

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

JPRS L/10577

10 June 1982

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 26/82)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

NOTE

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

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

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

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

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

JPRS L/10577

10 June 1982

WORLDWIDE REPORT
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 26/82)

CONTENTS

ASIA

AUSTRALIA

Government Seeks Creation of National Crimes Commission
(Greg Turnbull; THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 29 Apr 82)..... 1

Royal Commission on Drug Trade Gets Access to Tax Files
(Ted Knez; THE AUSTRALIAN, 15 Apr 82)..... 2

Police Plan New Measures To Counter Drug Trafficking
(Ted Knez; THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN, 10-11 Apr 82)..... 4

Federal Police Join With Thais To Fight Drug Trade
(Ted Knez; THE AUSTRALIAN, 29 Mar 82)..... 5

Commission OK'd To Probe Nugan Hand Drug, Arms Connections
(Ted Knez; THE AUSTRALIAN, 21 Apr 82)..... 6

Jail Terms Given in Separate Heroin Smuggling Cases
(THE WEST AUSTRALIAN, 17 Apr 82)..... 8

Briefs

Heroin Charges in Perth 10

Bail in Sydney Heroin Case 10

BURMA

Dangers of Harmful Drugs Viewed
(Editorial; THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, 5 May 82)..... 11

Briefs

Poppy Substitution Program 13

- a - [III - WW - 138 FOUO]

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

HONG KONG

Heroin Base Seized Aboard Singaporean Vessel (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 17, 18 May 82).....	14
Crewmen Detained, by Tommy Lewis Crewmen Released	
Bill Seeks To Close Loopholes in Existing Drug Laws (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 29 Apr 82).....	16
Record Amount of Heroin Base Seized at Drug Laboratory (Paul Baran, Walter Cheung; SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 25 Apr 82).....	17
Drug Seizures Soar After Bumper Golden Triangle Crop (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 8 May 82).....	18
More Young People Turning to Marihuana Smoking (Tommy Lewis; SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 19 Apr 82).....	19
Teenage Drug Addicts More Involved in Triad Activities (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 21 Apr 82).....	20
Small, Independent Drug Rings Replacing Large Syndicates (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 24 Apr 82).....	21
Two Jailed 10 Years for Scheme To Ship Heroin to Canada (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 2 May 82).....	22
Police Smash Drug Factory, Seize 18.2 kg of Heroin (SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, 6 May 82).....	23
Briefs	24
Opium From Yunnan	24
Heroin Base Haul	24
Two Thais Jailed	24

INDONESIA

Briefs	
Italian Woman Sentenced	26

MALAYSIA

Briefs	
New Form of Drug Abuse	27

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

PAKISTAN

Haroon Calls for Elimination of Trade (BUSINESS RECORDER, 17 May 82).....	28
Briefs	
Opium Seized From Cargo	30
Big Heroin Haul	30
Charas Seized in Dadu	30
Burned Cloth as Heroin	31

PHILIPPINES

Government Must Crack Down on Drug Abuse (Eddie R. Gandionco; VISAYAN HERALD, 12 Apr 82).....	32
Heroin Suppliers Arrested (Divina C. Paredes; PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 12 May 82).....	33
Marihuana Uprooted on Central Luzon (BULLETIN TODAY, 10 May 82).....	34

SINGAPORE

Briefs	
Extradition of Detainee	35

THAILAND

'POST' Assesses Operations Against Shan Army (POST, 16 May 82).....	36
'POST' Editorial on Prisoner Exchange (Editorial; POST, 1 May 82).....	38
Antidrug Team Leaves for Singapore Talks (Voice of Free Asia, 28 Apr 82).....	40
Police Seize Banned Chemicals (POST, 19 Apr 82).....	41
Briefs	
Prachuap on Antidrug Cooperation	42
U.S. Drug Grant	42
Marihuana Confiscated	42
Raid on Drug Factory	43
Thai-FRG Liaison	43
Frenchman Sentenced for Heroin	43

- c -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Marihuana Haul in Kalasin	44
Morphine Seized in Songkhla	44
Female Prisoners Released	44
Other Conficts Released	44
Raw Opium Seized	45
Heavy Sentences Handed Down	45
Undercover Team Arrests Suspects	45
Exchange Program With FRG	46
Heroin Seized in Chiang Mai	46
Opium Seized on Bus	46
Heroin Arrests in Chiang Mai	46
Arrests for Opium Possession	47
Bangkok Heroin Seized	47
Lao Marihuana Seized	47

CANADA

Briefs	
Toronto Policeman Arrested	48
Drug-Smuggling Raids	48
Jail for Heroin Trafficking	48

LATIN AMERICA

BAHAMAS

Briefs	
Marihuana Boat	49
Bail for 13 Colombians	49

BARBADOS

Editorial Calls for Free Rein for Police in War on Drugs (Editorial; THE NATION, 28 Apr 82).....	50
Briefs	
Interpol Membership	52

COLOMBIA

Briefs	
Cocaine Laboratory Discovered	53

JAMAICA

Editorial Discusses Threat of Illegal Airstrips for Drugs (Editorial; THE DAILY GLEANER, 4 May 82).....	54
--	----

- d -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Pressure in U.S. Affecting Ganja Trade in Jamaica (Lloyd Williams; THE SUNDAY GLEANER, 16 May 82).....	55
MEXICO	
Opium Producer, Accomplice Captured by Federal Judicial Police (EL FRONTERIZO, 21 Apr 82).....	60
Details on International Cocaine Ring Probe Reported (EL MANANA, 28 Mar 82, 21 Apr 82).....	62
Further Arrests, Disclosures Charges Denied	
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	
Briefs	
Marihuana Plantation	64
SUB-SAHARA AFRICA	
MALI	
Customs Officers Seize 250kgs of Amphetamines (M. Kouyate; L'ESSOR, 27-28 Mar 82).....	65
SEYCHELLES	
Briefs	
Dagga Smuggler	67
Cocaine Dealers	67
Dagga Charges Withdrawn	67
Dagga Dealer	67
SOUTH AFRICA	
Controversial Drugs Film Banned in South Africa (Keith Abendroth; THE CITIZEN, 18 May 82).....	68
Briefs	
Mandrax Possession Arrests	69
WEST EUROPE	
DENMARK	
Report Suggests Continued Hard Drugs Problem in Prisons (Vagn Petersen; AKTUELST, 30 Apr 82).....	70

- e -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

	Police Discover Gang Behind Christiania Trafficking (Anders Wiig; BERLINGSKE TIDENDE, 6 May 82).....	72
GREECE		
	Briefs	
	Zairian Students Sentenced	73
TURKEY		
	'HURRIYET' on Narcotics Smuggling (HURRIYET, 24 May 82).....	74
UNITED KINGDOM		
	Briefs	
	Police Win Cannabis Appeal	75
	Cricket Bats Hid Heroin	75
	Customs Seize Heroin	75

AUSTRALIA

GOVERNMENT SEEKS CREATION OF NATIONAL CRIMES COMMISSION

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 29 Apr 82 p 1

[Article by Greg Turnbull]

[Text] : CANBERRA. — Increasingly sophisticated forms of crime are behind plans to form a National Crimes Commission, involving Federal and State police and with the powers of a Royal Commission, the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, told Parliament yesterday.

Mr Fraser said the Attorney-General, Senator Durack, and other ministers were examining the possibility of establishing such a commission.

"I think the time has come when we have to question whether the conventional means of law enforcement, as known in the past, are adequate to deal with the circumstances that we have to face at the present time," Mr Fraser said.

The Opposition spokesman on the law, Senator Gareth Evans, said yesterday the Labor Party was prepared to give bipartisan support to the proposed commission.

"It has become obvious from the Costigan and Stewart Royal Commissions and other recent developments that massive criminal profits are being made from drug trafficking, tax evasion, corporate crime of all kinds, and official corruption," Senator Evans said.

Mr Fraser told Parliament the Stewart Royal Commission into the activities of the Federated Ship Painters and Dockers' Union, and the Federal-NSW

joint police task force on drug trafficking went "some way towards the establishment of what might loosely be called a Federal or National Crimes Commission.

"In some senses the two joint Royal Commissions that have been established can be regarded as an experiment which could well lead to the establishment of a National Crimes Commission," Mr Fraser said.

He said the Commonwealth would seek the co-operation of the State Governments in any commission, but the Federal Government might be forced initially to act alone.

"I believe if the Commonwealth were to wait until it had the total agreement of all States, through either the Premiers' Conference or the Attorneys-General Conference, the youngest members here might be grey with age before that would be achieved," he said.

"I do not really believe that as a nation we have time for that.

"The powers appropriate to a Royal Commission are probably appropriate for such a commission, but it needs to be said that while such a body might have special investigators it would still be operating with and through the normal police forces — it would not involve establishing a new arm or body of people for the normal enforcement of law," Mr Fraser said.

CSO: 5300/7556

AUSTRALIA

ROYAL COMMISSION ON DRUG TRADE GETS ACCESS TO TAX FILES

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 15 Apr 82 p 1

[Article by Ted Knez]

[Text]

A SIGNIFICANT widening of access to personal tax records was signalled yesterday when the Federal Government gave two royal commissions the power to gain such information.

The royal commission into the Ship Painters and Dockers Union and the Stewart inquiry into drug trafficking were given specific rights to investigate tax records.

And last night, the Treasurer, Mr Howard, said that any royal commissions with terms of reference similar to the current inquiries would also be given information held by the Taxation Office.

Mr Howard said the Government was "breaking some new ground" by proposing to amend the tax laws to give the royal commissions access to personal records.

But the move has triggered fears that such information will become available to the Federal Police who are carrying out investigations for both royal commissions.

Last night's announcement was supported by the federal Labor Party's spokesman on legal affairs, Senator Gareth Evans, who said the Opposition would agree to the legislation as long as there were safeguards.

The Australian Democrats adopted a wait-and-see approach, with Senator Robert

Macklin saying the party was concerned to ensure that civil liberties were protected.

Under the Government's plan, royal commissioners will be able to recommend giving the Federal Police information gained from personal tax records, including the names of people or companies relevant to their investigations.

Last night's move follows a decision almost two weeks ago to expand the terms of reference of the docks inquiry, allowing the royal commissioner, Mr Frank Costigan QC, to mount large-scale investigations into the \$500 million-a-year tax evasion industry.

In an interim report, Mr Costigan called on the Government to lift the traditional secrecy provisions of tax laws after claiming he had uncovered evidence of tax evasion and fraud on the waterfront involving hundreds of millions of dollars.

The extension of the powers to Mr Justice Stewart will dramatically widen the scope of his investigation into the activities of the Mr Asia syndicate.

Senior government officials agreed last night there was evidence linking Australians to large-scale laundering of black money overseas and drug trafficking from South-East Asia's notorious golden triangle.

Although royal commissions would be subject to secrecy, Mr Howard said exceptions would be made so that:

- Disclosures about the information found in tax files could be made to the Governor-General or in open court provided no person or company was identified;
- The identity of persons or companies could be made known if information from tax records was passed on to a relevant minister;
- The information could be accompanied with a recommendation to make it available to the Federal Police.

CSO: 5300/7554

AUSTRALIA

POLICE PLAN NEW MEASURES TO COUNTER DRUG TRAFFICKING

Canberra THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English 10-11 Apr 82 p 9

[Article by Ted Knez]

[Text] NARCOTICS police have recently seized heroin in lots of 5kg or more.

The seizures are small by the multi-million dollar standards of the world drug trade, but have more than doubled in size since the R and R days of the Vietnam war. Clearly, demand is rising.

The problem is not peculiar to Australia. Throughout much of the West there are signs of a growing narcotics problem.

In Europe, in particular, the level of addiction, police corruption and gangsterism, has risen alarmingly.

The Minister for Administrative Services, Mr Newman, has forecast new police counter measures.

He also indicated a possible increase in Australian aid to Thailand to help eradicate opium poppy production.

Thailand — part of South-East Asia's notorious Golden Triangle — is almost the exclusive source of heroin supplied to Australia.

While most is grown in the neighboring Shan States of Burma, the heroin is often processed in Thailand, shipped south and smuggled to Australia.

Australian narcotics police are bound to play a greater role in joint anti-drug intelligence operations with their Thai counterparts.

Police are clearly shifting to earlier and more frequent detection of drug growing, refining and shipment through Thailand.

The trade in heroin's raw material — acetic anhydride — is almost as big as drug smuggling. A component in making plastics, its supply is almost limitless.

Opium caravans, now moving freely through Thailand, might also be located in time for Thai forces to stop them from reaching the ports in the south.

There are few delusions among narcotics police about the adequacy of measures now in use to combat the drug trade.

The heroin is grown in densely-forested, impenetrable areas of Thailand and Burma by warlords with large private armies.

The areas are also politically sensitive for the Thais, who fear an upsurge in communist insurgency if highland tribesmen lose their only source of income — poppy production.

CSO: 5300/7554

AUSTRALIA

FEDERAL POLICE JOIN WITH THAIS TO FIGHT DRUG TRADE

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 29 Mar 82 p 1

[Article by Ted Knez]

[Text] **FEDERAL** Police in Australia and Thai police will immediately step up joint anti-drug intelligence operations as growers in South-East Asia's notorious Golden Triangle prepare to harvest a bumper crop of cannabis.

The move was foreshadowed yesterday by the Minister for Administrative Services, Mr Newman, who warned there was a "big cannabis crop to be got rid of" in Thailand's north-west drug production area.

The police measures, coupled with an intensified campaign by the two nations to wipe out opium farming, are also expected to detect any attempted comeback by the ousted warlord of the heroin trade, Khun Sa.

Thai authorities mounted a military operation against Khun Sa recently, raiding opium plantations and driving him and his followers into the Shan states of neighboring Burma.

Mr Newman, speaking from Hong Kong after touring the Golden Triangle, said that:

- Thai forces had failed to find the "drug laboratories" used by Khun Sa to manufacture heroin for western countries, including Australia;

- There was evidence of a "high level of corruption" among Thai authorities engaged in the battle against drugs;

- The Thai Government's program of eradicating the opium plantations run by hill tribesmen had suffered a setback;

- An Australian expert would be sent to Thailand to help set up a computerised drug intelligence operation; and

- The Australian Federal Police presence in Thailand would be strengthened by another full-time liaison officer.

Mr Newman also indicated that foreign aid might be increased for Thailand's program of eradicating land now used for growing opium.

While corruption in "high levels of administration" was evident, Mr Newman claimed Thai authorities were taking strong counter-measures.

"There is no doubt there are fair dinkum people in the Thai administration who are aware of corruption and are trying to stamp it out," he said.

Mr Newman said officials were turning a blind eye to the

shipment of chemicals used in heroin production and allowing drugs to move freely from production centres in the north of Thailand to ports in the south.

Another problem was the setback to the Thai Government's reclamation program in the northwest — a project aimed at eradicating poppy plantations and replacing them with cash crops.

Mr Newman said Thai authorities told him that to eradicate opium production altogether would threaten the only source of income for the hill tribesmen.

"It takes a long time to substitute crops like coffee for opium," Mr Newman said.

He said it was important for Australia to continue community aid projects in Thai border areas to help in the narcotics substitution programs.

The Thais planned to set up a central intelligence bureau as part of their Office of Narcotics Control, a department directly under the Thai Deputy Prime Minister, General Prachuab Suntrangkoon.

It was in connection with this bureau that a Federal Police computer expert would be sent to Thailand, and intelligence collection and sharing stepped up between the two police forces.

CSO: 5300/7553

AUSTRALIA

COMMISSION OK'D TO PROBE NUGAN HAND DRUG, ARMS CONNECTIONS

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 21 Apr 82 p 1

[Article by Ted Knez]

[Text]

THE powers of the royal commission into the Mr Asia drugs syndicate were widened dramatically last night, when it was given authority to investigate claims of heroin and arms trafficking by the Nugan Hand merchant banking group.

The royal commissioner, Mr Justice Stewart, has also been briefed to inquire into Nugan Hand's alleged involvement with the CIA, and into charges that a government minister stopped an earlier Narcotics Bureau investigation.

Last night the Minister for Administrative Services, Mr Newman, disclosed that a joint police task force working closely with the commission had uncovered enough evidence to begin prosecutions against people involved in the illicit drug trade.

After announcing the expanded terms of reference, Mr Newman said the commission was now "wide open" to investigate any criminal operations conducted by the collapsed Nugan Hand group.

The move comes less than a week after the Federal Government's decision to give the Stewart commission and the royal commission into the Federated Ship Painters and Dockers Union power to examine personal income tax records.

Mr Newman said this power would assist the Stewart royal commission significantly in

probing Nugan Hand operations, particularly the laundering of drug money and its links with organised crime.

The Stewart inquiry was originally set up, along with the special Commonwealth-NSW Task Force, to investigate the Australian operations of Terrence John Clark, the convicted murderer of the man known as Mr Ask.

Last night's decision flows from continuing debate in Federal Parliament over Nugan Hand involvement in illicit and legal business dealings in Australia, and recent charges by an ex-Narcotics Bureau agent that one of the principals, Mr Michael Hand, was a CIA operative.

Mr Justice Stewart also has the power to delve into allegations that the other principal in the group of companies, the late Frank Nugan, made campaign donations to both Liberal and Labor politicians and had financial dealings with Sydney's inner-city councils.

Mr Newman, referring to press reports of these allegations, last night told Parliament it was consistent with a wide and impartial inquiry that such matters should be investigated.

He said that as part of the Stewart royal commission all aspects touching Nugan Hand would be examined, including evidence given to investigators that Nugan Hand "supported and was used by persons and organisations across the political spectrum".

Mr Newman immediately rejected Opposition calls for a

separate inquiry into Nugan Hand, claiming such a move would only lead to duplication by the Stewart royal commission and the special task force of police and experts in banking, computer crime and financial dealings.

Last month the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Anthony, was named by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Hayden, as the minister who stopped an earlier Narcotics Bureau investigation into Nugan Hand.

Mr Anthony denied the charge and Mr Hayden withdrew the allegation, but the Stewart royal commission will still be able to investigate the matter to see if any senior official or minister interfered to restrict the agency inquiry.

One of the key aspects of the widened terms of reference is the commission's power to "investigate Nugan Hand links with any organisation" — which Mr Newman said referred to the CIA.

The Government's decision to permit a probe of alleged CIA connections follows the CIA's strenuous denial last month, in a statement released by its public affairs division, that any such link existed.

CSO: 5300/7556

AUSTRALIA

JAIL TERMS GIVEN IN SEPARATE HEROIN SMUGGLING CASES

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 17 Apr 82 p 20

[Text] A former social worker who became a drug addict was gaoled for four years yesterday for importing heroin.

Patricia Meister (28) had accepted an offer by a Thai in Bangkok to take a quantity of heroin into Australia, the Supreme Court was told.

She was to receive \$5000 and heroin for her own use, and then return to Thailand with an estimated \$150,000 proceeds from the heroin sale.

But Miss Meister was arrested at Perth Airport.

Yesterday, Miss Meister, a prisoner at Bandyup, pleaded guilty to importing 44 grams of heroin last December.

The court heard that she had graduated with honours in social studies from the University of Sydney and was then employed as a social worker at a drug referral centre.

Working with drug addicts and prisoners had been difficult and demanding and she finally left after becoming addicted to heroin.

She had been taking heroin for four years and at one stage her addiction was costing \$600 a week.

Mr Justice Brinsden said that the offence was very serious and would normally call for a heavy penalty. However, character references spoke very highly of Miss Meister.

She had been in custody since her arrest in December, and had broken free of her addiction to heroin.

Importing

A Trigg man involved in importing a quantity of heroin into Australia was also gaoled for four years yesterday.

Paul Anthony Kent (26), of Chrysostom Street, Trigg, pleaded guilty to being knowingly concerned in the importation of 27 grams of the drug last October.

The court was told that earlier this year Raymond John Cunningham (26), of Shenton Park, was gaoled for four years, with a one-year minimum for carrying the heroin.

When arrested at Perth Airport Cunningham had implicated Kent.

CSO: 5300/7554

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

HEROIN CHARGES IN PERTH--Two men and a woman appeared in the East Perth Court yesterday on heroin importation charges. Richard John Madden (29), of Boonda Road, Warriewood, NSW, was charged with importing and possessing heroin at Perth Airport on April 10. Peter Bombala (24), of no fixed address, was charged with importing and possessing heroin at Perth on April 10. And June Elizabeth Lopez (20), of Three Spring Road, North Curl Curl, NSW, was charged with possessing heroin on April 11 at Perth. Magistrate M. McGuire remanded the three to appear in the East Perth Court on April 20. No pleas were entered. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 13 Apr 82 p 32]

BAIL IN SYDNEY HEROIN CASE--Sydney--A tax consultant and two unemployed men were granted a total of \$340,000 bail yesterday on charges involving heroin. In the Central Court, Farahoud Amiouni (31), unemployed, of Auburn, was charged with possessing 353 grams of heroin with a street value of \$300,000. Ali Oygur (36), tax consultant, of Guildford, and Snad Sahyoun (25), unemployed, of Harris Park, were charged with supplying and possessing heroin. The charges were adjourned until May 7. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 15 Apr 82 p 18]

CSO: 5300/7554

BURMA

DANGERS OF HARMFUL DRUGS VIEWED

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 5 May 82 p 4

[Editorial: "The Danger of Harmful Drugs"]

[Text]

ADDICTION to opium and its derivatives can take place very quickly. In some cases, it is said, it takes only one dose to awaken the terrible craving for the drug in a curious youth and the process leading to addiction sets in immediately. Marijuana, also known as 'pot' or 'grass' by the users, is less dangerous, but is medically classified as a harmful drug. All dangerous drugs give the user a euphoric lift, which is followed by a letdown and a craving for more. The addict lapses into spells of depressive mood, becomes edgy and loses weight. His usefulness as a human being gradually decreases until he becomes a total burden to his immediate surrounding. He will lie, cheat, steal, rob or even kill to support his habit.

The fourth session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw held in October 1975 passed a resolution calling for a national campaign to combat the drug menace throughout the country. The Party Chairman has spoken on a number of occasions on the dangers of harmful drugs and warned that dangerous drugs could maim entire nations. A strategy for the national campaign against drug abuse was laid down and pursued under the leadership of the Burma Socialist Programme Party and close supervision of the People's Councils.

As it was felt from the beginning that the problem must be tackled at its source, the Tatmadaw, the people and law enforcement organs started destroying opium poppy plantations and marijuana fields. At the same time the Tatmadaw troops intercepted mule trains of the rebels carrying opium along the smugglers' trails and destroyed a number of refineries where opium was being processed into much more potent derivatives. Huge arsenals of arms and ammunition were also seized from the rebels. The State simultaneously distributed seeds of other cash crops as well as livestock to the former opium growers to enable them to start new ways of livelihood.

The gains so far achieved in the drug abuse control campaign must be consolidated and fresh victories must be scored until the menace is totally and completely removed from the whole country. For this purpose the Organs of State Power and mass and class organizations must make sustained efforts to win the co-operation of the people as widely as possible in the campaign. The people must be made to understand that the State has instituted rewards for seizure of narcotic drugs and that they could tip off on the drug smugglers and dope pushers and claim the rewards for themselves and save the country from the danger of drugs at the same time.

CSO: 5300/5754

BURMA

BRIEFS

POPPY SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM--The program to replace poppies with other crops has been carried out in Kutkai Township every year. For the 1982-83 season, the plan is to cover 100 acres in the Ta-mo-nye village tract in the township. The manager of the Township Agriculture Corporation, U Saw Jackson, and rural manager in charge U Khaung Daung on 11 May presented U Shan Mun, chairman of the Ta-mo-nye village tract Farmland Supervisory Committee, with 8,800 kyat in funds, 100 bags of "pale" fertilizer, 30 bags of "T-super" fertilizer, 20 bags of potash and 100 hoes for the implementation of the plan. [Text] [BK281458 Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 19 May 82 p 4]

CSO: 5300/5761

HONG KONG

HEROIN BASE SEIZED ABOARD SINGAPOREAN VESSEL

Crewmen Detained

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 17 Ma6 82 pp 1, 36

[Article by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

Customs officers have detained 15 crew members of a Singaporean ship after seizing heroin base worth more than \$5 million.

The 7,000-ton Kota Singapura, a passenger and cargo vessel, arrived in Hongkong from Whampoa in China.

The men held include the Singaporean purser, his two assistants, the Indian chief engineer, the Pakistani second engineer, and a mixed crew, most of them Singaporean engine room workers.

They were being questioned early today by Customs Investigations Bureau officers.

The head of the CIB, Superintendent Mak Kam-lau, said this morning no charges had yet been brought against any of the crew and that investigations were continuing.

Customs officers informed their Singaporean counterparts of the discovery of drugs on board the vessel.

Meanwhile, the Hongkong Chinese captain and other crew members of the vessel were being prevented from going ashore. Customs search parties, headed by Superintendent Frank Greenhalgh, were still searching the vessel early today.

Informed sources said customs officers discovered three hidden compartments on the ship. All were empty.

Customs officers searched the vessel when it last came to Hongkong, on May 2, and

seized 100 grams of prepared opium. No one was arrested then, but the ship was closely guarded until it sailed for Whampoa two days later.

The Kota Singapura returned to Hongkong from Whampoa on Saturday afternoon and customs officers again boarded the vessel and searched it.

It was scheduled to be in port for three days before returning to Singapore.

In yesterday's operation, officers searched between the vessel's main engine room and the rudder shaft. They discovered 11 bags of heroin base on a shelf.

The purser, his two assistants and the entire engine room crew were arrested and taken off the vessel.

Passengers were not detained as they had no access to the engine room.

Investigators believe that the drugs had been removed from one of the hidden compartments so that it could be taken ashore.

"This is why the seized drugs were in the engine room and were not even concealed," one of the investigators said.

CIB investigators believe that the drugs were taken on to the vessel in Singapore and were supposed to have been "discharged" when it first arrived in Hongkong.

They believe the search and seizure of the opium on May 2 meant the heroin was

kept concealed.

The drug smugglers apparently thought the vessel would not be searched thoroughly again when it returned to Hongkong from Whampoa — a port not usually regarded as connected with drug smuggling.

Customs officers think the heroin may originally have been taken to Singapore in junks from the Golden Triangle, an area where the borders of Thailand, Burma and Laos meet.

Crewmen Released

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 18 May 82 p 17

[Excerpts]

The 15 crew members of the Singaporean passenger and cargo vessel, Kota Singapura, detained after heroin base worth more than \$5 million was seized on Sunday, were released yesterday.

Sources said they were released when Customs Investigations Bureau officers had failed to find the owners of the drugs, which was seized from the vessel's engine room after it arrived from Whampoa in China.

The crew later returned to their ship, which sailed for Singapore on schedule at 12.30 pm.

While the 15 crew members, including the vessel's Singaporean purser and his two assistants, the Indian chief engineer and all his staff of the engine room, were being questioned, customs officers continued searching the vessel, but failed to find more drugs.

Following Sunday's seizure, customs officers contacted their counterparts in Singapore, who are now investigating the origin of the drugs and how they were smuggled on board before sailing for Hongkong.

CSO: 5320/9130

HONG KONG

BILL SEEKS TO CLOSE LOOPHOLES IN EXISTING DRUG LAWS

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 29 Apr p 13

[Text] A Bill designed to close loopholes in the existing law dealing with trafficking and manufacture of dangerous drugs has been introduced.

The Bill was necessary because — the Secretary for Security, Mr Lewis Davies, said — drugs still posed a "great threat to the social health of the community, and especially to young people."

Moving the second reading of the Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Bill 1982, Mr Davies said the Bill would allow prosecution of people engaged in "diluting" or "cutting" dangerous drugs.

It would also provide a means for dealing with suspects carrying drugs in body cavities.

The amendments were part of the continuing efforts to protect the community from such criminal activities and to bring traffickers, chemists, couriers and others to justice, he said.

"Illicit drugs continue to reach Hongkong, and the competence and expertise of our law enforcement agencies is constantly being challenged by new trafficking methods and routes of entry devised by the well-financed criminals engaged in this evil trade," Mr Davies said.

One of the methods used was to replace imports of opium or morphine with her-

oin base (diacetylmorphine), which is of lower bulk and higher value.

This method also facilitated the preparation of the most commonly used heroin salt, diacetylmorphine hydrochloride, by the simple addition of hydrochloride acid to heroin base.

The existing ordinance does not apply to the manufacture of dangerous drugs by the "diluting" or "cutting" process, that is mixing the hydrochloride salt with additive substances such as caffeine, strychnine or barbiturates.

As a result, a charge of manufacturing dangerous drugs could not be laid in four cases where drugs were found on equipment and paraphernalia in laboratories.

In the opinion of the Government chemist, these were cases of dilution or cutting of dangerous drugs rather than the manufacture.

To close this loophole, the amending Bill proposed that the definition of "manufacture" under the ordinance should be widened to include making, adulterating, purifying, mixing, separating or otherwise treating a dangerous drug.

The second amendment proposed that prosecutions might be instituted in cases involving minute quantities of dangerous drugs whether they are measurable or usable or not.

This was necessary since a Court of Appeal ruled in 1979 that a charge of possessing drugs must be supported by evidence that the drugs found were usable, which

could be difficult if the quantity involved was very small.

The third proposed amendment was designed to extend to the police the powers already available to officers of the Customs and Excise Service so that they can call in medical practitioners to search body cavities of suspected drug couriers with or without their consent.

CSO: 5320/9128

HONG KONG

RECORD AMOUNT OF HEROIN BASE SEIZED AT DRUG LABORATORY

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 25 Apr 82 pp 1, 7

[Article by Paul Baran and Walter Cheung]

[Text] A drug manufacturing centre, which planned to produce 600 kg of No 3 heroin valued about \$170 million, has been smashed.

A senior customs officer claimed the seizure of heroin base is a record for a land-based operation.

Seven people, including the chemist, were held in a series of raids in Kowloon and 16 kilograms of heroin base and 9 kg of No 3 heroin worth about \$20 million were seized in a laboratory in Choi Wan on Friday night.

The operation spanning more than 24 hours ended a two-month investigation by 30 customs officers.

More than 70 investigators were mobilised under the directions of Senior Superintendent K.S. Tong to strike the backbone of the syndicate which is believed to have been in operation for several years.

Investigators were last night hunting the three masterminds, still believed to be in Hongkong.

According to intelligence sources, the syndicate recently imported 35 kg of heroin base which was transferred from Thai trawlers to local fishing vessels on the high seas near Hongkong and then smuggled in.

Customs sources estimated about 15 kg of the base might already have been converted to No 3 heroin and distributed before the operation was discovered.

The syndicate's couriers once used Kai Tak airport to smuggle in the drugs, but tight security has since forced them to turn to the seas, customs officers said.

A total of 50 bottles of strychnine hydrochloride, which is also a sexual stimulant and is essential in the process used to convert heroin base into No 3 heroin, was seized.

Officers said, with the chemical, the syndicate is capable of turning out 600 kg of No 3 heroin.

A senior customs officer said in view of the large quantity of strychnine

hydrochloride, the syndicate must have ordered or planned to order more heroin base.

As the chemical is Part I poison and can only be obtained with a doctor's prescription, officers believe they can trace the source.

According to Assistant Superintendent David Tong, the bottles have labels with "Hongkong" on them as well as serial numbers.

Therefore, the chemical, originating from Britain might have been obtained locally.

A bottle of strychnine hydrochloride is worth \$10,000 on the black market.

Investigations revealed that to avoid being harassed and arrested, couriers for the syndicate used turbo-engined sports cars to distribute drugs throughout Hongkong.

Superintendent K.L. Mak said the Customs Investigation Bureau had known of the existence of the syndicate

for two years. But they had no evidence to make arrests — that is until Friday night when officers raided a flat in Choi Wan estate and apprehended the syndicate's chemist, his wife and his cousin.

The 28-year-old chemist's two children, aged five and three, were also inside his flat.

There was no resistance when officers forced their way into the laboratory.

Inside, they found bottles of strychnine hydrochloride, 16 kg of heroin base, 7.5 kg of No 3 heroin, and 4 kg of morphine powder.

A set of equipment for manufacturing drugs, including a micro-wave oven and a meat mincer were found.

The No 3 heroin, wrapped up in polythene bags and gift wrappers, was thought to be ready for distribution.

About the same time, another party of customs officers arrested two couriers in an ambush in Prince Edward Road after a brief struggle.

One of them was carrying a plastic bag which was later found to contain a kilo of No 3 heroin.

Another ½ kg of No 3 heroin was found in a flat in Prince Edward Road after their arrest.

In another raid on Friday night, two brothers, aged 32 and 27, suspected of being coordinators for the importation and distribution of the drugs, were apprehended in Mongkok.

All seven people are expected to appear in San Po Kong Court tomorrow, charged with drug offences including conspiracy to traffic in dangerous drugs and possession of dangerous drugs for the purpose of drug trafficking.

CSO: 5320/9128

HONG KONG

DRUG SEIZURES SOAR AFTER BUMPER GOLDEN TRIANGLE CROP

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 8 May 82 p 8

[Text] Drug seizures by customs officers in the past four months already total 84 per cent of those seized in the whole of last year — following the second bumper crop in the Golden Triangle.

So far, 162 kg of drugs worth \$60 million have been found — compared to 182 kgs last year, the Commissioner of Customs and Controls, Mr Douglas Jordan, said yesterday.

Intelligence reports indicate the Thai trawler operations, smashed in 1973-4, are on the move once again, he said.

"It's not as serious as in the old days but we are conscious of the danger of the re-emergence of this business, where the trawlers anchor many miles off Hongkong to transfer the drugs to Hongkong junks," Mr Jordan said.

He said marijuana is emerging as a newly used drug locally and the Philippines is seen as a new source of drugs coming into Hongkong.

This year, there have been two seizures of 16 kg of marijuana coming in from the Philippines.

There has been a change in the trend of concealing drugs in goods coming in, with more drugs now found inside machinery.

Recently 73 kg of drugs were found in two compres-

sors on a vessel at the Kwai Chung terminal — and customs officers will watch the terminal more closely, he told a press briefing.

Seventeen cases of concealment of drugs inside the body have come to light so far this year, compared to 19 last year and none four years ago, he said.

"We do tend to hit at more and more syndicates of various sizes but not like the big ones of 1973," Mr Jordan said.

The price of one-tenth of a gram of heroin has shot up to \$30 from \$11 early this year, he said.

Attendances at methadone clinics show the pressure. The figure now is near 8,000 compared to about 6,000 in early February.

Most of the drugs seized this year were heroin base with some No 3 heroin, Mr Jordan said.

Heroin base could produce three times as much No 3 heroin as the size of its volume, which was worrying. Previously, morphine base, which produces about one-eighth as much No 3 heroin as its volume, used to be smuggled in, he said.

The department will soon install an extra 24 security gates (metal detectors) and eight X-ray machines in "various places," Mr Jordan said.

"They will be mounted in such a way as to check people from places other than China," he said.

The department wants to make sure no arms or drugs are smuggled in.

The Lowu border and the Macau ferry terminal are the sort of places being looked at, he said.

"Because of the large numbers coming in, for example, at the Macau ferry terminal, not everyone can be checked and this is being looked at now," Mr Jordan said.

He revealed the department is to double its staff to 100-odd at the Man Kam To border. Customs staff at the Lowu border will also be increased.

Goods smuggling into China has dropped off now with customs officers seizing only \$1 million worth of goods from last October to March, compared to \$6 million between April and September last year, he said.

Where fishing vessels and then local trading vessels were used for this previously, small ocean-going vessels are now being used to transfer the goods on the high seas to Chinese smugglers.

CSO: 5320/9129

HONG KONG

MORE YOUNG PEOPLE TURNING TO MARIHUANA SMOKING

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 19 Apr 82 p 16

[Article by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

Marijuana smoking appears to be on the increase in Hongkong.

Several large hauls of cannabis and cannabis resin were seized in the past three months indicating that there is a growing demand for the drug.

The amounts seized — 16.5 kg of cannabis and 9.38 kg of cannabis resin — were several times greater than the total haul last year — 4.70 kg of cannabis and 0.16 kg of cannabis resin.

"We are very concerned about increased consignments of marijuana being smuggled into Hongkong," said Superintendent Mak Kam-lau of the the Customs Investigation Bureau.

He said he was equally concerned about increased marijuana use among young people.

He said that drug traffickers appeared to be bringing in bigger batches to supply Hongkong's growing demand.

"I believe that more young people here are now taking marijuana.

"I also believe it is distributed in bars, nightclubs and discos," Supt Mak said.

He said that in past years it was mainly youngsters from abroad who took the drug.

Now local teenagers seemed to be joining in.

"This could be the reason behind the greater demand for marijuana here," he said.

Supt Mak disclosed that his officers are now keeping a close watch on nightspots popular among young people.

He said suspected distributors would also be watched.

He estimated at least 2,000 young people from high and middle-income families were taking either "soft" drugs or cannabis.

Intelligence reports said the present market price for a "stick of marijuana" (1.8 grams) is \$200.

Marijuana grows abundantly in Asia.

"We have seized marijuana coming from the Philippines, Thailand, India and Pakistan, but we have not, so far, made seizures from Indonesia," Supt Mak said.

The majority of the marijuana seized here has come from the Philippines. It is believed to have been grown in remote and mountainous areas south of Manila.

People have tried to bring in marijuana in food tins, false-bottomed suitcases, body cavities, hollowed-out furniture and in dolls.

Seamen and air crews have also been used as couriers.

Several senior Filipino anti-narcotics officers have visited Hongkong to liaise with their local counterparts.

They said they were very worried that marijuana was entering from the Philippines.

Efforts are continuing in the Philippines to stamp out the illegal growing of the drug.

The biggest single haul of marijuana seized last year was 3 kg at Kai Tak airport.

The biggest seizure so far this year was 16 kg, valued at \$1.6 million, concealed in car silencers imported from Manila.

Customs officers broke open the silencers when no one came to claim them from the cargo bay at Kai Tak.

An American doctor, who works in the field of drug abuse, said in a recent report that many youngsters think marijuana is not harmful.

He added, however, that no organised body of opinion that he knew of in America believes marijuana is harmless.

The main active ingredient in marijuana is delta-9-THC, soluble in fat but not in water.

"Our bodies have a waste disposal system that is water based. When THC is ingested, it accumulates in the body — in the brain and the reproductive organs.

"THC has a half-life of five days. What that means is that half of it is retained after five days.

"Thirty per cent is still in the body after one week, and measurable amounts are present after a month; so the

person who is smoking only as often as once a month — which is indeed rare — is continuously exposing the brain and reproductive organs to THC," he said.

Marijuana's effect on human reproductive organs is powerful.

It reduces the male sex hormone, testosterone, significantly in regular users. It reduces sperm count and sperm mobility.

In women, it affects ovulation cycles and causes menstrual irregularities, he said.

The effect on the brain is similar to that of acute intoxication.

There are difficulties with memory, thinking and clear expression.

He said that driving ability is severely affected by marijuana intoxication.

Studies made in Massachusetts showed that 17 per cent of drivers responsible for fatal accidents were "high" on marijuana at the time.

In California, it was estimated that between 15 and 20 per cent of car accidents in the state were caused by marijuana-intoxicated drivers.

Marijuana smoke contains more tar and known carcinogens than tobacco smoke.

Human lung tissue exposed to marijuana smoke shows more cancerous changes than similar tissue exposed to tobacco smoke.

A study of respiratory tracts has shown that marijuana smoke produces five to 17 times the amount of obstruction caused by a similar amount of tobacco smoke, the doctor added.

CSO: 5320/9128

HONG KONG

TEENAGE DRUG ADDICTS MORE INVOLVED IN TRIAD ACTIVITIES

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 21 Apr 82 p 5

[Text] An increasing number of teenage drug addicts are also involved in triad activities, a superintendent of the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers, Mr James Chien, said yesterday.

In the prize-giving ceremony for the society's logo design competition, Mr Chien said 18 of the 35 teenage addicts admitted to Shek Kwu Chau last year had both criminal and triad connections.

Only one of the addicts had only triad connections, and no other criminal involvement.

Mr Chien urged the Government to clamp down on triad activities in the fight against drugs.

"Rehabilitation can only help the addicts quit for a period, but if these addicts do not disassociate from triad activities, sooner or later they will be back to relying on drugs," he said.

An increasing number of school children are being lured by triads to become drug traffickers.

Recently, SARDA launched a pilot project to demonstrate the efficacy of social education and self-help training in the rehabilitation and reintegration of treated addicts.

The project is a half-way rehabilitation programme which aims to help addicts reintegrate into the community.

It involves dividing former patients at Shek Kwu Chau into four districts, according to where they live.

The addicts are given schedules that involve learning from the experience of former addicts and training for employment.

Group discussion and counselling is provided by professional and voluntary workers.

Mr Chien said rehabilitation alone could not help addicts adjust to normal life in the community.

"Only with the help and encouragement of their peers and the community will they have the determination to stay away from drugs forever," he said.

Although the success rate of the society's programme is only 25 per cent, most of the rehabilitated addicts would not return to drugs, he said.

CSO: 5320/9128

HONG KONG

SMALL, INDEPENDENT DRUG RINGS REPLACING LARGE SYNDICATES

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 24 Apr 82 p 6

[Text]

A new kind of drug ring is beginning to emerge following crackdowns by police on large syndicates in past years, a Narcotics Bureau official said yesterday.

Superintendent Peter Man said small, independent drug rackets have sprung up recently, each buying and manufacturing its own heroin.

Speaking after a press conference on the bureau's latest operation, Supt Man said these rings mostly do not align themselves with other syndicates, and might even smuggle heroin base directly from foreign countries by themselves.

The new trend was for several people with the necessary skills to group together and form an independent

ring, he said.

Supt Man told the press conference earlier that police had just smashed the second such ring in under two weeks.

The first was smashed in Kowloon Walled City last week, where a quantity of No 3 heroin with a market value of \$3 million was seized.

Supt Man said the latest swoop, on a flat in Queen's Road West, took place on Thursday evening.

It followed two months of intensive investigation, and four people, aged between 25 and 59, were detained.

The four will be charged later, as two of them sustained injuries when they leaped from a fifth-floor window during the raid. They landed on a second-floor balcony.

A search of the premises

revealed 4.5 kg of suspected No 3 heroin, valued at about \$1.5 million on the retail market, and a quantity of chemicals for manufacturing the drug.

A dozen condoms containing traces of heroin base were also found. Police believe they were used for smuggling heroin from Thailand, probably concealed in couriers' bodies.

According to Supt Man, the team of detectives broke into the fifth-floor flat at about 6.30 pm and arrested two men.

Two other men were later found lying and moaning on a balcony on the second floor. They had apparently jumped out of the window.

They were in Queen Mary Hospital in satisfactory condition last night.

CSO: 5320/9128

HONG KONG

TWO JAILED 10 YEARS FOR SCHEME TO SHIP HEROIN TO CANADA

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 2 May 82 p 11

[Text] A Hongkong garment cutter's plan to flood Canada with massive shipments of heroin was foiled by the combined efforts of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Royal Hongkong Police.

David Ma Yui-man (32) changed his plea to guilty on the second day of his trial before Mr Justice Baber and a jury in the High Court and was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for conspiracy to traffic in dangerous drugs.

His co-accused, Chiu Kwok-wing (31), who had pleaded not guilty, also received 10 years.

A corporal in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police gave evidence that he came to Hongkong with another Canadian and the two posed as drug buyers to trap Ma and Chiu.

Evidence was given that Ma and Chiu spoke to the Canadians of their plans to manufacture heroin and to ship consignments worth about C\$9 million (about HK\$45 million) every month to Vancouver.

The court was told that Ma emigrated to Canada in the 1970s and was convicted of drug trafficking and sentenced to four years' imprisonment by a Canadian court.

He appealed against sentence and a court of appeal increased it to 12 years.

After serving his sentence he was deported and returned to Hongkong.

"Once back in Hongkong you started the same tricks here," said Mr Justice Baber.

Among those giving evidence was Cpl John Pineault of the RCMP.

CSO: 5320/9128

HONG KONG

POLICE SMASH DRUG FACTORY, SEIZE 18.2 KG OF HEROIN

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 6 May 82 p 16

[Text] Kowloon police smashed a heroin manufacturing centre in Taikoktsui late on Tuesday night and seized 18.2 kg of No 3 heroin worth \$3.2 million, police disclosed yesterday.

Supt Peter Man said at the Narcotics Bureau that the raid on the drug factory was made by officers of the Special Duty Squad of Kowloon police headquarters.

When the police broke down the door of a flat on the sixth floor of Tai Yick Building at Tai Tung Sun Chuen, Taikoktsui, some of the heroin was still being dried in an oven. Chemicals and apparatus usually associated with the manufacture of heroin were also found.

Three men, who tried to escape by a drainpipe, were arrested. A fourth is believed to have escaped.

After the arrests and seizure, the case was handed over to the Narcotics Bureau to conduct further inquiries.

Supt Man said that those arrested, aged between 22 and 45, were still being questioned last night and are expected to be charged later with the manufacture of heroin and possession of dangerous drugs.

A search has been mounted for the fourth man and the police are anxious to contact a young woman who is believed to be the owner of the flat.

Supt Man said that a substantial amount of drugs are still being smuggled into Hongkong.

CSO: 5320/9128

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

OPIUM FROM YUNNAN--Five kilos of high grade opium, believed to have come from Yunnan in China, were seized by Customs Investigation Bureau officers yesterday in a Mongkok flat. Four kilos of prepared and dehydrated opium were also seized in the Dundas Street flat, which police believe was used as an opium storage centre. A middle-aged couple was arrested after the seizure and were last night being detained for further inquiries. Five other people found in the flat were also arrested and later released on police bail. The value of the opium is about \$320,000 on the retail market. The CIB chief, Superintendent Mak Kam-lau, said the very fine grade of opium seized had not been seen in the market for many years. He added the opium appeared to be a fresh shipment. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 14 May 82 p 12]

HEROIN BASE HAUL--Drug traffickers threw two bags of heroin base out of their Laichikok flat and flushed more down a toilet as firemen were breaking open the door in a pre-dawn police swoop yesterday. Officers later arrested six people and seized five kilos of heroin base which, if converted into No 3 heroin, would be worth \$2.5 million. The heroin was believed to have been imported into Hongkong, within 24 hours of the police raid, by couriers who hid the drug inside boxes containing Chinese scroll paintings. Dozens of paintings were found in the premises at Ching Lai Court, Block E, 10th floor, 264 Lai King Hill Road. The raid followed an intensive two-month investigation by police drug officers. The operation involved about 20 detectives who took up position more than eight hours before the raid. Officers cordoned off the Home Ownership Scheme building as firemen used axes to force entry about 4 am. As the operation got underway, officers saw two bags being thrown from a window. They found a quantity of heroin base on the toilet floor and also discovered drugs paraphernalia in the flat. Police said the gang of six, aged between 17 and 30, did not resist arrest. No charges had been preferred against the six up to last night. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 19 May 82 p 21]

TWO THAIS JAILED--Two Thai nationals were yesterday sent to prison for conspiring to smuggle dangerous drugs into Hongkong. Surasak Ananchaipatthana (44) was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment and Kaimeng Sae-Kow (32) to 12 years after a jury of four men and three women found them guilty of conspiracy to traffic in dangerous drugs and possessing 3,135.4 grams of a mixture of esters of morphine for unlawful trafficking. A woman, Chan Lau-ha (32), the wife of Surasak's brother, was found not guilty. The court heard that the two

Thais, who had arrived from Bangkok earlier, called at Chan's home in Tsui Ping Road estate, Kowloon, on August 20. Together they went to the airport cargo terminal and collected a crate said to contain samples of tractor parts. Kaimeng had sent the crate from Bangkok before coming to Hongkong. Police arrested the defendants and found in the crate packets of dangerous drugs concealed inside the hub of a wheel. The drugs were estimated to be worth between \$500,000 and \$1 million. Passing sentence, Mr Justice Barnes said the drugs were very cleverly concealed and it had taken the police a long time to get them out of the wheel. [Excerpts] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 May 82 p 17]

CSO: 5320/9130

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

ITALIAN WOMAN SENTENCED--Denpasar, 25 May (ANTARA)--A young Italian woman was sentenced to 7 months in jail with reduction for the time spent under detention and a fine of RP 500,000, or an extra 3 months in prison if not paid for having been in possession of ganja [drugs] illegally Monday. Mrs Maria Rosaria Criscuolo, 24, was passed the sentence by the district court here chaired by Judge I Nengah Wedastra for possession of 400 grammes of marijuana which she hid in a seam of her blouse. The public prosecution had demanded a jail term of 1 year against her subtracted with the time spent under detention and a fine of RP 200,000. What brought about the sentence was that as an alien who visited Indonesia for five times already she should have known that the possession and trafficking of ganja was illegal in this country, it was pointed out by the judge. Mrs Criscuolo had been held under detention since 3 February before the court gave her the sentence. [Text] [BK281458 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0656 GMT 25 May 82]

CSO: 5300/5761

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

NEW FORM OF DRUG ABUSE--The Association Against Drug Abuse, Pemadam, has expressed concern over a new type of dadah [drug] known as (polydrug) used by dadah dependents. (Polydrug), according to the Ministry of Health, is found to contain 5 percent heroin and morphine and other constituents, including antibiotics and painkillers. It is more harmful than the usual dadah and can cause death. Pemadam, in its latest bulletin BERITA PEMADAM, says dependents are resorting to (polydrug) because of the short supply of other dadah in the market. It has urged the authorities to act strictly against the traffickers and users of this drug. [Text] [BK281458 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 25 May 82]

CSO: 5300/5761

PAKISTAN

HAROON CALLS FOR ELIMINATION OF TRADE

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 17 May 82 p 4

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, May 16: Mehmoud A. Haroon, Minister for Interior today called for total elimination and eradication of trade in narcotics and its use by the citizens.

"We must try our level best and the target should be a total elimination of narcotics", the minister said inaugurating the first course on rehabilitation of drug addicts for social workers.

The week-long course has been organised by the Pakistan Narcotics Control Board in cooperation with the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations.

Haroon said President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq and his government attached "very great" importance to the elimination and eradication of narcotics because, he added, destruction and moral degradation arising out of its abuse by human beings was the greatest evil in Islam. Therefore the minister said "from Islamic point of view we must take a definite stand on it".

The interior minister was happy to note that there was a growing awareness of the devastating nature of this problem but "it would be idle to pretend that we are anywhere near to our goal of total eradication of this evil". He said problem of drug abuse cuts across national boundaries and poses a dire challenge to the world community as a whole and the world has to be extremely wary and must come together to tackle this problem. In this connection he appreciated the role of United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and the ILO, which he said were rendering yeoman service in this field.

Describing rehabilitation of addicts as not an easy task, the minister said this called for indefinitely specialised treatment.

He said the science and techniques of rehabilitation could no longer be left to laymen, no matter how noble their intentions and efforts might be. Rehabilitation staff in the field have to be adequately trained in all aspects of this complicated service. It is here that pooling of knowledge, experience and techniques of rehabilitation on a country-to-country basis acquires most vital importance and significance.

"He had no doubt that participants of this course will find that there is a great deal to be imbibed and acquired from the pool of ILO experiences.

REHABILITATION WORK

Haroon emphasised that rehabilitation of a helpless drug dependent person was a great service to mankind and it was in this spirit that rehabilitation staff should strive to carry out their tasks and responsibilities. He said "equally important it is to remember that the patient needing rehabilitation service should be treated as a human being in need of help and not as a culprit or social outcast.

In most cases a drug dependent person is an unwitting victim of devious and unscrupulous purveyors of evil. While these anti-social element should be shown no mercy, their victim should be afforded all sympathy, kindness and help that the society can muster within its given resources.

Earlier, welcoming the minister Chairman of the Narcotics Control Board said the participants of the course would emphasise on the human nature of the problem of rehabilitation of drug dependent persons as a normal human being and useful member of the community.

He said rehabilitation of a helpless, and some times hopeless person called for much more than mere medical treatment or placement in a working job. He hoped that the value and benefit of the course would be a solid contribution to the process of improving the quality of rehabilitation service in the country.

The ILO director, Ian Chambers speaking on the occasion said Pakistan was today facing a new dimension of drug abuse with the reports of beginning and rapid expansion of heroin abuse. He however said fortunately Pakistan is not totally unprepared to tackle this situation.

He said the Pakistan Narcotics Control Board, in collaboration with other countries and with international organisations is implementing programmes related to both the supply and demand aspects of drug abuse. Agriculture programmes are in progress to guide and help farmers to guide and help farmers to switch

from opium poppy cultivation to other crops.

Treatment facilities have been and still are being, set up throughout the country. Rehabilitation services have started at three vocational training and rehabilitation centres, Karachi, Hyderabad and Nawagai (Buner). Rehabilitation counselling and job placement services are functioning in Peshawar, Rawalpindi and Lahore.

Chambers emphasized that rehabilitation activities in themselves will not solve the problem of drug abuse that faces Pakistan. Rehabilitation comes late in a very real sense too late in the terrifying syndrome of self-destruction that is drug abuse, he added. It can only be seen in a wider perspective and in the framework of co-operation with all other activities involved in fighting the menace of drug abuse.

The chairman PNCB, Khawaja Masood, also addressed the function.—APP/EPL

CSO: 5300/5759

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

OPIUM SEIZED FROM CARGO--The Custom Drug Enforcement Cell has suspected the involvement of some dismissed PIA employees in passing the "unmanifested" packages with the collaboration of some notorious drug smugglers. A reliable source said the suspicion was based on the seizure of "forged" PIA Airway bills on which three wooden boxes were brought inside the international hangar by some "PIA staff" in a clandestine manner showing their origin from Japan and Nairobi as destination. Their examination yielded 144 kilos of raw opium. The evidence collected so far also suggested involvement of the owner of a 3-star hotel. The documents revealed shipment of three similar boxes on March 23, 1982 showing them to have been "over-carried" from New York to Karachi and shifted on PK-711 flight to Cairo again on a fictitious airways bill declaring the origin to be Tokyo via Karachi to Cairo. The same information was passed on to Cairo where these boxes were intercepted and 144 kilograms of raw opium recovered. Customs Drug Enforcement Cell is continuing the probe. No arrest was, however, reported. [Karachi DAWN in English 16 May 82 p 10]

BIG HEROIN HAUL--LONDON, May 11: Customs officers, on Sunday night, seized heroine valued at street price of one million pounds from a business premises in Birmingham. A senior representative of the company involved was helping the Customs officers with inquiries. One Mr Adam Tariq of Wedly Road, Soillihull, was charged. Custom officers declined to reveal further details of the case. [Karachi DAWN in English 12 May 82 p 5]

CHARAS SEIZED IN DADU--DADU, May 11: Excise Sub-Inspector, Mr Nazar Mohammad, raided a truck (4014-MR) on Sunday night and recovered about 13 maunds of charas worth Rs 13 crores and arrested truck driver Mustaqeem Shah. According to details the Excise S.I. was tipped that a truck loaded with charas had left Peshawar for Karachi. Soon after the information the police started cordoning the road and as soon as the truck reached Mundar Octroi Post police tried to stop it, but it sped away. Police van chased it and overtook it at Khudaabad on Indus Highway where it collided with a standing truck. The driver Mustaqeem Shah was badly injured in the collision. Police seized the truck and recovered charas from its cabin. [Karachi DAWN in English 12 May 82 p 6]

BURNED CLOTH AS HEROIN--Peshawar, May 16--Not to speak of food, even narcotics are being adulterated by smugglers to multiply their profits easily. Heroin experts in the pay of smugglers, according to reliable sources have discovered that the famous Shalwar-Qameez suiting popularly known as Kay Tee (KT) when burnt up after being treated with certain chemicals, yields powder identical in colour with refined heroin. When mixed with pure heroin nobody can distinguish between Kay Tee and heroin because the adulteration does not impair the intoxicating agent in heroin. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 17 May 82 p 4]

GSO: 5300/5759

PHILIPPINES

GOVERNMENT MUST CRACK DOWN ON DRUG ABUSE

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 12 Apr 82 p 7

[Article by Eddie R. Gandionco]

[Text] I am disturbed by news stories published in the local dailies for the past weeks on surveillance made by CANU agents on different schools, colleges and universities. That there is a rise in dangerous drugs traffic despite the signing into law by President Marcos of a stronger anti-drug abuse law.

I have observed and it has been my experience that no matter how strong the law is against criminality and vices, such efficaciousness is often negated by laxity and complacency in its implementation.

Then there is the unholy drug arrests but less convictions. The offenders always managed to go scot-free only to commit the same crime again. And this is true with other criminal cases.

Then, there is the unholy alliance between a few law enforcers, and drug pushers. Although a few of these unprincipled scoundrels exist among our law enforcers, their operations should not be taken for granted since it is the lives of our youth that are at stake, mostly in high school.

However, studies being made by psychologists, psychiatrists, etc., etc. on the drug problem revealed that youngsters who fall prey to drug pushers are usually those that come from broken homes where relationships are strained. Moreover, the studies also showed that many addicts exist among rich families where money, rather than parental care, is given more importance.

These are the factors that must be considered by the government in its sustained drive against drug abuse. There are many other factors which I believe are known to the authorities. Without considering these factors, no matter how sustained is the dangerous drug drive, it will fail. Needless to say, the government or the PC/INP should beef up their anti-narcotics units in support of its sustained campaign against the drug menace.

CSO: 5300/5751

PHILIPPINES

HEROIN SUPPLIERS ARRESTED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 12 May 82 p 2

[Article by Divina C. Paredes]

[Text]

MEMBERS of the Constabulary Anti-Narcotics Unit (CANU) yesterday caught two suspected heroin suppliers who, they said, could lead to the busting of a Hongkong-based drug syndicate operating in the country.

The suspects were identified as Romeo S. Garcia, 33, businessman, of 1811 Laft ave. ext., Pasay City, and Mario R. Santiago, 31, employe, of 2381 Colayco st., Pasay City.

Recovered from the two were 18 grams of brown heroin (unprocessed heroin) powder worth P18,000, P650 in cash, one .45 caliber pistol, six live cal. .45 ammunition, 100 rounds of live 9MM ammunition and a deck of heroin powder.

THE CANU agents caught the suspects after they contacted a poseur-buyer to purchase small packets of brown heroin powder and led them to the group's hide-out in Makati.

The poseur-buyer was a teenaged boy who agreed to cooperate with the CANU agents after they caught him with 10 grams of brown heroin last week. A series of "purchases" were planned to catch the suspects and a certain Chinese businessman who was the suspected master supplier of the syndicate which reportedly has connections in Hongkong.

ACCORDING to Maj. Meynardo L. Beltran, brown heroin is more commonly used because it is cheaper than the first-class heroin which costs P5,000 per gram. Brown heroin may be bought from P800 to P1,000 per gram. However, it can only be taken by the method of "chasing the dragon."

Brown heroin cannot be injected. It must be burned inside a packet of aluminum foil and sniffed with a straw. At present, this type of heroin comes mainly from Hongkong and Bangkok, Beltran said.

This brown heroin was supplied to the boy by a certain "Mario" who peddles his goods around the vicinity of Reynaldo st. and Pio del Pilar st., Makati.

AFTER the teenager's arrest, he contacted "Mario" again and gave him one men's ring in exchange for one-half grams of brown heroin. This was surrendered to the CANU office in Camp Crame, Quezon City.

The next day, he went back to Mario and asked if he could get his ring back. The CANU agents who were stationed nearby arrested Mario and another companion.

The confiscated heroin and cash were found in Garcia's clutchbag while the rest were found in his car.

During interrogation, the two confessed that the brown heroin was supplied by a certain "kumpadre", a Chinese mestizo who escaped to Hongkong when he learned of the arrest.

CSO: 5300/5751

PHILIPPINES

MARIHUANA UPROOTED ON CENTRAL LUZON

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 10 May 82 p 40

[Text]

A joint team of National Bureau of Investigation and the Philippine Air Force uprooted 4,700 marijuana plants worth more than P5 million in Benguet province over the weekend.

Director Jolly R. Bugarin of the NBI said that the operation was conducted through vertical approach with the use of PAF helicopters since the plantation, which is located along a creek between mountains was inaccessible by land transportation.

Bugarin said the plants, which were more than five feet tall, were ripe for harvest and they

were known in that area as "miracle variety" because at five feet the plants have already flowering tops.

The plantation is located at Mt. Bagid-bid, sitio Tobongan, along the boundary of Kibungan and Bakun, Benguet.

The alleged cultivators of the uprooted plants managed to escape presumably even before the helicopters landed at a clearing nearest the plantation site.

They were identified as Taligan, 28, and Bulnotan Bantacan, 30, both natives of the area.

CSO: 5300/5753

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

EXTRADITION OF DETAINEE--Singapore, 26 May (AFP)--New Zealand has started legal proceedings here to extradite one of its nationals wanted in connection with a drug charge, the STRAITS TIMES reported today, quoting a New Zealand High Commission spokesman. Andrew Te Kanawa Parata, who appeared before a Singapore court on Monday, has been remanded in custody pending the hearing of his case next Monday, the report said. Parata, 35, a resident of Bangkok, is charged with importing 48.2 kilos of cannabis into New Zealand in December 1980. According to the High Commission spokesman, Parata was out of the country when the charges were made against him. Parata, who hails from Auckland, was arrested by Singapore police on 13 May and charged with possession of 0.48 gram of cannabis. He pleaded guilty and was fined 400 dollars (U.S.\$190). [Text] [BK281458 Hong Kong AFP in English 0735 GMT 26 May 82]

CSO: 5300/5761

THAILAND

'POST' ASSESSES OPERATIONS AGAINST SHAN ARMY

BK160709 Bangkok POST in English 16 May 82 p 1

[Article by the Chongkhadikit]

[Text] Opium warlord Khun Sa's Shan United Army [SUA] has been decimated by casualties and desertions which have reduced its strength from 3,000 to 1,400 men under arms, authoritative military sources said yesterday.

In a financial "assault" on Khun Sa, the government has frozen all of his assets, including bank accounts in Bangkok and Chiang Mai.

A crack Thai regiment has been sent into a jungle valley bounded by Ban Huai Mae Kham, Ban Huai Mae Yuak and Ban Thoet Thai (formerly Ban Hin Taek) in Mae Chan District, Chiang Rai, as part of a four-pronged strategy against the SUA.

Their brief is to search for and identify SUA remnants in Thai territory, provide security, deter any reprisal attacks and prevent Khun Sa's return to Thailand.

Meanwhile, plans are being laid for operations against other alien armies trafficking in narcotics or occupying Thai territory close to the border with Burma.

Burmese cooperation may be obtained for future campaigns in the wake of the government's demonstration of its determination to get rid of the drug-dealing ethnic minority armies which are regarded as insurgents by Rangoon.

The capture of Khun Sa's stronghold at Ban Hin Taek during a 10-day "opium war" in January, this year seriously curtailed the SUA's involvement in the narcotics trade.

The successful operation meant that Khun Sa (alias Chang Si-fu) was unable to pay his troops and many of them deserted the SUA, according to intelligence reports.

According to one report, accounts seized during the Ban Hin Taek operation showed that Khun Sa's monthly expenses, most of which went to paying his

men, were about 23 million baht (U.S.\$1 million). It is also known that Khun Sa reaped nearly 14 million baht (\$600,000) a month from the supply to the Hong Kong market with jade smuggled out of Burma.

Thai forces have been positioned at some border areas where Khun Sa may try to retaliate or make a show of strength but it is believed that he has been incapacitated, particularly with the takeover of last week of the newest stronghold at Ban Lao Lu, a hilltop base about 7 kilometres from Ban Hin Taek.

The military's determination to crush any incursion has been demonstrated by the deployment of heavy artillery 105mm howitzers in Ban Thoet Thai. With an effective range of at least 11 kilometres the guns are capable of providing artillery cover to an area stretching from the border to Ban Lao Lu and across a valley overlooked by Ban Mae Kham and Ban Mae Yuak.

After having been run out of Ban Hin Taek, Khun Sa remained in Burma until he was told by "some persons connected with some politicians" that he could return to Thailand safely, according to intelligence reports reaching Bangkok.

This led to his decision to send an SUA detachment to Ban Lao Lu, which is close to the Burmese border. They built barracks to accommodate 500 to 800 men and dug a network of tunnels for protection from air raids and in which to store narcotics.

The Thai assault on the base last Sunday came after it was detected in aerial reconnaissance missions.

When three companies of Thai forces comprising rangers, border patrol police and regular troops stormed the base they found a house used by Khun Sa's chief-of-staff, Chiang Si-Chuan.

They also found about 10 kilogrammes of raw and cooked opium and the remains of what appeared to be a heroin refinery which the SUA had apparently destroyed before fleeing into Burma.

CSO: 5300/5757

THAILAND

'POST' EDITORIAL ON PRISONER EXCHANGE

BK010712 Bangkok POST in English 1 May 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Prisoner Exchange a Tricky Issue"

[Text] The government will soon once again be asked to decide whether to sign diplomatic agreements with some foreign countries on exchanging prisoners. A committee assigned last year to restudy the problem, headed by the chief justice of the appeals court, Sandoen Kraichit, reportedly has concluded that under certain conditions such treaties might be signed.

The background to all of this is, basically, drugs. Specifically, it is heroin. Since Thailand passed its tough anti-drug legislation in 1978, a large number of foreigners have found themselves on the hard end of Thai justice, some of them for very long terms of imprisonment indeed. The recent sentencing of French national Yves Loboze to a prison term of 33 years for possession of almost 3 kilogrammes of heroin is not an untypical sentence. At last count, there were 653 foreigners in Thai jails, and most of them are locked up on drug charges.

At one time, and it was not so long ago, Thailand was one of the major conduits for heroin and opium shipments destined for Europe and America. One of the criticisms made in the early 1970's was that Thai laws were not strict enough to deter either the big-time or the small-time narcotics exporters. This criticism was a major factor in motivating the government into writing harsh penalties into the anti-narcotic law.

There is no doubt in anyone's mind that the harsh penalties have cut down on drug smuggling. There is no doubt that every convicted drug offender in Thai prisons today knew of the harsh laws when he decided to take the "million dollar gamble," as heroin smuggling is popularly known. We have supported the writing of the tough laws and we have supported the use of these laws to deter drug smuggling.

Now, however, comes a new thinking that somehow the drug smugglers are the victims. Some foreign governments and their embassies here feel that Thai jails are somehow unworthy of the convicted felon. They now are arguing that the humane thing to do is to send the prisoners home to their own countries. There, if the terms of proposed treaties are enforced, these drug offenders and other felons would be eligible for parole under the laws

of their own country, not under Thai law. In short, these convicted criminals could well be--and in many cases certainly will be--back on the street many, many years before their jail sentences are up.

When the idea of a prisoner exchange was first brought to the Thai Foreign Ministry, the answer was that Thailand would consider it, but that drug offenders would have to be excluded. That being unacceptable to the foreign missions concerned, negotiations have proceeded to the point where only antique smugglers and those foreigners convicted of lese majeste and endangering national security, peace and order would be excluded--drug offenders, under current proposals, are definitely included.

The government will eventually decide on prisoner exchange after careful deliberation. It will be criticised whichever way it decides, of course. In the meantime, we hope that the thought of lengthy prison sentences continue to deter those who would use Thailand to buy and sell drugs that kill.

CSO: 5300/5757

THAILAND

ANTIDRUG TEAM LEAVES FOR SINGAPORE TALKS

BK290748 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangkum, in his capacity as chairman of the Narcotics Control Board, accompanied by Secretary General of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, National Security Council Secretary General Sqn Ldr Prasong Sunsiri and their party, left at 1100 today for Singapore for talks on cooperation in combating narcotics trafficking.

General Prachuap said before his departure that the visit is made following the invitation from Singaporean Home Affairs Minister Chua Sian Chin. His mission will seek cooperation in efforts to prevent and suppress narcotics trafficking and to stem the flow of acetic anhydride, which is used in producing heroin from opium. The deputy prime minister said Thailand considers the chemical illegal and is trying to stop its flow. Most acetic anhydride is produced in Germany and Japan and arrives in Thailand through Singapore and Malaysia, which do not treat the chemical as illegal. Since Thailand's crackdown on acetic anhydride, opium has been smuggled into Malaysia for processing because acetic anhydride is still available there. He expressed his belief that there are heroin processing factories in Malaysia now. Previously he had planned to also visit Malaysia, but this plan has been delayed because Malaysia is still busy with the elections.

General Prachuap's visit to Singapore followed his recent visit to Burma for talks on the narcotics problem. During his current trip to Singapore, General Prachuap and his party will also observe medical treatment and rehabilitation for drug addicts in Singapore. The deputy prime minister and his party are scheduled to return from Singapore this Saturday [1 May] and will arrive at Bangkok Airport at 1350 hours.

CSO: 5300/5758

THAILAND

POLICE SEIZE BANNED CHEMICALS

BK190540 Bangkok POST in English 19 Apr 82 p 3

[Text] Six people have been arrested in a series of raids during which narcotics officials and police seized more than 3,000 litres of chemicals used to refine heroin. The chemicals, seized in the north, have been valued at more than 5 million baht. The seized chemicals include 730 litres of acetic anhydride (a major ingredient in the heroin refining process), 1,025 litres of ether, 80 litres of chloroform, 1,250 litres of alcohol and carbon powder. Police said the arrest of the six people, who included a Chinese Haw man and a woman, had smashed a major racket in smuggling the chemicals from Bangkok to the north, where their possession is an offence in provinces adjoining the Burmese border. The arrests began on Friday night when Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) officials and Chiang Dao District police stopped a truck in Chiang Dao District, Chiang Mai Province. A search of the truck, which was heading for Fang District, revealed 612 kilogrammes of chemicals, including 198 litres of acetic anhydride and its substitutes. Police arrested the truck's driver and a passenger, Jang Thi Koh. A Chinese Haw, Jang Thi Koh (alias Thikoh Sae Jang or Noi Duangdi) is the alleged operator of a heroin refinery in Burma opposite Mae Ai District, Chiang Mai Province. The refinery is said to be controlled by fugitive drug kingpin Lao Su (alias Wankho Sae Wan) who was under a death sentence when he escaped from custody under suspicious circumstances in Bangkok 5 years ago.

The truck was traced to the Chiang Mai Thai Transport Company and a joint ONCB-Chiang Mai police raid on its Chiang Mai Muang District warehouse on Saturday led to the discovery of a huge cache of chemicals. Police said the chemicals included 550 litres of acetic anhydride, 1,025 litres of ether, 1,250 litres of alcohol, 40 litres of chloroform and a large amount of carbon powder.

The team then raided the company's office on Charong Muang Road where they arrested its owner, Prawit Charoenphanit, his daughter, Mrs Oraphin and Prawit's driver. Empty barrels of banned chemicals were found on the premises, police said. ONCB officials in Bangkok were alerted of the raids and yesterday went to the Chiang Mai Thai Transport Company's office in Pathumwan where Prawit's son, Prayot, was arrested after a search allegedly revealed documents connected with shipping banned chemicals to the north. ONCB agents said Prayoj, who they said they long suspected of involvement in drug and chemicals smuggling, was arrested in relation to narcotics offences in Chiang Mai 5 years ago but was not convicted because of lack of evidence.

CSO: 5300/5757

THAILAND

BRIEFS

PRACHUAP ON ANTIDRUG COOPERATION--Singapore has agreed to tighten control on chemicals used to refine heroin which have been regularly smuggled into Thailand. This was stated by Deputy Prime Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangkun at Don Muang Airport after his return from Singapore on Saturday. General Prachuap visited Singapore late last month to discuss with Singapore authorities narcotic drug problems in this region. While in Singapore, General Prachuap himself worked on drug addicts rehabilitation method and the country's campaign against drugs. The deputy prime minister said that Singapore authorities also praised Thailand for its successful military campaign against the Shan rebels of drug kingpin Khun Sa. [Text] [BKO30801 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 3 May 82]

U.S. DRUG GRANT--The U.S. Government has given a 10 million baht grant to support a drug abuse preventive education and information program which is being carried out by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration. Director of the drug abuse prevention and treatment division Khachit Chubancha says that the aid has been given under an agreement between the Thai and U.S. Governments signed in 1978. The director says that the money will be used in publicity campaigns to instill drug abuse awareness among youths and the general public throughout Bangkok. He adds that under the program three more drug treatment clinics will be opened at different public health centers in Bangkok. This will bring to 17 the number of such clinics in the city. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 8 May 82]

MARIJUANA CONFISCATED--Three million baht worth of marijuana sticks neatly packed in 17 gunny sacks and 10 large bags were confiscated last night by customs officials from a fishing vessel anchored at the coastal village of Cha-am in Phetchaburi Province, customs officials reported this morning. The confiscated marijuana, believed destined for a foreign country, was seized from the Pai Ngam 2 fishing vessel at 10:10 pm while it was anchored near Khlong Cha-am beach, they said. Customs officials said none of the traffickers were aboard the fishing trawler during the raid. The seizure was made after customs officials received a tip-off and rushed three boats to the scene to make the raid. But the drug smugglers had apparently fled the scene before the raid, they added. The vessel was brought from Phet B Uri to Bangkok this morning. [Text] [BK140646 Bangkok WORLD in English 13 May 82 p 3]

RAID ON DRUG FACTORY--Chiang Mai--One Hmong hilltribe guard was killed and another was arrested during a pre-dawn raid on a mobile heroin refinery located in a valley in Samoeng District. A border patrol police force seized nearly 30 kilogrammes of morphine from the refinery after a fierce gun battle with some 25 Hmongs guarding it. The clash at the refinery--allegedly operated by a Chinese Haw--came shortly before dawn yesterday. Most of the Hmong guards managed to retreat into the jungle after a 20-minute firefight. One Hmong was later found dead and another was arrested when the 50-man police force moved in to search the refinery. Eleven blocks of morphine bearing the infamous 999 brand together with 20 kilogrammes of morphine base powder were found at the site. Also discovered were a morphine pressing machine, four drums of chemicals, believed to be acetic anhydride, and heroin processing equipment including stoves and pans. The drugs and the pressing machine were seized as evidence and the police force burnt down the refinery before returning to Samoeng District. The arrested Hmong, who was not identified, was detained at Samoeng police station for questioning. Meanwhile the cabinet will be asked today to extend the control of two chemicals, used in the refining of heroin, from three provinces to 13. The chemicals are ether and chloroform which cannot be legally bought or transported without official permission in the northern provinces of Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Nan. However, if the cabinet approves a Commerce Ministry proposal today, the sale and transport of these chemicals will also be subject to controls in the provinces of Phrae, Phayao, Lamphun, Mae Hong Son, Narathiwat, Satun Pattani, Yala and Songkhla. [Text]
[Bangkok POST in English 4 May 82 p 5]

THAI-FRG LIAISON--Thailand and West Germany have agreed to exchange narcotics liaison officers for the first time in an attempt to stop the flow of illicit drugs from Thailand to West Germany and other European countries, a police source said yesterday. Senior Thai police and the two visiting senior German policemen, Eric Strass and Manfred Bolte of the West German Federal Police's Criminal Bureau of Narcotics yesterday discussed cooperation between the two countries to stem the drug traffic. According to an initial agreement, West Germany will station narcotics agents at its embassy in Bangkok and Thailand will send police officers to be based in West Germany, said the source. Foreign narcotics officers already stationed here are from the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France and the Netherlands.
[Bangkok POST in English 22 Apr 82 p 5]

FRENCHMAN SENTENCED FOR HEROIN--A 43-year-old French shoemaker was sentenced to 33-year imprisonment by the criminal court yesterday. He was found guilty of attempting to smuggle nearly 3 kilogrammes of heroin out of Thailand earlier this year. Yvesle Bozec was initially given a life sentence by the court, but the sentence was commuted one-third after he had pleaded guilty. However, Bozec reportedly denied the charge when he was arrested by the police at Don Muang Airport on 16 January, with 2.940 kilogrammes of heroin hidden in a spray can, while about to board a plane for Geneva. [Text]
[Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 27 Apr 82 p 3]

MARIJUANA HAUL IN KALASIN--Kalasin--Police yesterday seized 2 tons of dry marijuana and arrested a man during a raid on a house in Muang District here. The marijuana and equipment found in the raid were estimated to be worth around 1.2 million baht, police said. The suspect, identified as Chaloom Suradet, 46, was arrested on a charge of illegal possession of marijuana. Police said parts of the marijuana were already packed in bags and were believed to be prepared to be smuggled out of the country. [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 12 Apr 82 p 3]

MORPHINE SEIZED IN SONGKHLA--Songkhla--Thirty-four kilogrammes of morphine base was found yesterday in a Mercedes Benz car impounded at a customs office in Sadao District since May 2, customs officials reported. The drug, in 28 blocks bearing the 999 trademark, were found under the rear seat and in a secret compartment beneath the floor of the car. Customs officials seized the car from a rubber plantation in Khong Ngae, Tambon Pangla of Sadao District on the suspicion that the car was smuggled in from Malaysia and might have been carrying contraband. After nothing illegal was found, the car was towed to the customs office. Customs officials yesterday received an anonymous call revealing the presence of the drugs which was found after a thorough search. The haul, one of the largest made in the south, was later handed to narcotics police in Hat Yai. [Text] [BK281458 Bangkok THE BANGKOK POST in English 21 May 82 p 1]

FEMALE PRISONERS RELEASED--More than 400 women, including two foreigners who served jail terms on narcotics charges, were released yesterday from Khlong Prem prison at Lard Yao. A large number of those freed had been serving sentences for drug offences. A 67-year-old woman, Somphon Hinlat, who had been in jail for three years for possessing drugs, seemed to be in a daze as she took her first unsteady steps out of prison. The two foreign women released were Yip Shaw-man, 34, of Hong Kong, and Margaret Vyskocil, 33, of Austria. Yip Shaw-man who had served eight years of a 52-year sentence for a heroin offence, said she would return to Hong Kong within two days. Margaret Vyskocil was arrested with her husband in Chiang Mai on her first visit to Thailand and charged with possessing 300 grammes of heroin. She served more than four years of a six year and eight months sentence. The tall, Austrian brunette who had worked as a secretary in Vienna before her arrest in Thailand said she didn't have any plans regarding her future. According to a senior prison official, there are still more than 1,300 women in Khlong Prem. Thirty-eight of these are foreigners serving jail terms on narcotics charges. [BK281458 Bangkok THE BANGKOK POST in English 23 May 82 p 3]

OTHER CONVICTS RELEASED--Bangkok, 22 May (AFP)--A total of 15 Western prisoners were released here today under a royal amnesty that will mean freedom for about 10,000 prisoners throughout the country. The first Westerners to walk out of their cells under an amnesty occasioned by the current bicentennial of Bangkok and the ruling Chakkri Dynasty comprised four Britons, three West Germans, one Swiss, one Canadian, two Americans, one Austrian, one Spaniard and two Israelis. They had been jailed at "Khlong Prem," in the northern outskirts of Bangkok, for periods ranging from 18 months to seven years. Most were serving drug sentences. They expressed mixed views about life behind bars. Mark Kissinger, of Los Angeles, California, described prison conditions as "terrible," saying he had been "treated like an animal." Mr Kissinger, 44, had been sentenced to eight years for conspiracy to export heroin out of Thailand to the United States. But Brian Hayward, who would

only say that he was from northern England, maintained that prison conditions were "good". The 38-year-old engineer had been inside for one year on charges related to travellers' cheques. Questioned about severe bruises on his face, he said they had been sustained in a game of rugby. Other Westerners released today included: --Michael Ferris, Alan Clark and Joe Carter of Britain (Ferris, of Kent, had served three quarters of his four-year sentence for possession of three grammes of heroin. The other two declined any comment), --Milos Blaha, 40, of Vancouver, Canada who had served five years of a seven-year sentence for charges related to possession of 19 grammes of heroin, --Jose Marco, 33, of Valencia, Spain, who had served three years and six months of a five-year sentence after being arrested with 220 grammes of heroin, --Eliazer Pinter, 28, and Benjamin Aitha, 32, of Haifa, Israel, who had been arrested in connection with 1.5 kilogrammes of heroin and served 55 months of an eight-year sentence. [BK281458 Hong Kong AFP in English 22 May 82]

RAW OPIUM SEIZED--Hat Yai--Police yesterday seized about 2 million baht of raw opium and arrested the driver of a pick-up truck in which the drugs were found. Acting on a tip-off that the opium would be smuggled from Nakhon Si Thammarat to Hat Yai, a team of local crime suppression division police set up a check-point at the car ferry landing in Songkhla Town where they intercepted a red pick-up truck. The driver, Surasit Sukrat, 30, was detained at the local CSD headquarters after police noticed that his vehicle had two fuel tanks, one for LPG gas and the other for petrol. Police later discovered about 70 kilogrammes of raw opium, neatly packed in 34 plastic bags, hidden inside the LPG gas tank on the truck's roof. [Bangkok POST in English 11 Apr 82 p 2]

HEAVY SENTENCES HANDED DOWN--The criminal court yesterday (23 April) handed down heavy jail sentences against three women and two men after finding them guilty of drug offenses. The five were arrested in a raid at New Peng Chiang Restaurant after selling heroin to undercover narcotics agents. The agents seized more than 7 kilograms of top grade No 4 heroin. Son Sae Kow, the alleged owner of the drugs, was found guilty of possessing drugs with intent to sell and selling drugs and was sentenced to life imprisonment. The other four--Anan Prasotsuk, Mrs Hong Yaovapreuk, Mrs Amornsri Prathuangsak and Ms Prapasi Wachara--were found guilty of conspiring to sell drugs and supporting their sale and were originally sentenced to serve 33 years and 4 months in jail but this was reduced to 22 years, 2 months and 20 days because their testimony was considered helpful. The arrests were the result of a 6-month surveillance operation mounted by a joint team of crime suppression division police and officials of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board with the cooperation of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. [Bangkok POST in English 24 Apr 82 p 3]

UNDERCOVER TEAM ARRESTS SUSPECTS--Chiang Mai--An undercover provincial narcotics police team yesterday arrested three men after seizing 2.1 kilogrammes of heroin with a street value of almost one million baht. The three men, all residents of Chiang Rai Province, were arrested at a Muang District coffee shop after the heroin was delivered to a group of policemen posing as drug dealers. Police said the arrest came after they learned that the three were in possession of a large amount of heroin. They said they set up the trap after contacting the trio by telegram and asking them to bring the heroin to Chiang Mai for delivery. The gang named the "Pan Cafe" on Mani Noparat as a rendezvous. After agreeing on a wholesale price for the

2.1 kilogrammes of 150,000 baht, one of the alleged traffickers, later named as Wichian Kwanchai, 30, left to collect it from a housing estate on the outskirts of Chiang Mai while the other two waited with the police. On his return to the cafe, Wichian was arrested along with Bunyang Khwanthongdoem, 25, and Saengmuang Uppasakao, 35. Police said the heroin, packed in six paper boxes, had a street value of about 900,000 baht. [Text] [Bangkok POST in English 25 Apr 82 p 3]

EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH FRG--The police department is planning to send a team of 10 Thai policemen to coordinate with German police under an anti-narcotics exchange programme between the two countries. Under the programme, the Thai police team will have to undergo a 3-month orientation course here before attending a training course in West Germany for about 1 year prior to working in that country. West Germany was expected to send a team of liaison officials to Thailand soon and another drug suppression unit to be based at the German Embassy, would follow. The exchange programme with West Germany has become necessary due to the growing drug traffic between the two countries, he said. The exchange would help facilitate investigation by the police forces of the two countries in connection with their drug suppression efforts. Thailand currently has anti-narcotics exchange programmes with several countries, including the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, the Netherlands, France, England, Italy, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore. [Bangkok POST in English 9 May 82 p 2]

HEROIN SEIZED IN CHIANG MAI--Chiang Mai--Provincial drug suppression police arrested five people and seized 7 kilogrammes of first-grade No 4 heroin in the town centre here yesterday. The arrests were made after a 3-month joint investigation between Songkhla and Chiang Mai narcotics police. Police identified the suspects as Somchat Chantima, 32, Somphong Sae Wang, 23, Woenping Sae Li, 28, Mrs Wanida Chaifang and her younger brother Prayun, 23. Seized during the arrests yesterday were 20 packages of "double lions" brand heroin weighing 7 kilogrammes, police said. Wanida, police alleged, was paid two million baht by the three men for the heroin. [Bangkok POST in English 11 May 82 p 2]

OPIUM SEIZED ON BUS--Lamphun--Police yesterday seized 10.2 kilogrammes of raw opium on a bus travelling from Chiang Mai, and arrested one passenger, police reported. The seizure was made after police, acting on a tip-off, set up a roadblock in front of Lamphun police headquarters and searched a Bangkok-bound tour bus. Police said the opium was found in five packages in a travelling bag, and that a tag identified the bag as the property of passenger Bunsri Somchua, 27, a resident of Phayao Province. Bunsri, who denied ownership of the opium, was detained on a charge of possession of drugs. [Text] [Bangkok POST in English 21 May 82 p 3]

HEROIN ARRESTS IN CHIANG MAI--Chiang Mai--Five people were arrested yesterday during two Muang District raids in which police seized 12.19 kilogrammes of opium said to be worth 130,000 baht on the local market. Acting on a tip-off, narcotics police went to the bungalow Saen Suk on Chotana Road where they seized about 9 kilogrammes of opium and held two Fang District residents identified as Nopphandon Haosuriyakan, 32, and Athon Kamklom, 25. After

questioning the two, police went to the Si Lanna Hotel on Thawi Uthit Road where they seized more raw opium and made another three arrests. The three were identified by police as Mrs Bunwing Wongson, 35, Silachon Yonying, 30, and Saming China, 25, all of Muang District. Each of the five has been charged with having possessed opium with intent to sell. [Text] [BK140646 Bangkok POST in English 13 May 82 p 5]

ARRESTS FOR OPIUM POSSESSION--A Malaysian woman and a Singaporean man were arrested yesterday evening and charged with possession of 3.7 kilogrammes of cooked opium with intent to smuggle it out of the country. The opium was found hidden in a can of shrimp in the possession of Miss Chia Mee Lan, 26, of Kuala Lumpur and Chand Eng Bong, 32, of Singapore, customs officials alleged. Both were about to leave Bangkok for Singapore on a Singapore airlines flight. Becoming suspicious of their behaviour, customs officials on duty at Don Muang Airport searched their belongings and found the drugs, officials said. Immigration records revealed that Miss Lan had been to Bangkok several times before. Both were initially charged with illegal possession of opium with intent to sell and attempted smuggling. They were later handed over to crime suppression police for further questioning. [Text] [BK140646 Bangkok POST in English 14 May 82 p 5]

BANGKOK HEROIN SEIZED--Police yesterday arrested four people, including a woman, and seized 14 kilogrammes of No 4 first grade heroin in the car part of the Washington Theatre in Sukhumvit. Crime suppression division police alleged that the four were members of an international syndicate responsible for smuggling drugs abroad via southern Thailand. The haul was one of the biggest uncovered by police in Bangkok metropolis this year and officials said it would have sold for at least 3 million baht at local prices and 30 times that amount if it had reached foreign markets. The four suspects, all of whom denied any knowledge of the drugs, were identified as Bunsup Charoendet, 45, a lawyer from Chumphon, Sanoe Charunwong, 42, also from Chumphon, Mrs Chamong Thongin, 36, and Manat Triphunwet, owner of the Top Music Shop in Bangkok's Pratunam area. The drugs were packed in 28 plastic bags bearing the golden triangle's double U Globe brand and the haul weighed a total of 14 kilogrammes. All four suspects denied charges of possessing the drugs with intent to sell and were detained at the crime suppression division headquarters for further questioning. [BK190544 Bangkok POST in English 13 Apr 82 p 2]

LAO MARIJUANA SEIZED--Nakhon Phanom--Huge amounts of marijuana seized in this northeastern province recently were believed to have been grown in Laos, provincial police Superintendent Pol Col Prachit Saengsubin said yesterday. Pol Col Prachit said that in the past two months police had seized between three to four tons of dried marijuana which was thought to have been grown in Laos and then smuggled across the border. He said the marijuana was cultivated by Thais, who preferred to grow it in Laos because of a suppression campaign against the drug in this province. He said the Thais involved in the racket also believed that Laos had no laws against growing marijuana. Col Prachit said it was difficult to prevent the smuggling of marijuana into the province because of its 23-kilometre-long border with Laos. [Text] [BK281458 Bangkok THE BANGKOK POST in English 24 May 82 p 2]

CSO: 5300/5765

CANADA

BRIEFS

TORONTO POLICEMAN ARRESTED--Toronto (CP)--A 22-year-old Metropolitan Toronto policeman was arrested Saturday and charged with five drug offences following a six-week investigation. Brent Parkes, a member of the force for 16 months, resigned after his arrest. He is the third city policeman charged with drug-related offences in the past two days, although police said his arrest is unrelated to the other two. A total of 12 charges, mostly trafficking and possession, have been laid against Parkes and four other men after undercover police purchased about \$14,200 worth of hashish and benzedrine, said police. Charged with Parkes are Chris Gerard Bates, 21, Michael Kevin Mainprize, 16, Mark Ian Mainprize, 22, and Steven Paul Power, 21. All will appear in court Monday for a bail hearing. The other two policemen have been suspended from duty after being charged with conspiracy to import narcotics with three other Toronto men. Constable Delbert Rochester, 21, a nine-year member of the department and Constable Owen Chambers, 34, who had six years service, are charged with two counts each. Durrell Foster, 35, Benjamin Hohn, 26, Alphonse Samuel Blake, 21, are charged with one count each. [Text] [Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 29 Mar 82 p 5]

DRUG-SMUGGLING RAIDS--Halifax (CP)--Halifax police said Friday they have arrested two Nova Scotia men in connection with an international drug smuggling operation. The department said in a release that an unspecified number of people are being charged with a variety of offences, including importing narcotics, trafficking and possession of a prohibited weapon. The arrests were made Thursday, about an hour after the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department in California arrested Delbert William Meister of Halifax, son of one of the men arrested in Halifax, at Los Angeles International Airport. [Text] [Windsor THE SATURDAY WINDSOR STAR in English 10 Apr 82 p A6]

JAIL FOR HEROIN TRAFFICKING--A get-tough policy with drug traffickers continued in B.C. Supreme Court Friday when Allan Lim, 28, was given 11 years in prison and Philip Yu, 30, eight years, for conspiring in Vancouver to traffic in heroin in Hong Kong. The two men were convicted by a jury of conspiring to sell one pound of the drug for \$14,000 to two policemen acting as customers. Justice S. Martin Toy was told the deal was never completed but Yu had provided a sample of heroin to the two policemen. Justice Toy said the two men were motivated by a desire for profit and said the destructive effect of the sale of the narcotic compelled him to sentence Yu to eight years although he had no previous record. He gave Lim 11 years. [Text] [Vancouver THE WEEKEND SUN in English 17 Apr 82 p A14]

CSO: 5320/29

BAHAMAS

BRIEFS

MARIJUANA BOAT--THIRTEEN Colombians were arrested Tuesday along with their 150-foot boat loaded with between 200 and 300 bags of marijuana off Dog Cay in the Cay Sal area. Defence Force Commander Christopher Belton announced this afternoon. At a press conference at the Defence Ministry, Cmdr Belton said that the arrest occurred at 6:30 pm Tuesday by the Defence Force supply ship Fort Montagu under the command of Lieutenant Commander Edwin Munroe. Lt Cmdr Munroe said today that the Panamanian registered "Alcora", was chased for about 20 minutes and warning shots had to be fired to bring it to a stop. He said that several Cigarette speed boats tried to get in between the Fort Montagu and the Alcora in an attempt to take the men off but were thwarted by several bursts of warning shots from the Ft Montagu. He said that the Ft Montagu had to anchor a Cigarette to catch up the Alcora and upon return, the Cigarette, which was found unoccupied with one woman's shoe aboard, had disappeared. Commander Monroe also said that he saw thousands of crawfish traps set by poachers in the Cay Sal area. The Alcora, Ft Montagu and the captured boat were brought into the Prince George Wharf this afternoon and the drugs unloaded onto trucks and taken away by police [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 29 Apr 82 p 1]

BAIL FOR 13 COLOMBIANS--Thirteen Colombians were ordered to pay a total of \$55,000 in bail yesterday afternoon when they appeared before Acting Magistrate Alva Stewart Coakley charged with possession of 918 bales of marijuana. The 13 accused pleaded not guilty to charges of possession of dangerous drugs and with intent to supply. They were charged with having 918 bales of marijuana at Dog Rocks on April 27. The men and a 150-foot carrier "Alcora," were arrested by Defence Force Marines aboard the supply ship Fort Montagu. They were each granted cash bails of \$35,000 after Acting Magistrate Coakley reconsidered their bail, which she had first set at \$50,000 cash each. Their attorney Godfrey Pinder had insisted that "too high a bail is equivalent to no bail at all." He also said his clients, who were "only poor fishermen," were "shocked to even be here, in a strange country and to be hit with \$50,000! Do you know how many pesos that is?" Pinder asked. Prosecutor Conrad Sweeting told the court that this was one of "the largest drug hauls the Bahamas has had in this type of material" and that the carrier "was also the largest drug boat ever brought into the harbour." He added that he had been "handed down strict rules on how the matter should be dealt with." [Text] [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 1 May 82 p 1]

CSO: 5300/7555

BARBADOS

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR FREE REIN FOR POLICE IN WAR ON DRUGS

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 28 Apr 82 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text]

BARBADOS has been trying to convince itself, against all of the evidence and all of the statistics, that it does not have a drug problem.

Perhaps we should come around to the truth and do something about it before we find ourselves confronted by a monster that will devour us.

As long ago as February 21, a senior police official was quoted as saying that "senior people in the society" were getting in the way of the Royal Barbados Police Force as it attempted to get to the root of the drug problem here.

The newspaper report stated in part:
"The police official added that marijuana trafficking was becoming more and more profitable every day; and what was even more disheartening about the whole affair was that persons at every scale of the ladder were involved in the trade, and whenever they wanted to clamp down on a particular "opening" there was always some senior person in society to cause trouble."

Following this statement, the Opposition Democratic Labour Party called on Government to ascertain who were these "senior people". We have heard nothing since the statement of the senior police officer.

The silence might be a confirmation of the suspicion of this police officer that "senior people" are indeed getting in the way of things.

Dope-peddling is not unlike casino gambling where self-interest often drives people to ignore the larger interest of the society.

The gradual growth of drug use in our society — and in particular marijuana — indicated that there is a fundamental problem facing law enforcers.

We have seen an increase in penalties for drug related offences; we have seen an increase in vigilance at the air and sea ports, we have had an intensification of public awareness and public education on the dangers of drugs, yet the statistics show a continuing pattern of increasing offences.

In 1970, for instance, Barbados had only four cases of persons being brought before the courts for possession of marijuana.

By 1977 that had increased to 50; and last year — another four years on — it stood at 144 for marijuana only, not including narcotic drugs.

We have seen major drug hauls by police and Defence Force personnel in the Merricks, St. Peter area, as well as in Bloomsbury, St. Thomas. We have seen marijuana coming into this country concealed in oil drums; woven into the coils of grass mats; even hidden in carvings and orange juice cans.

All of these examples tell the story of the 20 percent increase in drug offences in Barbados over the past year. More than that, they tell us that a cancer is eating away at the very fabric of our society.

Even without the statistics, there is still much that indicates the presence of many drugs on the island. People know it, and are talking about it.

Clearly the responsibility is the Government's to do something through its agencies, the Customs Department and the Royal Barbados Police Force.

Whoever may be standing in the way of these agencies carrying out their duties must be dealt with. It is going to have a serious effect on this country if policemen and customs officials find that people are impeding them in their work.

If a senior police officer says that the work of the force is being impaired, then those for whom Barbados comes first must be prepared to put the country before self-interest.

There is an abundance of evidence to show that drugs are seeping into our family life, our school life, our work life. It is no longer a problem among visitors or on our beaches or indeed, only present in our social life.

We must declare war on drugs and drug dealers of every hue.

CSO: 5300/7552

BARBADOS

BRIEFS

INTERPOL MEMBERSHIP--The Royal Barbados Police Force is now a member of INTERPOL. As a result, the newly formed Undercover Drug Squad is now better able to deal with drug trafficking in the island. This was stated yesterday by retiring Police Commissioner Aviston Prescod, after he accompanied Attorney General Louis Tull on a tour of a section of the District "A" Police Station. Prescod said the drug squad of five overseas-trained members of the force, headed by Superintendent Winfield Cummins, was now better able to deal with drugs and how they were distributed on the island. [Bridgetown THE NATION in English 28 Apr 82 p 1]

CSO: 5300/7552

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE LABORATORY DISCOVERED--Villavicencio--Today the police anti-narcotics group dealt a new blow to the international drug trafficking gangs which operate in the eastern plains area. The authorities discovered a modern cocaine processing laboratory worth more than 25 million pesos. At least five people who are involved in the illegal activity are being sought.
[PA271932 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 26 May 82]

CSO: 5300/2174

JAMAICA

EDITORIAL DISCUSSES THREAT OF ILLEGAL AIRSTRIPS FOR DRUGS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 May 82 p 8

[Editorial: "Illegal Airstrips"]

[Text]

We understand from the Ministry of National Security that legislation is now being drafted to strengthen the government's hand in dealing with the widespread establishment of illegal airstrips throughout Jamaica. As far back as 1980 the former Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Patterson announced that legislation would be drafted to deal with this matter.

On September 11 of that year though there was no legislation, the Police were able to move in on the Georges Valley airstrip owned by the Coptics on their Bogue estate in St. Elizabeth and a plane was seized. Then on September 15 there was a joint attack on the plane and on the security guards guarding it from the air and by land, and the plane escaped. Thereafter the JDF demolished the airstrip, or so it was reported.

In March 1981, after the new government had taken over, the present Minister Mr. Spaulding declared that the strips would be eliminated. We know that legislation takes much time, but it is now over a year and it is time that the legislation be enacted.

In the meantime our special reporter has shown that the strips have multiplied, old strips are

being refurbished some are discarded, others being built near to them, and some are being built which are longer than the airstrip at Tinson Pen and are capable of taking DC-3 or DC-6 planes. Our reporters saw several airstrips in St. James, in Westmoreland, Hanover, St. Elizabeth, Clarendon, St. Catherine, and their condition and the expertise in building them, suggest that the ganja business continues to be very big business indeed. While it is not being claimed that all these strips are owned by people who are in the ganja trade, what is being said is that in many cases they are built and rented to persons who use them illegally.

In addition to facilitating the ganja trade it is reported that several strips are used to bring in consumer goods, thus avoiding the customs.

We agree with Mr. Spaulding when he said last year that these strips are a danger to the national security of the country. We hope that Mr. Spaulding's government will give him the fullest support, and that the Ganja lobby which has been so powerful in recent years will not be allowed to stymie the efforts to eliminate the strips.

JAMAICA

PRESSURE IN U.S. AFFECTING GANJA TRADE IN JAMAICA

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 16 May 82 pp 9, 19

[Article by Lloyd Williams]

[Excerpts] Escalation by United States drug enforcement authorities in South Florida of their war against marijuana (ganja), cocaine and other drugs, is reported to have caused a lull in the ganja traffic from Jamaica.

At the same time, however, sources here say the highly-organised ganja traffic out of Jamaica is becoming even more devious.

Says Con Dacherty, a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration Public Information Officer in Miami:

"Overall, the Task Force which became operational about a month ago has shown a drop in the sightings of both suspect (Marijuana) vessels and aircraft. There has been a definite lull in overall drug traffic coming from the Caribbean. This is largely due to the new men and equipment in place now.

"The smugglers are quite concerned and they have adopted a kind of wait-and-see attitude and they are being very wary right now. The Task Force is very definitely having an effect on the traffic."

The Task Force he refers to was announced by U.S. President Ronald Reagan on January 28. Its members are Vice President George Bush, the Secretaries of State, Defence, Transportation, Treasury, and Health and Human Services, the Attorney-General of the United States and Presidential Counselor Ed Meese.

Ganja Traffic

The new men and equipment have been in operation some six weeks now, putting pressure on the ganja traffic and the movements of other drugs into South Florida from Colombia, Bolivia, Peru and Jamaica.

Dominant Ganja Parish

The parish of St. Ann on Jamaica's northcoast was for years the dominant ganja parish. The news now is that it has lost its pride of place. "Right now St. Ann get a lick with ganja," moaned a farmer of the illegal herb in the ganja

heartland of St. Ann a few days ago. "The whole situation is now in a jam. The stuff is really not moving. Everything is on a standstill."

Farmer C, as he shall be known, estimates that the ganja market in St. Ann has been cut back by about 75%. "I don't know if in the future it will change but right now, a lot of the youth them a suffer because it (ganja) is the only resource for them. There is no employment right now." Why is this?

"Lots of people say is the change of Government (here). They claim that Reagan don't want it in his country and our people in Jamaica can't support the market alone. The stuff have to move before we can feel good, so the majority of farmers back out of (ganja) farming. It don't make sense to plant it and it don't sell. It's money-making and once a man can't find bread from it, him have to leave it out."

Farmer C said he used to sell the "Collie" variety of ganja for U.S.\$40 per lb weight, or U.S. \$40,000 for 1,000 lb, but the price in St. Ann has now fallen to US\$1,000 for 100 lb. Similarly, Sinsemilla used to fetch US\$100 to US\$150 per lb. but the price was now down to US\$60 per lb.

Farmers Quit

He said that around two years ago there were more than 50 ganja farmers in his area. Now there are only about 10. "The rest kinda draw out because them not getting no sale. You really have to beg a man (a ganja dealer) now to buy from you. You really have to run him down, and though you have to beg him, you have to give him for little and nothing." Most ganja farmers or dealers he knows have herb stored.

And there is another side to it. "When the man them (ganja buyers) come from foreign, them don't want to leggo the whole of the money either. Some say they prefer to give us half till they go and come again." And whenever the plane men come they want the cream of the crop only--Sinsemilla.

Drought

Another St. Ann ganja farmer says also that ganja farming in St. Ann had been affected by drought. He did not plant his current crop until January and since about two weeks ago, it had not rained in his area.

But there is another story. That story is that the St. Ann ganja trade is experiencing something more than the pressures of the South Florida Task Force. It is being blackballed by American ganja pilots because some of their numbers have been ripped off in phony ganja deals, robbed at gunpoint, set up and in some cases with some of their US. based Jamaican colleagues have become missing--permanently.

When reports of the deaths of some of those white American males surfaced they were discounted widely. No, informed sources said. The number of bodies found--none--did not square off with the numbers reported missing. Now that St. Ann is being blackballed by American ganja plane pilots the truth is being made known.

So more and more the ganja traffic is being diverted to St. Mary, St. Catherine and Clarendon and to the Western Parishes--St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland Hanover and St. James.

Blackballed

At the same time however, the effects of the Task Force pressure are being felt to varying degrees in all the parishes. And, according to one source:

The farmers that make out best now are the ones that have the contacts."

'Bush League'

But if some ganja traffickers have been put out of circulation by the "Bush League" as the MIAMI HERALD recently called the Task Force, the agent's efforts at suppressing the traffic has led the resourceful among the other ganja traffickers to become more wily.

The ganja industry is highstakes business. Official estimates in the U.S.A. puts the annual gross value of the illegal drug business in South Florida at more than US\$7 billion. So while there is a market, there is a way. Even a single-engine plane-load of ganja can fetch thousands of dollars in the USA. For a start the fee to a ganja plane pilot, such as some of those frustrated daredevil ex-Vietnam flyers to ferry a multi-ton load of ganja from Jamaica can be as high as US\$150,000. With the focus of the Task Force's attention now on South Florida, the ganja plane pilots are going further up the Atlantic Coast--to Georgia, the Carolinas and Virginia.

And that's not all. To out-fox the radar, what some astute ganja-plane pilots do is to fly so close to the large scheduled jetliners going into the States, that their presence merge with that of the bigger planes and appear as just one blip on the radar screen.

Daredevil Flyers

They are also flying out larger loads from Jamaica and at the same time killing two other birds. First, some now fly in once a month instead of the five times a month they used to. At the same time they save on fuel and their fees have increased. Increasingly too they are using larger aircraft. Some air-strips are being lengthened.

In Jamaica the Task Force drive is also having its repercussions. For a start some middlemen ganja dealers are reported to be in a financial bind. To ensure a steady supply of ganja, some middlemen-ganja dealers had advanced farmers cash for fertilizers, subsistence and transportation among other things. Some buy boat engines to ensure the delivery of their supplies but a problem arises as the crop is reaped but there are few orders for it. It is not unusual these days for ganja dealers from as far as Montego Bay to travel to Kingston and do the round of night clubs and hotels, seeking buyers for the herb.

And with the decline of the role of the middlemen, some American buyers are making their contacts with the farmers themselves. At the same time, some of

the big buyers who used to fly in have stopped. The mini-league, more adventurous types tend to form the majority now.

'Safe' Air Strips

Although many a ganja air trip has been put out of circulation or the objects of police surveillance and stakeouts numerous "safe" strips are still in business. Usually, they are in the middle of nowhere--far from the public's eyesight--some on private property and some on government lands.

But of late their isolation is proving a problem for some of the ganja pilots who use these airstrips, especially in Manchester and St. Elizabeth. Some pilots who come in earlier than arranged or later, for whatever reason have been held up for landing, by "pirates" who rob them of their money.

Recently, an aircraft with people on legitimate business, landed at an airstrip in St. Elizabeth.

On alighting, the airplane's occupants were surrounded by a group of armed "pirates" demanding money. Luckily for the plane's occupants, a police party had the airstrip staked out and it was only their quick showing that saved the occupants, who could not convince the "pirates" they were not on a ganja mission and were not loaded with money.

(Incidentally the incidence of airplanes being stolen in the USA and ocean-going boats being stolen here and in the USA for ganja runs, is reported to be increasing.)

These hold-ups have in part, resulted in some of the new or refurbished airstrips coming into operation.

The landing fee at these safe airstrips used to be around US\$12,000 a time. The word now is that it is U.S. \$20,000. For those who need it, refuelling is always available as these airstrip operators and their associates can provide any amount of aviation fuel that is required, day or night.

Of late many of the ganja plane pilots fly into one of Jamaica's two international airports legally, obeying all the civil aviation requirements. They check into a hotel, make their contacts, arrange their ganja deals, and visit by car, the airstrips of their choice, to familiarize themselves with the terrain. If he is at Montego Bay's Sangster International Airport for instance, there are three nearby airstrips he can use: one at Flower Hill, one at Spot Valley and the other at Barret Hall. When the deal is set the pilots file required flight plans for their overseas journeys, but take off to a predetermined airstrip, sometimes taking on scores of bags of compressed ganja in 15 to 20 minutes, often without even cutting their engines.

Police Can't Destroy

If their radio contacts warn them of any suspicious presence before they load, they return promptly to their airports, say "engine trouble" had caused them to return, then bide their time for a safe pick-up. For a pilot in Kingston, at either the Norman Manley International Airport or the Tinson Pen Aerodrome, there are several airstrips in nearby St. Catherine that are available to them.

These airstrips are all known to the police, but there is nothing the police can do about them. Why? There is nothing in the law which authorizes the police to destroy them. All the police can do is to keep the airstrips under surveillance, or stake them out if they have cause to be suspicious.

But policemen must sleep sometimes and these airstrip operators are invariably very well-connected and informed. Besides, most of these airstrips are so located that lookouts can always give timely warning of an approaching police party. The police do not have airplanes, and by the time a JDF helicopter is airborne the bird will have flown with its multi-ton load of ganja.

Illegal Loading

But there is even a safer way used frequently. The ganja plane is sometimes loaded right at the Manley International, Sangster International or Tinson Pen Aerodrome from a plane which has picked up the ganja from an airstrip.

At one of the international airports the following incident occurred one night recently: the police got wind that an illegal-loading operation was taking place. A police party was rushed to the airport. Of course the police could not go onto the runway until they got clearance from the control tower. When did clearance come? After the plane had left, of course. Control Tower was apologetic, but who wouldn't be?

There have been many a statement from many a quarter about legislation to curb the illegal use of airstrips.

Everybody Speaks

January 6, 1970: The Hon. Cleve Lewis, Minister of Communication and Works, met with owners of or representatives of 37 airstrips to seek their views and advice on the best means of achieving security (of airstrips) in the national interest:

September 17, 1980: The Hon. P.J. Patterson, Acting Prime Minister: New strategies are being devised to cope with this problem (illegal airstrips) which constitutes a serious threat to the security of our nation. Legislation is currently being prepared to control and monitor the construction and development of privately-owned airstrips and to govern the use of such airstrips."

September 30, 1980: The Hon. Carlyle Dunkley, Acting Minister of National Security: the Government view with deep concern the number of illegal airstrips which have been built in certain parts of the country, and the illegal entry and landing of aircraft on these strips as well as other aerodromes around the island.

March 17, 1981: The Minister of National Security, the Hon. Winston Spaulding: "During the last few years, a number of airstrips have been built and strangely allowed to flourish throughout the island and have facilitated various kinds of criminal activities, involving firearms, ammunition, drugs, currency and the illegal transportation of persons into and out of the island...among other things...legislation is being formulated and every legitimate power and authority will be used to deal with this situation..."

Everybody says something but nobody does anything.

CSO: 5300/7555

MEXICO

OPIUM PRODUCER, ACCOMPLICE CAPTURED BY FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE

Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 21 Apr 82 Sec B p 2

[Text] Yesterday, the Federal Judicial Police dealt a successful blow to those trafficking in drugs. They seized a million pesos worth of opium from Alfonso Paredes Ochoa, an elusive and active grower and even processor.

They caught him at the Hotel Avenida, located at 16 de Septiembre and Emilia Calvillo, with his accomplice, Angel Rios Banda, as they were preparing to deliver those drugs to a Yankee purchaser. The operation whereby this Paredes was caught began several weeks ago, under the direction of Comdr Octavio Esquinca.

"We knew that he was carrying shipments, and quite often. He was moving about with a small amount, and therefore we allowed him to operate on several occasions. We were waiting for the time when the amount that he carried was a considerable one. And that happened on Sunday. He arrived and called his buyer by telephone. But hours elapsed and the latter did not come. Fearing that he would escape, we seized him and his accomplice. Paredes claimed that he was growing and processing; we do not know whether that is true, or whether he had a laboratory or not. Hence he is being interrogated. He has already shown us the site near Basaseachi where he was planting, but not the processing plant." Commander Esquinca said: "That concerns us as much as or more than his capture, as well as the opium which we seized from him, which was worth a million pesos."



The individual on the right is Alfonso Paredes Ochoa, who claims that he planted poppies and converted them into opium; on the left is his accomplice, named Angel Rios Banda.

2909
CSO: 5330/81

MEXICO

DETAILS ON INTERNATIONAL COCAINE RING PROBE REPORTED

Further Arrests, Disclosures

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 28 Mar 82 Sec D p 4

[Text] After experts from the Attorney General's Office made tests using the pertinent chemical reagents, the drugs seized from the Colombian traffickers were described as testing positively and of a high degree of purity. At the same time, the Federal Public Ministry agent, Ramon Calzada Vejar, announced that all this is "just one step" and that they would provide further information on Monday.

The investigation is being intensified and police forces from Mexico, the United States and Colombia are working jointly to break up this international ring in its entirety, one in which prominent persons from Laredo, Texas, as well as Nuevo Laredo, are implicated, along with customs officials.

This sensational case, which began in Monterrey with the arrest of the Colombians Orlando Granados Barrera and Hugo Luis Hoyos Fernandez, the Laredo residents Jacqueline Jacaman Canavati and her uncle, Alfredo Jacaman Botarsi, as well as the Spaniard Maritza Perez Huerta, culminated in Nuevo Laredo with the capture of other Colombians, Hernando Echeverri Molina, Diego Alfredo Diaz Vinasco and Carlos Rivero Betancourt, the Laredo resident Carlos Emilio Jacaman Saenz, alias "El Cocoy," and the Nuevo Laredo residents Alma Gloria Roldan Robles and customs guard Corporal Reynaldo Hernandez Pedraza. It is known that more individuals have been arrested, regarded as ringleaders of the international drug traffic, who are very well known here and elsewhere, but whose names have not been given "so as not to interfere with the investigation."

It was learned that PJF agents are conducting their interrogations of those under arrest in hotel rooms which they rented officially, so that the lawyers would not attempt to file appeals for protection in their behalf, hence leaving them to work in peace until the case has been totally clarified.

It was also reported that Marcos Salazar, known as the "Caterpillar," is not being held.

The detection of two rival rings of Colombian drug traffickers, one with headquarters in San Antonio, Texas, and the other in Miami, Florida, which were vying for the supremacy of the drug market in various states of the American

Union, has given reason to assume that the decomposed corpse found here on the grounds of the El Progreso communal farm on 26 January belongs to one of their members.

It was never identified after the rejection of the possibility that the corpse was that of the priest, Simon Thomas Flores, who disappeared in Laredo, Texas, on 4 January, and who was found 36 days later in Atlanta, Georgia, where he contacted Father Patricio in Corpus Christi by telephone, telling him that he would later "given him further explanation of his absence."

In the investigations conducted by the local police jointly with those of the neighboring town, it was established that the decomposed body found here was that of a South American, because the shoes and clothes were made in a South American country.

Now with the discovery of two rival Colombian trafficking rings that were using the port of Nuevo Laredo to made transactions and take all kinds of drugs into the United States illegally, it has been established that the decomposed corpse could be that of one of the victims of that battle, and the claim is being made that they were using Room 214 of the El Rio Motel, because of the keys to that room found on the deceased.

Apart from the investigation being continued by the Federal Judicial Police concerning the drug traffic, it was announced that the questioning of the Colombians would be extended in order to ascertain the identity of the dead man.

Charges Denied

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 21 Apr 82 Sec B p 6

[Text] Confrontations and other procedures are being carried out in the third district court in connection with the ring of Colombian drug traffickers who were captured in Monterrey and Nuevo Laredo with a moderate amount of cocaine, several of whom received their release under the reservations of the law.

It was reported in that judicial department that the accused persisted in denying their initial statements, which they claimed had been forced from them with the use of pressure and torture, and even went so far as to deny that the drugs seized by the Federal Police belonged to them.

In the confrontation held between the Colombian Hernando Echeverri Molina and Reynaldo Hernandez Pedraza, both agreed that they had never had any dealings, and had never seen each other until that time. Hernandez Pedraza is one of those who obtained his release under legal reservations, claiming from the outset that he is totally dissociated from these activities.

In custody are the Laredo resident Carlos Emilio Jacaman Saenz, alias "El Cocoy," his girlfriend Alma Gloria Roldan Robles, Armando Gerardo Santos Garcia and the Colombians Orlando Granada Barrera, Hugo Luis Hoyos Fernandez, Diego Alonso Diaz Vinazco and Carlos Alberto Rivera Betancourt, including Echeverri Molina. The clearing up of the pertinent proceedings is taking place so that the judge hearing this case may hand down a verdict at the proper time.

2909
CSO: 6330/81

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA PLANTATION--Two gardeners--one from Libertville, Mayaro, and the other from Charuma Village, Ciche--were arrested by Police who have issued a warrant for the arrest of a third man after destroying 100,000 fully-grown marijuana trees, seedlings and eight camps in the Charuma Forest, Biche, on Wednesday. The party, headed by Detective Insp. Rudolph Steele, moved into the forested area with a party of Eastern Division Police and came upon the huge plantation. The raiding party was briefed by Acting Supt. Aldwyn Aguilera who deployed policemen from Sangre Grande, Biche, Rio Claro and Mayaro Stations for the exercise which started from early morning until late evening. The seedlings and trees, when processed, could easily fetch over a million dollars on the local market, a senior police officer said yesterday. Also found in one of the camps were eight rounds of shotgun cartridges. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 8 May 82 p 3]

CSO: 5300/7555

MALI

CUSTOMS OFFICERS SEIZE 250KGS OF AMPHETAMINES

Bamako L'ESSOR in French 27-28 Mar 82 p 5

[Article by M. Kouyate: "A Catch Worth 50 Million Malian Francs in Customs Nets"]

[Text] In the fight against drugs, started some time ago in our country, there is a succession of confiscations, though they are nothing alike, either in volume or in the way they are made. The latest seizure performed by the Bamako-Senou Airport Customs Brigade must surely beat all records: five big suitcases stuffed full of amphetamines (about 10,000 20-tablet tubes), weighing 230 kilograms net and worth 50 million Malian francs. This is a new height in drug smuggling, and in the present case, it was certainly a daring effort, with the "dream merchants" just bringing their goods in on an international flight (RK 48 on Monday 22 March) from Abidjan.

At any rate, such a poker play raises two questions: were the smugglers in league with airport employees? Or did they just decide, more simply, to use the usual bribery channels? The fact remains that upon arrival of Monday's Air-Africa flight, five perfectly ordinary-looking suitcases attracted the attention of the customs officers, who, after the usual discreet waiting period in such situations, opened them, and found their suspicions confirmed.

And there was nothing left to do except find the owners. Then it was that Lt Mody Sy, chief of the airport Customs Brigade, had an idea of praiseworthy astuteness: on the basis of the widely held opinion that all customs officers are corrupt or corruptible, he craftily put out the word that he would be inclined to "negotiate" with the smugglers.

The trap worked like a charm, and during their meeting, the smugglers offered the customs officer 2 million in exchange for his collaboration. Thereupon, there was nothing more to it, even though, with belated distrust on the part of the smugglers, who were therefore hesitant about going to the airport, Lt Mody Sy had to raise the stakes a little to finally persuade them.

But those are only minor aspects of a matter which may still hold some big surprises in store, particularly the existence of complicity "in high places," which the results of the inquiries now being made will probably reveal.

In the meantime, a big hats-off salute is due the airport Customs, which has just proven that the corps is not all "rotten," and that the fight against drugs is a highly moral undertaking that cannot admit of selfish private interests.

12149
CSO: 5300/5734

SEYCHELLES

BRIEFS

DAGGA SMUGGLER--VICTORIA--A 19-year-old Tanzanian dress designer, Anthony Namata, has been sentenced to three years in prison for smuggling dagga into the Seychelles. He was also fined 5 000 rupees (R850) in what it called "one of the worst drug smuggling cases the country has ever known." He was found at the airport with 620 grams of dagga concealed in his hand-luggage. Namata's lawyer said he had been asked to carry the sealed packets by a Dar es Salaam curio dealer. [Text] Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 May 82 p 4]

COCAINE DEALERS--Two Blacks appeared in a Johannesburg District Court yesterday on charges of dealing in cocaine. Firmino Moises Zandmela (41), of Meadowlands, and Sam Ramaota (62) of Soweto, were not asked to plead, and have been remanded to July 30. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 22 May 82 p 9]

DAGGA CHARGES WITHDRAWN--Charges were yesterday withdrawn against three men who were to have stood trial in the Regional Court on charges of smuggling dagga out of South Africa in surf boards. When the case against Mr Henry Clarke (30) of Johannesburg, Mr Gert Muller (35), of Ferndale, and Mr Trevor Lambrechts (36), of Glenwood, Durban, was called, the Prosecutor, Mr A McMahon informed the Magistrate, Mr W Aucamp, that the Senior State Prosecutor was provisionally withdrawing charges. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 27 May 82 p 3]

DAGGA DEALER--A 24-year-old Johannesburg woman was yesterday jailed for an effective nine months after she admitted dealing in 50 little bags containing 950 grams of dagga. Miss Jylian Hanna Wulfsohn was granted bail of R1 000 pending appeal against sentence. After she pleaded guilty a statement was handed in setting out the background to the crime. It said she was arrested minutes after a deal to sell the dagga was concluded at a block of flats in Norwood. A psychiatrist's report said she suffered from a feeling of isolation and insecurity. Sentencing her to 16 months' imprisonment, nine conditionally suspended, the magistrate, Mr M Coetzee, said the psychiatric report was without substance. People should remember it was not the right of every first offender to receive a suspended sentence, he said. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 27 May 82 p 11]

CSO: 5300/5763

SOUTH AFRICA

CONTROVERSIAL DRUGS FILM BANNED IN SOUTH AFRICA

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 May 82 p 10

[Article by Keith Abendroth]

[Text] **THE Publications Board yesterday summarily banned a controversial West German film on teenage drug addiction — a film which has caused a major storm in Europe.**

The board upheld a decision by a Publications Committee declaring the film "Christiane F" — completely undesirable.

The film tells the story in stark and dramatic terms of the addiction to heroin of a teenaged Berlin couple and of drug addiction on Berlin streets.

In several European countries it has caused a major storm, and in France, particularly, there was a big controversy after it had been restricted for more mature audiences, and was then partly derestricted to enable teenage audiences to see it.

This resulted, according to reports, in the inability of many teenagers who saw it to be able to "take" it, reacting with scenes of nausea.

Messrs Ster-Kinekor, appealing against the ban, submitted to the Appeal Board yesterday that the film contained a powerful message for the youth in particular, although it contained explicit scenes of drug abuse, male and female prostitution, and homosexuality.

It was submitted that the film fulfilled an educational function by warning parents against neglecting their children, and by acting as a deterrent to young people themselves.

The Publications Committee said that if all the cuts were made to the film that were necessary to enable its possible release, very little would remain — and that would not be understandable.

The committee objected specifically to the language used in the film; the open and graphically illustrated use of drugs; homosexuality and child prostitution; and the portrayal of unnatural sex acts.

CSO: 5300/5750

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

MANDRAX POSSESSION ARRESTS--Cape Town.--Drug Squad detectives have arrested three men in Grassy Park and seized Mandrax tablets worth about R1-million on the black market. The arrests were in a dry cleaning shop at 6 am on Friday. Police withheld confirmation until yesterday because of continuing investigations. More than 100 000 tablets were seized. The value varies on the black market according to demand, but R10 a tablet is an average price. At times it reaches R17. Mandrax is usually smuggled into the country from India, where it is readily available at about one cent a tablet. The arrested men are aged 41, 36 and 36.--Sapa. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 May 82 p 15]

CSO: 5300/5750

DENMARK

REPORT SUGGESTS CONTINUED HARD DRUGS PROBLEM IN PRISONS

Copenhagen AKTUELT in Danish 30 Apr 82 p 3

[Article by Vagn Petersen]

[Text] Narcotics abuse in Danish prisons is spreading. Some 60 percent of all prisoners in the state prisons in Vridsloselille and Nyborg are or have been addicted to hard narcotics--heroin and the like.

This was documented by sociologist Ole Ejnar Andersen in a report on narcotics in prisons which he prepared for the criminal policy research group of the Justice Ministry.

Ole Ejnar Andersen's report is based on studies among the 300 inmates of the state prisons in Vridsloselille and Nyborg. And the main purpose of his investigation was to look into the extent to which inmates made their narcotics debut--got their first "fix"--inside prison.

Ole Ejnar Andersen's study is based on talks with a quarter of the inmates in the two maximum-security prisons. The talks showed that the greater part--six out of 10 inmates--had been drug addicts before they served their first prison terms--and hard drug addicts at that.

The study also documents that there is a connection between the first prison term and the first "fix."

From 6 to 7 percent of the Danish inmates at Vridsloselille or Nyborg were swept into the hell of narcotics for the first time during a stay in a prison or detention center.

And as many as 10 percent of the drug addicts in the two state prisons became addicted to hard drugs during a prison term.

An earlier study from Copenhagen prisons showed that around 2 percent of all drug addicts had started their addiction while serving a jail sentence.

Although the Directorate for Criminal Custody says there is "good correlation" between the Copenhagen study and Ole Ejnar Andersen's study, it is a fact

that the number of first-time drug users in the prison system is rising to a disturbing extent.

Thus it is not without reason that Criminal Custody is following developments in drug addiction very closely. The problem has a "very high priority" and they have already introduced a number of restrictions to limit the smuggling of hard drugs into maximum-security prisons.

In addition funds have been set aside to hire special treatment personnel who can help the imprisoned drug addicts.

Even though Ole Ejnar Andersen's study does not suggest there is any real group pressure from other jailed drug addicts that leads to spreading the "narcotics contagion," Criminal Custody is trying to divide prisons up into smaller units so narcotics gangsters can be isolated in the prisons and so their scope can be restricted.

6578

CSO: 5300/2290

DENMARK

POLICE DISCOVER GANG BEHIND CHRISTIANIA TRAFFICKING

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 6 May 82 p 5

[Article by Anders Wiig]

[Text] Narcotics police and the riot patrol have uncovered a gang that was one of Christiania's main hashish suppliers. They confiscated 30 kg of the substance, but gang members have confessed to several hashish smuggling incidents when batches of 20-30 kg were brought in from Holland.

Riot patrol raids in the free city showed long ago that there was extensive trafficking in hashish. But they seldom managed to seize more than a few hundred grams in the area--divided up among a number of pushers or buyers.

A month ago the riot patrol and the narcotics division formed a joint investigation group for the purpose of checking the big flow of supplies reaching Christiania's always well-supplied hashish market via unknown channels.

Criminal police superintendent Bent Hansen: "Gradually the investigation concentrated on certain people living outside Christiania who could be suspected of delivering the drugs. On Tuesday we moved in when a Dutch car came to a street in Norrebro. We had followed the car from Rodbyhavn and moved in when the driver, a young Dutchman from Amsterdam, made contact with the Danish buyers. At the same time we made arrests at apartments in several parts of the city, so seven people were arrested in all. Three have been released while four ranging in age from 24 to 26 have been jailed for 4 weeks. The case shows that hashish is brought into Christiania in small batches from satellite stockpiles around the city, as we had suspected."

In metal boxes bolted to the bottom of the car and sprayed with paint, the police found 30 kilograms of hashish. It is known that the smuggler was to get 23,000 kroner per kg and that the "wholesalers" in Christiania were to pay 26,000 kroner per kg to the middlemen outside while the drug is sold to addicts for 40-50 kroner per gram.

6578
CSO: 5300/2290

GREECE

BRIEFS

ZAIRIAN STUDENTS SENTENCED--Two university students (one the son of the Zairian minister of agriculture and the other the son of a diplomat) were sentenced yesterday in Athens to a total of 30 years imprisonment and a fine of 3 million drachmas each. On 12 October 1981 they had attempted to smuggle into the country 77 1/2 kilos of hashish hidden in 4 pieces of luggage. They are Bunda Kamitatu, 24, the son of the Zairian minister of agriculture--as was stated in court--and Niseke Lifetu, a student, the son of a diplomat. Another Zairian student, Malubdala Zapa, 22, who was also being tried, was found not guilty. The accused had argued that the 4 pieces of luggage belonged to a certain Greek and they were only doing him a favor by carrying the bags. They were supposed to deliver them to a woman at the exit of the airport and did not know that they were carrying hashish. The court did not believe them, of course, and sentenced each to 15 years in jail. It also ordered that they be expelled from Greece upon completion of their sentence. [Excerpts] [Athens AKROPOLIS in Greek 11 May 82 p 3]

CSO: 5300/5406

TURKEY

'HURRIYET' ON NARCOTICS SMUGGLING

NC281101 Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 24 May 82 pp 1, 11

[Excerpts] Ankara, (HURRIYET)--In the last 5 months 540 narcotics smugglers have fallen into the trap of the police. Three hundred twenty-eight kilos of hashish, 32 kilos of heroin, 63 kilos of opium and 12 kilos of base morphine have been seized.

It has been established that base morphine and opium arrives in Turkey from the "golden triangle," that is from Laos, Burma and Thailand, and from the "golden crescent," that is from Pakistan, Afghanistan and India. Acid hydrate which is used to convert base morphine into heroin is smuggled into Turkey from the Middle East. Generally, these substances are forwarded to Europe from our country which is used as transit.

As hashish processed in Turkey is not much favored, the smugglers prefer to smuggle into Turkey through Iskenderun the kind of hashish known as "the yellow girl of Beirut" from Lebanon and then smuggle it out to Europe.

Meanwhile, according to reports, the smugglers prefer to use women for smuggling purposes as they are less frequently searched than men. Women place the hashish round their bellies, pretending they are pregnant. Again, according to recently prepared reports, in recent years, 284 smugglers of foreign origin have been caught possessing 884 kilos of heroin.

The security forces which have launched a campaign against the mafia of white poison, have established that the smugglers use these provinces as their centers: Gaziantep, Adana, Konya, Edirne, Istanbul, Ankara, Kayseri, Icel, Diyarbakir, Mardin and Hatay. An extensive campaign is being conducted in these provinces against narcotic smugglers.

The price of narcotics in Europe is prohibitive. These substances are very cheaply obtained in the golden triangle and the golden crescent countries. Heroin costs 62 million liras per kilo and hashish 3 million liras. In Turkey heroin costs only one million liras per kilo while hashish costs only 120,000 liras.

CSO: 5300/5405

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

POLICE WIN CANNABIS APPEAL--A defendant could be convicted of unlawful possession of cannabis even though the quantity found in his possession was so small as not to be usable, the House of Lords ruled yesterday. Five Law Lords unanimously upheld a police appeal from a Court of Appeal ruling quashing the conviction of an 18-year-old youth found with five milligrams of cannabis resin. Peregrine Boyeson, leather cutter, of Wothorpe, Stamford, Lincs, was fined 25 pounds and ordered to pay 150 pounds' costs at Cambridge Crown Court in January, 1979. The Law Lords, rejecting the Court of Appeal ruling that there was no offence unless the drug was present in a quantity that it could be used in some manner which the Misuse of Drugs Act was intended to prohibit, said they preferred the reasoning in a 1980 Scottish High Court case. Then the judges said it was the mere possession of a controlled drug that Parliament had made punishable. The Law Lords also rejected the Court of Appeal's criticism of the police in bringing the prosecution. When they allowed Boyeson's appeal in July, 1980, the Court of Appeal described the prosecution over such a small quantity as "offensive." During the case the five milligrams of cannabis involved were said to be the equivalent of five grains of salt. The judges were told that the normal amount of a reefer cigarette was between 50 and 100 milligrams. [By Terence Shaw] [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 23 Apr 82 p 2]

CRICKET BATS HID HEROIN--Four kilos of heroin hidden inside a consignment of cricket bats from Pakistan were seized by Customs and Excise officers at a warehouse in Canning Town. Seven people were last night helping police with inquiries. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 5 May 82 p 17]

CUSTOMS SEIZE HEROIN--Customs officers have seized heroin valued at a street price of 1 million pounds from business premises in Birmingham. A senior representative of the company involved was helping with inquiries yesterday. Earlier, Mr Adam Tariq, of Wedly Road, Solihull, was charged and will appear before Solihull magistrates today. Customs officers declined to reveal further details. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 10 May 82 p 2]

CSO: 5320/28

END