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(FOUO 3/79)

1 OF 1

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JPRS L/8230

17 January 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
(FOUO 3/79)



WORLD



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AUSTRALIA

DETECTIVE OBSERVES CANNABIS PROCESSING

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 2 Dec 78 p 35

[Text]

A drug-squad detective said yesterday that a man alleged to be involved in a big cannabis operation showed him how cannabis was processed.

Det-Sgt K. J. Tangney told the Beaufort Street Court that Luigi Fotia demonstrated drying and stripping a cannabis plant in a foliage-covered shed at a Lake Grace farm on January 25.

Fotia had hung the plant upside down on a wire strand till it dried. He then stripped off the leaves on to a polythene sheet on the ground and discarded the stems.

Fotia, (31), labourer, of Cabramatta, NSW, and three other men have denied a charge that at Lake O'Connor, near Lake Grace, between December 24 last year and January 24 they cultivated cannabis, prepared it and possessed it with intent to sell or supply.

OTHERS

The others charged are Biagio Macri (27), panel-beater, of Croydon Street, Dianella, Bruno Morabito (23), unemployed, of Chester Hill, NSW, and Antonio Cusmano (47), farmer, of Lake Grace.

Tangney said Fotia told him that plastic bags in

the shed were used for packaging 4.5kg of cannabis each. No cannabis had been sold, but he and Macri had intended to take it to Sydney.

He, Macri and a man called Francesco Ferri had each expected to make about \$10,000 for selling it.

Fotia had said that he and Macri each put up half the money for the plantation, which a detective said in evidence on Wednesday had an estimated value of up to \$6 million.

Sgt R. C. Kucera also said on Wednesday that he believed there were five or six people associated with the alleged operation yet to be apprehended.

Tangney said that Fotia had denied knowing a man Bruno, who Macri had said put up all the money. He had said that Macri was lying about who paid for the operation.

The trial was adjourned until Monday.

(Before Magistrate J. Simons. Sgt P. Beckett prosecuted, Mr B. J. Singleton for Fotia, Mr L. G. Wood for Macri, Mr E. M. Heenan Jun. for Cusmano, Mr K. J. Bonemelli for Morabito.)

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AUSTRALIA

POLICE SEIZE MARIHUANA WORTH \$500,000

Melbourne THE AGE in English 28 Nov 78 p 1

[Article by Lindsay Murdoch]

[Text]

Police late yesterday seized marijuana worth at least \$500,000 in the seventh successful raid in the Sunraysia district in 19 days.

The plants seized in the raids could have been worth almost \$5 million in the street.

Detectives said last night the marijuana hauls so far had not broken the back of the drug industry in the 600-acre irrigated crop district. Raids will continue.

A father and son, 48 and 20, were being questioned at Mildura last night after yesterday's raid at Merbein, about 15 kilometres to the west.

Five Mildura police led by the head of the CIB, Detective-Sergeant Graeme MacAllister, raided a 20-acre property about 4 pm.

More than 10,000 marijuana plants

up to 30 centimetres high were growing among vines.

They were planted in 30 rows, and had been in the ground about three weeks.

Several police were still picking the plants last night.

Sergeant MacAllister said last night the illegal crop-growing was far heavier than was thought at first.

And Mildura detectives say they believe dozens of crops were ploughed into the soil when growers panicked after the first few raids.

They believe a drug ring with connections in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide is organising Sunraysia farmers to plant marijuana seeds.

Federal narcotics agents have joined State police investigating marijuana-growing in the district.

They have provided local detectives with information.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

DRUG CONSPIRATORS GET JAIL SENTENCES

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 18 Nov 78 p 31

[Text]

SYDNEY: Two men who conspired with others to import cannabis worth between \$25 million and \$47 million into Australia were each gaoled for 10 years yesterday.

The men, John Lawrence (37), waterside worker, of Bondi, and Reginald Charles Parkin (52), motor dealer, of Northbridge, pleaded guilty.

Sentencing the men in the District Criminal Court, Judge Torrington directed that each serve a minimum sentence of five years.

Lawrence was arrested at Forster on the NSW north coast on June 10, 1978, where he had sailed as a crew member of the Anoa from Cairns.

The vessel was alleged to have been loaded with more than two tonnes of cannabis in the form of buddha sticks.

Parkin was arrested on the same day at Bermagui on the south coast where, with others, he was allegedly waiting for the Anoa.

Judge Torrington said that earlier this year both men had gone to Singapore under false identities to help arrange the importation of the buddha sticks from the Gulf of Thailand.

The buddha sticks had been loaded eventually on the Anoa.

CRIMINAL

The operation was a criminal enterprise involving many people and a vast quantity of cannabis.

"Its effect on the Australian community would be far reaching" he said.

"The price that the entrepreneurs would receive would be far short of the \$25 million to \$47 million representing the ultimate street value.

"But it would be sold at a large margin of profit at various levels in the illicit market.

"It would serve to generate unlawful activity in Australia.

"Even the money paid by users in some instances would come from unlawful activities such as dishonesty, prostitution and social service frauds."

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

POLICE SEIZE \$4 MILLION IN DRUG HAUL

Melbourne THE AGE in English 22 Nov 78 p 14

[Text] Police seized buddha sticks worth at least \$4 million from a Lara house and a car after a high-speed chase through South Melbourne, Melbourne Magistrate's Court was told yesterday.

Detective Senior Constable Kevin Brown, formerly of the CIB drug bureau said police impounded more than 500,000 buddha sticks, each with a wholesale value of \$8.

He said the street value of a buddha stick was between \$15 and \$20.

Seven men appeared before Mr R. White, SM, charged with having conspired to traffick in Indian hemp and with related offences.

Christopher Eugene Skelly, 29, shopkeeper of Rennie Street, Lara; Leonard Malcolm Dowsey, 30, handicrafts importer, of McKenzie Street, Bendigo; Lindsay Roberts, 25, of Pilcher Street, Bendigo; Edward Mark Wallis, 22, of Miller Street, Fitzroy; Robin Ward, 24, student, of Meredith Street, Elwood; Keith Lewellyn Goodman, 23, of Malvern Grove, Caulfield, and Allister McKinley Paul, 26, of Otira Road, North Caulfield, are charged with having conspired to traffick in Indian hemp and having trafficked in the drug.

The prosecutor, Mr Tony Lopes, asked that all seven be sent for trial on both charges.

Skelly, Dowsey, Roberts, Wallis and Paul are charged also with having possessed Indian hemp.

Skelly is further charged with having handled stolen goods and Goodman is further charged with having unlawfully possessed \$24,000.

Paul is charged also with having smoked Indian hemp.

Mr White adjourned charges against Ward and Goodman until 14 December and against Paul until Friday.

Brown told the court that he chased a white Fairlane sedan which screeched out of the car park of the Palm Lake Motel in Queens Road, South Melbourne on 10 August.

Brown said he was driving an unmarked green Valiant and that he was dressed in civilian clothes.

Skelly, driving the Fairlane, eventually pulled over but when police approached the car Skelly drove off again, Brown said.

Brown said Skelly finally stopped in Napier Street.

He said the boot of Skelly's car contained "extremely large" sums of money and plastic bags full of Indian hemp.

He alleged that Skelly said: "Listen, you've got me cold. Don't treat me like a child. I'll tell you all after."

Brown said that when he suggested to Skelly that there was at least \$500,000 in the car, Skelly said "Could be."

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

MAN JAILED FOR HEROIN OFFENSE

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 23 Nov 78 p 57

[Text]

A man was sentenced yesterday to 18 months' gaol for possessing heroin reasonably suspected of being imported into Australia.

Michael Black (25), importer, of North Beach Road, Gwelup, must serve three months before parole.

Mr Justice Wickham said in the Supreme Court that Black had pleaded guilty earlier this month and he had tried the issue of whether Black had the heroin to sell or for other commercial purposes.

As a probability he had decided that issue in Black's favour. This meant that Black was liable to a maximum sentence of up to a \$2000 fine and two years' gaol.

Black had no previous record. He had been arrested on June 15, the day of the offence, and had already been held

for more than three months.

The judge said that Black's first contact with drugs was related to cannabis in 1971.

Last year Black was in Malaysia on business concerning batik materials. He became addicted to heroin.

He brought back some substance containing about 14g of pure heroin. The judge was satisfied that this was for Black's own use.

(Before Mr Justice Wickham, Mr G. M. Calder for the Commonwealth, Mr J. G. Wood for Black.)

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

COURT TOLD MAN FEARED FOR CHILDREN

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN In English 30 Nov 78 p 38

[Text]

A Lake Grace farmer had told the police that his children would be murdered by Sydney criminals if he told them what he knew, it was alleged in the Beaufort Street Court yesterday.

Antonio Cusmano (47) had said this during an interview about a big amount of cannabis alleged to have been grown at his farm, a drug squad detective, Sgt J. L. O'Halloran, told the court.

Sgt O'Halloran said that Cusmano had broken down and wept when he spoke about the safety of his children and had refused to say anything more to the police.

At the time of the interview the police had believed that organised crime in NSW was associated with the cannabis operation.

Evidence was given yesterday that a "Sydney connection" was apparently involved and that the cannabis crop could have been worth up to \$6 million.

DENIED

Cusmano and three other men have denied a charge that at Lake O'Connor, near Lake Grace, between December 24 last year and January 24 they cultivated cannabis, prepared cannabis and possessed the drug with intent to sell or supply it to another.

The others charged are Luigi Fotia (31), labourer, of Cabramatta, NSW, Bruno Morabito (23), unemployed, of Chester Hill, NSW, and Biagio Macri (27), panel beater, of Croydon Street, Dianella.

Sgt O'Halloran said he interviewed Cusmano on March 2. Cusmano had said that Macri had taken over some land on the farm for pigs.

Macri had told him that he was going to raise baconers in three months. It had been mentioned

that serum and needles were to be used to fatten the pigs, but Macri had said nothing about growing special pig food.

Cusmano had believed that treating pigs with serum and needles was illegal.

Cusmano had said that there was a cleared area of about two hectares 400 metres from the pig farm.

Macri had told him that he wanted this land for vegetables but had not discussed with him what he was growing.

He had ploughed the land and told Macri what fertiliser to use on new land.

The hearing was adjourned.

(Before Magistrate J. Simpson. Sgt F. Beckett prosecuted. Mr S. J. Singleton for Fotia, Mr L. G. Wood for Macri, Mr E. M. Heenan for Cusmano, Mr R. J. Bonomelli for Morabito.)

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

YOUNG AUSTRALIAN CHARGED WITH HEROIN POSSESSION

Sydney SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 28 Nov 78 p 8

[Article by Neil Kelly]

[Text]

BANGKOK, Monday. — A young Australian gemstone dealer, formerly of Adelaide, has been charged with illegal possession for sale of 1.05 kilograms of heroin worth about \$A400,000 in Australia.

Owen Windham Jones, 24, who was arrested at a house in Bangkok on Saturday, is now in a cell at a nearby police station.

He denied the charges when he spoke to me yesterday, although police allege he has confessed.

He told me that when police came into his rented house he was in bed. They went to his duffle bag and pulled out a plastic bag of white powder which they said was heroin.

Jones told me he had never seen it before the police produced it from his bag.

He said he was a heroin addict. His own heroin which he sniffed, was beside his bed but the police had not bothered to look at that, he said.

Jones said he had been living in the house for about a Fort-

night with a Thai girl who was an old friend. He had come to Bangkok from Europe three weeks ago because she had told him she needed his help.

The girl was also a heroin addict.

He now believed the girl had put the heroin in his bag.

"I suspect she was going to use the heroin to get money out of me," he said. "She knows my family is quite well off."

"We had planned to go back to Europe together to have a proper cure for our addiction."

Police are now looking for the girl. Jones said she left the house a few hours before the police came.

Jones admitted he had served a term in prison in Bangkok earlier this year for illegal possession of marijuana.

He denied police allegations that he had admitted paying \$5,000 for the heroin in northern Thailand, and that he had planned to take it to Hong Kong.

Jones said he had been living in London. His parents lived in Europe.

He is likely to make his first court appearance on Friday.

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AUSTRALIA

FARMER SUPPLIES DRUG DEALER FOR THREE YEARS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 25 Nov 78 p 4

[Text]

SHEPPARTON. — A Katunga farmer had been supplying marijuana to a Melbourne drug dealer for three years, police told Shepparton Magistrates Court yesterday.

Mr. D. R. Walker, SM, was hearing remand proceedings against William Frederick Hunter, 42.

Detective Senior Sergeant Denis Hanna told the court Hunter had been growing marijuana on a small section of his dairy farm for the past three years.

He said police discovered about 800 mature marijuana plants. Some were two metres high.

Hanna said the plants would have a street value of about \$80,000.

He said that during the raid \$2000 in cash was found in Hunter's house.

He alleged that the money was proceeds from the sale of the drug.

Hunter was charged with five drug offences including possession, selling, trafficking in marijuana, preparing a drug of addiction and manufacturing a drug of addiction.

Mr. Walker remanded Hunter to appear in Shepparton Magistrates Court on Monday. Bail was fixed at \$2000.

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AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA PLANTS SEIZED--Adelaide--Detectives made dawn swoops yesterday on five properties in the Virginia Market Garden area north of Adelaide. They uncovered about 7,000 marihuana plants in 27 glasshouses at three of the properties. The raids were made after the discovery of about 10,000 plants at St Kilda, north of Adelaide, on Sunday. If all plants found in the latest raid had reached maturity they could have returned a street price of \$3.5 million, bringing the total potential street value of crops seized near Adelaide since September to about \$85 million. Two women appeared in Para District court yesterday, charged with cultivating Indian hemp. Efi Stefanidis (42), market gardener of Virginia, was alleged to have been found by the police working in a glasshouse containing marihuana plants. Avangelia Skeneris (46), a market gardener, of Virginia, was alleged to have cultivated 2,500 plants found in glasshouses on her property. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 2 Dec 78 p 1]

AUSTRALIANS ARRESTED--Tokyo, Fri--Two Australian tourists have been charged with attempting to smuggle 4.2 kg of marihuana into Japan from Thailand. Michael Coote (27), teacher, from New South Wales, and Jeffrey Green (26), film production assistant, from South Australia, were charged yesterday under the cannabis control law. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 2 Dec 78 p 25]

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BURMA

BRIEFS

OPIUM SEIZED--Letpadan, 10 Dec--At 0130 on 3 December, Myoma ward people's council secretary U Tin Tun and Railways Police Squad Commander U Myint Thein became suspicious of Tun Lwin, who was waiting for the train on platform No 2 of Letpadan railway station to travel to Henzada and Kyonpyaw. When Tun Lwin was searched, 14 packets of raw opium each weighing 0.6 viss [1 viss equals 3.6 pounds] were found. Action has been taken under Section 6.B and 7.B [of the Narcotic Drugs Law]. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 14 Dec 78 p 4 BK]

JAIL FOR HEROIN POSSESSION--Kyaikkame, 6 Dec--"Moulmein Township Court No 4 chaired by U Ba Thin and with U Kan Hla and U Tin Aye as members yesterday sentenced each of the three young heroin addicts to 5 years imprisonment with hard labor after finding them guilty under Section 6.B of the Narcotic Drugs Law and under Section 33.A of the Excise Act." The case was that on 11 November 1977, police and people's councillors raided the residence of Pho Toke, alias Ye Myint, at No 26, Maung Gale Road in Moulmein's Aukkyin Ward, and found Tha Tha, alias Sein Win, of Kadoe village and Myint Sein of Zay-gyi-taungpaw-dan ward with a hypodermic syringe containing heroin. Pho Toke was charged under Section 6.B of the Narcotic Drugs Law and Section 33.A of the Excise Act while Tha Tha and Myint Sein were charged under Section 6.B of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 16 Dec 78 p 6 BK]

SIX YEARS FOR DRUG OFFENSE--Pabedan Township Court chaired by U Tha Oo last Monday sentenced a youth to six years' imprisonment on one count and to a one-year term on another count under the Narcotic Drugs Law. The case was that at about 10.30 am on 8 September 1977, Pabedan police led by L/Cpl Myint Tun searched a youth at the corner of Anawrahta and 32nd Streets in the presence of witnesses and seized three packets of heroin from him. The youth, identified as Tin Nyunt alias Ye Thant of No 5, 5th Lane, AFPFL Quarter, Rangoon, was sent up for trial before the Pabedan Township Court which found him guilty under Sections 6(b) (possession) and 14(d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law and sentenced him to six years' imprisonment under Section 6(b) and to a one-year term under Section 14(d), the sentences to be served concurrently. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 15 Dec 78 p 1 BK]

HEROIN SEIZURES IN RANGOON--Rangoon, 15 Dec--A police party headed by Sub-Inspector U Tin Oo, this morning seized two packets of heroin worth K 25 each from one Khin Thein alias Maing Tu of No 170, Bogyoke Aung San Street, near the Open Air Market. Pabedan Township Police are taking action against Khin Thein under Sections 6(b) (possession), 10(b) (sale) and 14(d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. Similarly, a search on Han Win of No 6, 30th Street, at the corner of 30th and Merchant Streets resulted in the seizure of a packet of heroin worth about K 60. Acting on information given by Han Win that he bought the heroin from Soe Soe alias Sithu Aung of Room No 6 of No 54, 35th Street, and that it was delivered to him by his friend Cho Cho of Kanthaya Road, Mayangon, the police also rounded up Soe Soe and Cho Cho. Pabedan Police are taking action against the three under Sections 6(b), 10(b), 11 and 14(d) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 18 Dec 78 p 1 BK]

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JAPAN

POLICE HOLD 162 SHINJUKU STATION DRUG RACKETEERS

Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English 27 Dec 78 p 2

[Text]

The Metropolitan Police Department ended a four-month investigation of a drug ring based in downtown Shinjuku Tuesday with the arrest of 162 runners linked to a local gang.

According to the MPD, investigators found that Shinjuku station, the busiest JNR station, was being used as a drug market place by the local Kyukushin-kai gang.

Toluene for sniffers and amphetamines were sold in little bottles which were put in coin lockers in the station concourse or concealed in plants nearby, the MPD explained.

"Customers" in the scheme, mostly youngsters from outside Tokyo, came to the station to receive orders they had placed with the runners, the MPD said.

During the investigation, 110 liters of toluene with a street value of ¥2.75 million and 108 grams of amphetamines worth

¥32.4 million were seized, it added.

Record Levels

Stimulant drugs confiscated in the first 11 months of this year hit a postwar record, the National Police Agency announced Tuesday.

By the end of November, police had detained 16,500 persons in connection with about 27,800 cases of violations of the Stimulant Drug Control Law. The number of those detained represented a 23.3 percent increase over last year's corresponding figure and there was a 26.3 percent increase in cases investigated the NPA said.

Police seized 94 kg of powdered drugs worth about ¥28 billion at street value and 460,000 cc of liquid drugs, up 60.6 percent and 1,000-fold respectively from the same period last year, the NPA's report showed.

Most of the stimulant drugs were smuggled into Japan by air.

One-third of the drugs came from South Korea, more than anywhere else. And those arrested in connection with the Korea link accounted for 70 percent.

Drugs also came from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Thailand, Macao and Western Europe through complicated routes, the NPA reported.

Through international cooperation, the NPA arrested five drug smugglers who had fled abroad. At present, NPA is searching for three other suspects believed to be in two Southeast Asian countries.

The NPA also helped eliminate two drug smuggling hideouts in Taiwan and two others in South Korea in cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol).

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MALAYSIA

RENEW EFFORTS, ANTIDRUG BUREAU TOLD

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Dec 78 p 6

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. — Umno's anti-drug bureaux were today urged to renew their efforts against drug abuse.

The party's anti-drug officer, Radin Supathan, who made the call, said the activities of the bureaux so far had not been satisfactory.

He said 34 Umno divisions had to date set up anti-drug bureaux but added that these bureaux had not been active enough since the last Umno General Assembly in September.

He said he hoped the bureaux would review their position.

More needed

Radin Supathan also urged other Umno divisions to set up their own anti-drug bureaux.

He said he had discussed the matter with

Umno Secretary-General Datuk Haji Mustaffa Jabar and that the latter agreed that there was a need for more of such bureaux to complement the efforts of the Government and voluntary bodies in fighting drug abuse.

Treatment

Radin Supathan also said he welcomed the move taken by the special action committee on drug abuse in Segamat to use the traditional method in treating drug addicts.

A total of 32 addicts were reported to be undergoing the treatment in the district.

He said that with the support of the public and the relevant authorities, traditional medicine could play a major role in the treatment of drug addicts. — Bernama.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSTA

VIETNAMESE REFUGEES MAY BE BRINGING IN DRUGS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Nov 78 p 7

[Text] **SEREMBAN, Sun.** — Some of the 38,000 Vietnamese who have entered Malaysia are suspected to have brought in hard drugs, sources said yesterday.

It is understood that the National Anti-Drug Organisation (Pemadam) has received several unconfirmed reports of drug trafficking by the Vietnamese.

The organisation is so concerned about this that it adopted a resolution at its National Executive Committee meeting here

yesterday calling on the Government to be on the alert against such activities.

National Pemadam Chairman Datuk Rais Yatim, who is the Menteri Besar of Negri Sembilan, said the organisation was "very concerned" about possible drug trafficking by the Vietnamese.

"They are known to have smuggled in guns, ammunition and valuables. And there are some involved in narcotics," he said.

"We are calling on the Government to take special precautions against drug smuggling."

He said Pemadam would write to the Home Affairs Ministry regarding the matter and a copy of the letter would be sent to the Prime Minister.

Grants

He said Pemadam had no enforcement powers; it could only notify the relevant authorities of suspected trafficking.

Pemadam will hold its annual meeting on Dec. 18 and one of the items for discussion will be drug smuggling.

Datuk Rais said the Selangor and the Federal Territory branches would be receiving additional grants of \$40,000 and \$20,000 respectively for their activities.

MALAYSIA

WELFARE OFFICERS TOLD TO SCREEN ADDICTS WITH CARE

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 22 Dec 78 p 7 BK

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Thurs.--Welfare officers should study carefully the applications from drug addicts for treatment at rehabilitation centres, Welfare Services Minister Datin Paduka Hajjah Aishah Ghani has said.

She added that drug addicts should not be allowed to use the centres as "places of refuge."

The screening of applicants would ensure that addicts involved in crime and secret society activities were not taken into the centres.

The Minister was speaking today at the opening of a course for 28 senior welfare officers on the supervision of addicts at rehabilitation centres.

She said the aim of the three-day course was to acquaint welfare officers on the problems of drug abuse and to train them in counselling addicts.

Joint Course

The course is jointly organised by the Government, the U.S. Department of State and the National Institute of Drug Abuse in the U.S.

Three American experts, Dr. Robert Dendy, Mr. Harvey A. Friedman and Mr. Thomas K. Conway are attached to the Ministry for eight months to help train welfare officers on the prevention of drug abuse and the rehabilitation of addicts.

The Minister said under this programme, the welfare officers would take over the training programme after the experts had left.

She said though the training system was unique to Malaysia, it could serve as a model for South-East Asia.

"Exchange of personnel involved in the prevention of drug abuse and the rehabilitation of addicts could take place among the countries in the region so that they could study each other's methods."

Datin Paduka Aishah said there were about 62,000 drug addicts in the country and the number was on the increase.

Better measures, therefore, should be taken in the prevention of drug abuse.

The number of rehabilitation centres would be increased to six with the setting up of one in Muar and another in Sungai Petani.

She added, however, that the centres were insufficient to handle the increasing number of addicts seeking treatment.

The Minister also urged the public to cooperate with the Government in combating the drug problem.

"The public should be ready to accept former addicts and give them guidance and assistance so that they would be able to find jobs and not return to drugs."

She added that voluntary organisations involved in efforts to solve the drug problem, could do more to help.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

TRADER GETS LIFE FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Dec 78 p 8

[Article by Lim Ching Hing]

[Text] **IPOH, Wed.** — A businessman, Michael Goh Eng Hoe, 33, was sentenced by the sessions court today to life imprisonment and ordered to be given six strokes of the rotan for drug trafficking.

His wife, Yeoh Kim Kee, 34, who was jointly charged with him, was acquitted and discharged when the prosecution withdrew the charge against her.

The couple were charged under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance 1952 with trafficking in 126.74 gm. of heroin at 12.30 a.m. on Dec. 2 in their house at Jalan Bunga Puteh in Boon Bak Garden, New Pasir Puteh, here.

Goh pleaded guilty to the charge while his wife claimed trial.

Giving the facts of the case, prosecuting officer Woman Chief Inspector Ko Siew Gaik said acting on a tip-off, Probationary Inspector Lim Kok Yew went to the house with a detective

constable at 11.15 p.m. on Dec. 1.

They saw a motor-cycle parked under the porch, and thinking that there were occupants in the house, returned to the police station to get more men.

The children

They returned to the house half an hour later with two more policemen, but the motor-cycle was not there, so the police party laid an ambush at the front and back of the house.

At 12.30 a.m., Goh returned home on a motor-cycle with his nine-year-old daughter, and was confronted by Inspector Lim and two policemen.

After identifying himself, Inspector Lim searched Goh, but found nothing on him. Inspector Lim then asked to enter the house.

As Goh had no keys to the house, he called out to his wife to open the door. When she came to the door, Inspector Lim overheard Goh telling his wife to destroy the drugs in the house, said Chief Inspector Ko.

Yeoh ran to the back of the house where she picked something from a table, opened the back door and ran out, but was caught by a policeman waiting there.

"She was carrying a pink plastic bag containing 21 small plastic packets and seven straw tubes containing heroin," Chief Inspector Ko said.

Inspector Lim entered the house and finding nothing, took both the husband and wife,

together with the packets and straw tubes, to the police station.

Chief Inspector Ko said the investigating officer, Acting ASP Harbajan Singh, went to the house later, searched it and found a small weighing scale, a pair of scissors and two packets containing plastic bags.

She said police investigations revealed that all the items belonged to Goh and tests by the Chemistry Department confirmed the drugs to be heroin.

Goh, who has three previous convictions (two for armed robbery and one for illegal possession of firearms) pleaded for a last chance. He said he wanted to turn over a new leaf.

He asked the court to release his wife whom he said was not involved, and said he personally accepted the responsibility.

He said he had three school-going children to support and there was no one to look after them.

Magistrate T.S. Marbeck, who sat as president of the sessions court, said the offence Goh committed was a very serious one, before imposing the sentence.

When he wanted to fix a hearing date for Yeoh, Chief Inspector Ko said the prosecution was withdrawing the charge against her.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED--Penang, Wed.--Two Central Narcotics Bureau officers arrested two men and recovered two pounds of heroin at Amoy Lane here last night. The men aged 27 and 30 were sitting near a coffeeshop at about 7.40 p.m. when the officers approached them. They tried to escape but were overpowered and arrested after a short chase. According to the CNB northern region chief, Supt. N. Mahadevan, the officers recovered two packets of grade three heroin. The drug, believed to be for local distribution can be converted into about 192,496 "shots." [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 28 Dec 78 p 5 BK]

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

CUSTOMS OFFICERS FIND BLOCKS OF CANNABIS RESIN

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 18 Nov 78 p 7

[Text] Blocks of cannabis resin with a street value of about \$30,000 were found when Customs officers searched the M.V. Tongariro which berthed at Lyttelton at 0600 on 5 October, Mr Justice Roper was told in the Supreme Court yesterday.

His Honour fined Leslie Alan Wood, aged 23, a British deckhand on the ship, \$400, and recommended that he be deported on a charge that he actively suppressed evidence to enable crew members of the Tongariro to avoid arrest. He had pleaded guilty to the charge.

The police statement of facts said that at 2120 hours on 5 October a Customs officer saw Wood leave the accommodation section of the vessel. As he did so he put wrapping paper in his pocket.

When the Customs officer asked Wood what he was carrying he ran along the wharf. The Customs officer gave chase and Wood stopped by a railway wagon for a short time and then continued running.

After being stopped Wood was taken to the search room where he again broke away and ran off before again being apprehended. Paper and string were found on the ground alongside Wood. The paper smelt strongly of cannabis resin.

Wood admitted removing the paper from the vessel. He said that he was aware that cannabis resin was concealed on board and when he found the paper he realised that it had been wrapped around a block of cannabis. He decided to remove it from the ship.

Mr M. J. Knowles, for Wood, said that Wood had taken the paper off the ship to protect his shipmates after he found it in a rubbish tin. At that stage the cannabis had already been found by the Customs officers.

It was not a matter which should have been laid indictably and apparently it had been done that way by the police because they had failed to catch the persons who had imported the cannabis. Eighteen members of the crew had been on board at the time but Wood had been the only person interviewed. The ship had since left New Zealand, said Mr Knowles.

His Honour said that Wood's offence involved the removal from his vessel of wrapping which had previously contained cannabis resin.

"It has been suggested that you did it to protect your crew mates, and I accept that that was all there was to it. You were not a dealer and not involved in the importation of the cannabis. It was just a stupid act," said His Honour.

It was unfortunate that Wood had appeared on the charge because he had no previous convictions and had spend 5 weeks in custody. He agreed with counsel that a fine would be appropriate, said His Honour.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

MAN ACQUITTED ON DRUG CHARGES

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 25 Nov 78 p 2

[Text]

<p>It took a jury 45 minutes in return for wiping out a debt of \$170.</p> <p>Mr Milne and Miss Stewart turned Queen's evidence after they were promised immunity from prosecution in connection with those drugs. The immunity was originally purported to be given by Detective G. F. Stebbings, who did not have the power to grant it, but it was later correctly given by the Solicitor-General before the couple gave evidence at the taking of depositions in the Magistrate's Court.</p> <p>Terry Anthony Milne.</p> <p>The Crown alleged that Hickey asked Mr Milne and his girlfriend, Vivala Charmaine Stewart, who lived in a cottage at Woodend, to store and sell a quantity of hard drugs with a street value of more than \$35,000.</p>	<p>His Honour ruled during his summing-up that there was no evidence capable of corroborating that of the two accomplices, Mr Milne and Miss Stewart.</p> <p>The trial began on Monday but the jury did not return its verdict until late yesterday afternoon.</p> <p>Mr G. K. Panckhurst appeared for the Crown and Messrs T. Williams, of Auckland, and Mr M. Wilson for Hickey, who had pleaded not guilty to all charges.</p>
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CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

DRUG FORTUNE AND THREE MEN SEIZED

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 17 Nov 78 p 1

[Text] Wanganui, 17-Nov (PA)--Heroin with a street value of about \$200,000 was seized when police arrested three men in a raid in the Rangitikei District last night.

Police said the men, who face charges of possessing heroin for supply, will be the first in the district charged under the recent amendment to the Misuse of Drugs Act, which makes them liable to life imprisonment.

Watch

The operation, which follows a week of police surveillance, began last night with the receipt of information that two people had visited a Raetihi address.

A car was later intercepted at Bulls and a quantity of heroin was found, police said.

A subsequent search of a property at Rata, near Hunterville, for which a Customs Department drug dog was brought from Wellington, uncovered more heroin hidden beside the railway tracks at the rear.

In all, police said, about 150 grams of heroin were seized.

The three men, appeared in the Magistrate's Court here this morning charged with possessing heroin for sale.

All were remanded in custody until next Tuesday.

Remanded

They were Mafeking Gordon Clayton, 29, sickness beneficiary, of Rata, who was charged with possessing heroin for sale at Rata yesterday and today; Gregory Robert Benfield, 23, unemployed of Raumati South, and David James McNabb, 24, unemployed, of Levin. Each was charged with possessing heroin for sale at Bulls yesterday.

They were not represented by council, and they entered no pleas.

CSO: 5300

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NEW ZEALAND

BRIEFS

HEROIN POSSESSION--A man found guilty of possessing 1.26 grammes of heroin for purposes of supply was liable to life imprisonment because the new Misuse of Drugs Act had come into force before he was dealt with, the Crown Prosecutor (Mr J.H.C. Larsen) said in the Supreme Court on Friday. Alan John McRae, 21, builder, was sentenced to 3 years' jail by Mr Justice Ongley on the charge. His Honour said that the quantity of heroin involved was more than twice the amount (half a gramme) that the legislation dictated raised the presumption of possession for purposes of supply. Mr McRae had tried to rebutt that presumption in his evidence before the jury. His Honour said he must sentence McRae on the basis that it was his intention to put the amount into circulation in the community. It was in his favour that there was no evidence that he had a part in any large organisation engaged in drug activity. But it was the small operator who was failing the community by supplying narcotics for personal gain. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 13 Nov 78 p 23]

TWO-YEAR DRUG SENTENCE--Robert Sievers Shields, 36, storeman, was jailed for 2 years by Mr Justice White in the Supreme Court on a charge of possession of cannabis for sale or supply. He had been found guilty by a jury. The amount of cannabis involved (3.47 lb) showed that Shields was in the chain of supply to a number of people and it must be presumed it was for gain, his Honour said. He was operating behind a facade of being an ordinary law-abiding member of the community, his Honour added. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 24 Nov 78 p 8]

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

PLAN TO ERADICATE OPIUM ADDICTION

Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 7 Nov 78 p 2

[Text] Gilgit, Nov. 6: Government will chalk out a plan for eradication of opium addiction in Ghizar subdivision, especially in the upper parts of Ishkoman valley of northern areas. This was stated by Major General Muhammad Aslam Shah, Martial Law Administrator Zone (E) while talking to the public during his recent tour to the area.

He said that the Chairman of Narcotic Control Board will be visiting the area shortly in this connection.

The MLA said that people should cooperate with the authorities for achieving this noble objective. He advised the public to start growing of wheat instead of opium for which fertilizer will be issued to them on subsidized rates. He said that more irrigation facilities will be provided so that the area could become self-sufficient in wheat production.--APP.

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

EDITORIAL DISCUSSES WAYS TO CUT OPIUM CULTIVATION

Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 16 Nov 78 p 3

[Editorial: "Poppy Cultivation"]

[Text]

The Federal Government in its bid to stop illicit poppy cultivation has allowed its growing over a total area of 2500 acres out of which 1450 acres would be in Swabi and Gadoon area. The rest, 1050 acres, would be cultivated in various districts with perhaps the aim to control it in other parts of the country. But this is not likely to achieve the desired results. Poppy is cultivated not only in the Gadoon area of Swabi, it also is the stock in trade of small land holders throughout the irrigated areas of the province where in majority of cases the growers would not bother to take licences from the excise department. The reasons are only too obvious. Besides the cumbersome formalities for obtaining a licence, the controlled cultivation would mean frequent visits by the excise officials — a thing which

the village folk can't afford for the simple reason that it would be providing a chance to the otherwise unaware excise staff to know about the illicit cultivation by many others of the same village. A licence obtained by an honest and law-abiding cultivator may therefore land him in trouble in an area where family feuds on petty pretexts are already on the rampage. Besides, the licences will have to sell his whole produce to the Government at absurdly low rate of Rs. 350 per seer (of last year) as compared to the black market rate of Rs. 1300/- to Rs. 2000/-. The average yield per acre being 32 seers which means Rs. 48,000/- in black (on average rate of Rs. 1500/- per seer) against Rs. 11200/-, it would be too much to expect a common villager to be altruistic to the extent of losing almost Rs. 37000/- per acre per year. If a

neighbour can earn such a lot of money without any licence, who can convince the other neighbour not to do the same. It is thus that the yield is increasing every year with the growing incident of opium smuggling.

The figures released of the Pakistan Narcotics Control Board reveal another very intriguing aspect of the situation. The vend keepers pay Rs. 4.5 crores annually for rights to sell opium worth Rs. 60 lakhs. And the Government knows that they are not philanthropists. It is the vend keepers who promote the illicit cultivation of poppy — to meet the deficit and even earn more. The greater the avarice of the vend keeper the larger the cultivation of opium and consequently the wider the area under illicit cultivation and unlawful trade thriving with indirect patronage of the Government. The tribal areas where Opium Act does not apply

are the main suppliers to these vend-keepers and there is no possibility to check the poppy cultivation in these areas. Similar is the position in settled areas where walled premises are used to hide the cultivation from public eyes. The curtailment of cultivation area would result in a drop in licence fees and it would need the adopting of more practical measures than this — like minimising the production and use of opium gradually by doing away with the system of vend keeping. It is practically impossible to convince the poppy grower by means of giving more and more relief in the shape of fertilizer at the reduced rates to take to other cash crops — the difference in the value of output and the price of inputs being so large.

The Government is either to raise the price of opium if it wants to plug its diversion to the black market or take a number of other costly measures to completely get rid of the problem. The U.N. (Drug Abuse Control Programme) can be asked to offer its helping hand not only in the matter of funds required for the purpose but also in using its influence in the neighbouring Afghanistan to cooperate by imposing similar measures to check the cultivation and sale of opium by the tribesmen which even-

tually finds its way in the black market of our country or smuggled to Middle East and elsewhere. The nationalisation of poppy cultivation is another measure which can effectively be put to use. If poppy is cultivated only on state lands by the department of agriculture under the supervision of the UN programme for Drug Abuse Control, there would be fewer chances of its misuse. In such a case traditional cultivators of poppy may either be compensated for the loss or offered the option to give the land on lease to agriculture department. In the meanwhile the possibilities of providing ultimate means of livelihood to poppy cultivators might have been explored as promised by the Government to at least control its growing in the settled areas. As for the tribal areas and Afghanistan, efficient check in somewhat unconventional ways and international cooperation in the shape of UN Drug Abuse Control Programme can effectively be relied upon to ease the situation. If we could frustrate the efforts of illicit growers only for one year, there is every likelihood that poppy cultivation is stopped forever as the small land holders would not take the risk of complete ruin by going for it the second time.

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

HEARING IN HEROIN SMUGGLING CASE PUT OFF

Karachi THE SUN in English 1 Dec 78 p 9

[Text]

KARACHI, Nov. 30: The case of a Belgian national Prof. Vienne Joseph Maria allegedly involved in the smuggling of heroin worth about Rs. 400 million, came up for hearing before a Special Judge Customs and Taxation here today. The court today partly examined the seizing officer who recovered the heroin from the professor. The officer told the court that the property (heroin) was in the possession of Assistant Collector Customs who was currently on leave and therefore it could not be produced today. The court ordered for the produc-

tion of the property and fixed December 2, as next date for the hearing of the case.

About the request of Prof. Maria for Class B in jail the court observed that professor should produce documents through his embassy that he was a professor and could be entitled to Class "B".

Professor Maria is accused of smuggling of over 47 kilograms heroin into Pakistan on Oct. 13, 1978. The accused has plead not guilty to charge.

Barrister Manzoor Hussain appeared on behalf of the accused professor. —PPI

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

250 KG OPIUM SEIZED--Rawalpindi, Dec. 4: Contraband opium weighing 250 kilograms and some foreign cloth were seized today from a goods truck near Nishtarabad railway crossing in Faisalabad. The opium and cloth had been concealed in a specially-made cavity in the truck (No. HA-7055) which was loaded with stone crush. Three persons, Abdul Hamid, Abdul Malik (drivers) and Abdul Shakoor (conductor), all belonging to village Ghazi in Hazara, were arrested. [Text] [Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 5 Dec 78 p 1]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

CALL FOR TOUGHER ACTION AGAINST NARCOTIC DRUGS

[Editorial Report BK] Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese on 17 December 1978 carries a 750-word article on page 3 by Maung Htin entitled: "Heroin and the Death Sentence." The article begins with a detailed report on new drug control laws which the Thai Government plans to introduce. The article notes that according to new Thai laws possessors of more than 100 grams of heroin are punishable by a life or death sentence while manufacturers and dealers of opium and morphine are punishable by 1 to 10 years and 20 years to life imprisonment, respectively.

The author says: "In my opinion, the manufacturer and the dealer are equally important as the possessors and therefore they should also be given severe punishment. Although I do not mean to suggest that they be given death sentences, it is my belief that manufacturers and dealers are the main causes of drug addiction and that only by suppressing them can we get rid of the problem of drug addiction. However since laws are made according to the customs and conditions of the country concerned, I should not be arguing the point.

"I think the way action is taken against narcotic drugs in our country is too lenient especially because we base our actions on humane grounds. However all prevailing conditions may call for heavier penalties. This is the point all those who have erred should bear in mind. I wish to urge them to right their wrongs and to become good citizens while action being taken is still lenient and in an appealing manner."

The author then goes on to note various effects and medicinal qualities of opiates and drugs, and in conclusion, he says: "Many things have yet to be done about narcotic drugs. If youths themselves actively take part in the form of mass movements to combat the threat, there is reason to believe that the problem can be solved without any harsh action."

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION CENTER'S ACTIVITIES IN 1978

Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 19 Dec 78

[Text] Pol Col Kasat Panyarachun, deputy commander of the special branch division and assistant chief of the police department's Narcotics Suppression Center, has disclosed to newsmen the center's achievements in drug suppression in the past months of this year as follows:

[Kasat] Statistics show that our achievements have increased. So far, we captured approximately 209 kilograms of heroin No 3; 95 kilograms of heroin No 4; 85 kilograms of opium; 95 kilograms of morphine and 236 kilograms of marihuana. We arrested 84 persons involved in 40 drug offenses. The prime minister exercised Article 27 with four cases, sending three persons to death. The rest of the arrested are being tried. During the past 2 or 3 years, we seemed to have exerted most of our efforts on the suppression of heroin which is the most dangerous type of narcotic. However, it should be noted that marihuana is now spreading at an alarming rate. Marihuana has been clandestinely grown mostly in the northeastern provinces such as Sakon Nakhon and Nakhon Phanom.

I also attended the recent antinarcotics seminar for drug suppression authorities from all units organized by the center in Udon Thani Province. During the seminar, we stressed the suppression of marihuana. I would like to quote parts of the speech delivered at the seminar by Pol Lt Gen Sawaeng Hongnakhon, commander of the Provincial Police Area 2, so that we can see the problem the police authorities in that region are facing. He said that suppression of marihuana during the past several years was not so successful and became a very difficult task because of insufficient manpower. The police authorities are always fully occupied with their routine crime suppression duty. The marihuana plantations are located in the jungle, not accessible by vehicles. It is not safe either to enter those areas with small numbers of men because growers might set an ambush against us.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

TWO MORE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTES PLANNED FOR ADDICTS

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 28 Dec 78 p 3 BK

[Text]

IN ORDER to cope with the rising number of detainees on narcotics charges, the Corrections Department will set up two more correctional institutes especially for drug addicts, Corrections Director General Thawi Chusap said yesterday.

He told a press conference that the two establishments would be situated in the Northern and Northeastern provinces of Lampang and Khon Kaen, respectively, with construction budget of 16 to 17-million baht.

The blueprint of this plant which had earlier been approved in the present Fourth National Economic and Social Development Plan, was recently forwarded for consideration to the Office of Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) and the Budget Bureau, said the director general.

The Corrections Department presently has two such correctional institutes in Than-yaburi District of Pathumthani and in Bangkok vicinity in

Bangkok. These two premises currently accommodate about 3,000 prisoners, said Mr Thawi.

The director general, in the meantime, denied reports that a good number of ex-prisoners picked up the habit of taking drugs while they were detained in prisons.

He said that 47% of detainees in all prisons were already drug addicts before entering the jails.

Mr Thawi however admitted that the lucrative business of drug selling in prisons operated by prisoners in cooperation with some wardens was "true". Sixteen officials attached to several prisons have been charged since the beginning of this year until October.

The director general also said that he did not think such special institutes to treat drug-addicted prisoners could completely cure them because statistics collected by his department showed that as high as 44% of released drug-addicted prisoners were normally sent to jail on various charges again.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

MACABRE HEROIN SMUGGLING PLOT UNCOVERED

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Dec 78 p 3 BK

[Text]

A MACABRE plot to smuggling heroin to the United States in the stomach of a dead baby was yesterday outlined by the Vietnamese salon-owner arrested Tuesday in connection with the murder of a Singaporean businessman in a Hat Yai hotel.

Mrs Suda Sri-amporn, 28, told police that she was innocent of the murder of Mr Ramen Lim in the Rado Hotel in Hat Yai district of Songkhla Province earlier this month and alleged that the dead man had offered her one million baht to hide heroin in the dead baby's stomach and smuggle it to the US and Malaysia.

She said Lim was working for an international drug trafficking syndicate and that she had been to see him on December 6 at his hotel after he cabled her saying he had "an offer that

would hold good rewards" for her.

The man then described the heroin smuggling plan and said he would find the dead baby's corpse but Mrs Suda would have to cut open its stomach and hide the heroin in it, police quoted the woman as saying.

According to police, Mrs Suda said she didn't like this idea and asked for a few days to think it over.

She then returned to the hotel on December 12 intending to refuse the man's offer because she found the plan too terrifying. However, the man insisted that she accept, police quoted her as saying.

The following night, she went to see Lim again but found his room closed and no one answered her knock. She then went away without seeing him, the woman told police.

She said she learnt of his murder on the morning of December 14 from the newspapers. Frightened, she decided to ordain herself into nunhood at Wat Saikaew in Songkhla before returning to Bangkok.

Earlier police had said that Mrs Suda had shaved her head and fled the city to avoid identification. A number of documents in Vietnamese were also found at her salon in Bangkok and police had said they would be studying these very carefully.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

ITALIAN COUPLE ARRESTED FOR HEROIN POSSESSION

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Dec 78 p 3 BK

[Text] An Italian couple was arrested in a Lumpini hotel yesterday morning and charged with possession and intention to sell 800 grammes of high-grade heroin worth about 50,000 baht, police reported.

The arrests of Claudio Dinenimoro, 29, and his girlfriend, Mrs Sabina Roberto, 22, bring to six the total number of Italians arrested last week on heroin possession charges.

Dinenimoro, who police said was a heavy drug addict, and Mrs Roberto were also found to be carrying several syringes and a hollowed-out wooden board, possibly to conceal the drug.

Arrested

They were arrested by Pol Lt Veerasakdi na Nakhon, Deputy Inspector of Lumpini police station in room No 557 of the Nana Hotel in Soi Nana, Sukhumvit road.

The two suspects, according to police investigation, arrived in Thailand December 13 and checked in at Siam Hotel.

The couple later went to Pattaya for a few days, returned to Bangkok and stayed at Nana Hotel until their arrest.

Four Italians were apprehended in separate drug cases in Bangkok last week--two of them identified as Ferrari Marco and Darco Aniello who are alleged to have connections with the Italian Mafia.

The other Italians--Vittorio Lorenzatti and Miss Patrizia Adiutori--were arrested with an Iranian at Don Muang Airport on Friday with 2.5 kilogrammes of heroin on the Iranian's person.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

HEROIN POSSESSION ARREST--A 37-year-old man, claiming to be a former athlete of the National Swimming Team, was arrested late last night along with 1.6 kgs of No. 4 heroin near the Accountancy Faculty, Chulalongkorn University, police reported this morning. Arrested was Prasart Prakayaphan who is the head of taxi drivers at a hotel in the Sukhumvit area. He was later taken to his house in Mahapruetaram, Bang Rak District, where tens of thousands of baht in cash and several medals awarded him as an athlete were discovered, police said. Acting on tip-off, CSD police, headed by Pol Col M. L. Term Sanitwong, commander of the CSD's 7th Division, arrested Prasart at 11.45 p.m. after he received the heroin from an unidentified man who approached him on a Vespa scooter. The police team had watched Prasart since he parked his car in the soi. Police said that when another man came by on a motor scooter, approached Prasart and handed a parcel of heroin to him, police immediately pounced on Prasart but the man on the scooter escaped, police said. Prasart is now being detained at the CSD's 7th Division for further legal action, police said. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 23 Dec 78 p 3 BK]

TWO ARRESTED WITH OPIUM--Nong Khai--Two persons, one of them a Laotian refugee, were arrested yesterday on charges of trafficking in opium while they were leaving Don Sawan refugee camp for Muang District here, police reported. The two are Joy Panvathip (45), a Thai national, and a Laotian refugee Thao Yom Chulmontri (25). Searching the motorcycle they were riding, police found two kilogrammes of raw opium worth about 7,000 baht. Joy told the investigating police that Yom had brought about 25 kilogrammes of cooked opium from Laos and had hidden it in the refugee camp, the report said. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 27 Dec 78 p 3 BK]

DON MUANG AIRPORT DRUG UNIT--The Office of Narcotics Control Board will set up a special unit at Don Muang Airport to check outgoing passengers suspected of trafficking drugs, Pol Maj-Gen Pow [Phao] Sarasin, Secretary-General of the office, said yesterday. Gen Pow said that he expected that the special unit would be established early next month. The office had full cooperation from the Directorate of Civil Aviation of the Royal Thai Air Force, he said. He also said that during the Eighth Asian Games, smuggling of heroin was reportedly extensive, as culprits thought the local authorities paid more attention to the Games and turned their backs to illegal activities. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 26 Dec 78 p 3 BK]

HEROIN SMUGGLING CHARGES--Two foreign tourists were arrested at Don Muang Airport last night on heroin smuggling charges customs officials at the airport reported. The officials became suspicious of Italian Prast Cammelo's behaviour when he passed through customs, and during a thorough search uncovered 30 grammes of heroin in a condom inserted in his rectum. Another 70 grammes of heroin was found on French tourist Geoffroy Dascal. Dascal reportedly hid the illicit drug in the false heels of his shoes. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Dec 78 p 3 BK]

GERMAN TOURIST CHARGED--A 29-year-old German tourist was arrested yesterday by Chana Songkham Police on charges of possessing 400 grammes of No. 4 heroin, Pol Sub-Lt Sompob Manirat said. Wolfgang Heintzkill, who claimed to be a TV repairman in his country, was arrested at 10:40 a.m. in front of the Krung Thai Bank on Khao Sarn Road with two small plastic bags of heroin found hidden inside his pants. Police said Heintzkill looked nervous as he saw a patrolling policeman approaching. This aroused the officer's suspicion and Heintzkill was subjected to a search which produced the heroin. The German reportedly told police he planned to leave for Switzerland on December 29 after a two-month stay in Thailand. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Dec 78 p 5 BK]

40-YEAR JAIL TERM--The Bangkok Criminal Court has sentenced an 18-year-old man to 40 years imprisonment yesterday when he was found guilty of possessing high grade heroin at Thung Mahamek area, in Yannawa District. The court said that on April 6, 1978, Ord Inthachak, of house No. 1258, Village Group 1, Phan District, Chiang Rai Province, was arrested and found possessing heroin valued at 52,980 baht. Three people who were with him, at the time were able to flee and are still at large. The court at first sentenced Ord to the life imprisonment, but reduced the sentence to 40 years because he confessed to the crime. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Dec 78 p 5 BK]

AUSTRALIANS LIKELY TO GET TRIAL--Bangkok, 14 Nov--The Thai Government is unlikely to invoke its summary powers to sentence three Australians, who include Sydney Rugby League footballer Paul Hayward, held here on heroin smuggling allegations, informed sources said here today. The sources said that the Cabinet had decided at a recent meeting not to use Article 27 of the Interim Constitution, which empowers Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanand to sentence without trial, but to go ahead with a regular court trial. Mr Hayward, 26, was arrested last month with hairdresser Warren Fellows, also from Sydney. The two men were accused by police of being in possession of 8.4 kilogrammes (18.5 pounds) of top grade heroin worth \$1 million in the West. Bangkok bar owner William Sinclair was arrested on charges of abetting smuggling attempts. The sources said that police handling the case were keen that General Kriangsak should use his powers. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 15 Nov 78 p 5]

CSO: 5300

JAMAICA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA SEIZURE--A DC-7 aircraft of American registry, unable to take off from the Vernamfield airstrip in Clarendon, was yesterday impounded by the narcotics squad which also seized 12 tons of bagged ganja found nearby. According to reports from the police, the plane made an unauthorized landing at the airstrip either late Monday night or early Tuesday morning and two of its back tires blew out. It was then abandoned by its crew and occupants, the number of which the police have been unable to determine. In their search the police also found scores of bags of ganja in bushes near the airstrip. The police also found that all the seats of the aircraft, except those in the cockpit, had been removed, presumably to facilitate the loading of the ganja. The aircraft bore the registration number N6310J, and the flight is believed to have originated in the United States, which has been a major outlet for Jamaican ganja since the U.S. tightened up on the marihuana traffic from Mexico a few years ago. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Jan 79 p 1 FL]

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

OFFICER INVOLVED IN TRAFFICKER'S ESCAPE SENTENCED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 2 Dec 78 Sec B p 2

[Text] Yesterday, the former police officer Juan Antonio Trevino Espinosa, who was responsible for the escape of the dangerous drug trafficker Miguel Licea de la Torre who, in a spectacular incident, fled from the offices of the second district court on the morning of 21 January 1974, was sentenced to a prison term of 4 years and 3 months, for his guilt of a crime of prisoner escape.

The accused will begin serving that sentence on the day when he reenters prison, since he is currently released on bail.

The judge's verdict also states that "Juan Antonio Trevino Espinosa is permanently deprived of the right to practice the profession of police officer."

Juan Antonio Trevino Espinosa and other policemen were assigned by the police inspector to guard the federal convicts Salomon Alfaro Cardenas, Fernando Sarabia Pena, Miguel Licea de la Torre, Juan Guerra Flores, Juan Jose Guerra Guerra, Miguel Angel Guevara, Eloy Gonzalez Zamora, Nicanor Cabello Cabello, Americo Guevara Guevara and Juan Fernando Gallardo.

The policemen received the instruction to transfer the individuals in custody to the second district court's Social Rehabilitation Center.

When they were in the court, Licea de la Torre asked his guard, Juan Antonio Trevino, for permission to go to the rest room, claiming that he felt ill.

Licea de la Torre entered the rest room while the policeman remained outside and, after several minutes, it was noticed that there was no sound in the lavatory; and when he opened the door to see what was going on, he discovered that the daring trafficker had escaped.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

DANGEROUS TRAFFICKER CLAIMED ARRESTED, SEARCH CONTINUES

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 29 Nov 78 Sec B p 2

[Text] While members of all the Tamaulipas police forces continued the search for the dangerous murderer and drug trafficker, Artemio Gonzalez Pena, alias "El Artista," it was claimed constantly yesterday in this town that the aforementioned outlaw had been arrested last Saturday in Ciudad Victoria, where he was said to have been captured by Rural Police forces.

The coordinator of the agencies of the Federal Public Ministry, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, stated that it had been confirmed that Gonzalez Pena, alias "El Artista," had been arrested in Victoria, but that the case is being handled with absolute secrecy, the reasons for which are unknown.

Moreover, the Federal Judicial Police coordinator in the states of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas, Comdr Margarito Mendez Rico, reported that several warrants for the arrest of "El Artista" have been issued by district judges, who want him for being presumed guilty of committing a crime against health.

"El Artista" has been charged with several murders, including the recent death of the Federal Judicial Police auxiliary officer, Bonifacio Infante Rodriguez, and Maria Luisa Balboa. Both were killed in cold blood by the accused because, after riddling them with bullets, he mutilated his victims by driving one or more vehicles over them.

Since the day of that incident (20 November), the police authorities have conducted an intensive hunt for the murderers, which ended last Saturday when the Rural Police arrested "El Artista;" however, his whereabouts are uncertain, because he may possibly be undergoing a completely confidential "investigation."

Yesterday, reporters from EL MANANA talked directly by telephone with members of the State Rural Police in Ciudad Victoria, but it was flatly denied that "El Artista" was under arrest.

The oft-mentioned individual had previously been sought for having shot to death one of the members of the troubled Guerra Barrera family of Ciudad

Miguel Aleman; and he was, even earlier, mentioned as being guilty of another murder in Matamoros, Tamaulipas.

He is wanted in the latter town by the second district judge, in connection with a trial in which the corpus delecti is over 15 tons of marihuana.

The Double Murder Caused a Commotion

Completely reliable sources reported that the cruelty with which the FJP auxiliary officer, Bonifacio Infante Rodriguez, the son of a member of the State Rural Police in Victoria, and television commentator Maria Luisa Balboa, were murdered, caused a commotion in the state.

On 20 November, Bonifacio and Maria Luisa were kidnapped by "El Artista" and two other individuals, while they were in a Victoria cafe.

They were taken to a deserted spot, where they were found dreadfully riddled with bullets and, even after being killed, they were physically mutilated when one or more vehicles were driven over them constantly.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FIVE TONS OF MARIHUANA SEIZED FROM PEMEX TANK TRUCK

Traffickers Captured, Bribe Offered

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 28 Nov 78 p 1

[Text] Torreon, Coahuila, 27 November--The Federal Judicial Police under orders from their commander, Luis Huaracha Lopez, stationed in Torreon, succeeded in capturing six members of a well organized ring of drug traffickers as the latter, with his agents was conducting a search on the highway leading to Ciudad Juarez.

Huaracha Lopez and his agents discovered a red pickup truck near the village of Bermejillo, Durango, in which three highly suspicious individuals were riding. They were arrested and each of them was questioned intensively. It was learned from the interrogation that three other persons were carrying a huge shipment of marihuana bound for Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, in a large tank truck.

The Federal Judicial Police agents, neither slow nor lazy, set forth to seize the shipment, and managed to catch up with the enormous vehicle in the village of Meoqui, Chihuahua, where, after a difficult, dramatic, operation, they succeeded in arresting the three individuals in the tank truck who were carrying the marihuana. The vehicle bore the initials "PEMEX" [Mexican Petroleum], and was bound for Juarez.

The total shipment amounted to 193 bags, equivalent to 5 tons, with an approximate value of 15 million pesos in the underworld of drugs. The tank truck had license plates V 37-28, and the trailer had deliberately been given a different number, with plate H-54-10.

The vehicles, the shipment and the six individuals responsible for shipping the marihuana to Ciudad Juarez were taken to Torreon, where the reliable agents have their headquarters, so that the drug traffickers could be subjected to close questioning, in order to learn the exact connections that they had with the "fat fish."

The individuals under arrest first confessed that they were taking the drugs to Ciudad Juarez, where they intended to seek underworld contacts.

Splendid work was accomplished by the Federal Judicial Police commander stationed in Torreon, Mr Luis Huaracha Lopez, concerning whom it should be stressed that, in only a month and a half as head of his group in the lake area, he has succeeded in capturing 10 smugglers.

Huaracha is a great asset to the chief of the Judicial Police in the district, Raul Mendiolea Carecero. He was previously detailed to the troubled state of Sinaloa, where he did outstanding work in eliminating criminals.

After the pertinent investigations and when the probes and interrogation of the individuals in custody have been completed, the shipment and vehicles will be turned over to the Federal Public Ministry agent stationed in Saltillo, Coahuila.

As another indication of the integrity of Huaracha Lopez, the drug traffickers involved in this confiscated shipment attempted to bribe him with 10 million pesos, but did not succeed; because those now under arrest wanted to impede the action of justice.

Suspects' Identities Disclosed

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 29 Nov 78 Sec B p 2

[Text] The shipment of marihuana seized by Federal Judicial Police agents on Monday morning at an inspection post totaled 5,020 kilograms, and a total of six arrests were made of individuals involved in this new blow dealt by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic in connection with the permanent campaign against drug trafficking.

The Federal Public Ministry agency announced yesterday that those under arrest answer to the names of Ignacio Rodriguez Guanzo, Francisco Carrillo Najera, Jose Lopez Duarte, Baudelio Rivera Miramontes, Bernardo Arreola Salto and Virgilio Molina Arrieta.

They are all being carefully investigated in connection with their recent activities, inasmuch as they apparently shipped other similar volumes of marihuana.

The entire group was arrested at dawn on Monday, when a tank truck with license plates H5-410, which was ostensibly carrying fuel, but had the 5 tons of marihuana concealed in a false bottom, arrived at the Federal Judicial Police inspection post located in the vicinity of the highway between Torreon and Chihuahua.

The vehicle was driven by Ignacio Rodriguez Guanzo who, upon being questioned, stated that a 1978 Ford pickup truck with license plates DE-1707 was following him, and was occupied by five individuals who were guarding him as far as the border. Several federal agents promptly boarded their vehicles and went to where the truck in question was supposedly driving, and they had positive results because they saw the traffickers' truck returning in that direction, stopped it and arrested them.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FIVE HEROIN TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED IN NUEVO LEON

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 6 Dec 78 Sec B p 3

[Text] The timely and skillful investigations conducted by the Federal Judicial Police regarding the capture of four persons from whom 1 ton of marihuana was confiscated on Sunday resulted in the total destruction of a well organized ring of traffickers dealing in heroin and cannabis indica; and culminated yesterday in the seizure of half a kilogram of the "accursed powder" and the arrest of five more individuals.

The Federal Judicial Police announced that the five persons who were arrested, on this occasion in Paras, Nuevo Leon, are considered "fat fish" in the drug traffic. They are Horacio Garcia Gonzalez, Doroteo Oliveira Villarreal, Ramiro Estrada Salinas, Jaime Villarreal Trevino and Enrique Gonzalez Quintanilla. It was reported that 500 grams of heroin, valued at over 1 million pesos, were seized from the second-named individual.

It may be recalled that, on Sunday, federal agents under orders from Comdr Margarito Mendez Rico arrested Guadalupe Beltran Molina and Miguel Angel Gomez Diaz, who were driving a car along the highway between Cerralvo and Monterrey; and, upon being questioned, they confessed that they had a ton of marihuana at the "El Encino" farm, which was confiscated a few hours later.

When the investigation continued, the prisoner Guadalupe Beltran stated that he had sold 250 kilograms of grass a few days earlier in the village of Paras, Nuevo Leon, to Doroteo Oliveira Villarreal.

The agents proceeded to locate Doroteo, who, upon being interrogated, said that he had sold the marihuana in question to Horacio Garcia Gonzalez, also of Paras.

Doroteo also turned over a bottle containing a brown colored powder which turned out to be half a kilogram of heroin.

According to Doroteo's statement, he had bought that drug from Enrique Gonzalez Quintanilla, who was subsequently arrested by the Federal Judicial Police.

Horacio Garcia likewise stated that the marihuana purchased from Doroteo had been sold a few days previous to some foreigners.

Ramiro Estrada Salinas and Jaime Villarreal Trevino were mentioned as associates in the purchase of heroin who were, in turn, assigned to obtain customers.



Doroteo Oliveira Villarreal, Horacio Garcia Gonzalez, Enrique Conzalez Quin-
tanilla, Jaime Villarreal Trevino and Ramiro Estrada Salinas are the presumed
heroin smugglers captured by the Federal Judicial Police in connection with
half a kilogram of that drug that was sized on Monday.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZURE IN CHIAPAS--Mexico City, 1 December--Agents of the Federal Judicial Police intercepted over 3 billion pesos worth of pure cocaine at a clandestine runway in Ocosingo, Chiapas, dealing the drug traffic its heaviest blow in the history of Mexico. To seize these drugs (140 kilograms of cocaine which, if processed would have weighed up to seven times more), it was necessary to conduct an investigation lasting nearly 6 months, which ended yesterday with the arrest of eight members of an international ring. Four Mexicans and four Colombians are being questioned by Federal Public Ministry Agent Javier Coello Trejo. The investigation in this case was headed by Comdr Florentino Ventura, who is also head of INTERPOL in Mexico. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 2 Dec 78 Sec A p 5] 2909

SECRET DRUG SECURITY PLAN--Today, the head of the "A" Health Center, Dr Heriberto Perez Gonzalez, is due to return from Campeche, and will be informed about a secret plan to enact measures for the guarding and security of the shipments of marihuana and other drugs placed in the care of the health center as a storage place, at the order of the federal judicial authorities. The administrator, Carlos Estrada, said that the doctor will decide upon the implementation of this plan, since the "A" Health Center and its officials are to some extent responsible for the poor vigilance and even worse security in guarding the drugs and marihuana that are stored in the institution, and that much of the former had been stolen recently. Administrator Estrada said that the charge pertaining to the theft, and the supplementary information, had been turned over to the Federal Public Ministry agent, Norberto Salinas Navarrete, who is in charge of the continuation of the probe and the pertinent remand to the second district court. [Text] [Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 25 Nov 78 Sec B p 11] 2909

HEROIN SMUGGLERS CAUGHT--According to federal agents, the ring of drug traffickers captured and broken up in Ciudad Obregon, which had been led by Arturo Canez and, reportedly, had shipped large amounts of heroin to the neighboring country, had the cooperation of two notorious lawbreakers in Nogales. They used several women to smuggle various shipments, and it was one of these women who provided the clue leading to the capture of all the members of the ring. Arturo Canez' accomplices, who were also arrested by federal agents under orders from Comdr Jorge Garcia Alonso, are Aurelio Barcelo, Enrique

Velez, Juan Torres, Abelardo Verdugo and Hector Manuel Davalos. A shipment consisting of 200 grams of opium was found by the federal agents when they arrested Canez, the ringleader of the group. It is believed that, at any moment, several accomplices of those under arrest will be captured, both in Nogales and Mexicali, towns which served as connecting points for the subsequent shipment of the drugs to the United States, although most of them went to California. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 18 Nov 78 p 4] 2909

CSO: 5330

VENEZUELA

GANG ARRESTED WITH OPIUM, MARIHUANA, MORPHINE

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 16 Nov 78 p 18

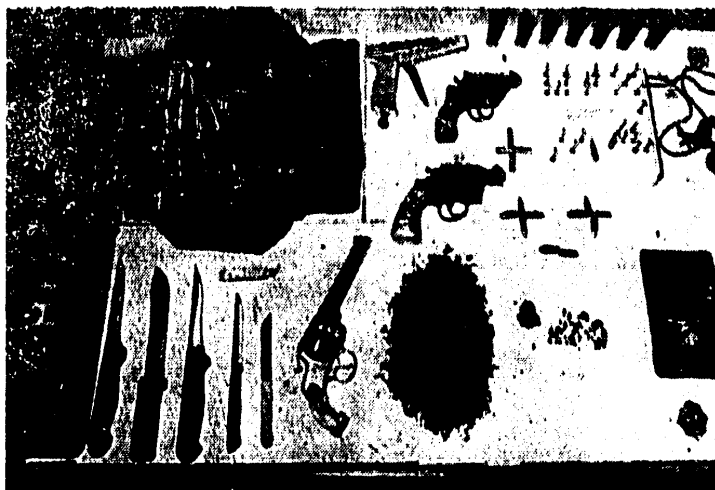
[Text] A powerful gang of alleged auto thieves, drug traffickers and robbers was captured by a team of officials of the Metropolitan Police Intelligence and Antivice Division when they raided a ranch on the old La Guaira highway which served as the hiding place of the gang. Marihuana, cocaine, opium, morphine ampoules, firearms and two cars were seized there.

In the report supplied by Lt Col Armando Jose Rojas Becerra, head of the division, it was learned that a team of officials under the jurisdiction of the Narcotics Section, through an operative in the western zone of the city, was able to detect the four individuals under suspicious circumstances inside a white, 1974 model Mercedes Benz car, license plates AJC-786. The officials decided to follow the car until they reached El Pauji sector, located on the old La Guaira highway, and entered the ranch.

Later, after they had ascertained that this was the gang's hiding place, they obtained a search warrant, and when they searched the place they succeeded in capturing Claudio Lorenzo Urbina Pino, 27, considered to be the ringleader of the gang of alleged car thieves and drug traffickers; William Rene Espinoza Guila, 20, also with a long record; Fernando Rafael Cabeza Madero, 24, and Eduardo Jose Luque Valdivieso, 22. Two minors at the ranch were also taken into custody.

The officials seized two vehicles, allegedly stolen, as well as a number of electric appliances, a quantity of marihuana, opium, cocaine, morphine ampoules, disposable syringes, two motorcycles, sets of license plates and jewels.

With the arrest of the gang of alleged robbers and drug traffickers, proceedings are being taken against them, and they will be placed at the disposal of the courts of Libertador Department for application of the law against vagrants and criminals.



License plates, jewels, drugs, weapons and police badges used by members of the gang seized during the raid.



Claudio Lorenzo Urbina Pino, arrested as leader of the gang of alleged robbers and drug traffickers.



William Rene Espinoza Guila, arrested by the PM [Military Police] at the ranch on the old La Guaira highway where the hiding place was located.



Fernando Rafael Cabeza Medero,
another of those arrested at the
old La Guaira highway.



Eduardo Jose Luque Valdivieso, cap-
tured at a ranch that was the thieves'
hiding place on the old La Guaira
highway.

11634
CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

DRUG RING BROKEN--Caracas, 10 Jan (EFE)--Venezuelan police arrested three members of an international drug ring last night. The ringleader was identified as Evila (Norano), a 32-year-old Colombian woman, who was found in possession of a large amount of smuggled cocaine worth more than \$400,000. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1532 GMT 10 Jan 79 PA]

COCAINE SEIZURE--The judicial technical police has seized a shipment of cocaine in Puerto Ordaz and arrested Emiliano Gomez Hernandez. Gomez Hernandez said that he had received the cocaine in Maracaibo for distribution in (Guainamo). The police are now searching for the drug smuggler's contacts. [Text] [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 4 Jan 79 PA]

COCAINE, MARIHUANA SEIZURES--Barquisimeto, 19 Nov--A shipment of cocaine and marihuana estimated at over half a million bolivars was seized by members of the INT on the Barquisimeto-Yaritagua stretch of the Center West Superhighway. This information, supplied to newsmen by Maj Raymundo Marvall Cabello, commander of the 5th Detachment of the National Transit Board, reports that an INT patrol surprised two individuals, identified as Alirio Canelon (22) and Luis Parra (25), inside a car parked on the above-mentioned superhighway. When they searched the car the officials found several pounds of marihuana in packages and in 30 small bags. They also found a package containing a white powder, presumably cocaine, which is now being analyzed at the PTJ [Judicial Technical Police] laboratories in Barquisimeto. If the sample is positive, it represents a shipment of drugs valued at over half a million bolivars. Maj Marvall Cabello said that this is the third time that members of his group have surprised individuals possessing drugs. [Text] [Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 21 Nov 78 p 8] 11634

CSO: 5300

AUSTRIA

BRIEFS

POLICE BREAK UP DRUG RING--Salzburg policemen broke a drug ring whose exact size cannot yet be ascertained. The dealers arrested on 21 December at the Salzburg-Walserberg border control point are three natives of Vorarlberg--26 year old Walter Flatz, a teacher by profession, his 23-year-old brother Roland and 26-year-old Paul Peschl, a painter. The police describe Walter Flatz, who has just completed a 2-year prison term in Istanbul, as the main culprit. The affair blew up after a confidential tip was received that a driverless Dutch tractor trailer was parked on the Bavarian side of the crossing point which was supposed to carry drugs. A check by Dutch authorities confirmed the suspicion, and 40 kilograms of cannabis resin were discovered in a spare tire. The group of three who reached the border in a BMW automobile with a Vorarlberg license plate were shadowed for a whole night while they tried to locate the Dutch vehicle, the carrier of their commodity. A house search conducted concurrently with the arrest in their apartments in Lustenau, Vorarlberg, revealed 1.5 kilograms of marihuana. Further investigations are being conducted via Interpol. [Vienna KURIER in German 22 Dec 78 p 7 AU]

CSO: 5300

FRANCE

BRIEFS

NEW DRUG NETWORK--The police have their eye on a new drug network. It is the work of some phony Lebanese refugees in France. Opium produced in the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon and on Mount Hermel on the Syrian-Lebanese border is said to be being directed to Paris via Italy and the Netherlands. [Text] [Paris LE POINT in French 1 Jan 79 p 22]

CSO: 5300

END