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**JPRS L/10661**

**15 July 1982**

# **Worldwide Report**

**NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS**

**(FOUO 31/82)**



**FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE**

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WORLDWIDE REPORT  
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS  
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CONTENTS

ASIA

AUSTRALIA

Contending Factors in National, Royal Crime Commissions Noted (THE AUSTRALIAN, 18 May 82, THE WEST AUSTRALIAN, 19 May 82) .....	1
Minister for National Commission, by Peter Terry Doubts on Effectiveness	
Three Given Jail Terms in Heroin Importing Case (THE WEST AUSTRALIAN, 19 May 82).....	3
Police Crackdown on Truckers Results in Large Drug Haul (Max Jessop; THE AUSTRALIAN, 24 May 82) .....	5
Commission Hears of Nugan Drug Links to Top Politicians (Lindsay Murdoch; THE AGE, 27 May 82) .....	6
Briefs	
Freed Drug Offender	9
Jail for Physician	9
Heroin, Opium in Condoms	9
Dealer Escapes Jail Term	10
Heroin Charges	10
Marihuana Growers	10

HONG KONG

Briefs	
Shipboard Opium Haul	12
'Golden Crescent' Heroin	12
Drug Distribution Center	12

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**THAILAND**

ONCB Chief: Drug Use Rising, Cites Foreigners Held (SIAM RAT, 20 May 82).....	13
Vice-Consul Trafficking Case Examined (Various sources, various dates).....	15
Pouching Procedures Reviewed Foreign Ministry Spokesman Comments, Suwanit Khongsiri Interview ONCB Chief Comments	
Malaysia Pledges Cooperation in Drug Suppression (BANGKOK POST, 20 Jun 82) .....	21
ONCB: Legal Drugs Abused, Prevention Funds Lacking (DAO SIAM, 9 Apr 82) .....	22
Use of Amphetamines Encouraged by Advertising in Rural Areas (DAO SIAM, 9 Apr 82).....	23
Phuket Opium Suspects Bailed Out, Police Cover Up (MATICHON, 26 May 82) .....	24
Briefs	
Heroin Found in Wreckage	26
Bangkok Interpol Meeting	26
FRG Drug Assistance	27
Opium Smuggled From Laos	27
Woman Drug Trafficker Arrested	27
Heroin Seized in Bangkok, Chiang Mai	27
Chiang Mai Heroin	28
Police Officer Arrested	28
Chiang Mai Raids	28
Bangkok Drug Program	29
Raw Opium Found	29
Malay-Thai Drug Control	29
Crop Replacement Program	29

**LATIN AMERICA**

**PANAMA**

Briefs	
Marihuana Plantation Discovered	30

**PERU**

Briefs	
Large Cocaine Seizure	31

- b -

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NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

IRAN

Briefs	
Heroin Discovered in Karaj	32
Heroin Discovered in Mashhad	32
Lorestan Contraband Confiscated	32
Mashhad Drug Swoop	32
Narcotics Discoveries	32
Narcotics Penalties Statistics	33

WEST EUROPE

BELGIUM

Briefs	
Heroin Seizure	34

NETHERLANDS

Briefs	
Police Smash Heroin Route	35

TURKEY

Shift in Narcotics Route Reported (HURRIYET, 24 May 82).....	36
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- c -

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AUSTRALIA

CONTENDING FACTORS IN NATIONAL, ROYAL CRIME COMMISSIONS NOTED

Minister for National Commission

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 18 May 82 p 3

[Article by Peter Terry]

[Text] FEDERAL Government plans to create a national commission to fight organised crime will most certainly require the States to shelve powers that could be used to set up rival royal commissions.

If the States accept, it would mean they could no longer react to political or public pressure by ordering special investigations into such matters as illegal gambling and vice rackets.

Instead, such inquiries would be the sole prerogative of the national crime commission.

This is not yet official federal policy.

But yesterday, the Federal Minister for Administrative Services, Mr Newman, told a Perth press conference he favored scrapping royal commissions if a national crime commission were established.

"That is, though, a personal view and much will depend on what is finally recommended by the Attorney-General (Senator Durack)," he said.

Mr Newman will give State ministers for police details on Friday of the national proposal.

Although the commission plan is not on the Queensland meeting's agenda, a number of State ministers have indicated they want an urgent briefing.

Mr Newman was not prepared to say how the Federal Government would react if it did not get the full backing of the States.

But he indicated Canberra believed organised crime was getting out of hand.

"The situation is now so grave that if we do not do something I do not know how we will ever win the war," Mr Newman said.

"And at the moment we are certainly losing it."

Mr Newman said that on one estimate the Australian heroin trade was worth up to \$1800 million a year to organised crime.

And that was just illegal heroin deals. It took no account of the huge amount of money being made in international gun running, other illicit drug deals, money laundering, illegal gambling, and SP book-making.

On top of that, there was evidence of corruption among public officials.

"We've got to the stage where we have to take a longer view and co-ordinate our investigation into these areas," Mr Newman said.

"But in establishing a crimes commission we are very conscious that it must be done in co-operation with the States.

"It is not on the agenda but that is why we will be discussing it in Queensland later this week."

Mr Newman said the national commission he had in mind would have powers not available to police.

It would have the power to examine bank accounts, and to call people to give evidence either in public or in camera.

**Doubts on Effectiveness**

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 19 May 82 p 31

[Text] There was some doubt about whether a national crimes commission would be effective in combating organised crime in Australia, the Minister for Police, Mr Hassell, said yesterday.

Mr Hassell said that he had not dismissed the idea but there were a lot of questions that had to be answered.

A crimes commission would have to be supported by an investigatory team.

If the team came from the Federal Police, it would lead to increasing their involvement in general law enforcement, which was unacceptable to WA.

If the commission set up its own task force, this could add to the problem of duplication of police work.

A third possibility of seconding men from different forces could have an impact on existing numbers and lead to a lack of continuity.

Mr Hassell said that he had discussed the proposal with the Federal Minister for Administrative Services, Mr Newman, who was in Perth on Monday.

He would raise the issue again at the police ministers' conference in Queensland on Friday.

He was also hoping to get agreement from the conference on sitting the new police college at the WA Institute of Technology.

WA was the only State that had made a realistic offer for relocating the college from its present site in Sydney.

Some ministers had indicated that they did not want the college to be integrated with an educational facility but the WA Government would arrange for other land if it were necessary.

Mr Hassell said that other issues to be discussed at the conference included a national road safety campaign and firearms management.

CSO: 5300/7562

AUSTRALIA

THREE GIVEN JAIL TERMS IN HEROIN IMPORTING CASE

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 19 May 82 p 24

[Text] Sydney: Three people were sentenced in the District Criminal Court yesterday to a total of 36 years for conspiring to import heroin with an estimated street value of \$1.1 million.

Peter Fulcher (42), labourer, of Cronulla, June Florence Knox (40), unemployed, of Parramatta, and Glen Richards (26), carpenter, of Auckland, New Zealand, were convicted of conspiring to import heroin into Australia between September 1 and December 12, 1980.

A fourth man, Eric Ronald O'Connor (37), assistant manager, of Caringbah, was earlier found not guilty of the same charge.

Evidence was given during the trial that Knox, acting as a courier, had imported 790g of heroin with a 95 per cent purity.

Tour

Knox had travelled to Bangkok on a group tour and had returned to Australia with the heroin concealed in a pantie girdle and bra.

At Sydney Airport she was followed by members of the former crime intelligence unit to her home at Parramatta.

On the evening of December 12 she was followed to the Ermington Hotel, Parramatta, where she met Fulcher and gave him the heroin.

Shortly afterwards Fulcher and Richards were arrested outside the hotel after a short car chase and found to be in possession of the heroin.

Surveillance

Knox and O'Connor were both arrested later that night.

The court was told the arrests were the culmination of nearly three months' surveillance of the conspirators by the former unit.



Passing sentence, Judge Torrington said that the arrest had brought to an end a major enterprise in heroin trafficking in NSW.

Fulcher was the principal in the operation and Richards was his assistant, he said.

Fulcher was sentenced to 18 years' hard labour and with a non-parole period of nine years. Knox was sentenced to eight years' gaol with a non-parole period of three years. Both sentences date from December 12, 1980.

Richards was sentenced to 10 years' hard labour with a non-parole period to expire on March 3, 1986.

CSO: 5300/7562

AUSTRALIA

POLICE CRACKDOWN ON TRUCKERS RESULTS IN LARGE DRUG HAUL

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 24 May 82 p 2

[Article by Max Jessop]

[Text]

A POLICE crackdown on truck and heavy trailer drivers in Queensland has revealed a third of them to be in possession of amphetamines.

Queensland's assistant police commissioner, Mr Atkinson, and the chief of the drug squad, Inspector Deveney, yesterday confirmed the raids, and said they were "horrified" at the result.

A team of 14 detectives stopped 87 vehicles in a check at a weighbridge on the southern outskirts of Brisbane. Twenty-nine drivers were found to have the drugs in their cabins.

More than 1000 samples of four different kinds of drugs were seized. Drivers said most had been bought in Sydney and Melbourne.

The drugs are being examined by forensic experts at the State's health laboratory, and charges may be laid.

Those caught in the raid later warned their colleagues on the road, via citizen band radios, to get rid of their pills — known in the transport industry as "yippee beans."

Some drivers use the pills to stay awake for up to 24 hours to meet contract deadlines.

The police crackdown followed a spate of recent fatal accidents involving semi-trailers.

The Government has already announced measures to reduce the speed limit for heavy vehicles in an attempt to cut the road toll.

The Minister for Transport, Mr Lane, said yesterday there would also be random checks for defects, particularly in braking systems.

The Queensland secretary of the Transport Workers Union, Mr Hugh Williams, said last week that transport drivers were forced to drive long hours to honor contracts because of fierce competition in the private contracting industry.

CSO: 5300/7562

AUSTRALIA

COMMISSION HEARS OF NUGAN DRUG LINKS TO TOP POLITICIANS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 27 May 82 p 3

[Article by Lindsay Murdoch]

[Text] Sydney.--Mr Frank Nugan, the co-founder of the failed Nugan Hand bank, had acted for numerous politicians, a solicitor told a Royal Commission yesterday.

Mr John Lawrence Aston, who was paid a retainer by the bank until it collapsed in 1979, said that he once saw people he recognised as politicians at a party at the Sydney home of Mr Nugan.

Mr Aston told Mr Justice Stewart at the Royal Commission into drug trafficking that Mr Nugan told him that he acted for some members of Sydney's inner-city ALP branches and many senior politicians.

Mr Aston said that Mr Nugan, who committed suicide in early 1980, had a fetish for anonymity and privacy because clients often did not want to be seen near the bank's offices.

Mr Aston said that Mr Nugan told him that his clients included heads of State in Singapore, the Philippines and Malaysia, senior commercial interests in Hong Kong, Pan Am and Kennecott Copper.

Mr Cedric Hampson QC, counsel assisting the commission, asked Mr Ashton during yesterday's hearing why a briefcase for Nugan Hand would be left at Mr Aston's office.

Mr Hampton told the commission on Tuesday that a former director of the bank, Mr George Shaw, had told investigators that he collected \$260,000 in two bags from the office on 26 March 1979.

Mr Aston said in evidence that only one bag was collected and he did not know what it contained.

Mr Aston said yesterday that he did not find it surprising, considering the people Mr Nugan acted for, that Mr Nugan would use his office as a conduit pipe to his own.

Asked by Mr Justice Stewart why Mr Nugan would have disclosed information about clients to him, Mr Aston replied: "I was ostensibly under retainer to the bank and I believe that this is the sort of base information he thought I should be aware of".

Mr Aston was not asked yesterday to name any politicians. He will be called later this year to give further evidence.

Mr Hampson yesterday produced a letter which he said Mr Shaw wrote to the other founder of the Nugan Hand bank, Mr Michael Hand, in 1979.

The letter started: "Dear Mike, We have received on behalf of our friendly solicitor John A., \$260,000, plus a relocation fee." It said half of the amount was to be collected by a woman in Singapore and the other half by a man in Germany.

Earlier, Mr Hampson had told the commission that a Mr Chui, who supplied Australian drug couriers with heroin, eventually collected the equivalent of \$260,000.

Mr Aston told Mr Hampson that he did not know any solicitor in Sydney with the Christian name John and surname starting with A.

Mr Hampson told yesterday's commission that the telephone numbers of Mr Aston and his former managing law clerk, Mr Brian William Alexander, were found in the diaries of three people connected with Terrance John Clarke, who is serving a life sentence in an English jail for his part in the murder of his former drugs syndicate partner, Christopher Martin Johnstone.

Mr Aston said he did not know why the numbers were in the diaries of Douglas Wilson, a drug courier who was shot dead and buried with his wife at Rye, Miss Alison Dine, one of Clarke's former girl friends and Miss Karen Soich, a solicitor and Clarke's de facto wife.

Mr Aston said it was quite common for clients to give telephone number of solicitors to other people.

Mr Stewart: "The upshot of it is that a lot of people connected with Clarke had your telephone numbers?"

Mr Aston: "Yes."

Mr Aston said Mr Alexander, who disappeared in December last year, flew to England in December 1979 after Clarke was arrested in London.

Mr Aston said that Mr Ian Strathdee, a Sydney barrister, who went Mr Alexander, later told him that Mr Alexander decided not to see Clarke in jail because the interview would be videotaped and a prison officer would be present.

Mr Aston said that two former Narcotics Agents, Richard Spencer and Wayne Brindle, who were charged with Alexander with conspiracy, paid for the trip overseas.

He said he had received complaints from barristers, who had been engaged by Mr Alexander to appear for clients, that they had not been paid.

Mr Aston said the fees for two unpaid counsel totalled about \$54,000.

He said Mr Alexander told him that a client who was appearing before the Woodward Royal Commission into drug trafficking, was bringing to the court each day \$600 to pay the counsel. But he said he later discovered that the payment had not been made.

The brother of "Mr Asia", Christopher Martin Johnstone told the hearing that he played squash with and met Clarke several times in Sydney.

Stephen Brian Johnstone, 29 said that he did not know his brother, whose handless corpse was found in a water-filled quarry in Lancashire, England, in October 1979, had been involved in an international drug syndicate.

Mr Johnstone said that his brother, whom he called Martin, often said when he asked how he made his money: "Look, just don't ask."

Mr Johnstone said that in October 1977, a man he now knows as Clarke gave him \$10,000 in a brown paper bag for the sale of a lounge suite which Martin had arranged to import from Singapore.

Mr Johnstone said that he had managed a company which imported from South-East Asia to Australia goods such as pottery and fish food.

The company, Sabap, was put in the hands of receivers and managers in 1980. It had been set up in 1977 at the instigation of Christopher Martin Johnstone.

Earlier yesterday, Mr Aston said that Detective Sergeant Jack Lucas, a New South Wales policeman with whom he had been friends for 15 years, was a member of the Hall task force which investigated an alleged leak from the office of the now disbanded Narcotics Bureau.

The task force, headed by the deputy commissioner of the Victoria Police, Mr Rod Hall, charged Alexander, Brindle and Spencer, who were later acquitted after a committal hearing.

Mr Aston said that two other officers of the task force interviewed him.

The commission continues today.

CSO: 5300/7562

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

FREED DRUG OFFENDER--Sydney.--An accomplice in Australia's biggest drug smuggling attempt was released from a New South Wales prison in April after a request from the Federal Government. The Attorney-General, Senator Durack, asked for the release from Berrima jail of Kenneth Derley, 31, who had been arrested with Murray Stewart Riley, who had organised an unsuccessful operation to smuggle an estimated \$46 million worth of cannabis into Australia aboard the yacht Anoa in 1978. Mr Derley, formerly a car salesman, was sentenced to eight years and six months in prison in February 1979 for his part in the attempt. He was released on 15 April, having served three years of his sentence. The NSW Department of Corrective Services has confirmed that it released Mr Derley after a request from the Federal Government. Mr Derley's non-parole period of two years and 10 months ended late last year. A spokesman for Senator Durack refused to say why Mr Derley's release had been ordered. He said the reasons for Mr Derley's release on parole were a matter of privacy. [Text] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 17 May 82 p 3]

JAIL FOR PHYSICIAN--Sydney.--A judge sentenced a doctor to 13 years' jail yesterday for conspiring to supply addictive drugs and said he was like a "spider in the web". In Sydney District Criminal Court, Judge Ward said the surgery of Dr John Alexander Miller Coles became a "druggist's kitchen". Judge Ward sentenced Coles to 13 years' jail, with a non-parole period of six years, for having conspired to supply drugs of addiction. Coles, 41, was also sentenced to three years' jail--to be served concurrently--for having supplied methadone on 9 September 1980. He was acquitted of a third charge of having supplied methadone in Sydney in 1981. A jury on Tuesday night convicted Coles on the first two charges after a 38-day trial. The jury had been told that he supplied prescriptions for drug addicts to use themselves or to sell. They were worth up to \$160 a prescription, the jury heard. Coles, of Castle Hill, practised at the Yagoona Medica Centre on the Hume Highway at Yagoona, a south-western suburb. The judge told Coles that he was instrumental in making possible the activities of narcotics users and pushers. "I am satisfied you were also instrumental in drawing into that southern area of Sydney young people from all over Sydney for the purpose of purchasing these drugs at high cost," Judge Ward told Coles. [Excerpts] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 20 May 82 p 5]

HEROIN, OPIUM IN CONDOMS--A 27-year-old woman regurgitated 16 condoms containing heroin and an additional one containing opium in hospital after being arrested while trying to enter the country, it was alleged in the St James Court of Petty Sessions yesterday. Before the court was Cheryl Ann Coleman, of Pacific Parade, Lennox Head,

NSW, who was charged under the Customs Act with possessing and importing a quantity of heroin. No pleas was taken. A Commonwealth Crown Solicitor, Mr David Staehli, told the court that Coleman arrived at Sydney Airport on a British Airways flight at 6.30 am on Thursday. She was detained and a search revealed 10 grams of heroin concealed in her body, Mr Staehli said. Coleman was taken to Sydney Hospital, where a further 170 grams of the drugs, worth more than \$50,000, were obtained from her yesterday morning, he said. Mr Kevin Jones, SM, remanded Coleman to appear in the St James Court on Monday and refused bail. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 22 May 82 p 4]

DEALER ESCAPES JAIL TERM--A Supreme Court judge said yesterday that he would not gaol a heroin dealer who had been caught on his way to a drug delivery. Mr Justice Wickham said he was satisfied that waiter Jack Ammoun (27), of Devon Road, Swanbourne, was a distributor in a very small way. "A \$2000 fine is sufficiently large to be lesson to you and to other small-time distributors," the judge told Ammoun. He warned that heroin dealers should not assume that they would get away with a fine in the future. Ammoun was stopped in his car in Manning last September by two drug-squad detectives acting on a tip-off. Three paper folds containing powdered heroin were found nearby in a matchbox he had thrown out of the window. Ammoun admitted that the papers contained three grams of heroin for which he had paid \$600. He had intended to use some himself, give some to his girl frisd, and to sell some to a contact to help defray his costs. A Supreme Court jury convicted him on May 14 of being in possession of heroin with intent to sell or supply it ot others. Yesterday, Mr Justice Wickham said he accepted that Ammoun had been dealing in a small way to keep up his own supplies. He said that Ammoun would almost certainly end up in prison if he did not dissociate himself from the drug scene. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 24 May 82 p 11]

HEROIN CHARGES--Melbourne: An out-of sessions court was held yesterday to remand a St Kilda man on heroin charges. Jeremy John Knights (23), of St Kilda, will appear today at the Prahran magistrates court on charges of possessing heroin, trafficking heroin, possessing a prohibited import and selling heroin. Bail was refused. A 20-year-old-woman was released on her own undertaking after being charged with preparing and manufacturing heroin. She is scheduled to appear at Prahran magistrates court on July 22. The arrests came after a raid on a boarding house in Grey Street, St Kilda, by uniform police on Saturday night. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 25 May 82 p 11]

MARIHUANA GROWERS--A North Coast farmer was yesterday sentenced to five years' jail for growing Indian hemp to a value of \$500,000 which a syndicate used to supply to Wollongong over a two-year period. Judge Gee, in the Wollongong District Court, imposed the sentence on Edward Robert Swan, 36, farmer, of Dalswinton via Denman, who pleaded guilty to cultivating cannabis and supplying Indian hemp between September 19, 1979 and April last year. The judge was told that marihuana grown on Swan's property was brought to Wollongong by horse float and distributed to a network of sellers. The judge said the growing area was always limited to the size of a household block of land. Judge Gee said that the key people involved in the organisation, those who were at the hub of the wheel of this enterprise, were not before him. Three other men were also given jail terms yesterday. They were: John Dula Jover, 21, of Wollongong. Judge Gee said Jover had been picturesquely termed

as the "syndicate's storeman and packer." Jover was sentenced to three years' jail on one charge of supplying the drug and 12 months on a similar second charge, the sentences to be concurrent. Tony Robert Schuback, 21, unemployed, of Wollongong, was sentenced to four years' jail for supplying Indian hemp during the period December, 1979 to April last year. Mark Ronald Pickford, 19, unemployed, of Barrack Heights, was jailed for three years for supplying the durg. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 26 May 82 p 22]

CSO: 5300/7563



HONG KONG

## BRIEFS

SHIPBOARD OPIUM HAUL--For the first time in many years, customs officers yesterday exercised their discretion to detain a container vessel at the Kwai Chung Container Terminal to search for drugs. The Elizabeth Maersk was prevented from leaving Hongkong for Japan at 4 am on a signed warrant permitting customs officers to detain the vessel for 12 hours under Section 52 of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance to conduct an intensive search. Earlier, customs officers had seized 38.5 kg of raw opium found concealed in the pilot's cabin of the container vessel, which arrived from Karachi via Bombay, Penang and Singapore on its way to Japan. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 4 Jun 82 p 13]

'GOLDEN CRESCENT' HEROIN--Customs officers yesterday arrested a 30-year-old businessman when drugs worth \$960,000 were found concealed in a false-bottom travelling bag he was carrying when arriving from Karachi yesterday morning. Yesterday's seizure consisted of one kg of No 4 heroin and one kg of heroin base, believed to be from the "Golden Crescent"--the borders of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran. The drugs there are usually smuggled to Europe and then to the United States. However, the heroin base seized was the second made in Hongkong since July 1980 when another Pakistani was arrested with half a kilogram. It is believed that the arrested man was bringing the drugs into Hongkong as "samples" as there is a "bumper crop" in the Golden Crescent this year and its prices are cheaper than those from the "Golden Triangle" in Asia by between 10 to 15 per cent. The arrested Pakistani was last night being detained for questioning and he is expected to appear in San Po Kong Court today on a charge of possessing dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking. [Text] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 8 Jun 82 p 1]

DRUG DISTRIBUTION CENTER--Police yesterday raided a suspected drug packaging and distribution centre in Wanchai and seized 1.6 kg of heroin worth more than \$240,000 on the retail market. Officers from Wanchai's Dangerous Drug Squad headed by Detective Inspector Andrew Palmer conducted the raid, following two weeks of investigations into the activities and surveillance of an alleged drug distribution syndicate. They first laid an ambush on the third floor corridor of the Kwong Sang Hong Building at 118 Wanchai Road and at 1.15 pm, arrested a 25-year-old man as he came out of a flat. Det Insp Palmer and his officers, obtaining the key to the flat from the man, searched it and found about 1.6 kg of No 3 heroin. A 29-year-old man and his 19-year-old girlfriend who were in the flat during the raid were arrested. According to police records, another flat in the same building was raided in December. The flat, also suspected to be a drug distribution centre, yielded a large quantity of No 3 heroin. The flat raided yesterday was believed to be one of the main distribution centres on the Island. [Excerpts] [Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 5 Jun 82 p 8]

CSO: 5320/9131

THAILAND

ONCB CHIEF: DRUG USE RISING, CITES FOREIGNERS HELD

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 20 May 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] Narcotic drugs are spreading more rapidly than ever even though heavily suppressed. The Secretary of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) points out that Thailand is near the points of production of narcotics. It is a complex business and the profits are huge.

Police Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, ONCB Secretary, has disclosed to Siam Rat that at this time addictive drugs are still spreading rapidly through Thailand. Although the government takes resolute measures to halt them it cannot abate the problem. "On the contrary, the trend is constantly higher."

"All this is because Thailand is in a region where narcotics are secretly produced and sold." The ONCB Secretary pointed out that narcotics yield huge returns to operators. "For this reason they have intricate methods, hard to suppress and defend against."

"Even the government has limited manpower and money-power. It cannot control narcotics or solve the narcotics problem once and for all, but only bit by bit."

Gen Phao said further that for the reasons mentioned above the ONCB has established a Narcotics Control Foundation to seek financial help from private sources. The foundation is not a government unit and therefore it can move more easily in every area.

Gen Phao disclosed to Siam Rat the results of narcotics arrests in 1981. The largest number of seizures involved marijuana, with 7,802 cases and 8,172 persons charged. Most of these cases occurred in the Central region, with seizures totalling 43,076,332.67 grams. Most of the accused were from that region and were charged with using narcotics. Some were charged with possession, sale, transportation and production of marijuana.

Next in order of frequency were heroin cases with 7,802 [sic] and 8,172 persons [sic] arrested. Government seizures came to 323,336.89 grams. Most of the accused were charged with possessing heroin, followed by cases of sale, transport and production. Charges of transport and/or manufacture of heroin were brought against 49 persons. Most of these cases too occurred in the Central region.

Next most frequent were opium arrests, 1,014 cases in all, with 1,242 persons charged and 414,457.64 grams seized. Possession was again the most common offense, followed by sale and transport. Most of these cases occurred up-country.

The ONCB Secretary added that there were still other narcotics cases involving mitragyna speciosa, amphetamines, morphine, etc, but fewer than the three kinds reported above.

The foreign nationals most often arrested in narcotics cases were Lao. Next came Americans, Malaysians, Frenchmen, Burmese, Italians, Britons, Hong Kongers and Japanese. Besides these there were still many others, but those most often arrested in heroin cases, the gravest of all, were Burmese, closely followed by Americans.

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CSO: 5300/5775

THAILAND

VICE-CONSUL TRAFFICKING CASE EXAMINED

Pouching Procedures Reviewed

Bangkok SIAM MAI in Thai 22 May 82 pp 19-20

The case of a Thai vice-consul arrested and charged with dealing in narcotics in America is currently being talked about everywhere--one may almost say, all over the world--but the talk can't keep up with the unfolding of the case. It appears that hidden hands have sent heroin in a diplomatic pouch to Mr Prok Amranant, the Thai ambassador to the United States. This is a riddle. It seems to be a matter of no little interest how large a link this gang may be in the international narcotics traffic.

It is not so shocking a story about Thai national character that someone has travelled across a border with narcotics, because narcotics arrests are in the news frequently. But the recent arrest of the Thai vice-consul in Chicago seems to be a serious matter indeed, because apart from the position and duties of the accused, which reflect poorly on the nation, the case also involves using diplomatic privilege as a device for making narcotics shipments.

Only a week or so after the 14 April installation by the Foreign Ministry, around the end of April, an urgent telex came from the narcotics control unit in America to its Thai counterpart, advising that preparations were being made to arrest Mr Sihadet Chindawongs, a civil servant of the fourth rank, who held the position of vice-consul at Chicago, on charges of selling heroin.

Only a few days after that, on 30 April, news of Mr Sihadet's arrest by U.S. narcotics officers spread around the world, detailing the seizure of 3 kg of heroin 74 percent pure and valued at \$20 million, or about 560 million baht, and confirming that this merchandise had been transported in the diplomatic pouch of the Foreign Ministry itself.

Later, during the search of an apartment in Chicago where Mr Sihadet had stayed, a cache was found containing 5 lbs of fourth-grade heroin worth 300 million baht, together with four pistols that were presumed to be contraband.

The report sent by U.S. narcotics officials to the Thai side indicates that Mr Sihadet was arrested after the arrest of another Thai with 1 lb of heroin, on 7 April in Baltimore. The suspect implicated Mr Sihadet, who was then placed

under surveillance. Police dogs were used to sniff the diplomatic pouch arriving at Chicago's O'Hare Airport on 24 April, and later it was found that Mr Sihadet had consigned heroin to a man in a restaurant, very near the consulate. Also, two more Thai were in the net and were eventually arrested.

After he had been questioned, Mr Sihadet's charges were increased by police in Chicago and Baltimore. These charges were: using his consular position to help bring narcotics into the U.S. and sell them during the period from March until 30 April, and possessing a large quantity of heroin with intent to sell it. The charges also specified that this heroin was brought in to the U.S. in the diplomatic pouch.

High-level Thai narcotics officials disclosed to Siam Mai that from coordination with narcotics units all over the world, it has been found that the figures on narcotics exported from Thailand are very high, because Thailand is full of sources and the market price of heroin abroad is extremely high. For example, in America the price of a kilogram reaches \$2 million at the least. The big foreign markets are the U.S., Europe and Hong Kong, and in the U.S. especially the cities of Chicago, Los Angeles and New York.

Although this case is the first case of Thai diplomatic personnel being arrested on charges of narcotics trafficking, there have been previous arrests of diplomatic officials on charges of smuggling contraband by relying on diplomatic privileges, and it is believed that there are many more cases in which arrests could not be made because of diplomatic immunity.

Police Col Somphol Sutthimai, Deputy Director of Immigration, told Siam Mai that diplomatic privileges are used regularly both by Thai and foreign diplomats to smuggle goods, but that this has not been investigated thoroughly because of lack of evidence that would reveal the situation clearly. If an error were made, it would become a violation of diplomatic sovereignty. "Especially in narcotics, where the profits are tempting, they run a lot of risks."

"As for the Vice-Consul's case, we had clues for a long time that the pouch was being used to export narcotics. We were looking for proof. The U.S. side was looking too and they happened to find it first. The story spread around the world. The Americans notified us just a few days before they made the arrest. Some people who have given interviews have said that the Americans informed us long ago and were giving us data all along. The truth is that our side learned the story only a few days before," this high official said.

Siam Mai's sources, speaking of the progress of the case, say that the point presently being considered is the stage of placing objects in the diplomatic pouch. This inquiry divides into two questions: was something placed secretly in the pouch, or was the pouch secretly switched en route? These questions are part of the search for gangs which regularly traffic in heroin between Thailand and America. If there was no switching of pouches, then there must be some connection within the Foreign Ministry itself, since every time the pouch is filled its contents must be inspected by the staff, who need to know just what goes into each pouch.

"What must be further investigated now," said the source mentioned above, "is the fact that the pouch containing the heroin was addressed to Ambassador Prok Amaranant in Washington. This is a very strange thing. People believe it must certainly have some connection with this case."

Once this story had spread, all the high officials of the Foreign Ministry went out and gave interviews, which were criticized for their trying to brush the blame off themselves. They also formed a committee of inquiry chaired by Mr Chawan Chawanich, the Second Deputy Foreign Minister, which has not yet reported on its progress. But it is believed that no matter what happens, there must be some reform in the regulations, especially as regards the diplomatic pouch and the staff which has the duty of inspecting pouching.

#### Foreign Ministry Spokesman Comments

Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai 16-22 May 82 pp 11-12

[Interview with Suwanit Khongsiri, age 39, Deputy Chief of the Public Information Department of the Foreign Ministry, given at the Ministry in Bangkok 11 May 82, concerning the well-known case of Mr Sihadet Chindawongs, Vice-Consul of Thailand in Chicago, who has been arrested on charges of narcotics trafficking; date and place not specified]

[Text] Suwanit has worked in the Foreign Ministry for 16 years, beginning in the Policy and Planning Division. He was head of the International Trade Division, then head of the Southeast Asia Division in the Political Department, before going as Counselor to the Thai Royal Embassy in Peking. He has held his present position since last October.

Question: The case of the Thai vice-consul arrested in Chicago has damaged the reputation of the Foreign Ministry. As deputy spokesman for the Ministry, how would you repair it?

Answer: The Foreign Ministry has relieved Mr Sihadet of his duties. Because the information supplied to us by the U.S. and used as the basis for charges against him points to his guilt, the Ministry has put him on leave and has established a committee to investigate the facts. Because this case came to light in the U.S., we must await the American deliberations as well.

Question: Who is the head of this committee?

Answer: Someone highly placed, but the details cannot yet be told, since the committee is operating at a high level.

Question: How much opportunity is there to smuggle narcotics in diplomatic pouches?

Answer: There should be none, because we have procedures for putting things into the diplomatic pouch and sealing it, procedures which officials must perform strictly according to the rules. If mistakes have been made we must tighten up still more, because this is a grave matter. This government attaches importance to the suppression of traffic in narcotics. The Foreign Ministry is

a part of this effort. If diplomatic pouches of the ministry are being used to sell narcotics, this is an offense which we must prosecute severely. At the same time, we have procedures in place concerning use of the pouch to send government documents to units abroad, which necessarily includes secret documents. Therefore we must consider how we need to improve the system we already have.

Question: And have any improvements been instituted yet?

Answer: Improvements must depend on the fact-finding committee, because we must first find the facts.

Question: Just lately, since the case of Mr Sihadet, there has also been a shipment of smuggled narcotics addressed to Mr Prok Amaranant, Thailand's ambassador in Washington.

Answer: Let me deny this story. When it came out in one newspaper we checked to see if a report had come in on it. There was none. We asked Mr Prok directly and he told us that no such thing as that newspaper printed had happened. I have already informed the paper of this. Let me deny that story.

Question: But the story came from sources inside the Foreign Ministry itself.

Answer: I asked them who their sources were, because I am deputy spokesman for the ministry and my chief is spokesman, and they didn't ask me about it. And my job in the government is to answer reporters' questions. I asked them who their sources were because they ought to ask the persons responsible for providing news. They told me they trusted their sources and were not willing to disclose them. I have already denied this story.

Question: From the viewpoint of the Foreign Ministry, when something like this comes up is there some response or not?

Answer: Indeed there is, sir. Last Thursday (6 May) there was a statement of the facts. The deputy minister, who was in charge of the ministry while the minister and the premier were visiting Europe, explained the matter. There was no cover-up.

Question: But no facts were stated about the fundamental story: whether narcotics had been smuggled in the diplomatic pouch or not. There was also an unacceptable total contradiction between the Ministry and the news media.

Answer: The main thing is that a member of the Foreign Ministry was arrested and charged and the U.S. gave us reasonable grounds for believing the charges. Accordingly, we did believe them. We relieved Mr Sihadet and set up a fact-finding committee. At the same time we must also wait for the results of the U.S. investigations because that is a way of getting facts. Meanwhile, when a case like this comes up, you want our statements right away. But that is often impossible because the matters are still under investigation.

Question: Do we have the right to bring Mr Sihadet back to be investigated in Thailand?

Answer: We are now investigating the facts. But at present Mr Sihadet is wanted on charges of heroin trafficking not only in Chicago but also in Baltimore. Since Mr Sihadet is now in custody of the Chicago police, his case must first be prosecuted there. After that he is wanted in Baltimore. We must wait for the results of these investigations because as of now we still have no evidence whatever that Mr Sihadet carried heroin out of the country. We did not arrest him here. We must wait for the U.S. prosecutions.

Question: While the U.S. is investigating over there, police and ministry officials here will have to cooperate to find the people who collaborated in this business, inside and outside the Foreign Ministry.

Answer: We are presently investigating. This action is certainly against Thai law. It is absolutely forbidden. It violates Thai government policy, violates everything. But there must be sufficient grounds to make an arrest.

Question: From the viewpoint of the country as a whole, how will the high administrators in the Foreign Ministry handle a case like this?

Answer: I believe we will have to try to conduct our investigation smoothly. Cases like these come up not only in the Foreign Ministry. They come up in every ministry and in every country, because narcotics traffic is the most profitable of all businesses. But all this is just part of something that happens all over the world. Whether it's selling narcotics or selling sex or selling children, there are these problems. To be human is to have problems.

Question: What we meant to say is this: such cases damage the image of Thailand very much. What sense of responsibility should those who hold high political posts in the Foreign Ministry show?

Answer: If actions like these harm the country's image, then it's being harmed all the time. Even when a mail truck emits black smoke, it damages the image of Bangkok. There are many things that perturb images.

#### ONCB Chief Comments

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 24 May 82 pp 1-2

[Text] The Narcotics Control Board (NCB) is preparing new measures to use in guarding against narcotics traffic which depends on government loopholes as its tools, since the arrest of a Thai vice-consul in the U.S. and an investigation which discovered narcotics sent to the Thai ambassador to the U.S. as addressee.

Police Major Gen Phao Sarasin, Secretary to the NCB, advised Siam Rat that the case of Mr Sihadet Chindawongs, Vice-Consul of Thailand in Chicago, reflected extremely improper conduct. As for the case now being investigated, in which a parcel of narcotics addressed to Ambassador Prok Amaranant was sent through the mail, U.S. authorities well understand that the Thai Embassy was not involved. They look rather to the "ignorance of the sender," who may have thought that addressing the parcel in this way would perhaps avoid scrutiny of it by the police.



▲ In any event, Gen Phao said that Mr Sihadet's group and those who mailed these narcotics to Ambassador Prok are separate groups.

The reporter asked whether these problems show that state officials are turning their hands to wrongdoing or helping others in it. He received the answer that there are those who "think only of money" and do not think of morals.

The NCB Secretary, speaking about counter-measures, said that the NCB is trying to assist the Foreign Ministry by every means, but must concede that good and bad civil servants are mixed together. When bad ones are found they must be punished, whereas present law still has many loopholes through which narcotics dealers can escape. These loopholes take time to close, and even if they are constantly being closed, it is always too late. Moreover, Thai legal penalties for narcotics offenses are still very light. There should be penalties for narcotics dealers and manufacturers of not less than 10 years imprisonment.

In any case, Gen Phao said, the NCB is now looking for measures to tighten up defenses against use of government channels for narcotics traffic, by means best left undisclosed.

On the Foreign Ministry side, Mr Chet Sucharitkul announces that the narcotics arrest of Mr Sihadet was the result of information provided to U.S. authorities by the Ministry itself. At first this news was not to have been disclosed, but after the U.S. announcement the Thai side had to make its statement too. Unfortunately such disclosures will make it harder to capture others who had a part in this affair.

Mr Chet insisted that the narcotics which were seized from Mr Sihadet were not placed in the Foreign Ministry pouch but were merely found by the police in Mr Sihadet's apartment.

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CSO: 5300/5775

THAILAND

MALAYSIA PLEDGES COOPERATION IN DRUG SUPPRESSION

BK200455 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Jun 82 p 2

[Excerpt] Phatthaya--Malaysia yesterday pledged full cooperation with Thailand to prevent and suppress the smuggling into this country of acetic anhydride, a major component in the refining of morphine into heroin.

The pledge was among agreements reached by ASEAN police chiefs during the first day of their two-day ASEANAPOL meeting at a Phatthaya hotel.

Other topics discussed yesterday included extradition and handing over of criminals to requesting countries through Interpol and other channels.

Thailand's police chief, Gen Suraphol Chumlaphram, who was selected chairman of the meeting, said Thailand had sought cooperation from Malaysia--a major importer of acetic anhydride from Japan for industry--in taking measures to prevent the smuggling of this chemical into the country.

Inspector-general of the Royal Malaysia Police, Tan Sri Mohamed Haniff Bin Omar, replied that his country had already responded to Thailand's request by imposing strict measures governing the movement and trading of acetic anhydride in Malaysia's 13 states, including four states close to the Thai border.

He said the buying and selling of the chemical in Malaysia had been made more difficult by regulations stating that importers of acetic anhydride must obtain licenses from the Health Ministry and traders can only sell the chemical in "compounded" form and not in its pure state. This latter regulation, he explained, had been introduced to prevent the use of the chemical for illegal purposes.

Tan Sri Haniff said there was evidence to show that such measures had resulted in less acetic anhydride being smuggled into Thailand via Malaysia. He added that since these regulations were introduced, the price of the chemical when illegally sold in the Thai-Burmese border area had increased from 5,000 to 8,000 baht per litre and from 1,000 to 3,000 baht per litre in the Thai-Malaysian border area.

The Malaysian police chief said that with 65,000 defined drug addicts in his country, his government was aware of drug problems and concerned by them. He pointed out that Malaysia had strong anti-drug laws and imposed the death penalty on those convicted of possession of more than 100 grammes of heroin.  
CSO: 5300/5804

THAILAND

ONCB: LEGAL DRUGS ABUSED, PREVENTION FUNDS LACKING

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 9 Apr 82 pp 3, 12

[Text] Mr Likhit Thoedsathirasak, Undersecretary of the Narcotics Control Board (NCB) discloses that most of the Thai population has insufficient knowledge of proper drug use. For example, they tend to buy drugs without having prescriptions for them, and if they know that taking a certain drug improves their health they take it constantly, although some kinds of drugs when taken in large quantities may cause illness. Some drug will be prescribed for a single period only, but people who see that it helped them when they used it once keep on buying it and using it until finally they become addicted to it. One may say that an important cause of the narcotics problem, apart from the environmental conditions that induce it, is mistaken belief about drug use. We must hurry to bring basic drug knowledge to the public as fast as possible, so that they will know the elements of using drugs correctly.

Nowadays those who try to solve the problem of drug addiction don't get very good results. It is a difficult thing to do because even if an addict receives treatment he is apt to go back and become addicted again. He has not been fully cured. Particularly if he returns to his original environment he will have easy opportunities to become readdicted. To cure an addict one must depend on the addict's own courage. He must really be determined enough. Thus it is necessary to emphasize prevention, so that the number of addicts will not increase. This too means trying to convey knowledge of the proper use of drugs.

Yet the government's budget for prevention at this time is very small, and to rely on it alone is not enough. We must therefore ask the cooperation of private organizations, that they too take a hand in this matter. An international anti-drug federation is now being organized in every country to set policy and coordinate work in solving the drug problem.

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CSO: 5300/5775

THAILAND

USE OF AMPHETAMINES ENCOURAGED BY ADVERTISING IN RURAL AREAS

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 9 Apr 82 pp 3, 12

[Text] At present "horse medicines" (amphetamines) are still spreading in the Northeast by way of peddlers who follow movie trucks and advertise to rural people to use the drugs. Therefore we would like to remind the public not to trust these advertisements.

According to reports of the spread of amphetamines in the Northeast, it appears that for the most part the vendors look for opportunities to profit from rural people by advertising the drugs to those who do heavy work, whose bodies are weary and aching. They do not call the drugs amphetamines right out, they call them strength boosters or "teasing medicine." Most rural people believe the ads. Thinking the drugs have good properties, they want to try them. Drugs that stimulate the nervous system at first cause one to feel fresh and cured of all one's symptoms, but when taken over long periods they become addictive. As soon as one feels a little achy one must have more medicine. Once addiction has set in it can be very dangerous to the body.

Advertising dangerous drugs in this way is extremely selfish. It is happening even in some factories and sometimes, as when exams are near, there is advertising among students. Therefore we wish to warn the public not to put confidence in drug advertisements, because these drugs are dangerous and may even be lethal.

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CSO: 5300/5775

THAILAND

PHUKET OPIUM SUSPECTS BAILED OUT, POLICE COVER UP

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 26 May 82 pp 1-2

[Text] Phuket police seized more than 10 kg of opium in a godown, together with the younger brother of the president of the provincial assembly and two cohorts, then covered the story up.

News reports from Phuket disclosed to MATICHON at 3:00 pm on 17 May that Police Lt Gen Suphai Liewchaloemwongs, officer in charge of Phuket province, together with a force of police officers from Kathu District, arrested Mr Suthep Tantiwit, assistant manager of the Tantikowit Company and younger brother of Mr Banlue Tantiwit, president of the Phuket provincial assembly, with Mr Khen Lilakorn and Mr Dam Nawarat, with 10.5 kg of raw opium valued at 75,000 baht, at the Sedlek godown in Village 5, Kathu sub-district. The police brought charges of possession of narcotics for purposes of sale, although the three suspects denied the charges.

We are informed that later Mr Chuyin Tantiwit brought bail for all three men in the amount of 200,000 baht each.

Moreover, it appears that the police are trying to cover this matter up completely and are not willing to let it be known beyond themselves.

At 1:20 pm on 25 May MATICHON placed a call to Police Gen Supchai and were informed he was away at a provincial meeting, so we asked for Police Lt Gen Mitri Sorntham, deputy officer in charge, and received a denial that he knew the details of this matter. He told us to ask again for Gen Supchai, the arresting officer.

At 3:30 pm we again placed a call to Gen Supchai and spoke to the duty officer, who asked who was on the line and then said he would go to call Gen Supchai. But when he returned he said that Gen Supchai had just hurried off to a meeting at provincial headquarters.

We placed a call to Kathu district station to ask Police Lt Gen Sathaphorn Arunraks about the progress of the case and were told he was in and would come to the phone, but then the officer who had answered the phone said that Gen Sathaphorn too had gone to a meeting.

MATICHON has been told by a source at the Phuket provincial offices that the police are trying to cover up this case because the people involved have standing and wide influence in the province. Irregularities may have occurred in the handling of this case.

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CSO: 5300/5775

## THAILAND

## BRIEFS

HEROIN FOUND IN WRECKAGE--Police on Thursday [3 June] seized 74 kgs of heroin base--worth an estimated 10 million baht on the local market--from the wreckage of a pickup truck which crashed in Ayutthaya Province more than a month ago. Crime Suppression Division [CSD] officers described the haul as their biggest heroin seizure this year. The heroin was seized from a Mitsubishi pickup truck which was towed to a highway police compound at Pratunam Phra-in after crashing on the Asian highway in Bang Pa-in District, Ayutthaya, on April 30. They said no one had called to claim the vehicle, which had Bangkok number plates. At the time of the crash the vehicle was being driven by its owner, Somchit Rattanawong, who died of injuries while being taken to Phumiphon hospital. CSD Deputy Commanders Pol Col Salang Bunnag and Pol Col Chalor Koetthes learned recently from informants that the truck matched the description of a vehicle suspected of bringing drugs to Bangkok from the north. Police lost track of the truck in April after it left Chiang Rai's Mai Sai District, which adjoins the border with Burma. CSD police believe that Somchit was a courier hired to deliver the drugs to an unknown destination in Bangkok. They said it was possible that he had become involved in drug-running shortly before the crash because his name did not appear in their files. The seized heroin base was taken to CSD headquarters at Sam Yot. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Jun 82 p 2 BK]

BANGKOK INTERPOL MEETING--A senior Interpol officer said yesterday that there were links in many countries between international drug trafficking operations and currency counterfeiting gangs. Deputy Secretary General of the Paris-based International Criminal Police Organisation (ICPO) Raymond Kendall said there was evidence that such criminal groups were supporting each other in the United States, Europe and throughout the Asian region. Mr Kendall, a Briton, rated narcotics as the biggest crime in the region. He said currency counterfeiting was a costly, sophisticated crime which complimented drug trafficking. He said counterfeit dollars passed in the U.S. came mainly from Latin American countries, those circulated in Europe came mainly from Italy and their source in Asia was usually Singapore and Hong Kong. In some cases, fake money, mainly U.S. dollars, which are popular world-wide, was paid to traffickers of illicit drugs while some gangs made counterfeit notes to earn money to run their narcotics syndicates, Kendall said. The issue was raised yesterday during the second day of the 7th Asian Regional Interpol conference being held at the Dusit Thani hotel. The four-day meeting, hosted by Thailand's police department, is being attended by 76 delegates from 26 countries.

On cooperation of international narcotics suppression, Mr Kendall said that the exchange of information concerning the activities and identities of international drugs traffickers via Interpol channels was more rapid and effective. Lists of names and movements of major drugs traffickers were circulated among member countries and resulted in more drug seizures than a few years ago. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jun 82 p 3 BK]

FRG DRUG ASSISTANCE--The West German ambassador to Thailand, Dr Johann Christian Lanke, told Deputy Prime Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangkum during a recent meeting that his government will provide Thailand with two drug experts to help suppress narcotics trafficking in the country. He said that West Germany had highly praised Thailand for its effort to crack down on drug traffickers, including Khum Sa, and that his country will continue supporting Thailand's campaign against narcotics trafficking in the country. [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 17 Jun 82 BK]

OPIUM SMUGGLED FROM LAOS--Nong Khai--A man was wounded and another arrested with 20 kilogrammes of raw opium in Tha Bo District here, police reported. The two men were identified by police as Puok Kamthawi, 46, and his son, Lap, 25. Acting on a tip-off that a delivery of raw opium from Tha Bo District was to be made to Bangkok, a group of policemen led by Pol Lt-Col Monthian Klupthong, deputy superintendent attached to Nong Khai police sub-division, went to the place and spotted the two moving a number of packages of opium. Puok ignored the surrender demand and fired at the police. Police returned fire injuring Puok. He was later sent to a hospital. Both confessed that they smuggled the opium in from Laos and were about to take it to Bangkok. They were charged with possessing the drugs with intent to sell. [Text] [BKO20345 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Jun 82 p 5 BK]

WOMAN DRUG TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Police yesterday arrested a woman at the car park of the President Hotel and seized 2.5 kilogramme of No 4 heroin worth 500,000 baht. According to narcotics suppression police, Mrs Kopkaeo Phothiwanakun was arrested as she took out six packages of heroin bearing the Double Lion Brand from her Datsun station wagon. Mrs Kopkaeo, 38, reportedly told police that she had bought the drugs in northern Thailand and had come to the President Hotel's car park to sell them to an American man for one million baht. She was detained at Lumphini police station and charged with possessing drugs with intent to sell. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Jun 82 p 2 BK]

HEROIN SEIZED IN BANGKOK, CHIANG MAI--Police arrested nine persons on charges of possessing heroin with intent to sell and seized seven kilogrammes of heroin in two separate incidents yesterday. The first arrest was made in Bangkok at a hotel coffeeshop in Phra Khanong area. Police said a police team from the Crime Suppression Division arrested three Chinese Haws--Chiangming Sae Chu, 29; Chiuyi Sae Choen, 22; and Chiang Sae Yi, 25,--while they were meeting in a hotel coffeeshop in Phra Khanong around 10 p.m. yesterday. Police alleged that 3.5 kilogrammes of Two Lions Brand No 4 heroin was found hidden in a cardboard box carried into the coffeeshop by the suspect Chiangming. Police claimed that the three suspects had confessed that they were hired by an unidentified man in Mae Chan District of Chiang Mai to deliver the heroin to a customer at the hotel. The three were being held on charges of possessing heroin with intent to sell. In another incident, a narcotics suppression



police team in Chiang Mai arrested six suspects after receiving a tip-off that a quantity of heroin would be taken into the province. The suspects were arrested when the police team stopped and searched their pick-up truck in Tambon Khi Lek of Mae Taeng District. Police claimed that the search produced 10 packages of No 4 heroin weighing 3.5 kilogrammes and valued locally at about 750,000 baht hidden in the truck. All the suspects were being held at Mae Taeng police station on charges of possessing heroin with intent to sell. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Jun 82 p 5 BK]

CHIANG MAI HEROIN--Chiang Mai--Five men, including two Chinese Haws were yesterday arrested at a house in Muang District here while allegedly delivering 2.8 kilogrammes of No 4 first grade heroin. The Haws, Laowang Sae Wang and Chongwoo Sae Yang, both from Chiang Rai, left Fang at about 8 a.m. and arrived at House No 40 on Damparakot Road in Muang District later in the morning. After the two men entered the house, police said that they saw the Haws hand over eight packages of No 4 first grade heroin to two other men who were identified as Sanan Khongdet and Prayut Kirikae. All four were arrested along with the owner of the house, Chusak Wangcharoen. The five men charged of possessing the drugs with intent to sell and were last night detained at Chiang Mai police station for further interrogation. [BK180326 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jun 82 p 2]

POLICE OFFICER ARRESTED--Acting on a tipoff, Crime Suppression Division [CSD] police kept watch on Police Warrant Officer Samat Munman, from Phang-nga's Takua Pa District police station in the south, upon his arrival in Bangkok by train. It was alleged that Samat had brought heroin from the south to deliver to his clients in Bangkok. After learning that the exchange would take place at the Si Krung hotel near 22d July Circle, police kept watch and observed a meeting between Samat and three Bangkok residents in a red Toyota liftback sedan. The Bangkok residents were identified as Samruai Wongchai, 26, Kitti Lohakum 21, and Photchanan Ekkum 35. The police team searched the car and found 21 plastic bags, with the brands Double U Globes and Red Lion, which contained 7.35 kgs of No 4 top grade heroin. The four men are being held at CSD headquarters on initial charges of possessing drugs with intent to sell. [BK250442 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Jun 82 p 2]

CHIANG MAI RAIDS--Police arrested six people and confiscated 4.3 kgs of heroin in two separate raids in Chiang Mai Province yesterday [20 Jun], police said. In one raid, a narcotics suppression unit acting on a tip intercepted two cars at Tambon Chang Phuak in Muang District at the Khuang Sing intersection and found 1.5 kgs of heroin hidden in one of the cars. The three men and one woman riding in the cars were arrested and were later identified as Muan Ruakam, Mrs Daeng Saibunruang, 48, and her two sons Saman and Somkhit. In the other raid, another narcotics suppression unit was sent to Fang District to intercept the transfer of drugs from Ban Yang at Tambon Sansai. They stopped a motorcycle and uncovered 2.8 kgs of heroin. Two men riding on the motorcycle were arrested. They were identified as Huechang Sae Liew, 20, and La Bunsai, 46. [BK250442 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jun 82 p 3]

BANGKOK DRUG PROGRAM--More than 1,000 drug addicts sought treatment at 14 clinics operated by the Bangkok Metropolitan Health Department (BMHD) in just one single day, a recent survey showed. A total of 15,700 addicts--98 percent of whom are addicted to heroin--are receiving treatment at the clinics. Further statistical breakdowns showed that 92 percent are male, 70 percent are between 20 and 29 years old and 51 percent are unemployed. The Office of Narcotics Control Board last month estimated that there were no fewer than 100,000 addicts throughout Thailand. Some of them are being helped by the BMHD programme. To alleviate the growing drug problem in Thailand the BMHD drug abuse prevention and treatment programme was established in 1978, with assistance from the United States. The programme is aimed at creating a greater public awareness about the extent of the problem as well as providing treatment for addicts. [Excerpt] [BK250442 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Jun 82 p 5]

RAW OPIUM FOUND--There was a report from Loei Province that authorities had uncovered 9 kg of raw opium, 74 AK-47 rounds, 208 M-16 rounds, 2 M-79 rounds, a bag of sticky rice and a bag of salt at an abandoned camp of communist terrorists in Na Haeo District, Loei Province. It is believed they belonged to the Mong tribesmen who fled a suppression drive by government forces under the "Phamuang Kriangkrai" operation plan. [BK250442 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 22 Jun 82]

MALAY-THAI DRUG CONTROL--At 1100 yesterday Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam paid a courtesy call on Deputy Prime Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangum at Government House. The two men exchanged views on cooperation between Thailand and Malaysia on narcotics suppression and the results of operations. The Malaysian deputy prime minister, who is chairman of Malaysia's narcotics suppression program, expressed satisfaction over the successes obtained by the two countries in joint narcotics suppression and noted that the amount of narcotics smuggled into their countries has declined considerably. He said this reflects better cooperation between the Thai and Malaysian officials in charge of suppression. The deputy prime ministers exchanged views on this matter at length. The Malaysian deputy prime minister also presented a gift to the Thai deputy prime minister. Also present at the meeting were the secretary general of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board, the secretary general of the National Security Council and the director general of the Central Intelligence Department. [Text] [BK230912 Bangkok Voce of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 22 Jun 82]

CROP REPLACEMENT PROGRAM--Yesterday Police Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, secretary general of the Narcotics Prevention and Suppression Board, accompanied Swedish Professor (Ogwar Alewich) and (Cornelis Vandemeer), a Dutch national, who are representatives of the UN fund for crop replacement and highland marketing, to call on Deputy Prime Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangum at Government House. UN assistance to Thailand's crop replacement program from 1980-82 amounted to \$2,573,210. The UN fund for crop replacement and highland marketing and the Thai Government will jointly assess the effectiveness of Thailand's program in the third year of the assistance in order to consider possible additional assistance to the program. The assessment process will take place from 28 May-11 June. The two UN representatives will participate in the assessment process. [Text] [BK101252 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1000 GMT 10 Jun 82]

CSO: 5300/5805

PANAMA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA PLANTATION DISCOVERED--The national guard has discovered a marihuana plantation in Capati, Darien Province. Leovigildo Vejarano, owner of the farm, and Ovidio Santo Vejarano, Mercedes Herrera, Raul Vejarano and Pedro Recuero Lavalle were taken into custody. On instructions from the high command, the national guard is conducting an intensive campaign against marihuana cultivation. [PA262218 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 20 Jun 82 p 31 PA]

CSO: 5300/2326

PERU

BRIEFS

LARGE COCAINE SEIZURE--Lima, 11 May--The Peruvian police today discovered a package in the local airport that contained 22 kilos of pure cocaine, valued at \$2 million. A police source reported that the shipment, the biggest drug find in Peru, arrived from Argentina with a multicargo company label stating that it contained chemical powder. There was also a series of handwritten letters in code. He added that the package did not have an addressee nor a destination, and that it was not known which airline had transported the shipment from Buenos Aires to Lima. A preliminary investigation has established that the shipment was in Panama and Miami before mysteriously returning to this capital. [Text] [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 12 May 82 2355] 8255

CSO: 5300/2323

IRAN

BRIEFS

HEROIN DISCOVERED IN KARAJ--Due to the sleuthing efforts of the guards corps and the headquarters of the mobilization of the oppressed for combating narcotics, 6 smugglers were arrested and more than 13 kg of opium and heroin were discovered. The names of the smugglers are 'Ali (Saderion), Gholam 'Ali 'Arefvand, Qorban 'Ali Zarrabi, 'Ali Nuri, Jalal N'emati, and Karim Karimi. After the investigation and discovery of the narcotics, the accused were sent to prison. [GF300745 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 14 Jun 82 p 4 GF]

HEROIN DISCOVERED IN MASHHAD--During the last 2 days the headquarters of Mashhad Islamic Revolution Committee for combating narcotics has discovered more than 2 kg of heroin and 1 kg opium held by narcotics dealers. There were 7 suspects who were sent to the Islamic revolution court after an investigation. This committee was also successful in discovering 48 different kinds of guns, 967 rounds of ammunition and a number of magazines in the border regions of Sarakhs, Quchan and (Baqmach). [GF300912 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 15 Jun 82 p 4 GF]

LORESTAN CONTRABAND CONFISCATED--The revolution guards of Lorestan seized 1,420 kg of opium along with three firearms, 137 cartridges and some smuggled foreign cigarettes and luxury goods. Five persons were arrested in this connection. [GF061345 Tehran ETELA'AT in Persian 22 Jun 82 p 4 GF]

MASHHAD DRUG SWOOP--Brother guards of the Islamic Revolution Committee of (Khajeh Rabi') in Mashhad recovered 150.5 kg of opium and 15.5 kg of heroin from a dump truck which was carrying limestone. Three of the violators were arrested but two others escaped. [Tehran ETELA'AT in Persian 22 Jun 82 p 4 GF]

NARCOTICS DISCOVERIES--Through the efforts of Islamic revolution guard personnel and personnel of antidrug headquarters, a total of 150 international drug traffickers have been arrested in the several Iranian cities and around 6 tons of drugs discovered. The discoveries included a total of 5,936 kg of opium as well as other drugs. [GF070703 Tehran ETELA'AT in Persian 27 Jun 82 p 2 GF]

NARCOTICS PENALTIES STATISTICS--According to the Central News Unit, the various branches of the Central Islamic Revolution Antinarcotics Court [in Tehran] reviewed the dossiers of 1,842 of the accused during Khordad [22 May-21 June 1982] and issued the necessary verdicts. According to the verdicts, 10 international smugglers with long records were sentenced to death, 4 to life imprisonment, 31 to from 10 to 35 years imprisonment, 259 from 1 to 10 years, and 1,292 were sentenced to less than 1 year. A number of prisoners serving less than 1 year were sent to (?Shurabad) and Bahar rehabilitation camps to enable them to give up their addiction. Of these, 339 were released with reliable guarantors and after being flogged. The dossiers of those sentenced to death were sent to the Supreme Judicial Council for confirmation [ta'yeed]. [Text] [LD270340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jun 82]

CSO: 5300/5432

BELGIUM

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZURE—Antwerp, Belgium, 3 Jul (AFP)—Police here today seized 30 kilos (66 pounds) of pure heroin—an estimated market value of five million dollars—aboard a cargo plane coming from an unspecified Middle Eastern country, officials said. They said the drug was believed to have originated in Pakistan. [Text] [NC031455 Paris AFP in English 1148 GMT 3 Jul 82]

CSO: 5300/2328

NETHERLANDS

BRIEFS

POLICE SMASH HEROIN ROUTE--Amsterdam, June 14--The Amsterdam narcotics brigade has smashed a major heroin line from Pakistan to the Netherlands with the arrest of four local men and one woman, police said today. Chief Inspector B. de Koningh, head of the brigade, said 3.5 kilogrammes of Pakistani heroin valued at 1.5 million guilders were seized in the recent operation. He said the operation had been made possible because close cooperation with police in Belgium and Denmark. Success came when police raided a house in the Dutch capital which is to have been used as a distribution centre. The four men detained in the house were identified by their initials and ages as J.M. (37), F.P. (31), J.V. (34) and W. de R. (27), and J.H. (31, a woman). W. de R. is believed to be the ring leader. The five are alleged to have flown in the heroin via European airports with the heroin hidden in small plastic bags sown into their underwear. [Text] [The Hague ANP NEWS BULLETIN in English 15 Jun 82 p 2]

CSO: 5300/2329



TURKEY

SHIFT IN NARCOTICS ROUTE REPORTED

Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 24 May 82 pp 1, 13

[Text] Ankara, Hurriyet. The narcotics traffic which had shifted its route towards Syria and the Greek Cypriot sector of Cyprus following the 12 September 1980 operation has lately once again turned towards Turkey. Turkish police however is giving no respite to merchants of the white poison who dream of sweet profits and seek to once again draw the country into a spider's web. In fact, 540 narcotics smugglers have fallen into police traps over the past 5 months. The narcotics that have been captured are worth billions of liras and include 328 kilograms of hashish, 63 kilograms of opium and 12 kilograms of base morphine.

According to findings, base morphine and opium are introduced into Turkey from Laos, Burma and Thailand which constitute the region known as "The Golden Triangle" as well as from Pakistan, Afghanistan and India which make up the region known as "The Golden Crescent." The anhydrous acid that is used in the conversion of base morphine into heroin is introduced from Middle Eastern countries. In general, our country is used as a throughway in the transfer of these substances to Europe. While initially the smugglers had used the highways for their activities, it has been observed that they have recently changed tactics and turned towards the searoutes.

According to findings by the authorities, most of the narcotics that enter Turkey come from Iran, the neighbor across our Eastern Anatolian frontier. These narcotic substances originate from "The Golden Triangle" and "The Golden Crescent" and leave Turkey through a route across Erzurum, Erzincan, Sivas, Yozgat, Ankara, Bolu, Sakarya, Tekirdag and Kizilirmaci. Occasionally, this route is changed and the narcotic substances are sent to Mersin by way of Diyarbakir, Gaziantep and Adana. From Mersin, the substances are sent to Cyprus. Occasionally a second route branches out from Adana and the narcotic substances are sent to Izmir by way of Mersin, Konya, Denizli, Usak and Manisa. From Izmir the substances are sent out of the country by sea.

Through still another route, narcotic substances are brought from Ankara which is considered to be a transit center to Bursa by way of Eskisehir and Bilecik. The substances are then sent to Europe by sea transport from Mudanya and Bandirma.

Because Turkish manufactured hashish is unable to secure good markets, smugglers have been introducing Lebanese hashish known as "Beirut Blonde" into Turkey through Iskenderun. The hashish is later sent to Europe.

According to existing reports, the smugglers prefer to use women as carriers of narcotics because lately, women have been subjected to fewer searches. Women have been frequently hiding hashish near their abdominal regions to portray themselves as being pregnant. According to the information provided in a report, in recent years 284 narcotics smugglers of foreign nationality have been captured on Turkish soil with 884 kilograms of narcotics.

Having declared war against the narcotics Mafia, security forces have defined 12 provinces that are important to the smugglers as operational centers. A large scale struggle against smugglers of narcotic substances is underway in the provinces of Gaziantep, Adana, Konya, Izmir, Edirne, Istanbul, Ankara, Kayseri, Icel, Diyarbakir, Mardin and Hatay which have been defined as operational centers.

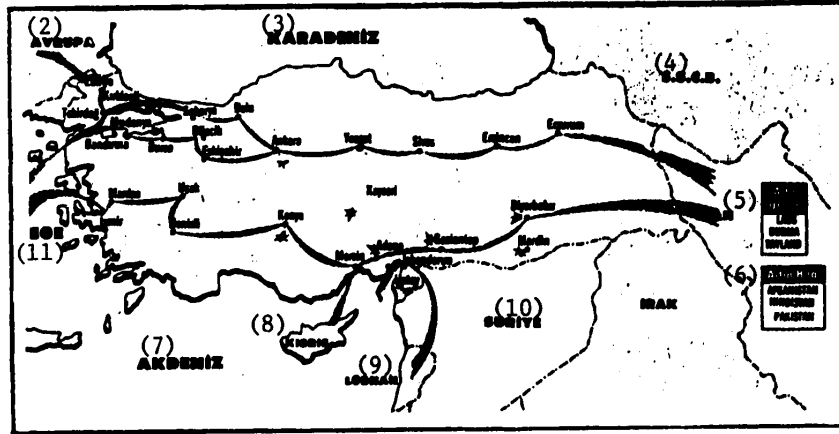
Narcotic substances are increasing in value with each passing day and are being sold for extremely high prices in Europe. Of the narcotic substances that are obtained at very inexpensive prices from "The Golden Triangle" and "The Golden Crescent," heroin is being sold at 63,000,000 liras per kilogram. In Turkey a kilogram of heroin is being sold for 1,000,000 liras while the small amount of hashish is being sold for 120,000 liras. In Europe, a kilogram of hashish sells for 3,000,000 liras. Because of our effective struggle against narcotics smuggling Turkey has won praise from the entire world. Statistics for narcotic substances captured in Turkey are provided in the following table:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Convictions</u>	<u>Kilograms</u>	<u>Grams</u>
1978	Hashish	1,302	2,293	2,792	529
	Heroin	14	59	8	518
	Opium	12	40	1	423
	Base Morphine	4	11	2	694
	<u>Total</u>	<u>1,332</u>	<u>2,443</u>		
1979	Hashish	1,296	2,478	3,245	592
	Heroin	50	152	48	276
	Opium	3	13	336	681
	Base Morphine	6	29	-	13
	<u>Total</u>	<u>1,335</u>	<u>2,672</u>		
1980	Hashish	1,522	3,117	2,356	805
	Heroin	78	244	118	681
	Opium	6	14	28	43
	Base Morphine	7	39	70	81
	<u>Total</u>	<u>1,613</u>	<u>3,414</u>		
1981	Hashish	1,510	3,321	3,172	603
	Heroin	117	451	129	969
	Opium	11	20	36	267
	Base Morphine	10	36	62	112
	<u>Total</u>	<u>1,648</u>	<u>3,828</u>		

[Table continued on following page]

<u>Year</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Convictions</u>	<u>Kilograms</u>	<u>Grams</u>
1982	Hashish	250	540	327	588
	Heroin	29	84	32	390
	Opium	4	13	63	49
	Base Morphine	2	8	12	636
	<u>Total</u>	<u>285</u>	<u>645</u>		

(First 5 months of 1982)



Güvenlik (1) kuvvetlerinin yaptığı operasyonlardan sonra "Uyuşturucu yolu" değişti. Eskiden Güneydoğu İlerimizden giren eroin ve esrar İstanbul üzerinden Avrupa'ya nakledilirdi. Ama artık Ortadoğu menşeli eroin ve esrar, Suriye limanlarından, Kıbrıs'ın Rum kesiminden Avrupa'ya gidiyor.

Key:

1. The narcotics route has shifted following operations by security forces. Formerly, the heroin and hashish entering from our south-eastern provinces was sent to Europe through Istanbul. But now, heroin and hashish originating from the Middle East is being sent to Europe through the ports of Syria and the Greek-Cypriot sector of Cyprus.
2. Europe
3. Black Sea
4. USSR
5. Golden Triangle. (Laos, Burma, Thailand)
6. Golden Crescent. (Afghanistan, India, Pakistan)
7. Mediterranean
8. Cyprus
9. Lebanon
10. Syria
11. Aegean

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END