarmed immediately.

When questioned by agents, the drug trafficker stated that 6 months ago he made contact in San Francisco, California, with an individual named Joel N., who arranged for him to visit Guayaquil, Ecuador, to meet with some subjects whom he knew simply as Alfredo and "Coco."

He said, "They gave me a cocaine shipment which I brought to Mexico City by plane, then to Tijuana, then by land to San Diego, and from there to San Francisco.

"I delivered the drug, and they were going to call me to find out when I would bring the next shipment and to what place.

"Two weeks ago," he explained, "I received a call from Joel. He told me I had to go to Peru, where Alfredo and 'Coco' were waiting to give me a shipment of 3½ kilos of cocaine to make the same trip again."

The drug trafficker was turned over to the Federal Public Ministry.

8926
CSO: 530Q/2337

MEXICO

MEMBERS OF MARIHUANA TRAFFICKING RING SENTENCED

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 25 Mar 81 Sec B p 3

[Text] The members of a drug trafficking ring which had been operating in the port of Matamoros, who were captured early last year by Federal Judicial Police agents, were sentenced to severe prison terms.

Yesterday, the second district judge, Cayetano Hernandez Valencia, issued his final verdict in trial 32/980, brought against Antonio Ramirez Fuentes, or Alberto Mantilla Lizardi, and the ring which he headed.

Sentenced together with Ramirez Fuentes were Melquiades Sosa Rios, Heriberto Sosa Campos, Melquiades Sosa Cantu, Alberto Guadalupe Garza Atkinson and Antonio Silva Vazquez, all of whom were convicted for a crime against health in its degrees of transportation, sale, possession, trafficking through sale and purchase of marihuana.

Ramirez Fuentes was also found guilty of the crime of bearing firearms and ammunition reserved for the exclusive use of the Army.

Cayetano Hernandez Valencia imposed a jail sentence of 8 years and 2 months and a fine of 20,000 pesos on Antonio Felix Ramirez Fuentes; while Melquiades Sosa Rios, Heriberto Sosa Campos and Antonio Silva Vazquez were sentenced to 8 years in prison and given a fine of 20,000 pesos.

As for Melquiades Sosa Cantu, he received a prison sentence of 7 years and 5 months, and a fine of 10,000 pesos; and Alberto Guadalupe Atkinson received a prison sentence of 7 years and 2 months, and a fine of 10,000 pesos.

The Capture at a Farm in Matamoros, Tamaulipas

The trial record shows that on 11 January 1980 Federal Judicial Police agents apprehended Antonio Felix Ramirez Fuentes, on whom they already had information to the effect that he was engaged in drug trafficking, in a nightclub in the red light district of the port of Matamoros.

At the time of his arrest, Ramirez Fuentes was carrying a 9 millimeter caliber pistol, which he had concealed in his left boot. Upon being questioned, he said that he had actually purchased marihuana in the state of Oaxaca, and shipped it to the Barranquitas farm owned by Melquiades Rios, turning over the drugs to Sosa Rios himself, or to Heriberto Sosa Campos.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

FARM WORKERS CLAIMED DRUGGED--Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, 21 April (EXCELSIOR)--The head of the Youth Immigration Committee of San Luis-Rio Colorado, Enrique Lopez Chavez, claimed that the farmers in Yuma Valley, Arizona, are drugging about 15,000 Mexicans without identification papers so that they will produce more while picking lemons and lettuce. He added that the foremen on the U.S. farms supply psychotropic pills to 80 or 90 percent of the laborers. They purchase those drugs, which are dangerous to use and hence banned, in Tijuana. Lopez Chavez stressed: "The large output from the Mexican farm worker on those farms when he has been stimulated is well known. But his health is at risk, and the Youth Immigration Committee has proposed to combat the procedure used by these American farmers, who are jeopardizing the very lives of thousands of people without identification." To give an idea of the magnitude of the problem, he said that help is now being given by Alcoholics Anonymous groups in the area, in order to prevent the conversion of these 15,000 laborers from the states of Sonora, Sinaloa and Chihuahua into psychotropic drug addicts. Lopez Chavez also explained that the Yuma Valley farmers, located in the middle of the Arizona desert, have hired about 35,000 persons without identification to pick their crops this season. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 22 Apr 81 Sec A p 5] 2909

PLANTATION DESTRUCTION INTENSIFIED--"The period of destruction of poppy plantations is about to end, and it is thought that, within 20 days, we shall have to start the intensive spotting and destruction of the marihuana plantations, upon the termination of the cycle of opium poppies, which the individuals engaged in this type of illegal activity have stopped planting on account of weather conditions." In making this statement, Hector Aviles Castillo, coordinator of the permanent campaign against the drug traffic in Zone O6, established by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, noted that the 11 machines with which the coordinating entity is provided are working at full capacity. He explained that, at present, there has been a doubling of the action in the battle against the planting, cultivation and harvesting of drugs, in comparison with last year; but that this is due mainly to the fact that there is an intention not to allow the plantations to exist by any means. He added that the eight model 206 helicopters used for spotting and backup, along with the three model 212 helicopters used for fumigating, are destroying a daily average of 100 plantations in the entire mountain area; expressing the view that these results have made it possible to keep such activities under more stringent control. Finally, he remarked that the operations for the destruction of crops would continue to be intensified, for which purpose the reconnaissance flights will also be made more often, in an attempt to prevent, during the marihuana cycle that is about to start, the growers from having a chance to harvest the injurious grass, as they have succeeded in doing on previous occasions. [Text] [Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 24 Apr 81 pp 1, 6] 2909

TRAFFICKERS' ACCOMPLICES CAUGHT--The Federal Police succeeded in capturing two individuals implicated in the case of the stolen aircraft which was found to have crashed last week in the Papagos area of the municipality of Caborca, with two persons involved in drug trafficking killed. As may be recalled, Manuel Leopoldo Rodriguez and the American, Miguel Elsey Moreno, were killed in that accident, when the Cessna 182 plane, with registration XB-YEQ, crashed, and traces of marihuana were found in the aircraft. As a result, when the Federal Judicial Police investigated the case, they arrested a brother of the deceased, who answers to the name of Leopoldo Antonio Rodriguez Ramirez, upon stopping the vehicle, a 1978 Fairmont with Sinaloa state license plates VEG-591, in which he was traveling in Nogales, Sonora, because he had superimposed plates. When questioned, he confessed that he was engaged in drug trafficking, and that he already knew about the aircraft before it was located in the municipality of Caborca, because, a few days earlier, he had made a tour of that area with the pilot, Benjamin Rodriguez, whom he hired to search for his brother, because he was worried since the latter had not returned with him on the day planned, after having left to carry a drug shipment. [Text] [Hermosillo EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 22 Apr 81 Sec A p 2] 2909

HEROIN SEIZED IN NOGALES--Nogales, 6 May--Another blow was dealt to the large-scale drug traffic on this border by Federal Judicial Police agents, when they seized half a kilogram of pure heroin worth more than 2 million pesos. The commander of that entity, Francisco Alejandro Hernandez, reported that the drugs were seized from Brigido Molina Gonzalez in a hotel in the downtown area of this town, after an exhaustive investigation conducted by agents under his orders to curb the drug traffic in his jurisdiction. The drugs were being carried by Molina Gonzalez inside the soles of his shoes, perfectly packaged and arranged. He stated in the questioning to which he was subjected by Federal Judicial Police agents that he had used this system on several "trips" to the border. Commander Hernandez reported that the presumed drug trafficker has a criminal record in the states of Durango and Sinaloa, also for crimes against health. The individual under arrest is being held in the Federal Judicial Police lockup, while at the disposal of the agent of the Federal Public Ministry. [Text] [Hermosillo EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 7 May 81 Sec A p 2] 2909

ARMY DRUG DESTRUCTION REPORT--Mexico City, 6 May (INFORMEX)--The troops affiliated with Task Force "Condor 7" and "Plan Ganador" assigned to combat the planting, cultivation and trafficking of drugs prevented over a billion pesos from entering the drug market as a result of the sale of marihuana, poppies, opium and other drugs, according to a report made today by the secretary of national defense, Gen Felix Galvan Lopez. The head of the entity made this statement upon leaving his meeting with President Jose Lopez-Portillo at the Los Pinos residence. He added that, between January and the present, 424 hectares of poppies, which would have produced over 4 tons of opium, and 622 hectares of marihuana were destroyed. Seizures were made of 45,433 kilograms of packed marihuana, and 13 kilograms of poppy without seed, and over 11 tons of marihuana were burned. All this would have represented income of 1,017,020,462 pesos for the drug traffic. The national defense official reported to the chief executive on the various activities being carried out by the entity that he heads, in cooperation with the Federal Government Secretariats. [Text] [Hermosillo EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 7 May 81 Sec A p 10] 2909

TRAFFICKERS BATTLE TROOPS--Guadalajara, Jalisco, 12 April (EXCELSIOR)--In a shootout between drug traffickers and forces from the 21st Cavalry Regiment, four criminals and one soldier were killed, and three other members of the military seriously wounded. The incident occurred early this morning near the El Canutillo farm, in the municipality of Pihuano. The military, who formed a flying column, intercepted a truck loaded with several tons of marijuana. Upon realizing that they had been discovered, the drug traffickers fired at the soldiers, and one of the latter was killed on the scene. His name, as well as those of the wounded, who are confined in the military hospital, was not released. In repelling the attack, the soldiers shot to death the drug traffickers Rafael Martinez Mora, Samuel Maldonado Martinez, Jose Cardenas Mora and Francisco Reinaga. The Public Ministry agent assigned to the Green Cross, Fernando Basulto Limon, said that the victims each sustained between eight and 10 shots, commenting that they were in serious condition. The bodies of the soldier and the drug traffickers were held at the Civil Hospital examining room. [Text] [H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 13 Apr 81 p 8] 2909

OPIUM GUM TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Members of the Federal Judicial Police succeeded in capturing Rodolfo Ontiveros Lopez and Pedro Avendano Lopez, who were engaged in the purchase and sale of drugs. At the time of their arrest, 794 grams of opium gum ready for marketing were seized from them. The information provided to this morning paper by Hector Aviles Castillo, coordinator for Zone 06 of the permanent campaign against drug trafficking, established by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, indicates that the presumed drug traffickers reside in Agua Caliente, in the municipality of Cosala. It also notes that the investigations conducted by the federal detectives made it possible to locate the half-brothers who, in addition, turned over 330,000 pesos resulting from sales made recently, as well as a 1981 blue double-wheeled Ford pickup truck carrying license plates TV-6181. It adds that the forces under orders from the entity's second commander, Manuel Espindola Martinez, upon visiting the respective residences of the arrested individuals, received directly from the latter a bag containing a brown paste-like substance, which was apparently opium gum, weighing 589 grams. Both individuals made their pertinent statements to the police authorities, and were placed at the disposal of the agency of the Federal Public Ministry. [Text] [Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 28 Apr 81 Sec B p 2] 2909

SENIOR PRISON OFFICIALS--At least 10 officials of the various penitentiaries of the Federal District have been implicated in prison drug trafficking activities, according to an investigation by the Attorney General's Office. Although nothing has been revealed officially, it has been reported unofficially that as a result of the recent discovery of marijuana and heroin in the Northern Prison and the Oaxaca Penitentiary, the investigation has been stepped up. It is assumed that the drugs are brought in with the knowledge and consent of prison officials. Specifically, apparently at the request of the director of prisons in the Federal District, the former director of the Southern Preventive Detention Facility, Oscar Salinas Estrella, is being investigated. During his term in office, he allegedly allowed drug trafficking in that penal institution. The investigation is being extended to prisons in Monterrey, Guadalajara and Tijuana, where there are reports that drug trafficking is permitted, and hundreds of millions of pesos change hands in the process. For the present, the Attorney General's Office has focused particularly on the Federal District, where there is solid proof of drug trafficking with the approval of prison authorities. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 28 Apr 81 p 8-A] 8926

COLOMBIANS, COCAINE IN TIJUANA--Tijuana, Baja California Norte, 14 May-- Judicial Police yesterday seized a half kilo of cocaine and arrested four Colombians at the airport. The Colombians are Gonzalo and Bernardo Lopez Lozano, Alejandro Marin Hernandez and Auria Orjuela de Caballero, who had 4 million pesos' worth of drugs in plastic bags secreted on her person. The drug traffickers are apparently part of an international band that operates in Central and South America, with connections in the United States, according to Aaron Juarez Jimenez, Public Ministry agent and coordinator of the anti-drug campaign in the northeast. He added that the Colombians arrived in this city on flight 170 from the capital, where they had arrived from Cali, Colombia. Auria Orjuela de Caballero indicated that the drug was given to her by an individual in Cali, Colombia, and it was to be taken to the United States. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 May 81 p 34-A] 8926

CSO: 5300/2337

PERU

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Three bands of drug traffickers who were operating in Huanduco and Cajamarca have been arrested by the Police Investigations Department. Two bands were dismantled in Huanuco, all their members arrested and 45 kilograms of cocaine base seized. The arrested are: Eduardo Gamarra Limal; Jorge Minaya Alcantara, Juan Ramirez Soria, Esteban Alvarado Retuerto, Pedro Lopez Flores, Estanislao Angel Falcon, Luis Salas Salinas and Teodoro Daza Saturno. In another operation carried out in Cajamarca, 20 kilograms of cocaine base were seized and the following traffickers arrested: Eberto Horacio Mendoza Mendoza, Laureano Cataneda Castillo, Jose Silva Vargas, Pedro Terrones Bazan and the brothers Jose Luciano and Jose Florencio Araujo Sanchez. [PY111919 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 23 May 81 p 23]

COCAINE SEIZED--Ayacucho, 22 May--The chief of the ninth region of the Civil Guard unexpectedly discovered 50 kilograms of cocaine base hidden in a truck. The occupants of the truck were able to escape. [PY111919 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 May 81 p 1]

DRUG SEIZURE--The investigations police have found 800 grams of cocaine hydrochloride in the bathroom of the Jorge Chavez International Airport. The police believe the drug was left there by a passenger. [PY111919 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 27 May 81 p 16]

COCAINE FOUND-- The Ayacucho Civil Guard have seized more than 100 kilograms of cocaine base valued at approximately 180 million soles hidden inside a truck's fuel tank. They arrested the following persons: Teofilo Jacinto Jeri Nahui, Maximo Leandro Hilario, Guillermo Torres Casano, Narciso Saico Lizama, Guillermo Rivera Medina and Rafael Jara Quispe. [PY111919 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 2 Jun 81 p 45]

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The Ayacucho Civil Guard have arrested a band of international drug traffickers known as "the Colombian Trio." They are: Julio Rivandeneyta Maldonado, Jose Gutierrez Colchado and his brother Eduardo Gutierrez Colchado. The Civil Guard also arrested Julio Zuniga de La Barrera and seized 27 kilograms of cocaine base found in his possession. [PY111919 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 2 Jun 81 p 20]

DRUG TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Tumbes, 29 May--The Peruvian investigations police have arrested Elber Jose Chalco Mendoza, member of the Civil Guard, for carrying 3 kilograms of cocaine base. [PY111919 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 30 May 81 p 22]

CSO: 5300/2352

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SMUGGLING--Two Bolivian citizens, Magda Luz Santero de Torrico, 27, and Alejandro Perez Mendez, 34, were arrested at Simon Bolivar International Airport in Maiquetia. Mrs Torrico was carrying 8.5 kg of cocaine in her purse. [Caracas Radio Continente in Spanish 2100 GMT 8 Jun 81]

CSO: 5300/2352

EGYPT

MILLION POUNDS WORTH OF HASHISH SEIZED IN MINYA AL-QAMH

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 16 Apr 81 p 4

[Article by Husayn Ghanim: "Chase Reveals Hashish Shipment in Car Trunk and Leads to Secret Cache in Cafeteria in Minya al-Qamh"]

[Text] After a 90-minute armed battle, the Drug Control Department agencies were able to seize a hashish shipment worth one million pounds in the trunk of a taxicab and in a cafeteria in Minya al-Qamh, al-Sharqiyah. The hashish had been smuggled for the occasion of Shamm al-Nasim holiday [on Monday following Orthodox Coptic Easter]. A smuggler and a cafeteria owner were arrested after a chase in the countryside.

Information received by the department had indicated that some drug smugglers and dealers in Cairo agreed to bring in large shipments for the occasion of Shamm al-Nasim holiday. Reports received by Maj Gen Sami As'ad, the head of the Drug Control Department, had also indicated that a number of Sinai bedouins were behind the smuggled drugs and that they had helped bring them to some desert areas in preparation for shipping them into the country.

Maj Gen Mamduh Salim Zaki, the department's deputy director, drew up a plan, carried out under the supervision of Col Muhammad 'Abbas, the director of operations, and Col Sayyid Ghayth, the director of foreign activity, to watch and record the smugglers' moves and meetings. It became evident from the watch that another group of drug dealers in al-Batiniyah--a group watched closely [by the police]--had agreed to move the smuggled drug shipments from their caches in the desert to Minya al-Qamh in al-Sharqiyah in preparation for shipping them to Cairo to facilitate their distribution on the occasion of Shamm al-Nasim holiday. The observation activities, supervised by Col Mustafa al-Kashif, Col Hasan al-Manakhili, Col Usamah al-Hamahimi, Lt Col Mahmud 'Abd-al-Rashid and Lt Col Shafiq al-'Ishari, noticed that a Peugeot taxicab frequented the eastern Bilbays desert and was used by some Sinai bedouins, including Salamah Sulayman Abu Kibrit, to transport drugs. Three scattered ambushes were laid along the agricultural road in Minya al-Qamh. The car was allowed to pass unopposed. But before reaching its destination, the car was intercepted by the third ambush position which exchanged fire with the car passengers. While the car was trying to back out in an attempt to escape, the members of the first and second ambush positions attacked it. Under heavy fire, the car passengers had no resort but to

abandon the car and flee to the farms where the smuggler Salamah was apprehended after a 90-minute chase.

The hashish shipment, designated for storage in al-Sa'adah Cafeteria, located at the tip of the agricultural road, was found in the car trunk. A secret drug cache was also discovered in the cafeteria. 'Izzat 'Abd-al-'Aziz Muhammad, the cafeteria owner, was arrested. The seized drugs have been valued at one million pounds. The prosecution has ordered jailing the smuggler and the cafeteria owner and impounding the car.

8494
CSO: 5300/4746

EGYPT

HASHISH POWDER SEIZURE REPORTED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 19 Apr 81 p 10

[Article by Husayn Ghanim: "Armed Chase in Front of Dar al-Shifa' Hospital to Arrest Smuggler From al-Batiniyah With Two-Million Pounds' Worth of Hashish Powder"]

[Text] After an exciting armed chase at noon yesterday in front of Dar al-Shifa' Hospital and in the extension of Ramsis Street in al-'Abbasiyah, the agencies of the Public Drug Control Department were able to arrest a drug smuggler from al-Batiniyah, along with two of his aides--one of them an employee of a big hotel. A hashish powder shipment valued at 2 million pounds was seized in the smuggler's car.

The security agencies of the Ministry of Interior and of the Public Drug Control Department had taken all the measures to deal with and to stop the spread of drugs from al-Batiniyah by dealing effective blows to the largest number of drug smugglers and dealers in the quarter. This was done on the instructions of Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il, the deputy prime minister and the minister of interior, who has stressed the need to gather information on the activities of the dangerous elements and to confront these elements.

Last month, Maj Gen Sami As'ad, the department head, received information from sources in Beirut asserting that some members of the well-known Nassar family in al-Batiniyah had concluded deals for hashish powder which was actually smuggled out of Tripoli Port, Lebanon, to a European port to be camouflaged as foodstuff and that the hashish powder was then shipped from the port of Piraeus in Greece and from Marseille. The movements of these shipments were kept under surveillance until it became certain that they arrived in Alexandria Port as part of shipments of large quantities of food with the aim of misleading the customs men.

Information gathered under the supervision of Maj Gen Mamduh Salim Zaki, the department's deputy director; Col Muhammad 'Abbas, the director of operations; and Col Sayyid Ghayth, the director of foreign activities, further indicated that the smugglers' accomplices were able to clear the drug shipments with the help of others to deliver them in Cairo to smuggler Muhammad Mustafa Kamil Jad, the brother in law of Hasan Nassar, a leading smuggler in al-Batiniyah. The surveillance confirmed that the smugglers agreed to deliver the shipment in the area around Dar al-Shifa' Hospital in al-Abbasiyah. Counselor Salah al-Rashidi,

the attorney general, issued an arrest warrant and the necessary ambushes were laid, and were linked by a radio network to an operations room set up on a veranda in the second floor of the hospital directly over the street. The operations were carried out under the command of Col Muhammad 'Abbas, Ibrahim Musa and Sayyid Ghayth.

At noon, an advance ambush position led by Col Mustafa al-Kashif, Col 'Isam al-Tarsawi and Col Hasan al-Manakhili noticed that a Peugeot car bearing Suez license plate No 7695, driven by Muhammad Mustafa Jad and carrying two unidentified passengers, was roaming the area to make sure that it was clear. An hour later, pedestrians in the area were surprised to see a number of private cars chasing the Peugeot and exchanging fire with it in an attempt to surround it. All the cars in the main street stopped and the smuggler's car tried to penetrate the blockade and crashed into one of the [security] force's cars and almost overturned it but the car passengers miraculously escaped harm and then proceeded to arrest smuggler Muhammad Mustafa Jad and the other two accompanying him, namely Muhammad Najib Ahmad 'Abdallah, an employee of the Sheraton Hotel, and Sayyid Sa'd Maghribi, a driver in one of the [government] authorities. A number of cardboard boxes containing nylon bags filled with hashish powder were found in the car trunk. The powder has been valued at 2 million pounds.

After the fall of the smuggler and his aides, the forces taking part in the operation proceeded under the command of colonels Majdi Husayn, Faruq Abu al-'Ata, Shafiq al-'Ishari, Mahmud 'Abd-al-Rashid, Mustafa Tahir, Yahya al-Jammal, Muhammad al-Sharqawi and Lt Col Jamil 'Abd-al-Sami' to conduct a large-scale inspection to arrest a number of fugitive members of the gang of smuggler Hassan Nassar and his brothers. The investigation has been undertaken by 'Adil Salih, the first deputy prosecution attorney, under the supervision of Samir Sulayman, the head of the Drug Prosecution Office.

The investigation has shown that Muhammad Jad has a vocational diploma from the Cairo Secondary School for Mechanics, the Vehicles Section, that he worked as an assistant technician in Misr Air, a driver and a garage owner and that he then joined the gang of his brothers-in-law and was charged with several drug importation operations in 1973. He has used his skills to forge documents and permits for clearing cars [presumably from the customs] and for false passports. He was charged in 1979 in the well-known case of smuggling cars from the customs and selling them under forged documents.

8494
CSO: 5300/4746

EGYPT

HASHISH-SMUGGLING ATTEMPT FOILED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 5 May 81 p 10

[Article by 'Irfan Mustafa: "Attempt to Smuggle 4 Tons of Hashish Valued at 10 Million Pounds Foiled After Sea Chase Near Ra's al-Barr"]

[Text] The border guard forces were able to foil an attempt to smuggle a quantity of hashish powder amounting to 4 tons, valued at more than 10 million pounds, at the Damietta coast near Ra's al-Barr.

The border guard intelligence had received information to the effect that some major smugglers intended to bring into the country large quantities of hashish powder by way of Ra's al-Barr, on the Damietta coast, on the occasion of Shamm al-Nasim holiday. The information added that the smugglers had started to modify their plans and methods in the wake of the strict surveillance maintained by the border guard, that they have resorted to concealing all traces of the cars or boats which they use in their smuggling operations, which is known as (concealing the evidence), and that they intend to use densely populated areas that are far from the open coastal areas in order to infiltrate quickly to the heart of the country and to avoid the careful watch of the border guard.

This information was presented to Maj Gen Faruq al-Sahn, the border guard commander, and a plan was drawn up and implemented under the supervision of Maj Gen Samih al-Tuhami, the border guard chief of staff, to foil any attempt that may be carried by smugglers operating across the coast. A number of the border guard land and naval units were entrusted with specific tasks which were made to appear normal so as not to draw the smugglers' attention.

In the last week of April, a number of loaded boats trying to approach the coast from the territorial waters were foiled.

At dawn on 1 May, one of the boats loaded with drugs approached the northern coast in Ra's al-Barr area and started to unload its drugs on the coast. But an ambush position, led by Lt Col Sa'id 'Azzam, commander of the Damietta border guard intelligence office, and Maj Mustafa Ghali, commander of the border guard force, surprised the boat with fire after a light signal had been sent from the boat loaded with drugs to the coast indicating that the unloading had started.

The boat then dropped its entire load in the water and fled outside the territorial waters. The boat was chased by naval units of the border forces. It has become evident that the load of hashish powder weighed 4 tons. It was stuffed into rubber tires so that it may float.

The Damietta prosecution has started an investigation and has ordered confiscation of the seized hashish powder.

Maj Gen Samih al-Tuhami, the border guard forces chief of staff, has stated that Lt Gen 'Abdrabb al-Nabi Hafiz, the armed forces chief of staff, will receive at his office tomorrow the officers who laid the ambush to give them a special reward in appreciation of the big efforts they have exerted.

8494
CSO: 5300/4746

ISRAEL

BRIEFS

HASHISH FOUND--Six floating inner tubes containing about 900 rolls of pure hashish worth about 1 million shekels have been found in the past 24 hours on the Nahariyya Beach and in the water just off shore. It is thought that they were thrown into the water from a Lebanese ship off southern Lebanon, but were carried southward by the current. [TA050544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 4 Jun 81]

COAST GUARD HASHISH DISCOVERY--Early this morning Coast Guard boats discovered in midsea, opposite the Haifa Bay, five tires loaded with approximately 300 kg hashish. This was reported by our correspondent Me'ir Einstein. [Text] [TA301831 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 28 May 81]

HASHISH FOUND--Off the Nahariyya Coast, 180 rolls of hashish were found hidden in an oboe that was floating on the water. [TA040541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Jun 81]

CSO: 5300/4748

CONGO

BRIEFS

- INDIAN HEMP SELLER SENTENCED--Theophile Kimbembe, 24, a Bacongo resident, was involved in hemp sales. He explains: "Sentenced in 1980 to 8 months in prison for theft, I gave up that "trade" as too risky, in favor of hemp sales." Charged with possession, sale, and use of hemp, Kimbembe received 6 months' unconditional imprisonment. Yet there is no lack of safe jobs!
[Text] [Brazzaville ETUMBA in French 9 May 81 p 7] 12149

CSO: 5300/4950

SWAZILAND

REPORTAGE ON TRIAL OF MANDRAX POSSESSORS

Several Arrests Made

Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 26 May 81 p 1

[Text] A Swazi medical practitioner employed by the Ministry of Health at the Mbabane General Hospital is due to appear in court again tomorrow in connection with the contravention of the Pharmacy Act.

The medical practitioner, Dr Edie Kanya made his first appearance with two Mozambicans Charles Nzuza and Mellow Tembe before a Mbabane Magistrate on Friday.

A Zambian national Elijah Nyumbu who was last Friday charged with illegal possession of 1242 Mandrax tablets was due to appear before a Manzini Magistrate again today. He is a senior employee of Zambia Airways.

Mr Nyumbu 39, was arrested by police minutes after the plane in which he arrived on the 15th of this month touched down at Matsapha airport. He appeared before the Manzini Magistrate's court last Friday but his case was remanded until today. He was also released on a E100 bail and given his passport back.

A police spokesman said that Mnyumbu was arrested in the VIP lounge at the airport. He is said to have told the police that his purpose to the Kingdom was to enroll his son in one of the country's schools.

Four South Africans, two men and two women, who were arrested last February after being allegedly found in possession over 80,000 Mandrax pills in Manzini were also due to appear before a Manzini Magistrate today.

The South African were granted a bail of E100 each. Dr Kanya and the two Mozambicans were released on their own recognisances.

Mandrax tablets, banned throughout South Africa are sold illegally at E10 each in the Republic, which means that the tablets allegedly found in possession of Nyumbu are worth E12,420 there.

Mandrax was used in the medical profession initially as a sleeping tablet. However, it was then discovered that it is highly addictive and then banned in many countries.

According to medical sources here 10 tablets of Mandrax, taken with alcohol, would almost certainly be fatal.

The penalty for possessing Mandrax in Swaziland is E100 plus the forfeiture of the tablets. In South Africa the penalty is said to be very much higher.

Case Hits Snag

Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 27 May 81 p 1

[Text] Another snag hit the Mandrax case in which four South Africans are appearing before a Manzini Magistrate court, causing it to be postponed once again until Friday next week.

When the case resumed before Mr Ben Dunn, Manzini's Senior Magistrate yesterday, defense counsel representing two of the four accused applied for another postponement because one of his clients was said to be sick in South Africa.

The application was opposed by the Crown represented by Mr P Flynn Crown Counsel who also applied for the warrant of the arrest the two accused.

Mr Flynn argued that there was no evidence furnished before the court explaining the cause for the accused's absence.

The application for the postponement was made by Mr Paul Shilubane on behalf of Mr Sam Earnshaw of Mathse, Earnshaw and Malinga. Asked by the court where he got the information from regarding the illness of one of the accused, Mr Shilubane said he had been informed by Mr Earnshaw who is actually defending the two South Africans.

Granting the postponement, Mr Dunn cautioned two of the accused present, Mr and Mrs Nusterdien to be in the same court on Friday June 5, 1981 at 10 in the morning. They are represented by Mr BA Dlamini of Mbabane.

The names of the other South Africans are Mr and Mrs Gaibie. The four were arrested by the Royal Swaziland Police in Manzini for allegedly being in illegal possession of 80,000 Mandrax tablets whose value in the South African black market is estimated at almost E1 million.

Mr Gaibie is in Cape Town and his wife in Pietermaritzburg. Mr and Mrs Nusterdien are believed to be from Cape Town.

The official of the Zambian Airways who was arrested by the Royal Swaziland Police at the VIP lounge at Matsapha Airport last week will also appear before a Manzini Magistrate on June 5, 1981 on a charge of illegal possession of 1242 Mandrax tablets.

The name of the Zambian has been given as Litebele Humphrey Nyumbu 39, said to be an accountant with the Zambian National Airways. He was released on a E100 bail and is believed to be presently in Zambia.

A Mbabane medical practitioner, Dr Edie Kanya and two Mozambican nationals were due to appear before a Mbabane Magistrate this morning in connection with contravention of the Pharmacy Act.

Dr Kanya and the two Mozambicans, Charles Nzuzo and Mellow Tembe made their first appearance before the Magistrate last Friday. They were released on their own recognisances.

In the Mandrax case of the four South African, the Crown is believed to be increasingly growing unhappy about the length of time this case has taken.

The four accused first made their appearance in court in February this year immediately after their arrest. The case has been postponed ever since for one reason or another.

Mr Nyumbu was arrested minutes after his arrival at Matsapha Airport and is reported to have told the police that the purpose of his visit to this country was to enroll his son in one of the kingdom's schools.

The South Africans are also on E100 bail each.

CSO: 5300

DENMARK

BRIEFS

HASHISH GANG BROKEN UP--Police in Copenhagen have broken up a large narcotics gang. Among the six up to now arrested is a 28-year-old Norwegian. Investigation is continuing further. The gang supposedly has smuggled and sold almost 300 kilograms of hashish at a value of well over 10 million kroner, the detective with the police in Copenhagen, Ove Sorensen, stated to AFTENPOSTEN. The investigation so far has not revealed if the gang has sold other narcotic substances than hashish, and so far there is nothing to indicate that the gang has had connections with Norway. Aside from the 28-year-old Norwegian, the police have arrested a Dutchman, a Finn and three Danes. The first of the gang's members to be seized had 70 kilograms of hashish in his car when police stopped him at a place in Zealand enroute to Copenhagen. [Text] [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 5 Jun 81 p 6]

CSO: 5300/2353

FRANCE

BRIEFS

SAINT-TROPEZ DRUG TRAFFIC--Toulon. Marc Fleury, 26 years of age, a hashish peddler, who was arrested last week at Saint-Tropez, admitted to the Toulon police, who were in charge of the investigation, that he had brought 600 kilograms of this drug from Morocco to France aboard a rented boat, the Mayero. Mr. Fleury had been questioned after he lost a wallet that was found on Monday, 4 May by Saint-Tropez police. Along with his identity papers, the wallet contained the sum of Fr 4000 and 1 gram of cocaine. Mr Fleury, who owns a boat anchored at Port-Grimaud, aboard which he lived and in which 4.7 kilograms of hashish was discovered, indicated that he was supposed to receive the sum of Fr 100,000 for transporting the drug from Morocco to France, but that he had not been paid this money since the hashish had not yet been sold. Nevertheless, the investigation led to questioning of two other individuals in Paris, whose identities have not yet been revealed, and to seizure of approximately 50 kilograms of hashish. [Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 12 May 81 p 45] 7619

CSO: 5300/2328

ITALY

ROME CONNECTION IN INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFIC

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 17 May 81 p 11

[Article by r. bu.: "Heroin Worth 1,000 Billion"]

[Text] Beirut, Palermo, New York: a circuitous route for a drug traffic that yielded an annual billing of over 1,000 billion lire. The inquiries have been long and complex; from them will probably also be gleaned facts that will be useful in solving a dual murder that took place in Rome 5 months ago. Police have arrested 10 persons, and 15 others are being sought. Strong suspicions are also pointing to some 100 other public figures, including, according to leaks around police headquarters, ship captains, big industrial leaders and presidents of sporting clubs. All will have to respond, according to arrest warrants signed by Assistant District Attorney Palmanetto, to charges of having imported, exported and refined large quantities of narcotics.

"Raw" morphine was being shipped out of Lebanon, loaded on smugglers' vessels, and offloaded in the Sicilian city to be refined. After being converted into heroin, it resumed its trip to the United States. The loading and transport of the merchandise was not paid in money but rather in cocaine, which arrived punctually from Peru on demand for settlement of each shipment.

According to indications from the Antinarcotics Headquarters Squad, its agents succeeded in laying hands one of the rings of the organization, which operated in Rome as a connecting link for the vast-ranging operation that had taken root in Italy and abroad.

The investigations, coordinated by the Antinarcotics Headquarters Service headed by Dr Sabatino, and with the cooperation of the Flying Squad, the Operations Section of the Carabinieri and the Finance Guards, began about 6 months ago. Their point of departure was actually Beirut, where various ships flying the Lebanese flag loaded five tons of hashish and 700 kilograms of raw morphine a month. Then came the surprise: The merchandise being imported from the Middle East was being paid for in cocaine, the procurement of which was entrusted to a Rome group whose contact was a South American gang specializing in the buying and selling of drugs in Europe.

One by one, all the members of the organization have ended up in jail. They are Bruno Pischedda, 31, residing at Via Graziano 30, who according to the investigators functioned as the collector; Romano Amatucci, 32, residing at Via Guglielmi 16; Riccardi Natili, 31, owner of a splendid villa in Camilluccia and nephew of Adelmo Natili who was arrested in 1978 with three and one half kilos of heroin in his possession. The list goes on to include the names of Vittorio Scarpetti, jailed because of his serious involvement in the kidnaping of industrialist Antolini; his brother Alessandro, 46; Emanuele Di Segni, 42; and Giuseppe Di Segni, 57, proprietor of the Elios Leather leather-goods shop on Via Volturno, where he fabricated the false-bottomed suitcases used to transport the drugs. And lastly, Domenico Iannilli, 43, of Via Balilla 14, one of this entire story's most interesting characters.

He was the intermediary between the Rome gang and the South American one, and the husband of Gabriella Neri, who was murdered with her friend Antonio Cabras before the eyes of her daughter on 2 January in her apartment on Via Bezzecca. Those responsible for that brutal dual homicide have not yet been apprehended. The arrest now of Domenico Iannilli may bring more facts to light to help in the investigation of that chilling settlement of accounts. Late yesterday at the Fiumicino airport, Giovanni Cutaia, 35, and Leonardo Cavallaro, 38, were taken into custody as they debarked from a plane arriving from New York. Both natives of Catania, they operated as intermediaries between the gang of the "Romans" and that of the "Sicilians." Cavallaro appears to have been boosting his income by operating a prostitution traffic. Last February, Egidio Giancarlo Oliveira, 21, of Genoa, was arrested in Copenhagen while carrying a suitcase in which were hidden three and one half kilos of cocaine.

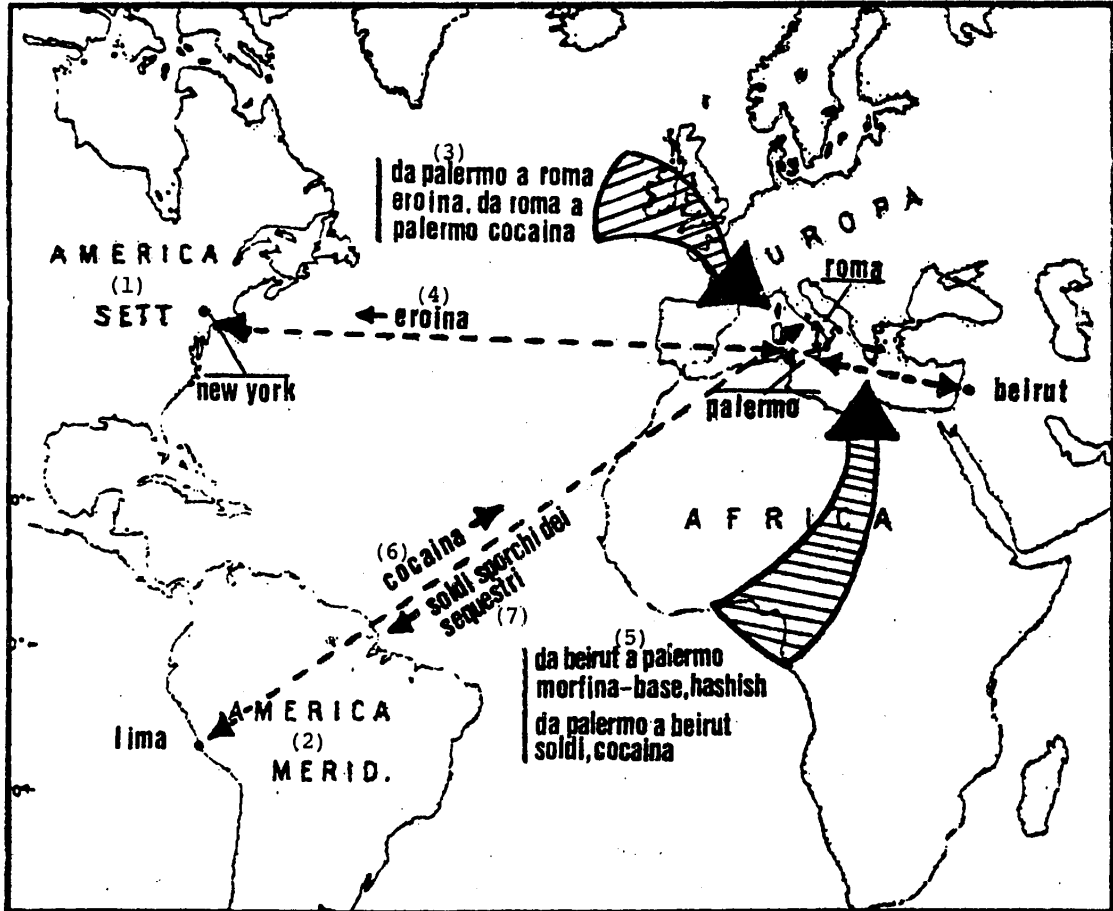
Almost simultaneously in New York, Vittorio Mirabile and Francesco Cutaia, the bagmen of the American gang, were arrested. One of them had \$475,000 in his pockets, the proceeds from the sale of a shipment of drugs. Salvatore Sciuto, 33, arrested in Catania, is also suspected of being a member of the same organization, but for the time being he is charged only with possession of weapons and ammunition.

A Circuit That Includes Three Continents

Lebanon, Sicily, United States, Peru, and lastly, Rome. Once again, the capital is involved in an investigation as one of the connections in the big-time international drug traffic. And more and more light is being cast on the channels by way of which this deadly "merchandise" arrives and departs. The accompanying map sketch shows the international routes used by the organization that was flushed out yesterday. But its other branches have yet to be investigated. This is the way the market works.

Heroin

Heroin is a synthetic drug and as such it must be processed. Its "base" is morphine, which is extracted from the poppy plantations of the Middle East, particularly Lebanon. The organization identified by the police was selling the product to the Sicilian Mafia, which took care of refining it in laboratories located in various parts of the island.



Key:

1. North America.
2. South America.
3. From Palermo to Rome: heroin/
From Rome to Palermo: cocaine.
4. Heroin.
5. From Beirut to Palermo: raw morphine, hashish/
From Palermo to Beirut: money, cocaine.
6. Cocaine.
7. Dirty money from kidnappings.

The product of these refining laboratories is pure heroin, ready for distribution in the world's most lucrative markets, headed by the American one. In New York, the American Mafia pays over \$90,000 for a kilo of pure heroin, which is over 100 million lire. The merchandise arrives in the United States in false-bottomed suitcases, or in oil or wine bottles.

Large quantities of heroin also reach Rome, however. And here, the traffic becomes more complex. The drug arrives (refined) with extreme ease, by train or automobile. A "producers representative," a representative, that is, of the gang that refines heroin in Sicily, contacts a Roman pushers organization; in this case it was that of the Scarpetti brothers. The heroin is not all paid for in cash. The Roman gang, as a matter of fact, will take another medium of exchange: cocaine.

Cocaine

This drug arrives in Rome in large quantities because, besides serving the domestic market, it is used by the Sicilians to pay the Lebanese suppliers and the Middle Eastern producers in general, for the raw morphine. The fact is that heroin does not "draw" well in that market. The consumers there use cocaine. Thus, the Sicilians get the "coke" in Rome, from the gangs that are in contact with the producers.

And this brings us to another type of producers: the producers of the cocaine. They are all Peruvians. In Lima, the capital of Peru, they have installed a real and genuine strategic big-time international traffickers base, which includes many Italians. And they export to all the world. Rome is a major clearing center, and the profits are assured. Besides resolving a marketing problem, there is another reason: The Roman gangs pay for the cocaine with dirty money from kidnapings.

Laundering of the Dirty Money

To use the banknotes paid by the families of those kidnaped, all marked by the police and the banks, "kidnapings anonymous" pays the international traffickers for the cocaine with the dirty money. The traffickers in turn will have no difficulty putting the banknotes into circulation throughout the world.

9238
CSO: 5300/2333

NORWAY

BRIEFS

COCAINE IN KRISTIANSUND--(NORSK TELEGRAMBYRAA). The police in Kristiansund are presently in the process of breaking up the largest narcotics case ever in the municipality. Two people are in custody and 10 are implicated. For the first time it has been revealed that a strong substance was used, namely cocaine. A 30-year-old person has been jailed for 3 weeks. The person is prohibited from writing letters and from receiving visitors. And a 21-year-old has been imprisoned for a week. Both are charged with trafficking, possession and use of hashish. The older person is also charged with use of cocaine. Seven persons, all from Kristiansund, are charged with use of narcotic substances in Kristiansund. [Text] [Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 23 May 81 p 2]

CSO: 5300/2353

END