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JPRS L/10679

23 July 1982

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 32/82)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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AUSTRALIA

PASSPORT DEVICE TO FOIL FORGERY, HELP STEM DRUG IMPORTING

Melbourne THE AGE in English 28 May 82 p 1

[Article by Stephen Mills]

[Text] CANBERRA--Metallic strips will be incorporated in Australian passports to make them more difficult to forge and alter.

The strips will also allow passport officials to check the stated personal details of the traveller against information in a centralised computer system.

The measure is part of Government attempts to halt abuse of passports by criminals, including drug traffickers.

An interim report of the Royal Commission on drug trafficking, tabled in Parliament yesterday, said passport abuse was serious and continuing, and recommended wide-ranging measures to combat it.

The report of Mr Justice Stewart said he had grave doubts whether the Department of Foreign Affairs knew how serious the problem of passport abuse was.

The commission is investigating the activities of alleged international heroin trafficker Terrence John Clark and his associates.

Mr Justice Stewart said in his report it had become clear that illegal activities had been facilitated by Clarke's use of false Australian passport. He recommended automatic cancellation of passports held by convicted drug traffickers. In no circumstance should production of a birth certificate alone be accepted as proof of identity for issue of a passport. Passports should not be issued en bloc to travel agents or by post, presently the case for about two-thirds of passports issued.

Mr Justice Stewart warned that tightening passport-issuing procedures would cause some inconvenience to citizens.

The Acting Foreign Affairs Minister, Senator Dame Margaret Guilfoyle, told Parliament that the Government would consider recommendations carefully.

She listed the steps the Government had taken since 1976 to eliminate abuse, such as centralising and computerising records, and laminating of passports to prevent alterations.

The Department of Foreign Affairs is believed to be unhappy with parts of the report. A spokesman for the department said the report did not give enough recognition to the steps that had already been taken.

CSO: 5300/7565

AUSTRALIA

GOVERNMENT PLANS TO UPGRADE DRUG ENFORCEMENT IN SE ASIA

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 28 Jun 82 p 21

[Article by Cyril Ayriss]

[Text]

THE FEDERAL Government will upgrade its drug-enforcement work in South-East Asia.

The Minister for Administrative Services, Mr Newman, said in Canberra yesterday that more emphasis would be placed on gathering worthwhile intelligence on drug-running.

The recent series of articles in *The West Australian* on the illegal drug trade between Australia and Thailand had presented an accurate picture of a very serious problem.

Mr Newman said he saw Australia's role as being mainly involved in gathering and sharing intelligence rather than big increases in the number of federal policemen.

The federal police in Bangkok would be strengthened, Mr Newman said, but he would not say by how

many.

[Informants in Canberra believe that three more men will be transferred to the Australian Embassy in Bangkok.]

Mr Newman said that federal police stationed in Bangkok would soon be required to speak Siamese.

Thailand had just agreed to accept two Australian experts to help assess drug intelligence.

The federal police also attended regular meetings with the American Narcotics Control Board and other foreign drug agencies to exchange and assess information.

Australia's drug-enforcement work would soon be coordinated in Canberra and there were plans to station a federal policeman in

Hong Kong. He would concentrate on drugs.

Mr Newman said: "We see this emphasis on intelligence as being the most effective way of handling the problem.

"It should also be remembered that Australia had the second biggest drug-enforcement agency in Thailand."

It was revealed by *The West Australian* last week that Australia would receive more heroin from the "Golden Triangle" Asian region this year than America. An estimated 100 tonnes of heroin is expected to reach Australia from the drug-growing areas in Thailand, Burma and Laos. The U.S. has about 40 officers working on drug endorsement in Bangkok compared with three for Australia.

CSO: 5300/7565

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

THAI DRUG OFFICIALS--Canberra, 7 Jul (AFP)--A group of Thai drug intelligence officers arrived here today to begin a 3-month intensive English course. The course has been arranged at the request of the Thai Government, and will be held by the Commonwealth Department of Education English Division. A high level of English competency is needed in the liaison between the Thai narcotics agencies and their Australian counterparts. [BK091511 Hong Kong AFP in English 0916 GMT 7 Jul 82]

POLICE DRUG CONNECTION--A court in Sydney has found three new South Wales policemen guilty of conspiracy. The charges followed an investigation into two marijuana plantations on a farm at Griffith in southern New South Wales. It was alleged that the three detectives had tried to conceal the identity of those involved in growing the marijuana and then obtained preferential treatment for the drug growers when they appeared in court. The three men have been remanded in custody for sentencing at a later date. [Text] [BK091511 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Jul 82]

CSO: 5300/5813

HONG KONG

HARBOR RAIDS LEAD TO LARGE HEROIN BASE SEIZURE, ARRESTS

Drugs in Rice Flour Bags

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 19 Jun 82 pp 1, 18

[Article by Tommy Lewis]

[Text]

Customs officers yesterday smashed two drug syndicates — one an importer and the other a distributor of soft drugs — in raids on both sides of the harbour.

About 15 kg of heroin base, worth about \$7.2 million, was found concealed in a container consignment of 600 bags of rice flour which arrived from Bangkok via Singapore.

More than 16 people — including a Filipino and an Indian — were arrested in the swoops.

The 600-1 chance to seize the drugs came when an officer at the Kwai Chung Container Terminal found one of the bags had a "second layer" during a routine inspection of the consignment on Wednesday.

Officers, working under Superintendent Mak Kam-lau, began to track down those involved in importing the consignment — using deception.

The officers replaced the heroin with flour, before allowing the consignee to take delivery of the goods.

Customs officers, posing as labourers, then escorted the consignment to a shop selling handbags, clothing and cheap jewellery at Pak Tai Street, Tokwawan.

They kept the shop under surveillance until they raided it shortly after 10.30 am yesterday.

Customs officers then searched the bags for more drugs, but until early this morning no more heroin had been found.

Seven people — two women and five men — were held in connection with the seizure.

Customs officers now believe they have smashed the entire import and wholesale syndicate as those arrested are believed to include a financier, the consignee, who operates an import company at Wing Lok Street, and the person who ordered the shipment.

"We are still looking for the syndicate's chemist," Supt Mak said.

CIB officers, investigating a syndicate involved in the trafficking of soft drugs in Tsimshatsui, also arrested seven people in swoops in Tsimshatsui, Yaumati, Kowloon City and San Po Kong.

They seized large quantities of Mandrax tablets, Hallucingen — a form of LSD — part one poison and sex stimulants containing part one poison.

The swoops were sparked off when Supt Mak and his

officers arrested a man outside a Tsimshatsui hotel with 2,000 Mandrax tablets in his possession.

The man is believed to have been on his way to make a delivery when he was arrested.

Following his arrest, CIB officers carried out raids on three medicine companies, two book stalls and two premises believed to be used for storing the drugs.

The total value of the drugs seized is about \$100,000.

When the officers raided a San Po Kong premise, a large quantity of Mandrax tablets were thrown into the street.

The tablets are sold on the blackmarket for between \$8 to \$10 each and are usually bought by youngsters "for kicks."

Also seized were a large

quantity of pornographic magazines and sex stimulents.

Supt Mak said more raids involving the soft-drug syndicate could be expected in the next few days.

CIB officers from Customs Headquarters, meanwhile, also detained a Filipino and an Indian in connection with the seizure of one kg of cannabis worth \$140,000 on the retail market.

The Filipino was arrested when cannabis was found concealed in his luggage when he arrived from Manila on Thursday.

Following his arrest, he was questioned and escorted to a Tsimshatsui hotel yesterday evening.

Outside the hotel an Indian, alleged to be a buyer, was intercepted by CIB officers and one kg of cannabis was found in a briefcase he was holding.

Another Shipment Expected

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 20 Jun 82 pp 1, 9

[Article by Sarah Monks]

[Text]

Customs officers are awaiting the arrival of a container vessel suspected of carrying more drugs for the "sacks of flour" syndicate which they smashed on Friday.

And more seizures have been made in connection with a soft drugs syndicate - simultaneously smashed allegedly involved in trafficking in the Tsimshatsui area.

A total of 45 kgs of heroin base, worth \$23 million if converted to number three heroin, was retrieved from three sacks of rice flour after customs officers searched 1,200 bags in a Tokwawan premises from Friday until early yesterday.

Ten persons were questioned in the course of enquiries and three of them have subsequently been charged with possession of dangerous drugs for the purpose of unlawful trafficking.

The three are to appear at San Po Kong Magistracy on Monday morning.

Five of those detained have been released on police bail pending further enquiries by Customs officers and the other two were turned loose.

At least half of the 1,200 flour bags searched in the Tokwawan store room arrived on a container vessel from Bangkok via Singapore.

The operation began after an officer at the Kwai Chung container terminal discovered, during a routine inspection on Wednesday, that one of the sacks had a second layer.

"We are expecting another shipment which may well conceal more drugs for the same syndi-

cate," the head of the Customs Investigation Bureau, Senior Superintendent K.S. Tong, said yesterday.

It is the second largest seizure of heroin base in Hongkong. The largest was made earlier this year when 73 kg of heroin base was found on a container-ship from Singapore.

The past four days have been described as the busiest on record for the CIB which deployed all of its officers - about 210 - on three separate drug investigation cases at the same time.

Intensive operations involved round-the-clock surveillance of people and premises and searches of more than 20 premises. Both hard and soft drugs were found and suspects from different syndicates arrested.

The operations involved "controlled deliveries" whereby undercover customs officers allowed deliveries of suspect consignments

to go ahead in a bid to track down the importers — and the masterminds.

In the Tsimshatsui soft drugs case, another 3,000 Mandrax tablets were seized from a storage centre in San Po Kong early yesterday, and a further 265 tablets were discovered in an office on Hongkong island, bringing the total haul to 5,265.

The tablets sell for \$8 to \$10 each on the black market.

After the raid on the Hongkong office, three people were detained for questioning.

Sen Supt Tong said one of them is to be charged with possession of dangerous drugs for purposes of unlawful trafficking.

Another 86 kg of a part one poison, ephedrine hydrochloride, which is used in making amphetamines, were also seized.

Customs officers believe that the ephedrine arrived from China falsely declared as chemicals and possibly destined to be trans-shipped to other countries in the region.

The raids were sparked after customs officers arrested a man outside a Tsimshatsui hotel with 2,000 Mandrax tablets in his possession.

They searched medicine companies, book stalls and premises believed to be used for storing the drugs.

By last night, a total of eight people had been detained and six of them charged in connection with the Mandrax investigations.

Sen Supt Tong said that the crack-downs on both the heroin base syndicate and the soft drugs syndicate were likely to affect the black-market price of drugs.

"Once a method has been detected, such as hiding drugs in sacks of flour, drug syndicates cannot go on using it," he said.

Significantly, the financier, consignee and the person who ordered the container shipment of rice flour are believed to have been caught.

Containerised cargoes make the task of finding those responsible for illegal

shipments particularly difficult.

Customs officers are still looking for the local chemist of the heroin base syndicate.

And uniformed officers spent much of yesterday replacing the flour spilt from the 1,200 bags searched in the Tokwawan store. They were described as resembling "white haired old men."

Meanwhile, more searches are expected in connection with a third drugs investigation involving cannabis.

A Filipino was arrested after the drug was found in his suitcase when he arrived from Manila on Thursday.

He was escorted after questioning at Customs Headquarters to a Tsimshatsui hotel on Friday evening and an Indian, alleged to be the buyer, was intercepted by CIB officers. One kilogram of cannabis was found in a briefcase the Indian was holding.

They have both been charged.

CSO: 5320/9133

HONG KONG

SHIPOWNERS MAY FORFEIT VESSELS FOUND CARRYING NARCOTICS

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 25 Jun 82 p 6

[Text]

Shipowners and charterers could face \$5 million fines or forfeit their vessels in connection with drug offences, if a Bill gazetted yesterday becomes law.

The Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) (No 2) Bill is the result of a trend towards greater use of ocean-going ships by drug smugglers, according to the Customs Investigation Bureau.

Its senior superintendent, Mr K. S. Tong, said the Bill applies to ships exceeding 250 gross tons where "excessive quantities" of dangerous drugs have been found on at least two occasions within a period of 18 months.

It aims to make irresponsible ship owners and charterers more security-conscious and persuade them to introduce measures to prevent drug smuggling by their crews, he said.

"We have had cases where, despite repeated drug seizures on board certain ships, the owners and masters are not doing enough supervisory work on their seamen," he said.

Records last year showed, for example, that more than 50 drug seizures have been made in the past nine years from one British-registered freighter, the Tai Chung Shan.

Under the present law, no action can be taken if drugs found on board a ship exceeding 250 tons cannot be traced to individual crew members.

And as the majority of such seizures are in the public parts of the ships, this is extremely difficult.

"We have printed some booklets advising ships' officers how to identify drugs, how to check security and what action to take upon discovering drugs," Mr Tong said.

Despite recent big seizures, drug prices on the black market still appear to be dropping, he said.

"This would indicate there is quite a lot of the stuff on the market. Last week, a packet containing one-tenth of a gram of heroin cost \$15-\$20, compared with \$40 early this year," he said.

Customs officers have already seized slightly more this year than the 182 kg of drugs seized in the whole of last year. Drugs worth at least \$39 million on the black market have been found on ocean-going vessels.

The Bill adds a new part to the principal Ordinance and states that the term "owner" includes the charterer of a ship.

If it becomes law, the Commissioner of the Customs and Excise Service will be able to seize and detain for 48 hours, with the written consent of the Attorney-General, any ship reasonably suspected of having carried, on two occasions within 18 months, more than 3,000 grams of opium or cannabis or 500 grams of any other dangerous drug.

It deliberately does not deal with the first drug sei-

zure case on a given ship, in order to "give the owners an opportunity to introduce some system to guard against future cases," Mr Tong said.

The Bill also empowers a magistrate, on application by the Commissioner, to continue the detention of a ship already detained or to order the arrest and detention of a ship.

The magistrate will then order that the proceedings be transferred to the High Court.

The Registrar of the Supreme Court will give notice of the time and place at which the High Court will hear an application by the Commissioner for the imposition of a fine of up to \$5 million on the owner.

However, the ship owner or master can apply to a judge to admit the ship to bail or bond in an amount exceeding \$5 million.

Where the High Court is satisfied "beyond reasonable doubt" that a ship has carried an excessive quantity of dangerous drugs, it may order the owner to pay a maximum fine of \$5 million.

This penalty may be recovered from any bail or bond paid or given.

However, if no satisfactory arrangements for the payment of the penalty are made, the ship may be forfeited to

the Crown.

The fine and forfeiture can be imposed whether or not the ship's owner or master knew of the presence of drugs on board.

But the Bill states that no financial penalty shall be imposed if the owner and the master prove that, in respect of the second occasion on which drugs were carried, they had taken all reasonable and practicable steps to prevent it.

The maximum \$5 million fine that can be imposed is the same as that levied on offenders who are convicted of trafficking in dangerous drugs. Such offenders also face life imprisonment.

A shipowner or charterer who suffers a fine or forfeiture may appeal against it in the Court of Appeal within 21 days of the High Court decision.

Mr Tong stressed that the Bill does not apply to the cargo on board ships, but to smuggling by seamen.

"There is no way a shipping company can examine all its cargo before loading," he said.

Meanwhile, the Government is still considering how to introduce and enforce laws which would allow it to seize the assets of convicted drug traffickers and their relatives.

CSO: 5320/9133

HONG KONG

INCREASED TRAFFICKING AROUSES FEAR OF POLICE CORRUPTION

Special Commission Alerted

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 29 Jun 82 pp 1, 13

[Article by Renu Daryanani]

[Text]

Police special duty squads are being closely watched by the Independent Commission Against Corruption following increased drug trafficking activities in Hongkong.

ICAC intelligence reports show various civil servants are cashing in on the increased corruption opportunities the trafficking has presented.

An 18 per cent drop in complaints against the police has been recorded so far this year compared to the same period last year — from 374 to 307.

But intelligence reports indicate corruption within the police is still a considerable cause for concern.

Special duty squads are made up of a small numbers of men in each division who are responsible for tackling gambling, vice and drugs.

The ICAC is worried by the large supply of drugs, which have brought street prices down to their lowest levels in several years.

The wholesale street price for one lb of No 3 heroin has tumbled from \$28,000 in December to about \$11,500 now, while a small packet of the drugs cost about \$20 now compared to \$40 in January — despite large seizures recently.

The ICAC believes that China is increasingly being used as a source of drugs.

And it wants to see the drug-fighting authorities given more powers to tackle trafficking.

It also wants the police and the Customs and Excise Service to be able, as the ICAC can, to examine bank accounts and restrain the financial assets of suspected offenders — a measure currently being discussed by the Government.

ICAC investigations have also covered the import, distribution and increased smuggling of drugs into prisons. The latter is still a comparatively minor problem.

The Governor, Sir Edward Youde, is fully aware of the dangers of corruption in Hongkong and wants the ICAC to keep up the pressure.

Other recent ICAC developments include:

● Of more than 50 complaints of corruption and malpractice the ICAC received

about the New Territories district board elections, six justified investigation.

Files on three cases will go to the Attorney-General to consider whether prosecutions should be instituted.

● The ICAC's community relations division and the City and New Territories Administration will jointly brief candidates standing for the urban district board elections in September.

● The ICAC has been investigating the issue of forged travel documents by Immigration Department staff to allow people to leave Hongkong.

Corruption cases involving extensions of stay here for suspected Filipino prostitutes and forged identity cards occupy attention too.

● The ICAC's corruption prevention division, which helps eliminate administrative anomalies that could lead to corruption opportunities, feels complaints that the ICAC is slowing down the decision-making process within the Government is untrue.

The ICAC is being used as an excuse by officers, who are too scared or lack confidence, to not make decisions and while this is not yet a serious problem, any delay in decision-making can have important effects outside the Government.

It is talking to the Government about the whole principle of accountability.

It will soon get together with the police corruption prevention group to partly look at district police stations, including the special duty squads.

● The ICAC feels there is no cause for concern about those complaints directed at it by the not-so-poor sectors as they are the more articulate groups.

It feels it gets good support from the masses — the poorer people and housing estate residents.

● A recent court case established a test point that a doctor is an agent of his patient when he refers that patient to an X-ray laboratory.

While it is not known if any appeal will be lodged

against this ruling, the ICAC hopes it will deter medical practitioners from accepting kickbacks from laboratories for referring patients to them.

● The abuse of decorating contracts in housing estates still gives the ICAC some cause for concern. It believes that some contractors are undoubtedly triad-controlled.

● The first major international conference on corruption will be held in Washington in autumn next year and about 40 organisations worldwide, including the ICAC, are expected to attend.

● The ICAC's community relations division, which is giving more attention to young people, feels there is very little material on moral education available for teachers.

It plans to produce some

supplementary teaching materials on this subject, such as short stories and poems.

It is also trying to interest 10 secondary schools in taking part in a "social morality programme" where form six students will examine subjects of interest to the young.

● Of the 2,855 complaints received to date this year, 1,750 did not involve the ICAC. Of the rest, 969 complaints were from the public and 105 from Government departments.

Altogether, 690 complaints were against Government staff, 37 against public bodies and 378 against the private sector.

● The ICAC believes that while the corruption situation is not intolerable, it remains a problem.

Three Policemen Arrested

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 29 Jun 82 p 13

[Text]

Fourteen people involved in 11 court cases have been freed this month following the arrest by the Independent Commission Against Corruption of three policemen formerly attached to Wanchai police station's special duty squad.

The Attorney-General, Mr John Griffiths, entered a nolle prosequi (a decision not to prosecute) against these people, whose cases were pending.

It was also decided to go ahead with prosecutions in a similar number of cases. No other cases are being considered in connection with the ICAC arrests.

But future events could make it necessary to look at some convictions, legal sources say.

Besides the three policemen — a sergeant and two constables — a group of civilians also believed to be en-

gaged in corrupt acts involving drugs in this case were arrested.

The sources say that in any one year, the Attorney-General may enter a nolle prosequi against as many as 60 to 80 people.

With the prosecution of 17 policemen attached to the Wong Tai Sin special duty squad, the Attorney-General reviewed 29 drug cases earlier handled by this squad and 32 people were freed.

Fifteen of the 17 policemen were found guilty.

But the other two officers, against whom the Crown offered no evidence, recently pleaded guilty in disciplinary proceedings and this may result in their dismissal.

ICAC investigations showed that the 15 convicted police were arresting dangerous drug traffickers but keeping for their own purposes some of the drugs recovered — and sometimes planting drugs on suspected addicts.

CSO: 5320/9133

HONG KONG

NEW COMMUNITY GROUP WAGES OFFENSIVE AGAINST DRUG ABUSE

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 18 Jun 82 p 2

[Article by Lee Buenaventura]

[Text]

RECENT news reports have revealed that Hong-kong's problem of teenage drug abuse is growing. The number of teenage addicts has risen by more than 100 per cent over the past year, with heroin as the drug of choice.

Marijuana smoking is also on the rise, as evidenced by the increased consignments of cannabis discovered being smuggled into Hongkong.

An organised offensive against this disheartening trend has been taken by the recently formed Community Drugs Advisory Committee.

The committee's stated purpose is to "increase community collaboration in identifying and using all resources that support and assist parents, students, and teachers in preventing and correcting misuse of drugs."

Participating in the committee's work are members representing the Narcotics Bureau, the American Consulate, the American Chamber of Commerce and the American Women's Association, an American medical advisor, educationalists from the English Schools Foundation and Hongkong International School, and parent and student representatives. HKIS was the instigating force behind formation of the committee.

Last year, media coverage was given to a group of expatriate teenagers found guilty of drug abuse, three of whom were forced to leave Hongkong. Because they were students at HKIS, the school became the focus of much unfavourable publicity.

"The drug abuse was perceived as a school problem by parents and media," says the headmaster, Mr David Rittman, "although in actual fact, 98 per cent of drug use takes place outside of school in some social situation or, in the case of a serious user, alone.

"Still, the school is the natural focus for attention because this is where the students' social relationships develop. As such, the school has an important place in the work of drug education.

"While a drug education programme has always been part of our curriculum, we felt that a more aggressive approach was needed, involving the community's resources. Teenage drug abuse is not merely a problem of the school. It is a community problem."

One result, both of last year's student drug involvement and of the committee's work, has been the establishment of a working relationship between the Narcotics Bureau and HKIS. Mr Rittman says that the ingredi-

ents of this good relationship are "strong trust, common objectives, and the ability to share confidential information."

The school provides the bureau with information, knowing that it will be handled sensitively, and the bureau shares its information with the school, trusting that such knowledge will not be used in any way that might hamper investigations.

In addition to sharing information about actual drug activity, the Narcotics Bureau provides assistance in the form of regular visits to the school to talk to the students and parents about drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

This includes straightforward, realistic information on the wide-ranging powers of search and arrest which Hongkong law enforcement agencies have under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance.

Under this law, no distinction is made between so-called "soft" or "hard" drugs and the penalty for possession or trafficking in any illegal drug is the same. It is important that students understand this, particularly those who may have made some distinctions in their own minds between marijuana and drugs like heroin.

The spokesman emphasises, however, that the police are always willing to help

anyone who wants information on advice and treatment, or who wants to report drug activity.

The Narcotics Bureau hotline (5-271234) is manned between 8 am and 11 pm daily. The Action Committee Against Narcotics (ADAN) hotline (3-668822) is also manned daily. Any inquiries or reports to either number are treated with strict confidence.

The Parent-Teacher Association of HKIS is publishing a brochure to be distributed to all newly arrived families. It will contain the foregoing information from the Narcotics Bureau and other pertinent information on all aspects of drug use — physical, social and legal — as well as information on where to seek help.

The PTA will also hold orientation meetings for newcomers in September and January of each year to provide drug and alcohol education.

As early identification means much more effective aid, parents and students are told how to recognise symptoms common to all narcotics users.

Some of those symptoms are: rapid disappearance of clothing and personal belongings from home; signs of unusual activity around hang-outs and other buildings; loitering in hallways or in areas frequented by addicts; spending unusual amounts of time in a locked bathroom; inability to hold a job or stay in school; rejection of old friends or taking up with strange companions; and using jargon of addicts.

Teachers play a major role in the programme by attending in-service courses, contributing to the information flow within the school, and incorporating expanded drug education into the curriculum.

The effects on the body from alcohol and tobacco smoke are covered, as well as the most recent information about dangerous drugs.

For example, many youngsters believe that marijuana is a harmless drug. Yet, the results of a 15-year study in the United States have revealed that marijuana smoking has a cumulative, harmful effect on body organs (the reproductive organs in particular) and is more damaging to the lungs than tobacco smoke.

Students, who have acted as advisors in setting up the programme, will take a progressively more active part through special training in communication skills in order to provide peer counselling.

After-school facilities and activities are provided to encourage youngsters to engage in healthy occupations in their free time. The American Chamber of Commerce is helping in this respect by sponsoring a Youth Employment Service to enable teenagers to work during the summer holiday months.

A continuing liaison exists between the school and other support groups so that assistance or information is readily available, whether through a counsellor, doctor, clergyman, teacher or peer.

Earl Westrick, head of the Counseling Department at HKIS, describes his response to a student who might come to him for advice on drugs.

"The first thing I offer is prolonged, empathic listening. Usually there is the presenting problem — drugs — and the specific problem, of which drugs are only a symptom. It may be family difficulties, low self-esteem, feelings of being a misfit . . .

"Then the extent of drug involvement has to be determined. Sometimes a student might simply want to know more about drugs, in which case information is all that is required. Or it may be that he or she has tried drugs on an experimental basis, simply to satisfy curiosity.

"Education is needed at this point. If usage is circumstantial — that is, repeated use in times of stress or for

recreation — alternatives need to be worked out with the student.

"Finally, if drugs are being used regularly to the point of dependence or even addiction, then direct intervention is called for in the form of medical help, parental involvement, and whatever additional action individual circumstances warrant."

When asked how effective he feels this concerted effort has been thus far, Mr Rittman replies:

"The programme has created an atmosphere of real concern which translates at many levels. Parents are now more aware. Students are more concerned. The net effect is that drug use among students is as low at present as it has ever been in the past decade.

"There have been a very small number of people involved this past year. Whereas 12 months ago, some had reached the point of addiction, today we have been able to reach these students well before the point. They have been able to overcome the problem and put it behind them. To the best of our knowledge, we have no addicts at present."

Mr Rittman does not see that as evidence of a problem solved, but as a sign of progress in handling a problem that can be expected to continue, given the availability and relatively low price of drugs in Hongkong and a constantly changing student population.

"The faculty and administration have to operate on the assumption that during the course of the year we are going to be dealing with some child who has a problem with drugs or alcohol. We are ready with assistance for this child and his parents.

"Information is important," he added, "but it has to be coupled with values and caring. The school cannot do the job alone. The family and community must be active participants."

CSO: 5320/9133

INDIA

UTTAR PRADESH MINISTER ALLEGED TO BE IN DRUG RACKET

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 12 Jun 82 ppl, 7

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is understood to have sought information from UP Chief Minister V P Singh on the alleged involvement of one of his Ministers of State Mr Gulab Singh in alleged narcotics racket.

Mr Gulab Singh, who hails from Chakarata in Dehradun district is the Minister of State in charge of Kumaon Division. The Central Narcotics Department unit at Dehradun has registered a case with the local police against him and eight others, including his step-brother Pooran Singh for illegal cultivation of poppy and the manufacture of opium.

Mr Gulab Singh was granted bail on Thursday by the additional chief judicial magistrate of Dehradun. The charges against him have been registered under the Dangerous Drugs Act.

Receiving a tip the Narcotics Department officials had raided a farm in Mr Gulab Singh's village on which poppy was growing.

According to UP Congress-I circles, the department was tipped by the followers of Mr Gulab Singh's senior ministerial colleague, Mr Brahm Dutt, who also hails from Dehradun.

Many Congress-I men from UP say that the tipping off is merely an extension of the faction fight between him and Mr Brahm Dutt.

CSO: 5300/7034

INDIA

BRIEFS

DELHI MANDRAX SEIZURE--A huge haul of mandrax tablets, weighing about 40 kg and valued at about Rs 1.5 lakh was made from the room of an ITDC hotel in Daryaganj by Central district police on Thursday. The three occupants of the room, who had checked in about four days ago are missing. Police said that the occupants had probably come from Bombay where they had been given the tablets by a Pakistani national to be delivered to a Turkman Gate resident. The information was reportedly given by the room occupants themselves to some officials of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence who had visited them a couple of days ago in connection with some possible foreign exchange violation. Police detectives had been keeping a watch on the room since Thursday, but when no person showed up, the room was opened with a master key. The tablets were found in a big box. According to police, the tablets do not have the markings of the manufacturing company. The Drug Controller has been asked to examine the stock. Police are trying to trace the Rukman Gate resident Kalu to whom the tablets were to be handed over, and are also in touch with Bombay police to track down the Pakistani national. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 12 Jun 82 p 10]

CSO: 5300/7035

MALAYSIA

MILITARY TRAINING REGIME FOR ADDICTS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Jun 82 p 5

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — Drug addicts are being given military training by ex-army officers on an informal basis in the Besut and Bukit Mertajam rehabilitation centres.

They have to undergo drill exercises and other forms of physical training as part of a rehabilitation programme.

Welfare Minister Datin Paduka Hajjah Aishah Ghani, in announcing this today, said reports on the effect of military training on addicts had been favourable.

She said the training appeared to be a "very good form" of discipline for the addicts.

"They have become less unruly," she said.

Datin Paduka Aishah said a report on the proposal for the such training for addicts in other centres

would be submitted to the Cabinet Committee on Anti-Drug Abuse on July 12.

"If our proposal is approved, then the training can be done on a larger scale," she said.

Datin Paduka Aishah said the Ministry would then call for the co-operation of Mindel to provide the training instructors.

At the moment, the Ministry is engaging the services of ex-army officers to conduct the training.

Datin Paduka Aishah said the Ministry also hoped to set up an anti-drug bureau to deal with drug addicts from the point of arrest to their after-care.

She said the bureau would act as a "one-stop centre" in which work involving addicts could be co-ordinated "under one roof".

She said the agency

would be responsible for the arrest of addicts, detecting their addiction, detoxification, rehabilitation and after-care.

The Ministry is now working on the rehabilitation and after-care of addicts with the help of Pemadam.

Datin Paduka Aishah also said an island settlement for drug addicts would be proposed in the report which, she said, was almost completed.

The Ministry had, however, not selected an island for the settlement.

Earlier, Datin Paduka Aishah presented a cheque for \$30,000 to Encik Ashairi Haji Sulaiman, vice-president of the Malaysian Society for the Physically Handicapped.

The contribution is from the International Year of the Handicapped Fund.

CSO: 5300/8329

MALAYSIA

SECRETARY ON TRIAL FOR HEROIN TRAFFICKING

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 17 Jun 82 p 13

[Text]

PENANG, Wed. — A French secretary who met and became intimate with a man here while she was on vacation was shocked to find heroin in a bag given to her by the man, the High Court was told today.

Saubin Beatrice, 22, said she was stunned and did not know what the plastic packets contained when Customs officers found them hidden inside her bag at the airport Customs office.

She said when the Customs officers said they suspected the contents to be heroin, she was "shocked," upset and subsequently broke down.

"I did not put it (drugs) there. I saw it for the first time there. I think I have been used," she said.

She was making her defence under oath before Mr Justice B. T. H. Lee. She has pleaded not guilty to a charge of trafficking in 534 grammes of heroin at the Bayan Lepas international airport on Jan. 27.

To questions by her counsel, Mr K. Kumaraendran, Beatrice said she came to Penang on Nov. 11, 1979 as a tourist and stayed at the

Swiss Hotel in Chulia Street.

She said she met a Chinese man named Eddie Tan Kim Soo at the hotel and they became intimate.

Beatrice said that as her visa was due to expire, she had to return to Bangkok where she had left her documents and luggage at a hotel.

She said she had to collect some money as well in Bangkok which was sent from her bank in Paris. She said she went to Bangkok with Tan.

Flight booked

Beatrice said that on Jan. 20, 1980, she returned to Penang and was given a visit pass to stay here for two weeks.

She said she spent a night in Penang and the next day she went to Batu Ferringhi and then back to the hotel.

She said Tan was with her most of the time. She said when she returned to Penang she had only a canvas bag but as the handle and lock were spoilt Tan asked her to change it.

She said she had already booked her flight to Zurich on Jan. 27, 1980.

But a day before that Tan came in a car to fetch her and took her to a place in town to buy a second-hand bag for her.

Beatrice said Tan later came back with a green bag and put it into the boot of his car and they then went shopping.

She said that evening she packed her books and clothes into the green bag. She said Tan took her canvas bag with him the next morning and said he would join her at the airport.

She said at 1.30 p. m. on Jan. 27, she left the hotel in a taxi to the airport. She said the hotel's porter had earlier brought her green bag to the waiting taxi.

Later she said the taxi driver put the bag into the boot of the car and on reaching the airport, the taxi driver took it out of the boot.

She said she "rolled" the bag to the check-in counter but was told by the people at the counter to get her bag checked at the X-ray machine first.

She said after doing that she returned to the check-in counter and it was then that the Customs officers approached her.

She said she opened her bag with her key at the airport when asked to do so. She said the Customs officers broke open her bag and found plastic packets inside it.

When asked by counsel why she had not mentioned Tan to the Customs officers, Beatrice replied: "I could not be-

lieve that the man I love had made use of me."

"He was to join me the following week and we were to get married in Paris. He told me his visa wasn't ready and that he would meet me in Zurich at one of my girlfriend's place," she added.

She said Tan had told her that he worked in a travel agency and would prefer to marry her in Europe. He did not want his parents to know as they were "very conservative."

Cross-examined by DPP Enck Azmi Ahmad, Beatrice said she stayed at the Swiss Hotel for more than a month.

This afternoon, Mr Kumaraendran in his submission said Beatrice was a young girl of 20 when she fell in love with Tan who had probably made use of her.

Counsel said Beatrice had given a convincing defence and had denied knowledge of the drugs and her evidence was consistent with her cautioned statement.

Counsel added Beatrice had no opportunity to carry the bag and the only time she handled the bag was when she put it on rollers at the airport.

As such, counsel said she would not have suspected that the bag was heavier. Asking the court to acquit her, counsel said the prosecution had also failed to challenge her evidence.

Mr Justice B. T. H. Lee will deliver his judgment tomorrow.

CSO: 5300/8329

MALAYSIA

HEROIN SCARCE, ADDICTS TURN TO LIQUID OPIUM

Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 12 Jun 82 p 14

[Text]

KUCHING. — Drug addicts are turning to liquid opium as well as glue sniffing as supplies of heroin dry up in Sarawak.

Police here report several instances of addicts injecting liquid opium instead of heroin and are also worried about the increase in glue sniffing.

Sarawak First Division police chief Mr Vincent Khoo said police successes against heroin peddlers in the state has led to this change.

He said heroin was now "rare" in the state.

The biggest success from the Narcotics Branch in the drugs war came on May 10 when five people were arrested in Miri and 260 grammes of heroin seized — enough for 55,000 shots.

That success was followed up last week in Kuching when 800 grammes of opium worth \$10,000 were found in a young man's travelling bag.

The man was arrested in Ban Hock Lane on May 25 where police believe he was planning to hand it over to pushers.

The drug is thought to have come from over the border in Kalimantan.

The glue sniffing craze seems to have spread to schools and so far this year 30 students in their early teens have been caught by police.

Mr Khoo said he was very concerned by the

new trend and warned that the actual number of students involved in this dangerous habit could be a lot higher.

The schoolchildren have been caught by teachers and police sniffing in groups of four or five during school breaks usually inside school grounds.

One group of five girls was found sniffing glue in the state library in Jawa Road.

The favourite glue used is gum used to repair bicycle tyres but wood glue is also being used. Both glues are easily obtainable in town shops.

All children caught were found to be in a state of drowsiness.

Mr Khoo has written to the education depart-

ment and schools affected and said it was the school's responsibility to inform the parents of the children involved.

He also appealed to teachers and parents to keep a close watch on children and try to stamp out the craze.

Government doctors have reported that sniffing glue vapour can lead to paralysis and even death. Two people have already died from the habit in Kuching.

The police discovery of addicts turning to liquid opium for their kicks is also a cause of official concern, and action is being taken to determine the extent of this new habit and how to stop opium supplies reaching users.

CSO: 5300/8329

NEW ZEALAND

POLICE FEAR NATURAL SPREAD OF CANNABIS PLANTS IN WILD

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 27 May 82 p 17

[Text]

TAURANGA, May 25, (PA). — Police are concerned about the possibility that cannabis is adapting to New Zealand's climate and may begin spreading naturally.

Already, evidence has been found of natural germination of cannabis seeds from plants grown in remote areas, the Tauranga County Council noxious plants committee was told yesterday.

Cr B Gasson was reporting to the committee on this year's Noxious Plants Officers Institute conference in Napier this month.

During the conference, members of the police drug squad spoke about the cannabis problem, he said.

As well as explaining methods of detecting concealed cannabis plots from the air, squad members spoke of the spread of the plant in New Zealand and fears that it could soon start growing wild.

"To illustrate the extent of the problem, the police found and destroyed 2900

cannabis plants in New Zealand in 1980," Cr Gasson said. "Last year they destroyed 37,000 plants, and already this year 41,000 plants have been dealt with.

Seedlings

"The police are very worried that cannabis will soon spread naturally in the wild.

Already there are signs of this happening, with new seedlings appearing on the site of previously destroyed crops."

The committee was told that while cannabis was classed as a prohibited plant, it did not rank as noxious in terms of the Noxious Plants Act.

The legal position of a landowner who unwittingly had cannabis growing wild on his property was questioned.

The committee decided these questions needed clarification at a national level, and that in the event of cannabis growing wild a decision on declaring it noxious would be required.

CSO: 5320/9134

PAKISTAN

WEST BLAMED HISTORICALLY FOR NARCOTICS PROBLEM

Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 1 Jun 82 p 3

[Text] Nearly two hundred years ago, in fact, soon after the East India Company "Baharud" won the battle of Buxar against Mir Qasim, the Englishmen began the cultivation of opium in the rich lands of Bihar. It was purely a Company monopoly which utilised local labour in a way comparable to the black slaves of America at that very time. The product was then processed into its various forms for the purpose of taking in regulated doses and smoking. Practically all the product was sent to China on British ships which plied between Calcutta, giving the latter the first taste of prosperity on the way to becoming a "City of Palaces." The first consignment was sent in 1779 through Canton. Gradually, as opium was introduced to greater numbers of Chinese through well-organised "pushers," the demand grew and the year 1819 saw its largest exports from India. By the time the China Government realized the growing popularity of opium use, it had already become a menace. A number of bans were imposed against its use. But this only promoted corruption in the administration and even the soldiery. Efforts to stem the influx of the poison at the source also misfired as not only the East India Company refused to stop supplies but took measures to defend its activities. In February 1840 the British Government sent an expedition under Rear Admiral George Eliot with 16 warships to Hong Kong to bolster their efforts to poison the whole of China, since earlier a representative of the Emperor, Lin Tse-hsil had seized and destroyed 20,000 chest of opium in the Canton godowns of the British. Thus began the first of the three full-fledged acts of aggression against China in which the latter got the worst of it and not only the opium trade expanded, bringing in colossal profits to the East India Company, but most of the ports and parts of China were opened to the confederacy of the white powers.

A century passed during which the profits rolling in from the enslaved markets of the East enabled Europe and Britain to build a civilisation of cosy luxury at the expense of the poison they sold and talk of "human rights" and the "equality of mankind." But when the Second World War ended, not only the powers had to loosen their stranglehold from their former colonies, an era came upon them in which they got hoist by their own petard. Opium, marijuana, hashish and other narcotics began their journey the other way. What was just a small trickle soon after the war became a flood. Drug junkets became as much a part of the white man's civilisation as their tail

coats and neckties. Whatever anyone may call it, we see in this historical episode the irrevocable working of Fate, its vengeance in the name of humanity. What was used as a forcible poisoning of a large slice of humanity through arms turned back upon its perpetrators in such a slow process of reversion that many of the wealthiest governments of the developed world are hard put to stem the tide while they watch their children destroying their own lives voluntarily and with their eyes fully open.

Drug peddling was introduced in the West by the Mafia and other organisation of the powerful underground world of crime, trading under a super-law of their own which brushed organised rule aside with contempt. New sources of supply grew up in the East, two of them being Turkey and Pakistan. When all efforts to control the unseen trickle which taken cumulatively was not less than a flood, through law in their own lands, measures were taken to try the bolting of the door at the source. When Turkey was asked to put a stop to its cultivation of the poppy, it acquiesced against a stipulation of monetary recompense which was promptly agreed to. For three years the farmers in Anatolia waited for their own rehabilitation for accepting their Government ban and thereby loosing a lucrative productive activity. It did not come as the compensation was utilised in other ways by their own Government and then they took measures to defy the ban. Another source was Afghanistan which automatically closed with the unleashing of the war of occupation by the Soviet Union. Pakistan and Nepal remained. The NWFP Governor, Lieut General Fazle Haq recently went to the United States to discuss the matter of compensating the growers if they are to be forced to give up the poppy cultivation. We are sure he has returned with a most practicable arrangement which would actually reach the parties concerned. At this juncture we can only recall the callous brush given by the White powers to the human considerations in China during the last century and their own principle that everything was fair in love or war. The trade in narcotics is one of the powerful ingredients in a confrontation which does not have any scruples in using nuclear or chemical weapons by the other side. Only if it could be utilised as a cartel to beat all other cartels, not to gain financially as in the case of oil, but political advantages, it could be an effected screw of the weak.

CSO: 5300/5815

PHILIPPINES

DRUGS WITH EPHEDRINE ORDERED RECLASSIFIED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 3 Jul 82 pp 1, 9

[Text] Cough preparations containing ephedrine have been reclassified by the Ministry of Health from over-the-counter (OTC) drugs to prescription drugs despite opposition from the Drug Association of the Philippines.

Ephedrine, an ingredient in some cough syrups that produces nasal decongestion and bronchodilation, has been found to have addictive effects if taken beyond the prescribed dosage.

Manufacturers and distributors of these drugs were ordered to withdraw stocks of liquid cough preparations containing ephedrine, ephedrine hydrochloride and ephedrine sulfate from retail outlets to put necessary changes on the label.

Health Minister Jesus Azurin ordered that the symbol "RX" and the warning "Caution: Food, Drug and Cosmetic Law prohibits dispensing without a prescription" must be indicated on labels on the cough syrups by Sept. 30.

He also directed the Food and Drug Administration to recall and cancel the registration of ephedrine-containing pharmaceutical preparations as OTC drugs.

Azurin feared that unless the availability of these preparations are regulated, children under 12 years old who take these drugs without consulting a physician may be at risk.

It was noted, however, that ephedrine preparations are safe and effective as bronchodilators in adults in oral dosage of not more than 25 milligrams (mg) per unit every four hours.

Ephedrine, the FDA noted, produces stimulation of the central nervous system, wakefulness, elevated mood, moderately raised blood pressure and quickened pulse rate with raised cardiac output.

It should not be taken by persons with coronary thrombosis, hypertension, hyperthyroidism and close-angle glaucoma, the FDA warned.

It should be given with caution to patients with organic heart disease, cardiac decompensation or angina, the FDA added.

Earlier, the FDA met with drug manufacturers who felt that reclassifying cough syrups would be a disadvantage for legitimate users and reduce their sales.

CSO: 5300/5816

PHILIPPINES

PSYCHOTROPIC DRUG SMUGGLING REPORTED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 2 Jul 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Food and Drug Administration blamed yesterday the deficiencies in import control measures in the various international ports of entry for the presence of psychotropic drugs in the illicit market.

The lack of facilities and manpower to detect and confiscate smuggled drugs contribute to the growing abuse of psychotropic drugs in the country, acting FDA chief Catalina C. Sanchez said at first national workshop on the use and misuse of psychotropic substances.

Psychotropic drugs such as stimulants (amphetamines) and depressants (barbiturates) are medically used for psychiatric ailments.

The Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) reported that the non-medical use and abuse of psychotropic substances is increasing in the country.

When taken indiscriminately, psychotropic drugs may lead to health problems such as drug dependence, drug overdose, hepatitis, infectious complications, neonatal problems and drug psychosis, Sanchez said, citing World Health Organization findings.

DDB chief of research and statistics Estela Ponce noted that during the last five years the most commonly abused psychotropic drugs in the country were Valium, Mogadon, Dalmane, Ativan, Artane, Halcion and Rivotril.

Sanchez noted that the issuance of illegal prescriptions by some doctors and the negligence of some pharmacists in dispensing psychotropic drugs are also among the factors which contribute to the abuse of these drugs.

An overly tolerant attitude towards the use of drugs, inadequate control over their sale and distribution and lax prescribing habits must be checked, according to Erik Ingevics, director of the Colombo Plan bureau.

He cautioned, however, that in controlling the availability of psychotropic drugs the needs of legitimate users must not be overlooked.

Lawyer Pio Abarro, drug adviser of the bureau, noted that the increasing abuse of psychotropic drugs is also a trend in other developing countries but it is more widely abused in developed countries since users are closer to the sources of supply.

PHILIPPINES

ANTI DRUG DRIVE IN DAVAO

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 5 Jul 82 p 8

[Text] Davao City--With the success of the anti-crime drive in the city, Brig. Gen Pedrito de Guzman, Region XI commander, announced that emphasis will now be laid on the fight against the drug menace.

De Guzman said that he will reactivate the personnel of the constabulary anti-narcotics unit (CANU) to check the spread of drug pushing and addiction in the city.

The opening of classes, General De Guzman said, is giving dope pushers a wider field for selling prohibited drugs such as cough syrups, tablets and marijuana.

Marijuana is the most common commodity in the drugs market because the supplies are locally grown. A directive has already been issued to station commanders in Region XI to intensify their campaign against the sale of drugs and marijuana in their respective localities.

The PC-INP regional commander has received reports that the rampant sale of marijuana in the city is being done in school campuses, disco pads and beer houses, and slum areas. It is not only the children of well-to-do families who smoke marijuana but also of poor families, he said.

De Guzman said drug addiction is a worse menace than ordinary crime since its effect on the individual and society is almost permanent.

He said that he will tap organizations like the Kiwanis to help in fighting drug addiction. He is also seeking the help of Msgr. Antonio Mabutas, archbishop of Davao and the religious sector in the campaign against drug addiction, particularly among the youth.

CSO: 5300/5816

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

METRO-WIDE DRUG DRIVE STEPPED UP--VICE GOV. Ismael A. Mathay Jr. formed yesterday action teams to keep watch on dope pushers and their contacts in bus stations. Mathay cited reports that bus terminals were being used as meeting place of pushers and drug users and traffickers. Prohibited drugs, such as marijuana leaves, heroin and opium, are reportedly being supplied by pushers from the provinces and the United States. CANU ALSO reported that the cultivation of marijuana has remained widespread in Central and Northern Luzon, particularly in Nueva Ecija, Benguet and the Ilocos provinces. Constabulary anti-narcotics agents swooped down recently on two marijuana plantations in Ilocos Sur and uprooted 11,540 fully grown plants which they said was worth P1.5 million. Mathay also ordered the Barangay Operations Center to keep a close watch on barangay officials who are reported to be protecting drug syndicates in Metro Manila. THE FULL-BLAST drive against drug trafficking was prompted by the opening of classes. Reports have it that drug abuse is rampant on campuses. Mathay also asked Metro Manila's drug control committees to beef up their drug enforcement units to combat drug abuse on campuses. Most of the vice mayors head the drug control committees in their respective cities and towns. [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 25 Jun 82 pp 1, 6]

MORPHINE RING LEADER--A Philippine Air Force enlisted man is being hunted as the mastermind of a syndicate dealing in morphine. Two men who were caught with 600 cartons of morphinetartrate pointed the EM out. [Excerpt] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 8 Jul 82 p 4]

CSO: 5300/5816

SRI LANKA

GOVERNMENT APPROVES DRUG ABUSE CONTROL LAWS

Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 17 Jun 82 p 1

[Article by Chitra Weerasinghe]

[Text]

Government yesterday approved draft drug control legislation presented to Cabinet by President Jayewardene in his capacity of Defence Minister.

Cabinet spokesman Mr. Anandatissa de Alwis said that the new legislation would be titled an act to Regulate and Control the Cultivation Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Possession, Sale, Distribution and Consumption of Dangerous Drugs.

The President has urged that law enforcement agencies need more muscle in situations where Sri Lanka is being increasingly used as a drug transit area. He wants this problem nipped in the bud with additional powers granted to enforcers.

Currently, an average of 4,000 arrests are made annually for drug-related offences, a Colombo Plan survey has revealed. Ganja cultiva-

tion also increased considerably with the number of plants destroyed increasing from 15.6 metric tons in 1975 to 429 last year.

Government is particularly concerned that many drug users today are young people under 25 years. Even school children experiment in drug use. Dr. V. Navaratnam who handled the Colombo Plan survey has recommended the statutory incorporation of the National Narcotics Advisory Board and the restructuring of the Police Narcotics Bureau and the enactment of deterrent laws.

These recommendations have been incorporated in the draft legislation that is now ready.

CSO: 5300/5803

THAILAND

PRISONER EXCHANGE ISSUE DISCUSSED BY CHIEF JUSTICE

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 21 Jun 82 p 5

[Interview with Sansern Kraijitti, Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals, date and place not give]

[Text] Q: WOULD YOU please outline the background about the requests from the United States and France for agreements with Thailand on prisoner swap?

A: WE INITIALLY negotiated with the United States on this issue. After several rounds of talks, the Interior Ministry drafted an agreement and forwarded it to a committee at the Foreign Ministry. I was then the only vocal opponent to the draft agreement which did not commit the country to any conditions. Under the draft agreement that the Corrections Department discussed with US representatives, US convicts here could be sent to their country immediately after our courts hand down sentences on them, regardless of the nature of their offences. The committee later agreed with my objection and passed the recommendations to the Cabinet through the Foreign Ministry for decision.

The Cabinet resolved in February to set up a committee to handle the issue. I was then named chairman of the special committee which took over the issue from the Interior Ministry. The committee drafted a law to qualify an agreement: that foreign convicts, to be repatriated back to their countries, must spend certain period of time in Thai jails. The draft law also bans exchanges of some categories of foreign prisoners. The draft has won approval from the Cabinet.

Q: FRANCE is going to be the first country to negotiate with us to conclude an agreement within the framework of the law on pri-

soner exchanges. Why are the country so keen in striking the agreement with us?

A: WHEN I went to France as representative of the Thai Government to negotiate on a pact on juridical cooperation of the two countries in late 1980, I sensed that the French people were quite interested in the drug problem. The country was also then considered our criminal codes as outdated. During the negotiations, the French delegates expressed particular interest in exchanges of prisoners between the two countries: However, our talks were then inconclusive as the Thai Government had no policy on the issue.

It was not until recently that the Thai Government assigned the Foreign Ministry to inform to the French Government that we were ready to negotiate on the issue.

The French are quite interested in the issue because that's the public opinion of the people in that country. Furthermore, the European Parliament has also resolved that member countries must try to reach agreements on prisoner swap with Thailand. The number of French convicts in Thai jails for drug offences is about 40, a comparatively high figure. Therefore, the pressure on the French Government to strike such a pact with Thailand is rather high.

When the French authorities were told that our government had no policy to exchange prisoners with them, they submitted a petition to His Majesty the King, appealing for seven French convicts in Thailand to be amnestied. The

French Government said that the convicts should be repatriated as they were in bad health. But it was virtually an excuse. The petition was designed to apply pressure on the Thai Government for talks over the issue.

Britain and the United States have also employed similar tactics. The British Government had appealed for pardon for Rita Nightingale on grounds that she was born in the same town as Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Britain's ex-Foreign Minister Lord Carrington recently visited here and told us that his government would not have done so had the British Parliament not urged the government to do so. As for the United States, I don't remember how many US prisoners the government has requested us to repatriate.

Q: HOW MANY countries have approached us to reach such a deal? What standard do we apply to decide which countries will be considered for negotiations to enter such contracts?

A: THE COUNTRIES that have approached us include Canada, the United States, Italy and Australia besides France. We will negotiate the issue with every country which is interested in exchanging prisoners with us. No discrimination at all. Prisoner swap programmes are a development of the corrections system. We have to take into account the mentality of convicts imprisoned in a foreign country. They could not be visited by their relatives like in their own countries. Of course, the Thai convicts jailed in Europe and the United States might be reluctant to be put in Thai jails, but such programme could benefit our country in other fields. We could use such a deal to bargain for political, economic and military concessions from our partners.

Q: HOW could it be?

A: IF we know that a country wants to enter a prisoner swap programme with us, we would ask certain assistance from the country in exchange for our agreement to have the agreement. We might request the country to purchase more tapioca from us, and increase its financial aid to boost the efficiency of our police in cracking down on narcotics trafficking.

An exchange of prisoners is tantamount to an exchange of benefits, so to say.

Q: DON'T you think that the foreign prisoners could be released once they have been re-

patriated under the prisoner swap programme?

A: THE NARCOTICS suppression force in no countries would favour the idea of prisoner swap as they would have to work harder. You know, the punishment terms for drug convicts in foreign countries are generally short and the released convicts would be likely to pose headache to the anti-drug officials once again.

US and French narcotics suppression officers have told me that they are not in favour of such an arrangement. Well, I joked with them that they should be glad as they would have more work to do and might have to stay here longer to carry out their missions.

Q: WILL THE jail terms in Thailand and back in their own countries of foreign prisoners repatriated home come to, say, 10 years, if they were handed down a sentence of 10 years in jail by a Thai court?

A: NO, because the criminal code of a country is different from that of another.

Q: IN THIS way, it would seem that the verdicts of Thai courts would not apply to them strictly?

A: THIS IS why we have to stipulate in our law that a foreign convict must serve at least four years in Thai jails. If his penalty term is short, he could serve one-third of the jail term. But if he is sentenced to 20 years in prison or a life imprisonment, then he will have to serve a ten-year term in Thai jail.

Q: DESPITE the stipulations, don't you think that there still exists a disparity between Thai and foreign convicts?

A: AFTER all, we have to take into account another fact: Imprisonment here is not as long as it seems as there are frequent pardons and commutations of jail terms for prisoners here. For instance, the average convict who has been sentenced to life imprisonment or 50 years in jail would virtually serve only about seven years in jail.

Q: A PRISONER to be swapped must have received a verdict from the Supreme Court, musn't he?

A: YES. The case must be final and the jail term he serves during his judicial proceedings must also be counted with the exception that he is then bailed out.

Q: WHAT are the merits and disadvantages we would get from a prisoner swap programme?

A: FIRST OF all, the prisoner swap programme will relieve our financial burden in feeding foreign prisoners. The government is paying eight baht daily to each of about 600 foreign inmates in our jails. This comes to about 4,800 baht daily.

It's also not the duty of our government to try to change foreign citizens to well-behaved people. Their governments should take the responsibility.

Most important of all, the introduction of a prisoner swap programme will help divert foreign countries from appealing for amnesty for their citizens here from His Majesty the King because they will have another legal channel.

On the other hand, some critics might have attacked the programme as a new form of extraterritorial privileges. But I don't think the wording is correct as we have set as conditions a period of jail term for foreign convicts here before they could be repatriated.

It is imperative that the foreign convicts must be told about the consequences of their criminal offences by being imprisoned for some years in Thai jails.

Q: HOW would you comment about the proposal that compensation should be paid to the suspects who have served some time in jails despite the fact that they are later acquitted by an appeal or supreme court?

A: THESE CASES do have political implications. Technically, one could say that these suspects have been punished for nothing. I still perceive no solutions to the problem.

Q: SOME PEOPLE have said that some prisoners who have committed only petty crime cases could learn the ropes of the criminal businesses and commit serious crime after they are released. What are your comments over this issue?

A: THAT doesn't sound logical. The Corrections Department has said that the probability is practically almost nil, if not absolutely impossible. Let me put it this way: If an innocent person is imprisoned

pending his court proceedings and later becomes a criminal after his release, would you blame the imprisonment for his wrongdoings? No, I don't think so. If he does commit crime after his release, then I would blame his own propensity to break the law.

Q: HOW ABOUT the proposal suspects should have full right to be bailed out so that they could prepare evidence to defend their cases in court? What criteria do we use to decide whether to grant bail to a suspect? Critics have said that only fluent suspects could be bailed out.

A: A SUSPECT who has not been indicted would be considered innocent while those who are imprisoned pending appeals would likely receive bail. We would like to grant bail to all suspects, but we also have to take into considerations whether a suspect tends to jump bail and the seriousness of his charge. His bail would also be evaluated accordingly. If the suspects are government officials, we allow their superiors to be their guarantors.

Q: THE LOCAL Printing House case has been very interesting. Were there loopholes in the charges filed against them?

I BELIEVE that the courts mostly base their rulings on evidence. About 80 per cent of the verdicts handed down by the Criminal Court and the Court of Appeal have been upheld by the Supreme Court. The suspects who were accused of being involved in the irregularities and corruption at the printing house of the Local Administration Department (LAD) were acquitted because they had not been found to abuse their authority as charged. They have just followed ministerial orders. In fact, the Public Prosecution Department should sue the man who issued the orders, but the prescription for the case has expired and the man could now face only prosecution in the Civil Court, and not the Criminal Court.

CSO: 5300/5806

THAILAND

POLICE ACCUSED OF DRUGS COVER UP

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Jun 82 p 3

SOME policemen at Bang Rak and Thong Lor stations have intentionally made weak cases against foreign drug offenders so that the prosecutors cannot prosecute them, a special-grade prosecutor with the Public Prosecution Department charged yesterday.

Mr Paiboon Nirad said that the department had long suspected that some police at Bang Rak and Thong Lor did this because they have been receiving bribes from arrested foreigners.

He claimed that when irregularities in the stations' records are brought to the attention of senior policemen, the stations only investigated a few low-ranking policemen who are made the scapegoats.

Paiboon pointed to the case of a Miss Ursula Compos who was arrested by Bang Rak police last year allegedly with a vial of heroin in her possession. In their testimony to the Prosecution Department Bang Rak police recommended releasing Miss Compos because of insufficient evidence.

EVIDENCE

However, the department has evidence that a new arrest record for the case bore the forged

signature of the officer in charge, Paiboon said.

The alleged falsified record stated that the vial of heroin was not in Miss Compos' possession when she was arrested. This contradicts the police record at the time which states that she was arrested while possessing the heroin, he said.

The Prosecution Department asked the Police Department to investigate the irregularity. But only Pol Sgt-Maj Api-chart Kemthong, the station's clerk, was investigated. Miss Compos was later released and left the country.

Paiboon claimed that the police at first made a strong case against Miss Compos when she was arrested but later falsified the arrest record to help the suspect.

He added that the department knows which policemen were involved and it has the evidence to prove its allegations.

Paiboon also recalled a case involving police at Thong Lor station who last year arrested two

Greek tourists, Mr George Lelatis and Mr Demitrios Salis, for alleged possession of 17 grammes of heroin.

Only Lelatis was prosecuted while Salis was released after his relatives flew to Bangkok.

Lelatis was convicted but is now appealing his five-year-jail sentence.

Paiboon alleged that police documents were also forged in this case and when an investigation was ordered, only Pol Sub-Lt Pravit Phumpo came under suspicion. Pravit has since been transferred to the Phra Kanong station.

Other prosecutors confirmed that the department has been investigating alleged irregularities at the Bang Rak and Thong Lor police stations for a long time.

They said that the department has gathered evidence and is considering what action can be taken against certain policemen at the two stations.

CSO: 5300/5806

VIETNAM

SENTENCING OF TRAIN PERSONNEL BRIBED BY DRUG SMUGGLER ANNOUNCED

Hanoi GIAO THONG VAN TAI in Vietnamese 20 Apr 82 p 5

[Article: "From the Case 'Accepting a Bribe to Do Something Not Permitted'"]

[Text] Not long ago, the Hanoi Municipal People's Court held a trial of the first instance for Nguyen Van Tuyen, train crew chief, and his accomplices for the crime of accepting a bribe and abusing their authority to do something that was not permitted--release a drug smuggler.

This was a serious case that occurred immediately after the promulgation of the law on the punishment for offering and accepting bribes (the law was promulgated on 20 May 1981 and Tuyen and his accomplices committed their crime on 23 May 1981). The acceptance of the bribe was an organized act and all of the persons who committed the crime were persons of position and authority.

A summary of the case follows:

At 1030 hours on 23 May 1981, passenger train L22, of which train crew chief Tuyen was in charge, was at the Yen Bai Railroad Station preparing to go to Hanoi when three public security troops from Yen Bai City arrived and requested that the train's crew coordinate with them in inspecting the baggage of the passengers on car number 8 in order to find a drug smuggler. After the inspection had been underway for about 10 minutes and the smuggler had not been found, the crew was ordered to depart, consequently, the three public security troops had to disembark. At the Viet Tri Station, train crew chief Tuyen assembled a number of personnel, conducted an inspection to find the contraband and uncovered both the drugs and the smuggler. Tuyen took the smuggler to the baggage car at the rear of the train and had one of the train's personnel lock up the smuggled goods in the service room in car number 10.

During the trip to the Hanoi Railroad Station, in the baggage car, Tuyen suggested to and agreed with the smuggler to conceal his illegal act in return for a bribe of 15,000 dong and agreed to meet at 1500 hours the next day to deliver the drugs and money to each other at the temporary residence of the work crew on the Hanoi

train. Assistant train crew chief Quan, who was present when the incident occurred, also agreed with Tuyen's solution.

In order to avoid detection by the responsible agencies, Tuyen had one of the train's personnel, Nguyen Dinh Thi, jump from the train with the contraband at Phung Hung before the train entered the Hanoi Station.

Tuyen based the amount of the bribe on the "contribution" and knowledge of the incident of each person within the work section and divided it among them. Tuyen and Thi each took 3,000 dong, assistant crew chief Quan took 2,000 dong and so forth.

The crime committed by crew chief Tuyen and the crew on this train was quickly exposed. The court sentenced Tuyen to 7 years in prison, Quan and Thi to 4 years in prison...

The accepting of a bribe to do something that was not permitted by train crew chief Tuyen and the crew on train L22 raises matters that the various transport units, especially the rail and river transport units, beginning with the work crews on trains, must think about and consider regarding their educational activities and management.

Is It Still Less Than Thorough?

From the opinions expressed by the director of the train crew section at the court, it can be seen that the train crew section attaches very much importance to teaching politics and ideology and regularly organizes phases of study and review designed to heighten the spirit of responsibility and sense of collective ownership, struggle against negative phenomena and so forth. However, from this crime of a collective nature committed by the crew on train L22, there can be no other explanation and one would think that the matter that has been raised must be examined by the various leadership levels of the train work section. Is not our political education less than thorough, less than the "dosage" needed for persons who daily come into contact with passengers, baggage and even money if not to say onesided? On the other hand, the organization of management, especially regarding the role of the crew chief and assistant chief, the persons who are in charge of the crew on the train, must also be examined.

It has been learned that team L22 consists entirely of persons who are still youths. And, as the director told us, this team has long been making many positive contributions and was the hope of the section!

In actuality, the persons who were directly involved or dragged into this case displayed the full nature of the young: they easily make mistakes but, once they realize that they have made a mistake, they do not hesitate to admit it. This was why the case was quickly concluded and the investigative agencies did not have to expend much manpower; the bribe money was quickly collected in the

full amount of the bribe and deposited in public funds. The problem raised here is that in a good collective in which the person in charge has not been carefully examined or selected and in which persons who are decadent are allowed to remain, they have a more than small influence upon the entire collective and can even lead a collective into crime. The crew on train L22, crew chief Tuyen and assistant crew chief Quan are a clear example. The capturing of the drug smuggler by the crew on train L22 would have been an achievement if they had reported the matter and turned all the evidence and the smuggler over to the responsible agency. However, the crew of L22 did not do this and crew chief Tuyen led the entire team down the path of crime!

This is perhaps a lesson in selecting "chiefs," not only with regard to the Hanoi train crew section, but to river and ocean transport units as well.

The Struggle Is Still Sharp and Complex

Also from the opinions expressed by the director of the train crew section, it is clear that the section always takes a stern attitude toward and struggles against every negative phenomenon occurring within its unit. Because of its concern for protecting its corps, the section quickly uncovered the mistakes made by team L22. The Disciplinary Council of the section promptly held a meeting at the Yen Bai Train Crew Station to take disciplinary action against the persons who had abused their authority, which provided favorable conditions for the case to be quickly concluded.

And, not only in the case of train L22, the train crew section has regularly struggled against persons involved in negative phenomena and the Disciplinary Council of the section has intensified its activities and so forth; despite these efforts, negative phenomena still occur, of which the case of "accepting a bribe to do something not permitted" by the crew on train L22 is an example. Clearly, the struggle against negative phenomena in the Hanoi train crew section, in particular, and within our sector, in general, is still very complex and very sharp; we cannot be satisfied with the results achieved so far in the struggle, rather, we must continue to wage this struggle on a more regular and determined basis.

On the basis of the lesson learned from the case involving the crew on train L22, it is hoped that the various units, especially the railroad and river transport enterprises and units, will give thought to aspects of their political and ideological education that are inappropriate, thoroughly scrutinize the deployment of persons in charge of means of transportation, take determined steps to remove unqualified persons and wage a strong struggle to repulse and eventually abolish every negative phenomena.

7809
CSO: 5300/5796

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COLOMBIAN OFFICIAL DISCOVERED WITH COCAINE IN MEXICO

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 24 Jun 82 p 5-A

[Text] The PGR [Office of the Attorney General of the Republic] reported that Joaquin Antonio Vangochea Pineda, assistant administrative undersecretary in the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Colombia, tried to introduce 9 kilos of cocaine into Mexico. The cocaine is valued at more than 180 million pesos on the narcotics black market.

The diplomat, who arrived in Mexico City this past 18 June on Varig flight 872, on being intercepted by federal officers detailed to the airport, showed passport 14772 accrediting him as a Colombian Government official. He asked that his immunity be respected and that his suitcases not be examined.

The federal officials told him that they had to examine the baggage, because it was known that on that flight an attempt was being made to introduce cocaine, which irritated Vangochea Pineda. After telling the police that he would not consent to such an outrage, he very angrily said that he wanted to telephone his embassy. Astonished at how perturbed the diplomat was, the federal officers allowed the official to go to a telephone. The diplomat took advantage of this to escape.

Upon becoming aware of his escape, the federal officers, together with members of the customs staff, and in the presence of the Federal Public Ministry--that was urgently called to the air terminal--as well as representatives of the Embassy of Colombia, Cristina Uribe de Luna and Carlos Jaime Osorio Izasa proceeded to examine the baggage. In one suitcase they found a package of polyethylene, with 5 kilograms of cocaine.

The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic ascertained that the Colombian returned to his country the following day, 19 June, on Avianca flight 87.

8255
CSO: 5300/2327

BERMUDA

METHADONE CLINIC FOR ADDICTS STILL STALLED AFTER 12 MONTHS

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 10 Jun 82 p 3

[Text] The promised expansion of Government's methadone clinic for drug addicts still shows no sign of going ahead — nearly a year after the programme collapsed.

Confusion and doubt over the future of the programme, which is held at St. Brendan's Hospital, were confirmed yesterday by the hospital's medical director, Dr. Michael Radford.

Although the programme has been bolstered by the addition of new staff, it is now treating only three heroin addicts — one less than when it closed for new admissions last July.

Nor does Dr. Radford want to expand the programme until it is supported by adequate back-up services, including counselling. "Methadone treatment without the proper back up services is dangerous," he said. "We have been saying that for years. We have only continued with it in the hope that the other things would be built up."

Dr. Radford, however, dismissed a criticism made in a letter to The Royal Gazette that while Government was

withholding methadone from local addicts it was dispensing it freely to tourists on the production of a doctor's note.

"This was something that we had to look at when we closed down the new admissions because we felt that people might feel hard done by locally if we helped tourists but not local people. We made a decision that we would not take on tourist addicts," he said. "But in the last couple of months we have had one or two people for about five or 10 days while they were here as tourists."

"This has happened since Dr. Haigh arrived from Canada. It has not been a big conscious decision. It is just because we are trying to be as helpful as we can and cause as little damage as possible."

Despite the gloom over the methadone clinic, the co-ordinator of Government's drug programme, Mr. Bryant Richards, was optimistic that other services for addicts had improved.

He and his co-workers

were now seeing some 40 addicts on a "regular basis" while information collected on the scope of the drug problem was expected to form the basis of a new report which will be passed on to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

"I think we are moving forward," he said. "We may not be moving as fast as we would like but it is not as cut and dried as most people think it is."

"If we have 10 addicts, for example, we are talking about 10 different concepts of how these people got on drugs and 10 different methods of getting them off."

"In the last few months we have made strides in providing adequate services until we have finally come up with what we think is a decent programme."

"But one of our major problems is lack of space. I am operating out of an office right now with three or four other people. We are hoping that once we can get additional office space, we can move ahead and things will get much better."

CSO: 5300/7564

JAMAICA

BRIEFS

DESTRUCTION OF GANJA FIELD--ALEXANDRIA, St. Ann, June 17 (From our correspondent) One-and-a-half acres of matured ganja and one acre of seedlings were destroyed by the police at Cave Valley in a raid at Cedar Valley District, three miles from Cave Valley, yesterday. No arrest was made. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Jun 82 p 2]

DRUG THEFT FROM POLICE--A large amount of ganja and, informed sources say, hard drugs have been stolen from the Police Narcotics headquarters, at Spanish Town Road, in Kingston. The Gleaner has been unable to get official information on the theft, the quantity and the hard drugs stolen. However, the Gleaner has learnt that high-level police investigation of the theft is going on, under tight secrecy. A line of the investigation being pursued, the Gleaner understands, has to do with the death on May 13 of Det. Cpl. Wayne Anthony Crawford, 27, of the Police Operations Base, Spanish Town Road, Kingston, and of Apartment 5, No. 7 Graham Heights, Kingston 8. Det. Cpl. Crawford had taken ill at a bar on Red Hills Road in Kingston and then went home, the Gleaner understands. The Police Information Centre said on May 17, that Det. Cpl. Crawford fell ill at home about 10 p.m. on May 13 and was declared dead on arrival at the University Hospital, Mona. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 21 Jun 82 p 2]

CSO: 5300/7566

MEXICO

BRIEFS

DRUG LABORATORY DISCOVERED--Mexico City, 26 Jun (NOTIMEX)--A clandestine laboratory for the manufacture of opium and heroin was discovered today in Chacala, Sinaloa. Manuel Heredia Beltran and Joaquin Herdia Leon, presumed to be the owners of the laboratory, were arrested during the raid. The items seized include several special products for the processing of opium gum, scales and other lab equipment as well as 2 grams of heroin used as a sample for possible sales abroad. [FL281407 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2350 GMT 26 Jun 82]

CSO: 5300/2334

EGYPT

BRIEFS

GERMANS ARRESTED AT SUEZ--An attempt to smuggle large quantities of opium and hashish worth LE 4 million into the country has been thwarted by police at Suez port. Two Germans were arrested aboard the ship carrying the narcotics. Police had received reports that international smuggling gangs had switched its techniques covering their activities to India. Police found that a smuggling gang had already concealed large quantities of drugs aboard the "Torba" at Bombay port. One of the gang accomplices was responsible to meet the ship while she stopped at Suez port awaiting the passage through the Suez Canal en route to Europe. The accomplice was to receive the drug shipments in return for \$250,000 each. A police had worked out a plan to win the confidence of the ship crew members according to which officers pretended to be the gang accomplices entrusted with receiving the drug shipments. Upon arrival of the ship at Suez a group of boats with policemen aquirred with walkie-talkies took position. Three officers boarded the ship claiming to be the gang accomplices and thus managed to seize the drugs.--GSS [Text] [Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 27 Jun 82 p 2]

CSO: 5300/5019

IVORY COAST

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFIC--Has the city of Man become the turntable for drug traffic in the West region? Two neighborhoods stand out--Avocatiers and Koko. Have the police the resources to cope with the resulting criminal activity? In the opinion of Commissioner Doukoure Mamadou, the police are not effecting brilliant coups but remain effective. He says that Koko is a drug storage area, because there are a large number of users there. The neighborhood thus has middlemen, some of whom have been cited and arrested. Some young people also use pharmaceutical products (amphetamines) which come from Guinea. As to marijuana, there are sources everywhere. For example, the police discovered a field of marijuana in Doyaguine, a suburb of Man. The nature of Koko as a neighborhood favors illegal trade. It is a populous area with streets which wind among the shops. In this quarter of ill repute, prostitution exists along with sizable families, whose shady morals create daily dramas. Here small groups gather on Friday evenings. The ritual of distributing the drug and smoking around a bend in the road has general acceptance. The smell of dope is in the air. And at the approach of a stranger, the smokers disperse quickly. It is therefore in this poor neighborhood that rumors of all kinds about the police--their corruption and inefficiency--circulate. [Excerpts][Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 19-20 Jun 82 p 9] 5157

CSO: 5300/5809

FINLAND

POLICE DISCOVER GANG SMUGGLING HASHISH FROM DENMARK

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 10 Jun 82 p 12

[Article: "Drug Smuggling Ring Discovered in Helsinki"]

[Text] A 12-member drug ring, which has smuggled according to estimates 6--7 kilos from Denmark into Finland, was disclosed in Helsinki. The ring includes six men and six women.

The narcotics police in Helsinki were given the case in the spring, but they were not able to confiscate even 1 gram of hashish since the ring had already had a chance to distribute all of it to the drug markets.

Police Inspector Torsti Koskinen, director of the narcotics section of the Helsinki Criminal Police, states that the ring smuggled hashish from Copenhagen in the period between March and December of last year. The drugs were brought in on at least 11 different trips using various ports and means of transportation.

The hashish was brought into the country in approximately half kilo lots either taped to the skin or concealed in clothing.

The drug ring has operated on the organized principle of employer-employee. The ring has been under the strict control of a 50-year old man, who is presently serving a sentence for property crimes. The other members of the ring receive payment for smuggling and distribution. The amount of the payments has not yet been determined.

The drugs were sold in Southern Finland, in Helsinki and Kymenlaakso, among other places. The principle point of sales was in Helsinki.

Koskinen characterized the ring as a "ring of old lords" since the oldest male member of the ring is 52 years old, the boss is 50, and his closest assistant is 46. On the other hand, the women are quite young. The youngest of them is a 17-year old girl. She was allowed to go free after the hearing since her involvement in the activities of the ring was confirmed to be quite minimal. Also another woman was allowed to go free.

Of the other members some are already in prison and some are being detained.

Court proceedings on the case have already commenced. The actions of one of the ring members were heard before the Helsinki Municipal Court on Wednesday. Police Inspector Koskinen states that the proceedings are just beginning and may last a long time.

Koskinen describes the smuggling and sale of the hashish as professional. Some of the people involved in the case have previously committed property crimes.

According to Koskinen the 6--7 kilos of smuggled hashish represents a significant amount. Hashish costs approximately 50,000 markkas per kilo so that the value of the smuggled hashish amounted to approximately 350,000 markkas.

10576
CSO: 5300/2315

FRANCE

OFFICIAL ON CONTROL, ELIMINATION OF ADDICTION, TRAFFICKERS

Paris LE MATIN in French 18 May 82 p 16

[Interview with Francois Colcombet by Olivier Postel-Vinay: "Drugs Are One of the Underlying Causes of Crime"]

[Text] Charged by the prime minister with leading a permanent mission in the fight against drug addiction, the magistrate proposes that banking secrecy be lifted for persons suspected of trafficking. Charged by the prime minister with leading the Permanent Mission for the Fight Against Drug Addiction, Francois Colcombet has no easy task. Compared to the rapid growth of drug consumption, the means available to him are limited. A magistrate specializing in financial affairs, he assigns special importance to the repression of traffickers. In the course of a press conference today, he is to report on the work of this mission. We met with him.

LE MATIN: Judging by the latest statistics that have become known (first quarter of 1982), we are facing a heavy increase in drug consumption. Are these preoccupying statistics a reflection of the economic crisis?

Francois Colcombet: The statistics must be analyzed with an element of precaution. The personnel of the Paris Police Prefecture assigned to the fight against drug addiction, by the end of last year, was increased from 40 to 60 persons. This is like violations of the traffic regulations: you discover them mostly when you put more cops on the job. That does not necessarily mean that we now have more of them.

The fact remains that the number of cases handled since 1977 increased considerably and regularly, regardless of the type of drugs. The most spectacular development here concerns heroin, whose surveyed users in 4 years increased from less than 1,000 to almost 5,000.

There is probably a link with the economic crisis, above all if you realize that drug use somehow has become proletarianized. Until around the start of the 1970s, drugs by and large were to be found among the universities and the ritzy sections of town. That is no longer true. In Paris, the market has shifted toward the sections of town in the east. Today, the typical user

is a young unemployed person or an apprentice who has not finished his schooling. At the start of the 1970s, taking drugs often involved a cultural rite connected with the ideological crisis. Going down the steps of the social ladder, the rite changed its nature.

[Question] Is the heavy increase in the use of cannabis worrying you as much as the use of heroin and solvents?

[Answer] Yes, because, in overall terms, this involves the same phenomenon. The number of cannabis users counted increased from 2,500 to more than 6,000 in 4 years. Of course, cannabis is less dangerous than heroin or solvents. The idea according to which it would be absolutely harmless however is no longer generally accepted by specialists. Its repeated use seems to have an effect on brain function. To tell you exactly what I think of cannabis, I can do no better than to compare it to that national scourge which goes by the name of alcohol. Just as there are more or less alcoholic beverages, so there are more or less strong varieties of cannabis, ranging from herbs cultivated in flower pots in our climate to preparations in the form of oil or concentrated paste. Let us agree that, in spite of all precautions, we cannot bring the use of alcohol in France under control since we record some 10,000 deaths per year. It seems to me that an experience of this kind should make us very alert. Just because we have one plague does not mean that we should have another one.

[Question] So you do not agree with those who are in favor of liberalizing the sale of cannabis?

[Answer] I am very cautious on that score. Here again you must clearly distinguish between the kind of talk you hear in certain circles and the social reality of drug addiction. Even high society in Paris, for example, includes several militant cocaine addicts. They are a little bit like athletes who take dope to win. Now, these persons often shroud their liberal comments in considerations concerning poverty and the right to pleasure. Their position is at the very antipodes of that of the average drug addict. The latter lives an experience of failure, of being on the sidelines, of being powerless. The occasional use of cannabis hardly entails any risks for a well-placed individual with a job, etc. But we could not say as much about a school drop-out who is unemployed.

[Question] What means of action are you envisaging? Repression?

[Answer] On that score, I would like to make two main charges against the preceding administration. The first one is that it was too much inclined to consider the holdup as the number one crime which was to be given absolute priority in terms of repression. The second one is that it let up in control over the big pharmaceutical laboratories.

This heavy concentration on holdups overlooked the fact that drugs must be considered one of the underlying causes of crime. To get drugs, you must have money. When you do not have it, you have to steal it. Repressing drug traffic and preventing drug use thus means attacking one of the main causes of the tremendous increase in theft and attacks, especially in Paris. The

important thing is not to put drug addicts into prison since the only crime they committed was to drug themselves (since that is a crime). But in this risk of triggering a chain reaction, I find one more reason for us to be particularly severe toward traffickers regardless of the type of products they sell.

On that point, I think that certain pharmaceutical laboratories would be in line for a little examination of conscience. Medications, like solvents, often are a substitute for heroin. Now, products containing mind-changing substances have multiplied wildly. Besides, there is illicit trafficking in medications, especially amphetamines, made in France and sold in the developing countries--from which they sometimes come back to Europe.

[Question] But the bulk of drug traffic originates abroad just the same. Can we contemplate an increase in the means of international repression?

[Answer] During international meetings, experts are above all interested in ways of seizing the goods of the traffickers. France above all insists on improving police techniques. For example, we would like to have banking secrecy lifted when there is suspicion. Now, certain countries continue bitterly to oppose this measure. It is therefore clear that financial repression would permit us and, I am sure, soon will permit us to strike at a sensitive point.

[Question] How do you conceive of nonrepressive means in the fight against drugs?

[Answer] Good information is one of the keys to the problem. Radio and above all television can play a considerable role here. Both for the good and for the bad. Very many young people began to sniff glue after seeing the film about the children of Bogota. On the other hand, certain articles, certain broadcasts did provide information without getting anybody stirred up. It would be necessary to increase the number of well-made broadcasts and above all to provide as much information as possible for all journalists.

It is furthermore indispensable and urgent to give those who are in direct contact with children, especially teachers and doctors, basic training and permanent background in the matter of drug addiction. The teacher is also an educator. He must know what to do in facing a specific problem posed by a child or a group of children. The GP has a special responsibility because it is often he who is the first to see the young drug addict or his family and because he has the power to issue an order. Now, the GP's presently do not get any basic training worthy of that name. As for permanent training, which is optional, it varies according to the regions. Sometimes there is nothing of that sort.

[Question] Are you in favor of what is being done in certain countries of northern Europe--in other words, forced care?

[Answer] No. The penal aspect is one thing and the medical aspect is another. Of course, this is not the easy way out. But if one does not scrupulously respect freedoms, even in the choice of therapeutic methods, then we will experience what Orwell describes in "1984."

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FRANCE

ITALIAN CONNECTED HEROIN TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED ON RIVIERA

Paris L'HUMANITE in French 14 May 82 p 16

[Text] Marseille police officers last week broke up several small rings which had been supplying the Cote d'Azur with heroin. A score of traffickers were arrested and 300 grams of heroin were seized.

After the arrests which they were able to complete last week at Nice, Toulon, and Marseille, police officers in Marseille confirmed the tendencies revealed several days ago by their colleagues in Paris. Drugs, particularly heroin, are abundant on the market and the prices that drug addicts must pay to supply themselves are going down.

Commissioner Sanguy, the boss of the Marseille SRPJ, for example, was able to state that the rings broken up by his outfits were selling 180 grams of heroin per week instead of the usual 50 grams for this type of organization. These are small outfits made up of two or three traffickers who supply a clientele of drug addicts who resell the stuff.

A score of persons were charged. These traffickers go their supplies in Italy where the mafia, which controls the underground laboratories, runs the traffic. A certain Rudolph Cot, 39, frequently made the trips between Marseille and Italy. Two other rings operated in the same fashion at Toulon whereas a father and son, the Caietta [family], were operating at Nice, directing a gang of 13 traffickers. The latter kept business accounts showing transactions amounting to Fr 120,000.

At Montpellier, a young, 18-year-old student by the name of Jacques B., died Monday following a heroin shot. He had been a drug addict for a long time and had injected himself with the drug mixed with lemon juice. He died of pulmonary embolism. Two of his friends, who participated in the same drug party, are in the serious condition in the hospital.

At Mulhouse, finally, officers assigned to the narcotics squad arrested three traffickers. Their investigation had begun after the death--due to overdose--of a 4-month pregnant, 19-year-old girl.

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SWEDEN

COUNCIL ISSUES ANNUAL REPORT OF DRUG ABUSE FIGURES, TRENDS

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 16 Jun 82 p 5

[Article by Thomas Lerner: "Drug Abuse Decreases--but More Addicts Die"]

[Text] Narcotics abuse among youths has decreased since the beginning of the 1970's. That is shown by a report from the Crime Prevention Council, BRÅ. But at the same time more and more narcotics-related crimes are being discovered and more addicts than before are dying of overdoses or sequelae.

BRÅ publishes statistics on crime in Sweden every year. The report-- "Narkotikautvecklingen 1982" [Drug Developments 1982]--that the council presented on Tuesday [15 June] is a similar report, but on the extent and development of drug abuse.

The National Board of Education, SÖ, regularly investigates how many elementary school pupils have tried hash or any other narcotic.

The latest studies, which are reported in the BRÅ publication, reveal that the abuse of narcotics has decreased since the beginning of the 1970's.

In 1971, 15 percent of all pupils in the ninth year of school answered that they had used narcotics at some time. In 1981 the figure had dropped to 9 percent, and among those who are entering the sixth year of school there are still extremely few that have tried any narcotics.

"But we perhaps should not yet draw too far-reaching conclusions from these studies. Some pupils never answer the questions, and the social pressure has also increased in recent years. It is harder to admit that one has used narcotics today than it was 10 years ago."

So says Jan Andersson, a researcher with BRÅ's development unit.

SIFO [Swedish Public Opinion Research Institute] and FOA, the Defense Research Institute, have also studied narcotics abuse among Swedish youths. FOA distributes questionnaires each year to the 50,000 young men who are being called up to enlist in compulsory military service.

The answers show that abuse within this group has increased somewhat since the beginning of the 1970's. SIFO points out a sharp increase in drug abuse until a few years ago. Since then there has been a decrease.

Esbjörn Esbjörnsson is working with narcotics questions at the National Police Board.

"I believe the mischievous drug use among youths has gone down. It is not 'in' to use drugs today," he tells DAGENSNYHETER.

"But heavy use has not decreased. But neither has it increased in any dramatic way."

The BRÅ report also shows that more drug addicts than before are dying of overdoses or sequelae. But that does not necessarily mean that use of drugs has increased.

Heroin, which has become commoner and commoner in the last few years, is easy to overdose, and this can lead to involuntary suicide. Many drug addicts also use dirty syringes and needles, and are therefore likely to be affected by infections or other diseases.

Cocaine

In the National Police Board there is great uneasiness that cocaine may get a foothold on the market.

"Cocaine may become the big narcotics problem of the 1980's if it spreads out on the street from the closed society in which it is used today," says Esbjörn Esbjörnsson. "But hash can also cause problems, since the smuggling is being done professionally today, as it formerly was not."

The BRÅ report also shows that more and more narcotics crimes are being detected. That is due to the fact that the police have greater resources to devote to combatting narcotics and that prosecution practice has changed. The courts' appraisal of narcotics crimes and misdemeanors is considerably harsher than formerly.

Bo Svensson is a division head at BRÅ. He thinks the report that the council has produced is an important document.

"It shows that drug abuse is not leading at galloping speed to destruction, and that politicians can sit down quietly and peacefully and discuss what needs to be done. Drug abuse among youths has not increased, as many believed," says Bo Svensson.

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SWEDEN

DRUG DEATHS INCREASING IN STOCKHOLM AREA

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 7 Jun 82 p 7

[Article by Claes Löfgren]

[Text] During the first quarter of this year 28 drug addicts died directly or indirectly from their drug use in the area under the jurisdiction of the Stockholm county council. If the trend holds, that means an increase for the whole year of a good 7 percent compared to 1981.

"No definitive conclusion about the change can be drawn, however, until we know the figures for the next quarter," says Chief Medical Officer Nils-Olof Danell, who produced the figures.

Compared to 1975--when the study of the number of known deaths due to narcotics addiction began--the number has increased from 25 to 98 deaths in 1981. Whether the increase is matched by an increase in the total drug abuse is hard to say.

Probably the increase is due to the fact that heroin--which came in among drug users 4 or 5 years ago--is now beginning to carry off its victims. "Rapid circulatory collapse with signs of pulmonary edema" is sometimes found in the death certificate of a drug addict. The condition is called "wet lung," and is due to an overdose of heroin. The pulmonary circulation is choked off.

Increased Blood Pressure

Another acute and equally dramatic cause of death can be cerebral hemorrhage or cardiac infarction caused by an amphetamine injection. When the amphetamine is injected the blood pressure goes up from a normal 120-130 to 300 mm of mercury. If the abuse continues, sooner or later a blood vessel bursts from the extremely high blood pressure.

Other and less dramatic causes of death are contagious diseases which follow in the wake of drug abuse: yellow jaundice, blood poison, pneumonia, and diseases of the liver. A third category of causes of death is suicide, accidents, or violence, which are probably more common among drug addicts than others.

Blood Clots From Potato Flour

Heroin costs about 2,500 kronor a gram at the user's level. For that reason dishonest dealers dilute the poison with everything from powdered sugar to talc. Blood clots caused, for example, by potato flour have occurred.

A detailed study of the deaths in 1979 shows that half occurred in connection with the injection itself. About 15 percent died of sequelae to the drug abuse. The remaining 35 percent died from suicide or in accidents.

Danell's study concerns drug addicts known to the police. He checks the county council's death lists against the police register of known drug addicts. Thus if anyone dies from drug addiction without being known to the police that case does not get into the statistics. Mörkertal's studies in 1979 and 1980 show that 29 and 28 cases respectively were not included in the original studies.

A noteworthy change in the latest figures for the first quarter is that the percentage of women increased from some 10 percent to ca. 30 percent. Of the 28 who died, 9 were women. Among heavy users of drugs by injection there is usually one woman to 10 men.

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SWEDEN

REPORT FINDS SITUATION OF DRUG ABUSERS WORSENING

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 24 Jun 82 p 8

[Article by Thomas Lerner]

[Text] "Drug abusers' situation and their background is considerably more wretched than many seem to believe. Our latest report shows that clearly."

So says Orvar Olsson, chief secretary of the Commission on the Causes of Narcotics Abuse (UNO).

Today, Thursday, the UNO is presenting its sixth report to Karin Söder, minister of health and social affairs. The report takes up various theories on why a person abuses narcotics and also reports current research in the field.

Harsh Childhood and Youth

"We consider it important to bring the question of the drug abusers' background and life situation into the debate again," says Orvar Olsson, chief secretary of UNO.

UNO has had 168 drug abusers interviewed who have at some time been in contact with a care institution. The interviews underscore what several studies found during the 1970's—a narcotics addict almost without exception has behind him a very difficult period of growing up.

Most addicts grow up together with only one of their parents or in a foster family. The parents often drink too much or have other problems.

Many addicts have great difficulties in school and they begin to use alcohol early. The majority of them come in contact with reform schools and social authorities at an early age.

"The situation that the interviews and other studies show is considerably worse than many believe," says Orvar Olsson.

"Many have insisted in recent years that the environment the addicts grow up in does not differ from that of normal people. But a drug abuser almost always grows up in a very poor environment; our investigation shows that."

Many Theories

There are a number of theories about why a person begins to abuse narcotics. A number of researchers maintain that availability, i.e. how easy it is to get hold of "dope," means most. Others point to personality traits and character disorders.

But there is widespread agreement that the years of childhood and youth mean a great deal.

"An abuse of narcotics is usually based on the conditions during growing up. But later there are a number of factors that determine whether a person begins to abuse narcotics," Orvar Olsson says.

Hard To Quit

The UNO interview survey also shows that many addicts have a hard time getting rid of their dependence.

"An important reason for this is that addicts usually associate only with comrades who also abuse narcotics, and that a drug addict often has a very hard time getting a job and a place to live," says Orvar Olsson.

A special study involving about 100 of the addicts interviewed, those who had used narcotics for more than 10 years, shows that a complex abuse is very common, i.e. that drug addicts quite often use alcohol or other drugs to get high.

"The important thing is not always the narcotic in itself, but that the person wants to get intoxicated, to flee from reality. Which intoxicant is used depends on availability.

"The picture of the addict that stays with the drug he or she has formed a habit of using does not fit with the picture shown by our investigation and others," Orvar Olsson concludes.

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SWEDEN

PROBLEM OF DRIVING UNDER DRUG INFLUENCE INCREASING

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 16 Jun 82 p 8

[Article by Claes Löfgren]

[Text] Swedish doctors cannot tell whether drivers suspected of drunk driving have taken narcotics.

When a person is arrested on suspicion of driving while under the influence of alcohol he is routinely examined by a physician. Besides taking blood and urine samples, the physician will try to determine the degree of intoxication according to a formula. There are four alternatives, from slightly affected to highly intoxicated.

During the fall, on the initiative of the Crime Prevention Council (BRÅ) a random study of the blood and urine samples from drunk driving suspects was done by the National Criminal Police Registry and Forensic Laboratories (SKL). SVENSKA DAGBLADET reported the result earlier, which among other things shows that nearly 40 percent of those who are apprehended and convicted of driving while under the influence of alcohol have also used medicine and/or narcotics in combination with driving.

No Connection

Of the samples tested, 16 percent showed traces of narcotics in some form. The physicians' appraisal of the degree of intoxication of those under the influence of narcotics is important to the question of evidence; for those under the influence of alcohol the concentration of alcohol in the blood is quite decisive. Somewhat unexpectedly, no connection was found between, for example, high concentration of amphetamine in the blood and the physicians' appraisal "highly intoxicated." Whether this is because amphetamine in and of itself has no negative effect on driving or whether Swedish physicians do not have sufficient experience with drug addicts cannot be told from the investigation.

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TURKEY

BRIEFS

MORPHINE SEIZURE--Security forces seized some 53 kgs of base morphine smuggled into Turkey in the Esendere border region in Hakkari's Yuksekova District. The smugglers are being sought. During the past 7 months, the gendarmerie have seized a total of 137 kgs of base morphine in Van and Hakkari. [TA090635 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1000 GMT 8 Jul 82]

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