

Given the nature of the subject. Refer to DEA  
and DOJ. JR

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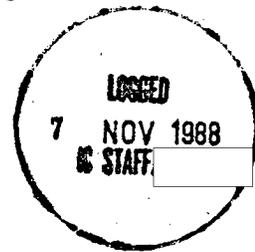
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NATIONAL DRUG POLICY BOARD

Washington, D.C. 20530

OCT 24 1988



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TO: NDIC Members  
FROM: John C. Lawn  
Chairman, NDIC Committee  
SUBJECT: Source Debriefing Guide

I am pleased to enclose five copies of the new Source Debriefing Guide for drug intelligence information. It should prove useful to collecting more drug information in a systematic and comprehensive manner.

Many agencies contributed to the guide and your participation is most appreciated. The assistance of the CIA and the Intelligence Community Staff was especially helpful in getting the guide printed.

A more extensive distribution of the guide has been made under separate mailings, but if you or your agency needs additional copies please call Cheryl Holmes, Chief, Publications Unit, DEA, Office of Intelligence, on 633-1509.

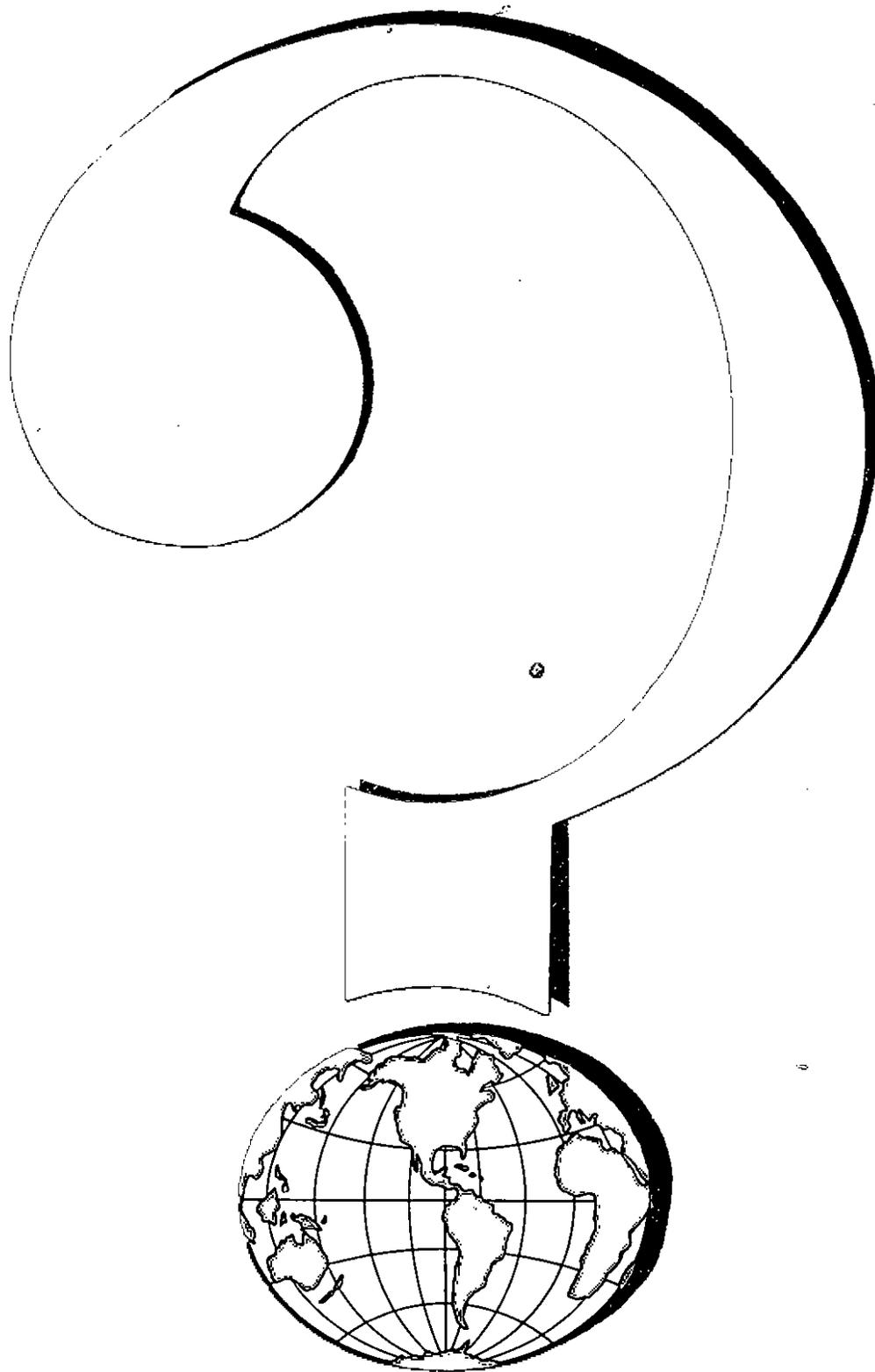
Enclosures

cc: Francis Keating, II  
David Pickens

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# Source Debriefing Guide





# Source Debriefing Guide

*Prepared by:*

Office of Intelligence  
Drug Enforcement Administration

*With the advice and assistance of:*

U.S. Customs  
U.S. Coast Guard  
Intelligence Community

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## **P R E F A C E**

The Office of Intelligence has updated this *Source Debriefing Guide* to assist the debriefer in formulating questions concerning the international and domestic drug traffic. This *Source Debriefing Guide* is not meant to be a text on drug intelligence. It is intended as a source document to supplement the skills and knowledge of the debriefer in the technical areas of drug production, smuggling, and distribution. Information gained from responses to these questions can provide tactical, operational, and strategic intelligence for drug law enforcement activities.

It is not expected that every person interviewed, whether defendant, suspect, or witness, will supply information on all aspects of the drug traffic. A series of general questions provided in Part One of this guide is designed to identify the areas of knowledge of the person being debriefed. It is recommended that all of the general questions be posed first.

Part Two of the *Source Debriefing Guide* consists of seven subject sections, each with specific questions to develop information on relevant subjects. Using the general questions in Part One, the debriefer can then identify the specific areas of knowledge and refer to the relevant set of questions in Part Two.

In the event the subject's answers to the general and specific questions indicate technical or extensive area knowledge, it is recommended that technical debriefing assistance be requested from those DEA elements or other Federal agencies with in-depth knowledge. Drug traffickers often are aware of other criminal activity, such as burglary, robbery, homicide, etc. Note these activities for later referral to other agencies.

~~General Questions~~  
**Regarding Drug Traffic**

1. Which illegal drugs have you used, sold, transported, or do you have knowledge of? When? Are there "brands" or trade names on the drugs?

Specify and explain:

- Heroin
- Black Tar
- Morphine Base
- Opium
- Cocaine hydrochloride
- Cocaine base
- Crack
- Hashish
- Hashish Oil
- Marijuana
- Amphetamines
- Barbiturates
- Methamphetamines
- LSD
- PCP
- Other drugs (specify)

2. Who is the source of supply? Where is the person located? Where did the person obtain the drugs? Who are U.S. distributors? Who are the foreign distributors?

4. Do you know of any locations where drugs are cultivated, manufactured, processed, or stored? (See Part Two: Section I, A and B and Section II, A and B)
5. Do you have any knowledge of the smuggling of drugs across the U.S. border? If so, where are the entry points? (See Part Two: Section I, C) Do you know of smuggling across other international borders? For end use or transit?
6. Do you have any knowledge of methods used to transport drugs? (See Part Two: Section IV)
7. Describe the method of concealment, type of conveyance, and persons involved in drug smuggling. (See Part Two: Section IV)
8. Are false documents used to conceal the identity of smugglers or couriers? How are documents obtained? How are they falsified, and by whom? What type documents are used?
9. What are the prices and purity of the drugs upon entering the United States? Do you know prices and purities at other stages of trafficking?
10. Have you ever seen or been told of opium poppy, coca, cannabis, or mescal cultivation either in or outside the United States? (See Part Two: Section I)

cocaine, hashish oil, crack, or dangerous drug laboratories within or outside the United States? (See Part Two: Section II or III)

12. Who finances the drug trafficking operations?
13. How are drugs paid for? Is the money paid up front, or are the drugs sold on consignment or exchanged for other goods? If in currency, identify it. If payment is in exchange, identify other goods.
14. How are funds to pay for the drugs moved? Cash? Letter of credit? Bank deposits? Bank wire transfer? International checks? Traditional "underground" banking systems? (See Part Two: Section VI)
15. Do you know how or where the proceeds of any drug transaction have been hidden or invested? Who controls laundered drug funds?
16. Do you know the associates or businesses of any drug trafficker?
17. Do you have knowledge of any drug transactions?
18. What types of ledgers, journals, classified ads, computers, bulletin boards, or other documents or mechanisms are used to manage drug transactions? Are codes used?
19. Are you familiar with any other areas of the United States or the world? Describe.

activity into or out of the United States?

Are drugs exchanged for other goods?

Do you know of non-U.S. international smuggling activity?

21. Is there an exchange of one drug for another, for example, cocaine for heroin? Are arms being traded for narcotics? Identify the source and recipient of the arms and the drugs. (See Part Two: Section VII)
22. Is there any official corruption involved? Who? Paid by whom? How much? For how long? What major traffickers are they associated with? (See Part Two: Section VII)
23. Have you been involved in non-drug criminal activity? Give dates of involvement. Identify the crime category, the type of operation, and the level of operation.

Crime

Category: Contraband, sexual assault, prostitution, pornography, weapons, explosives, stolen property or vehicle, forgery, fraud, or other.

Type of

Operation: Smuggling, financing, wholesaling, or other.

Level of

Operation: Syndicate, international foreign based, international domestic based, national, local, other.



24. What is the principal ethnic group involved in the drug activity? What syndicates or organizations, multi-national or national, are involved? Will the traffickers deal outside their group or organization?
25. What language(s) do you speak?
26. What special skills do you have? Pilot, ham radio operator, chemist, photographer, money launderer, other.
27. Have you ever worked as a confidential informant? For whom? Give dates and current status.
28. Have you ever been confined in prison or any other institution? Give names, dates, locations, and reason for confinement.

## **QUESTIONS IN SPECIFIC AREAS of Drug Trafficking**

### **Section I. Production, Processing, and Distribution of Opium-Heroin-Morphine Base, Coca-Cocaine- Crack, and Marijuana- Hashish-Hashish Oil**

#### **A. Sources**

1. What are the geographic coordinates and locations of opium poppy, cannabis, or coca fields? Names of roads? Local name for the area? Identify landmarks.
2. Identify the owners and cultivators of the fields, their residences, telephone numbers, and associates.
3. When are the fields planted and harvested?
4. How many harvests per year?
5. What yield is expected and obtained from the fields? Does this yield vary with the harvest season, if more than one?

How many plants per square  
meter or hectare?

7. What are the arrangements between owner and cultivator?
8. Specify and explain the support for growing areas including:
  - Water sources — irrigation methods.
  - Chemicals and fertilizers used.
  - How are seeds and other supplies obtained and paid for?
9. Is the opium gum, coca leaf/paste, or cannabis stored at the field or moved? If moved, how, where, when, by whom, and to whom?
10. Are the fields protected? If so, by police, military, government officials, guerrillas, or others? Are the protectors armed? Do the fields have electronic surveillance devices? Are the fields booby-trapped? Are attempts made to hide or disguise fields? If so, how?
11. Do the local authorities know of the fields? Have they previously destroyed them? When? If not, why not? Identify local

**Base, Cocaine HCl/Paste/  
Base, Crack, and Hashish Oil  
Laboratories (Also review  
Section III.)**

1. What are the geographic coordinates and locations of laboratories?
2. Are the laboratories at or near the fields?
3. What equipment is used at the lab?
4. What precursors are used? What else do you know about the precursor chemicals?
5. Describe the chemist(s). How trained? By whom? Does the chemist have any other interest in the operation?
6. Who finances the laboratory? How?
7. What security measures are used?
8. Is the heroin or cocaine dyed, diluted, or adulterated?
9. Does the laboratory operate continually? If not, does it operate only when an order is received, only at harvest time or when?

received or passed? Is there a telephone, two-way radio, electronic teletype, computer or contact point? Identify telephone number, radio call sign, teletype address, computer password, codes, or contact point.

11. What conveyances are used? Describe the type, ownership, drivers, transportation routes.
12. How many people are involved in the operation of the lab? Their identities? How often are the labs moved? Who decides when the lab is moved?
13. What are the hours of operation of the lab? How many days a week?
14. Are records maintained regarding drug production and distribution?
15. What else do you know about the lab and its operations?

### **C. Transportation and Storage**

1. How is the product moved? Does the buyer pick up at the lab or at the growing field or at any other point?
2. How are arrangements made to move, buy, and sell the drugs?

and buildings are involved?  
Describe them. Who owns the  
vehicles or real estate?

4. How many people move the  
drugs? Who are they?
5. What routes are used? Are the  
same routes used all the time?  
What or who determines the  
routes?
6. Are escort or convoy type  
methods used? Describe them.
7. Is the movement protected?  
By whom and how?  
Are arrangements made in  
advance or as the need arises?
8. Is the finished product moved  
to a holding point? If so, where?  
To whom? How is it protected?

#### **D. Identification of Persons or Groups Involved in Smuggling**

1. What couriers do you know,  
or know about? How much are  
they paid?
2. Who are the backers, financiers,  
and protectors?
3. Are any other persons or  
groups involved? What routes  
and contact points do they  
utilize?

groups, religious organizations, or criminal syndicates, or other groups do the couriers belong to? Are they males, females, adults, children?

### **E. Arrangements for Obtaining or Moving the Drugs**

1. How is contact arranged for order, delivery, pickup, security, transfer of drugs, etc.?
2. What communications methods are used? If telephones or beepers, what are the numbers? If radios, what frequencies? If written messages or cables, what addresses? If signals or couriers, what are the details? If computers, what passwords?
3. Do the traffickers employ any communications security? Do they utilize communications centers? Who controls them?
4. What counterintelligence methods are used by the traffickers?
5. Are controllers used to monitor drug movements? How do they get their instructions?
6. How are couriers recruited and

the progress of the shipment?

If so, to whom and how?

8. What ports or places of entry are used for these shipments? Why?
9. What methods are used to conceal shipments? Describe and explain. Are the loads transferred within a country to other means of movement or concealment? Describe.
10. Are false documents involved in the shipments? Describe these documents and identify the supplier.
11. Who knows when the loads are en route and the methods being used? Identify fully.
12. How is payment made? In advance or upon delivery to intended recipient? Other? Are the same people involved in payment and movement of the drugs? Are payments in cash or by wire transfer, bank draft, or in another form?
13. Identify any businesses involved in the traffic? Witting or unwitting? Describe extent of involvement.

15. Who packages the drugs and where are they packaged?

## **Section II. Production, Processing, and Distribution of Dangerous Drugs**

### **A. Sources**

1. What drugs are involved?  
Which chemicals are used?
2. What is the form, e.g., powder, crystal, liquid, capsule, tablet, blotter, or other?
3. Were you a courier? How are arrangements made to pick up the drug? Are children being used as couriers?
4. Where do the drugs come from, e.g., street sales, minor or major distributor, direct from the lab?
5. From whom and how are they obtained? By direct or indirect contact through second or third party? Is the supplier associated directly with the manufacturer?
6. How much do the drugs cost?  
How much can they be sold for?  
How much for master or lesser

7. How are the drugs distributed, e.g., personal pickup or delivery, U.S. Mail, UPS, other kinds of shipment? What are the names of distributors and sellers?
8. Can you obtain samples? Make purchases? Introduce someone?
9. Give names of people financing the operation. Do they take part in the actual physical transactions? Is anyone else involved in any way?
10. Do you know the location/ address of the lab? Who owns/ operates the lab? Who are the chemists? Who is financing the lab?
11. Are the drugs intended for U.S. consumption? What proportion goes where?
12. In the case of mescaline or peyote and similar drugs, where are the plants located or grown? Who is "harvesting" the crop? Where do they bring the raw material?
13. How are the drugs or chemicals

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Release 2013/05/21 : Do you have any other know-  
CIA-RDP90M00551R001600840032-7 rugs,  
solvents, or precursors used to  
make drugs?

## **B. Illicit Laboratories**

1. How many people are involved in the operation of the lab? Their identities? Location of lab? How often is the lab moved? Who decides when the lab is moved?
2. What are the hours of operation of the lab? How many days a week? What quantity of drugs is produced?
3. What type of equipment is used? Describe type, capacity, and quantity of equipment in use at the lab. For example, pill press, mixing equipment, etc.
4. Who supplies the equipment? Who installed the equipment? How is it powered?
5. What manufacturing process is used? Is more than one used? What formulae are used?
6. What precursors are used? Where did the precursors come from? How were the precursors obtained? Where are the precursors stored? What

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Release 2013/05/21 : chemicals from any legitimate  
CIA-RDP90M00551R001600840032-7 ne of firms,  
country of origin, and method  
of operation, such as the use of  
brokers, false invoices, trans-  
shipment to other countries.

7. How are the drugs packaged, e.g., plastic bags, bundles, jars or bottles, packages? How many dosage units or hits in a package? Describe. Where did the packaging come from? (Follow same questions as for precursors, #6.)
8. What payment, paperwork, equipment dealer, broker, and company names are used? Describe. (Follow same questions as for precursors, #6.)
9. What diluents are used? Are the same ones always used? (Follow same questions as for precursors, #6.)
10. Do you have, or can you obtain samples?
11. To whom is the drug distributed after sale? In what form? What do they do with it?
12. Are any of the suppliers or laboratories involved in manufacturing licit drugs?

14. How are the equipment and chemicals disposed of?

### **C. Diversion of Legitimate Drugs**

1. How are the drugs obtained?  
By prescription from physicians? Dispensed without a prescription? Excessive quantities of over-the-counter medications dispensed by pharmacists? Directly from physicians? Identify the physicians and pharmacists involved.
2. Are any records falsified by legitimate handlers to cover illicit distribution? How?  
Are fraudulent names used on dispensing records?
3. Are the drugs stolen?  
Give details: by whom, from whom, how, where, when?
4. How is payment made for the prescription? Does it differ according to the controlled substance obtained?

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Release 2013/05/21 : How often can you get a  
CIA-RDP90M00551R001600840032-7 which  
drugs? How many dosage units  
are prescribed per prescription?

6. Is the physician part of a conspiracy?
7. Are the drugs sold by a pharmacist without a prescription? What volume? What price? What form?
8. Will he sell one or numerous prescriptions at a time? How large a volume will he prescribe or sell?
9. Does the pharmacist prepare a phony prescription to cover the transaction?
10. Does he provide illegal refills of a legitimate prescription?
11. Are real or fictitious names used? If fictitious, how are these names obtained?
12. Does the physician perform an examination? If an examination is performed, what is the procedure?
13. Does the physician know that controlled substances dispensed/prescribed are not for legitimate use?

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Release 2013/05/21 : Will the physician sell one or  
CIA-RDP90M00551R001600840032-7 prescriptions at  
a time? How large a volume  
will he prescribe or sell?

15. Does the physician identify the pharmacist who will fill the prescriptions?
16. Is the transaction documented in a record and if so how is it recorded and maintained?
17. If the physician sells directly, where are the drugs obtained and in what quantities?  
Are drug samples involved in the diversion?
18. Does the physician require a person to take or administer the drug in his presence?
19. What other drugs are available from the source?
20. If the drugs are obtained from a wholesaler or manufacturer, at what point are they diverted?  
If in finished form, are the lot numbers available?
21. Are the employees or the owners involved?
22. Is the diversion by employee theft? If so, how was security breached?

### **Section III. Questions for Persons with Detailed Knowledge of Laboratories**

#### **A. Precursor Chemicals and Equipment**

1. What kinds of drugs are being produced? What is the main drug? What other kinds of drugs can be made in the lab? What is the production capacity?

2. List all the chemicals being used in the lab. For each chemical list the following:

Chemical name

Amount of chemical

Size and type of container

Company or manufacturer name on label

Where was each chemical purchased or otherwise obtained?

Was it a local company or source? Ordered from out-of-town? Imported from another country?

CIA-RDP90M00551R001600840032-7 software,  
tubing, heating mantles, vacuum  
pumps, hydrogenators, pill  
presses, and other equipment.  
List the brand names or manu-  
facturer names. Where was  
the equipment purchased or  
obtained? What did it cost?

4. What else do you know about  
the precursor chemicals and  
equipment?
5. What are the sources of the  
laboratory needs such as  
equipment, chemicals,  
labor, etc.?

## **B. Production**

1. During what hours and how  
often is the lab operated?
2. What processes are used to  
make the drugs? Are there  
formulas, directions,  
a cookbook? How long does  
it take to make a batch?  
What does the finished product  
look like? What is done with it?  
How are old chemicals and  
equipment disposed of, e.g.,  
thrown out in the trash?  
Poured down the drain?  
Poured into a lake or stream?

cursors come from? How were  
the precursors obtained?

Where are the precursors  
stored? What method is used  
to divert the chemicals from  
any legitimate source?

Give the name of firms,  
country of origin, and method  
of operation, such as the use  
of brokers, false invoices,  
transshipment to other  
countries, etc. What else do you  
know about the chemicals?

4. What safety equipment is in  
the lab, e.g., fire extinguishers,  
fire alarms or oxygen masks?
5. Is the laboratory protected from  
or by the police, military, or  
guerrillas? If so, by whom?  
Are there armed guards?  
Are there electronic  
surveillance devices or booby  
traps installed? Are there locks,  
bars, alarms, guard dogs, radio  
scanners, guards, lookouts,  
or weapons?
6. Is the lab also used for any  
legitimate purpose, e.g.,  
commercial production, student  
teaching, research, experiments?

### **C. Marketing**

1. What records are kept?  
Can you obtain copies? Are the records coded? Do you know the codes used?
2. How was the product packaged, shipped, or stored? Was the product marked? What is the meaning of the marking?
3. To what extent do local marketing conditions influence the use or modifications of operating procedures?  
Example: Heroin produced in Southeast Asia is deliberately made fluffy in consistency because operators are paid off in volume of product, rather than weight. Knowledge of such local customs would enable more accurate estimates to be made of the country or region of origin of subsequent seizures or purchases.
4. What else do you know about the marketing of these drugs?

**A. Smuggling**

1. Do you have direct knowledge of any drug smuggling? If so, how did you acquire this knowledge?
2. What kind of drug is being smuggled?
3. Where is the drug smuggling occurring? Give detailed locations. Identify transshipment points, if any. Does ownership of drugs change after transshipment or at staging points?
4. Who is involved? Is this person a runner for someone else? If so, whom?
5. How is the drug smuggling done? Give details of any special devices or procedures used by the drug smuggler. How is the smuggling means acquired and from whom?
6. How often does the drug smuggling occur? Is there a

WHO: HOW IS HE PAID ON:

How much? By whom?

8. Who else knows about this drug smuggling?
9. When did you first learn about it? How long has it been going on?
10. Is there a fixed fee for couriers? Is payment made in cash, merchandise, or stolen goods?
11. Are any of these shipments co-op ventures? Are "insurance" schemes involved to reduce risk or loss?
12. Do you know of special instructions concerning crossing points, times to cross, cover stories, backup arrangements for delivery, etc.?

## **B. Transportation**

### **Car, Truck, Camper**

1. Are you aware of any pattern of transportation of drugs by car, truck, or camper? Describe.
2. What drugs are being moved?
3. Who is involved? Identify with names, addresses or locations, aliases, and associates.

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Release 2013/05/21 : What routes are used? Identify  
CIA-RDP90M00551R001600840032-7 shipment  
points, stash points, and  
delivery points. Are the  
same routes used each time?

5. Has any vehicle been modified  
in any way to carry drugs?  
Describe in detail.
6. Where and by whom was the  
modification made?
7. How much is carried in each  
load? How often?
8. How long has this system  
been active?

### **Air — Private Planes**

9. What drug is being transported  
by private aircraft?
10. Who is the pilot? Does he own  
the plane? If not, who owns the  
plane? Is he a contract pilot?  
For whom?
11. Is the plane rented?  
From whom?
12. What is the make of the plane?  
If unknown, how many engines  
does it have? What color is the  
aircraft? What is the tail  
number? Has the tail number  
been altered?

14. How often? Is there a pattern?
15. Does the plane or ground crew have any special equipment?
16. Where is the pickup point? Identify by name of field, city, farm, or other. Give directions to that point.
17. Where is the load delivered? To whom?
18. Are pilots or ground crews armed? With what type of weapon?
19. Is the organization involved in airdrop activities? Where do the airdrops occur — over land or at sea? What are the names or numbers of pickup vessels?
20. Has the aircraft been modified for airdrop activities? How does the crew contact vessels or ground crews?
21. What happens to the load once it leaves the plane? Identify and give the license numbers of any ground vehicles used. Identify ground crews or drivers.

23. What are the air smuggling routes? Are there drug trans-shipment points? Where are the staging areas for the aircraft?
24. Are any special techniques used to avoid detection? Specify. Do the smugglers know the locations of drug enforcement radars?
25. Who owns or operates the landing fields?

### **Air — Commercial Aircraft**

26. What couriers or runners are using commercial planes to transport drugs? Identify by name and give description. Do the couriers travel alone or in groups?
27. Are aliases or false passports used? Give details. Who provides false passports? Is there any nationality which is preferred?
28. Identify airport and city at both departure and arrival point. Why are these airports used? Have others been used? Why?

30. How are they concealed?  
Body carry, in cargo, or in the  
aircraft? Where in the aircraft?
31. How frequent are the ship-  
ments? Is there a pattern?
32. Identify the airline and the  
person or group responsible  
for shipment of the drugs.  
For whom are they intended?
33. Describe any methods known  
for shipping drugs concealed  
in cargo.
34. Identify any airport or airline  
personnel involved.
35. How are airline tickets  
purchased? How are they paid  
for (by cash, credit card, or  
other)?
36. Describe any special techniques  
used to avoid customs or other  
airport security.
37. Are false documents used for  
shipping? Explain.  
Who provides them?
38. How are the drug shipments  
delivered to the intended

CIA-RDP90M00551R001600840032-7, transits,  
and offloads coordinated?

40. Who does the vessel communicate with? What frequencies? When? Does the vessel communicate with aircraft? What are the alternate plans in the event of communications breakdown?
41. Where does the vessel fuel and provision?
42. What do you think the risk of interception is?
43. What intelligence and guidance do you receive prior to sailing?
44. What do you know of maritime law enforcement operations and methods?
45. How many smuggling trips have you made?
46. Do you transit directly or travel near the coasts of foreign countries enroute? What countries?
47. Should a rendezvous be missed, what are the alternate plans?
48. What ports or anchorages are

50. What is the destination of a courier after a drop off?
51. Do you ever see any aircraft overflying you? Do you report it? To whom? How?

### **Boats and Ships — Private**

52. Describe and identify any private boats used to transport drugs. Are there established procedures for breakdown, repair, rescue, or replenishment? How common are breakdowns?
53. Who owns the boat or ship? Where is it kept? Identify the crew members. Who is the major dealer involved?
54. What drugs are transported onboard? In what quantities? What are the source countries?
55. What ports, harbors, marinas, or coastal areas are used to load and off-load the drugs? What sort of vessels do you offload to?
56. What specific routes are used by maritime smugglers? Why are these routes preferred?

avoid detection? Does the boat have any special equipment or hidden compartments? Specify.

58. How often is the boat used for drug smuggling? Is there any pattern? How close do smuggling vessels travel to each other? Are there vessel holding areas enroute?
59. Are the drugs concealed aboard the boat? Where?

### **Boats and Ships — Commercial**

60. What commercial ships are being used to transport drugs? Identify vessel names, voyage numbers and direction, routing, and the shipping line involved. Are the officers of the shipping line involved?
61. Are any ship's officers or crew members involved? Identify.
62. Where are drugs loaded and off-loaded? Were freight forwarders/consolidators used? Who and where?
63. Are false shipping documents used? Who provides them? Were shipping charges prepared? How and by whom?

techniques are used to avoid detection? Dropoffs? Pickups? Are the drugs shipped directly or transshipped through other countries?

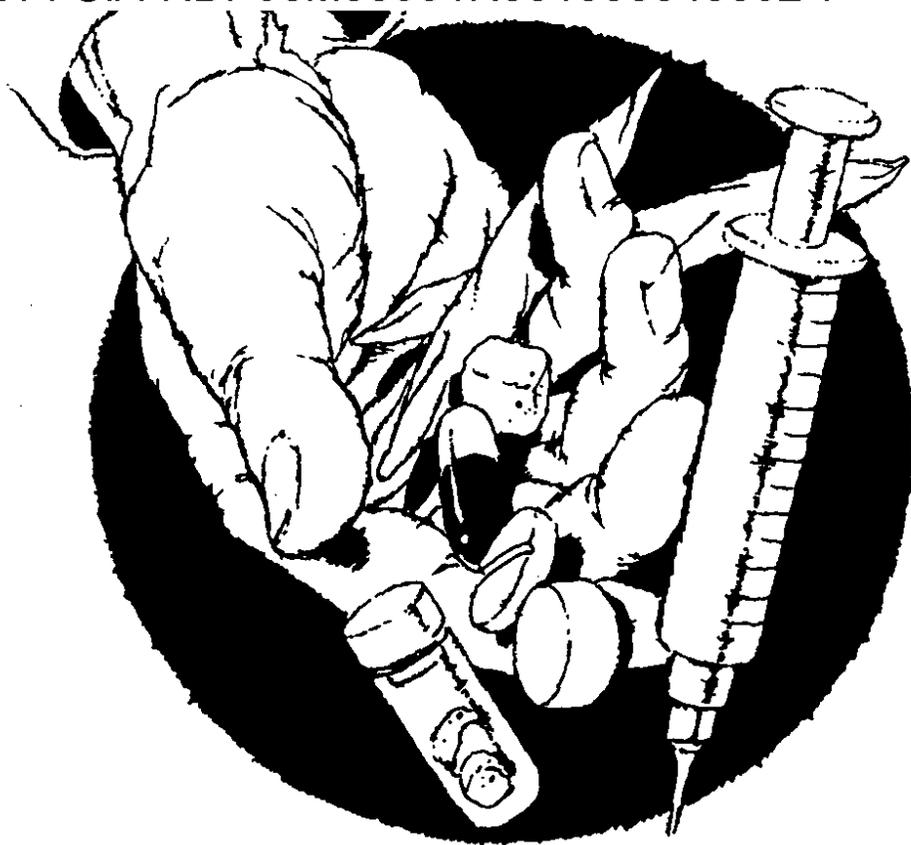
65. How frequent are shipments made? Is there a pattern?
66. Are any port officials or workers involved? Identify.
67. Is the shipping agent involved? Identify the shipping agent.
68. Who hires the crew?
69. In what country is the ship registered?
70. What is the name of the ship? Is the name of the ship altered at sea?
71. What is the radio frequency of the ship? Call sign? Code used?
72. Are cargo containers used to conceal the drugs? Are they rented or owned? What is the container number?
73. Provide information from the bill of lading to include number, shipper, consignee, description of cargo, and persons to be notified when shipment arrives.

to the ship? If transported in  
advance of the ship's arrival,  
where are the drugs stored?

## **Section V. Persons Apprehended at a Border While Smuggling Drugs**

### **A. Drugs**

1. How many times have you  
crossed the border with drugs?  
Where, when, and in what place  
did you cross the border?  
Are these preferred times and  
places? Was anyone with you?
2. What routes did you follow?
3. How are the drugs supposed to  
get through the border check-  
points? Are there any advance  
or following vehicles escorting  
the drugs? Were the escorts  
armed? Did you encounter any  
law enforcement activity  
enroute? Did you use counter-  
surveillance?
4. What was the drug involved?  
What is the average amount of  
drugs you have carried across  
the border?
5. How much did it cost?  
How much were you paid to  
smuggle it? How much have you  
been paid in the past? From



whom did you get the money? Where and when did you get the money?

6. How many accomplices do you have? Do you make drug smuggling trips alone or in groups? Describe any acts of complicity on the part of officials/authorities.
7. Where are the drugs going?
8. How much will the drugs sell for?
9. Do you know anyone else smuggling drugs across the border? Tell what you know about times, locations, vehicles

10. Describe any techniques of concealing drugs known to you. What modifications (false compartments) are made to the vehicles?
11. Are you selling drugs?  
How much are you being paid for it? How much have you received in the past?
12. Do you know of any staging areas or stash sites on either side of the border?

## **B. Drug Traffickers**

1. From whom did you obtain the drug? For whom are you moving or selling the drug? Describe the trafficking organization and the members you are involved with. Are you related by blood or class to these members?
2. Where, when, and in what place did you obtain it?
3. To whom will you sell it?
4. Do you have more than one source-of-supply? Who is your current source-of-supply? How many times have you been supplied by this person?

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per week? Identify the location  
of the source-of-supply.  
Describe him/her.

5. Do you know any other customers of your source-of-supply?
6. To whom do they sell?  
Where do they make their sales? Who is involved in the sale? Describe them.
7. How were you recruited to smuggle or sell drugs?

## **Section VI. Financial**

### **A. Transportation of Funds**

1. How are drug payments made?  
Are the drugs paid for in advance or on consignment?
2. How are drug payments and proceeds moved?
3. What are the domestic or international routes used to move money?
4. What methods of concealment are used?
5. Is there any particular pattern to the movement of funds?  
A particular day of the week, airline, etc.

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## **B. Laundering Activities**

1. What countries are drug monies laundered to or through? Why are these countries preferred?
2. What U.S. cities are drug monies laundered to or through?
3. What laundering techniques are employed?
4. What banks are used to secure drug monies? Are bank officials witting?
5. Who are the major money launderers?
6. How many people are involved with your group in laundering monies? What type of people or businesses are involved?
7. What is the rate charged by the money launderer?
8. What financial instruments are used to launder monies?

Cash

Wire Transfer

Checks

Traditional underground  
fiduciary instruments

Others . . . ?

### **C. Asset Identification**

1. What assets are held by members of the organization and where are they located?
2. Do members of the organization hold assets in their names or in nominee names? Explain.
3. What types of business investments do members of the organization utilize and where are they located?
4. Are computers utilized to record activities?
5. Are money counting machines used? What type and model?
6. What type of financial records and books are retained by the organization?

## **and Terrorism**

The primary use of this Source Debriefing Guide is to collect information which will lead to the prosecution of major drug traffickers and their organizations as well as the forfeiture of assets. Information pertaining to drug smuggling methods, routes, trends, etc., as well as growing areas, refining techniques, etc., are also of significant interest to help all Federal drug enforcement agencies better allocate or deploy their resources.

On occasion, a cooperating individual will claim to have knowledge of an activity of significant interest to the security interests of the U.S. Government which may or may not relate directly to the drug violation. The following questions will assist the debriefer in some of these situations.

### **A. Corruption among Government Officials**

1. What is the nature of the official involvement? Are they taking advantage of their position to profit from the drug trade?
2. Is cooperation with U.S. law enforcement efforts used as a cover for drug-related activities?
3. What firsthand knowledge does the informant have concerning this issue?



**B. Foreign Government  
Involvement in Facilitating  
or Supporting Drug  
Trafficking**

1. What is the nature of the involvement? Is it a government official or is it part of a government policy?
2. How does the informant know? Who told him? How reliable was his source of information?
3. What services are provided to drug traffickers? Are traffickers of all nationalities treated the same? How much do the services cost? What is done

**for Weapons**

1. Who supplied the drugs?
2. Who furnished the weapons?  
What type of weapons?
3. How does the informant know  
this occurred?
4. What were the weapons to be  
used for?

**D. The Involvement of  
Terrorist/Insurgent  
Groups in the  
Drug Trade**

1. What is the extent of involve-  
ment? Direct, indirect, or  
extortion?
2. What evidence, other than  
allegation, does the informant  
have to support his  
information?
3. Is there a direct exchange of  
drugs for weapons?

of information need to be questioned. The debriefer, however, should be sensitive to the need to fully explore areas of drug-related activity that go beyond the primary investigative goal. These are sensitive issues which, while they may not affect prosecutions, may shed new insights into areas of concern for policymakers. DEA's Office of Intelligence should be contacted immediately for assistance whenever it appears a cooperating individual has information which falls into these general categories. If appropriate, other Federal agencies will be consulted.



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