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JPRS L/10063

22 October 1981

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 49/81)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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HONG KONG

HEROIN BASE FOUND HIDDEN IN HOLLOWED-OUT FRUIT

Seized at Airport

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 9 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] A Thai actress was arrested at Kai Tak airport yesterday afternoon when customs officers found drugs hidden inside hollowed-out fruit.

The drugs were inside hairy red rambutans the actress had with her when she arrived from Bangkok.

The officers found that the rambutans had been cleverly stitched up with red thread.

Almost half of the 230 rambutans had been hollowed out and each contained a small bag of heroin base.

"This is the first time we have discovered drugs hidden in hollowed-out rambutans and as the red fruits are hairy and were carefully stitched up, they could easily have been missed," Senior Customs Inspector Thomas Ip said.

"In the past we have discovered drugs concealed inside coconuts but this is the first time we have found drugs hidden inside such small fruit."

According to Insp Ip, a total of 1.5 kilos of heroin base were seized from the woman, who claimed to be an actress in Chiu Chow opera shows.

Insp Ip said the drugs, which could be converted to 4.5 kilos of No 3 heroin, had a market value of \$600,000.

Officers also found \$3,000 on the actress which she claimed was her reward for carrying the drugs.

The woman, aged 34, was last night being detained for questioning and is expected to be charged today with possessing dangerous drugs for the purpose of unlawful trafficking.

Last night, officers of the Customs Investigations Bureau, headed by Superintendent Mak Kam-lau, mounted an intensive investigation into a new drug-importing syndicate.

Sources close to the CIB said the officers are trying to find out the woman's contacts in Hongkong and swoops on premises are expected in the next day or two.

CIB officers will today contact their counterparts in Bangkok to probe the background of the actress and her associates.

Thai Actress Charged

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 10 Sep 81 p 16

[Text] A 34-year-old Thai actress appeared before Mr M. W. Fung at San Po Kong Court yesterday charged with trafficking in heroin.

Sae Lim Siamhiang is alleged to have been in possession of 118 packets containing about 1.5 kg of heroin at Kai Tak airport on Tuesday.

No plea was taken and Sae was remanded in custody for a week for further inquiries.

CSO: 5320/9093

HONG KONG

THAI SYNDICATE SENT DRUGS TO HONG KONG BY PARCEL POST

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 24 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

Hongkong's drug fighters believe they have made a breakthrough in smashing a Thailand-based international drug trafficking ring which uses the postal parcel method.

In a joint operation by officers of the Narcotics Bureau and Customs Investigation Bureau, a man believed to be a member of the Thai syndicate was arrested after he collected two parcels at the Central Post Office which contained about six kilos of No 4 heroin.

The local value of the seizure is estimated at \$2.7 million, but the value would be increased more than 10-fold on reaching markets in Europe or America, where there is a big demand for No 4 heroin.

There is no market for No 4 heroin in Hongkong, and drug fighters believe the seized drugs were meant for re-export.

Yesterday's seizure is believed to be the biggest haul of No 4 heroin in recent years.

After the seizure, customs officers checked parcels from Bangkok, sources said.

Addicts in Europe and America prefer No 4 heroin — which is almost 100 per cent pure.

Local addicts prefer No 3 heroin — or "brown sugar" — which has a much lower purity.

Police last night declined to disclose much information

on the arrest and seizure.

They only confirmed that Narcotics Bureau officers have arrested a man and that some drugs were seized.

"We don't have any more information and we do not know the value of the seizure, as police are investigating," a spokesman of the Police Public Relations Wing said.

Informed sources told the SCM Post last night that Narcotics Bureau officers had received information the syndicate had sent drugs from Thailand to Hongkong by postal parcels.

Sources said detectives kept watch at the post office for the past 10 days for any person collecting the drug parcels.

A Thai national collected the parcels and was arrested.

The man, believed to have arrived from Bangkok recently, was taken to his Wanchai hotel where his room was searched, but no further seizure was made.

CSO: 5320/9093

MALAYSIA

OFFICIALS ANTICIPATE FLOOD OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN HEROIN

Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 30 Aug 81 p 1

[Text] **KUALA LUMPUR, Sat.**
— Drug officials fear Malaysia could be flooded with heroin from South-East Asia's notorious "Golden Triangle," because of a glut in the market.

Malaysian police have arrested nearly 5,000 people since January and seized well over half a tonne of illegal narcotics coming from the opium-growing triangle where Laos, Burma and Thailand meet.

The latest harvest, estimated at some 600 tonnes after three years of poor crops, has led some drug officials to fear that Malaysia could bear the brunt of the glut.

This view has been further strengthened by recent West Asian inroads into European and American markets in the wake of the triangle famine.

"The South-East Asian trade will find it hard to recover its market now that Europe is being hit by more available, better quality and cheaper heroin from Pakistan and Afghanistan as well as from Iran and Turkey," informed drugs

sources said.

Last year, West Asian heroin accounted for about 51 per cent of the United States market against 18 per cent in 1979, while the South-East Asian share dropped by half from 23 to 11 per cent, according to the sources.

The greater availability of the drug in Malaysia is reflected in the sharp drop in price since the beginning of the year.

The cost of a 60 mg. straw of heroin Number Three or brown sugar — best quality Number Four is only seen in small quantities here — has dropped by 25 per cent in Penang from about M\$8 to M\$6.

The Malaysians have responded to the problem by expanding their anti-narcotics squad to nearly 3,000 men and stepping up prevention and rehabilitation programmes.

Heroin lab

But despite these measures, it was officially estimated last year

that Malaysia had more than 40,000 drug addicts.

The amount of heroin, morphine and opium seized in the first six months of this year jumped eight times compared with the same period in 1980.

The large quantity of morphine recovered indicates the existence of a new and disturbing phenomenon inside the country, the heroin-processing laboratory.

"They can be set up and dismantled in a matter of hours and would be extremely hard to find," one drug official said, adding that acetic anhydride, used to convert morphine to heroin, had so many legal uses it was almost impossible to stem its flow into the country, mostly from West Germany.

— Reuter.

CSO: 5300/8304

MALAYSIA

DRUG ARRESTS, SEIZURES FOR AUGUST 1981 REPORTED

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Sep 81 p 7

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — Six foreigners were among 565 people arrested by police for drug offences last month, CID Director Datuk Abdul Rahman Ismail said today.

He said two of them were Thais while the other four were Singaporeans. "Fourteen of those detained were charged with drug trafficking and 30 for pedalling," he said.

The rest were charged with possession of drugs.

Reviewing the drug situation, Datuk Rahman said while the number of arrests dropped from 784

in July to 565 last month, the amount of drugs seized had increased.

Police seized 3,269 grams of heroin; 17,950 grams of raw opium; 1,302 grams of prepared opium; 1,810 grams of morphine and 2,721 grams of ganja.

On Aug. 2, Insp. Ten Kok Chew and a party raided a hotel in Jalan Raja Laut, detained a 55-year-old man and seized 1,133.98 grams of prepared opium.

On Aug. 14, two men were detained at a petrol kiosk in Jalan Klang

Lama. In their car was found 10,450 grams of raw opium, three pounds of heroin and four pounds of morphine.

On Aug. 19, the Army Intelligence officers held two RMAF privates at Labuan and seized 350 grams of ganja.

On Aug. 28, in the compound of the Ipoh General Hospital police stopped a car and detained a man with 908 grams of heroin.

On Aug. 22, a 39-year-old man was detained in Jalan Kota, Alor Star, and 325 grams of No. 4 high-grade heroin recovered.

The same day in Sungei Petani officers raided a house in Sungei Sayang and found 1,209.54 grams of ganja.

On Aug. 25, in Ulu Choh, Johore, three men with 300 grams of ganja were picked up.

Drug officers in Seremban stopped a car with two men and found 133 grams of heroin the same day.

On Aug. 27, a couple on a motorcycle was stopped and four blocks of opium weighing 7,500 grams seized.

CSO: 5300/8304

MALAYSIA

LARGEST SEIZURE OF HEROIN IN PERAK STATE THIS YEAR

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 8 Sep 81 p 8

[Text]

IPOH, Mon. — Police seized about 6.35 kilograms (14 lbs) of heroin when they stopped a car in Kampar area about 24 miles from here recently.

"The seizure is the biggest haul of heroin in Perak so far this year," Chief Police Officer Datuk Mior Mohamed Jaafar bin Mior Safi said today.

Two men in their 30s were detained.

Datuk Mior Mohamed Jaafar said 14 bundles of heroin were found inside a bag on the rear seat of the car.

He said Perak police received a tip-off about a drug trafficking syndicate supplying drugs to Ipoh for distribution within the State as a

result of a recent arrest in Kedah.

After three weeks of investigation, police then zeroed in on the movement of a few suspected cars.

One of the suspected cars was sighted heading south on Sept. 2. A team of police officers from the CID Narcotics Branch stopped the car about 10.30 am at 5 1/2 kilometre Kampar-Tapah road.

The car was searched and the 14 bundles of heroin were found inside a bag. The driver was detained.

In a follow-up operation a few hours later, police detained another man. The heroin was believed to have been smuggled in from the north.

CSO: 5300/8304

MALAYSIA

DRUG COURIERS SWITCHING OVER TO SENAI AIRPORT

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

JOHORE BARU, Thurs. — Senai is now believed to be the main airport for dadah syndicates "importing and exporting" dadah from the "Golden Triangle" and ganja from a neighbouring country.

Narcotic sources said dadah couriers switched their operations from the Subang and Singapore airports after the strengthening of security measures there recently.

Known dadah couriers are said to have been observed at the airport premises making "dummy runs" for flights to East Malaysia.

The authorities are concerned as there is a glut of drugs in the Golden Triangle. The price of a tube of heroin here has dropped from \$20 to \$3 now.

Senai Airport, about 20 miles from here, is normally not fully utilised for lack of flights.

The airport normally closes before 8 p.m., although it has a staff of some 250 personnel including security men.

There are now about six flights daily from Senai to Kuala Lumpur and vice-versa. There are also flights to Kuching and Kota Kinabalu.

Dadah couriers are "interested" in the flights to East Malaysia, it is learnt.

Narcotic sources said dadah couriers were believed to be smuggling dadah obtained from the "Golden Triangle" via Thailand for Europe through East Malaysia.

Arrested

There are several flights from East Malaysian states to Sri Begawan and Manila, and then to Europe.

Once the dadah leaves Malaysia through Senai the worries of the couriers are over.

So far two men have been arrested by the Customs drugs unit and charged with trafficking about 400 grms of heroin this year.

One who was found guilty received life imprisonment while the other was acquitted.

Narcotic sources also suspect ganja was being smuggled into the country by air via Senai from Indonesia and even Thailand.

It is learnt the airport security unit is keeping a close watch on suspected couriers.

Besides having remote-control cameras at several strategic places its security personnel in plainclothes are also mingling with travellers and visitors.

CSO: 5300/8304

MALAYSIA

KELANTAN POLICE INCREASE ANTIDRUG ACTIVITIES

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 15 Sep 81 p 8

[Text]

KOTA BARU, Mon. — Kelantan police are stepping up the war against dadah and various security and anti-smuggling units have been ordered to be on the lookout for dadah smugglers.

The Chief Police Officer, Senior Assistant Commissioner Haji Ibrahim Yeop, issuing the order said it was in anticipation of more smuggling attempts in the coming months.

Haji Ibrahim said checks on the busy Malaysian-Thai border on the west coast had been made more stringent.

He directed the area security units (UKK) to step

up anti-dadah activities.

Patrols of the anti-smuggling unit (UPP) have also been directed to concentrate on dadah smugglers.

Rela members in border areas have been told to be more alert and report any suspicious character.

Flying squad

The CPO said the anti-dadah unit of the State CID would be moved from its base here to Rantau Panjang — the main entry and exit point on the Kelantan-Thai border.

The officers of the UKK and UPP have been briefed and many have undergone special courses on dadah.

Haji Ibrahim said members of the police intelligence would be stationed at selected points along the 63-mile border.

At the same time the anti-dadah unit has set up a flying squad to attend to public tips through the hot line — 25792 — round the clock.

Since the unit was set up, 256 addicts have been registered and this has enabled the police to watch their movements, Haji Ibrahim added.

CSO: 5300/8304

PAKISTAN

CUSTOMS ACQUIRES FAST BOATS AND HELICOPTER

Karachi DAWN in English 29 Sep 81 p 4

[Text]

Mr Ghulam Ashraf Jehangir, Member Customs, Central Board of Revenue, has said that Karachi Custom House is being given additional logistic support to intensify its anti-smuggling efforts with the acquisition of five fast motor boats, a helicopter, latest arms and ammunition and modern means of communications.

In an exclusive interview with 'Dawn' he said that an in-depth study of various incidents of smuggling indicates a distinct change in the pattern, modus operandi and smuggling routes with heroin emerging as the most coveted commodity going out of Pakistan.

He said the conventional thinking that narcotics were being smuggled out by air route only had been negated by the recent seizures of heroin on land and sea routes and particularly the seizure of 42 kilos of heroin worth over Rs. 600 million in the international market near Taftan on Pak-Iran border.

Mr Jehangir said a new strategy has been evolved to cover land air and sea frontiers and extensive patrolling on land routes mobilised particularly near Jacobabad-Sukkur Section, for the first time, to foil attempts of smuggling.

He said two speed-boats had already been bought from a Dutch company while a 19-meter-long launch was being acquired. Two more boats for Karachi Customs will be bought from a local concern, he added.

The speed-boats will be in addition to the two boats already in commission with the Customs

and they will be utilised for improving surveillance, intelligence and preventive patrolling in the harbour and creeks while the big launch will patrol the high seas.

Besides he said a helicopter for Karachi Customs and two twin-engined aeroplanes for Peshawar and Quetta collectorates would also be obtained shortly. The planes will have direct communication with the ground patrols and the motor-boats.

Replying to a question Mr Jehangir said he was satisfied with the performance of the Preventive Collectorate of Karachi after reviewing the measures and strategies adopted by Collector Mohammad Akbar in the field of anti-smuggling, especially the big seizures of gold, currency and narcotics. He also appreciated the efforts for curbing the misuse of "A" Forms and successful disbanding of the circulation and use of forged 'A' Forms by a group of traders and clearing agents.

He said a pilot project was being launched at the Islamabad airport enabling the Customs Preventive Staff, through a close circuit TV network, to monitor the movements of smugglers or suspects and to process the baggage through new inspection system which automatically reveals their contents. The same system would also be introduced in Karachi, Peshawar and Lahore airports, he added.

He said stringent measures were also being taken to seal off Pak-Iran and Pak-Afghan borders so that markets of 'Euras' flooded with smuggled goods might disappear sooner or later. Special mobile squads have been activated

for the purpose. A mobile squad was also being introduced in Jacobabad-Sukkur section.

He said for the first time the Directorate of intelligence and Investigations had been provided with the services of "ace Custom Officers to look after the customs-side." Until recently, the Directorate was having officers from the Central Excise and Land Customs. The Customs manual cell was also being re-organised and telex facilities extended all over the country.

Mr Jehangir said that the Directorate of Survey of Rebate was being expanded with the opening of three Regional offices at Karachi, Lahore and Rawalpindi to facilitate the assessment of special rebates on duties on the manufacture of capital goods in the country including a survey of raw materials before recommending reduced rates of duties. He said industrial and technical hands being employed who would also suggest methods of revenue collection to the Central Excise and Land Customs.

He said the Computer Bureau was being expanded and the work of recoveries and auction including the internal audit, speeded up by providing more staff to them. The "appeal cell" and Appraising Intelligence were also being strengthened and the post of Chemist in the Custom House was being upgraded. A new laboratory was also planned for Lahore Custom House to avoid delays in the testing of samples. Besides, micro-filming facility was being introduced at Customs Houses for preservation of records.

CSO: 5300/4519

PAKISTAN

DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO GET DETECTIVE DOGS

Karachi DAWN in English 30 Sep 81 p 4

[Text]

Some German "drug detective dogs" along with their "handlers" will arrive here shortly to reinforce the Customs Drug Enforcement agencies in the country.

This was disclosed by Mr. G.A. Jehangir, Member CBR (Customs) before his departure to Islamabad yesterday after a week-long visit of Karachi and Hyderabad Customs Collectorate.

The German shephard dogs especially trained in the detection of secreted narcotics will be made available first to Karachi Customs Drug Enforcement Cell under an agreement with Pakistan Government.

These dogs are being acquired to improve the Customs operation at the city harbours and the airport. They will be specially useful in the detection of narcotics concealed under the cover of export cargo.

Mr Jehangir said the "handlers"

will also impart training to Pakistani dogs found in the Northern Areas in order to increase the number of trained detective dogs for the purposes of deployment in other airports of the country.

In reply to a question, he said that a German team which visited Pakistan last year, was of the opinion that the Pakistani dogs have the 'aptitude' of becoming drug detective dogs if trained properly. Hence a full-fledged training programme was planned for Pakistani dogs for the interdiction of narcotics and checking the illicit drug trade, he added.

In the second phase of the programme, some Pakistani Customs Officers will also visit Germany to undertake training in handling of drug detective dogs there to strengthen and intensify the anti-narcotic drive in the country, he pointed out.

CSO: 5300/4520

PAKISTAN

HASHISH FACTORY UNCOVERED

GFO61412 Karachi DAWN in English 4 Oct 81 p 8

[Text] Interpol and some other international drug enforcement agencies have been sent a "SOS" following the discovery of the activities of a well-knit, drug smugglers' gang along with the arrest of two "couriers" by the provincial excise hounds.

The Karachi excise police also unearthed a "hash packing factory" set up in a house at Kausar Niazi colony in north Nazimabad along with 2,660 kilos of refined exportable hashish, 20 kilos of hash oil and 2 kilos of precious heroin worth over Rs 300 million.

Announcing the details of this international drug racket, Syed Mohibullah Shah, director general of Excise and Taxation, Sind, told a press conference that he expected more arrests in a couple of days including those of underworld bosses who are on the run.

He told reporters that the seizure was an off-shoot of heroin extracting factory case last week as a result of intensive questioning of the accused.

The accused had set up their "factory" for packing hashish for export to European countries and the United States in a small house having a compressor, weighing machine and other paraphernalia.

He said the modus operandi adopted in this case was unique. The contraband was concealed in marble, onyx, electronics (in empty cassettes) and hosiery goods. To hoodwink drug enforcement agencies they packed these articles after concealment of narcotics in polythene packing with silver foil and thin-metal containers which were fully air-tight and finally wrapped again in polythene deposited in wooden crates making difficult its detection even by x-ray machines, he said.

Mr Mohibullah Shah said that the whole operation was still under thorough investigation and further details were expected.

In charge of the drug enforcement cell of customs, Mr Shuja Shah and superintendent Mubeen Khan have also been associated with the inquiry because of some international aspects, in the field of drug enforcement, Mr Shah said.

In fact, Karachi was being used as a "transit" station by the drug smugglers and in order to hoodwink the enforcement agencies they avoided the name of "source country," Viz, Pakistan, through dubious means, he added.

Later, director excise Anwar Shaikh and the seizing officer Niaz Baloch and inspector Ghulam Husain took the pressmen to the site and explained the working of the "drug packing factory" and seized contraband narcotics. Sensational disclosures are expected.

CSO: 5300/4518

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

DRUG SALES IN PUNJAB--Lahore, 20 July. There has been a frightening increase in the sale of narcotics in the capital and other major cities of Punjab. Now these drugs are openly on sale in the drug stores. Among these are Megathetamide, Dextromethorphan and Mendrex tablets. These drugs are legally sold only with a doctor's prescription. Among the intoxicating drugs, Megathetamide is being imported in a quantity far in excess of legal demand and its tablets, which are usually 25 Paisas apiece, are being sold for a rupee and a half to 2 rupees apiece. It is being imported from abroad through the dry port. Addicted youth purchase these medicines without any prescription. Officials have permitted a pharmaceutical company to manufacture codeine cough syrup while mixing codeine in drugs is banned in Pakistan. In addition to Lohari Bazar Market of Lahore, there are big illegal drug centers in Faisal Abad, Multan, and Sialkot. In view of the frightening increase in the illegal drug sales, the Quality Control Department of Islamabad sent a memorandum to the Health Department of Punjab requesting it to provide the records of the manufacturing, stock and the sales of intoxicating drugs within 15 days. The time limit expired and the records were never provided, nor were any measures taken to stop their illegal sale. [Text] [Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 21 Jul 81 p 4] 9859

56 KILOS OF OPIUM SEIZED--The attempt to smuggle opium from Northwest Frontier Province to Baluchistan has failed. The truck, No. T.R.P. 723, driven by Azad Khan Niazi, when it arrived at Tanai in Southern Waziristan en route from Peshawar to Baluchistan, was stopped by a political clerk, Mir Shah. Mr Shah became suspicious as the driver engaged in evasive tactics when asked to subject his truck to inspection. He immediately informed higher political officials of the situation. On conducting a search, 46 kilos of opium powder were uncovered hidden under the clothes and packed in one-kilo bags. The truck driver, Azad Khan and his assistant Anwar Khan were immediately taken into custody. The political officials praised Amir Shah for his good work and hoped that he will continue keeping an eye on public enemies and smugglers. [Text] [Peshawar MASHRIQ in Urdu 24 Jul 81 p 5] 9859

DRUG TRAFFICKER RELEASED--CIA [Criminal Investigation Agency] agents arrested Aziz, alias Bhaiya, a companion of Abdul Latif Singapori. In addition to pornographic and Indian films, opium was found in his possession. Abdul Rahim Singapori was released upon the completion of his arrest process. Previously, foreign cloth, narcotics, liquor and 14 VCR were confiscated at Dent Design Centre on Yakub Khan road and Abdul Latif Singapori, Abdul Rahim Singapori and Suleiman were arrested. An investigation was instituted. Late at night another companion of the accused, Aziz, alias Bhaiya, was also taken in custody while Abdul Rahim Singapori was released even before his booking process

was completed. The accused have been active in smuggling for a long time. It has been learned that a member of the Karachi Council is taking a keen interest in the release of the accused. He has been seen contacting influential people in this connection. It needs to be pointed out that the office of the councilor used to be where the contraband was confiscated and the councilor had previously been seen in the company of the accused. [Text] [Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 25 Jul 81 p 2] 9859

HEROIN SEIZED--Pursuing the 'leads' provided by the accused in the heroin-extraction plant last week, the Excise hounds laid hands on two more drug peddlers with five kilos of heroin worth Rs 5 million in the international market yesterday. A spokesman of the Excise Police said that more arrests are likely to be made and more drugs are to be recovered on the pointation of the accused persons. It may be recalled that the Excise Police had last nabbed two persons and discovered an illicit heroin-extracting plant in a People's Colony apartment in North Nazimabad, along with the seizure of 13 kilograms of heroin worth Rs 200 million. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 2 Oct 81 p 18]

ISLAMABAD HASHISH SEIZURE--Customs officials at Islamabad airport seized 55 kg of hashish from Mrs Fazana Jagirdar on 4 October. The market value of the London-bound hashish is estimated at 500,000 rupees. [GF142037 Karachi JANG in Urdu 5 Oct 81 p 1]

PESHAWAR HASHISH SEIZURE--Fifty maunds of charas were seized from a Punjab-bound truck near Peshawar this morning. It was the biggest haul of the year. The truck was impounded by the customs collector and its driver and an occupant were taken into custody. The charas is worth crores of rupees in the world market, though locally it cost only Rs 10 lakhs. After giving up traveling by the main road (Grand Turnk Road), smugglers have been transporting contraband goods through Charsadda-Peshawar Road for the past several months. [GF101217 Karachi DAWN in English 3 Oct 81 p 12]

GADAP HASHISH SEIZURE--Contraband hashish weighing over 1800 kg, worth about Rs 15 million in international market was seized by the Gadap police from an underground tank in a house at Darsana Channa off Malir Cantoment yesterday. Two persons, Saeed of Chitral and Chanam Gul of Peshawar, were arrested from the house. [GF111137 Karachi Dawn in English 8 Oct 81 p 10]

CSO: 5300/4518

VIETNAM

HANOI CUSTOMS MAKES ARRESTS FOR OPIUM TRAFFICKING

BK020654 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 2 Oct 81

[Report on drug trafficking in Hanoi]

[Text] Over the past 9 months, 20 customs stations of the Hanoi customs office have, in coordination with the trade and public security sectors and with the local administration, detected and made arrests in 344 profiteering and smuggling cases involving the illegal trafficking of 3.1 million dong worth of 34 kinds of state-controlled goods.

In the third quarter alone, various customs stations and mobile customs units and teams, assisted by the people, joined with the market management and public security sectors, city ward people's committees and so forth in making arrests in 2,688 cases involving illegal dealing in contraband goods.

Various customs stations, especially those posted at airports and the harbor, have coordinated with the public security sector in intensifying their investigative activities and have detected many tricks used by dishonest merchants to deceive or bribe responsible officials. On 12 September 1981 the (Noi Ban) airport customs and public security stations caught in the act (Nguyen Van Nhi) who, residing at 81 Nghia Dung city block in Hanoi, hid 15 taels of gold in a radio receiver which he was taking to Ho Chi Minh City. These stations also confiscated 37,000 dong from (Nguyen Van Nhi), including 20,000 dong which he used to bribe the officials on duty.

Over the past 9 months, the (Noi Ban) and Gia Lam airport customs stations alone made arrests in 10 cases involving the illegal carrying of large sums of money.

During June and August, the Kim Lien, Hoan Kiem and Dong Da customs stations investigated and made arrests in three cases involving the trafficking of 11 kilos of opium. Specifically, brother and sister officials at these stations have detected many tricks used by smugglers to hide their goods, and to offer bribes to officials in exchange for covering up their crimes.

CSO: 5300/4717

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS THEFT--Police in Prague 4 is investigating a burglary at the pharmacy of the Institute of Clinical and Experimental Medicine. The thief got away with 860 ampules containing opiates, worth Kcs 10,000. [Prague PRACE in Czech 5 Oct 81 p 3]

CSO: 5300

BERMUDA

MINISTER CALLS DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAM FAILURE

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 17 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

GOVERNMENT'S methadone programme for treating drug addicts has been a failure over the last year, the Minister of Health and Social Services admitted yesterday.

A staff crisis forced doctors to cut back the St. Brendan's Hospital programme which has stopped taking new admissions since July.

Only four addicts, treated as maintenance clients, now attend the clinic — while the police narcotics squad estimates the number of heroin users in Bermuda at around 300.

"The programme has failed over the last year," Minister, Dr. the Hon. Clarence James said. "It has failed due to the staffing problems we have had over the period. But I cannot say that the clinic has been a complete failure. We still have the clients and the method of treatment has not been the problem, it has been the administration."

The Minister's comments came only a week after he had defended the programme as the best available treatment until an ideal cure is found.

The clinic hit difficulties in 1979 when about 30 addicts were attending. Some

staff refused to be involved after receiving threats and abuse from addicts.

Police have since been called in to ensure order at the clinic's two morning and evening sessions.

Further problems arose through a shortage of doctors to maintain the programme and a decision was taken about a year ago to wind it down. New admissions were stopped completely in July because there was no replacement for Dr. P.J. Jauhar, who was the supervisor.

Dr. James was kept informed through the Advisory Board on the Misuse of Drugs which is directly responsible to him. He admitted that the Board has been pressing for some time for a new rehabilitation centre.

It was also suggested that an alternative site should be chosen for the treatment of addicts.

Dr. James said steps were now being taken to ease staff problems at St. Brendan's while he was also recommending extra help for Mr.

Bryant Richards, who coordinates drug prevention schemes.

"The staffing problem at St. Brendan's will be looked into," he said. "I expect that the situation should be remedied within a reasonable period."

He said that he also intended to hold a press conference soon to outline policy concerning rehabilitation centres.

CSO: 5300/7505

GUYANA

BRIEFS

ANTIMARIHUANA DRIVE---More than 3,000 fully grown marijuana trees were uprooted and destroyed when a combined party of Rio Claro and Mayaro policemen swooped down in the Guayaguayare forest yesterday. The police party began their exercise early yesterday morning when they led a pack of tracker dogs about a mile inside the forest. According to reports, more than an acre of the "weed" was discovered. It was immediately uprooted and burnt on the site, police said. The exercise was the latest in an anti-marijuana drive which was launched by Eastern Division Police recently. Last week, police destroyed \$.5 million worth of marijuana from the Rio Claro forest and at the same time disconnected and seized six trap guns. [Excerpt] [Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 21 Aug 81 p 10]

CSO: 5300/7505

MEXICO

PGR 'PILOT PLAN' FOR DRUG DESTRUCTION UNDER WAY

Fifth Phase Announced

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 3 Sep 81 Sec B pp 1, 7

[Text] Yesterday, in Monterrey, the deputy attorney general of the republic [PGR], Samuel Alba Leyva, initiated the fifth phase of the Pilot Plan for the definitive eradication of drug plantations, with the participation of a special reinforcement team which took off in eight helicopters and two airplanes, its mission being to "clean up" the traces of drugs remaining in the states of Michoacan, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas.

Accompanied by Carlos Aguilar Garza, coordinator of the Federal Public Ministry agencies in the northeastern part of the republic, and the five federal prosecutors from Monterrey, the deputy attorney general gave the symbolic "flagging" that marked the takeoff of the aircraft, on the special platform at the international airport in the Nuevo Laredo capital.

Alba Leyva, general coordinator of the campaign against drug trafficking, had previously told EL MANANA that "it is the unswerving intention of the government of the republic to 'clear' the entire national territory of drug plantations; and we are engaged in this task on a 24-hour basis, every day of the year."

Carlos Aguilar Garza, for his part, explained that this "pilot plan" is being enacted in areas wherein there had previously been a systematic attack on the planting and harvesting of drugs; so that the "mop up" by this special brigade is merely to corroborate the fact that there are no traces of the crops, and to exterminate them in the event that they should still be surviving.

The special brigade consists of six, four-seat 206 helicopters, two of the 2-12 type with a larger capacity and two airplanes, all with their respective crews especially trained in the search, spotting and extermination of drug plantations.

The War Is Without Quarter

Alba Leyva announced that the results of the four previous phases of this "pilot plan" proved to be the ones desired by the attorney general of the republic, Oscar Flores Sanchez; because a large percentage of the planting, harvesting and marketing of drugs was eliminated.

However, he explained, this has been no easy task, because the drug traffickers have put up fierce resistance and are attempting by all means to counter the action of the law, even assaulting the very lives of the federal agents detailed to pursue them.

He added that drug trafficking is a business involving many millions of pesos, which the criminals refuse to give up, despite their realization of the serious harm that they are causing thousands of persons who are addicts; and for this reason they resort to weapons to defend the empire that they have succeeded in building.

He announced that some of the helicopters taking part in this "pilot plan" are equipped with "pliers" especially fitted into the front section, which break the cables which the drug traffickers themselves install in the ravines and other steep mountain areas, and with which they have succeeded in bringing down some of these aircraft, with a loss of lives.

After the planes took off, bound for the aforementioned areas, the deputy attorney general and Aguilar Garza made an inspection tour of the offices of the five Federal Public Ministry agencies operating in Monterrey.

Success Reported

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 9 Sep 81 Sec B p 6

[Text] A six-seat Cessna plane from the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic assigned for air patrol to the coordinator of the Federal Public Ministry agencies in the northeastern part of the country had engine trouble and was forced to make an emergency landing on a section of highway known as La Coma, between San Fernando and Ciudad Victoria, with the misfortune of striking a curb and some warning signs which caused it to overturn, with its wheels standing upward.

Fortunately, the only two crew members, Capt Manuel Amuzurrutia Silva and technician Alejandro Sandoval, received only minor injuries, while the aircraft sustained considerable damage.

The foregoing report was provided by Carlos Aguilar Garza, coordinator of the Federal Public Ministry agencies, who ordered the damaged airplane to be kept under guard on the site of the accident itself, so that the experts who are to come from the Federal District may examine it and determine the causes of the engine failure.

The Cessna plane was on a police backup patrol when the trouble occurred with the engine, which ceased operating while in flight.

The plane's captain began "gliding", taking advantage of the air currents, with great skill on his part, because he managed to bring it down on the highway, but the ditch and the warning signs caused the landing to fail.

Successful Campaign

Aguilar Garza, moreover, announced that the "pilot plan" for definitive extermination of drug plantations, which the deputy attorney general of the republic put into

effect in Monterrey, has brought good results inasmuch as, by yesterday, there was corroboration of the successful campaign which the Federal Judicial Police have launched on a permanent basis against drug traffickers; because in the area of the Conchos River alone, in the municipality of Linares, Nuevo Leon, two plantations have been detected.

The eight helicopters and two airplanes participating in this "pilot plan" have "combed" 71,831 square kilometers in 200 hours of flight, covering four states, where it has been ascertained that the planting of drugs has been almost entirely eliminated.

2909
CSO: 5330/47

MEXICO

ATTORNEY GENERAL PILOT PLAN OPERATIONS DESCRIBED

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 13 Sep 81 Sec B p 1

[Text] An intense battle against the drug traffic and the growing of marihuana is under way throughout all of Coahuila, Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas, with sudden "raids" made by forces from the brigade sent directly from the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, under the leadership of Oscar Flores Sanchez.

Yesterday, here in Piedras Negras, the so-called "Pilot Plan" involving heavily armed men with special training and orders to operate directly arrived at the local airport in a helicopter.

The group, commanded by Mr Benito Estrada, told EL DIARIO that the work is done in an unannounced manner, and that there has been success in destroying plantations in Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon, in the southern area, and in arresting some individuals who have been immediately turned over to the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic.

The work itself involves establishing unannounced checkpoints on the highways, as well as investigation, through the questioning of those engaged in growing poppies and other drug-producing plants.

The group has also been working with the individual in charge of services against drug trafficking here on this border, Mr Mario Espinosa, who serves as chief of the district.

The day before yesterday, the group of men, disguised, were detailed for a short period of time to the vicinity of kilometer 22, where they made a careful search of every vehicle heading toward this border.

Nothing could be said about the action to be taken, inasmuch as these operations are sudden and unannounced, so as to attain the goal that has been set: namely, to catch the public poisoners by surprise and put them where they belong, in prison, thereby putting a final end to that activity of unlawful amassment of wealth at the cost of the health of those who become addicted to these products that are doing irreversible damage to the society.

2909
CSO: 5330/49

MEXICO

TRAFFICKING ON COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS UNDER INVESTIGATION

H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 4 Sep 81 Sec A p 10

[Text] The Federal Judicial Police are continuing the investigation of the drug trafficking that is taking place on Aeromexico's commercial flights. Several individuals are being traced, including some women; although at this point they are considered difficult to apprehend because they are already aware that they have been discovered.

Meanwhile, the agent of the investigating public ministry has concluded the preliminary investigation of the 11 kilograms of marihuana found in a suitcase being carried from Mexico City by the young girl Lourdes Morales Luna, 14 years of age.

The aforementioned drug-trafficking minor will appear today in the fourth district court, to which she has been remanded.

The girl has made a full confession of her crime, and has given a large number of names of individuals implicated in this illegal activity.

As for the investigation being pursued by the Federal Judicial Police, it concerns the whereabouts of those residing in this area who are participating in the ring for which young Lourdes Morales was working.

It has been learned from the investigation that the aforementioned girl arrived with her marihuana shipments at a residence located at 12th Street and Espana, near the corner. Sometimes she arrived with as many as two suitcases and, according to her own confession, she had made about 12 trips.

The young girl's accomplices number no fewer than three women, and the girl under arrest used the name and even the identification card of one of them, both to purchase the airline ticket and to label her baggage.

There are several male accomplices, on whom extensive information exists. There is also information available on their contacts in the United States, which the Mexican authorities have given to the antidrug department of the neighboring country, so that action may be taken against them.

2909
CSO: 5330/47

MEXICO

MARIHUANA, PILL TRAFFICKERS GIVEN JAIL SENTENCES

7-Year Terms Ordered

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 5 Sep 81 Sec C p 3

[Text] After a year and 6 months spent completing the penal investigation of four individuals who proved to be guilty of crimes against health, the third district judge, Ricardo Rodriguez Villarreal, handed down a sentence of 7 years in prison and a fine of 10,000 pesos for each of them.

Roberto Alvarado Camacho, Antonio Soto Ramirez, Jeronimo Banda Leija and Luis Javier Rodriguez are the four subjects found guilty of crimes against health, for which each one of them will serve a 7-year term.

According to record 88/980 related to the probe of the aforementioned persons, Roberto Alvarado Camacho was charged with a crime against health in the degrees of marihuana possession and trafficking; Antonio Soto Ramirez, in the degrees of possession, trafficking and sale of psychotropic substances; and Jeronimo Banda, in the degrees of marihuana possession, transportation and trafficking; and, finally, Luis Javier, in the degrees of possession and trafficking of psychotropic substances.

These subjects were captured by Federal Judicial Police agents in March of last year. The first to be apprehended was Roberto Alvarado, during a surveillance tour of the Victoria housing development. When searched by the federal police, he was found to have two joints of marihuana, which he was selling to addicts for the sum of 100 pesos.

Upon being questioned, this individual told the federal police that Antonio Soto Ramirez, residing at 5720 Tamaulipas, was the one who was supplying the drugs at the rate of 65 pesos per "joint."

The judicial police agents, upon continuing the investigation, succeeded in arresting Soto Ramirez who, when questioned, said that he was purchasing the marihuana in Matehuala, San Luis Potosi, from an individual called "Lencho" Sanchez; whereas he was buying the psychotropic pills with Jeronimo Banda Leija, and reselling them to various addicts in the town.

The long tentacles of this ring of drug traffickers were completely dismembered when the last of the suppliers, Luis Javier Rodriguez Rodriguez, who at the time

was the proprietor of the Fleming Pharmacy, located in block 42 of Peru Street, was captured.

This individual had been selling pharmaceuticals which required a doctor's prescription on those premises, at twice their price, and his leading purchaser was Jeronimo Banda Leija.

When the entire ring was captured, they were found to have over a ton of "grass" in their possession, as well as countless toxic pills with which they had been poisoning the youth of both border ports.

This attests to the fact that the perpetrator of crime will always be punished in an exemplary manner, as in this instance wherein each one of the drug traffickers received a well-deserved sentence, as cited above, consisting of 7 years' imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 pesos.

Marihuana Growers Sentenced

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 12 Sep 81 Sec C p 3

[Text] A prison sentence of 3 years and 2 months and a fine of 3,000 pesos was the sentence handed down yesterday morning by Ricardo Rodriguez Villarreal, the third district judge, against two individuals found guilty of crimes against health.

Pedro Mendoza Alvarado, aged 42, a resident of the La Palma communal farm in the municipality of Camargo, Tamaulipas, and Sergio Salinas Gonzalez, aged 20, a resident of Comales, Tamaulipas, are the two subjects found guilty of crimes against health, as usual, the growing, harvesting, transporting and trafficking of marihuana, for which they were given a sentence of 3 years and 2 months in prison.

Record 253-980 notes that both subjects were captured by Federal Judicial Police forces on 26 July of last year, when the former of the two was engaged in planting marihuana on a plot on the La Palma communal farm in the municipality of Camargo, Tamaulipas.

When the federal police pursued the investigation to find the marihuana trafficking ring involved in the case, they succeeded in arresting Sergio Salinas Gonzalez, who was responsible for supplying the seed of the injurious grass to Pedro Mendoza.

During the questioning, as well as in the preliminary statements of the aforementioned individuals, they told the authorities that, after harvesting the harmful drug, they were selling it to several persons at the rate of 750 pesos per kilogram. They took charge of shipping it to Reynosa, Tamaulipas, where it was taken illegally into the United States to supply the black market in that country.

2909
CSO: 4330/47

MEXICO

DANGEROUS TRAFFICKER TRANSFERRED TO TIJUANA

Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 22 Aug 81 Sec B p 12

[Text] Tijuana--The Federal Judicial Police, in compliance with a warrant for arrest issued by the second district judge, Carlos Trujillo Altamirano, arrested Merced Monge Cisneros, aged 35, so that he would respond to trial No 329-79, being held against him for a crime against health.

This drug trafficker, a native of San Luis, Rio Colorado, Sonora, was captured in Mexico City and brought to this town last Tuesday under strict guard, because last year, when police forces from the neighboring country attempted to capture him, he engaged in a gun battle with them and succeeded in escaping.

As soon as the airplane arrived and the subject in custody left the plane, he was received by the Federal Public Ministry agent Torres Espinoza, and Comdr Manuel Mendoza and several members of this force, who immediately went to the state penitentiary to incarcerate Monge Cisneros, and the latter was placed at the disposal of the second district judge there.

Monge Cisneros, who was the owner of a large marihuana plantation that was discovered near San Felipe, Baja California, could not be captured on the occasion when his accomplices were arrested and his plantation destroyed, because he was not there at the time. For this reason, the warrant for his arrest was issued in 1979, and has now been implemented since he was located by the Federal Judicial Police.

Yesterday, he was ordered to be brought to the second district judge to make his preliminary statement. In this case, he is being accused as one presumed guilty of a crime against health; and, therefore, until the constitutional period for issuing the order for official imprisonment, release or release on bail expires, he will be confined in the La Mesa prison.

This drug trafficker, who has been described by the Federal Judicial Police chiefs themselves as the "fat fish" in this business, was met last Tuesday at the airport by the commander of that force himself, Manuel Mendoza, and Miguel Espinoza Martinez, serving as the regional coordinator of the permanent campaign against drug trafficking, as a replacement for Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, who is on a 2-week vacation.

2909
CSO: 5330/46

MEXICO

REHABILITATION OF FORMER DRUG PRODUCERS DESCRIBED

Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 27 Aug 81 pp 2, 10

[Text] Culiacan, Sinaloa, 26 Aug --Poverty, promiscuity and illiteracy, but mainly a strong desire for a "real economic advancement" have caused hundreds of farmers in the state to become victims of drug traffickers. Over 1,000 hectares planted with marihuana and poppies have been reintegrated for food production by the judicial and state authorities.

The farmer Gustavo Zepeda Navarrete, one of those arrested thus far this year for engaging in the illegal activity, remarked: "The hunger and poverty in which I was living caused me to fall into the clutches of the drug traffickers and to take care of their marihuana plantations. There are 14 of us in the family, and I could hardly feed them with an average of 50 pesos per day."

The tiller of the soil continued: "At a time of desperation, I decided to plant marihuana and poppies, but it was all due to my precarious situation; because the drug traffickers almost tripled my wages which I had earned when I was working honestly on my small plot of land."

Zepeda Navarrete, who has 10 children, claimed: "I am well aware that drugs are bad, but because of my lack of education I did not know the extent to which they could damage health. I am repentant, and I hope to work honestly from now on."

In this connection, the coordinator of the campaign against drug trafficking in Zone 06, which includes the states of Durango, Chihuahua, Sinaloa and part of Nayarit, Hector Aviles Castillo, commented that, by means of an extensive study and research, there has been success in rehabilitating the farmers who were victims of the public poisoners, and in providing the former with the means necessary for becoming re-incorporated into the state's productive activity.

He disclosed that, during recent months, there has been a successful recovery of over 1,000 hectares, which are again being used for food production.

He remarked: "Most of the farmers who were arrested for engaging in the injurious activity have been released, when it was proven that they were the victims of their own ignorance and of the lack of scruples of native and foreign drug traffickers."

Aviles Castillo also announced that, this morning, eight marihuana and poppy plantations located in the southern part of the state were fumigated and destroyed.

2909

CSO: 5330/46

MEXICO

BRIEFS

ARMY ANTIDRUG ACTIVITY--Nogales, Sonora, 8 September--The commander of the local military garrison, Gen Heriberto Bell Fernandez, announced that the Mexican Army would continue its campaign against drug trafficking in the area under its jurisdiction on a permanent basis, and that it has sufficient capacity to intervene directly if it should become necessary. He said that, at the instruction of the Secretariat of National Defense, the "Condor" campaign is being conducted throughout the country, so that the members of our armed institution may maintain a general alert against these illegal activities constantly. In this effort, he noted, the Army is acting in coordination with the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, through the Federal Judicial Police, detecting in a timely manner those who are trafficking in all kinds of drugs, and proceeding in accordance with the law. When asked about the current status of the border with regard to drug trafficking, Bello Fernandez said that, to date, a relative calm has been noted in this respect, owing to the intensive surveillance carried out by the federal authorities, and that a significant resurgence of that activity is not anticipated. However, he repeated that both the Army and the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic are maintaining stringent control of the area, to prevent any possible outbreak of large-scale drug trafficking which, if it should occur, would be detected and curbed immediately. With regard to the activity of the Federal Judicial Police to eradicate this type of crime in the border area, the garrison commander said that it was highly satisfactory, and that they would continue to work in a coordinated fashion, adopting along the way any measures that become necessary, depending on the way in which the circumstances appear. [Text] [Hermosillo EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 9 Sep 81 Sec D p 3] 2909

NOGALES TRAFFICKING CUT--Nogales, 28 August--A reduction of approximately 50 percent has been observed during recent months in the trafficking of drugs sent from the southern part of the republic, owing to the action of the Federal Judicial Police "mobile units" on the international highway. The commander of that force, Francisco Alejandro Hernandez, announced that the vigilance along the highway has brought magnificent results in the interception of shipments of various types of drugs, especially marihuana, which are carried to this border in order to take them to the American drug market. The surveillance was carried out on the Nogales-Benjamin Hill section of the international highway, stopping and carefully searching vehicles whose drivers had suspicious behavior, or those who were already on record or were known in the illegal traffic by the Federal Judicial Police, according to Commander Hernandez. He added that, at the instruction of the attorney general of the republic, Oscar Flores Sanchez, both the "mobile units" on the highway and the vigilance

exercised in the rural and urban areas will be maintained permanently, in an effort to reduce to a maximum this illegal business which has taken so many human lives in recent years. When asked about charges made by individuals who consider themselves offended by the action of the agents under his command, Hernandez stated that he has issued instructions for the latter to act at all times within the law, showing respect and courtesy to persons dissociated from the drug traffic. However, he said that those who feel that their interests have been damaged should submit the pertinent complaint, with the assurance that the proper investigation will be made and those responsible will be punished. [Text] [Hermosillo EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 29 Aug 81 Sec A p 12] 2909

COCAINE TRAFFICKER CAUGHT--Mexico City, 2 September (OEM)--A woman who attempted to bring a kilogram of cocaine into Mexico was arrested yesterday by the Federal Judicial Police at the capital's international airport. Evelyn Celia Antoncen, a Mexican, was supposed to meet her contact at the airport. However, this did not occur, and she was discovered by the inspector a few moments after having left the ladies' room. Evelyn's conduct aroused the suspicion of the Mexican authorities, especially after the trafficker showed aggressiveness toward those who requested a routine search of her in the inspection line. She had the drugs attached to her body, and was supposed to turn them over, in the ladies' room, to her contact, Alicia Bueno Cruz, of Ecuadorean nationality. [Text] [Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 3 Sep 81 p 4] 2909

POSSIBLE RELEASE FOR INMATES--Through an agreement on the part of the state governor, Marcial Flores Reyes, deputy director of the Coordinated Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation Services of the Secretariat of Government in Mexico City, arrived in this town yesterday in order to study the possibility of allowing over 200 prisoners who are incarcerated for federal crimes to secure their release as soon as possible. The foregoing announcement was made by Agustin Jaime Lopez, director of government of Sinaloa, who said that, during his stay, Flores Reyes would take charge of reviewing each of the records and the conduct of the individuals confined in the State Social Rehabilitation Institute (IRSS) and in the Mazatlan and Los Mochis jails, so as to enable them to become reincorporated into society. He noted that, based upon the service policy available to the official of the Secretariat of Government, he will analyze an average of 100 cases, chiefly of those imprisoned for crimes against health, as well as 50 for the town of Los Mochis and a similar number for this town, in accordance with the law on minimal standards. Agustin Jaime remarked that, apart from the fact that the government, through this type of action, is seeking to rehabilitate those who have committed a crime and who must pay society for it, it is of interest that, based on the policy of Governor Toledo Corro, the alliance for justice that will make it possible to aid and relieve the Sinaloa prison population is to be applied. It was reported that Flores Reyes himself recently released over 100 inmates who were in the Social Rehabilitation Institute in Sinaloa for the same reasons. [Text] [Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 27 Aug 81 pp 1, 2] 2909

REPORT ON PILOT PLAN--This week, the "pilot plan" of the Office of the Attorney General of Justice, which will greatly reinforce the permanent campaign against the drug traffic, is to be carried out in the northern region, which includes the jurisdiction of the Federal Judicial Police group under orders from Commander

Mario Espinoza. In making the foregoing announcement, Comdr Mario Espinoza said that sufficient equipment will have to be received to fly over the entire area, with helicopters and small planes, to detect clandestine airstrips, paths and routes used by smugglers and drug traffickers to carry out their illegal activities both from within the country to the border and vice versa. He said that Zone 2 will have to implement the pilot plan according to instructions and as it is being carried out on the national level. He also announced that there would be close surveillance in educational centers, from the secondary to other levels, as well as in certain work areas, to prevent the distribution of marihuana and other drugs and psychotropic substances. He noted that a work plan has been organized, which will be executed most forcefully, just now at the beginning of the return to school of all the students in secondary and preparatory courses, and those pursuing different university studies. There have been reports of something of this nature taking place in certain educational institutions, and all possible means will have to be used to put an end to the trafficking, distribution and use of drugs in such institutions. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 8 Sep 81 Sec B p 1] 2909

CUSTOMS OFFICIALS ACCUSED--Mexico City, 27 August (INFORMEX)--"The war of vested interests and the proliferation of 'guarurismo' have brought about genuine chaos among the personnel of the customs service at this city's international airport." This announcement was made today by a high-ranking official who stressed that, to date, 70 tons of banned goods have been inspected, including television sets, stereos, radios, tape recorders, luxury items and even oil paintings; but he explained that this action was taken by the General Customs Department and not the police, who refuse to lose their "privileges." He said that while large amounts of contraband are arriving in the Federal District from the border in trailer trucks and by rail, the customs agents are concerned with searching even the pockets of children from which their toys are often taken. The result of the foregoing is disorder in the inspection rooms, and it has caused a period of terror among both native and foreign tourists arriving in our city. He noted that travelers coming from Central and South America are really "held up" in an arbitrary manner by the narcotics police inspectors, who have no respect for age, sex or human condition, "because they see all of them as drug traffickers." He reported that the government revenue collected for the payment of import duties on the various items amounts to 50 million pesos every 24 hours. [Text] [Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 28 Aug 81 Sec A p 11] 2909

CSO: 5330/46

ST. LUCIA

EDITORIAL ASSESSES EFFORTS TO CURTAIL USE OF MARIHUANA

Castries THE VOICE in English 29 Jul 81 p 2

[Editorial: "Join Fight Against Marijuana"]

[Text]

WITHIN the recent weeks, the police have embarked on a series of raids amid clear indications that the marijuana business has expanded to unprecedented proportions.

It is now evident that there are large "estates" of marijuana growing in this country as the defiers of the Dangerous Drugs Act continue to indulge in illegal practices that constitute a serious social ill.

According to the Police, \$3 million worth of the drug was up-rooted in the Millet area two weeks ago. This was followed by another raid which netted close to \$20 million more of the drug.

In the most recent incident last Sunday, the Police say they were ambushed in the Fond St. Jacques area and shot at by a band of six youths. In the shoot-out which ensued, one youth was killed and another wounded.

It is now clear that the move by the Government some three or so years ago to upgrade the anti-drug Act to provide stiffer penalties for offenders has done nothing to check this crime.

Persons arrested and brought before the Courts "get away" with a fine or imprisonment term, or both. In most cases, fines are promptly paid, presumably with funds derived from trafficking in the drug. And while the

Courts penalise the pushers, it is the users who bear the brunt of the pain.

Earlier this year, a report prepared by the Association of School Principals revealed that the use of marijuana was now common in some of the island's schools.

Out of the school system, use of the drug has also reached new proportions. The evidence is clear that the larger percentage of drug users today is to be found among young people, upon whom, we are frequently reminded, the future of this nation so heavily depends.

We cannot allow marijuana plantations to thrive all over the country and a handful of people to exploit our youth for their own personal advancement.

By the same token, we cannot expect the police to be able to find and destroy every plantation. It is here that the assistance of the public at large is required. The fight against this menace will never be over if it is left solely to the Police.

We call on the public to join the Police in fighting the marijuana problem by reporting the location of such plantations wherever they are suspected to exist.

In so doing we will be assisting in combatting an evil that now threatens to destroy the ever-increasing band of young St. Lucians whose future is so closely linked with that of our country.

CSO: 5300/7505

AFGHANISTAN

SOVIET SOLDIERS REPORTEDLY RESORTING TO HASHISH

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 27 Sep 81 p

[Text] ALLAH JURGA, Afghanistan (AP) — Two Soviet soldiers are being held at an overrun army post here by Afghan guerrilla tribesmen who rarely take Soviet prisoners alive.

"They will remain prisoners as long as they can serve as symbols of the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan, which some people still doubt," said Muzaffruddin Khan, an Afghan Army Lieutenant-turned-insurgent who commands the small installation, located in Zabul province several kilometers from the Pakistani border.

The pair, reportedly captured three months ago north of Kabul, described time spent as members of the 85,000-man Red Army occupation force in this Central Asian country and later as captives of Hezbi Islami, perhaps the most hardline of the Muslim resistance groups.

The Soviet soldiers, both 19-year-old farmboys drafted early this year, said they were captured separately in late June near Charikar, a provincial capital 64 kilometers (40 miles) north of Kabul, the Afghan capital.

During the two-hour interview, conducted in the presence of armed guards, Khan and other Hezbi officials who interpreted, they asserted they had not gone into combat against Afghan insurgents. This was vigorously denied by Khan who maintained that the two were taken during battle, the only survivors of their respective units.

"I did not take part in any fighting during the three months in Afghanistan before my capture," said Sgt. Yuri Povarnitsyn Grigorivitch, a former tractor driver on the Expodenoki Sovkhoz state farm near Sverdlovsk, located in the Urals east of Moscow.

"But at the end of June I had a fight with another soldier outside Charikar and suddenly I decided to board a bus. I didn't know where I was going or what I would do. And that's when I was taken."

Povarnitsyn, a tall, gangling youth with the first traces of a mustache, appeared fit but covered with insect bites. He spoke of boring days at his Kabul base, lying on a bed because soldiers were not permitted to go out alone. He said some Soviet troops turned to drugs for relief.

"Hashish made us forget where we were," he said. "I tried it only twice. But others smoked as often as they could get it."

"We had no money, only chits — 13 rubles a month, usable at base shops. So some of us took bartered spare engine parts from army vehicles and traded them with local Afghans for hashish."

Povarnitsyn and Private Muhammet Kuli Yazkulyev, of the Turkmen Republic of Soviet Central Asia, said they knew before arriving in Afghanistan of the insurgency against the Kabul regime of President Babrak Karmal.

"Three families in Sverdlovsk had lost members in Afghanistan," said Povarnitsyn. "This

intervention to protect the Afghan (Marxist) revolution sounded meaningless to many people," he added.

When asked to comment on Hezbi statements that he was embracing Islam, he replied vaguely but affirmatively. "It is the religion of my father. But they (his captors) have only given me books in Farsi (Persian) which I cannot read."

Another Hezbi faction, led by Maulvi Yunus Khalis, captured a downed MIG pilot named Mikhail Gorchinsky Semyonovich last June. He was seized by Pakistani authorities shortly after he was brought to Peshawar, Northwest Pakistan, and secretly repatriated to the Soviet Union.

When word reached central Afghanistan last month that the pilot had been sent back, the Khalis faction put to death a captured Soviet soldier named Mirali Saidalivich Ruzief, 20, from Dushambe, capital of the Tajik Republic, said Abdul Haq, a faction official.

At Allah Jurga — literally, "God's council" — a collection of half buried bunkers, the two Soviets are kept in a two meter by three meter room (six by nine foot) room, festooned with banners inscribed with Islamic sayings and pictures of Hezbi leaders, their frames festooned with artificial flowers.

Outside the door sits a round-the-clock guard armed with a bayonet-fixed AK-47 assault rifle, the standard Soviet infantry weapon.

The night before the interview, they were introduced to two Western reporters by the base commander who amused himself by having the prisoners identify the pictures and inscriptions.

"There is no God but Allah and Mohammed is his prophet." Kuli and Povarnitsyn recited from memory when a beaming Khan pointed to a large green banner.

The next morning, Kuli said they were being treated well. "We are eating, sleeping, walking and sometimes we play volleyball," he said.

CSO: 5300/5306

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

OPIUM HAUL--The staff of the Department for the Prevention of Narcotics Smuggling seized 160 bags of opium with a total weight of 1,300 kg while being transported by a [word indistinct] from Kabul to Dandahar. The captured opium was officially submitted to a Kabul customs house and the issue is under investigation. According to another report the same department confiscated 14 bags of opium, with a total weight of more than 100 kg, which was being transported by a bus from Kabul to Kandahar. The opium and the driver of the bus were turned over to the Kabul customs house and the issue is being investigated. [Text] [LD140747 Kabul Radio in English to Europe 1900 GMT 13 Sep 81]

CSO: 5300/5307

IRAN

BRIEFS

REAPPOINTMENT OF NARCOTICS OFFICIAL--According to a report by the central news unit, the anti-narcotics Islamic Revolution public-prosecutor's office has announced: By decree of Mr Musavi-Tabrizi, the revolution prosecutor general of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Ahmad Zargar has been reappointed the supervisor of the anti-narcotics public-prosecutor's office and has started his activities in connection with eradicating narcotics. The anti-narcotics Islamic Revolution public-prosecutor's office has also asked the 36-million strong intelligence organization to report narcotics peddlers to security centers. [Text] [LD280416 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 27 Sep 81]

HEROIN SEIZED IN KHORASAN--Members of Torbat Heydariyeh gendarmerie narcotics department discovered 480 grams of heroin on 'Ali Moshtaqan this morning and arrested him. [GF051616 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 5 Oct 81]

HEROIN SEIZED IN AHVAZ--Members of Ahvaz Central Islamic Revolution Committee arrested an individual on 30 September for possessing 90 grams of heroin. He was delivered to the Ahvaz Islamic Revolution prosecutor's office. [GF061830 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 6 Oct 81]

OPIUM CONFISCATED IN TORBAT--Torbat Heydariyeh revolution guards arrested Nasrollah Kordinezhad yesterday for possessing 14.8 kg of opium. [GF061830 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 6 Oct 81]

OPIUM DISCOVERED IN SHIRVAN--Shirvan revolution guards have arrested a man on Sabzevar Road who had 15 kg of opium in his possession. [GF061830 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 6 Oct 81]

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The activities of Bushehr's narcotics control headquarters have been reported for the past week. During the past week 32 persons illegally attempting to cross the border as well as 3 agents for such actions were arrested in Bushehr (?Province). Two others were arrested for transporting illegal passengers to southern Persian Gulf countries. In the same period the headquarters confiscated 1 kg of opium as well as a quantity of heroin and foreign alcoholic beverages. They also discovered a place for producing alcoholic beverages and arrested four in this connection. A gambling den was also discovered, leading to the arrest of six professional gamblers. Twenty-two supporters of the hypocrite minigroup were also arrested by narcotics agents and delivered to Bushehr's Islamic Revolution prosecutor's office. [Text] [GF061630 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 6 Oct 81]

MASHHAD OPIUM HAUL--The Mashhad drug squad discovered 1.9 kg of opium while searching a house belonging to J'afar Karmizadeh and Mohmmad Javad Momayezi. They also found 50 grams of heroin in the house of an Afghan citizen named Mohammad Aiyub. All guilty parties have been turned over to judicial authorities. [GF072053 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 7 Oct 81]

DRUG SMUGGLING SENTENCES--The central news unit reports that the prosecutor's office dealing with drug smuggling cases has announced that the first and second branches of the Islamic Revolution Courts dealing with drug smuggling cases have investigated the charges brought against 665 persons by the prosecutor's office during the past 3 weeks, passing the following sentences on the accused: eight persons were sentenced to death; 8 to life imprisonment; 3 to 20 years in jail; 7 to 15 years in jail; 3 to 12 years in jail; and 119 to prison sentences varying from 1 to 10 years. A number were sentenced to prison terms of less than 1 year and the rest were freed on bail after signing an undertaking [presumably not to repeat the offence]. The files of those sentenced to death were sent to the Supreme Judicial Council to be reviewed. [Text] [LD081212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Oct 81]

OPIUM SEIZED IN RASHT--Officials of the drug squad seized 150 rolls of opium worth 2 million rials from two people in Rasht and arrested them. In Torbat Jam and Sarakhs drug squad agents arrested two individuals for possession of 7.05 kg of opium. [GF121300 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Oct 81]

MASHHAD HEROIN SEIZURE--The Mashhad antidrug squad has seized 2.5 kg of heroin and 11 kg of opium from six persons during the past few days. [GF142036 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 14 Oct 81]

BARDESKAN OPIUM JUICE--The Bardeskan Islamic Revolution Guard Corps has seized 375 grams of opium juice from one person. He has been handed over to the Bardeskan Islamic revolution court. [GF142036 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 14 Oct 81]

CSO: 5300/5308

KUWAIT

SOCIAL PROBLEMS UNDERLYING DRUG USE BROUGHT OUT

Kuwait AL-TALI'AH in Arabic No 708 2 Sep 81 p 52

[Article by Mutlaq Sa'd Suwailam: "Save Our Young People from Ruin"]

[Text] A frightening spread of hallucinogens and drugs of all types has been observed recently among Kuwaiti youth circles. This gives rise to the following questions as an attempt to find appropriate and speedy solutions to this grave manifestation. The first question is: What are the causes and motivations lying behind the interest of the young in this sort of drug addiction? The second is: Where can they obtain drugs? I will try to set forth some points briefly to respond to each question, starting with a response to the first one.

A. With regard to the causes and motivations.

1. There are the complex social problems which face young people in Kuwait, including family circumstances that go along with the ignorance of the parents on how to bring up and guide their children and the neglected role of the school in understanding the student's social problems and in guiding him properly. The student thereby lives in a social limbo from which he tries to escape by taking drugs. Moreover there is the decline in living conditions of some families that forces some young people to leave school early and to try to find a job to support the family; however, the student then bumps into bitter reality which is reflected in his personal behavior when he tries to get even with this society that is treating him in such a way and he ventures on taking drugs to forget his painful reality.

2. The lack of supervision. We all know that the student can spend half his day in school; however, he is at a loss where to spend the other half. There are no places available for the young people to spend their free time other than sitting in the streets or driving around in their cars from one area to another. This is during the school year. After it is over, the unhappy situation is even worse as there is no school taking up half the time so the whole day is free time and there is no place where the young people can develop their ability and talents and overcome the long period of free time. At this point some people might go so far as to say that there are summer clubs and athletic clubs where the student can spend his free time. To respond to this, with regard to the former, we all know the quality of the programs presented at the summer clubs and the bad treatment a young person gets at a summer club, something which makes him avoid going to it. With regard to the latter, the athletic clubs have been infected by the illnesses of tribalism, factionalism and cliquishness and if you aren't from the tribe, faction or clique of the club's board of directors, you don't have a chance of participating in any sport.

3. Neglect of the role of the information media in publicizing the harm and dangers of drugs and also the falling short by the Ministry of Health and other official quarters in searching for proper treatment for the addict by which he would be subject to psychological and physical examinations.

These are some of the causes which are conducive to the increase and intensity of the problem. As for how to obtain hallucinogens and drugs, there are many ways, including:

1. The prevalence of the drug trade, particularly by some foreign workers such as Koreans and Thais and some illegal aliens in the country who consider drugs a profitable business. The best example of that is found on the pages of the daily newspapers.
2. Some addicts obtain drugs from the hospital of psychological medicine and sell them to their associates outside the hospital at unbelievable prices.
3. There is the act of getting high by sniffing glue which is done by those who do not have the wherewithal to buy "the good stuff" because of its high cost. Glue sniffing can at times be seen in public in broad daylight near some cooperative societies.
4. Some young people studying abroad bring in drugs which they call "the good stuff" from the United States, England and some European countries and try to awaken an interest in young people here so that "they would be educated" like the American and European young people, as it was put by one of the pushers. Worse yet is the fact that these Americanized young people who push drugs try to awaken a desire or even urge the young people here, based on their "agricultural theory," to accept the idea that drugs, particularly the best grades of marijuana, are suitable for cultivation in the soil of Kuwait, as if the Kuwaiti soil were unsuitable for any type of agriculture other than growing drugs, according to the theory of our Americanized associate.

Finally, after having familiarized ourselves with the causes and with how to obtain drugs, it is incumbent upon official circles to get involved to find proper, speedy solutions to prevent this social illness that has begun to gain ground among youth circles, threatening over the long term to destroy these vital young people.

8389
CSO: 5300/4758

MALI

ANTI-DRUG COMMISSION MEETS, PROPOSES NEW MEASURES

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 22-23 Aug 81 p 5

[Unattributed article: "The National Anti-Drug Commission at Work"]

[Text] The anti-drug commission met on Saturday 15 August under the chairmanship of Yacouba Sall to review the tasks already accomplished by each of the sub-commissions in the month and a half that has passed since the first meeting.

The technical sub-commission is divided into two sub-groups, A and B.

Sub-group A, chaired by Professor Souleymane Sangare of Point-G, is responsible for identifying and detailing the extent of the phenomenon, determining the number of persons affected, defining the socio-professional categories involved and indicating likely future abuser types, for distributing medications, regulation and consumption of drugs, the ABC tables, and medical prescriptions.

Professor Sangare presented the draft of a questionnaire to be distributed to the entire medical profession throughout the territory to evaluate, wherever a medical facility exists in Mali, the professional level of those in charge of supplies of medications as well as the quantities of the latter with a view to possible limitation of them.

The chairman of sub-group A also dwelt upon the preparation and application in Mali of a health code and a code of professional practices.

Before concluding, Professor Souleymane Sangare pointed out that there was some overlapping between the work of his sub-group and that of sub-group B chaired by Professor Koumare. He therefore requested some joint meetings with sub-group B, which is responsible for destruction of fields used to grow toxic substances, for making a register of drugs with the causes that induce individuals to become addicted, supply sources and delivery lines, the laboratory for control of narcotics and other drugs, and for specific identification and classification of drugs.

With respect to the first point, "location and destruction of fields used for

growing Yamba [hashish], a letter will be sent to the minister of the interior entrusting this task to the regional governors.

The second sub-commission is chaired by Professor Mamadou Lamine Traore, and is responsible for the apprehension, detection, and treatment of addicts.

In his speech, the representative of the chairman of this sub-commission proposed a certain number of concrete measures, including alerting the public through press and radio, informing physicians of the existence in Mali of specialists in drug addiction [treatment], because it is usually general practitioners who see sick addicts.

The last two sub-commissions, the one on education and information, and the one on control, responsible for writing laws appropriate to national circumstances and the extent of the problem, made it clear that they can only operate on the basis of the findings of the first two sub-commissions.

Here and now, the sub-commission on education and information, chaired by Professor Alou Bah of [the ministry of] education, which is responsible for increasing awareness, by all available means, of the harmfulness of drugs, and for disseminating information on the measures being taken, has completed a large task of documentation and has proposed a certain number of actions: integration of the study of the ill effects of drugs into education, field studies, organization of specialists' seminars, etcetera.

The next meeting of the commission is planned for Tuesday, 15 September.

12149
CSO: 5300/4965

MALI

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED; STERNER PUNITIVE MEASURES URGED

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 15 Sep 81 p 6

[Article by Ousmane Maiga: "Eight Drug Traffickers in INTERPOL Net"]

[Text] Eight persons, including a young woman of 19, an old man of 61, and 2 disabled persons, 226 Immenoctal tablets, 24 amphetamine tablets: this is the balance-sheet from the raid organized last week by INTERPOL in Bamako underworld circles. The results are certainly not very dazzling, but the fact remains that they are thought-provoking, just the same. Drug traffic and consumption are assuming alarming proportions.

The attitude of the delinquents, nearly all repeaters, gives the impression that these social outcasts think they are fully within their rights. Indeed, devoid of any feeling of shame, remorse, or fear, they seem not to know that theirs is one of the most heinous of crimes, and they think that like any other lucrative activity, this traffic is quite legal. It would seem that these people are just pawns in a well-organized network that has so far had at its disposal an unbreachable cover.

Thus when questioned about the source of the products, the criminals give only vague answers, which hardly gives the police the clues needed to trace back to the top and consider breaking up the network in the near future.

"How, indeed, can one fight this scourge when sometimes 3 days after turning in the criminals, we encounter the same faces back in circulation, and they seem not to have admitted their crime at all," points out Inspector Diarra.

Severe penalties and heavy fines are the appropriate solutions in the authorities' war on these criminals. Thus, with the monies collected as fines, re-education centers could be built for the wretches, Inspector Diarra stated finally.

Let us hope that there will be a response to this appeal, and that these measures, once taken, will contribute to clear the public of thoughtless people and protect the naive ones.

NB: For those who may be interested, here are some names used by drug dealers in referring to their wares:

Immenoctal is also known as "plomb [lead]," "farama," "benogo," or "01."

Amphetamine: "revolution," "dilan," "perimpin."

12149

CSO: 5300/4965

AUSTRIA

HEALTH MINISTER ON DRUG PROBLEM

Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 28 Sep 81 p 10

/Article: "Steyrer: 'New Starter Drug Valium'--Drug Abuse Begins in the Classroom"

/Text/ Feldkirch--The drug problem cannot be solved by using force and drastic punishment. This was the main conclusion of a conference attended, among others, by Health Minister Kurt Steyrer. Steyrer indicated his satisfaction over the fact that the drug inquiry had been depoliticized. He was of the opinion that, apart from alcohol, such tranquilizers as Valium, liberally prescribed for school children, must be considered as starter drugs leading to addiction.

Innsbruck's criminal court judge Christian Bertel voiced doubt about the usefulness of jail sentences for addicts and also discussed the controversial Methadone treatment. Methadone as a heroin substitute, he said, should be used only on a strictly controlled basis and in conjunction with many adjunct procedures.

Health minister Steyrer emphasized that the drug problem is deeply rooted in the ethical and social domain and that neither the medical nor the legal profession could deal with it alone. "After all, there are legal narcotics," he said, referring to the 200,000 alcoholic and the 600,000 near-alcoholic Austrians, as well as to the annual death toll of 300 intoxicated drivers. According to Steyrer, the main task is not the physical, but rather the social breaking of the habit, brought about by longterm therapy. He indicated his strong opposition to legalizing marijuana as a supposedly harmless drug. Steyrer stated that "despite Salcher's red pencil," the 24 million schillings budgeted for fighting drug abuse would not be cut. Vorarlberg, the only Austrian province which so far has its own drug program, will shortly start construction of a 10 million schilling drug center.

In closing, the health minister announced the forthcoming promulgation of laws for regulating medications and pharmacists. These two legal measures should, among other things, serve to control drug abuse.

9273

CSO: 5300/2014

DENMARK

POLICE NARCOTICS SECTION CHIEF REPORTS ON DRUG SITUATION

Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 24 Aug 81 p 7

[Article by Sigyn Alenius]

[Text] Danish police hoped that drug abuse would end with the youth rebellion. But that didn't happen. The leaders of the youth rebellion are now respectable and prosperous fathers and mothers with community service jobs, responsibilities and neatly-combed hair. But drug abuse remains a problem. "We make enormous hauls all the time," says the head of the police narcotics section, Paul Gauguin. But the miserable situation simply continues to exist.

Today Denmark has 10,000 drug addicts dependent on hard drugs. It takes 600 Finnish marks a day for each one to buy drugs. Most of the money comes from robberies and prostitution. Overdoses have taken the lives of 165 people this year. No one can say how many have died as a result of illnesses stemming from lack of hygiene while shooting up or how many have committed suicide.

Enormous Problem

Drugs continue to be an enormous problem. Those affected are typically young people between the ages of 17 and 23. As a rule they start out by "just trying it once" and hashish is what they try. But they quickly go over to dangerous hard drugs, cocaine and heroin being the most commonly available in Denmark today.

Social workers and doctors once considered decriminalizing hashish to provide drug addicts with an opportunity to use something that is related to the narcotics sector but is not dangerous. But no one believes in that course today. All experience shows that hashish is a beginning. Almost 100 percent of those handled at the many treatment centers say they started out with hashish.

The police have 65 men in the narcotics division. They work around the clock in an effort to catch dealers. They make raids in parts of the city where drugs are a big problem, in bars where drugs are sold and in Christiania.

Four Boats

Denmark also has a national anti-narcotics society. Members are young people with experience in the drug environment, some of them former addicts. Parents of

addicts can also join along with idealists who hope to be able to make a contribution. Just now the society has acquired enough money to buy four old boats where 30 young people live. The boats are anchored in the harbor areas. The crews put on plays and talk with other young people.

The money to equip the four boats came from voluntary donations, from funds and a very small part came from public authorities. The goal is to travel around the country each summer. In winter the activities will consist of outreach work in big cities and offering courses, a kind of folk high school dealing with drug problems. Applications for funds have been made to the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Education. Both ministers have made positive statements but have not yet made a final decision. Much of the money comes from the efforts of society members themselves. For example the members repair and paint the boats voluntarily and without being paid.

Cultivation in Denmark

"We are also fighting the cultivation of hashish in Denmark. Recently Danish hashish has turned out to contain as many dangerous substances as the imported variety. In England sentences of up to 15 months have been handed down for the importation of Danish-grown products," said a member of the national society.

Danish Justice Minister Ole Espersen has ordered a study to find out if hash crops are really being raised commercially in Denmark. If so the practice will be prohibited, the minister said. No steps could really be taken against cultivation for personal use, he added.

Generally speaking the principle is the same as the one used in police hauls-- those caught with narcotics for their own use are usually let off with a warning. But if drugs are found in amounts clearly intended for resale they go to court. The law provides for 10 years in jail for large dealers but in practice sentences in Denmark tend to be for no more than 6 years.

Entry Port to Nordic Region

Incidentally this has been criticized by all the other Nordic lands. Copenhagen is the entrance to the rest of the Nordic market--what the Danish authorities do is thus of great importance to the entire Nordic region. But 6 years is regarded as a very stiff sentence in Denmark.

Most of the goods come from Turkey and Thailand and are smuggled further by land-- in cars--or by plane. Amsterdam and Copenhagen are the big European distribution centers with Copenhagen serving the Nordic region while Amsterdam takes care of central Europe and England.

"The narcotics market is terribly tempting," says Police Inspector Gauguin. "The money is earned so easily."

Easy Money

He mentioned a typical case: five nice boys and girls from Copenhagen and a couple of other big cities. They talked over the best way of quickly getting the money to buy cars and motorcycles they wanted. None had ever been in trouble with the police--and none had ever had anything to do with narcotics. But someone had said that was a good way to earn money fast.

This turned out to be quite correct. They invested a total of 12,000 marks, a quarter of it going to tickets to Bangkok, the rest for buying the goods. A month later it was all sold and the five were 300,000 marks richer. A return of 2400 percent in just 30 days! That was too tempting to stop, as they had originally planned to do after the first trip. But the second trip brought them into the hands of the police.

Police Powerless

"We are powerless," says Gauguin. "Many young people start while they are still in school. Hashish 'just for the fun of it.' This keeps them up late--that is the effect hashish has--so they are sleepy the next day. Take more to wake up--and become even sleepier the day after. Now they have entered the vicious circle. It doesn't take long before they try stronger things--and then as a rule it is too late to back out."

"That is our message," says 24-year-old Kjeld Pries, spokesman for the national society and a member of the crew of one of the sailing warning centers. "Say no the first time--it's easy then. It gets harder for each time one tries it. Drugs are hell," says Pries. "If only people understood that."

6578

CSO: 5300/2456

FRANCE

BRIEFS

RECORD HASHISH HAUL--Four hundred kg of hashish, a record haul, have been intercepted off Porquerolles in Var department. The drugs were drifting in an inflatable dinghy. They were recovered by the crew of the aircraft carrier Foch which was cruising in the area. [Text] [LD100602 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 8 Oct 81]

CSO: 5300/2022

ICELAND

SOCIAL WORKERS WORRIED OVER DRUG TRENDS

Reykjavik NEWS FROM ICELAND in English Sep 81 p 4

[Text] Reykjavik social workers are concerned about a new pattern that has emerged on the local drug scene in the past few months. According to ranking welfare-department sources, there are unmistakable signs of booming traffic in relatively cheap cannabis substances — and of experimentation with them by persons in their early teens.

There is evidence that the supply was especially plentiful last June. As veteran department staffer Kolbeinn Pálsson told a city newsman recently, "I have been assigned to teenage problems for a decade, and I know that this age bracket in general has far greater access to such materials than in the past."

He went on to explain that until recently cannabis use here was limited to small, coherent groups — while a trend of much wider distribution can be inferred now. "With a growing supply," Pálsson said, "more and more young people become curi-

ous enough to experiment. And when the going price becomes comparable to that of alcoholic beverages, it seems that young teenagers get tempted in some numbers."

He emphasized, however, that the situation he described has not led thus far to any serious trouble. "Generally speaking, cannabis use among people in their early teens amounts to experimentation more than anything else . . . But that kind of thing has become . . . [disturbingly] common in the 14-15 year group," Pálsson said.

Lately, a kindred worry has also been given some publicity here — namely, evidence that a sizable group of persons from this country are involved in drug sales abroad, particularly in Denmark and Sweden. Commenting on that while addressing Althing (parliament) last spring, Minister of Justice Fridjón Thórdarson said:

"A certain number in that group have become enmeshed in

strong drugs, and their return to this country obviously means a serious danger." Several Icelanders are known to be serving out prison terms for drug convictions in foreign parts. Foreign Ministry efforts to retrieve one such detainee from a jail in Morocco were reported a few weeks ago.

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