

Mr. Waples

Opium Seized

SAIGON (S&S) — Vietnamese customs officers at Tan Son Nhut airport discovered 572 pounds of opium Friday aboard a Royal Air Laos plane from Vientiane, a Saigon newspaper reported Monday.

The Saigon Post said the opium was worth an estimated \$254,239 on the local market. It was smuggled into the country in several cases of brandy.

Vietnamese officials said the Royal Air Laos Co. was responsible for the illegal transaction but did not say whether any legal action would be taken against the airline.

The incident is still under investigation.

STARS & STRIPES
30 JUL 69