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JPRS L/10092

3 November 1981

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 51/81)



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AUSTRALIA

VICTORIA MP'S SAY DRUG RING IS INVOLVED IN MEAT SCANDAL

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 12 Sep 81 p 6

[Article by Greg Wilesmith: "Drug Ring Controls Meat, MPs Claim"]

[Excerpts] Two Victorian Liberal MPs claim that an international drug ring is involved in the meat export substitution racket.

The MPs, Mr Maurice Williams (MLA, Doncaster) and Mr Don Saltmarsh, MLC, believe that organised crime in Australia and in the United States now controls major sectors of Australia's meat and transport industries.

Mr Williams said that a director of one of Victoria's leading meat companies has links with the Las Vegas mafia.

According to the MPs meat exports are an excellent way of smuggling drugs out of Australia.

Cartons of meat stamped Australia Approved are packed into containers on board ships. Dogs trained to "sniff" narcotics find it difficult to detect drugs concealed in meat.

Neither of the MPs could provide the HERALD with any evidence to support their claims. They said that their information was privileged and sources could not be identified.

However, Mr Williams suggested that evidence to the Royal Commission into drug trafficking should be collated with that presented to Mr Justice Woodward's Royal Commission into the meat industry.

Mr Williams has had a longstanding interest in the alleged meat substitution rackets operating in Victoria.

In November 1977 he told the Federal Police that meat processed at abattoirs owned by the Melbourne City Council and licensed only for the local market, had allegedly been illegally transferred to a meatworks which was licensed for the export trade.

The police investigated the allegations, but laid no charges.

On the cartons found to contain horse and kangaroo meats the stamp read 140C. That was the stamp of Profreeze, a business name registered with Protean (Holdings) Ltd of the inner Melbourne suburb of Richmond.

Protean is a service company--it rents out its abattoirs, boning rooms and freezing stores to individual contractors and companies in the meat industry.

It says it had been leasing boning room 140C to Mr Richard Hammond, who traded as Hammond Wholesale and Retail Meats Pty Ltd.

Mr Hammond appeared in the Melbourne Magistrates Court on Tuesday on 21 charges relating to the presence of horse and kangaroo meat in export beef cartons.

No pleas were taken and Mr Hammond was released on \$10,000 bail to appear again on October 9.

The company, which operates in most States in Australia, normally employs between 1,500 and 2,000 people and has an annual turnover of more than \$100 million.

It has expanded considerably this year, entering into a share transfer deal with the Mascot Industries Ltd Group, through which it acquired that company's meat subsidiaries in NSW, Western Australia and Victoria.

One of the subsidiaries acquired was Pridham (Aust) Pty Ltd which, among other interests, operated a knackery at Dandenong, near Melbourne, where horses were slaughtered for pet food.

The Protean Company is no stranger to controversy. The terms of its lease with Richmond council have been an issue in council politics for years.

Mr Williams told the Victorian Parliament in March last year that the company's highly favorable lease had cost ratepayers "an enormous fortune."

The company is also involved in litigation with J.A. Dundas Pty Ltd., a subsidiary of Hortico (Aust) Pty Ltd, over plant and equipment at the Newmarket abattoirs, owned by the Melbourne City Council and leased to Protean.

CSO: 5300/7507

AUSTRALIA

HEROIN 'FLOOD' EXPECTED FOLLOWING RECENT POLICE SEIZURES

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 17 Sep 81 p 2

[Article by Paul Molloy: "Detectives Prepare for Busy Heroin Period"]

[Text] Australian Federal Police Drugs Unit detectives fear a flood of high-grade Middle-Eastern heroin into Australia following two seizures of the drug worth nearly \$1 million on the streets in the past week.

In the latest operation, detectives from the unit, led by Detective-Sergeant Trevor Young, raided a house in Hampden Street, Lakemba, investigating a shipment of 420 grams of heroin.

The heroin, which was concealed in a hidden compartment in the soles of two pairs of shoes, had been detected last Friday after a tip-off from Interpol.

A Lebanese couple returning to Sydney from a holiday in Lebanon aboard an Air India flight were detained at Sydney Airport by the detectives, who found the number 3 grade heroin which has a street value of more than \$600,000.

The detectives said it was 55 percent pure.

Detective-Sergeant Young said the couple were innocent victims of smugglers who asked them to take the shoes to Australia for friends.

After the shoes were opened, a powder was substituted for the heroin and the shoes stitched up again. The couple then gave the shoes to a courier.

Police said that when they raided the house yesterday afternoon they found one of the pairs of shoes in the back of an automatic clothes drier. The other pair were in a bedroom.

A 26-year-old Lakemba man will appear in the St James Court of Petty Sessions today charged with being knowingly concerned with the importation of heroin under the Customs Act.

The raid closely follows the arrest of a man at Sydney Airport a week ago who was carrying 100 grams of heroin in a plastic bag stitched into the shoulder padding of his coat.

The heroin came from the Golden Crescent area which runs through Turkey, Iran, Lebanon and Syria. There was a large opium crop there this year, which means heroin supplies will be larger than normal.

Detective-Sergeant Young said that without good intelligence inside and outside Australia it was difficult to detect this type of smuggler.

CSO: 5300/7507

AUSTRALIA

TWO NAMED IN HEARING ON NARCOTICS BUREAU 'LEAKS' TO CLARK

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 25 Sep 81 p 8

[Text]

The judge heading the Royal Commission into Drug Trafficking yesterday introduced the names of two officers of the former Federal Narcotics Bureau in the context of discussion about the officer alleged to be in the pay of drug dealer Terrence Clark.

Douglas and Isobel Wilson, who had been couriers for Clark's drug smuggling ring, had alleged in June, 1978, that a senior bureau officer in Sydney, who was an ex-policeman, had been the "leak" to Clark.

Mr Justice Stewart said in the Commission yesterday that the bureau's acting commander at the time was a "Mr Mullaly" and its commander was Ray Phillips. Both were ex-policemen.

He named the officers during evidence from Robert Alfred Turner, a former bureau investigator and now with the Crime Intelligence Section of the Australian

Federal Police in Brisbane.

Mr Turner said the Wilsons alleged that Clark, a convicted murderer and head of the Mr Asia syndicate, was paying \$25,000 a year for material from the bureau.

Clark had smashed the arms and legs of a drug courier with a baseball bat after hearing a tape recording between the courier and two narcotics agents, Mr Turner said.

The Royal Commission, chaired by Mr Justice Stewart, of the NSW Supreme Court, is investigating the activities of Clark and his associates.

Discussing the Wilsons' allegations, Mr Turner said Douglas Wilson claimed: "Clark is paying one of your top narcs in Sydney.

"It's either the chief or second-in-charge. He's an ex-policeman."

Asked who was the chief at the time, Mr Turner was interrupted by Mr Justice Stewart.

The judge said Mr Mullaly was the acting commander and spelled the name. He said Mr Ray Phillips was "the actual commander."

Both were former policemen, he said.

Mr Turner then told the commission there were a number of former policemen in the bureau throughout Australia.

Later Mr Turner said Mr Mullaly and Mr Phillips were "two fine officers." If there was a leak from the bureau, "they would be far from it, these two gentlemen."

The Royal Commission was also told yesterday that a major police operation, code-named Crest, was under way when Clark and several associates were caught in Brisbane in January, 1978.

The secret operation, which involved State and Federal police, the bureau, and other enforcement agencies was concerned with the yacht carrying a load of drugs down the east Australian coast.

Told that Clark had admitted importing 400,000 Thai sticks into Australia on a yacht, Mr Justice Stewart said it was "a remarkable coincidence" Clark was in Brisbane when the Anoa was off the Queensland coast.

CSO: 5300/7508

AUSTRALIA

ROYAL COMMISSION ON DRUG TRAFFICKING HEARS TESTIMONY

Passport Racket

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 9 Sep 81 p 1

[Article by Marsali MacKinnon: "Judge Hits at 'Loose' Control of Passports"]

[Excerpt]

THE Department of Foreign Affairs disclosed yesterday about 5000 Australian passports were lost or stolen each year. It admitted people could easily "trade" passports for drugs or money and re-enter Australia "clean" because of loose passport controls.

The department said most passports were lost or stolen in South-East Asia.

The director of the department's passport division, Mr Kevin Gray, told the Royal Commission into Drug Trafficking that the department detected only about six "recycled" passports a year.

And the commissioner, Mr Justice Stewart, said because of the looseness of the passport checking system it would be "impossible to know how many illegal passports there are".

He said people were possibly using the stolen passports to travel in the main drug-producing countries, then substituting genuine passports to re-enter Australia. The genuine passport would not have stamps recording entry to South-East Asian countries.

He criticised government

moves to stop the copying of passports as "shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted".

The royal commission, appointed by the Federal Government to inquire into drug crimes after the Mr Asia trial in Britain this year, moved from Sydney to Canberra yesterday.

The commission is inquiring into the activities of drug ring boss Terrence John Clarke, also known as Alexander James Sinclair, and into the deaths of two of his drug couriers, New Zealand couple Isobel and Douglas Wilson.

Mr Gray, told the commission the department did not check passport application forms unless there was some suspicion about the applicant. Such checks would be "beyond the physical staffing resources of the department".

"Unless there is a reason to check, the application goes straight through," he said.

More passports were lost in South-East Asia than in any other region, and "we think most are attributable to theft". It seemed the passports were being used for travel between other countries, not to and from Australia.

Questioned by Mr Justice Stewart, he conceded that people could use their pas-

sports to "trade", either by selling them or swapping them for drugs and then reporting them stolen.

Mr Justice Stewart said even a person on bail on a drug charge who had to forfeit his passport and report regularly to police would find it "very easy" to get another passport.

"If that person wanted to, he could go to, say, Melbourne from Sydney with a false birth certificate, fill in the application form, have a photograph taken, and that's all there is to it," he said.

It seemed "very simple" for people to obtain passports illegally, even if their names were listed on a passport register outlining criminal convictions, suspected terrorist activities or court orders restraining movement from the country.

Mr Justice Stewart dismissed evidence by Mr Gray that the Government had taken steps to make it harder to copy passports.

NEWSPAPERS

He said: "That is shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted.

"You have got to go to the source and stop the falsifying of documents such as birth certificates."

Sylvester Recommendations

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 10 Sep 81 p 1

[Article by Marsali MacKinnon: "Petty Jealousies Hamper New Crime Unit, Inquiry Told"]

[Text]

PETTY jealousies and a lack of trust among Australia's police forces were allowing organised crime to gain an increasing national foothold, the director of the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence told a royal commission yesterday.

The director, Mr Fred Sylvester, a former Victorian policeman, also said that the bureau should be allowed to use wire taps to gather information.

He recommended the establishment of a Federal Crime Commission, wider powers for his own organisation and more contact with overseas drug and intelligence agencies to allow Australian police to fight entrenched organised crime effectively.

He was giving evidence to the Royal Commission on Drug Trafficking in Canberra.

Mr Sylvester said that organised crime had spread from State to State and no individual State could control it.

The commission, which is in the second day of its Canberra sittings, is headed by Mr Justice Stewart.

It is inquiring into the activities of drug ring boss Terrence John Clarke, also known as Alexander James Sinclair, and the violent deaths of two of his drug couriers, New Zealand couple Isobel and Douglas Wilson.

Mr Sylvester said the biggest problem facing the recently-

formed ABCI was the existence of "petty jealousies" between various branches of police forces.

Although the ABCI has been set up to try to overcome the lack of trust between Australian police forces, "I can't see how a criminal intelligence unit will give over its intelligence to another branch which can then make the glory of the arrest".

But he said "plans had been formulated" to overcome the divisions within national police forces.

Police commissioners had held their first meeting on Tuesday to discuss the ABCI's work, and to set the bureau's first national intelligence target.

He said he could not disclose this target.

He said the Williams Inquiry into drug trafficking had recommended that the ABCI should be the responsible body allowed to use listening devices to gather intelligence "rather than the federal police".

During overseas visits, he was "looked at in amazement as an officer of an intelligence unit which didn't have the authority to wire tap".

The officer in charge of the dog detector training unit in the Department of Business and Consumer Affairs said drug-tracking dogs had detected large hauls of narcotics since they were introduced in Australia in 1976.

Officer Ian Foster told the commission that 333 drug hauls had been detected by the dogs in the past five years.

The Federal Dog Detector Unit at present used 45 dogs, in all State capitals, and expected to have 50 at work by Christmas.

Continuing Flow of Heroin

Melbourne THE AGE in English 16 Sep 81 p 5

[Article by Aileen Berry: "'Asia' Case Did Not Halt Heroin Flow, Inquiry Told"]

[Text]

The break-up of the Mr Asia drug syndicate had not halted the flow of heroin on to Melbourne streets, the Stewart Royal Commission on Drug Trafficking heard yesterday.

Detective Senior Sergeant Graham Bell told Mr Justice Donald Stewart that heroin was still freely available and that the street price had remained stable at \$50 a capsule since 1978. He said the syndicate headed by Terrence Clark, was one of many illegal organisations bringing heroin into Australia.

Sergeant Bell has been the officer in charge of the administrative section of the Victoria Police Drug Bureau since April 1978. In that time, he said, the number of drug offences had decreased, partly because of the formation of special squads which dealt with drug users and traffickers.

Asked by Mr Cedric Hampson, QC, assisting the Royal Commission if the break-up of the Clark syndicate had contributed to the decrease, he said: "No. Apart from the various occasions where there may be a shortage of heroin on the streets, it appears to be readily available."

Sergeant Bell said the heroin was marketed in capsules — "Contac 500 capsules" — on the streets for between \$50 and \$55. "I have never heard of the price going beyond that," he said. The purity of the heroin in the capsule was between 5 and 10 per cent.

He described a shift in emphasis by organised crime in the State, from big burglaries to the more profitable drug importation. "I believe that some of the better-known criminals around Melbourne decided there was much more money to be made bringing heroin into the country than

breaking into warehouses," he said.

Sergeant Bell told the commission there were rumors that people outside the traditional criminal element were involved either directly, or indirectly through the injection of money into drug businesses. But he stressed that there was no evidence to support this.

Around 10 large groups were importing heroin into Australia, Sergeant Bell said, with no "Mr Big" at the top of the pyramid. "These groups know one another and if one group is short of heroin, they get it from another group," he said.

Mr Justice Stewart: The Clark syndicate was just one of many such organisations?

Sergeant Bell: Yes, sir.

Mr Justice Stewart: And the fact that this has been broken up does not seem to have made much difference so far as the arrival of heroin in this country?

Sergeant Bell: That is so, yes.

He said the groups' activities followed the conventional pattern

of organised crime — a loose confederation rather than one body headed by one man. Mr Hampson asked: "You don't necessarily have a hit man yourself, but you know where you can get one, is that it?" Sergeant Bell agreed. Occasionally the groups would "fall out" and violence would erupt, he said.

The difficulty with the various organisations, Sergeant Bell said, was that the higher up the pyramid a criminal got, the more difficult it was for police to get a conviction. The top men took fewer risks and were less likely to handle the heroin themselves.

He produced figures on drug offences for the Royal Commission which showed that the

numbers of armed robberies for drugs, pharmacy burglaries and raids on doctors' cars had dropped between 20 per cent and 50 per cent from 1980 to 1981.

"I believe this indicates that heroin is freely available in the streets of Melbourne at the moment," Sergeant Bell said.

He told the Royal Commission, sitting in Melbourne for the first time, that he believed couriers "not known to the police" were recruited by the various organisations. These couriers usually had a valid reason for visiting an overseas country and were provided with a means for concealing the drugs for the return trip.

The drug addicts themselves had to resort to stealth to get the money to support their habits. He described the typical heroin addict as under 25, and unemployed. "He lets his health go, lives in squalid conditions and thieves," he said. Although addicts were five times more likely to be men than women many of the women working in massage parlors were heroin users.

In the past, stolen color television sets were a popular form of drug currency, with one TV worth one capsule of heroin, he said.

Mr Hampson: They were as negotiable as dollar notes?

Sergeant Bell: Well, \$50 was what they were worth.

The Royal Commission has been set up to investigate the activities of Terrence John Clark, who is wanted in Australia for the murders of New Zealand drug couriers Douglas and Isabel Wilson.

Clark is serving a life sentence in prison in England following his conviction, under the name Alexander James Sinclair, for the murder of his former drugs partner Christopher Martin "Mr Asia" Johnstone.

CSO: 5300/7506

AUSTRALIA

WA OPPOSITION PROPOSES AMENDMENTS TO DRUGS BILL

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 9 Sep 81 p 9

[Text]

The 13 proposed Opposition amendments to the WA Government's new Misuse of Drugs Bill aim at one of its most controversial provisions.

One would change a provision of the Bill which makes it an offence to be found on premises being used to smoke drugs.

A person would be acquitted if he proved that he neither believed, suspected or had reason to suspect that a substance was a prohibited drug or plant.

Another amendment would require proof that a person caught with a pipe and other utensils for smoking drugs had used them or that they had been used with his permission.

FORCE

Most of the other amendments, moved by the Opposition spokesman on police matters, Mr T. H. Jones (Collie), deal with the use of force by policemen searching for drugs.

The amendments would require the police to use

such force "as is necessary in the circumstances."

Two other proposed Opposition amendments would:

- Remove mandatory sentences for people convicted of certain offences or of conspiring to commit offences.

- Require certificates from analysts and botanists to be made available to the person charged or his or her solicitor at least 21 days before trial.

An amendment to the Bill proposed by the Minister for Police, Mr Hassell, would require a person to be searched by a person of the same sex or by a medical practitioner.

Notice of the amendments is before the Legislative Assembly.

The Opposition continued its attack on the Bill during the second reading debate in the Assembly last night.

Mr J. F. Grill (Lab. Yilgarn-Dundas) said that Mr Hassell was not prepared to listen to the lawyers, doctors and royal commission and would bring down legislation that would be harmful to WA and its youth.

The Opposition Whip, Mr T. H. Bateman (Canning), said that the Bill eroded civil liberties.

Mr B. R. Blaikie (Lib. Vasse) said that the Bill echoed the sentiments of most sound West Australians.

Opposition speakers had taken a soft approach to the drug problem.

The debate is continuing.

CSU: 5300/7506

AUSTRALIA

NETHERLANDS DRUG SUPPLY LINK CUT WITH ARREST IN PERTH

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 12 Sep 81 p 32

[Text] A heroin connection between the Netherlands and Australia was smashed when members of the police drug squad arrested Frank Colangelo (23) in Perth.

As a result of Colangelo's cooperation, the source of the drug was traced to the Netherlands and the Dutch supply was broken with the help of Interpol.

Colangelo, a therapist, of Selden Street, North Perth, appeared in the Supreme Court yesterday for sentence on a charge of possessing heroin with intent to sell or supply it.

He had admitted the offence, which occurred in August last year at North Beach.

The court heard that members of the drug squad kept Colangelo under observation before stopping him outside a chiropractor's clinic where he worked.

Syringe

A search was made of his vehicle. When the dashboard was removed, the police found a syringe, needles and a package containing heroin.

Colangelo was taken to his home, where he was stripped. More heroin was found hidden in his underpants.

Mr Justice Smith said that the pre-sentence report contained the all-too-familiar story of a person starting on cannabis and progressing quickly to hard drugs.

As a result of treatment, Colangelo had overcome his drug problem.

But thanks to his help, a previously-unknown source of supply of the drug had been cut off and other people were arrested and dealt with by the courts.

Colangelo was placed on probation for two years on condition that he report as necessary to the Alcohol and Drug Authority. He was also ordered to do 100 hours community service work.

CSO: 5300/7506

AUSTRALIA

ELEVEN ARRESTS, DRUGS SEIZED IN NORTH QUEENSLAND RAID

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 24 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

CAIRNS. — Police swooped on communes in north Queensland yesterday, grabbing heroin worth more than \$500,000.

Eleven people from Cape Tribulation, Atherton and Cairns were arrested in connection with the possession and selling of hard drugs including heroin, cocaine, morphine, hashish and marijuana.

The regional superintendent of the Far Northern Region, Supt Tony Murphy, said yesterday 388 grams of heroin had been seized by police in Cairns alone and was estimated to have a street value of more than \$500,000.

Supt Murphy said state and Federal Police and Customs officers combined forces to obtain evidence of trafficking of hard drugs in Cairns and Cape Tribulation.

He said two men and one woman from Cape Tribulation were expected to appear in the Cairns Magistrates Court today.

Two men, one who had absconded while on bail from Melbourne on drug

charges, the other an ex-SAS soldier who had absconded while on bail from Cairns, were understood to be among the people arrested.

Supt Murphy said: "Two drug squad police were at Cape Tribulation for the last few weeks and at one time both of the policemen were held at gunpoint." Both the policemen escaped without injury, Supt Murphy said.

Supt Murphy said a .45 calibre automatic pistol used to threaten police, a pump-action shotgun and two .22 calibre rifles were seized.

"Police were unable to recover a .45 calibre automatic gun or a derringer which was in the possession of a female who was in the company of two other men" he said.

Simultaneous to the raid at Cape Tribulation, combined police force raids were carried out in the Cairns area.

Supt Murphy said seven people were taken into custody in Cairns on charges relating to hard drug trafficking. As well as the large amount of heroin, police seized instruments used for administering hard drugs and large sums of money, Supt Murphy said.

[Editor's Note: In a follow-up report on 25 September, page 14, THE COURIER-MAIL said: "Seven people including two women appeared in the Cairns Magistrate's Court yesterday on drug-related charges following three simultaneous police raids in far north Queensland on Wednesday. Six were remanded in custody and did not enter a plea. The seventh, James Warwick Manning, 24, gardener, of Cape Tribulation, pleaded not guilty to a charge of possessing marijuana and was remanded on \$500 bail until January 11 next year.

["The six who appeared before Mr Scanlan, SM, were: Douglas Richard Jensen, 38, unemployed, of Cape Tribulation, charged with possession and cultivation of marijuana from May 1 to September 23 this year. He was remanded to appear again today. Steven Geoffrey Bloomfield, 37, fisherman, of no fixed address, charged with possession of marijuana and with failing to appear in court after a bench warrant for his arrest was issued in Cairns on June 9, 1980 on a charge of possession of heroin for sale. He was remanded until today. Wayne Norman Waterson, 30,

unemployed, of Creedy Street, Cairns, appeared on six separate charges, including two of selling morphine and cocaine in Cairns on September 8 and 11. He was remanded until next Monday. Murray Francis Keegan, 29, fisherman, of Creedy Point, Cairns, was charged with selling morphine on September 11 in Cairns and was remanded until today. Linda Maureen Cardwell, 29, pensioner, of The Esplanade, Yorkey's Knob, near Cairns, was charged with selling heroin on September 11 in Cairns and was remanded until today. Stephanie Kerri Willis, 17, unemployed, of no fixed address, appeared on a charge of attempting to obtain a dangerous drug in Cairns and on a second one of possessing \$10 for the purpose of obtaining drugs. She was remanded until today on both charges.

["Four other people appeared in court on charges arising from further raids carried out yesterday."]

CSO: 5300/7508

AUSTRALIA

NEW DRUG LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN VICTORIA PARLIAMENT

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 24 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] Melbourne--Drug traffickers face up to 25 years jail and fines of as much as \$250,000 under legislation introduced in the Victorian Parliament yesterday.

The Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Bill, brought in by the Victorian Health Minister, Mr Borthwick, also provides for confiscation of assets of traffickers.

The maximum fine of \$250,000 for trafficking in a drug of dependence is \$50,000 higher than that recommended by an inter-departmental working party on the drug problem.

The working party's report provided the basis of the new legislation.

This provision covers narcotics such as morphine, opium and its derivatives, such as heroin, and synthetic drugs such as methadone.

Mr Borthwick said the Government had rejected the working party's recommendation that courts should have the option of imposing a fine or a jail term, or both.

"The Government takes the view that trafficking in drugs of dependence is such a heinous offence that the courts should not have an option of imposing a fine in lieu of a jail sentence," he said.

The Bill sets a maximum penalty of two years jail and/or \$5000 fine for unlawful possession of a drug of dependence.

Trafficking in a restricted substance, such as barbiturates will carry a maximum 10 years jail or \$100,000 penalty or both. Possession will incur up to two years jail, a \$5000 fine or both.

CSO: 5300/7508

AUSTRALIA

DRUG OFFENSES INCREASING IN QUEENSLAND, COMMISSION TOLD

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 24 Sep 81 p 12]

[Excerpt] Heroin was readily available throughout Queensland, the Brisbane Drug Squad chief told the Royal Commission of inquiry into drug trafficking in Australia yesterday.

Insp. Eric Patrick Deveney told the commission hearing in Brisbane there was now twice the amount of heroin available on the the streets that there was 12 months ago.

He said fewer drug addicts were registering for methodone treatment in Queensland this year. The Royal Commissioner, Mr Justice Stewart, said that with more heroin around, fewer addicts would have to turn to "the crutch of methodone."

Insp. Deveney said there had been a 20 percent increase this year in offences relating to hard drugs, including heroin and LSD.

There had also been a "sizeable increase" in the number of offences in the state relating to cannabis and hashish.

He said cocaine was readily available in Queensland and LSD, which had been scarce for some time, was "coming back on."

The commission is inquiring into possible drug trafficking and related activities of Terrence John Clark, also known as Alexander James Sinclair, and his associates.

(Clark, reputed to be the head of an international drug ring called the Organisation, is serving a life sentence in England for the murder of Martin Johnstone, the "Mr Asia" of the Australian-New Zealand-British heroin trade).

Insp. Deveney agreed with Mr Justice Stewart that the supposed cessation of Clark's operations had not made any difference to the availability of heroin in Queensland.

The main source of heroin was still importation through overseas couriers--the method the commission has been told Clark adopted.

"If you knock one down, another one pops up," Mr Justice Stewart said. He supposed it was because of the enormous profits that could be made.

CSO: 5300/7508

AUSTRALIA

HEROIN SEIZED, FOUR HELD; POLICE BELIEVE DRUG RING BROKEN

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 19 Sep 81 p 5

[Text] **SYDNEY: The Federal police believe they broke up a major drug ring yesterday when they seized heroin worth at least \$1 million in a raid on a flat in suburban Double Bay.**

The police arrested two men and two women.

The women had arrived at Kingsford Smith Airport on a 6.30am Qantas flight from Singapore.

The police said that they had a kilogram of high-grade heroin taped to their bodies.

Customs officers allowed them through and the police followed the pair to the Double Bay flat where they met the two men.

The four-year-old son of one of the women also was at the flat.

The police alleged that the group had been operating between South-East Asia and Australia for about four years.

The ring normally used women couriers who taped the heroin under their clothing, it was alleged. Trips were made regularly between Australia and a number of Asian countries.

Customs officers and the police had kept them under surveillance for some time before yesterday's raid.

Detectives said they thought that yesterday's arrests signalled the end of the ring.

Though there were

others involved, they were unlikely to continue the courier system from South-East Asia.

The women, one aged 19 and one in her mid 20s, and the men, both in their mid 30s, were taken to federal police headquarters in Sydney for questioning.

The police said they would appear in the Central Court this morning.

A police spokesman said that detectives took special precautions to protect the child during the raid.

He was allowed to remain with his mother after the arrests and was being cared for by a policewoman.

[Editor's Note: Reporting the same police action, Brisbane's THE COURIER-MAIL in English on 19 September 1981, page 4, said, "Three people were charged last night after police seized heroin worth an estimated \$1 million. Police said a New Zealand woman, 19, was charged with possessing prohibited imports. The charge came less than two hours after two men of Italian origin faced similar charges. All three are due to appear in Sydney's Central Petty Sessions Court today. A fourth person--another young New Zealand woman--also was arrested after police swooped on a house in the Sydney harborside suburb of Double Bay yesterday. She was still being questioned last night by Federal Police."

[The report added, "A Federal Police spokeswoman said police seized one kilogram of high grade heroin in the raid. She said police had broken into a narcotics smuggling ring but believed the ring leaders were still at large and investigations would continue."]

CSO: 5300/7508

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

HEROIN CASE SENTENCE--A young woman described as the able lieutenant in a \$1 million heroin ring was convicted yesterday on charges of trafficking drug. A Criminal Court jury found Cheryl Joy Cornish, 27, of no fixed address, guilty of one charge of conspiracy to traffic in heroin, and three charges of trafficking in heroin during 1980. Miss Cornish, pleaded not guilty to the charges. She was acquitted of two other charges of trafficking. Mr Justice Murray remanded her for plea and sentence tomorrow. Three other people accused of involvement in the drug business were acquitted. They were Donna Lee Morphett, 24, of Fitzgerald Street, South Yarra; Cheryl Lee-Ann Heinrich, 19, of Grosvenor Street, Balaclava, and Robert Maxwell McClure, 35, of Summerhill Road, East Reservoir. [Text] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 16 Sep 81 p 19]

CSO: 5300/7507

BURMA

BRIEFS

OPIUM SEIZURE IN MOULMEIN--Acting on information provided by a responsible person, station Commander U Tha Sint, area-in-charge Lance Corporal Tin U Lay and a police squad of Moulmein's Dine-wunkwin police station, together with ward people's councillors, on 30 September searched two suspects at the corner of Thukha-wadi Road, Shwemyaing Thiri Ward. The search party found 2.4 viss [1 viss equals 3.6 pounds] of black opium worth more than 8,000 kyat. The two men--ata, alias Khin Maung Shwe, 21, of Haw Street, No 1 ward, Kalaw Township; and U Kyaw Zaw, 60, of Kyaikchin Village tract, Pyinmana--were charged under sections 6.B, 7.B of the narcotic drugs law. [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 6 Oct 81 p 6 BK]

DRUGS SUPPRESSION IN LASHIO--Under the drugs suppression campaign conducted in Lashio Township from 1 to 20 September 1981, sellers, carriers and users of narcotic drugs were arrested. A total of 36 persons involved in 18 cases were charged, and heroin weighing 1.8756 kilograms and worth about 230,000 kyat and opium weighing 22.6483 kilograms and worth more than 50,000 kyat were seized. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 13 Oct 81 p 4 BK]

OPIUM SEIZURE AT RAIL STATION--At 1500 on 24 September, over 9 viss [1 viss equals 3.6 pounds] of raw opium worth more than 30,000 kyat sealed in condensed milk tins were seized at Mandalay Railway Station from Tin Ma Yin Hwan, Maung Lone and Maung Yan Chun Yu of No 5 ward, Lashio. The three, who were about to board the Myitkyina train for Mohnyin, were charged under sections 6B, 7B and 10B of the narcotic drugs law by the railways police. [Text] [BK161251 Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 1 Oct 81 p 5]

CSO: 5300/4523

HONG KONG

GROWING NUMBER OF YOUNG DRUG PUSHERS WORRIES GOVERNMENT

Narcotics Offenses Double

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 28 Sep 81 p 15

[Article by Olivia Sin]

[Text]

The Government is worried about the dramatic increase in the number of young drug pushers this year, especially in the new towns, a prominent community leader said yesterday.

The increase has been especially noticed in recent months with the large amount of cheap heroin available, said Mr Karl Stumpf, of the Action Committee Against Narcotics.

Mr Stumpf, who is also vice-chairman of the Hong-kong Community Council, said the number of youngsters involved in narcotics offences from January to August this year had doubled compared with the same period last year.

About 250 young people, aged from 14 to 21, were found involved in drug offences this year.

Most of them sell drugs for the sake of "easy money," but are not consumers themselves, Mr Stumpf said.

"But their involvement will increase their chances of taking drugs and becoming addicts," he warned.

"Besides, their activities may lead to more people falling prey to drugs."

Mr Stumpf was speaking after the opening ceremony

yesterday of the Central and Western District anti-narcotics campaign.

The ceremony, in Edinburgh Place, attracted an audience of about 2,000 people.

A worrying trend, Mr Stumpf said, is that drug offenders are operating in the new towns and the New Territories.

Residents of new towns experiencing adaptation difficulties could be vulnerable to drugs, he said.

"Some of them who are frustrated about their places and job prospects in new towns might turn to drugs as a means of escape.

"And this is causing the Government concern," he said.

To tackle the problem, Mr Stumpf, chairman of ACAN's preventive education and publicity sub-committee, said ACAN will step up its campaign against drugs in the new towns.

ACAN has also recruited 300 young volunteers to help with the publicity drive, he said.

He was impressed by the large number of volunteers willing to give up their leisure time.

"We hope they will reach out to other young people and show them the right path."

Mr Stumpf also urged the

Government to allocate more money to anti-drugs education and publicity.

"One pound of prevention is more important than a ton of cure.

"We need more money to provide good advertisements and sell the concept, just like other successful consumer goods," he said.

"Continuous effort must be made to educate people about the evils of drugs."

He said it was a pity that so much more money was spent on law enforcement than on preventive education.

A Government spokesman at the opening said the Government had set aside about \$1.4 million for preventive education this financial year.

The spokesman said a large-scale anti-narcotics campaign, costing \$150,000, will be launched in Shatin in February next year.

Mr Stumpf also urged that a separate department be set up to deal with all problems faced by young people.

"I feel the present effort is too fragmented. It is being split among the Social Welfare Department, the Education Department, the Urban Services Department and the Labour Department," he said.

More would be done if the responsibility was held by one department, he said.

School Antidrug Campaign

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 1 Oct 81 p 12

[Text]

The Government is stepping up its anti-narcotics campaign in schools in a bid to curb drug trafficking among students, it was learned yesterday.

Officers from the narcotics division have been making the rounds in schools to give talks on the evils of drug abuse.

The division plans to produce a film warning youngsters of the danger of "selling drugs for easy money."

The division's acting senior information officer, Mr Peter Ma, said the Government is very concerned about the increase of young drug pushers.

He said the number of youngsters involved in narcotics offences from January to August this year had doubled compared with the same period last year.

CSO: 5320/9094

HONG KONG

RECORD OPIUM SEIZURE SENDS TWO MEN TO JAIL FOR 5 YEARS

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 13 Oct 81 p 17

[Text]

Two men who were arrested with what was described by the authorities as the largest seizure of prepared opium in Hongkong since 1969 were yesterday each sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

Fung Siu-sun (25), hawker, and Yik Tsz-wai (23), unemployed, pleaded guilty before Mr Justice Baber in the High Court to possessing \$10 million worth of prepared opium for unlawful trafficking.

Acting assistant principal Crown counsel G. J. Plowman said at 8.30 am on April 5, the defendants were seen by customs officers leaving the motor vessel, Lu Chiang, at the Western Anchorage.

The vessel had arrived two days earlier from Singapore and Korea.

The defendants passed down two cartons, a suitcase and a hold-all to a waiting walla walla before boarding it.

The walla walla then headed towards Yaumati, but instead of stopping as ordered by a customs launch, it accelerated.

When it was eventually intercepted at the southern approach to the Yaumati typhoon shelter, the defendants jumped overboard.

Customs officers also jumped into the sea and brought them back to the walla walla.

On board the boat, customs officers found the cartons, the suitcase and the hold-all containing packets of opium.

Mr Plowman said the packets contained a total of 82.67 kilos of prepared opium. It was the largest seizure of its kind since 1969.

At the time of the seizure, the market value of dehydrated prepared opium was about \$125,000 per kilo.

Mr Patrick Yu appeared for the defendants.

CSO: 5320/9096

NEW ZEALAND

HEROIN HAULS IN 9 MONTHS TRIPLE TOTAL FOR ALL OF 1980

Wellington EVENING POST in English 21 Sep 81 p 22

[Article by Kaye Calder]

[Text]

Amounts of heroin reaching New Zealand have increased dramatically in the past nine months. Already police have tripled the total seizure for the whole of last year.

For the first six months of this year, police seized 770.89 grams of the illicit drug, compared to 219.77gms in the equivalent period last year.

Morphine seizures are up from 72.04gms last year to 840.77gms for the period ending June 30. There has also been one major opium seizure in Auckland.

The increases place greater significance on the just-announced appointment of Detective Inspector Paul Fitzharris to Singapore as New Zealand's third liaison office in South-east Asia.

Intelligence on illicit drug trafficking from South-east Asia's Golden Triangle through to New Zealand will be stepped up from November when Mr Fitzharris, the present co-ordinator of the

National Drug Intelligence Bureau at Police National Headquarters, takes up his new post.

Police have been pressing for a posting to Singapore for several years. The three-year appointment was finally approved by Government last month.

Detective Chief Inspector Laurie Galbraith is already based in Bangkok, and Detective Inspector Lin Sinton in Sydney.

Establishing liaison posts in South-east Asia has played, and will continue to play, a big part in drug detection in this country, says Mr Fitzharris.

Not only have police stopped large quantities of drugs from reaching New Zealand but intelligence gleaned in the area has also meant an increase in the number of prosecutions for hard drugs which would otherwise have gone undetected.

"Some of our biggest seizures are made not in New Zealand but in foreign countries," said Mr Fitzharris.

Also on the plus side are the considerable benefits in gathering evidence on New Zealand criminals travelling through Asia on drug-buying operations.

This in turn gives an added impetus to investigations preventing the flow of drugs in New Zealand.

Police know that several New Zealanders are well-established drug operators.

Some are using their contacts from the "Mr Asia" ring heyday, but new groups are constantly emerging.

As a liaison officer, Mr Fitzharris does not have any powers as such as a police officer in Singapore.

The job revolves around close ties with local authorities and other law enforcement agencies from Australia, the US and Canada.

Mr Fitzharris said there is a commitment and spirit of international co-operation to stop the flow of drugs in the area.

Responsible for drug activity in Malaysia and Indonesia, he sees Singapore as a re-distribution centre for drugs rather than a purchasing place.

Malaysia is a traditional buying region for rock heroin, however. Recent patterns have seen an emphasis on rock heroin instead of the white powder heroin.

But it is as a redistribution centre for couriers that Singapore comes into its own.

There have been attempts, for example, to import cocaine from South America through Singapore, but would-be operators have come up against tough local controls.

The New Zealand liaison officers will also be monitoring the increased opium production that flows through South-east Asia from countries like Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan.

Political unrest, particularly in Iran, has meant that some of the drugs have not been coming out.

Nepal too is still a major source for cannabis resin.

Police believe the heroin increase could be part of the bumper crop harvested in the Golden Triangle this year, but some morphine is still filtering through from India.

CSO: 5320/9095

NEW ZEALAND

SEIZURE OF OPIUM IN AUCKLAND ONE OF LARGEST RECORDED

Drug Source Unknown

Wellington EVENING POST in English 22 Aug 81 p 1

[Text] Auckland, Today (PA)--South Auckland detectives are trying to pin down the source of more than \$250,000 worth of opium seized in a Sandringham street yesterday in one of the biggest hauls made in New Zealand.

The team of drug squad detectives headed by Detective Sergeant Stu Magnall, acting on a tip-off, staked out a car and house in the street and pounced at mid-morning, seizing two boxes containing about 4.6kg of raw opium and arresting two men.

Two middle-aged men were remanded without plea on a charge of possessing opium for supply or sale when they appeared in the Otahuhu District Court today.

Mr Bruce Laing JP remanded them in custody until Tuesday and granted them interim suppression of name.

Two Arrested Charged

Wellington EVENING POST in English 25 Aug 81 p 30

[Text]

AUCKLAND, Today (PA).
— Two men charged with possessing \$500,000 worth of opium for sale or supply were remanded today in the District Court at Otahuhu until September 17 for a depositions hearing.

Manu Chhima Gopalji, 44, market gardener, of Takapuna, and Nelson Edward Singh, 41, dye setter, of Sandringham, were remanded in custody by Judge Peter Duncan.

Gopalji is also charged with allowing a car to be used for a purpose in contravention of the Misuse of Drugs Act.

Mr John Haigh, appearing for both, applied for continued name suppression because the seriousness of the charges would embarrass their families and the accused would defend the charges.

But Judge Duncan refused. He said: "The matter is much too serious and the fact that it (the charge) is going to be defended is no justification."

Mr Haigh said application would be made in the High Court later this week for bail for the two defendants.

CSO: 5320/9095

NEW ZEALAND

POLICE UNCOVER LABORATORY MANUFACTURING BROMO-DMA

Auckland NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 5 Oct 81 p 1

[Text]

Hawkes Bay detectives have smashed a drug ring which was manufacturing and supplying a hallucinogenic drug to much of New Zealand.

The class A drug similar to LSD and known as Bromo-DMA, was being manufactured in a laboratory at the seaside community of Whirinaki, north of Napier.

The laboratory, which was in a garage on a residential property, was raided by detectives early on Saturday morning.

Detective Inspector Ian Holyoake, who headed the police team, said last night that the laboratory was working at the time of the raid.

It is the first time the police have uncovered a laboratory making this drug in New Zealand.

The police raided a total of 25 properties in Hawkes Bay on Saturday and there were similar raids on properties in Auckland and Wellington.

Large amounts of the drug were discovered but Detective Inspector Holyoake said it was difficult to put a price on it until it had been analysed.

"All we can say is it will be worth several hundred thousand dollars," he said.

The drug is normally sold on strips of paper. It sells for about \$10 a strip.

"The stuff we have," he said, "is very concentrated."

The police also found two bottles of Bromo-DMA buried in the ground at an Otane property.

More than 100 police, customs officers and scientists were involved in the operation, which was the culmination of almost three months of inquiries.

Five people were arrested and will face charges in the District Court in Hastings today.

Six more arrests were made in connection with less serious drugs.

CSO: 5320/9095

NEW ZEALAND

EDITORIAL STRESSES EFFORTS TO STOP DRUG TRAFFICKING

Christchurch PRESS in English 15 Sep 81 p 18

[Editorial: "Destroying Opium Poppies"]

[Text]

The difficulty over stopping the growing of the opium poppy in Thailand does not lie in knowing where the crop is because plantings can be discovered from the air or even on the ground. The technology of destroying crops brings no problem either because chemicals or flamethrowers can do that effectively. The reason that the crop has not been destroyed is political. The Thai authorities fear that if an unrestrained onslaught were made on the opium poppy areas the village populations would become disaffected with the Government and become insurgents — Communist or otherwise — who would pose a threat in the north-west of Thailand. The Thai Army would then be occupied in keeping them under control and would have to deplete, to a dangerous extent, the forces on the border with Kampuchea and with Laos, where threats to Thailand's security are seen.

The reluctance of the Thailand Government to move decisively against the poppy areas meets occasional criticism from other countries, particularly the United States, which is badly hit by trafficking in heroin, a derivative of opium. Thailand feels the need to respond to this criticism from time to time. According to a report from Thailand printed yesterday, a new move is afoot to take action against some poppy areas. Like similar moves in the past, this move will be a finely judged action, sufficient, the Thai authorities will hope, to ward off international criticism

for a period and insufficient to alienate in large numbers the hill tribes which cultivate the poppies.

The Government of Thailand is embarrassed by the fact that the opium is grown in areas more or less under Government control, unlike in Burma and Laos where the governments have more or less abandoned the areas in which the opium poppy is grown. The United Nations runs a crop substitution programme based in Chiang Mai, in the north of Thailand. In 41 areas active programmes are being conducted to persuade the local villagers to abandon the growing of opium poppies for other crops, mainly coffee and kidney beans. The areas covered are far from extensive and although there has been some success, it has been very limited. One way of growing opium has been to clear a patch in forest, cultivate opium poppies for one harvest and then to move on. The Government of Thailand hopes that its other programmes of dissuading hill tribes from treating the forest in this way will help control this nomadic harvesting.

Some analysis has been made of the motives of those who grow the poppies. The younger tribespeople face considerable pressure to grow the poppies from the older people in the tribe who want the opium to smoke because they are addicted to it. A second reason is that the opium has long been used by the people of the area as

medicine. The third, and probably the most difficult motive to deal with, is that the hill tribes want the opium as a cash crop. The mountainous areas in which the tribes live cannot grow sufficient rice for the needs of the tribes. The advances in rice-growing which have improved the yields of rice have been in paddy rice grown in the lowlands. The upland rice has a limited yield. This means that the tribes have a rice deficiency and need money to buy more. The opium poppy has served as a traditional cash crop. The tribes understand the cultivation of poppies and have little experience in other agriculture or horticulture.

The United Nations programme in the area is doing its best to cope with the various aspects of the cultivation of opium poppies. The hill tribes get grants and loans to substitute other crops for poppies and have bridging finance made available until these other crops can be harvested. The programme also trains the hill farmers in growing other crops. Even if the Thai authorities and the United Nations managed to be completely successful, the growing of poppies would not end because of the three countries whose borders form the "Golden Triangle" — Thailand, Burma, and Laos — Thailand has probably the smallest crop. Of the 600 tonnes believed to be this year's crop, less than 100 tonnes comes from Thailand. The possibility of Thailand's co-operating with Burma and

Laos to control the growing of the poppies is complicated, perhaps made impossible, by the political differences among the countries. Although the bulk of the crop is grown in Burma, Thailand, because of its relative freedom of travel, is an important route for the drugs to reach the rest of the world.

The Thais have argued that if people did not buy drugs then there would not be the problem. The point is a valid one, not merely an attempt to shift the blame for the international drug problem away from Thailand. The "Mr Asia" trial demonstrated a New Zealand connection with drug trafficking. The question that remains is one of being practical. Should New Zealand contribute to the measures of controlling drugs at their source? Helping the crop substitution programme is one way. The argument against this is that the programme has so far had only a limited success, that New Zealand already contributes to such programmes through the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, and that even if one did contribute substantially, Thailand represents only one aspect of the problem. There would seem to be a good case for making sure that the crop substitution programme is kept going — no possibility should be neglected — but that efforts should be concentrated on stopping the trafficking. This will require a considerable effort because the crop from the "Golden Triangle" this year is a bumper one.

CSO: 5320/9095

PAKISTAN

NARCOTICS PACKING FACTORY UNEARTHED

Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 4 Oct 81 p 1

[Text]

KARACHI, Oct. 3: Contraband narcotics valued at Rs. 3 crore were recovered and two persons were arrested on Thursday last week when the excise staff unearthed charas packing factory in a house in Kausar Niazi colony.

The excise hounds helped in seizing 70 maunds of charas, 20 kilo hashish oil and two kilo of heroin oil of best quality trafficking of which to as far as Europe, North America, Australia and a number of Asian countries was in operation in the guise of export of items like onyx hosiery and electronic goods.

Giving details of the whole operation still under investigation the Director General excise and taxation, Syed Mohibullah Shah told a Press conference here today that this case might be of importance equally for the international anti-narcotic agencies.

He said that some arrests

are expected in next 2-day and this time "we might lay hands on the actual bosses", he said confidently.

The Director General said that this case was detected during a followup investigation into the heroin-producing laboratory base detected in north Nazimabad area a few days back.

He said that contraband drugs were being exported to a number of foreign countries, under the cover of onyx, hosiery, electronic goods. The contraband stuff was packed exactly the same way as the exportable original commodities were packed.

The narcotics were wrapped in such a way so as to thwart the metal detection system.

Mr. Shah said that investigations were in progress. The excise officials were on the trail of some other persons whose arrests were likely any moment.

CSO: 5300/4524

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

BOGUS AFGHAN PASSPORTS SEIZED--The CIA Staff have unearthed a gang responsible for preparing bogus Afghan Passports in the city and seized as many as 1,000 such passports and visas. One of the members of the gang has been arrested. On an information that a firm in Urdu Bazar was running a business of printing bogus passports and visas, a fictitious customer was sent who confirmed it. The CIA staff then raided the shop and recovered about 1,000 bogus Afghan Passports, many visas for different countries and arrested the proprietor. The accused told the Police that the passports were being made on behalf of a Karachi firm. The seized passports had been hidden in a bag for despatch to Karachi. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 4 Oct 81 p 3]

CONTRABAND GOODS SEIZED--Karachi Customs yesterday seized contraband goods worth over Rs. 1.6 million from airport and sea port. The Drug Enforcement Cell (DEC) impounded 24 bales containing children apparels worth about Rs. 7 lakhs following the failure of the consignee to claim them. The consignments came from Hong Kong by air in the name of Mr Mohammad Karim Rajabi of Quetta and were awaiting despatch at the airport when a request was made to change the route from Quetta to Taftan in transit. The sleuths of DEC asked the addressee to produce valid papers but none turned up during the last two months. Hence the goods were seized. Meanwhile, a party of Rummaging Staff recovered eight VCRs, 9 TV sets, Tape recorders, Sewing Machines and 189 cartons of Foreign cigarettes worth Rs. 3.5 lakh, from three NSC ships "Aziz Bhatti, Warsak and Padma" which were rummaged on a spy information. The contraband items were found concealed in engine room, false ceilings and dry water tank. Smuggled goods--four VCRs and 100 kilos of artificial jewelry worth Rs. 6 lakhs were seized by the Special Checking Squad from the airport in two different raids from suitcases at the airport. Two persons were detained and let off on bonds pending investigations. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 8 Oct 81 p 12]

DRUGS SEIZED NEAR PESHAWAR--Islamabad, 2 Oct--Customs authorities today seized several thousand pounds of opium and hashish being smuggled into Pakistan from Afghanistan, official said. They said 2,816 kilos (6,195 pounds) of the drugs were found hidden in a Karachi-bound truck officials had stopped at a border village, 20 kilometres (12 miles) from the north-western city of Peshawar. The driver and his assistant were both arrested. The sources said the drugs, bound for distribution outside Pakistan, were valued at 28,000 dollars in the local market. NAB/AFP [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 4 Oct 81 p 7]

CHARAS SEIZURE--A party of Pakistan Coast Guards was attacked in Malir following the seizure of over 1500 kilos of charas in which sepoy Mohammad Hanif received a bullet wound, police reported yesterday, adding that their stranded jeep (GP 1790) was later found missing rather mysteriously. Major Zafar Iqbal of the Coast Guards reported that after the haul of 'charas' along with accused Ali Hassan, a party of Coast Guards was returning when suddenly fire was opened on them from a car as a result of which sepoy Hanif was injured. Subsequently, the jeep was stranded due to a tyre-burst near Madam Plaza on National Highway. The occupants of the jeep shifted to another vehicle and went away. Later on, the Coast Guards arrived at the site of the jeep to carry out repairs but were astonished to see the jeep missing. Police are investigating. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 11 Oct 81 p 8]

KARACHI HASHISH HAUL--Karachi customs officials arrested two customs workers and seven other persons on 22 October for attempting to export 10 maunds of hashish valued at 10 million rupees. The hashish had been loaded onto a Thai airlines plane but was discovered before the plane took off from Karachi Airport. [Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 23 Oct 81 p 6 GF]

HASHISH HAUL--Two customs officials and five employees of foreign airlines have been arrested in an attempt to smuggle 390 kg of hashish out of the country. The drugs were packed in cases labeled electrical equipment. The customs drug enforcement cell is trying to locate the gang's foreign connections. [Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 23 Oct 81 p 10 GF]

KARACHI OPIUM HAUL--Karachi police seized 21 kg of opium from a house in (Kalakot) on 24 October. The opium is worth 400,000 rupees. The occupant of the house, Nazir Ahmad, has been arrested. [GF281835 Karachi JANG in Urdu 25 Oct 81 p 2]

QUETTA OPIUM HAUL--The mobile squad of Quetta customs nabbed two persons with 3,390 tolas of opium worth Rs.67.8 million in the international market yesterday. [GF251751 Karachi DAWN in English 22 Oct 81 p 8]

CSO: 5300/4532

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

CEBU MARIJUANA FARM RAIDED--Crack elements from the Cebu Metropolitan District Command (Metrodiscom) raided a Marijuana field in Sitio Tabal-og Bgy, Guindaranhan, Minglanilla, Cebu last Tuesday and seized a sizeable number of young Marijuana plants numbering to about 2,000 pieces. In his report to Brig. Gen Beunaventura Casenas, RECOM 7 Commander, Lt Col. Rodrigo de Guazman, Metrodiscom chief, disclosed that operatives of his command led by PC Staff Sergeant Santos Marmol conducted the raid on the Marijuana field. [Excerpt] [Cebu VISAYAN HERALD in English Oct 19,20 81 pp 1,11]

NUEVA ECIJA MARIJUANA FARM--Army agents raided the other day a big marijuana farm in General Tinio, Nueva Ecija and seized 5,000 fully-grown plants, 10,000 marijuana seeds and two kilos of dried leaves, military reports said yesterday. A raiding team of the 3rd defense unit of the Army Reserve Command under Cool Raul T. Aquino earlier placed the farm under surveillance due to frequent sightings of transients near the farm which is on a slope of the Sierra Madre ranges. Col. Aquino reported to Arescom commander Brig. Gen. Edon T. Yap that the armed men tending the farm escaped before the raiders struck. They are now being hunted by Arescom personnel and PC agents. [Text] [Manila DAILY EXPRESS in English 9 Oct 81 p 6]

CSO: 5300/4906

THAILAND

RESPONSE TO U.S. 'PRESSURE' ON NARCOTICS DISCUSSED

BK020400 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 2 Oct 81 p 5

[Article by Suthichai Yun]

[Text] American impatience with the lack of action in the destruction of opium fields up north may not be conveyed too bluntly to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon during his discussions with American leaders in Washington next week. But the presence of Police Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, secretary general of the Office of Narcotics Control Board, Thailand's best-known drug fighter, will certainly rekindle attention on the problem.

"We appreciate the Thai Government's effort in cracking down on narcotics so far. But we also believe that the Thai Government could do more to destroy the opium fields and to seriously get the big drug kingpins," a senior American diplomat told the NATION earlier this week.

There is a touch of uneasiness in his tone. "We have been promised for quite some years that opium growing in 10 so-called opium-free zones would be dispensed with. But nothing has been done about it. Just take the case of Chang Sifu (Khun Sa), the notorious drug kingpin with a private army of 3,000 to 4,000 men. He is known to be in the Thai side of the Thai-Burmese border at times. But he remains at large," the American diplomat said.

While Deputy Premier Gen Prachuap Suntharangkun, who is in charge of narcotics suppression in his capacity as chairman of ONCB, will be discussing assistance from the U.S. authorities during the visit next week, pressure will surely be applied, if subtly, by the American side for the Thai authorities to "do more" in this respect.

"We appreciate, of course, that there has been some progress in this field, compared with the blatant growing of opium and operations of heroin refineries ten years ago. But we would like to see more efforts devoted to the problem, particularly with this year's bumper crop of opium in the Golden Triangle where about 500 to 600 tons are expected to be harvested with the good weather this year," the U.S. diplomat said.

When U.S. charge d'affaires Burton Levin told the opening session of a meeting of the 1981 east Asia regional narcotics conference in Bangkok in early September that more efforts must be made by government to attack big-time operators and eradicate poppy fields, he was certainly referring to Thailand as well.

Perhaps because of the "complaints" from the American side, the office of the Narcotics Control Board announced on Sept 14--only two weeks before Prime Minister's departure for the U.S.--that a campaign would be launched in November to eradicate poppy fields in 10 villages in Chiang Mai where substitute crop programme had been introduced.

Obviously, the heat is on--although Thai officials maintain that it was hard to follow rigidly the policy laid down since social, political and economic factors had to be taken into consideration.

"We are not asking for miracles. We realize the complex problems involved in the anti-narcotics task. But we certainly would like to see more efforts from the Thai side," the American diplomat said.

The fact that Khun Sa, believe to be a narcotics kingpin of the "Golden Triangle" with a 500,000 baht prize on his head could roam about freely on the Thai-Burmese border area has certainly perturbed the American diplomat to a considerable extent.

Pressure From Reagan on Drugs

President Reagan on Sept 28 (Monday) said in New Orleans in an address to the International Association of Chiefs of Police that one of the major points in his administration's new narcotics enforcement strategy would be a "foreign policy that vigorously seeks to interdict and eradicate illicit drugs wherever cultivated, processed or transported--this includes the responsible use of herbicides..." [passage published in italics]

If Reagan carried through that policy, the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok will come under severe pressure to get some concrete actions from Thai anti-narcotics officials to do something drastic up in the Golden Triangle.

Reagan's plan includes the establishment of a special council on narcotics control consisting of the attorney general and the secretaries of state, defence, treasury and others to "coordinate efforts to stop the drug flow into this country."

Surely, Gen Prem will be informed in Washington of the latest move against drugs by Reagan. And that could well mean a new phase in the Thai-U.S. cooperation in this area.

Prisoner Exchange; Treading on Sensitive Ground

If the drug issue is raised in Washington between Thai and U.S. officials, another related topic may well come up as well--the proposal mooted by American officials for a U.S.-Thai treaty to return drug offenders to their home countries to serve their sentences.

"If the American officials are unhappy over the poppy problem here, we are equally upset over their proposal to have drug offenders serve their sentences backhome. Is the U.S. Government really serious about showing the potential drug offenders that both governments mean business and that the punishment would be harsh and uncompromising?" commented a senior Thai official.

Unofficial discussions on the issue have been on for the past two years, according to informed sources--but the Thai Foreign Ministry has been somewhat reluctant to proceed to the point of committing itself to such a proposed treaty if it was to include drug convicts as well.

Several days before Gen Prem was to leave for the U.S., it was reported that American officials might try to link the prisoner repatriation issue with defence assistance to Thailand when Thai and American officials hold talks in Washington next week.

When acting U.S. Ambassador Burton Levin was asked in a press conference with the local press on Tuesday, he admitted that the U.S. Government would indeed seek approval from Thailand for the repatriation of American drug offenders--but he flatly denied that the progress of such negotiations would be linked to American defence to Thailand.

Levin, apparently aware of the sensitiveness of such a "linkage," told reporters: "The repatriation would be considered on its own merits and would bear no relation whatsoever to military aid to this country."

The reasoning from the U.S. side was not unpredictable: Such a treaty would reduce the burden involved for both parties in rehabilitating foreign prisoners with language and cultural problems. But the Thai officials, particularly those at the Foreign Ministry knowledgeable about the negotiations, said the reasons cited by the American side were far from convincing.

"If potential drug offenders know that they would serve their terms back in the states, the deterrent effects would be much less--not that the prison conditions in Thailand are all that bad. But Thai laws and Thai jails must loom very large in the mental pictures for all foreigners trying to get involved in narcotics one way or the other," said the senior Thai official.

But whatever difference of opinion there might be on the issue, both sides are expected to try to avoid discussing in detail the topic in Washington next week.

"They presumably would agree to disagree, waiting for another more opportune timing to talk about it again," said a well-informed source on the issue.

Refugee Issue: Cutdown in Quota

It appears difficult for both sides to avoid stumbling, during their talks in Washington next week, onto the refugee problem somehow, although both sides have claimed mutual understanding on the issue.

The latest development in Washington on the issue might not have sparked off a panic here. But its impact would slowly sink in. The Reagan administration only on Sept 22 sought to admit up to 120,000 Indochinese refugees in fiscal year 1982, compared to the current year's quota of 168,000.

"It is a cutdown, definitely if one looks at the overall quota. And there will be further cutdowns. But the proposed decrease in admissions for the new fiscal year was only to adjust the figure to a more realistic level--since in fact, only about 125,000 Indochinese will actually be admitted for fiscal year 1981," said a senior American diplomat.

He explained that the number of refugees coming from Indochina is going down and the U.S. was only coping with the change in the outflow.

The U.S. diplomat said that there are a total of 195,000 Indochinese refugees in Thailand now, 90,000 of them Kampucheans and the rest being Laotians, Vietnamese and Hmongs.

"We will continue to take about 8,000 to 10,000 a month from Thailand," the American diplomat said.

Thai authorities appear to be reasonably assured of that trend although there are anxious minds that the U.S. cutdown in the future would make resettlement opportunities for many refugees here shrink--particularly with the new set of more rigid rules governing the qualifications of refugees to be resettled in the U.S.

The Thai leaders are expected to be told in Washington by their American counterparts that the proposed admission of up to 120,000 Indochinese next fiscal year is an "upper limit" rather than a "operational target." The U.S. hopes that it would not have to take that many refugees to maintain the principle of first asylum and humane treatment of those who have already arrived in Southeast Asia.

When U.S. undersecretary of state for political affairs Walter Stoessel told the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Refugee Policy on Sept 22 that the State Department would "make every effort" to operate the programme at "lower admission rates," Thai officials certainly weren't quite appeased by the statement. After all, the Thai Government has been trying every possible means to reduce the current refugee population as soon as possible while trying to apply "humane deterrence" against new arrivals.

Both sides are expected to settle for an acceptable and realistic solution.

When U.S. Attorney General William French Smith testified before the Senate subcommittee on Sept 22, he did not fail to point out the anxiety expressed by "countries of first asylum" in Southeast Asia, especially Thailand, which, in his own words, "have borne a heavy burden as a result of the instabilities in Indochina since 1975. They have not been prepared to do so without an assurance that the international community intended to continue to provide its assistance in the onward resettlement of most of these refugees."

When the refugee issue is raised, Thai and American officials will be discussing additional means of "humane deterrence" to discourage the departure from their homelands of those leaving for reasons other than persecution.

The discussion will also touch on the definition of a "refugee." Thai officials have accepted the American line that persons who leave solely to seek economic betterment do not meet the definition of refugee upon departure--but persecution can and, very often, does take an economic form.

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American officials have generally accepted the new tougher Thai policy of not labelling those who arrive here after Aug 15, this year "refugees." Their chances of being given resettlement in third countries would be given the "lowest priority."

Both Thai and American officials said a drastic drop in new refugee arrivals has been detected--but whether it's the new policy or the monsoon storms that has brought this about remains unclear.

CSO: 5300/4529

3

THAILAND

WOMAN ARRESTED WITH HEROIN ENROUTE TO BEIJING

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Sep 81 p 2

[Text]

AIRPORT Customs officials yesterday accused a 43-year-old Thai woman of trying to smuggle six kilogrammes of No. 4 first grade heroin to Peking.

The woman, Miss Nualseang Lertpasanawat, was arrested by Don Muang officials as she was about to board a Civil Aviation Administration of China flight to Peking yesterday morning.

Customs officials said they found the heroin in 16 packages, hidden in specially-made secret compartments in the two suitcases she was carrying.

UNEMPLOYED

Officials quoted Miss Nualseang as admitting that she used to work as a waitress in a Bangkok gambling den, and became unemployed after the illegal den was closed down.

She was a heavy gambler and was heavily in debt, so when she was told her debt would be cleared if she smuggled the drugs to Peking, she agreed. Miss Nualseang was quoted as saying.

The suitcases would be claimed by an other person at Peking Airport, she reportedly told Customs investigators. The plan was to allay the suspicions of Hong Kong Customs by routing the drugs via Peking, police said.

Miss Nualseang was initially charged with possessing the drug with intent to sell and attempting to smuggle it abroad. She was handed over to Crime Suppression Division police for further interrogation.



Miss Nualseang with the 16 packages she is accused of having tried to smuggle to Peking.

CSO: 5300/4528

THAILAND

BURMA DRUG CARAVAN CLASHES WITH GOVERNMENT FORCES

BK100100 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Oct 81 pp 1, 18

[Article by Subin Khuankaeo]

[Text] Chiang Rai--A suspected drug caravan that ran into fire from government forces on Wednesday [7 October] was reported returning to the Burmese border areas yesterday after a 2-day clash that left heavy casualties on both sides.

Informed sources told the BANGKOK POST that the drug caravan of about 200 mules, believed to be carrying drugs controlled by narcotics kingpin Khun Sa, was heading back to Burma at the area near Khun Mae Kham along with the kingpin and troops of the Shan United Army.

The sources said they believed up to 24 rangers had been killed in the battle in which they came under mortar fire from the caravan guards in the Ban Hin Taek area.

Fifteen rangers of the fast mobile unit of 153rd Company from Pakthongchai, Nakhon Ratchasima, survived but six were badly wounded and had to be carried out in stretchers by a rescuing Border Patrol Police [BPP] unit.

The sources said a hilltribesman yesterday reported to a BPP platoon base in Ban Hin Taek, that he had seen "many" dead bodies, believed to be those of the rangers, lying near the Mae Pok stream, about 100 metres from Ban A-Hai where the battle took place.

The sources said the actual mission of the ranger unit, which was kept so secret that not even provincial internal security operations command officials were aware of it, was to capture Khun Sa for whose arrest the government has offered a 500,000-baht reward.

According to the sources, the 39-man ranger unit was bused from Pakthongchai District to Mae Ai District of Chiang Mai where they disembarked and trekked on foot along the jungle path for two days toward Ban Hin Taek.

The ranger unit came across the 200-mule drug caravan in Ban Ko Samakkhi and was attacked by the guards, forcing the unit to flee north toward Ban A-Hai.

The rangers camped near Mae Pok stream in Van A-Hai but during the night, according to one surviving ranger, they were surrounded by hundreds of caravan guards.

The attack came at about 4 a.m. Thursday and lasted about three hours.

Informed sources said the drug caravan and its guards had been chased across the Thai border by Burmese Government forces. They added the guards might have mistaken the rangers as Burmese troops and started the attack.

A BPP platoon which was sent into Ban A-Hai to rescue the rangers Thursday reportedly found 15 shallow holes of mortar emplacements in the grounds. That indicated mortars had been used in pounding the besieged ranger unit.

Informed sources said the mystery surrounding the ranger mission deepened further when border patrol policemen in Mae Chan District here Thursday intercepted a bus and a pick-up truck carrying about 100 tough-looking men in plainclothes.

Many weapons were found on the two vehicles.

The sources said the men later confessed to the BPP men that they were in fact rangers from Pakthongchai. But they declined to disclose why they had come to the province with their deadly weapons.

The rangers later set up a rear command at a teak reforestation plot in Mae Chan.

Three BPP platoons were again yesterday sent into Ban A-Hai to look for any surviving rangers. They later found the six seriously wounded rangers taking refuge in a village and carried them back to Ban Hin Taek in bamboo stretchers.

Informed sources said all the BPP units had already withdrawn to their bases.

The Supreme Command in Bangkok said Thai troops skirmished with about 700 gunmen of a drug caravan in Ban Hin Taek, but added it had no reports of casualties.

CSO: 5300/4529

THAILAND

BRIEFS

CONTROL OF CHEMICAL FLOW--Deputy Prime Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangkun, in his capacity as chairman of the Narcotics Control Board, has instructed the governors of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai Provinces to prevent the flow of chemicals used in heroin refining, such as acetic anhydride, from getting into the provinces and then on to the border heroin refineries. Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, secretary general of the Narcotics Control Board, reported that the governors of the two provinces had been asked to establish control measures which might include the setting up of checkpoints. If effective, the move will contribute to the prevention of heroin refining. The secretary general of the Narcotics Control Board said Thailand must also continue to cooperate with Malaysia to stop the flow of such chemicals from Malaysia into Thailand via their common border. Malaysia is considering the enactment of a law for the control of chemicals used in heroin production. If this step is taken, it is hoped that prevention and suppression of heroin production would yield a better result, he said. [Text] [BK050927 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 4 Oct 81]

U.S. PRISONER EXCHANGE--Thailand has agreed in principle to a proposal to sign a treaty to exchange prisoners with the United States, secretary general of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCN) Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin said yesterday. He said the agreement was reached during Premier Prem Tinsulanon's visit to the U.S. last week. The U.S. Government cited the quality of the rations and living conditions in the Thai prisons as the main reasons to support the signing of the proposed treaty, he said. Phao said it is also a policy of the Corrections Department to cut down the numbers of inmates who are crowded in prisons. The Interior Ministry, he said, will be responsible for drafting a law for the exchange treaty. Under the treaty prisoners will be repatriated to serve the rest of their sentences in their home countries. [Text] [BK160325 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 16 Oct 81 p 2]

SONGKHLA HEROIN REFINERY RAIDED--Police yesterday morning smashed what they described as a major heroin refinery owned by a Malaysian on the Thai-Malaysian border, police said. Arsiang Sae Wong, 26, who was arrested during the police raid, said that the refinery which had a capacity of producing about 2 kg of heroin a day began operations about 3 months ago with the financial support of a Malaysian. He said he had no knowledge about the identity of the Malaysian owner. Arsiang was arrested with a shotgun while he was tending the refinery situated on a rubber plantation in Sadao District, Songkhla Province, about 1 km from the Thai-Malaysian border. Police also found about 500 grams of heroin during the raid. A senior police official said that the Thai drug officials would seek cooperation from the Malaysian police to track down the owner of the heroin processing plant. [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 20 Oct 81 p 1]

CSO: 5300/4530

HEROIN ARRESTS--Bangkok, 25 Sept--An American and an Italian were Wednesday found guilty in the Bangkok criminal court on separate charges of possessing heroin with intent to sell and were sentenced to jail terms of 25 years and 20 years respectively. Fifty-two-year-old American Jerry Fortenberry was arrested in December last year at Don Muang Airport as he was about to board a flight to the States. Customs officials seized 193 grammes of No 4 heroin hidden in a secret compartment of the bag he was carrying. Fortenberry told the court he was hired to deliver the drugs to a man in California, and the court heard that after information Fortenberry gave to US Drug Enforcement Administration agents here, his alleged financier in the States was arrested. Domenico Genolini-Loria, who was sentenced to 20 years in jail, was arrested in May last year in his Bangkok hotel room with his two roommates. Police seized 34 grammes of No 4 heroin. He was refused bail, but his friends were granted bail in September last year and fled the country.--NAB/AFP [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 26 Sep 81 p 5]

DRUG FINANCIER ARRESTED--Four men, including an alleged financier of a drugs smuggling ring operating between the north and the south, were arrested yesterday with over 11 kg of morphine blocks in Bangkok Noi, Thon Buri. The alleged financier was identified as Vira Kasempong, 39, reportedly a Songkhla school owner. The four men were found, during a crime suppression police team raid, packing seven blocks of morphine bearing the 999 brand. The drugs weighed a total of 11,340 grams. Police alleged that Vira and his gang, which included some northerners who were not in the house during the raid, were responsible for regularly supplying morphine from the north to heroin refineries said to be located in jungle areas in the south close to the Thai-Malaysian border. They added that Vira was known to have been operating an illicit drugs trafficking ring for some time and his name was on police records. He had never been arrested, however, until yesterday. The four men were initially charged with illegal possession of morphine with intent to sell and were being held for further questioning at the crime suppression division. [BK231132 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Oct 81 p 5 BK]

BANGKOK HEROIN SEIZURE--Metropolitan narcotics unit police said they arrested two men yesterday and seized 2 kg of high-grade heroin in front of an automobile showroom in the Hua Mark area. Yesterday's seizure brought the amount of heroin confiscated in Bangkok by police since the beginning of the month to 13.2 kg, police said. The two suspects nabbed yesterday were later identified as Somboon Kornkam, 33, a native of Chiang Rai, and Sanan Jaijarn, 26. A third man, identified as Thongbal Mahamarn, escaped the police dragnet and is still at large. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Oct 81 p 3 BK]

OPIMUM DEALERS SENTENCED--The provincial court yesterday sentenced a police sergeant and four other persons to jail terms of 9 to 40 years for possessing with intent to sell 40 kilogrammes of opium. The five men were arrested in February last year by narcotics suppression police. The gang members, led by Pol Mst Sgt Pairoj Petchnongchum, were arrested in the act of delivering the opium to undercover police posing as drug merchants. The four others were identified as Somsak Thongkaew, Charuek Nokkaew, Mrs Somsri Promsuwan and Som Suwanchana. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Oct 81 p 2 BK]

HEROIN DISTRIBUTORS ARRESTED--Four men, believed to be major heroin distributors in Samut Sakhon Province, were arrested yesterday afternoon with 5 kilogrammes of No. 4 first grade heroin allegedly smuggled from Mae Sai, the country's northernmost district in Chiang Rai. Arrested were Seri Niyomphan, a Mae Sai resident and owner of a jewelry shop there, three Samut Sakhon residents--

Pin Panutatsanakhon, former police private Samphao Hinchasi and Panya Faknikon. They pleaded guilty to the charges of possessing the heroin with intent to sell and were handed over to crime suppression police for further questioning. The arrests were the result of several months of investigation by a joint narcotics suppression and Samut Sakhon police team that large amounts of heroin were frequently smuggled from the north and transited in Samut Sakhon before being transported to the south. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Oct 81 p 2 BK]

MARIHUANA RING LEADERS SENTENCED--Nonthaburi provincial court yesterday sentenced an American and four Thais, including an army captain and a customs official, to jail terms of 30 to 45 years after finding them guilty of producing and possessing over 500 kg of marijuana, 9 kg of hashish and 15 kg of hashish oil with intent to sell. Sentenced to 45 years was American Robert Richard Kimball, whom the court said was leader and financier of a large international marijuana smuggling ring. Army Captain Somchai Siripong, formerly attached to the 11th Infantry Regiment, was sentenced to 30 years. The court said he operated a marijuana processing factory in his houses in Nonthaburi and at the 11th Infantry Regiment compound. Sophon Sunalai, formerly attached to the customs investigation unit at Don Muang Airport, had his sentence reduced to 20 years imprisonment because his confession to police aided the case. The other two men, Arom Pumpeerapruen and Iamkiang Sae Ian, were each sentenced to 30 years imprisonment. The men were arrested on 20 October 1980 in a series of raids in Bangkok and Nonthaburi by teams of crime suppression division police who seized marijuana and marijuana packing equipment. The court was told that the raids were based on information supplied by police informants and foreign narcotics agents in Bangkok. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Oct 81 p 3 BK]

POLICE LINK IN SEIZURE--Chiang Mai--Police yesterday seized 1.9 kg of No 4 first grade heroin here and uncovered a letter implicating a police officer in a plot to get a drug suspect out of jail. Chiang Mai drug suppression police seized the heroin at a house on Inthawarot Road in the provincial town and arrested Miss Saisunee Kaewboonruang, charging her with possessing the drug with intent to sell. Police said they were looking for a Kachin hilltribe man, named as Sub-Lt Lakorn, who reportedly fled from the house before the police arrived. Police charged that he was the supplier of drugs to the house. They said they found an ID card bearing his name, issued in the name of the internal security operations command, at the house. Police said they also found a letter to Sub-Lt Lakorn from a drug suspect being detained at Hat Yai police station. The letter asked Lakorn to sell the remaining heroin at the house and send the money to the south, through a police officer who had promised to help get the suspect off the charge, police said. They said the policeman's name was mentioned in the letter, but refused to disclose it. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Oct 81 p 5 BK]

HEROIN POSSESSION SENTENCE--Bangkok, 3 Oct--Twenty-eight-year-old Italian Giorgio Consolini was yesterday sentenced by the Bangkok Criminal Court to 25 years in jail for possession of heroin with the intention to sell. Consolini was originally sentenced to life imprisonment, but the term was continued because he pleaded guilty to the charge. The young Italian tourist was arrested in April this year at Bangkok's Don Muang Airport as he was about to board a flight to the Philippines. Customs officials seized 148 grammes of heroin he was carrying around his waist. NAB/AFP [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 4 Oct 81 p 4]

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

FATE OF SEIZED COCA--La Paz, 20 Oct (AFP)--The periodical LOS TIEMPOS of La Paz reported here today that peasants from Chapare, Cochabamba Department in the central region of the country, are not aware of the final destination of the loads of coca seized by agents of the Narcotics Control Office. Peasant leaders from the zone have indicated that between 10 and 15 loads of coca estimated at 80,000 Bolivian pesos (43,200) are seized daily. They have requested that the officials responsible for that office to report on the objective and final destination of the loads which had been seized, because nothing has been said so far in this regard. They also reported that the control agents themselves force the peasants to sell them their production of coca for 4,000 Bolivian pesos (\$160) to resell them again to other dealers for double the price. [Text] [PY211402 Paris AFP in Spanish 2222 GMT 20 Oct 81]

CSO: 5300/2032

BRAZIL

COCAINE, MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN JARDIM BOTANICO

Tip Leads to Arrest

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Sep 81 p 11

[Text] Rancher Alvaro Marques Luz, aged 24, was caught red-handed and booked at the Narcotics Bureau for drug addiction and trafficking after being taken unawares with marihuana and cocaine evening before last at the apartment of trafficker Valeria Lemos Telles, in Rua Ministro Arthur Ribeiro, in Jardim Botanico. Valeria is at large, but at her home the police confiscated her three memorandum books containing the names of more than 100 customers.

Alvaro, who resides at Sao Bernardo ranch, in Muri, Nova Friburgo, and calls himself a self-employed craftsman, said he has known Valeria for at least 3 years and knew she was a trafficker because he sought her frequently to purchase marihuana. Day before yesterday, he went with his wife, Simone de Souza Cavalcanti, to Valeria's apartment and Valeria--having to go out--asked him to take care of her customers. She told him that, if a stranger came he should try to get rid of the drugs.

Through photographs, Alvaro recognized traffickers Jose Carlos de Souza, or Cacau, Valeria's supplier, and Mem Xavier da Silveira.

The police went to Valeria's apartment after receiving anonymous tips indicating that she was supplying drugs to people in society and in the artists' circle. They had obtained a search warrant to enter the apartment.

Upon seeing the police, Alvaro Luz got rid of a certain amount of marihuana by throwing it out the window. However, marihuana and cocaine were found on the premises.

Actor's Check

The rancher said that shortly before the police arrived at the apartment, he sold cocaine to an actor who bought 2 grams with a check for 7,000 cruzeiros and returned later to get 2 more grams, then giving a check for 14,000 cruzeiros. At the same time, he tore up the first check. The police found the remains of the first check in the trash, put the pieces together and submitted the torn check as evidence at the trial.

In Usina

Trafficker Domingo Maximiano de Oliveira, or Paulo Luneta, aged 46, was arrested yesterday after a chase which began in Rua Sao Miguel, on the slope of Morro do Borel, Usina da Tijuca, and ended in Avenida Edson Passos, near Estrada Velha da Tijuca. Paulo Luneta, who was driving a Brasilia with license plate NR Q920, was intercepted by patrol 52 0073 of the Sixth Military Police Battalion manned by Corporal Vitor and Privates Oliveira, Jorge and Carlos Jorge.

According to the military police, Luneta was driving the Brasilia in Rua Sao Miguel and when he saw the patrol car approaching in the opposite direction, turned his car around in the road. He then sped toward Avenida Edson Passos where he was stopped. He was disarmed and in his car which was searched the police found no drugs.

The criminal, who has been sought for some time, says he is a businessman residing and conducting business on Presidente Dutra Highway, kilometer 162, in Itatiaia, Resende. Meanwhile, according to the police, he had taken on all the drug sales outlets belonging to his partner, Congo, killed by gunshot at Baixada Fluminense some time ago. In the opinion of the officers of the Narcotics Bureau where he was interrogated, Paulo Luneta got rid of the drug in Borel.

Actor To Explain Check

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Sep 81 p 16

[Text] Rio--Actor Lauro Corona, who was to appear yesterday at 1500 hours at Rio's Narcotics Bureau to make a statement, did not appear and will be questioned by Deputy Walterson. He was being sought to explain how one of his checks came into the hands of cocaine trafficker Alvaro Marcus Liuzzi, arrested on 4 September at a Lagoa apartment in Zona Sul. The owner of the apartment, Valeria Lemos Telles, and Mem Xavier da Silveira are to make a deposition today attended by Attorney Marcio Donnici.

Mem was "courier" for the gang broken up by the police, acting as contact man between the supplier and traffickers who distributed the drug.

Lauro Corona did not justify his absence and Deputy Walterson waited for him until evening. Valeria and Mem Xavier were also supposed to make a deposition yesterday, but Attorney Marcio Donnici went to the Narcotics Bureau to explain that his clients could not appear until today.

Trafficker Alvaro Marcus Liuzzi was arrested in apartment 402, at Rua Ministro Arthur Ribeiro 82, Lagoa.

The police arrived on the scene as a result of an anonymous tip. The apartment belongs to Valeria Lemos Telles and, according to Alvaro, was abandoned to serve for the distribution of cocaine. The trafficker said that shortly before the police arrived, actor Lauro Corona was at the apartment and bought 4 grams of cocaine, paying with a check for 14,000 cruzeiros. The police also found some memorandum books with names of the gang's customers. The names were all people in Rio's high society and artists' circles, who are to be summoned for questioning. In the memorandum books the customers are referred to by their first names only, such as Ivan, Odilia, Marta, Marcio, Belem, Gil and Chico; the names are being traced.

Judge To Question Traffickers

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 10 Sep 81 p 11

[Text] Judge Mario Ernesto Ferreira of the 28th Criminal Court accepted yesterday the charge of drug trafficking made by Prosecutor Adolfo Borges Filho against rancher Alvaro Marcus Liuzzi and Valeria Lemos Telles who were using apartment 402-S at Rua Arthur Ribeiro 82, in Jardim Botânico, to sell marijuana and cocaine.

Charges were also brought against an actor for using cocaine purchased from Liuzzi and paid for with a check for 14,000 cruzeiros. All will be questioned Tuesday.

The judge also granted the prosecutor's request for the Narcotics Bureau to investigate the involvement of Jose Carlos de Souza, or Cacaú, indicated by Liuzzi as a supplier of drugs to Valeria, and of Mem Xavier da Silveira, accused of being the contact man with addicts of the artists' circle.

Alvaro Liuzzi was arrested on 3 September at the apartment used for trafficking while in possession of 18 grams of marijuana and 3 grams of cocaine. According to her attorney, Marcio Luiz Donnici, Valeria entered the Botafogo Clinic on 8 September for psychiatric treatment. For this charge the two could be sentenced to prison for 6 to 30 years.

Rancher Arrested for Trafficking

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] Rancher Alvaro Marques Luz (shown in photo below) was arrested at an apartment in Jardim Botânico where the police found marijuana and cocaine. The apartment belongs to drug trafficker Valeria Lemos Telles who asked Alvaro to take care of her customers while she was away. Valeria is a fugitive.



TV Technician Denies Involvement

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Sep 81 p 14

[Text] TV technician Mem Xavier da Silveira showed up yesterday at the Narcotics Bureau accompanied by Attorney Marcio Donnici to contest charges made against him of being a drug trafficker and supplier of drugs to actors.



Mem Xavier and Alvaro Marcus

Mem Xavier was accused by rancher Alvaro Marcus Liuzzi who was arrested last Thursday with Valeria Lemos Telles at her apartment at Rua Ministro Arthur Ribeiro, in Jardim Botânico, in possession of a small quantity of marijuana and 3 grams of cocaine. Alvaro is still being held and Valeria is at a clinic for treatment as an addict.

8568
CSO: 5300/2458

BRAZIL

U.S. CHARGES CONCERNING AMAZON REGION COME AS NO SURPRISE

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 4 Sep 81 p 15

Text Manaus--The disclosure made by the American DEA Drug Enforcement Administration-- a U.S. organization specializing in the fight against drugs--that the Amazon region is now a large producer and exporter of cocaine came as no surprise to the Federal Police authorities in Manaus; it was the Brazilian agents themselves who informed their colleagues in the United States about the action being carried on by international traffickers in the Amazon River region, principally after they had broken up an organization operating out of Manaus in July 1980.

What surprised the Federal Police Department was finding great quantities of the drug being cultivated in its native state in the area, not under the name of coca but under that of "epadu," with the Indians doing the planting and exporting the dry leaves and paste to Colombian traffickers who proceed to convert the material into powder in the Mitu and Miraflores areas of Colombia within a few kilometers of the Brazilian border. Epadu is a plant known to the natives and used in their sacred rituals, always in small quantities and never for commercial purposes.

Ivo Americano, regional superintendent of the Federal Police, said yesterday he has no doubt that Indians of the Macu and Tucano tribes living in Alto Rio Negro are the ones who are producing epadu in larger quantities and that they even have the technical knowledge to dry the leaves and convert them into paste, which they sell at prices ranging from 20,000 to 50,000 cruzeiros per kilogram. Denouncing the fact that the Macu and Tucano Indians receive little help from the FUNAI National Indian Foundation and are aided only partially by the Salesian missions, Ivo Americano deplored the lack of funds and interest on the part of organizations connected with this sector which should be taking stricter action in the area, "not against the Indians," he said, "who are acting under the influence of third parties," but against traffickers.

According to area experts, the Indians of Alto Rio Negro do not always receive money from the Colombians for the paste, preferring portable radios, batteries, weapons and ammunition for hunting, and fishing gear.

The criticisms of the regional superintendent of Federal Police were contested by FUNAI's representative in Manaus, who agreed, however, that it was necessary to prevent the Indians from being induced to abandon their traditional small plantings to plant only epadu. Another reason for the corrective action, according to the officials, is that such activity could effect serious changes in native culture, since the plant

should be used only in rituals. The FUNAI officials also said that an agricultural project has already been proposed to the Macu and Tucano Indians forbidding the planting of epadu but that, up to now, the proposal has not become a reality.

The area where the Federal Police discovered large plantings of coca is contained within a region known as "Boca de Cachorro," bound by the Icana, Tiquie and Papuri rivers, with about 200 square kilometers of land which is rough and of difficult access due to crags as well as the rivers. The federal agents recently discovered another fact: the traffickers are no longer converting the coca into chlorine hydrate, since it is a slow and costly process, but just commercializing the epadu powder, that is, the ground and sifted leaves, which are rustic but economical processes.

8568

CSO: 5300/2468

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

POLICE ARREST TRAFFICKERS--Sao Paulo--After receiving an anonymous telephone call, police of the Western Department arrested three traffickers yesterday and confiscated 1.7 kg of cocaine at a hotel apartment located at Rua Frei Caneca, in the Bela Vista district. Those arrested are the driver, Djalma Lopes, aged 28, who lived in the apartment with his wife and two children; tractor driver Walter do Amaral, who lives in Paraguay; and realtor Antonio Carlos Alonso, aged 25. The cocaine was in the false bottom of a suitcase in a clothes closet, mixed with children's clothes. The suspects said that the drug was to be sold in nightclubs in the so-called "Boca do Luxo" area among addicts of high society for 5,000 cruzeiros per gram. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Sep 81 p 57 8568

COCAINE SEIZED IN CORUMBA--Campo Grande--Within the past 10 days Federal Police agents in Corumba seized 11.5 kg of pure cocaine in three consecutive operations; the drug was being transported from Santa Cruz de La Sierra, Bolivia, to Rome, Italy. Two Spaniards and one Bolivian couple were arrested; their names are being withheld. Deputy Marco Antonio Lousada said that the three parcels of cocaine were to pass via Campo Grande to Sao Paulo and from there to Rome. The Federal Police did not succeed in identifying possible intermediaries inasmuch as the Bolivian couple said they were to deliver the plastic bags containing 8.7 kg of the drug to an unknown man who was to be waiting at the Congonhas Airport. The two Spaniards, being held at the Federal Police Precinct after being arrested on 20 and 23 August each having 1.4 kg of cocaine in his possession, already had their flight booked from Sao Paulo to Rome where they were to deliver the two parcels. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 2 Sep 81 p 67 8568

CSU: 5300/2458

MEXICO

BRIEFS

PLANE WITH MARIHUANA CRASHES--Tijuana--A six-seater small plane, presumably loaded with marihuana, crashed on the beach near Ciudad Obregon, with a toll of one person, apparently its pilot, dead. This report was made by the coordinator of the antidrug campaign in the northwestern part of the country, Aaron Juarez Jimenez, who noted that the accident had occurred last Friday, but that the incident was kept confidential to facilitate the investigation. The official explained that one of the patrols carried out by Federal Judicial Police agents at about 1100 hours on the morning of that day, discovered the remains of the plane on the edge of the beach, and the body of an individual who has not yet been identified, floating in the water. Also in the water, they found a box containing 18 kilograms of marihuana, apparently part of a shipment which may have amounted to a ton of that drug. The results of the investigation thus far appear to indicate that the plane experienced some malfunction, and when the pilot tried to land in the water and ease the fall, he lost control of the aircraft which crashed on the edge of the beach. In the opinion of the authorities, the rest of the shipment was lost in the sea, and the aircraft was discovered at least 4 hours after the accident had happened. The public authorities of the area were notified of the incident, and the investigations on the part of the federal entity are continuing, to determine the origin of the shipment and the identity of the corpse. [Text] [Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 28 Sep 81 Sec B p 12] 2909

HELICOPTERS SENT TO TAMAULIPAS--The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic has sent several helicopters with special equipment to the northern zone of Tamaulipas for the purpose of making reconnaissance flights in this area, which will help to combat the drug traffic. The intervention with aircraft will last for several days, and is an activity that is part of the permanent Operation Condor. Yesterday afternoon, one of those helicopters arrived at the local airport, and others are due to arrive between last night and this morning. They will number no fewer than 10, plus some small airplanes provided with fumigating equipment to destroy drug plantations. The action will take place from the northern coast of Tamaulipas to Nuevo Laredo, and will be headed by Carlos Aguilar Garza, regional coordinator of the Federal Judicial Police. In making the foregoing announcement last night, Comdr Victor Manuel Martinez Guerra, of the Federal Judicial Police group detailed to Matamoros, said that they would be working intensively for several days, with the aid of the helicopters sent by the Attorney General's Office. With this assistance, they will attempt to find all the paths in the rural area used by the drug trafficking rings to transport the drugs, in order to curb this illegal activity insofar as possible. He also indicated that a detailed search is being made of the entire northern section of Tamaulipas,

in order to discover any possible marihuana or poppy plantations. [Text] [H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 24 Sep 81 Sec A p 14] 2909

COCAINE FROM CUZCO SEIZED--Mexico City, 18 September (NOTIMEX)--The North American Ramiro Vazquez Salazar was caught by Federal Judicial Police agents as he was attempting to bring into the country over half a kilogram of pure cocaine worth more than 10 million pesos. Vazquez Salazar was coming from Ecuador to the capital's airport with several packages attached to his body, but the Federal Police succeeded in discovering and capturing him. When questioned, he said that he was taking the drugs to the United States, and that he had purchased them in the town of Cuzco from an unknown person who had been recommended to him. The federal agents put the presumed drug trafficker at the disposal of the agent of the Federal Public Ministry, and the pertinent action will be taken against him. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 19 Sep 81 p 1] 2909

CSO: 5330/51

PARAGUAY

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS--It has been reported that 11 alleged drug traffickers have been arrested in Concepcion. They are: Segundo Davalos, Jose Prieto, Teodoro Quinonez, Isidro Bogarin, Simeon Fernandez, Luciano Cubillas, Victorino Morel, Genaro Morel, Jose Cordeiro de Moura, Mercedes Rodriguez Dominguez and Maria dos Santos. [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 9 Oct 81 p 30] A marijuana trafficker has been arrested by personnel from the Investigations Department. His name is Derlis Sanabria and he was arrested in Fernando de La Mora. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 29 Sep 81 p 20] Personnel from the Dangerous Drugs and Narcotics Department have captured Ildefonso Insua Audisio in an area close to the Bolivian border. His brother, Osvaldo Inca was able to escape. It has been reported that cocaine paste, ether, acetone and a single side band transmitter were seized. [Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 9 Oct 81 p 19]

CSO: 5300/2032

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS SEIZURE--Officers of the Judicial Technical Police, PTJ, confiscated a shipment of drugs valued at half million bolivares. The suspects, identified as (Haydee Coromoto Gonzalez), (Carlos Daniel Gualipa Lazaro) and (Humberto de Jesus Padilla), were captured by PTJ agents as they traveled on the highway between the cities of San Cristobal and San Antonio, in Tachira. A search of the automobile led to the discovery of secret compartments containing bags of marihuana, cocaine and opium, according to the PTJ source. [PA010241 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 30 Sep 81]

CSO: 5300/2029

IRAN

BRIEFS

TORBAT-E HEYDARIYEH HEROIN SEIZURE--The Torbat-e Heydariyeh Islamic Revolution Guard Corps has seized 500 grams of heroin from one person. [GF192023 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 19 Oct]

TORBAT-E HEYDARIYEH OPIUM SEIZURE--The Torbat-e Heydariyeh Islamic Revolution Guard Corps has seized 8 kg of opium during the past week. [GF192023 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 19 Oct 81]

SHIRAZ OPIUM JUICE--The Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guard Corps has seized 1.5 kg of opium juice and has arrested three persons in this connection. [GF211620 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 20 Oct 81]

TORBAT-E HEYDARIYEH DRUG DEALER--The Islamic Revolution Court of Torabt-e Heydariyeh has sentenced Mrs Haqdust, daughter of Heydar, to 10 years in prison for possession of 2.25 kg of opium juice. [GF211620 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 20 Oct 81]

TORBAT-E HEYDARIYEH OPIUM JUICE--The Torbat-e Heydariyeh Islamic Revolution Guard Corps has seized 350 grams of opium juice and one bar of opium from two persons. [GF211620 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 21 Oct 81]

TORBAT-E HEYDARIYEH OPIUM--The Torbat-e Heydariyeh Islamic Revolution Court has sentenced one person to 15 years in prison for possession of 6.3 kg of opium. [GF211620 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 21 Oct 81]

SHIRAZ HEROIN SEIZURE--The Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guard Corps has seized 29 grams of heroin from one person. [GF211620 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 21 Oct 81]

MASHHAD HEROIN SEIZURE--The Mashhad Islamic Revolution Guard Corps has seized 625 grams of heroin from one person. [GF221539 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 22 Oct 81]

MASHHAD AIRPORT DRUG SEIZURE--The Islamic Revolution Guard Corps has seized 138 grams of heroin, 9 grams of hashish and 98 grams of opium from two persons at Mashhad Airport. [GF221539 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 22 Oct 81]

GACHSARAN DRUG SEIZURE--The Gachsaran antidrug squad has seized 3 kg of opium, 1.4 kg of hashish and 100 grams of heroin during the past 2 days. [GF221539 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 22 Oct 81]

OPIUM JUICE HAUL--Hoseyn Safa'i has been sentenced to 1 year in jail for possession of 330 grams of opium juice and opium addiction. [GF251703 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 24 Oct 81]

MASHHAD DRUG HAUL--In a clash between a number of drug traffickers and Mashhad drug squad personnel near Sarakhs region, one drug trafficker was killed and another arrested. As a result of the operation, 21 kg of heroin, 44 kg of opium, 1 Kalashnikov with 120 pounds of ammunition and 1 G-3 with 40 rounds of ammunition were discovered. [GF251703 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 24 Oct 81]

BORAZJAN OPIUM HAUL--The Borazjan Islamic Revolution Guard Corps has seized 1 kg of opium from two persons. [GF251703 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 24 Oct 81]

DRUG SEIZURES--Tehran, 24 Sep--Iranian police seized over 184 kilos (405 pounds) of narcotics and arrested 762 people in the one-month period between July 23 and August 23, the PARS news agency, quoted by Radio Teheran, reported today. The haul included over 145 kilos (319 pounds) of opium, 20 kilos (44 pounds) of hashish and 13 kilos (20 pounds) of heroin, the agency said. It added that 1,942 kilos (4,272 pounds) of "other substances" had also been seized, but gave no details. NAB/AFP [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 26 Sep 81 p 7]

CSO: 5300/4905

LEBANON

BRIEFS

DRUG SMUGGLER ARRESTED--At Beirut airport, the security services have arrested the Palestinian 'Ali Hasan Iskandarani while trying to smuggle 1,500 grams of heroin to East Berlin. [Text] [NC141752 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Oct 81]

CSO: 5300/4702

LIBERIA

SECURITY OFFICER ARRESTED FOR MARIHUANA THEFT

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 2 Oct 81 p 6

[Article by J.N. Elliott]

[Text]

A security officer at the Roberts International Airport has been arrested for allegedly stealing \$10,000 worth of marijuana from the office of the Chief of the Joint Security there.

Mohammed Siryon, the security officer, was arrested after he was sent by the chief of the Joint Security for a brief case that was in his (chief's) office. But instead of bringing the brief case from the office, Mohammed Siryon allegedly stole marijuana from a suit case, which was in the Security chief's office.

The case of marijuana was recovered by an Anti-Fraud agent after a baggage boy, John Kun, allegedly took it out of the terminal.

During investigation, John Kun said one Joseph Ward had given him the suit case, telling him to carry it out

of the terminal. But Joseph Ward denied the allegation. The suit case was taken into the Commander of the Joint Security office for safe-keeping, since no one had claimed ownership of it.

Col. D. Donyen Doe, Commander of the Joint Security Forces at R.I.A. said after he had sent Siryon, he said he suspected something was wrong because it took Siryon a longer time to return from his (Doe's) office. It was then, Doe said, he remembered the brief case in his office.

Col. Doe said when he opened his office, he saw Siryon with a handful of marijuana, trying to put it in his pocket. He said he then arrested the officer, and immediately called in Lt. Col. Felix O. Lawrence, Deputy Chief of Joint Security along with Major Paul Tazama, Deputy Inspector of Police there.

CSO: 5300/5602-E

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

POLICE STEP UP MEASURES TO COMBAT HEROIN TRAFFIC

Hamburg STERN in German 24 Sep 81 p 228

Text A gang war has erupted in Berlin between Turkish and Lebanese heroin dealers.

Berlin narcotics agents had been waiting for "their man" for more than 2 hours in a Kreuzberg apartment. Then he came: Ahmet Oezergun -- Turk, candidate for asylum, heroin dealer. Criminal Police Director Gerhard Ulber, head of the "Joint Narcotics Investigation Group" made up of police and customs officials, reports what happened next: "Oezergun knocked, and before he knew it he was lying on the floor. Our boys simply laid him out."

With good reason, as it turned out a little later: The Turk had a loaded revolver in his belt. Says Ulber: "The business is getting more brutal all the time. Now we have to expect gunfire every time we make an arrest."

Although no police officers have been hurt yet, there has been one dead narcotics dealer; Ali Jawhar, 27, died in a gang shootout between Turks and Lebanese in Kreuzberg; two of his Lebanese countrymen were seriously wounded.

"The Lebanese have meanwhile become our best customers," say the agents sarcastically. Since the narcotics department smashed two large Turkish gangs 2 years ago, the Arabs are the best at the deadly heroin business. "Only a tiny fraction of the foreigners in Berlin are involved in the drug trade," says Criminal Police Director Ulber, "but the fact is that foreigners are almost always involved in the most important cases."

The drug dealers' part of town -- which "moved" from the Zoo Railway Station to Schoeneberg because of the numerous police raids -- is firmly in the hands of the foreigners, many of whom protect themselves by applying for asylum. Complain the police: "We don't understand why they don't speed up the processing on these people's applications for asylum, so they can be deported quickly."

The police are also less and less delicate in the mini-war against this dirty business: "Hold still or I'll knock your head off!" is the frequent command when the small-scale dealers are being searched. Important pieces of information are also sometimes passed along to the state's attorney outside the official files in order to protect sources -- not legal, but legitimate, say the agents. The authorities

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sometimes offer rewards as well -- in exchange for "absolute confidentiality":
"Five-figure sums are conceivable."

The agents thus achieve spectacular successes. They found 2 kilograms of heroin on Oezergun and an accomplice. On 4 August the criminal police had ferreted out a record 4.1 kilograms in two apartments in the Tiergarten and Wedding districts. Divided into individual packets, the hot merchandise would have brought the dealers DM 8.5 million on the market.

Nevertheless, "even after busts like this, the stuff is in short supply for only a little while," says criminal police official Ulber; "unfortunately, there is always enough in the pipeline to take its place."

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7458
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NORWAY

COUNTRY BECOMING MAJOR DRUG-SMUGGLING ROUTE TO SWEDEN

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 10 Sep 81 p 10

Article by Morten Fyhn: "More Narcotics Enter Sweden Via Norway"

Text Stockholm, 9 September. Smuggling of narcotics into Sweden via Norway is becoming increasingly common. This is what the Stockholm narcotics police asserts after just having broken up two large drug gangs and arrested 33 suspects.

One of the principals has admitted that he has dealt in 20 kilograms of amphetamines during the past 2 years for a sales value estimated at 8 million Swedish kroner. The two gangs are suspected of having sold all types of narcotics for a value of about 10 million.

During the police action of recent days the police seized, among others, a person carrying 85 grams of heroin. The person is suspected of being a courier for the gangs. In his pocket he had a ferry ticket from Copenhagen to Oslo.

In the opinion of the police, Swedish customs officials in Helsingborg and other ports in southern Sweden have now become so effective that narcotics smugglers to an increasing degree prefer to travel via Oslo on their way from the Continent to the Swedish market. Large amounts of the narcotics smuggled into Sweden originate in Belgium and the Netherlands and reach Sweden via Copenhagen and Oslo.

It is known that the transport by couriers via Oslo is cheaper. The risk of being caught in the ports of southern Sweden has increased, according to the police. The so-called risk supplement for narcotics transport from Denmark to Sweden without the detour via Norway is estimated at 35,000 Swedish kroner per kilogram of amphetamine.

The narcotics police of Stockholm say to AFTENPOSTEN that it is very difficult to estimate the amounts of narcotics that go to Sweden via Norway.

Better Nordic Narcotics Cooperation

Stockholm (NTB-TT). In the opinion of the Swedish social minister Karin Soder the Nordic countries must cooperate better in the struggle against drug addiction.

The Nordic social ministers will meet at her initiative at the end of this year to discuss narcotics problems in the North.

"In our opinion the problems have worsened during the past few years. The trade in narcotics across Oresund has increased," says State Secretary Ake Pettersson of the Swedish ministry of Social Affairs.

The Swedish side regards with disquiet the fact that Danish legislation is more liberal than that of Sweden. The question of joint legislation is to be discussed at the meeting.

Social workers from Norway, Sweden, and Finland have worked for a couple of years in Copenhagen, and experience gained in their activities are to be discussed.

Another question is border control of travelers between the Nordic countries.

11256
CSO: 5300/2007

NORWAY

OLSO NARCOTICS-SECTION POLICE CHIEF WARNS OF DRUG SITUATION

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 21 Sep 81 p 11

[Article: "Huuse Wants More Money"]

[Text] Unless the police and customs authorities receive the funds necessary to strengthen the fight on the drug dealers the social and health administrations will in the future be faced with a hopeless situation, says Police Inspector Arne Huuse, chief of the Oslo police narcotics section, to NTB.

Immediately prior to the election the government decided to spend 22 million kroner this year for efforts by the police and customs authorities and in the social sector.

"I think this amount is much too small, and I should like to point out that the Oslo police as early as the beginning of this year asked for several million kroner. To date, we have received no reply, except that the matter is under consideration. Time is working against us.

"In several actual cases lack of appropriations has directly hampered investigations because of poor technical equipment for surveillance of persons suspected of dealing in large amounts of narcotics," says Huuse.

Tied to the Office

Huuse points out that many able policemen still perform typical office functions. They could immediately be freed for work in the field if appropriations were available for hiring more clerical help.

"In my opinion the extraordinary appropriations allotted to the various police departments in the country for investigating narcotics cases must be regarded as peanuts. The money is spent in a day or two," says Huuse.

In addition to the work of catching the big narcotics dealers the police also seek to clear up other crime, such as, for example, crime for gain and prostitution.

"Here we shall expand our cooperation with other sections of the Oslo police. Receivers of stolen goods must learn that they are directly helping to finance the drug market," says Huuse. In Huuse's opinion there is a tendency to consider the drug pusher himself an addict, a "victim" who really should not be punished.

Facades Bought

"I see nothing mitigating in financing one's own need for drugs by selling them, thereby creating new addicts," says Huuse. "It should not be forgotten that former street pushers have managed to amass so much capital that they have been able to buy 'facades' as owners of restaurants, flower shops, record stores, and the like. The men behind the scenes with the facades of rich men are also members of the addict group."

Huuse says the narcotics police now direct a maximum effort toward pushers and warns of strong reactions to those of them who are themselves addicts.

Drivers Licenses Confiscated

"Drivers licenses will be canceled and those who have not obtained licenses will be denied the opportunity to take the driving test. Drug pushing may also affect the granting of licenses of other kinds. Automobiles used in drug sales may be confiscated, a matter in which thus far we have been lax," says Huuse.

He stresses that this does not mean a shift in priorities in police efforts to combat the drug evil. The big dealers in narcotics will still be the first priority, but because the police have received increased funds it can now attack the addict milieu to a greater degree than formerly.

11256
CSO: 5300/2007

NORWAY

POLICE ARREST TEN FOR SMUGGLING HEROIN FROM NETHERLANDS

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 2 Oct 81 p 10

[Article by Kathrine Kjelland]

[Text] Ten young men, aged 16 to 22, have been charged with larger narcotics dealings after police in Drobak confiscated heroin worth about 300,000 kroner. Five of the young men were jailed Saturday, charged with offenses under the professional paragraph. The heroin arrived by mail from The Netherlands last week.

At the end of August last year a man from As was jailed for possessing amphetamines worth 30,000 kroner. Intense police surveillance of this man's circle of acquaintances led to charges being brought against another 10 men for narcotics dealing last Saturday.

Five of the suspects were jailed in different prisons in the Ostland area and are not allowed to receive letters or visits. A 22-year-old from Ski was placed in custody for 6 weeks while the other four are in for 4 weeks. The police have reason to believe the gang maintained a high living standard through the sale of narcotics. The 10 suspects don't have any regular jobs.

Raid

The police cracked down on the gang last Friday when five of the accused were brought in for delivering the heroin package. Earlier that week the police had found the heroin package by going through the mail. They had replaced some of the heroin with a harmless substance and allowed the package to be sent on to the addressee. The recipient of the package denied having any knowledge of the heroin shipment. He lives with his parents in a house on Ski.

Four of the accused had made several trips abroad recently. They switched from rented cars to plane in keeping up their contacts in Holland.

The Drobak police revealed that the activity has been going on for at least half a year. None of the accused admitted that the heroin was intended for resale. Drug abuse on the part of the suspects ranges from "minor habit" to serious abuse.

Five Deaths

Twenty-seven policemen from Oppedal, Ski, As and Follo took part in the surveillance. Investigators from the narcotics division and the canine patrol in Oslo assisted in the raid Friday.

In recent years the Follo police have conducted an intense investigation in the narcotics sector. So far this year five deaths in the district can be attributed to drugs. Police chief Thor Aasvold told ARBEIDERBLADET that the narcotics situation in Follo is cause for concern. The district is isolated and has an exposed location. It looks as if narcotics dealers are retreating from Oslo and feel safer in the "province." At the same time they are geographically close to the Oslo narcotics market.

6578

CSO: 5300/2021

NORWAY

BOOKS DISCUSS YOUTH DRUG ENVIRONMENT

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 21 Sep 81 p 2

/Article by Liv Hegna: "Narcotics Hell Described by Professionals"7

/Text7 The narcotics hell is still spreading. An increasing number of families today live in the fear that a son or daughter will be swallowed up in it. The figures for Oslo show that one out of five youths has been in contact with narcotics one or more times before the age of 21. Mortality among drug addicts is five times as high as in the rest of the population, and suicide frequency 60 times higher. The culmination of drug misuse hoped for in the middle 1970s did not appear. The countermeasures of the authorities have not been adequate.

Despite the efforts made by the policy and customs authorities it is not difficult for young people, in particular in the cities, to obtain drugs. In his book "Drug Abuse," psychiatrist Nils Retterstol presents clear figures showing a constantly lower first-time drug use. In 1970 it was over 17 years, while today it is close to 15½ years, and while 10 years ago twice as many boys as girls tried drugs, the ratio during the 1977-79 period was five to four. Also, a so-called hard core of addicts has developed, addicted to heroin or the like and with a strong mix of criminality.

Is society powerless in the face of the problem? No, thinks Retterstol, pointing out by referring to a number of studies that there is cause for cautious optimism. Many alternative treatments have been offered youth, such as treatment in collectives. Better methods have been developed in vagrancy sections, psychiatric hospitals and clinics. As concerns the latter the question of compulsory commitment is a central problem. Thus far there has been no legal authority for this in Norway, the chief argument against it by professionals being that patients who lack motivation for improvement destroy the treatment milieu and that there are not adequate treatment facilities. Retterstol points out, however, that the patients' motivation is most often characterized by hostile feelings. Retterstol discusses the field rather thoroughly, and his book ought to be obligatory reading for politicians who will probably have to deal with the problem in the near future.

In another book from the same publisher, "Collectives, Everyday Life and Effects," three authors, Helge Waal, Arne Schance Andresen, and Anne Karine Kaada, present in detail the experiences of the first 85 youths and 25 employees of a treatment collective.

Drug addicts are largely recruited from milieus where there are no contacts and who primarily need a new life style involving challenges, conflicts, demands, and difficulties, along with rewards their social environment cannot give them. Experiences from the collectives described in the book indicate that these things are real compensation and an alternative or supplement to other forms of treatment for youth.

A program to find work for youths has been carried on for about a decade in this country. The reason for its establishment was rising concern over the many youths who drift around in the streets of central Oslo, the Palace Park, and the subway stations.

In her book, "Along the Street," psychologist Gro Th. Lie points out that a confidence gap exists between youth workers and politicians in connection with search-out youth work. In a well written and easily understood way she contributes to bridging this gap and makes clear why field workers and youth workers must identify more with their clients than with the police and the rest of society. If we understand Gro Th. Lie correctly she thinks a development is under way toward increased understanding in all groups of each others tasks and special ways of working.

Nils Retterstol: "Drug Addiction" 236 pp.

Helga Waal, Arne Schance Andresen, Anne Karine Kaada: "Collectives, Everyday Life and Effects.

Gro Th. Lie: "Along the Street" All titles translated from Norwegian All three books from University Publishers.

11256

CSO: 5300/2007

NORWAY

BRIEFS

OSLO NARCOTICS PLAN PROPOSED--"Now it's up to the politicians to make a move," Hakon Formo Berntsen told ARBEIDERBLADET. The Health Council has unanimously backed the comprehensive plan to combat narcotics that Formo Berntsen came up with earlier this fall. The plan involves 300 jobs and has a cost framework that over 5 years will rise from 10 million kroner in the first year to 50 million in the fifth year. Some of the money will come from programs that already exist in the Oslo area. The new measures include two overnight homes, 10 family homes, eight treatment homes and an acute-care home. "The plan is based on the needs of young people and the expressed desire of the police to do something about the drug problem. It is based on Storting Report 138 and a resolution by the Oslo Board of Aldermen," said Formo Berntsen. "I am also very happy that the Health Council supported the plan," he added. "All objections about this being unrealistic in these economically hardpressed times will be refuted." So said chief medical officer Frederik Mellbye. The Oslo Health Council recommended that the city of Oslo provide 6 million kroner in 1982 to get the plan started. "In the long run it is more economical on the national level to invest heavily in combatting narcotics now than not to do so," the Health Council maintained. [By Erik R. Sandoy] [Text] [Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 1 Oct 81 p 13] 6578

CSO: 5300/2021

SWEDEN

POLICE BEGIN NATIONWIDE CRACKDOWN ON STREET DRUG SALES

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 25 Sep 81 pp 1, 5

[Article by Per Sjogren]

[Text] Later this fall, police throughout the country will begin a crackdown on street sales of drugs. The goal is to destroy the final link in the drug-sales chain. The campaign will be conducted from 15 October to 15 December this year and from 1 April to 1 June next year. Municipal and traffic police will also be used as reinforcements in the campaign.

"We want to destroy the market," National Police Commissioner Holger Romander said.

An outline of the campaign was presented during a press conference at the National Police Board on Thursday. The participants included the top police commissioner, Holger Romander, and his closest associates.

The campaign will cover the entire country. Narcotics police in each province and in Stockholm, Gothenburg, and Malmo, with the help of other police groups, will intensify the battle against drug sales to users for at least one month. After 1 July next year the results of the campaign will be evaluated. The national police board will then decide how to proceed.

The provincial police chiefs and the police commissioners in the three largest cities are organizing the campaigns within their own region, but according to instructions from the National Police Board the campaign is to be directed primarily against street sales and other sales direct to the user. Police should devote special attention to places that are known hangouts for pushers and users.

The campaign is directed against both pushers and users. Of ten, but not always, the pusher is also a user. On 1 January 1980 chief public prosecutor Magnus Sjoberg stated that the time had come for prosecutors to get tough against drugs. All drug possession is criminal and police will act according to this premise during the crackdown.

Chief of the National Criminal Police, Tommy Lindstrom, anticipates several consequences of the campaign:

Police hope to destroy the final link in the sales chain, sales to the drug user.

If this is successful, police believe that the intermediate links in the chain will become sellers. At present, the people at intermediate levels are anonymous. If they become sellers, the police will have a greater chance of identifying them.

One goal of the campaign is to reduce the supply of drugs in the country. Many pushers in the final sales link are themselves drug users. If the supply is reduced, they will take more for themselves and there will be less to sell.

The reduced supply makes the drugs more expensive. According to police, experience shows that when this happens more drug users seek treatment.

A reduced supply of drugs also means that fewer people run the risk of being caught up in drugs. The police hope that this is true.

Police also believe that the crime that accompanies drug use will also decrease. This includes theft and fraud to obtain money for drugs. The reasoning behind this is that many people will stop using drugs and the incentive to obtain money will then diminish.

The Social Affairs Ministry and social authorities have been advised of the upcoming campaign, but no more treatment facilities will be created for any additional drug users who may seek treatment.

Tommy Lindstrom and others maintain that treatment is not a police matter. They only hope that the most serious cases will be treated first if treatment facilities actually experience an increased load.

Up to now, narcotics police have devoted most of their attention to big-time drug traffickers.

"We have broken up several organizations," Tommy Lindstrom said. The statistics show:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Reports</u>	<u>Number of confiscations</u>
1979	6,904	3,569
1980	10,806	5,772
1981 (6 months)	6,990	3,271

The number of cases involving the police increased dramatically since the chief public prosecutor made his statement. Tommy Lindstrom does not believe that drug abuse has increased by a similar amount. The police have begun to work harder.

The logical course to follow now is to attack drugs on the street. In the entire country 314 policemen are working full-time against drug abuse. To combat drugs on the street, help is needed from criminal, municipal, and traffic police. During the time the campaign is underway, traffic police are not as busy as they normally are.

Criminal police must postpone other assignments. Municipal police must simply concentrate more on drug investigations during their normal work.

9336

CSO: 5300/2012

TURKEY

ARMENIANS ALLEGEDLY ORGANIZE NARCOTICS SMUGGLING

NC270907 Istanbul GUNAYDIN in Turkish 22 Oct 81 p 4

[Text] Ankara (Special)--It is now clearly known that the smuggling of narcotics in Turkey is organized by the Armenians. The directorate general of the security has prepared a report in this respect.

According to information obtained, the first clue was detected after a search carried out by the narcotics bureau detectives last month in the Lice district of Diyarbakir. A smuggling network led by Mehmet Senerdem, a very popular man in Lice known as "Haci," and 33 kilos of heroin was captured. When searched naked, Mehmet Senerdem was found to be uncircumcised. Upon this, the police investigations revealed that he was an Armenian by origin who frequently corresponded with his relatives in France. It was revealed that the funds for the manufacture of 33 kilos of heroin were supplied by his cousins in Beirut.

Upon this discovery, the Central Narcotics Bureau deepened its investigations and began to look for the roots of heroin smuggling. The following is a list showing the names of notorious smugglers caught in recent years, the quantity of heroin seized and the origin of the smugglers:

<u>The name of the smuggler</u>	<u>The quantity of narcotics seized</u>	<u>The origin of the smuggler</u>
Semih Kocakaya	10 kilos of heroin, caught in Istanbul	Armenian, originating from Beirut
Ugorcan Elmas and his sister Piyale Elhas	1.5 kilo of hashish, caught in Germany but they escaped; Interpol is looking for them	Armenian
Ishan Esan and Gilber Sirin Pinar	30 kilos of heroin, caught in Italy, pretending to be pregnant. They said they were Turks	Armenian, originating from Beirut

<u>The name of the smuggler</u>	<u>The quantity of narcotics seized</u>	<u>The origin of the smuggler</u>
Artin Acemiyen	31 kilos of heroin, told Italian police that he was a Turk.	Armenian, originating from Beirut
Davit Cenlik	15 kilos of heroin, caught in Istanbul	Armenian, born in Tel Aviv
Suadin Attal	Caught in Istanbul with hashish trying to smuggle it to Germany	Armenian, a citizen of France
Fuat Beze, his true surname: Besejyan	23 kilos of hashish, caught in Istanbul	of Armenian extraction
Madal Jinaski, her false name: Jale	Caught in Germany selling heroin pretended to be a Turk	of Armenian extraction

When hard-pressed by Interpol, Madal Jinaski, whose false name is Jale, said that she bought the narcotics from an Armenian in Istanbul named Athanasios Kalabalakis. In a joint operation carried by the Turkish detectives and German police officers who came to Istanbul, Kalabalakis was caught. It was then established that this Armenian sent narcotics to Europe through the Turkish workers going that way.

The report prepared by the general directorate of the security asserts that the reason for these acts of smuggling is to conduct "propaganda against Turkey."

CSO: 5300/5315

TURKEY

BRIEFS

LARGE HEROIN, HASHISH SEIZURES--News Center--In an operation carried out in the village of Siginak in Diyarbakir's Lice district, 33 kilos of pure heroin with a foreign market value reported at 4 billion lira were seized. During an armed clash which broke out during the operation, 8 persons were apprehended, one of whom, a heroin manufacturer, was dead. Elsewhere, 6 foreign smugglers comprising 3 Israelis, 2 Greeks and 1 German-born Jew, who were followed from the very moment they entered the southeast border entry point, were apprehended with 4 kilos of heroin. The German security organization thanked the Turkish security officials on the occasion of the capture of the gang, which planned to transport the heroin--which they had purchased in Beirut--to Munich. Meanwhile, 4,340 kilos of hashish were seized in Adana's Osmaniye district and 2 persons were taken into custody. [Text] [Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish 8 Oct 81 p 3]

CSO: 5300/3313

END