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JPRS L/10160

3 December 1981

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 55/81)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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BANGLADESH

BRIEFS

CHITTAGONG DRUGS SEIZURE--Chittagong, Oct. 3--Chittagong Sea Customs seized 24 kilograms of hashish and 28 pounds of marijuana valued at Taka over one crore from Banglar Mita, a ship of the Bangladesh Shipping Corporation yesterday. The captain of the ship an Indian national Mr. S.M. Patel and a Pakistani citizen the Chief Engineer of the ship Mr. A.G. Siddiqui have been arrested in this connection. The Sea Customs acting on secret information raided the ship at 5 p.m. yesterday and found the hashish inside the engine panel. The hashish was loaded for smuggling abroad. The hashish and marijuana are understood to have smuggled into Bangladesh from Pakistan through India by land route. A well organised chain of smugglers are said to have involved in this smuggling. The ship M.V. Banglar Mita loaded with jute goods was bound for continental countries in a few days. The ship came to Chittagong after unloading general cargo at Calcutta port. [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 4 Oct 81 p 1]

CSO: 5300/7006

HONG KONG

RECENT CHINA ARRIVALS JOIN TRIADS IN DRUG TRAFFICKING

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 28 Oct 81 p 12

[Article by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

Recent arrivals from China are not only involved in armed robberies but have already established links with local triads engaged in the distribution of dangerous drugs in various districts of Kowloon.

This was disclosed yesterday when officers from the District Crime Unit 1, Kowloon Police Headquarters arrested seven people — including two women in two separate raids — and seized heroin.

Three of those arrested were found to be "green chop" holders and are believed to be members of the Big Circle Gang.

None of the "green chop" holders is an addict and police believe that they became involved in drug trafficking to make money which would enable them to pay gang members "advances" for future crimes.

Previously police had thought the Big Circle Gang was only involved in armed robberies.

But now a drugs trafficking link has been established between the gang and the notorious 14K triad society.

Yesterday's raids followed several weeks of investigations.

Officers from the District Crime Unit 1, Kowloon Police Headquarters, headed by

Detective Chief Inspector Ian Seabourne, raided two premises in Kowloon and arrested the seven people and seized 120 grams of heroin from the gang's main storage centre in Cheung Ning Street, Tokwan.

One of the arrested men was found in possession of \$20,000 — in \$10 and \$100 notes.

Detectives raided a flat in Cheung Ning Street, Tokwan, shortly before 7 am and made the drug seizure after arresting four men and a woman on the premises.

They later raided another flat in Tung Choi Street, Mongkok, and arrested another man and a woman, believed to be members of the same gang.

Members of the Big Circle Gang are believed to have taken charge of delivering narcotics to districts in Kowloon for distribution to the pedlars.

Sources close to the police said last night it appeared that members of the Big Circle Gang were putting their fingers into "every pie" where profits are to be made.

Meanwhile police said last night that the price of heroin had dropped on the local market in recent months, which indicated there is a steady flow of drugs into Hongkong from the Golden Triangle, which had a bumper harvest this year.

CSO: 5320/9099

HONG KONG

INTERPOL ARRESTS THAI WANTED IN HOLLAND ON DRUGS CHARGE

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 29 Oct 81 p 1

[Article by Tommy Lewis and Janita Wong]

[Text]

A Thai engineer wanted in Holland for alleged drug trafficking yesterday walked out of Western Court a free man after a magistrate said the documents produced for his extradition had not been duly authenticated.

But Vonchai Tumtunkitkul's taste of freedom was shortlived — he was arrested by officers from the Interpol Bureau two hours later.

Vonchai, alias Danny Conrad (29), walked out of Western Court at 5.05 pm, after his passport was returned to him by the court.

His wife clung on to his arm as he walked into the sunlight and hailed a taxi.

Vonchai and his wife went straight to the offices of the Thai Consulate on the second floor of a building in Gloucester Road to seek asylum as officers from the Interpol Bureau headed by Detective Chief Inspector Mike Quinn and Senior Insp Arthur Olerenshaw waited for him in the lobby, armed with a new warrant for his arrest.

Vonchai's lawyer, Mr Stephen Llyewellyn, went to the Thai Consulate.

At 7.05 pm, Mr Llyewellyn, Vonchai and his wife emerged from the lift and were met by the waiting police officers.

Following a brief conversation with the policemen, Vonchai was taken to Western police station where he was detained overnight.

He will appear at Western

Court at 9.30 am today. Police said last night that a new set of papers properly authenticated will be obtained from Holland in time for the extradition hearing — his third.

When releasing Vonchai yesterday Mr P.H. O'Donnell at Western Court said the documents produced as exhibits, including the foreign warrant for his arrest, had not been duly authenticated.

Mr O'Donnell said he had no jurisdiction to commit Vonchai to prison pending extradition without a duly authenticated foreign warrant

and depositions in support of alleged offences committed by him.

He said the court could not accept such a comprehensive oversight of authentication of documents.

The issue of the authentication of the foreign warrant was a matter of substance, and the court was not prepared to exercise its discretion to release further documents other than the three which were released last Friday.

The order brought the proceedings to an end.

There were about nine depositions altogether.

On Friday, Mr O'Donnell released three depositions which did not have the official seal of the Netherlands Minister of Justice to enable the Crown to rectify the defects.

Vonchai is wanted in Holland for alleged involvement in illegal trafficking of 51 kilos of heroin there.

This was the second time he had been the subject of extradition proceedings.

Deputy principal Crown counsel Frank Stock applied for the release of the remaining documents so that they could also be properly authenticated.



Vonchai and his wife after his arrest.

HONG KONG

THAI WANTED IN NETHERLANDS ON DRUGS CHARGE REFUSED BAIL

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 3 Nov 81 p 10

[Excerpt]

An application for bail by a Thai engineer wanted in Holland for alleged dangerous drugs offences was rejected by Mr C. J. Perrior at Western Court yesterday.

Vonchai Tumtonkitkul, alias Danny Conrad (29), was remanded in jail custody pending extradition proceedings on December 21 — the third time he faces such action.

He is alleged to be linked with the illegal trafficking of 51 kilos of heroin to Holland.

Mr Perrior noted that Vonchai had been in custody for seven months as a result of the failure of extradition proceedings on two previous occasions.

He said he had been told by the Crown that after the first proceedings at Causeway Bay Court, Vonchai applied for a writ of habeas corpus and was released by the High Court.

The reason for the release was not on the merits of the case but on matters arising from the conduct of a magistrate.

In the second proceedings, before Mr P. H. O'Donnell at Western Court, Vonchai was discharged, again not on the merits of the case, but as the result of a failure to have documents properly sealed by the Dutch Minister of Justice.

Mr Perrior said if the factors to be taken into consideration ended there, he would be minded to grant bail to Vonchai.

However, they did not.

He said he was satisfied, after listening to the Crown's submission, that there was a very real possibility of Vonchai absconding if granted bail, even on the most stringent conditions.

Opposing bail, deputy principal Crown counsel Mr Frank Stock said there were three grounds for objection:

First, the likelihood of Vonchai absconding was obvious.

The offences Vonchai was alleged to have committed were serious, said counsel.

The allegations were that he was the leader in the importation of dangerous drugs into the Netherlands from Thailand.

He was alleged to have organised couriers to go to Bangkok and supplied them with boots with which to smuggle the drugs to Holland.

The maximum prison term under Dutch law for importation of dangerous drugs was 12 years.

The second ground for objection, said Mr Stock, was Vonchai's connection with places abroad. The Thai passport which was returned to him when he was released by the High Court recorded 30

international flights between November 1978 and March.

Counsel said Vonchai went in and out of Holland and Bangkok and a few times to the United States.

His wife is a citizen of the United States and he himself is a Thai national and no doubt he had contacts there.

Counsel went on to say that Interpol alleged that Vonchai possessed a counterfeit Indonesian passport under the alias of Danny Conrad.

It was also suggested by Interpol that a certain shipping line was used to import dangerous drugs to Holland.

Counsel said Vonchai was a man of considerable financial means.

When arrested in March he had about \$95,000 and a document concerning the buying of a kilo of gold.

The third ground against the granting of bail, said Mr Stock, was that in the first extradition proceedings at Causeway Bay Court in June, the magistrate found there was a prima facie case.

Also, in August when Vonchai applied for a writ of habeas corpus, the High Court made it perfectly clear that his discharge was not upon the quality of evidence nor the conduct of the Dutch authorities but on certain matters arising from the conduct of a magistrate.

CSO: 5320/9100

HONG KONG

EXPERIMENTAL TREATMENT OF ADDICTS WITH NEW DRUG URGED

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 6 Nov 81 p 11

[Excerpt]

A medical specialist on narcotics has asked the Medical and Health Department to experiment by treating local addicts with a new drug.

Dr Robert Newman, who is a consultant on narcotics treatment and rehabilitation to the department, has recommended that a small pilot project be started using buprenorphine for treatment instead of methadone.

The use of buprenorphine — which has been tested for drug treatment overseas for two years — can be discontinued abruptly with minimum, if any, withdrawal pains, Dr Newman said yesterday.

"It may have something to offer in lieu of methadone," he said.

About 12,000 of Hongkong's estimated 40,000 addicts are receiving some form of treatment from the Gov-

ernment now and 7,000 of them take methadone.

"If methadone is discontinued abruptly, there are withdrawal pains, though less severe than for heroin withdrawal. When a patient withdraws gradually, however, there should be no discomfort," Dr Newman said.

He said buprenorphine has both a narcotic effect and an ingredient which fights this narcotic effect and that makes it "very safe" in terms of preventing an overdose.

He wants to see about 40 patients put on buprenorphine for about three weeks to see if it is more effective than methadone and if patients prefer it.

"If it works out, it can be tested on a larger scale. Based on American studies, it is potentially useful," said Dr Newman, who is based in New York.

He is the general director of the Beth Israel Medical

Foundation and former director of New York City's Health Department methadone treatment programme.

"There's no question of using Hongkong addicts as guinea pigs. Buprenorphine, which is produced by a British firm, has been studied extensively in the United States and Europe for about two years now with no side effects.

"It's also available as an analgesic to treat pain on the open market. I believe it's also available in Hongkong as an analgesic.

"But with regard to treating drug addicts, it is not yet generally accepted and is still in the investigation stage. It's not a wonder drug," Dr Newman warned.

His recommendation has yet to be considered by the department, the Action Committee Against Narcotics and other treatment agencies.

CSO: 5320/9100

HONG KONG

CHINA REPRESENTED AT WHO COURSE ON DRUG ADDICTION

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 28 Oct 81 p 14

[Text] China is represented for the first time at a World Health Organisation training course to help countries with drug addiction problems.

It is one of 10 countries whose doctors are attending the WHO Inter-Regional Training Course on the treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts.

Local experts are addressing the three-week course which began yesterday.

The Secretary for Security, Mr L.M. Davies, the Director of Medical and Health Services, Dr K.L. Thong, and the Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr E.I. Lee attended the opening ceremony.

The chairman of the Action Committee Against Narcotics, Sir Albert Rodrigues, said at WHO's request the committee was organising the course for the third consecutive year because of its past success.

Speaking at the opening ceremony in the Legislative Council Chamber, Sir Albert said that Hongkong had not found an answer to narcotics abuse.

"But we have made a great effort to develop a system to meet our own special needs," he said.

"We have over the past decade made considerable achievements in attacking the twin problem of drug abuse and trafficking."

He estimated the addict population at about 40,000.

Drug addiction remained one of our serious social problems which had to be tackled with continual determination and persistence.

Local doctors are attending the training course with doctors from other Asian countries and Egypt.

CSO: 5320/9099

INDIA

REPORT ON DELHI CONFERENCE ON DRUG ABUSE

Madras THE HINDU in English 21 Oct 81 p 8

[Text]

THE conference on drug abuse, held recently in New Delhi, has helped to highlight once again a problem, which may not have assumed alarming proportions in our country but still is growing fast enough to cause concern.

That the United Nations Division of Narcotic Drugs (UNDND), the Colombo Plan Bureau and the International Council on Alcohol and Addiction cosponsored the conference, organised by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, and delegates from South East Asian countries participated in it indicate the global concern over the increasing trend in drug abuse.

Reliable and precise data on the prevalence and incidence of drug abuse — which means non-medical use of dependence-producing drugs — are not available but the impression gaining ground is that this is one of the major scourges of our time. The magnitude of the problem is indicated to some extent by the increasing illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

According to Dr. George M. Ling, Director of UNDND, illegal drug traffic business generates total receipts of possibly \$200 billions (Rs. 180,000 crores) worldwide in a year. Illegal trade of this order has its implications not only for the health of the individual concerned but also for the stability and security of a country and hence the U.N. has taken an active interest in controlling such trade in narcotic drugs.

Different types

The dependence-producing drugs are of different types and the prevalence of addiction of these differ from region to region. For instance, as Dr. Pteer Schioler of Denmark told the New Delhi conference, alcohol abuse is the greatest problem in his country and cannabis use is now showing an increase. In South-East Asia, particularly on the Indo-Pakistan sub-continent, opium and cannabis are the drugs used extensively.

According to Dr. Atty Pio a Abarro, drugs adviser to the Colombo Plan countries, there are 2.5 lakhs addicts in Malaysia

of whom 75 per cent take heroin, while in Singapore and Hong Kong about 80 per cent go in for it. In the Philippines, on the other hand, most of the addicts take ganja and other drugs and the use of heroin is negligible.

In Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore there is stringent penalty for trafficking in or manufacture of these drugs but, Dr. Abarro says, despite this, the problem retains its magnitude. Most drugs, particularly heroin and opium, are smuggled into these countries, from Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Turkey — called the "golden crescent" — which produce 500 to 600 tonnes of opium a year higher than 300 to 400 tonnes produced in the "golden triangle" comprising Thailand, Burma and Laos.

According to him, the problem of drug abuse is not found in Bhutan, whereas in Kathmandu, heroin which was unheard of six years ago, now claims at least 1,000 addicts.

Negligible

So far as India is concerned, no nationwide data on the prevalence is available but studies conducted in different States and on different sections of the population have shown that use of psychotropic drugs is negligible among the general population, and use of opium and cannabis tends to be high only in the areas where they are cultivated. Alcohol and tobacco are reported to be the most widely used.

Dr. H. S. Sethi and his colleagues in AllMS reported that drug use in India is dominant mainly in the males — the prevalence rate among them ranging from 65 per cent to 94 per cent. Studies among students are reported to have shown that alcohol, tobacco and minor analgesics are the three most commonly used drugs, with cannabis as the distant fourth drug. Use of psychotropic drugs and opiates are comparatively less frequent.

But compared to the general population, the use of psychotropic drugs among students is higher.

CSO: 5300/7005

INDIA

BRIEFS

HEROIN FROM AFGHANISTAN--New Delhi, Oct. 16--The narcotics cell of the Central Bureau of Investigation yesterday made the largest seizure of heroin so far in the country. Officers of the CBI seized about two kg. of heroin worth about Rs. 9 crores from an Afghan national. He was identified as Gulam Gaus alias Syed Rahim and was caught by the Narcotics detectives at 4 p.m. at a five-star south Delhi hotel. CBI officers said that the Afghan national told them during interrogation that he had bought the first grade heroin from the "drug market" on no man's land of the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. He also said that the heroin was for sale to foreigners in India. The narcotics branch had last month seized over one kg. of heroin from two Mizos near the same hotel. [Madras THE HINDU in English 17 Oct 81 p 9]

POPPY HUSK OPIUM SUBSTITUTE--Calcutta, Oct. 9 (UNI)--The abuse of poppy husk as a substitute for opium for its narcotic effects and its availability in the illicit internal channel are on the increase, according to papers prepared by the Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN). Illicit trafficking in the poppy husk and capsules increased after their exports to different countries had continued to slump since 1976, the paper said. The increased abuse of poppy husk and capsules having morphine content had become evident with the seizure of gradually higher quantities from different places of the country. While the CBN had unearthed 19 cases of illicit trafficking in poppy husk with a total seizure of 11,778 kg in 1979, the number of cases rose to 40 with a total recovery of 14,283 kg in 1980 the paper added. The three poppy growing States--Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh--had framed comprehensive poppy head rules to control the production and possession of the commodity, the paper said. But some of them were allowing the supply of small quantity of poppy husk and capsules for preparation of indigenous medicines. [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 10 Oct 81 p 5]

CHARAS SMOKING WIDESPREAD--80 percent of the coeds in India smoke charas. This information was revealed in a report published by the government. It further adds that there are regular dens selling charas cigarettes in the hostels of colleges and universities. The coeds openly buy the charas cigarettes from there and then smoke them sitting in groups. On several occasions, the coeds have forced their teachers also to smoke charas. During the current year, 60 teachers have resigned after being harassed by such wayward students. [Text/ /Rawalpindi TAMEER in Urdu 21 Oct 81 p 2/ 9779

CSO: 5300/4549

NEW ZEALAND

DETAILS OF DRUG-BUYING TRIPS AROUND ASIA BARED AT TRIAL

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 23 Oct 81 p 5

[Text]

PA Auckland

The alleged "second lieutenant" in a drug syndicate told the High Court at Auckland yesterday that he paid \$9000 to a Bangkok taxi driver for heroin, but pulled out of the deal after he became uneasy about it.

The man, who has been given name suppression and immunity from further prosecution, told the Court it was fortunate that he left Thailand otherwise he would have been staying in a Thai prison now instead of one in New Zealand.

He was giving evidence under cross-examination by Mr Barry Wilson, defence counsel for one of the accused, Colin James Prast, aged 41, company director, of Hillsborough.

Prast and his co-accused, Glenda Faye Menzies, aged 36, an unemployed bank teller, of Avondale, have denied a joint charge of importing heroin on March 9 at Christchurch and two counts of importing morphine on December 3 and April 11.

Prast has denied a further charge of importing morphine on September 24 last year.

They have also denied three counts of supplying, two of conspiring to supply, and two of conspiring to import heroin and morphine.

The trial, before Mr Justice Holland, surrounded by

tight security, is expected to last three to four weeks.

The witness said he went to Thailand in February with about \$12,000 after a contact in Singapore failed to show up.

He and Prast had discussed the possibility of him going to Thailand to "look around to see if something could be bought," prior to his leaving New Zealand.

He said he arranged to buy heroin from a Bangkok taxi driver whom he met one night.

After the driver brought him a sample of the drugs, he paid him a deposit of \$6000. But he felt uneasy and left the country without the heroin.

The witness said he did not try to see the contact again and get his money back because of his "uneasy feeling."

"I just wanted to get out of the place," he said.

A search by customs at Bangkok when he was leaving had upset and frightened him.

As a result he did not want to carry the balance of the cash back with him and left it in a box with a switchblade knife in a Singapore hotel for an Air New Zealand cabin crew steward (name suppressed) to pick up.

On the way back through Sydney he said he stayed with friends with whom he was involved in another business venture.

A passport in the name of Petti was left by him in the house of one of the men.

On arriving in Auckland he was fully searched by customs.

He said he returned about \$12,000 to Prast and he knew the United States currency he had left in Singapore would probably be used for the next trip.

The witness, a convicted narcotics courier, had earlier described a succession of drugs-buying trips to Singapore, Penang, Bombay and Bangkok.

He said he was instructed on several runs to bring the drugs into New Zealand on particular Air New Zealand flights from Sydney.

The flights he had to catch were ones which involved an aircraft flying to Christchurch, then going on to Auckland within a few hours. The Christchurch-Auckland leg was classed as an internal flight by customs.

On one occasion, the witness said, he left drugs behind an aircraft toilet panel to be collected by an Air New Zealand steward.

The witness, described earlier by Mr Morris as Prast's "second lieutenant," told the jury that he had pleaded guilty and been sentenced on charges of importing and conspiring to import drugs.

He said he used three false passports as well as his true passport on different trips to

Asia between September, 1979, and April this year.

Two of the false passports were in names alleged by the Crown to have been taken from gravestones in Auckland cemeteries.

The witness said he flew to Penang on a false passport in late September, 1979, to meet a Tongan man called Tava.

Prast arranged the trip and agreed to pay him \$2000, he said.

He said he received \$6000 cash in \$10 bills the day before he left. The money came from Prast, he said, and he was told to get "brown rocks" (a strain of heroin).

At Singapore he went, as instructed, to a certain money-changer in "Change Alley" and converted the cash into Malaysian currency.

He said he followed Prast's instructions to a beach hotel at Penang where he met Tava.

Tava bought the heroin from a trishaw driver and the witness took it back to Singapore. He said he and Tava packed the drugs into a tape recorder and sent it as unaccompanied baggage to Tonga.

Later, he said, he was told the heroin arrived in a ship at Onehunga, New Zealand.

In May, 1980, he said he flew to Bombay to investigate the drugs available there.

He said it was Prast's idea that he should go. Prast paid

the travel expenses and the witness was to make contact with an Indian named Munna. On his return he said he told Prast that "heroin, morphine and hash" were available from Munna. Later in the month he flew back to Bombay, bought a kilogram of morphine for \$NZ5,000 and set out for New Zealand with it packed in his shaving kit.

This trip was also at Prast's instigation, he said. Prast had supplied the money and told him to put the drugs into an overhead air vent of a toilet in the first-class section of an Air New Zealand flight from Sydney to Christchurch.

He said Prast had given him a square-headed implement to unscrew a panel to the air vent but he was unable to open the vent and left the drugs, as alternatively arranged, in a cupboard under the handbasin.

It was pre-arranged, he said, that he would fly from Sydney to Christchurch in a plane which "two hours or so later flew to Auckland as an internal flight."

He said he left the drugs in the plane, cleared customs at Christchurch and caught the same plane back to Auckland where he was met at the airport by Prast.

Mr Stuart Grieve, for the Crown, asked: "From whom did you learn it became an internal flight after Christchurch?"

The witness said: "From Mr Prast."

The man said he made another trip to Bombay in

September, 1980, and bought a kilogram of morphine from a taxi-driver named Rajan after he was unable to contact Munna.

On the return trip he was able this time, he said, to open the toilet air vent panel and he had been told that "someone in the airline" would handle it from that point.

On the flight from Sydney to Christchurch, he said, "an Air New Zealand steward contacted me when I was in a first-class seat."

"He asked me how many containers there were and I told him."

The witness said he made a similar trip to Bombay in November, 1980, carrying \$NZ8000 to buy more drugs from Rajan.

In February he went to Singapore again and then to Bangkok after a man in Singapore failed to keep a rendezvous at a place called "The Jockey Club."

In Bangkok, he said, he paid between \$NZ25000 and \$NZ6000 to a taxi-driver who offered to supply him. But he "felt uneasy" about the deal and flew back to Singapore without collecting the drugs.

When he told Prast what had happened, he was asked to make another trip to India to make up the loss.

The witness said he made another trip to Bombay in March and was returning from yet another when he was arrested by Customs officials at Wellington Airport on April 11.

CSO: 5320/9101

NEW ZEALAND

BRIEFS

DRUG DEALER, DISTRIBUTOR JAILED--Wellington, 13 Nov (AFP)--A New Zealand drug financier and dealer was today jailed for 17 years for importing and distributing heroin and morphine. Colin James Prast of Auckland was handed down the heaviest prison term ever imposed on a New Zealand drug boss. A high court judge called his crime the gravest of its kind to come before a New Zealand court. Prast's chief distributor, 26-year-old Glenda Fave Menzies, was jailed for 12 years. Prast, a 41-year-old company director who was the organiser, financier and brains behind the drug ring, admitted eight charges of importing and supplying morphine and heroin. Menzies was found guilty of supplying both drugs during her three week trial. [Hong Kong AFP in English 0552 GMT 13 Nov 81 BK]

CSO: 5300/4558

PAKISTAN

CUSTOMS STILL AWAITING PROMISED DOGS FOR DRUG DETECTION

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 3 Nov 81 p 5

[Text] The Custom's drug enforcement agency in the city is still trying to sniff out the whereabouts of the much promised German "drug detective dogs."

Mr G. A. Jehangir, member CBR (Customs) had stated in September that the dogs, with their handlers, would assist the local drug detection cell.

The dogs were expected to assist the customs agencies but the Karachi and Hyderabad collectorates, it is learnt, still do not have the services of these trained dogs.

A German team visited Pakistan last year and a comprehensive training programme was planned for the interception of narcotics with the help of dogs especially trained to sniff out drugs. The dogs were to be used at all the airports in the country, first at Karachi, to detect narcotics. They were also to be utilised in special raids by the drug detection squad.

Pakistani custom officers are to leave for Germany, next year to be trained in handling these drug detective dogs.

However, to date, the dogs have, apparently, still not scented their way to the Karachi airport drug detection cell.

The custom officers are still awaiting their promised canine support, in their bid to check the illicit drug trade, through the country.

CSO: 5300/4556

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

CHARAS, OPIUM SEIZURE--Islamabad, Oct 31--The Customs authorities yesterday recovered 32 Kgs of 'charas' and three kilos of opium from a vehicle found near village Mehra Aku, Golra. A customs squad, on a vigilance duty, tried to check a car on G.T. Road, but the driver ignored them and tried to abscond. The Customs men recovered the 'opium' and 'charas' worth about lakhs of rupees from the car. A case against the said driver has been registered under the Customs Act and the police were trying to trace him. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Nov 81 p 3]

OPIUM SEIZED NEAR AFGHAN BORDER--Islamabad, 19 Nov (AFP)--Police seized 55 kilograms (121 pounds) of opium in an operation against drug peddlers in the Malakand District bordering Afghanistan, official sources said today. The contraband drug, valued at \$50,000, was concealed in four cannisters in a car near Takhtbai last night. The driver was reportedly arrested. The opium was being smuggled into Pakistan for onward transportation to an unnamed foreign country, the sources said. [Hong Kong AFP in English 1727 GMT 19 Nov 81 BK]

CSO: 5300/4557

THAILAND

KHUN SA'S REWARD FOR INFORMATION ON NARCOTICS AGENTS

BK271456 Bangkok POST in English 27 Oct 81 p 3

[Text] Chiang Rai--Notorious golden triangle drug kingpin Khun Sa has offered rewards for information on about 30 narcotics agents based in the north, an authoritative source said yesterday.

Khun Sa, alias Chang Chi-fu, offered 5,000 to 10,000 baht for details and background on the top Thai and foreign narcotics agents based in Chiang Mai, the source said.

He also ordered his troops to fight back if they encounter government forces in future, said the source. In the past the troops usually just fled the scene, sometimes leaving behind mules carrying loads of opium.

Khun Sa's order came after a 700-man drug caravan belonging to him clashed with a platoon of rangers from Pakthongchai District of Nakhon Ratchasima. A fierce battle raged for 2 days, 8-9 October, and four of his caravan guards were killed.

The source also said that Khun Sa was believed to have set up a new stronghold at Ban Payapai on the Burmese border close to Thailand, under the protection of about 2,000 armed Shan United Army irregular troops.

He reportedly moved the troops and a number of people from his Ban Hin Taek stronghold to Ban Payapai and Ban Mae Mor in Burma after his drug caravan clashed with the ranger forces.

His wounded caravan guards were reportedly sent for treatment at the hideout of a close aid in Ban Pa Mued, close to Mae Sai District.

At present, only about 200 people, mainly women and children, were left at Ban Hin Taek, the source said.

The drug kingpin also ordered his men to collect and destroy the leaflets announcing half a million baht reward for his capture, airdropped last month in Ban Hin Taek, the source added.

Meanwhile, the fate of a member of a 39-man ranger platoon who was reported missing during the clash with Khun Sa's caravan guards remains unknown, but he is believed to have been captured by Khun Sa's troops, the source said.

Border patrol police unit 508, based near Ban Hin Taek, was assigned to locate him after government troops moved to clear the battle scene near Ban Hin Taek and Ban A Hai shortly after the clash.

The unit helped take 8 rangers who were wounded in the clash for treatment. The rangers reportedly told authority that they went to Khun Sa's area on a special mission to arrest him, on the orders of "high superiors." They claimed that their unit would receive 12 million baht reward if the mission was accomplished.

The mission, which was meant to be secret--no provincial officials or border patrol police in Chiang Rai were notified--was a disaster. Ten rangers were killed, eight injured and one is still missing.

The battle came when Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon was in the United States. Narcotics problems were among major issues he discussed with American leaders.

Last week border patrol police unit 508 tried to find the missing ranger in the area of Ban Muang Song, about 10 kilometers northeast of Ban Hin Taek, where it was thought he was being held.

When the BPP unit arrived they were told that Khun Sa's troops just left the village. They reportedly went to join Khun Sa at his new stronghold in Ban Payapai, the source said.

In September, Khun Sa offered to cooperate with the Thai Government to end opium cultivation and drug trafficking in the region. His 12-page proposal was sent to narcotics authorities, including the chairman of the office of the narcotics control board, Gen Prachuap Suntharangkun.

Gen Prachuap immediately turned down the proposal, saying Thailand will not make any deal with Khun Sa, and will work only with the Burmese Government as far as suppression of opium cultivation and drug trafficking are concerned.

CSO: 5300/4560

THAILAND

BRIEFS

DRUG INFORMER KILLED IN HAT YAI--Hat Yai--A hotel worker who acted as an informer for the U.S. drug enforcement administration was fatally wounded in a shooting in Muang District yesterday afternoon, police said. Police said Naowarat Watcharabut, 29, was shot on Niphat-Uthit 3 road at 2 p.m. by two armed men on a motorcycle. Narowarat was rushed to the District Hospital where he died at 4:45 p.m. from bullet wounds to the chest and right shoulder. Police said they believed that Naowarat's killers were hired by drug traffickers who had learned that he was an informer. They said information provided to the DEA by Naowarat, who worked in the Amarin Hotel in Hat Yai, had led to several drug arrests and narcotics seizures in the south this year. [Bangkok POST in English 20 Nov 81 p 3 BK]

DRUG SUPPRESSION EFFORTS--Interior Minister Sitthi Chirarot told newsmen at the interior ministry this morning that there is no need to amend the present narcotics laws because they already carry heavy penalties. The authorities are doing their utmost to suppress narcotics, but rarely can they arrest the culprits. However, he said, Prime Minister Gen Prem Tinsulanon pledged during the recent cabinet meeting to make serious efforts to wipe out opium cultivation and heroin production in Thailand. Thailand will cooperate with the international police forces from the United States and Burma in this matter. Asked about new suppression measures, the interior minister said that there will probably be no need for new measures as the authorities are continuing their suppression operations against opium growers and heroin producers while the narcotics control board office, with police cooperation, is taking action against drug trafficking in the country. [Excerpt] [BK290847 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 28 Oct 81]

SOUTHERN DRUG HAUL--Songkhla--Police yesterday arrested two men and accused them of possessing 5.8 kilogrammes of No. 4 first grade heroin and 560 grammes of morphine worth about 3 million baht at a house in Muang District, police reported last night. Police identified the suspects as Wirot Chonchit, 33, and Chun Thipwalak, 36, and said they had just arrived in the province from Bangkok by train. The two men denied possessing 14 bags of double u-globe heroin and two morphine blocks allegedly found hidden in the house. [Bandkok POST in English 27 Oct 81 p 3 BK]

CITY HEROIN HAUL--Anti-narcotic police yesterday arrested three men and seized 54 kg of pure heroin on Wiphawadi Rangsit Road after a year-long intensive investigation and surveillance of the network. Deputy Prime Minister Prachuap Suntharangkun said the heroin was worth at least 10.8 million baht locally and its price could go up to 2,000 million baht in black market in the United States. Police said the three suspects, one of them a real estate investor, belonged to an international drug

trafficking ring with connections in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and Europe. Locally, they normally supplied narcotics from the north to the south through the southern city of Hat Yai and they were planning to expand their racket into the United States, police said. Police said the No 4 heroin was taken to Bangkok from the Northern Province of Lampang. The heroin was neatly packed in 121 packages. Police identified the leader of the group as Kitti Rungphara, 40, the manager of Maha Nakhon housing estate on Wiphawadi Rangsit Road. They said the residence of Kitti who is ethnic Chinese was in Soi Nuanoi off Ekkamai Road. Two others, Loephong Tangphaisan alias Ku, 45, and Chalong Thipdecho, 40, said they had been hired to drive vehicles transporting the drugs several times. They said they received 40,000 baht for each assignment. Loephong, also an ethnic Chinese, lived on Worachak Road while Chalong's residence was in Thung Mahamek, Yannawa. Police said they had followed the drug racket for over a year and learned that the suspects collaborated with Haw Chinese in the northern provinces of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai in drug trafficking in both local and overseas markets. [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 28 Oct 81 pp 1, 10 BK]

HUNT FOR DRUG MASTERMIND--Police yesterday ordered a manhunt for the mastermind behind a drug trafficking network that was involved in one of the biggest drug seizures on Tuesday. Three suspects including a real estate investor were arrested with 54 kg of pure heroin but police believed there must be a "bigger person" who controls the racket which has an international connection in Asia and Europe. Zone 3 provincial police commissioner Pol Lt Gen Det Khattaphan said 690 drug suspects were arrested in the north between July and September during which the so-called "Intharathep 1" plan was launched. Police also arrested 1,014 persons for illegal possession of arms and another 58 for owning war weapons under the plan aimed at extensively suppressing crime. Pol Lt Gen Det expressed concern on the trend of increasing crime rate in the north, saying this year's crime rate will be at least 16 percent higher than last year's. [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 29 Oct 81 pp 1, 14 BK]

POPPY FIELD ERADICATION CAMPAIGN--Chiang Mai--Anti-narcotic and provincial officials have begun a campaign to eradicate poppy fields here by supplying hilltribe people with bean and sweet corn seedlings in exchange for their poppy seedlings. Informed sources in the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) said that hilltribe people in 51 villages had submitted 41.76 kg of poppy seedlings to authorities and in return took away 15 tons of bean seedlings and 800 kg of sweet corn seedlings. The 51 villages are included in the plan to "eradicate" the poppy fields here. Another 10 villages here are targets of a campaign by ONCB which plans to send policemen to destroy all the poppy fields there next month. Director of the substitute crops division Aran Suwanbuppha said everything was ready for the campaign to start next month and all local hilltribe men were getting seedlings to substitute their poppies. Informed sources said that no defence volunteers or village scouts will be employed in the campaign to destroy the poppy fields. "We will also avoid using soldiers but will employ policemen," one of them said. However, if necessary a small number of soldiers will be mobilized to help in the campaign, he said. [BKO60343 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 31 Oct 81 p 2]

NARCOTICS TRAFFIC VIA BEIJING--Thailand has detected a shift from Hong Kong to Beijing as a transit point being used by narcotic traffickers to avoid the regional law enforcement dragnet, a regional conference was told recently. The report was made by the Thai delegation head, police Maj Gen Pow Sarasin, during the Wellington meeting of the Far East region operation heads of narcotics law enforcement agency between

19-23 October. Diplomatic sources said that the Chinese Government recently informed the Thai Embassy in Beijing that a number of drug traffickers from Bangkok had used Beijing as their new transit point. The Thai Embassy in the Chinese capital has in turn reported the "new trend" to the Thai Government. The regional conference also agreed to a long list of recommendations including better coordination and exchange of intelligence among law enforcement agencies among member countries. [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 10 Nov 81 p 1 BK]

NEW DRUG LAW SUPPORTED--International narcotics suppression officials have been given full support to Thailand's plans to empower drug enforcement officials with the right to confiscate the assets of convicted drug traffickers. This was announced by police Maj Gen Pow Sarasin who recently returned from an international meeting on narcotics suppression in Wellington, New Zealand. He revealed that Thailand's tough new law, which a subcommittee of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) first started drafting more than a year ago, is nearly complete. According to the proposed law, once a trafficker is convicted, his assets and bank balances will be frozen until it can be proven that they were not acquired through drug-dealing. If it is proven that the assets were obtained from narcotics, they will be confiscated by the state. He added that the ONCB is also considering plans to amend the 1979 Narcotics Act. The proposed amendment will focus on altering the penalties for drug addicts who voluntarily seek treatment without being arrested. [Bangkok POST in English 12 Nov 81 p 6 BK]

DRUGS COURIER GETS 20 YEARS--A Chiang Mai drug courier, who was arrested in Thon Buri last November with 15 kilogrammes of morphine and 88 kilogrammes of raw opium smuggled from the north, was sentenced to 20 years jail yesterday by the criminal court. The court convicted Chaloe Bunyarit, 41, on charges of possessing the drugs with intent to sell them, but dropped charges against his 19-year-old-son, Kamon, for lack of evidence. Kamon was travelling in his father's car when it was intercepted by officials of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) on 2 November last year. The drugs were found in a specially-made compartment under a 200-litre oil barrel. Chaloe admitted that he was hired to deliver the drugs to a rendezvous in Phuket for a fee of 250,000 baht, while Kamon denied any knowledge of the drugs. [BK200251 POST in English 20 Nov 81 p 5]

POLICEMAN ON HEROIN CHARGE--Ubon Ratchathani--A police corporal attached to Muang District police station has been arrested on a charge of selling heroin, police reported. He was identified as Ong-at Nachomtian, 26. Police said he was arrested in Ban Hatsuanya in Tmbon Kamnamsap on Warinchamrap District on Wednesday, with heroin in his possession. Police said the arrest followed a tip-off that a policeman was selling heroin the village. Ong-at was taken to Warinchamrap police station for interrogation. [BK200251 Bangkok POST in English 20 Nov 81 p 5]

TWO HEROIN SMUGGLERS ARRESTED--A Hong Kong Chinese and an Akha tribesman were held at the weekend in separate drug arrests which yielded a total of more than two kilogrammes of top grade No 4 heroin. On Saturday [14 November] night, customs investigation officials at Don Muang airport arrested the Hong Kong National, Chol Wing Cho, 21, after allegedly finding 1,350 kilogrammes of heroin in his luggage. They said Cho, who was about to board a Lufthansa flight to Frankfurt when he was detained, had allegedly hidden the heroin in 4 boxes of Chinese dolls. The heroin, in six packages, was found in custom-made secret compartments. Cho, who arrived in Bangkok early this month on a tourist visa was charged with possessing drugs with intent to sell and

attempted smuggling. The Akha tribesman was arrested at Hat Yai railway station yesterday after southern narcotics suppression unit police allegedly found 700 grammes of heroin in his possession. The tribesman, identified as Ngo Sisombat, allegedly told police the heroin was a "sample" which he was hired to bring from Chiang Mai to deliver to a prospective buyer who was interested in ordering a larger shipment. [BK200251 Bangkok POST in English 16 Nov 81 p 2]

CSO: 5300/4560

CANADA

RCMP SEIZES \$200-MILLION DRUG CACHE

Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 16 Oct 81 p 14

[Text]

TORONTO (CP). — RCMP officers seized illegal drugs with a street value estimated at \$200 million Wednesday following a gun battle at Collingwood Airport, 120 km. northwest of here.

Four occupants of a small private plane escaped during the shootout which uncovered an international police operation against a major drug-smuggling ring, police said Thursday.

Insp. Sefrin Ginther, head of the RCMP's Toronto drug section, said three suspects were arrested separately in Toronto and charged with conspiracy to traffic in methamphetamine. Police have seized about 5,800 kilograms of the drug, pressed into pills known as quaaludes.

The drugs had not been precisely weighed, but their street value has been estimated at about \$200 million, Ginther said.

Police and airports on both sides of the Canada-U.S. border have been alerted to watch for the plane, which escaped after a small quantity of the drug was loaded on to it.

Ginther said police are certain of the identity of three of the plane's occupants and believe they know the identity of the fourth. All are believed to be U.S. residents.

Charged are Neil Lewis, 27, of Whiteboro, N.J., Laura Hymus, 21, of nearby Mississauga and John Ho Lin, 40, of Toronto.

The months-long police operation reached a climax about 12:30 a.m. Wednesday at Collingwood airport.

Ginther said two RCMP officers not involved in the investigation had landed their small plane to refuel at the airport, which is unstaffed and rarely has night air traffic.

They had a "casual conversation" with two people who said they were waiting for "freight" to be delivered to their plane, Ginther said.

Then a van arrived and two more people immediately began loading boxes into the plane, which had its engines running.

Within "a very few minutes," Ginther said, nine RCMP officers who were

monitoring the occupants of the van arrived on the scene as the plane's occupants prepared for takeoff.

"One of our members fired a warning shot and shouted, 'Police, stop,'" Ginther said. "But they (the four suspects) probably didn't hear the shot over the plane engine noise."

He said two RCMP officers, aiming at the plane's tires, fired a total of 12 shots, and an unknown number of shots were returned from the plane, which took off without lights.

A small portion of the drugs seized was found in the abandoned van while the rest were found at a Toronto home.

Authorities in the Netherlands, Austria, West Germany and North America have been involved in the three-month investigation into a major drug-smuggling ring operating between Europe and the United States, with Toronto as the North American distribution centre.

CSO: 5320/009

CANADA

POLICE BREAK 'MAJOR' COCAINE RING

Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 24 Oct 81 p 3

[Text]

Narcotics agents say they've broken up a "major cocaine distributing ring" after a raid on an Essex County home.

Cpl. Lance Hodgson of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said investigators seized what they suspect is cocaine with a street value of about \$6,000.

Four persons have been arrested on various drug charges.

The combined Windsor Police-RCMP drug squad began its raid at a house on Con. 4, Colchester South Township, about 9 p.m. Thursday. The investigation continued overnight with four persons arrested and charged Friday.

Hodgson said a quantity of other drugs was seized in the raid, including what police suspect is LSD with a street value of about \$600.

COLCHESTER South police assisted the narcotics agents in the raid, Cpl. Hodgson said.

Cpl. Hodgson said the investigation is continuing through the weekend.

Clark Brklacic, 27, of Con. 4, Colchester South Township, was charged Friday with one count of possession of a narcotic for the purpose of trafficking and one count of possession of a restricted drug for the purpose of trafficking.

Dell Marie Pendleton, 21, of Detroit, Mich., was

charged with one count of trafficking in a narcotic; one count of possession of a narcotic for the purpose of trafficking, and one count of possession of a restricted drug for the purpose of trafficking.

Karen Susan Gruber, 22, of RR 3, Leamington, was charged with one count of possession of a narcotic for the purpose of trafficking.

Jimmy Joseph Ingratta, 23, of 25 Crestview Dr., Leamington, was charged with one count of possession of a narcotic for the purpose of trafficking, and one count of possession of a narcotic.

The four were arraigned in court Friday and Pendleton and Brklacic held in custody for a bail hearing.

CSO: 5320/10

CANADA

POLICE RAID NETS HASHISH; SEVEN CHARGED

Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 19 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

About \$22,000 worth of hashish seized from a Cumberland home during a raid this week by Ontario Provincial Police officers from Rockland and Ottawa has resulted in trafficking charges against seven area residents.

The seven, who made a preliminary court appearance Friday, have been remanded in custody until Monday when they are to scheduled to appear in provincial court.

Police, who had the house on Regional Road 34 under surveillance for some time, also seized a handgun in the Thursday night raid.

"It was pretty obvious what was going on there," said an OPP spokesman in Rockland. "People were always around the house."

Charged with possession of drugs for the purpose of trafficking and conspiracy to traffic drugs are Yvon Belair, 21, and Paul Auberg, 20,

both of Regional Road 24, Cumberland, Paul McNally, 24, of Cameron Street, Cumberland, Jacques Seguin, 27, of Baycrest Street, Ottawa; Alain Belair, 20, of Magnus Avenue, Ottawa, and Navan residents Rheel Parisien, 19, and Serge Lavergne, 23.

Yvon Belair was also charged with possession of an unregistered and restricted weapon.

In connection with the raid, police also hit a Baycrest Drive home early Friday morning, recovering \$150 worth of drugs and charging 26-year-old Ginette Joneau with possession of drugs.

CSO: 5320/009

CANADA

ABUNDANT SUPPLIES OF GOOD-QUALITY HEROIN APPEAR IN VANCOUVER

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 16 Oct 81 pp A1-A2

[Article by Glenn Bohn]

[Text]

More abundant supplies of good-quality heroin appear to be flowing into Vancouver once again.

Heroin users and some professionals said during interviews that new heroin began appearing in late summer.

"If their observations are accurate, it would be the first major change in the heroin scene since the early 1970s, when the quality and availability was reduced dramatically by a series of arrests.

Said one user, contacted through one of the provincial methadone treatment clinics: "It's just like the old days."

Professionals who keep an eye on the heroin community offered conflicting opinions on the availability of heroin.

But police said they had been expecting that abundant supplies would enter Vancouver this summer or fall, and Nick Puma, one of the most experienced drug counsellors here, said it has already arrived. Puma is a former heroin user now at Connections, the longest continuing streetworker program in Vancouver.

Said Puma: "The good stuff has hit Vancouver . . . There's an ample supply of heroin on the streets again."

The same trend has been noticed by probation officer Helen Thornson: "Quite a few of my clients

haven't been 'using' for quite a while, but now heroin is available . . . We haven't seen many possession-of-heroin charges coming across our desk for several years, but now there seems to be a lot of them."

Sgt. Morris Coll of the city police drug squad said the squad arrested 24 people on heroin-related charges in September, compared to 15 in August.

Coll said the additional arrests reflect a greater supply of heroin on the streets and a resulting increase in trafficking. And since supplies are more abundant, he said, the quality has also improved because dealers are not diluting supplies as much.

He said the street heroin capsule has increased in quality since the summer to three- or four-per-cent heroin from 1.5-per-cent heroin.

Supt. Lyman Henschel, head of the RCMP's drug section in Greater Vancouver, said international police reports show that a bumper crop of opium poppies was harvested this spring in the Golden Triangle — a mountainous region straddling Thailand, Burma and Laos.

The most recent B.C. health ministry report on the subject is a

37-page booklet titled Trends in Heroin Use.

Although the report was released early this month it was completed in July, just as the new heroin was supposedly hitting the streets. At that time, researcher Betty Davis suggested that heroin purity was declining in Vancouver. But she added elsewhere in the report that, if the large opium harvest in Southeast Asia reaches B.C., there would be a corresponding increase in heroin availability and purity.

Ten or 15 years ago, heroin on the streets was 20-per-cent pure. But during the '70s, the international trafficking network weakened and supplies became more sporadic.

By 1980, street heroin was only two or three-per-cent pure. It was a trend that forced some users either to quit, turn to other drugs or alcohol, or replace their heroin addiction with a dependence on the drug methadone, a narcotic substitute that is legally available at government clinics and private medical practices and can be purchased illegally on the streets.

Another choice was to buy more heroin caps to maintain the same

level of addiction, an option that some users emphasized has meant turning to crime.

Henschel said the most recent seizures are still in the two to three-per-cent range, although one sample was more than eight-per-cent pure.

"It wouldn't surprise me if we're seeing a new trend," he said. "If it's occurring, it would be the most significant change in years. The last time we really had an abundance of the drug was in 1974."

It was the long drought that led some heroin users to turn to methadone, a drug that heroin users say is equally as addictive as heroin. Three years ago, the provincial government stopped accepting new patients on its methadone maintenance program. Dr. Ron Mitler of the Alcohol and Drug Commission said about 110 people are on this program now in Greater Vancouver and 30 more are on a three-month methadone withdrawal program. He estimated that 150 more people are given methadone by physicians in private practices.

Mitler said doctors on the government program have not detected an increase in the quality of heroin.

Some heroin users, however, said some people on methadone are returning to heroin, the drug of their first choice.

One ex-heroin user described two friends on a methadone program who are "using" once again: "Until lately, if they scored six caps, they wouldn't get anything out of it. That was all the more reason for them to maintain themselves on methadone.

"But the other day they went out and fixed three caps apiece. They were on the nod (a state of semi-consciousness brought about by a strong dose of heroin). My friend said it was the best they've had in years."

Another source of information on heroin purity is Dr. Robert Schulze, a medical maverick who believes that ruthless policemen and violence that results from heroin's illegal status does more damage than the drug.

Schulze earned the maverick label in 1979 when he publicly announced he had prescribed a morphine maintenance program for a patient, contrary to approved practice. He was subsequently barred from prescribing narcotics for one

year.

He said "certain people" provide him with two to six samples of heroin each week for testing.

Six months ago, the samples were as low as .5-per-cent pure. Today, he said, "an awful lot of the stuff is very good, as much as 30 per cent."

Such quality is dangerous unless the user is aware of it and uses the appropriate dosage, he said.

Schulze, like Mitler and drug counsellor Puma, see a trend to "poly-drug use" — the use of a wide variety of drugs, depending on availability and price. Today, they said, people who use heroin are more likely to use barbiturates and alcohol as well.

Mitler and Puma are concerned that the Vancouver heroin scene will follow a trend in the U.S., where middle and upper-class cocaine users are experimenting with high-quality heroin.

Mitler said there have been reports of 90- to 95-per-cent pure heroin in San Francisco. The new group of users snort the heroin, incorrectly assuming they will not become addicted if they don't inject the drug into their bloodstreams.

CSO: 5320/10

CANADA

USE OF IMPORTING CHARGE CRITICIZED AS UNEVEN

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL, WEEKEND EDITION in English 24 Oct 81 p 12

[Article by Zuhair Kashmeri]

[Text]

When a 23-year-old U. S. woman, the daughter of a railway executive, was caught bringing \$18,000 worth of hashish into Canada, she was sentenced to three years in prison.

When a poorly educated, 20-year-old Jamaican woman smuggled in \$6,000 worth of hashish, she was sentenced to seven years.

A Jamaican man received two years less a day for bringing in \$6,000 worth of marijuana, while a woman from the same country got seven years for smuggling the same amount.

Another Jamaican woman, smuggling \$6,000 worth of marijuana, got seven years. So did a 21-year-old Dutch woman carrying \$30,000 worth of hashish.

Importing narcotics into Canada is a crime carrying a mandatory sentence of at least seven years in prison. But not everyone caught bringing drugs into the country is charged with importing.

Decision Rests With Prosecutors

The decision whether to charge someone with importing or with a lesser offence lies with prosecutors in the federal Justice Department, who have been accused by lawyers and judges over the past five years of applying their discretion unevenly, whimsically and capriciously.

Judge Kenneth Langdon of Brampton Provincial Court, where drug cases from Toronto International

Airport are first handled, said during a bail hearing for two students charged with importing a pound and a half of hashish oil that if the charge went to trial, it would represent "a perversion of justice." Recalling another case in the same year (1978) in which a Jamaican accountant carrying 13 pounds of marijuana was spared the importing charge, Judge Langdon said: "This is not the first time this court has noted . . . this whimsical, capricious and arbitrary exercise of the prosecutorial discretion."

In one celebrated case, Darlene Baldwin and two friends flew into Toronto in April, 1978, carrying three pounds of hashish oil, worth \$15,000. This week, Miss Baldwin, a 24-year-old Etobicoke woman, started serving her seven-year sentence, after losing an appeal.

One of her accomplices was sentenced to 12 months and released on a temporary absence pass after two weeks; the other disappeared during his trial and has never been located.

Six months after Miss Baldwin was sentenced last year, two young London, Ont., women were allowed to plead guilty to a lesser offence for bringing in \$50,000 worth of hashish oil. They received sentences of one year and 15 months respectively. A man from India who brought in \$86,000 worth of hashish was tried for possession for the purpose of trafficking. His sentence was two years less a day.

Gerald McCracken, the chief federal criminal prosecutor in Toronto, said in an interview this week that if

Miss Baldwin were arrested today, she probably would not be facing the seven-year minimum sentence; even importing 40 pounds of marijuana would not necessarily result in an importing charge, he said.

He said under nation-wide guidelines created in the mid-1970s, prosecutors look at the amount of drugs involved (whether the smugglers are involved in a "significant commercial venture"), the method of smuggling (whether someone else is being used as a courier), the accused's background (including criminal record) and whether the accused co-operates with police.

But the application of the guidelines has shifted. Mr. McCracken says that in September, 1980, prosecutors began to apply the guidelines in a different, less stringent fashion.

Even judges cannot find out how the prosecutors make their decisions. Judge Langdon said this week: "The court never knows what factors are used to exercise the discretion. In the past, in some of the cases that came before us . . . it did not appear to be equitable.

"And, when it does not appear to be equitable, then justice does not appear to be done."

Importing Charge Eventually Dropped

The "nammer of prosecutorial discretion", as one lawyer describes it, is often used to press accused smugglers into co-operating. In 1979, 265 people were charged with importing

cannabis (hashish, hash oil and marijuana) into Canada. Only 33 were convicted — for many of the others, the importing charge was eventually dropped in favor of a lesser charge, in return for co-operation.

Prosecutor Ian Collins has said: "It is an established principle of law that consideration should be given to an accused who is willing to assist the law."

That principle was demonstrated in a 1976 case when David Cripps was allowed to plead guilty to conspiracy to traffic in a ton of imported hashish. He was sentenced to seven years, but was paroled after 10 months — a year and a half before he would normally be eligible for parole — in return for his testimony against the ringleader of the conspiracy.

But Catherine Klein, who volunteered the names of her Toronto contacts as soon as she was arrested bringing \$200,000 worth of cocaine into the country, was not allowed to plead guilty to a lesser charge. She was sentenced to seven years.

Prosecutors deny their discretion is used arbitrarily or unfairly, and point out that few importing charges are laid any more for so-called "soft drugs." In 1979, 265 people across Canada were charged with importing cannabis; in 1980 the total dropped to 152.

The seven-year minimum sentence was sharply criticized by Provincial Judge Stephen Borins, who refused to impose the minimum in a 1975 case. He called the seven-year term cruel and unjust, contrary to the Bill of Rights.

The Supreme Court of Ontario struck his ruling down, saying a trial judge cannot question the prosecutor's decision to lay one charge or another.

Judge Langdon said in the interview that it gives him "an acutely

uncomfortable feeling when I know a person shouldn't get seven years, and my hands are tied." But he does say the exercise of the prosecutors' discretion seems to be improving.

Malcolm Steinburg, senior Ontario member of the National Parole Board, said the minimum sentence is one factor taken into account when considering parole by exception, which can be granted before a prisoner has finished a third of his or her sentence.

In the first six months of 1981, the board approved 11 such early paroles, all for inmates serving the minimum sentence for drug importing.

The existing minimum sentence for importing was established in 1960-61, when Parliament first passed the Narcotics Control Act. It superseded a 1929 drug law, under which the minimum sentence for importing was six months — the *maximum* was seven years.

Justice Minister Jean Chretien has proposed removing the seven-year minimum in a bill that would also decriminalize marijuana possession. Department officials hope the bill will be introduced in Parliament before Christmas, but an adviser to Mr. Chretien said the minister's mail is nine-to-one against the proposal.

CSO: 5320/10

CANADA

BRIEFS

HEROIN CHARGE--A 35-year-old Australian was charged Thursday with importing 55 grams of heroin into Canada, North Vancouver RCMP said. Police said Alan Keith Ellison was also charged with possession for the purposes of trafficking. RCMP from Mississauga, Ontario, worked with the North Vancouver drug squad on the investigation. Wayne Norman Oliver, 34, of Coombs, B.C., was also charged with possession for the purposes of trafficking. The RCMP spokesman said the heroin was high grade, with a street value of \$500,000. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 16 Oct 81 p A17]

CONVICTION ON HEROIN COUNTS--Victoria (CP)--Four men were convicted in county court Saturday on drug conspiracy charges in connection with the seizure of more than a kilogram of heroin worth an estimated \$7.5 million on the street. The jury deliberated for 12 hours before convicting Lee Snyder of Central Saanich, Patrick Snyder of Surrey, Kiril Mazurek of Montreal and Steven Bramwell of Edmonton of conspiracy to traffic in heroin. Bramwell and Lee Snyder also were found guilty of conspiracy to import heroin into Canada between May and November of last year. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 26 Oct 81 p A3]

CSO: 5320/009

BOLIVIA

SATELLITE SYSTEM SUGGESTED MEANS TO COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 Oct 81 sec 2 p 1

[Article by Hector Valdivia Rodriguez]: "A Multiple-Use Satellite"]

[Text] In a PRESENCIA article published on 6 June 1971 under the title "Let Us Use Our Rivers," and written by this reporter, the need was suggested for the first time of replacing coca plantations with others of greater export value, such as coffee, cacao and fruits, which we could raise in variety and abundance in areas of such replacement in the subtropical part of this department.

That article, which is already 10 years old, suggested the installation in Hierbani, near Unduavi, of an industrial plant for fruit processing and canning, coffee roasting and other activities; the site even offers advantages for a specific infrastructure: excellent water quality from spring thaws, a pleasant climate, a highway junction from the two Yungas and Beni and nearby transportation to El Alto de La Paz for the convenient distribution of the products manufactured.

A rapid review of that article would lead us to consider other facilities now available: the proximity of a paved highway under construction to Beni, as an important factor in the collection and distribution of products by heavy transport, and of the planned Sakawayá hydroelectric dam, which will generate electricity for the industrial plant in Hierbani.

At the time the article was published, the degrading effects of cocaine were not known here, and it only called further attention to protecting our peasants from tuberculosis. The chewing of coca leaves anesthetizes the digestive system, reduces the appetite for food and prolongs physical strength for the difficult work in the fields, and that is why so many people in our high mountain altiplano and valley regions suffer from the disease.

Nobody, then, bothered to consider, much less study at any great length, the possibilities offered by the plan for promoting the industrial progress of an important productive region of the department; in addition, much time was spent trying to prevent the consumption of coca leaves and gradually to eradicate its cultivation.

It is well known that the cause of the rapid spread of drug use in the world is due to mafias which for their own profit also encourage the vice in order to create a greater demand for it; this happened particularly after the Korean and Vietnam wars. Now lives ruined by cocaine and other drugs provide harsh evidence to governments of all countries favoring the eradication of this brutal traffic.

Transportation: In our country, the transportation of the drug in small plastic packets by the peasants a method used by the traffickers in addition to land vehicles and other ingenious and unsuspected ways, is easier to control than the use of aircraft to cover long distances between countries; these small aircraft, then, require a more rigorous control because of their short sojourn in any one place, the speed with which they can flee and their larger cargo capacity.

If, to understand this better, we look at a statistical graph of the ICAO [International Civil Aeronautics Organization], according to which Bolivia, with 592 landing strips, places eighth among the first 10 countries of the world, we can say that this is relative, since there could be more than 1,000 airstrips well camouflaged by nature itself, given the huge, flat expanse of Beni Department.

<u>ICAO Countries</u>	<u>Airports and Landing Strips</u>
United States	13,728
Brazil	1,645
Mexico	1,262
Canada	853
France	681
Colombia	675
Paraguay	666
Bolivia	592
Guatemala	461
Australia	460

The local press has already reported, on several occasions, the accidental discovery of planes used by the traffickers simply because they had engine trouble or because of delays in the arrival of gasoline supplies. We will never know how many of these planes will continue to fly and to land furtively in Bolivia. We would need many planes and other special equipment, as well as several radar installations, to facilitate such an investigation, which because of the cost would be a very ticklish problem for us.

Bolivia's case is not so isolated; thus the other countries of the Andean Group-- Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and even Venezuela, where coca plantations are also cultivated on a major or minor scale, have similar problems and in addition to cocaine are struggling tenaciously with other types of drugs just as dangerous or more so.

Satellite: To present the case we must quote a few paragraphs from the bibliography on artificial satellites.

"The techniques applicable with artificial satellites are of very particular interest since they permit us to combine for the first time a number of related functions, such as telecommunications, emergency operations, air and ground traffic control, the transmission of meteorological data and maritime, river and air radio-navigation.

"Different surfaces of the same satellite can satisfy a great variety of combinations and needs. Obviously, it remains in the hands of individual governments to decide whether it is possible for a satellite system to be used for one or several purposes, a decision which must take into account political, financial and social considerations."

We already know the variety of services we can utilize from a satellite and its admirable sensory power.

It has been a concern of UNESCO to interest the countries of the Andean area in the benefits and low cost of education via satellite, given the more or less homologous levels of education of those who make up the Andean Group, especially. Now let us go back to the original premise: that of preventing or intercepting the aerial transportation of the inhuman drug traffic, and let us say, rather than that among the Andean Group countries there is the desire to increase the educational benefits of a satellite; but also, by equipping it with a civil air control system and another for meteorological information for the agricultural sector, they can thus satisfy some of their other prime needs.

Several countries have educational satellites. The satellite to which the Andean Group aspires would have a triple function: educational, civil air control and agricultural meteorological information, these last two through a steady succession of infrared photographs covering a total area of 4,648,000 square kilometers. It would be ideal if each country had two educational television channels to transmit and receive its own respective programs, but this is very expensive for each country. A minimum system might result in only two educational television channels, with the receiving channel open to cover the five countries. To serve the three systems, a central land station would be installed in one of the five countries.

Something tells us that the United States, as an interested party, might cooperate without cost to the Andean countries, in the launching and placement of the "Bolivarian" satellite in a previously chosen place in space.

8735
CSO: 5300/2045

BOLIVIA

DRAFT BILL TO CONTROL COCA PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTED

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 21 Oct 81 p 3

[Text] According to the Draft Bill for the Control of and Campaign Against Dangerous Substances, which will take effect soon, plantations of coca in all departments except La Paz and Cochabamba are declared clandestine and illegal. "As a result," the law states, "the National Council for the Campaign Against the Narcotics Traffic is instructed to proceed with the systematic destruction of such coca plantations without compensation in cases where the owners have failed to do so within the 90-day period."

To establish the number of hectares used for coca cultivation, that council is obliged to sponsor and finance, every 3 years, a Census of Producers of Coca Leaves, which is considered a basic instrument in the control and implementation of the respective policies and standards.

Replacement Policy

With regard to the policy of replacing coca plantations, the National Council for the Campaign Against the Narcotics Traffic must take into consideration the following points:

Integrated rural development in such a manner as to be able to achieve the optimum use of the material and human resources in the region; the transfer of new technologies so that improved or new species can be established according to the soil quality of each microregion, using the aforementioned transferred technology to give the peasants a balanced income from the cultivation of perennial as well as annual crops.

Another point refers to the establishment of a cooperative agroindustry, so that, insofar as possible, the peasant family may benefit from the resulting higher total value, as well as being assured of a market for his primary crop. Also important is the concession of development credits, including so-called operating capital and necessary technical assistance, without interest or at low interest and long term, so that the former can be paid off under the new production.

In addition, the National Council for the Campaign Against the Narcotics Traffic, through its National Directorate for the Replacement or Diversification of Crops, will program annually the reduction of areas under coca cultivation in the traditional producing departments of La Paz and Cochabamba, with the result that in the medium term, supply and demand will be balanced for the purpose of traditional chewing and for medicinal and pharmacological use.

Coca Surpluses

The Draft Bill for the Control of and Campaign Against Dangerous Substances makes special mention of the destination of coca-leaf surpluses, concerning which the document indicates:

Should the collection centers and substations have filled the purchase volumes planned for each leaf harvest and there be an excess supply in the hands of the producers which cannot be purchased because of lack of resources, written and numbered notice will be given such producers that the purchase of their product has been rejected, and such notice will specify the quantity rejected. Such notice will serve to give the rejected producer free transit within the producing department and to keep the leaves in storage until such time as the council can purchase them.

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BOLIVIA

CHAPARE REGION CITED AS MAJOR COCAINE CENTER

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 18 Oct 81 p 11

[Text] Cochabamba, 17 Oct--The regional director of the Narcotics Office here, Juan Vacaflor, said in a press conference that the Chapare region has become an auspicious area for the manufacture of cocaine due to the ease with which coca leaves can be obtained and the dense vegetation which prevents discovery of factories located there.

He added that more than 93 kg of cocaine has been seized by his office since last April and that the operations carried out by special brigades were not confined only to the Chapare area, but also included airports, bus and railway terminals and some private homes.

Colonel Vacaflor emphasized that the factories are in the Chapare because the traffickers find it easier to hide there and to obtain the raw material and other items needed to manufacture the drug.

Agents seized 30,315 grams of cocaine sulfate in 18 operations, and another 36,570 grams were taken in other isolated actions.

According to the chief of narcotics operations, the traffickers have several ways to escape surveillance. They often bring the drugs from the Chapare in beer bottles, or they leave their vehicles and come in to the settlements on foot. There was even a case of one truck owner who built a compartment between the cab and the platform of his vehicle.

It was announced that control has been increased in the Chapare and that the army and navy are cooperating, but even so it is difficult to achieve total success, since the very size of the Chapare region favors the traffickers.

The legal department of the Narcotics Office says that 60 cases have been tried and that there are 133 persons in the San Sebastian jail charged with the traffic and manufacture of cocaine.

8735

CSO: 5300/2045

BOLIVIA

PEASANTS DEMAND TO KNOW DESTINATION OF COCA SEIZED

Cochabamba LOS TIEMPOS in Spanish 20 Oct 81 p 7

[Text] No one knows what becomes of the coca seized by agents of the Narcotics Office and the Office for the Control of Coca Sales in Chapare, peasant leaders in the area known as Villa Litoral have indicated.

They said that agents from those offices in the settlements of Villa Tunari, Paracti and Sacaba abused their authority in seizing even an 8-pound shipment of coca for which there was an authorization for transportation to Cochabamba signed by leaders of the Tropical Farm Federation under an existing agreement between the Office for the Control of Coca and the Chapare producers.

They said that between 10 and 15 loads of coca, with an average value of 80,000 Bolivian pesos, are being seized daily; however, the destination of the confiscated coca is unknown.

"To date, we do not know where the coca is being taken, and we think the narcotics authorities should inform us," one of the leaders in Villa Litoral told the editorial staff of LOS TIEMPOS.

In addition, firms which legally export coca leaves have denounced the frequent hijacking of their shipments, in spite of security measures.

Recently one of them was the victim of a hijacking of more than a truckload of coca. It is presumed that actions which involve such large quantities must be the work of narcotics traffickers, and for this reason greater surveillance by control office agents and even by the army is needed.

The legally exported coca is destined primarily for pharmaceutical firms and manufacturers of carbonated beverages.

Meanwhile, narcotics officials and those from control of sales have to date and since the first of the year made no official statement about the volumes of coca seized.

Attempts by LOS TIEMPOS to get any information were in vain, since the head of the coca control office was not in his office yesterday.

In addition, the leaders accused agents of those offices of having become, in the last few weeks, the chief buyers of coca leaves, competing with the businessmen who have credentials and authorization from the National Directorate for the Control of Coca.

They indicated that the agents visit the peasant fiestas and the Izinuta and Zinahota fairs and force the peasants to sell them the coca for 4 Bolivian pesos a load, and then it is possible that they resell it to the merchants for double the price.

They recalled that the activity of the narcotics agents and of the office of coca sales recently caused an incident at Zinahota, where the peasants refused to sell their product to the agents; the reaction of the latter caused the peasants to join forces against them, and the agents fled in search of reinforcements.

Finally, they said that the higher government authorities will be notified of all these facts so that such aberrations may be corrected and official wrongdoing ended.

8735
CSO: 5300/2045

BRAZIL

FEDERAL POLICE SAID TO BE CONNECTED WITH COCAINE

Former Superintendent Allegedly Bribed

Brasilia CORREIO BRAZILIENSE in Portuguese 4 Oct 81 p 16

[Text] It is being rumored in Manaus that Ivo Americano, former regional superintendent of the Federal Police Department [DPF], is involved in cocaine trafficking in the Amazon River region, according to vast documentation presented in Brasilia at the beginning of this year. This led to the establishment of a committee of inquiry to make a detailed investigation of the accusation that Ivo had received 18 million cruzeiros of the 20 million demanded by his own office in keeping with certain arrangements made between him and Dr Gustavo, an attorney of Portuguese nationality. Those arrangements occurred in June 1980 after the crash of a private plane--call letters OP-L502--in the Xibaru area, in the municipality of Barcelos, with a large shipment of cocaine coming from Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia.

Ivo is charged with having softpedaled the involvement of gangsters who had been arrested and tried at the DPF, according to an accusation made by Colombian trafficker Benito Tavares Villacorta, a fugitive from the Central State Penitentiary, who made a statement confirming the deal Ivo had made with Dr Gustavo in which it appeared certain that Dr Gustavo had removed the drug from the plane without interference by federal agents. In the verbal agreement it also became certain that those responsible for transporting the cocaine would not be bothered by the agents.

However, except for the removal of the cocaine from the plane, the agreement was not carried out inasmuch as all the members of the gang, including Benito Villacorta, were arrested, beaten and tortured at the DPF.

At the end of his statement, signed and recorded in the files of Brasilia's second legal office, Benito revealed that he had contributed \$12,000 to help reach the amount of 20 million cruzeiros demanded by Ivo Americano. Of the 20 million demanded, the gang members scraped together only 18 million.

This is the most serious accusation made against Ivo Americano who, on Thursday of last week, was relieved of his responsibilities and confined to his residence, 80 meters from the building housing the DPF's regional superintendency in Manaus.

When the committee arrived and announced his dismissal from office, including instructions for him to remove all his belongings from the office in 30 minutes, the federal agents were overjoyed and even celebrated the good news in bars and restaurants.

This was a clear indication that Ivo Americano was not well-liked by his subordinates as a result of his constant harassment. The contacts Ivo had was only with deputies, although a few times he chatted with officers not so high up on the scale.

During Ivo Americano's administration, six federal agents were dismissed from their duties on the charge that they were involved in crimes of corruption. Deputies were removed and others transferred to other states, as in the case of Deputy Elivaldo Farias, now assigned to Porto Velho. It was he who assembled documentary proof that Ivo was involved with the cocaine mafia.

The quarrel between the two began last year over the case of the cocaine which fell in the Xibaru area on board a private plane with the call letters, L 1502.

Ivo tried to accuse Elivaldo Farias of demanding money from the traffickers. However, Farias gave proof that this was not so and prepared the necessary documentation, particularly in keeping with the statements signed by trafficker Benito Tavares Villacorta.

Nelson Marabuto is not granting any interview; he is limiting himself to hearing and verifying the reports coming to his attention. In keeping with the abundance of facts and accusations, more than 15 persons have already been heard, among whom are federal agents dismissed by Ivo Americano who circulated the news that he, Ivo, had received money from the cocaine gang for having softpedaled the involvement of traffickers during investigations. Since there is more than one accusation considered serious by the committee of inquiry, all cases involving inquiries will be reviewed and, if it is verified that someone benefited from Ivo's protection, that person will definitely be dismissed from the DPF and will become simply an unemployed citizen in addition to being tried in the future for any implication in a crime of corruption.

Next Wednesday, Deputy Elivaldo Farias, now assigned to Porto Velho, is scheduled to arrive in Manaus to make a statement at the DPF, since he was the author of the denunciation made against Ivo in Brasilia.

Network of Intrigues

Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese 21 Oct 81 p 34

[Text] Amazonas--For some weeks, cocaine and DPF agents in Manaus have been engaged in worrisome intimacy. While a Brasilia team has been investigating the involvement of several agents based in Manaus in drug trafficking--an undercover force has already brought about the dismissal of Ivo Americano from the superintendency of that area--three DPF officers were arrested at the Manaus airport when embarking for Belem with 1.2 kg of the product. The operation, unleashed

on 11 October, was favored by chance: alerted about the possible arrival of smuggled gold, Deputy Roberto Alves and a few assistants were intrigued by the passage through the embarkation gate of three men carrying small plastic bags containing a white powder. It happened to be cocaine. And the three--Ricardo Yano, Jose Cardoso and Jose Carneiro Araujo--were DPF officers in various areas of northern Brazil.

In addition to the summary expulsion of the trio within the next few days, it is not known exactly what will happen in Manaus. Because of the mystery with which the DPF surrounds investigations, the principal case--Americano's possible involvement with cocaine smuggling--is foundering in hypotheses and suspicious versions. One federal deputy maintains that the only definite accuser of Americano, Colombian Benito Alvarez, allegedly met with Deputy Nelson Marabuto on Colombian territory to confess that he wrote the denunciation under pressure. "In that case, nothing is proved against him, thank God," Interim Supt Roberto Alves presumes. Manaus agents are also whispering that Americano's major enemy, Deputy Elivaldo Farias, frightened at Benito's alleged confession, asked to be dismissed from his post in Porto Velho. "That is not true," Farias proclaimed. "I am continuing to work normally." In Manaus, to string the press along, Deputy Alves promises interviews in Brasilia, but Col Moacir Coelho, DPF's director general, denies that this will occur.

In the midst of discordant stories and the tranquil acceptance of the thesis that a DPF deputy can do business with a fugitive from Brazilian justice--Colombian Benito escaped from the jail in Manaus--there is at least one contented man, Ivo Americano himself. "I had nothing on my conscience. Never did I fear the result of the investigations," the deputy said frankly. Before retiring next year, he wants to fulfill one last desire: "I shall not leave here with this image. I must show that all was planned by people whom I controlled." If the DPF does not change its methods, the most he will achieve is to circulate rumors that he was not in error.

8568
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BRAZIL

PLASTIC SURGEON INVOLVED IN COCAINE TRAFFICKING

Arrested in Paraguay

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Oct 81 p 17

[Text] Rio de Janeiro--Plastic surgeon Hosmany Ramos, who was arrested in Marica, city in the state of Rio de Janeiro, on the charge of having stolen a plane and suspected of murder and the trafficking of cocaine paste, has again been arrested, this time in the Paraguayan city of San Bernardino, 35 km from Asuncion, where he arrived in another stolen plane piloted by Ricardo Augusto Mascarenhas Varicelli. There were two young Paraguayan women on board the craft, who were also taken by the local authorities to the Criminal Investigation Department [DIC].

Hosmany confessed to the police that the Seneca twin engine plane in which he was traveling and whose original call letters, KED, had been changed to KECP, was stolen in Dourados, Mato Grosso, and that he had decided to flee to Paraguay because he was being threatened with death by a gang of cocaine traffickers from Rio. With regard to his attempted escape, he said that he had hired pilot Mascarenhas Varicelli--who had made other flights to Paraguay--with whom he had left the country by the southern route and arrived last Saturday in Presidente Stroessner. In that city he and the pilot met two young women and then decided to go on to San Bernardino; they were arrested yesterday the moment the plane landed.

On the same day the Paraguayan police advised that they would hand Hosmany and the pilot over to the Brazilian authorities and said that the plastic surgeon had admitted having stolen a plane belonging to Carlos Alves Lobo, or Lobinho, but not confirming whether he had murdered the pilot or not.

Not until 2000 hours yesterday did Attorney Arthur Lavigne know anything of the plastic surgeon's arrest, or even if he "was still Hosmany's attorney"; he also said he did not know what charges were being levied against his client. He explained that he had made the surgeon only a "promise of possible assistance" when the surgeon was arrested by the Marica police last month but that he had had no subsequent contact with Hosmany, who "had disappeared." Lavigne admitted that the "case is rather nebulous" and said he had met the doctor through a friend. He then went to Marica in northern Rio de Janeiro State and got his client released through a writ of habeas corpus. Arthur Lavigne said that whatever else he knew about the case he had learned only "through the newspapers."

Today, Deputy Ircalino da Fonseca of the 82d Precinct in Marica is to send Judge Jose Eustaquio Cardoso the paper of inquiry in which the doctor is accused only of "misappropriation," even though, in addition to stealing the aircraft, a twin engine plane belonging to a ranch owner in Dourados, he is also suspected of having killed pilot Carlos Alves Lobo and of having brought 80 kg of cocaine paste to Marica to be distilled.

The deputy said he believes the judge will not handle the case but will hand it over to a court of justice in Mato Grosso do Sul where it all started. The doctor landed at the time in Marica accompanied by his brother, Jainesio Ramos, and another pilot who possibly boarded the craft in Sao Paulo. The surgeon had entered the plane alleging that he was going to purchase it. The pilot, Lobo, a personal friend of the plane's owner, is still missing.

Attempt To Extradite Trafficker

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 7 Oct 81 p 20

[Text] Yesterday, Dourados Police Deputy Cid Araujo, accompanied by a colleague from the DEIC [Criminal Investigations Department], went to Asuncion, Paraguay, to try to extradite plastic surgeon Hosmany Ramos and others involved in drug trafficking.

Because of mechanical problems in the plane in which he was traveling forcing the pilot to land, Hosmany Ramos was arrested Monday, 40 km from Asuncion in the vicinity of Lake San Bernardino. Besides Hosmany, the following were also arrested: the pilot, Ricardo Vasconcelos Baricelli; and Englishman, Davi Link; and two Paraguayan women. All were traveling in the Seneca plane stolen in Mato Grosso, which had taken off from Porto Stroessner bordering on Foz do Iguacu.

The Paraguayan police discovered that the doctor's contact was Miguel Verino who was handling all business matters for the gang accused of drug trafficking, bringing foreign cars into Brazil and stealing planes. With the arrest of Hosmany, we should have the explanation of the disappearance of pilot Carlos Alves Lobo, whose plane, a Beechcraft, call letters ZP-POS, was stolen in Abitaia and found in Marica, Rio de Janeiro State. We still do not know the whereabouts of Commander Lobo, last seen on 16 September in Abitaia.

Last week, a Seneca plane was stolen from the airport of Santo Antonio do Leverger, 50 km from Buiaba, by pilot Ricardo Baricelli, former employee of an air-taxi firm in Mato Grosso's capital. An unidentified person was traveling with the pilot, and it is presumed that this was Hosmany Ramos. According to information supplied by Cdr Luiz Duarte, both boarded the plane and took off.

From Santo Antonio the Seneca was flown to Aragarças, in Goias, where it was refueled and then disappeared until found in Asuncion.

Marihuana

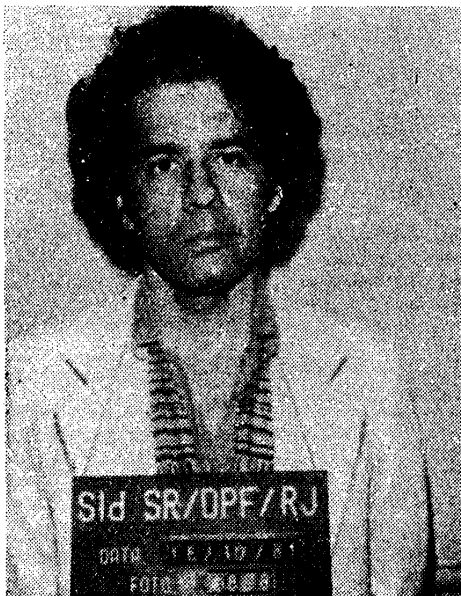
For having been caught with 35 marihuana plants in their back yard at Armacao Beach, in Florianopolis, an Argentine couple--Claudia Maria Rita Camoifrano, aged 31, and Osmar Eduardo Taverna, aged 34--were each sentenced to 3 years in prison, the sentence to be served in the local penitentiary.

The police were tipped off by the couple's neighbors. The Argentines and another couple, friends, were arrested after being caught red-handed, but only the former couple were unable to convince the Narcotics Bureau police that they had not planted the marihuana.

Doctor Escapes From Prison

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 20 Oct 81 p 1

[Text] Plastic Surgeon Hosmany Ramos escaped from his cell at Federal Police headquarters after subduing four police officers who were visiting him, and "calmly left the prison via Avenida Venezuela." Not until yesterday did the Superintendency of Federal Police admit the escape, which occurred, according to a communique, Sunday evening about 2000 hours.



Hosmany Ramos

In Porto Alegre, businesswoman Iracema Carvalho Leite said Hosmany resembled one of the attackers who took her money, jewels and documents in Sao Paulo. The doctor was once a host to Pele and is pointed out as a supplier of cocaine to the entire Lagos Region. He is implicated in automobile smuggling, drug trafficking and the disappearance of pilot Carlos Lobo, or Lobinho.

Doctor Still at Large

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Oct 81 p 20

[Excerpts] The Federal Police Department is still in the dark: it has no clue to aid in recapturing trafficker Hosmany Ramos who fled from his quarters in Rio Sunday. Two federal agents, instructed by Deputy Luiz Carlos Santana, direct assistant of Supt Roberto de Araujo Porto and adviser on news media matters, were stationed at the building entrance to prevent access by the press.

Accused of smuggling the latest model Mercedes-Benz automobiles, theft, homicide and cocaine trafficking, Hosmany Ramos is allegedly still in Rio, according to some police officers, waiting for the situation to calm down before making his escape. Attorney Arthur Lavigne was engaged by journalist Marisa Raja Gabaglia to defend her friend with whom she allegedly had telephone contacts shortly after his escape. Marisa denied any further involvement with Hosmany than that of a superficial courtship. After the incident with the Internal Revenue Service, which resulted in his arrest, Marisa wrote a series of articles dealing with the matter and defending Hosmany from the "Lion of the Metro."

Deputy Muniz of the Porto Alegre Narcotics Bureau did not yield to those pressures, according to his own statement, and asserted that he had carried out his responsibility conducting a flawless investigation. This was true to the extent that the justice department did not hand the case back to the police. Of the seven indicted, three--including Sara [the attorney general's daughter]--were booked for having been caught red-handed, and when Muniz was questioned, three solicitors appeared at the Narcotics Bureau to assist. Muniz did not risk explaining why Sara was absolved. "Those are things which do not enter into our hollow philosophy," he said.

Public Ministry sources asserted that Judge Guimaraes Neto justified the acquittal by contending that the circumstantial evidence against the attorney general's daughter was a trumped up affair, while in the case of the others it was not. Sara is even suing Deputy Muniz on the charge that she was beaten at police headquarters.

The group was arrested at the beginning of July when the police received information that cocaine was being trafficked at a certain building located at Rua Demetrio Ribeiro, in Porto Alegre. The police were on the lookout for the criminals and arrested Eduardo Kuhn and three other young men, who were waiting for him, when Kuhn left the building with a gram of cocaine in his possession. Kuhn confirmed that he had bought the drug from Olavo Brenha de Mesquita Barros Junior in that locality. The police also arrested Olavo and his wife but found only marijuana in the apartment. However, Olavo said he was expecting a shipment of cocaine within a few days. When she was on her way to deliver the drug to Olavo at the apartment, Sara was arrested and confessed that the cocaine was purchased in Rio by Ana Maria Villaverde, who also was arrested the following day.

8568

CSO: 5300/2039

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN MINAS--Uberlandia--Dr Luiz Carlos Brum de Paula, from Aymores, Minas, and his companion, Girley de Souza, from Manhuacu, were arrested Tuesday in Araguari, accused of drug trafficking. At police headquarters the doctor said that he had planned to distribute 8 kg of cocaine and 20 kg of marijuana in that area, principally in Emborcacao where 5,000 prospectors are working. The sale was to bring in 40 million cruzeiros, according to the doctor. A police officer disclosed that the accused intended to exchange drugs for diamonds at the Emborcacao mining claim and had informed him that they could buy cocaine and marijuana with ease at Porto Seguro, in Bahia. After being booked, the two were released upon payment of bail. [Text] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 4 Oct 81 p 34] 8568

CSO: 5300/2039

ECUADOR

INTERPOL AGENTS SEIZE 12 KILOS OF COCAINE, ARREST NINE

Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 19 Oct 81 p 9 B

[Text] Interpol agents of Pichincha Province, continuing their efforts to curb the illicit traffic in narcotics, have succeeded in capturing nine traffickers who had in their possession 12,000 gm of cocaine paste.

Alongwith the arrest of these criminals two automobiles were seized which had secret compartments in which they transported the drug.

It was reported at the Pichincha police station that activities have been stepped up for the purpose of checking as much as possible this illicit business which makes many unscrupulous families who engage in it rich overnight.

The Arrests

The first arrests took place in the capital city, when Joaquin Enrique Vincente Chuquimarca, 51 years old, born in Cariamanga, Loja Province, and Francisco Merino Torres, 31 years old, born in the locality of Quilanga, Loja Province, were caught in flagranti with 910 gm of the paste in their possession which was cleverly concealed in a milk can.

In a statement given to Interpol, Chuquimarca declared that he had acquired the illicit paste at the Peruvian border from Pastor Flores and Victoriano Molina, natives of Peru. The traffickers were attempting to transport the drug to the northeastern region of the country, to the Colombian border, where they were to have turned it over to their accomplice, Francisco Merino Torres, who in turn would sell it directly to Colombian traffickers.

Jose Calva and Segundo Alvarez were also arrested under the suspicion of complicity according to the Interpol report.

Interpol pointed out that in this case the arrests of the Peruvian traffickers Pastor Flores and Victoriano Molina and of the Ecuadoreans Antoliano Soto and Genaro Correa are impending. The two last-named maintained steady contact with Francisco Merino Torres in connection with their illegal activities.

The persons arrested are at the present time under the control of the appropriate authorities so that they may be judged according to the law.

Another Case

Also arrested were Jorge Efren Aguirre Castillo, 27 years old, born in Cariamanga, Loja Province, and Pastor Ponce Jaramillo, 29 years old, born in Paltas, also in Loja Province, whose participation in the illegal drug traffic has, according to Interpol, been confirmed.

Well Concealed

The drug, which consisted of 21 packages of cocaine paste, and weighed 11,090 gm was well concealed in secret compartments of a brown 1981 Mazda 1800 pick-up truck, which was driven by Pastor Marcial Ponce Jaramillo.

During the interrogation which took place at the Interpol office it was learned that the 12 packages of cocaine weighing 11.09 gm were acquired at the southern border of the country from the Peruvian Jose Jumbo by Adan Perez of Cariamanga, Loja Province.

Once the drug arrived at Cariamanga it was transported to this city by Ponce Jaramillo who used the brown Mazda pick-up while Efren Aguirre Castillo traveled separately to Quito to await the drug and to find a buyer, preferably a Colombian trafficker.

In cooperation with the various police services Interpol is requesting the arrest of the Peruvian Jose Jumbo and the Ecuadorean Adan Perez from Cariamanga, Loja Province, and of the Colombian Edilberto Aguirre.

Other Arrests

Luis Herrera Paspuel, Antonio Jimenez Marin and Abrahan Vasquez Rojas were arrested by the Pichincha Interpol in Cariamanga and Toma, Loja Province, for involvement in the illegal traffic of cocaine in the amount of 28.5 kg. They were traveling from Cariamanga and were intercepted on the highway by persons who used the name of Interpol to seize the drug from them.

These arrests took place on 5 October 1981 and after the case was investigated the three men, along with Jorge Aguirre Castillo, who is also under arrest, were placed under the control of the assignment section of the judiciary of Loja Province.

Interpol is persistently continuing its investigations in order to identify the pseudo agents so as to arrest them and recover the drug.

Adan Perez, Mario Mejia, Rodrigo Bermeo Abrahan, of Cariamanga, Loja Province, and Maximo Perez of this city and the Colombian Edilberto Aguirre and the Peruvian Jose Jumbo, who are wanted by the police, are also involved in this case. The Ford pick-up 250, double cab, license plate No L-00060 was confiscated.

9204
CSO: 5300/2035

PERU

DRUG TRAFFICKERS', TERRORISTS' SPEEDY TRIALS ORDERED

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 7 Oct 81 p A-1

[Text] By order of the Supreme Court of Justice, from now on all the superior courts of the republic will report as soon as possible on the progress of trials for terrorism and drug trafficking.

Moreover, they must state the court of origin and the Correctional Court which must try them, the proceeding number, the date proceedings were begun and the stage they have reached, as well as the juridical status of each accused.

These resolutions were made in open court, which also agreed to urge judges to conduct trials in strict accordance with the law, so that the trial and sentencing of the defendants is carried out with all due speed.

To that end the Supreme Court of Justice recommended using the facilities granted by Articles 38 and 208 of the Penal Trial Code wherever possible.

These resolutions have been sent to all the Superior Courts in the republic, in a circular dated 25 September.

That circular, which was made public yesterday, stressed the extreme danger of the crimes referred to, and as a result, permanent supervision of activities involving those trials is ordered for all courts, and tribunals under each of the presidents of each superior court, which are requested, when necessary, to even make visits for that purpose.

All that will be announced immediately by the Supreme Court of Justice, so that the personnel of the court system as well as the general public are perfectly aware through reports, that judicial activity is being conducted with the required concern for ensuring social calm, which is gravely affected by these crimes.

The document was signed by Dr Alvaro Chocano Marina, president of the Supreme Court of Justice.

8587
CSO: 5300/2031

PERU

BRIEFS

LARGE COCAINE SEIZURE--Civil Guard officers on the Peru-Colombia border and at the Jorge Chavez International Airport seized cocaine base worth over 1.5 billion soles. The first seizure took place last Saturday on the Purinagua River in the Bretana jurisdiction. Intelligence Directorate personnel and personnel from the Drug Control Directorate of the Civil Guard were on river patrol when they were fired on with long-range weapons by occupants of two powerful speedboats. After a violent gunfight the police, under the command of Capt Jaime La Torre Arista, overcame the drug traffickers and seized three jute bags containing 436 kg of cocaine base, worth 1.4 billion soles, long-range Star pistols, and revolvers. Those arrested were identified as Trigo Rodriguez Coronel, Armando Saavedra Narvaez, a Colombian named Jose Ricardo Alfonso and a Brazilian named Joel Caldas Castro, and Manuel Francisco Coronado. At Lima Airport, the Civil Guard, with the help of two police dogs ("Balin" and "Oso") intercepted 51.5 kg of cocaine base worth 100 million soles, which Luis Malpica Malpica was trying to smuggle to Colombia in two suitcases. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 7 Oct 81 p A-1] 8587

CSO: 5300/2031

IRAN

GUARDS ROUND UP 1,000 ADDICTS IN SOUTH TEHRAN

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 3 Nov 81 p 15

[Text] City Service--Pursuant to implementing the strike plan to round up addicts from every nook and cranny in Tehran which was carried out by the Central Antinarcotics Headquarters, last week about 1,000 narcotics and opium addicts were rounded up in several areas of south Tehran by guards of the Antinarcotics Headquarters; and all of these addicts were sent to Shurabad for treatment.

Regarding this matter, a public relations spokesman of the Antinarcotics Headquarters told KEYHAN the following: For sometime now, narcotics addicts have been reappearing at places in south Tehran and have been plying their work of ruining the minds of young people and residents of south Tehran. This spokesman added: The Central Antinarcotics Headquarters started its work several days ago according to the strike plan by raiding simultaneously such narcotics-infested areas of Tehran as Darvazeh-ye Qazvin, Mowlavi, Darvazeh-ye Ghar, Shush, Gomrok [Customs], Helal-e Ahmr [Red Crescent Society], and Nezamabad; and they succeeded in rounding up about 1,000 addicts--and Allah willing, this plan will be repeated in the future.

Continuing, he said: These 1,000 addicts have been sent to Shurabad and put under medical treatment.

After his remarks, he added the point that during last week guards of the Central Antinarcotics Headquarters succeeded in confiscating 1.74 kilograms of heroin, 4.85 kg of opium, and 2.5 kg of opium sap; and in this connection they arrested 40 persons who were turned over to the Antinarcotics Prosecutor's Office.

CSO: 5300/5324

IRAN

BRIEFS

FIGURES FOR NARCOTICS SEIZURES--According to the central news unit the Islamic Revolution Court for the fight against narcotics, in a statement concerning its activities over the past year, has announced: up to now, 453 international smugglers have been arrested, tried and executed by this office. Also between 10 January and 25 October this year, 24,818 kg of opium, 725 kg of heroin, 213 kg of hashish, 649 kg of [word indistinct], 60 kg of morphine, 67 kg of opium juice, 52 kg of burned opium and 90 kg of suspicious materials were delivered to this office. During the same period, 650 kg of heroin, 153 kg of hashish, 34 kg of burned opium, 80 kg of suspicious materials and 61 kg of [word indistinct]. [Text] [LD011900 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 01 Nov 81]

NEYSHABUR NARCOTICS HAUL--With the persistent sleuthing efforts of the antidrug squad of Neushabur and the cooperation of the gendarmerie 15 kg of opium have been recovered from three persons and 14 opium pipes have been seized from another. The violators were later handed to the Islamic Revolution Court of Neyshabur. [GF151747 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 14 Nov 81]

GUARDS SEIZE OPIUM--Revolution guards of (Khajeh Rabi) and (Torogh) have seized 3.6 kg of opium and 820 grams respectively and handed the miscreants to the authorities. [GF151747 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 14 Nov 81]

TORBAT DRUGS HAUL--Police officials of Torbat-e Heydarieh have recovered 25.9 kg of opium from one who was later handed over for prosecution. [GF151747 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 14 Nov 81]

DRUG DEN RAIDED--Mashhad guards have discovered 10.4 kg of opium in a Mashhad suburb and arrested three persons in this connection. The antidrug squad has also seized 5.5 kg opium from the possession of another who was a resident of Zabol. [GF151747 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 14 Nov 81]

OPIUM SEIZED IN BIRJAND--Birjand gendarmerie personnel have seized 57 kg of opium from one person. [Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 15 Nov 81]

HEROIN SEIZED--Following a confrontation last night between the personnel of Zahedan's gendarmerie regiment and a number of smugglers near Zahedan about 290 kg of pure heroin were seized, one of the smugglers was killed and another was injured. Colonel Razavi, the commander of Sistan and Baluchestan gendarmerie, reported the above incident in a telephone conversation with PARS and said: about 1800 yesterday a drug squad of Sistan and Baluchestan Province gendarmerie regiment closed the road 10 km

away from Harmak Post near Zahedan to the international smugglers and after a 3-hour armed confrontation the group succeeded in arresting one of the smugglers alive and killing another one. Five bags containing pure heroin weighing about 290 kg were confiscated from them and two of their vehicles were damaged. The Commander of Sistan and Baluchestan gendarmerie said: the smuggler who has been arrested is being interrogated. He is an international smuggler and his son is imprisoned under a similar charge. He added: the officers are following the escaped smugglers in the mountains. [Text] [LD150842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Nov 81]

DRUGS SEIZED IN MASHHAD--In the past 24 hours the Mashhad antidrug squad has seized 950 grams of opium juice and 274 grams of heroin from three persons. [GF171742 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 17 Nov 81]

CSO: 5300/5321

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

ALARMING INCREASE IN DRUGS FROM NETHERLANDS NOTED

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 28 Oct 81 p 12

[Article: "More and More Narcotic Drugs Coming in From The Netherlands--Border Inspectors Feel Swamped--Other Smugglers from Austria and Switzerland"]

[Text] Duesseldorf, 27 October--More and more dope smugglers are entering the FRG from The Netherlands. Border inspectors are by now calling this trend alarming. In view of the constantly increasing quantities of dope entering the neighboring country and being peddled almost openly in the streets, the German customs services appears to be gripped by a sense of resignation. As Chief Customs Inspector Kurt Obaron of Duesseldorf's inland revenue office puts it: "My people are just about to keel over; I must state unequivocally that we can no longer deal with the drug problem."

In his border sector, which includes two of the biggest autobahn border crossing points (this side of Venlo), Obaron has found a 30-percent increase in the number of drug smuggling cases during the first nine months of this year. It is a similar story all over the border area. The most recent investigations have shown that dealers all over the FRG as well as Swiss, Austrian and Italian smugglers find ample supplies for their needs in the neighboring country.

Investigators must helplessly watch has hashish, marijuana, cocaine, heroin and LSD trips are freely peddled in pubs and on the streets across the border. This happens not only in Amsterdam and Rotterdam, but more recently also in border towns like Arnhem, Nijmegen, Eindhoven and Venlo. Says Obaron: "Demand is increasing from one year to the next. More and more young people are using drugs." All a customer needs to do to purchase the stuff is to attend a youth meeting or visit a disco or a youth center.

Smugglers are increasingly using the relatively poorly guarded "green" border and avoiding the main crossing points. Reports the chief inspector: "We have also been noticing that these days there are more dealers and couriers who are not addicts themselves." A recent arrest of three smugglers, aged between 40 and 60 near Viersen, who were carrying 6 kilos of hashish, also gives credence to the theory that increasing numbers of older and "respectable" people are trying to make a quick buck by smuggling dope.

A "lightning strike" tactic has recently been introduced as sort of an "emergency weapon:" whenever a smuggler is caught with a significant quantity of dope, a

concentrated attack is made the same day or the following night on the presumed source by the combined forces of the district attorney's office, the police and the customs authorities. Telephone and teletype are used in these maneuvers in an informal manner. By using these procedures, which come as a surprise to the smugglers, it has been possible during the past few months to break up narcotics rings in such areas as Weinheim, Essen, Hilden and Duesseldorf.

9273
CSO: 5300/2052

ITALY

MAFIA, DC DEPUTY ACCUSED OF DRUG TRAFFIC INVOLVEMENT

DC Lashes Berlinguer

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 30 Sep 81

[Interview of Attilio Ruffini by Mino Fucillo; date and place not given]

[Text] Rome--The Christian Democrats' reaction was wrathful, disdainful. A note from the political secretary speaks of "infamous suspicions, hurled indiscriminately unfounded in any basis of fact. Giovanni Berlinguer's statements touch the pinnacle of immorality; he hesitated not a moment to hurl his handfuls of mud, not even pausing to reflect on the elementary duty of loyalty and elementary good manners in the political battle." To Christian Democratic ears, the charge that it has not "sternly isolated and controlled the pathological symptoms obvious in its own ranks" coming from this communist spokesman rang like a slap, like "an insult that could have stemmed only from 'cheap political speculation.'"

The argument over the guilt of individuals with ties to the upper reaches of politics in the failure to stamp out the drug traffic has exploded into violent polemics, and the battle of words in what is unquestionably a heated conflict has been rough in the process. According to some wire service reports, the head of the PCI's public health lineup is cited as the source of charges that the DC was "the source of the drug traffic." Actually, Giovanni Berlinguer explicitly ruled out any criminal liability and any direct involvement of Christian Democratic Party members in the narcotics trade. He did, however, clearly point the finger of accusation at a moral responsibility inherent in the "closeness" between DC party members and members of the Mafia and/or unnamed deadbeats who are demonstrably directly involved in the drug traffic. And he named names and cited examples: ties between Ruffini and the Spatola brothers; ties between Amintore Fanfani and international swindler Michele Sindona.

Nor was Giovanni Berlinguer's the only communist voice raised in righteous indignation: a booklet put out by the RINASCITA publishing house on behalf of the Italian Communist Youth Federation (FGCI) of Palermo (four solid-set pages on "The Mafia and Drugs") with headlines to match: "Banquet and Contracts (DC)"; "Drugs and Cement (DC)." To quote it: "The fortunes of these businesses (Ed. note: those of the Spatola brothers) through Attorney Francesco Reale, an active member of the DC's regional Committee, to whom five checks for 10 million lire each were made out and signed by Rosario Spatola, are clearly connected with the election campaign of the then minister, Attilio Ruffini."

There is more: "Counsellor Reale, just prior to the 1979 political elections, laid on a banquet at Palermo's La Carbonella Restaurant to honor the leader of the Sicilian conservatives, the man who headed the DC ticket for the western district of the island." "The dinner ended," says the pamphlet, "with a toast and an appeal by Counsellor Reale to employees of the Spatola companies to vote for Ruffini, and to get their friends and the friends of their friends to vote for Ruffini." A bit further on there is mention of the "government contracts which the DC made sure went to the Spatola clan." The pamphlet cites the contract for 422 units of low-cost housing in the working-class Sperone district of Palermo: "The guiding hand in that deal belonged to a member of the low-cost housing board run by Vito Ciancimino and chaired by Christian Democrat Cacopardo."

We asked Attilio Ruffini to respond to these charges.

Ruffini: "Never Any Ties with the Mafia"

[Question] Deputy Ruffini, it has been alleged that you associated with and accepted political and campaign fund support from the so-called Spatola clan. That is a name that keeps cropping up in the court reports in connection with the drug traffic, among other matters.

[Answer] The truth of the matter is that they are backing an indefensible cause. I am willing to spell it out for you, point by point, even though this is not the first time, unfortunately, that I have had to waste my time on this mare's-nest. During and election campaign, you have hundreds of meetings and you see thousands of people; I personally have never held campaign banquets, if only out of considerations of style and taste. That campaign rally was simply an election rally, no more, no less.

[Question] Was Mr Spatola there or not?

[Answer] He was there but I didn't know it, and certainly I did not know that Spatola had ties with anybody at all: at the time, nobody had ever heard of the Spatolas--I hadn't, and neither had the press. I'd like to tell you that even several months after the start of this whole argument I was complaining about the animosity of opponents who were accusing me of meeting with Spatola. I truly believed he had not been there. I repeat, I didn't know him."

[Question] So you'd call it an on-the-job "accident," an unfortunate coincidence in your political activities?

[Answer] Not even that. Spatola at the time was not implicated in anything, and I cannot even blame myself for lacking prudence. What I do blame someone for, though, is dragging out this story in order to twist it at all costs, to make out of a plain fact, a mere nothing, some spicy political speculation, and it would be funny if it were not so monstrous. For one thing, it is certainly not helping the fight against the drug dealers: if anything, it contributes to throwing those who are fighting it off the track, to confusing them.

[Question] Mr Deputy, why in the world do the Spatolas turn up so often at DC rallies?

[Answer] In a society like ours, where the Mafia exists, it may well happen that one politician or another has some relations with some members of the Mafia. But a thing like that must be documented. Take the case of Sindona, whom I was lucky enough not to know: Did everybody who saw him or talked to him before we all knew everything there was to know about him catch some of the taint, some of the moral onus? Would could that be?

[Question] But aren't politicians citizens, so to speak, who bear special obligations and who are constrained, by reason of their role, to be particularly careful? Isn't it part of the duty of their office to check into the nature of their own contacts?

[Answer] We might as well be perfectly clear here: If the only examples Giovanni Berlinguer can adduce in support of his argument that the DC bears a moral responsibility for its dealings with the Mafia and the nonexistent banquet, the presence of Spatola at a political rally along with thousands of others, and the Fanfani-Sindona case, we are truly dealing with absurdities. Tell me: Do you really think it is likely that a cabinet minister--and I was a member of the cabinet at the time--would go to Mafia meetings with an official police escort? Mafiosi and criminals do not wear identification badges: It would be nice if we could recognize them by their smell.

[Question] Would you attend that meeting if it were held today?

[Answer] It would be incumbent upon me or anybody else not to do so, but hindsight isn't much help...

[Question] Why do you think Giovanni Berlinguer picked on you?

[Answer] It looks to me like childish, foolish speculation: From a recital of the events, even in good faith, he draws conclusions that simply won't stand up. Somebody told Berlinguer that a Mafia boss gave a banquet that was attended by a cabinet member. Put that way, a story like that would have shocked me, too. But, I repeat, that is not how it was.

[Question] Are you thinking of filing suit?

[Answer] I don't know; I shall consult an attorney; but mainly I am astonished by the incredible facility with which they are trying to build a complicated case against me. They allege that I did a favor, that I extended my protection to Spatola or some other Mafioso before or after their criminal activities were discovered.

[Question] In a pamphlet put out by the FGCI of Palermo they name a certain Attorney Reale, who is alleged to have received and cashed checks worth 50 million lire signed by Spatola, and they talk--and I quote--of "connections with the election campaign of Attilio Ruffini."

[Answer] I have not read the pamphlet you mentioned, but it doesn't amount to much: it's the same ridiculous, unbelievable procedure. Counsellor Reale is a friend of mine and he is Rosario Spatola's attorney: but what in the world is that supposed to prove? Are we supposed to deny the Mafiosi legal counsel, or do

we mean that their attorneys are never to talk with or be seen with anybody else? How can you possibly argue that a man, even a party, can be held liable on such counts? This is very serious, it is very dangerous. It is worse than a political speculation: It is a political and human error."

Sicily Named as Drug Traffic Center

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 30 Sep 81 p 3

[Article by Luigi Cancrini: "The Godfathers of Heroin."]

[Text] Ten years ago the drug traffic in Europe flowed primarily along two arteries. Holland (and Amsterdam in particular) was the marshalling yard for heroin refined in several southeast Asian countries and delivered, onsite, to an organization with ties to the Asian community (mainly Chinese) in that city, and sold in Europe by a tight-knit system of "pendulari [pusher/addicts] working on their own or as part of variously structured groups. On the other side, southern France, Marseille: its hinterland in particular, served as the clearinghouse for refining the raw material that came in from southeast Asia, but also from Turkey and Iran, and supplied heroin to the avid American market. It was controlled, of course, by a well-organized criminal gang powerful enough at the time to aim at broad hegemony over all the lucrative illicit activities in the criminal purview encompassing the shores of the western Mediterranean.

With the lapse of 10 years, the situation has changed dramatically. Swift and stern action on the part of governments which managed to set the interests of the collectivity above the temptations of possible money or "protection" has led, in fact, to a total shutdown of the Dutch artery (where the Asian community linked to the pool of restaurants and bars openly engaged in the drug trade was expelled by a single decisive act) and to the gradual dismantling of the French system where the levels of risk have risen so high as to make refineries altogether too dangerous and have done generally much the same to all drug-related enterprise.

The international organization or group of organizations that run the drug traffic and oversee all the various steps in the transfer from producer to user were forced by these measures to seek new channels for distribution and new intermediaries. They tried first of all--for a short time--to set up a relationship with the organized crime circles interested in laundering dirty money (customs seizures, the traffic in arms and diamonds) under the umbrella of the Swiss banks. Then, aiming increasingly toward expansion of the bases provided in the Latin American countries (Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay) whose rightist stance allowed easy contact with a government attuned to the lure of money and ensured that there would be no democratic opposition, before finally settling on setting up a complete and complicated system for distribution and processing in Sicily.

Sicily offers ideal conditions for the development of criminal activities connected with the heroin traffic. Those conditions are insured essentially by a existence of a Mafia organization that stands ready to:

- a. protect couriers, refineries, and drug transport through a closeknit system of complicity, blackmail, intimidation, and payoffs;

- b. insure, through timely supplies of votes and money, the goodwill of local administrations and, through members of the local police forces, support from the political parties with clout on the national scene; as spelled out in clear detail complete with full names by Comrade Enrico Berlinguer (in NUOVA SOCIETA) and Comrade Giovanni Berlinguer (in LA REPUBBLICA);
- c. to provide cheap and simple channels (because there is no competition) for communications, through the system set up by the Italo-American Mafia which controls the organizations that handle distribution in the U.S. market;
- d. to take over directly, coopting or dumping the pushers working in Italy, all heroin distribution in Italy and in the other European countries;
- e. to make use of the tried and true system of recycling money, with the aid of the string of banks that handle such operations in this and other sectors.

The one real obstacle to the choice of the Italo-American Mafia as the linchpin of the organization for the heroin traffic and to the permanent location of refineries and wholesale operations in Sicily came, for a while, from the Mafia itself. The Mafia there, was an outfit that had, over these last several years, undergone what was not merely a change in goals and in the interrelations among its activities; it had been subjected, in short, to a "reconversion," and to one that assigned critical importance to the drug trade and thereby undercut its traditional activities, but which also "inevitably" required a painful change in the delicate balance of power, in the kind of people it would take and in the attitudes of the bosses and of their lieutenants, at the same time as it gave rise to the growth of interests more attuned to the peculiarities of a local situation than to the logic of an organization active on a global scale.

This is where we find the key to the very long time it took to pick Sicily, because the old godfathers would not readily yield up their positions of power and because there was, perforce, a fight precipitated by the power of the criminal element within the organization (with an unbelievable string of murders, most of them unpunished) and outside it (ranging all the way from De Mauro to Giuliano and to the local judges committed to stemming the rising tide of drugs and to the maneuverings of the people who were putting the system together).

If all this is true, the problem facing Sicily and the Italian southland as the new and perhaps permanent center for the international heroin traffic is indeed a truly thorny one. The missiles at Comiso and the inland refineries are wounds inflicted on the region itself by decisions and interests which have nothing directly to do with it. But the significance of the operation, "an operation that would be impossible anywhere else in Italy," is unfortunately the same. This means that we must react swiftly and ruthlessly to create conditions that will put a stop to the permanent transformation of Sicily into a foreign colony, ruled by the arrogance of the Mafia and the cynicism of corrupt local officials.

I devoted close attention to the interview with Ruffini in LA REPUBBLICA on 9 September. It truly frightened me: partly because what he had to say was so like the words American screenwriters put into the mouths of gangsters and their protectors when more honest cops or judges "dared" to accuse them (let's see the

evidence, if you've got any"); but mainly because of the unbelievable capacity it displayed for missing the political significance of the report.

Confining himself to justifying his banquets and his meeting with Mafiosi known to be involved in the drug traffic, Cabinet Minister Ruffini carefully sidestepped any statement on the crucial issue of his party's ties with Sindona and the Mafia. Whether he does this out of sheer innocence (as I trust he does) or out of pure gall, it is impossible to refrain from telling him that anybody who read his interview knew perfectly well that there is no criminal organization of any standing the leaves "evidence" lying around that could be used against its top echelons and their most powerful protection.

An interview like the one he gave, based solely on defending his own image, merely serves to deepen doubt and perplexity if it is allowed to stand as the only political statement by the men of the Christian Democratic Party at a time when there is talk of intimate ties (among the Maria, drugs, and politics in Sicily) of which there is hard evidence gleaned from vast numbers of murder trials and criminal prosecutions (not to mention the proceedings of a parliamentary commission--all mention of which has been assiduously avoided for years). Can a major party in the relative consensual majority in Sicily really get away with this sort of offhand request for "evidence" to be laid against its top men, who have for so long been accused of hiding such evidence, and doing it with consummate skill? Can the so-called "lay" parties actually go on talking, while the narcotics scourge spreads, of "moral issues," without clarifying their position on the point and without shaping up enough to let them show certifiably clean hands when they join in probing the issue of relations between the interests of the P2 group, Sindona, and the Mafia?

6182
CSO: 5300/2030

ITALY

PCI LEADER'S STATEMENT ON MAFIA DRUG CONNECTIONS

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 25 Sep 81 p 5

[Statement by PCI Party Secretary Enrico Berlinguer to NUOVA SOCIETA]

[Text] The drug problem in Italy today: how widespread is it? How high is the level of consumption, and how many pushers are there? What are the issues we must settle now if we are to face up to so unparalleled a social scourge, and to fight it properly and sternly enough? On this burning question, the secretary of the PCI, Comrade Enrico Berlinguer, recently gave a statement to Turin's NUOVA SOCIETA magazine.

"NUOVA SOCIETA has asked me to make a statement on the drug problem. I am happy to make one because I believe that in our time this is one of the gravest issues facing Italian society.

"The battle against this scourge of our society must be fought on both fronts: against those who deal in drugs, and against those who use them. Italy is on its way to becoming one of the major marketplaces for sales, for transit, and even for production of all sorts of narcotics in Western Europe and in the world at large. We must pinpoint the depots and the channels used by those who traffic in drugs, and sever the links between organized crime -- particularly the Mafia and the Camorra -- and certain sectors of the political and banking world. There is a submerged economy in our midst, with its roots in the narcotics trade: it must be eradicated.

"Fighting against the sale of narcotics is not enough, though. There has been and there still is an active ideology and a subtle propaganda campaign in this country which encourages the spread of this social cancer, painting narcotics use as a gesture of freedom, as if heroin could provide a chance for revenge against oppression and social injustice. Drug use has frequently been artlessly contrasted with drug pushing. There are those who mistakenly believe that we can fight drugs with drugs.

"All this has encouraged misunderstanding and aberrations of all kinds, which we must somehow find the courage to fight to the death wherever it crops up, in the area of ideas and social behavior, particularly among the young, and at the same time to strengthen and expand our efforts to rehabilitate addicts.

"Little or nothing has been done thus far to counteract the dread disease of drug addiction, which threatens to destroy or to cancel out a whole generation. What we need -- and now -- is a courageous turnaround which will open the road to experimentation and to the adoption of new procedures and methods, and that will require a thorough knowledge of what people are trying to do elsewhere in the world.

6182

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ITALY

PSI MAYOR ADVOCATES DECRIMINALIZATION OF HEROIN

Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 27-28 Sep 81 p 8

[Article by Piero Valentino]

[Text] SAVONA, 26 Sep--The idea came to him a few years ago, and he suggested it, but found no takers. Now he is determined to get it across. He is 72-year-old Carlo Zanelli, Savona's socialist mayor for 13 years now. He will ask the city council to set up a center staffed by expertly trained personnel where addicts can go to get drugs ("any kind of drugs, including heroin") free. Zanelli explains: "This is not going to solve the problem, but I am convinced that it is the only workable way to control and contain this phenomenon."

His city counts fewer than 80,000 souls, but its "known" addict population is 700, and there are 2,000 more "scattered" throughout the province. The latest of them died yesterday in Genoa: he was Giuseppe Gamberale, 26 years old. He lived in Voltri, but he used to come to Savona for his "fix." And this city is setting unenviable records for bag-snatching and robberies. Every day the reports pour into the police stations, rising numbers of complaints about muggings for rings, neck chains, purses, and every now and then an armed robbery. There are no prevention avenues: practically speaking, there is only repression. This is another reason why the mayor has picked this time to move: "We can no longer go on like this," he says; "we have to strike at the roots, to get at the causes of this plague. I don't know if the idea will work, but I do know that there are no alternatives. The way I see it is this: almost all addicts have to steal and rob to pay for their drugs. Almost invariably they wind up in the clutches of unscrupulous pushers, they buy "cut" drugs, and more of them die every day. Drug-related deaths have become so common that we actually don't report them in the papers any more.

"This center will be an essential alternative for them. They will come here, they will talk to experts, to aides, to people who know what they are talking about. It will not be a pushing center, nor a supermarket where they can pick their own preference in poison off the shelf, of course. We shall certainly not just dish drugs out to anybody who asks: no service with a smile. There will be methadone; there will be light drugs; and when it is indispensable, there will even be heroin. That is not the end of the story, though: the people running the center will be trying to rescue the kids and get them back onto the track. The end purpose will be that, but meanwhile we shall get two big plusses: we shall be cutting out the

pushers, who have found a booming market here, and we shall stop the kids from buying drugs illegally, and, in short, we shall make sharp cutbacks in the spread of what we call capillary crime, and of casual purse-snatching."

Zanelli is a cardiologist by profession, and in Savona he is, more or less, the establishment. A close friend of Pertini's, he has always run the city coolly, without and rash ventures. Now he is about to cede his place to a communist (there is an agreement between the two parties covering procedure for taking turns in office), but before he turns over the reins he is determined to "do something practical to deal with an emergency situation."

The top health minister had an idea somewhat along these same lines, but nothing came of it. How will his colleagues receive this proposal? "No question but not all of them will go along. We are going to talk about it. We are going to come to a confrontation. But I am determined to hold out. Somebody has said that we shall simply be making the kids a gift of death. I say that we are doing precisely the opposite. If somebody has a better idea, let him come forward." The first support for Zanelli's idea came from the police. The city is waiting, stunned by the spread of reports of petty crime. Thus far, only one group has come forward with an interest in rescuing addicts, and that is the community run by Silesian Father Ghilardi.

6182

CSO: 5300/2030

TURKEY

JOINT OPERATION WITH FRG BREAKS UP HEROIN SMUGGLING RING

Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish 22 Sep 81 pp 1, 14

[Text] In a joint operation carried out between Narcotics Branch teams and the German police, a total of 3 kilos of heroin with a market value of 100 million TL was seized, a part of it concealed in the private parts of two women abroad and the other portion in Istanbul, in a luxury hotel. Two women were taken into custody in France [sic] in connection with the incident and 4 persons, one of whom a businessman were taken into custody in Istanbul.

Taking advantage of a tip which they received, narcotics branch detectives determined that a gang was making preparations to transport narcotics from the Middle East into Europe. Istanbul Narcotics Branch special teams, engaging in a joint operation with the German police, in the first phase seized 170 grams of heroin packed in the private parts of a prostitute by the name of "Hazel" at Frankfurt airport. At the same airport, 360 grams [or heroin] were seized, concealed in the private parts of an Australian-born woman by the name of "Jasmine" who claimed to be a model. While the international operation's wide-ranging investigation was being carried out, it was determined that a part of the gang was making preparations for shipment in a luxury hotel in Istanbul. In a raid on the hotel, teams under the command of Ugur Gur, Narcotics Branch deputy director, responsible for the Istanbul part of the operation, seized 2.4 kilos of heroin packed in a bag. During questioning in connection with the incident, the Greek-born individual named Atanaisos Kalabalikis, who was discovered to be the heroin shipping and quality expert, was apprehended. After further questioning, the individuals named Neset Gezer and Hayrettin Gezer, who were brought to the hotel by the drug dealers, were taken into custody. In the statements made by these individuals they stated that the individual named Micheil Leukousky, who is responsible for the marketing and financing in Europe, is presently in Germany. Shortly after certain determinations were made, German police apprehended and took into custody this individual. Businessman Orhan Gokyayla, found to be one of the financing partners in Turkey, was apprehended and taken into custody by the Narcotics Branch. Gokyayla, while smilingly posing for newspapermen, said: "I am also studying other proposals."

One person was taken into custody in Icel's Tarsus district while trying to sell 23.1 kilos of hashish to police for 88,000 lira. According to information obtained from official sources, Ali Ozdemir, living in Yenice Hayadan village, who was determined to have sold hashish in Tarsus district, was caught red-handed while trying to sell 23.1 kilos of hashish for 88,000 lira to police disguised as buyers.



CSO: 5300/5322-P

TURKEY

NEW PROGRAM TO COMBAT NARCOTICS SMUGGLING

Istanbul TERCUMAN in English 22 Oct 81 p 5

[Text] Turkey has been divided up into seven regions in order to combat narcotics smuggling. According to information obtained from the Directorate General of Security, the United Nations has approved proposals which we submitted in project form. Six hundred persons will be employed in narcotics laboratories to be established in seven central provinces. Meanwhile, \$1.5 million in aid has been received from the United Nations Fund to Combat Drug Abuse.

Chemists To Be Hired

In addition to the security organization specialists appointed to these centers, chemists will be hired and appointed to the laboratories. The chemists who are to be appointed will first take a course in Europe, administered by officials of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control [UNFDAC], before assuming their functions.

Seven Laboratories and Seven Regions

--Ankara (Headquarters), Bolu, Kastamonu, Cankiri, Kirsehir, Eskisehir, Konya, Nevsehir, Kayseri, Sivas, Yozgat, Zonguldak.

--Istanbul (Headquarters), Bursa, Izmit, Bilecik Adapazari, Tekirdag, Kirklareli, Edirne, Canakkale.

--Izmir (Headquarters), Manisa, Balikesir, Aydin, Mugla, Denizli, Usak, Kutahya, Afyon, Isparta, Burdur.

--Adana (Headquarters), Mersin, Antalya, Nigde, Kahramanmaras, Gaziantep, Antakya.

--Samsun (Headquarters), Sinop, Amasya, Corum, Tokat, Ordu, Giresun, Trabzon, Rize, Gumushane.

--Diyarbakir (Headquarters), Urfa, Adiyaman, Malatya, Mardin, Tunceli, Bingol, Elazig, Mus, Bitlis, Siirt, Van, Hakkari.

--Erzurum (Headquarters), Kars, Artvin, Agri, Erzincan.

CSO: 5300/5322-P

TURKEY

BRIEFS

ASALA HEROIN TRAFFICKING--It was reported that six militants of the Armenian terrorist organization ASALA [Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia] were apprehended together with 9 kilos of heroin. The investigation connected with the Armenian militants apprehended in Istanbul is being pursued from many angles. The Armenian terrorists, apprehended as a result of joint work between Turkish and Swiss police, engaged in such acts as bombing bridges and train stations in Switzerland. Meanwhile, in order to procure financial means for the organization, they smuggled heroin which they purchased in Middle Eastern countries into European countries. It was learned that investigators are seeking a connection between the six terrorists apprehended in Istanbul and the attacks carried out against Turkish diplomats. [Text] [Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish 3 Nov 81 pp 1, 16]

BOLVADIN ALKALOID FACTORY--Turkey's No 1 and the world's third largest alkaloid factory, construction on which was begun in 1976 in Afyon's Bolvadin district and which was slated to begin production last year, was opened this year; however, it was able to operate for only 2 weeks. Officials indicate that in the event breakdowns in the presses and the machinery are repaired it will once again start production. They indicate that it will provide medical substances needed in our country and thus provide a substantial contribution to the national economy. It will amortize its cost within 1-2 years. [Text] [Istanbul MILLI GAZETE in Turkish 3 Nov 81 p 1]

CSO: 5300/5322-P

UNITED KINGDOM

COURT TOLD MI6 'USED SHOP-OWNER TO BUG IRA DRUG RING'

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 27 Oct 81 p 3

[Text]

AN Oxford graduate accused of being involved in a £20 million drug-smuggling plot, claimed at the Old Bailey yesterday that he had been recruited by the British Secret Service to infiltrate the I.R.A.

HOWARD MARKS, 36, of Hans Road, Knightsbridge, told the jury that a university friend had asked him to open further branches in Europe of a dress-shop in Oxford called Annabelinda to provide cover for MI6.

He claimed that the friend, named MacMillan, worked for the Foreign Office intelligence service. "He told me he worked for MI6 security branch and asked me if I would be interested in helping them out in any way through my dress business."

Asked by Lord HUTCHISON, Q.C., his counsel, if there was any agreement concerning money, Marks replied: "There was no question of any money."

Marks, HEADLEY MORGAN, 34, of Oaklands Avenue, Potters Bar, and MORGAN STEWART PRENTISS, 41, a Californian yacht-broker, of Grosvenor Crescent Mews, Hyde Park, all deny smuggling cannabis and dealing in the drug.

The case arises from the landing of 15 tons of cannabis on the lonely Scottish isle of Kerrera in December, 1979.

Leading Provo

Marks said that in 1973, he learned of a man arrested in Morocco and was asked by the man's wife to meet someone in Amsterdam. The contact's name was given as James O'Neill, to tell him of the arrest, but discovered later that the man's real name was James McCann.

"In those days, he was a leading Provo IRA activist, organising bombing and arms-smuggling campaigns. I believe he was the first person to escape from Crumlin Road prison in Belfast since the war."

He said MacMillan asked him to help and after considering the matters he was instructed to infiltrate McCann's organisation. As a result of a trip to Ireland, his information led to the arrest of McCann's girlfriend and some accomplices. They had been in possession of arms and drugs in Hamburg but McCann escaped.

Marks alleged that his information on another occasion led to McCann being arrested in Vancouver but he escaped to France after being granted bail.

He claimed that on a third occasion, while in Dublin, he met a man working for McCann and discovered that he was using the I.R.A. to bring large quantities of drugs into Ireland.

He told the court that when he was due to appear at the Old Bailey in 1973, concerning the smuggling of drugs from Holland to America, he was "kidnapped" by American organisers and taken to Italy. Newspapers in Britain gave a "tremendous amount of publicity to his work against the I.R.A."

He claimed that he escaped from Italy and lived by using false names.

The trial continues today.

CSO: 5320/008

UNITED KINGDOM

EX-DRUG SQUAD CHIEF SACKED AFTER INQUIRY INTO CANNABIS PLOT

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 12 Nov 81 p 3

[Article by John Weeks]

[Text]

THE former operational head of Scotland Yard's drug squad has been reduced to the rank of constable and dismissed from the Metropolitan Police on four internal disciplinary charges.

Det. Chief Insp. Anthony Rich, 35, has been suspended from duty since August, 1977, on full pay, after an inquiry into how cannabis seized by police was recycled through the drugs market.

In 1968 he was awarded the British Empire Medal for disarming a drug-crazed man who was holding a loaded pistol to the head of a policeman in West End Central police station.

Rich appeared at Marylebone magistrates' court three years ago with two other officers, charged with conspiracy to obtain, possess, supply and otherwise deal in cannabis and with stealing cannabis resin. Magistrates decided that Rich and one of the other officers had no case to answer and were cleared.

Fingerprint powder

The third officer, Det. Sgt Michael Kevin Carrington, was later sentenced to seven years' jail for his part in the conspiracy.

The charges against all three arose after Essex police seized 28 kilos of cannabis which, after forensic tests, showed traces of a fingerprint powder used by the Metropolitan Police. This showed that the drug had already been seized by the Yard and it had been recycled through the drug black-market.

Rich and the other two were later subject to an inquiry by the Complaints Investigation Bureau at the Yard. He was dismissed with effect from Nov. 5 on four charges under the Police Discipline Code.

CSO: 5320/008

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

HEROIN HAUL--Customs officers have found two kilograms of heroin worth 500,000 pounds sterling in a suitcase aboard a Pan American jumbo jet at Heathrow. A woman is to appear in court today. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 12 Oct 81 p 1]

DRUG SQUAD RAID--Five men and a woman were helping police with their inquiries last night after Drug Squad officers seized a package containing heroin with a street value of 250,000 pounds sterling in Green Street, Forest Gate, London. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 29 Oct 81 p 2]

LIVERPOOL CANNABIS RAID--Cannabis worth half a million pounds was seized by Customs officers at Liverpool docks when they swooped on a container unloaded from the cargo ship Adviser after she arrived from Jamaica. A Customs spokesman said six men would appear at Bootle Magistrates' Court tomorrow accused of smuggling cannabis. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 1 Nov 81 p 40]

HEROIN SMUGGLING SENTENCE--A (?taine) nursery nurse, suffering from an incurable hand disease, escaped a prison sentence yesterday for drug smuggling. Miss Carys Thomson, 27, admitted smuggling 36,000 pounds' worth of heroin into Britain to earn money for a pain-killing operation. Judge Tavn, at Birmingham Crown Court, told her: "Whatever you're suffering, I do not think it justifies your part in this. It is an exceptional case, had you been anyone else you would be facing a sentence of six years' imprisonment." Miss Thomson, of Hazeldene Road, Shaldon, Birmingham, was given a two-year prison sentence, suspended for two years, and ordered to pay 150 pounds' costs. Mr Bruce Pitt, prosecuting, said the heroin had come from Pakistan. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 4 Nov 81 p 3]

CSO: 5320/007

END