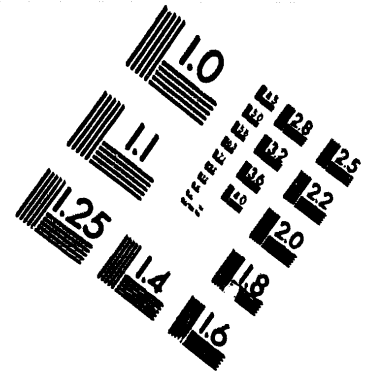
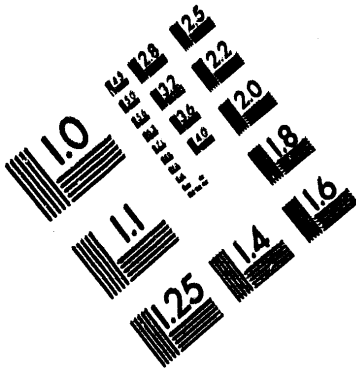


APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000100040009-7

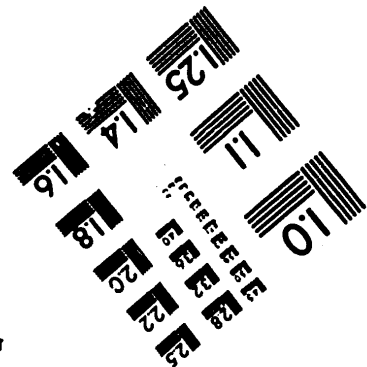
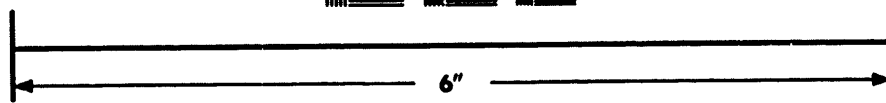
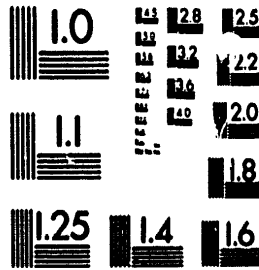
4 APRIL 1979

(FOUO 15/79)

1 OF 2



**IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)**



**Photographic
Sciences**

23 WEST MAIN STREET
WEBSTER, N.Y. 14580
(716) 872-4503

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

JPRS L/8373

4 April 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
(FOUO 15/79)



WORLD

WIDE



U. S. JOINT PUBLICATIONS RESEARCH SERVICE



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

COPYRIGHT LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING OWNERSHIP OF MATERIALS REPRODUCED HEREIN REQUIRE THAT DISSEMINATION OF THIS PUBLICATION BE RESTRICTED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

JPRS L/8373

4 April 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 15/79)

CONTENTS

PAGE

ASIA

BURMA

Briefs

Heroin Seizure in Mandalay	1
Poppy Plantations Destroyed	1
Heroin Found in Car	1
Heroin Users Arrested	1
Opium Seizure in Mandalay	2
Heroin Seized in Tuanggyi	2
Poppy Suppression in Hsenwi	2
Poppy Destruction in Kutkai	2
Two Arrested	3

INDONESIA

Nationwide Antinarcotics Operation Nets 231 Suspects (SINAR HARAPAN, 3 Jan 79)	4
---	---

Marihuana Crop Destroyed in Sumatra (KOMPAS, 5 Jan 79)	6
---	---

MALAYSIA

62 Pounds of Morphine Seized in Kedah (KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 3 Feb 79)	7
--	---

Eight Heroin Labs Found Since 1976 (NEW STRAITS TIMES, 14 Mar 79)	9
--	---

Briefs

Heroin Peddler	10
----------------	----

- a -

[III - INT -138 FOUO]

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
NEW ZEALAND	
Drug Dealing in Tauranga Called 'Disturbing' (THE EVENING POST, 7 Mar 79)	11
Cannabis Oil Smuggler Remanded for Sentencing (THE EVENING POST, 2 Mar 79)	12
Briefs	
Drugs Raid	13
Southland Cannabis Plantation	13
Cannabis Oil Importing Charge	13
Heroin Conviction	14
PHILIPPINES	
Jail Officer, Cop Held for Drug Pushing (PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS, 10 Mar 79)	15
Briefs	
Marihuana Farms Busted	16
Marihuana Plants Uprooted	16
SRI LANKA	
IGP Cracks Down on 'Hyppie-Type' Tourists (Ranil Weerasinghe; SUN, 16 Mar 79)	17
THAILAND	
Briefs	
'Pot' Plantation	18
Sailors Charged	18
CANADA	
Four Men Admit Guilt in Heroin Conspiracy (THE GLOBE AND MAIL, 6 Mar 79)	19
Police Seize 625 Kilograms of Hashish at Mirabel Airport (Michel Auger; LA PRESSE, 6 Mar 79)	20
Briefs	
Cocaine Smuggling Convictions	23

- b -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
EASTERN EUROPE	
BULGARIA	
New Form of Narcotics Smuggling Described (Aleksandur Vasilev; POGLED, 19 Feb 79)	24
LATIN AMERICA	
BAHAMAS	
Briefs	
Capture of Marihuana Shipment	26
COLOMBIA	
DAS Chief Responds to 'TIME' Story on Drugs (Luis Eduardo Carrillo; EL SIGLO, 25 Jan 79)	27
French Correspondent Writes on Antidrug Campaign (Roger Holeindre; PARIS-MATCH, 9 Mar 79)	30
Military Strikes Against Traffickers Described (EL TIEMPO, 10 Feb 79)	42
Traffickers' Arms Shipment Seized (EL SIGLO, 10 Feb 79)	44
Recent Actions Against Drug Traffickers Reported (EL TIEMPO, 19 Jan 79)	45
Briefs	
Colombia-Venezuela Joint Commission	46
Cocaine Laboratory Seized	46
MEXICO	
Details of 'Operation Condor' Maneuvers Described (EL SOL DE SINALOA, 22 Feb 79)	47
Trafficking Ring Discovered in Mexicali Jail (LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA, 11 Feb 79)	52

- c -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Briefs	
'Angel Dust' Threat Cited	54
Cocaine Traffickers Arrested	54
Antidrug Campaign Results	54
Heroin Trafficker Denies Charges	55
Traffic to U.S. Continuing	55
Jailed Official Released	56
 PERU	
Briefs	
'Finder' of Briefcase Actually Drug Dealer	57
 URUGUAY	
Doctors, Druggist Involved in Psychotropic Diet Pill Case (EL PAIS, various dates)	58
Pill Racket Discovered	
Court Proceedings	
Argentine Doctor Investigated	
Another Doctor Jailed	
Additional Crime, More Arrests	
 VENEZUELA	
Briefs	
Drug Traffickers Arrested	68
 NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	
 EGYPT	
Drug Traffic Increasing, Addiction Treatment Centers Necessary (Majdi Muhanna; ROSE AL-YUSUF, 25 Dec 78)	69
 WESTERN EUROPE	
 CYPRUS	
Briefs	
Drug Carrying Freighter in Port	76
 DENMARK	
Seven Icelanders Arrested in Largest Cocaine Seizure (MORGUNBLADID, 6 Mar 79)	77

- d -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Narcotics Police Official Discusses Hard Drugs Scene (BERLINSKE TIDENDE, 10 Feb 79)	80
NORWAY	
Customs Narcotics Seizures Reach Record in 1978 (ARBEIDERBLADET, 7 Feb 79)	82
'Sniffing' Becomes Newest Youth Drugs Problems (ARBEIDERBLADET, 13 Feb 79)	83
SPAIN	
Briefs Hashish Shipment Seized	87
TURKEY	
'HURRIYET' on Former Deputy's Involvement in Heroin Case (HURRIYET, 25 Mar 79)	88
Briefs Hashish Seized	90
UNITED KINGDOM	
Briefs Heathrow Drug Find	91
WEST GERMANY	
Berlin Collective Begun in Early 70's Helps Addicts (Thomas Michelsen; DAGENS NYHETER, 22 Jan 79)	92

- e -

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

BURMA

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZURE IN MANDALAY--Mandalay, 8 March--Acting on a tipoff, Commander U Kyaw Zan and some policemen of Mandalay's police station No 9 and ward people's councilors yesterday searched and seized 23 pieces of jade weighing about 300 visses [1 viss equals 3.6 lbs] from the house of U Kyaw Sein of Uboktawkon on the 41st street. They also seized some packages of heroin worth 10 kyats each--12 from Min Min of Daung-yo ward, 27 from Tin Shwe and Than Myint of East Maha-aungmye ward, 10 from Nyunt Way of the same East Maha-aungmye ward and one from Po Taung of Mondizu ward--and three penicillin bottles of heroin from Ma Tin San of Shwephoneshein ward. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 13 Mar 79 p 5 BK]

POPPY PLANTATIONS DESTROYED--Hsenwi, 8 March--A column of soldiers and policemen, led by party and council officials, destroyed more than 320 acres of poppy plantations in Man Lin, Hwe Tawng, Namtok, Shatum, Nawngkhio and Man Kang village tracts in Hsenwi township since the first week of February 1979 under a plan to eliminate poppy cultivation and to destroy poppy plants. [Excerpt] [Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 15 Mar 79 p 5 BK]

HEROIN FOUND IN CAR--Mandalay, 13 March--Acting on information, Chairman U Tun Kyi of Kume township people's council and members of the heroin suppression team for Kume township and Mandalay Division yesterday searched a Datsun car with registration plate E/6635 at the parking place at the entrance of Kume and seized two packages of heroin worth 6,000 kyats from passenger Maung Maung of Sinwin ward, Mandalay. The car was travelling from Taunggyi to Mandalay. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 17 Mar 79 p 4 BK]

HEROIN USERS ARRESTED--Rangoon, 16 March--Acting on a tipoff, Sub-Inspector U Ohn Kyaing of Sanchaung Police Station, Sub-Inspector U Khin Maung Tint of Bahan Police Station and some policemen raided the house of 24-year old Aung Khin Soe at Ngwelayaung road, South Goodliffe quarter, Bahan township, at 2300 [date not given] and arrested the house owner and three visitors while they were injecting heroin. They also seized four packages of heroin worth 50 kyats each, a syringe and a needle, and a basin. Bahan police has arrested them and filed charges under Sections 6 (B) and 14 (D) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law]. Those arrested were: house owner Aung Khin Soe, and

21-year old Aung Myint, Min Lwin U alias Pauksa and 22-year old Ne Win Swe of Mahabandoola Park road, Kyauktada township. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 17 Mar 79 p 7 BK]

OPIMUM SEIZURE IN MANDALAY--Mandalay, 12 March--Acting on information, Commander U Khin Maung Htwe of police station No 8 and ward councillors searched the house of Daw Li War at No 154, Haymar Zala ward, Northeast Mandalay township, yesterday evening and seized 3.25 visses of raw opium worth about 5,000 kyats hidden underground in an earthen pot. Action has been taken against the owners of the opium--Ko Naung Lun, Ma Ywe Saing, Daw Li War and Ma Khaung Zin--under Sections 6 (B), 10 (B) and 11 [of the Narcotic Drugs Law]. [Text] [Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 18 Mar 79 p 4 BK]

HEROIN SEIZED IN TAUNGGYI--Taunggyi, 13 March--Under the direction of the State People's Police Force commander residing in Taunggyi, Inspector U Ye Myint and Sub-Inspector U Tun Myint of the State Drug Suppression Unit, some policemen and ward councillors searched the house of Daw Shauk War at No Ma/87 Thirringala road, Ye-aye-gwin quarter, Taunggyi, [date not given]. They then seized 4.5 lbs of No 4 heroin worth over 15,000 kyats at local market. Both the house owner and the owner of the heroin were arrested. The owner of the heroin is Daw Wan May Kyu of U-yin ward in Mong Nai. It is said that she brought heroin from Mong Nai to Taunggyi occasionally. The police has taken action under Sections 6 (B) and 10 (B) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law]. It has been learned that the State Drug Suppression Unit had during a period of over 2 months seized heroin about 10 times, involving over 30,000 kyats worth of the drug. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 19 Mar 79 p 6 BK]

POPPY SUPPRESSION IN HSENWI--Hsenwi, 6 Mar--Under the project to eliminate the threat of narcotic drugs in Hsenwi Township, poppy plantations are being destroyed. Accordingly, township party unit chairman U San Myint and committee members, soldiers from the 69th infantry regiment, member of the township people's council and police personnel have destroyed 130.75 acres of poppy along the Loi-tao mountain range. Plans are underway to substitute poppy with other crops. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 10 Mar 79 BK]

POPPY DESTRUCTION IN KUTKAI--Kutkai, 2 Mar--Under the project to destroy poppy plantations in Kutkai Township, camps have been established since 25 February to enable frontier military columns to raze poppy under the supervision and guidance of the township party unit and council. The No 1 military column has its base camp in Kutkai while No 2 column has set up camp in Ta-Mo-nye and No 3 column in Namhpakka. It was learned that the No 2 military column has destroyed 35 acres of poppy in Ta-Mo-nye while the No 3 military column has razed 30 acres of poppy in Namhpakka. [Text] [Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 9 Mar 79 p 2 BK]

TWO ARRESTED--Paungde, 1 Mar--Acting on a tipoff, Subinspector U Ohn Maung and police constable U Hla Khin from Paungde Township people's police force at 2200 yesterday waited at the bus depot on Paungde's Shwedaung Street, which is part of the Rangoon-Prome route. Later, when U Maung Khwe of Okkan town entered "Swin Win" cafe with two handbans, he was searched. The search uncovered .57 viss [1 viss = 3.6 pounds] of opium from U Maung Khwe's handbag. He was charged under Sections 6.B and 7.B of the Narcotics Drugs Law. U Maung Khwe testified that he had bought the opium from Maung Pauk Sa of Tine Chit ward in Paungde. Maung Pauk Sa was arrested for interrogation. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 7 Mar 79 p 6 BK]

CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

NATIONWIDE ANTINARCOTICS OPERATION NETS 231 SUSPECTS

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 3 Jan 79 p 3

[Article: "231 Narcotics Dealers and Users Arrested"]

[Text] Indonesian police arrested 231 narcotics dealers and users during operation "Badai II/Harum Seri." These included six foreigners, and several types of proscribed drugs were also confiscated.

Questioned on Tuesday, Police Col Dr Darmawan Soedarsono, chief of the Information Service, explained that operation "Badai II/Harum Manis" was aimed at combatting narcotics abuse and proscribed narcotics, along with the crimes which result from them. It was conducted in Aceh, Sumut, Riau, Southern Sumatra, metropolitan Jakarta, Jabar, Jateng, Jatim, West Kalimantan and the Lesser Sundas.

The operation, initiated on 7 September 1978, was conducted in three stages: investigation, action and interrogation.

During the investigative stage, begun by operational units, 300 people were targeted, but 4 of them had already died.

The four deceased were Chong PB (Jakarta); Ong BH (Tanjung Asahan, Sumut); Mrs Syam (Prapat, Simalungun, Sumut); and Liem KH (Semrang).

The six foreigners who were arrested were Tjan SM, alias Lic M (Chinese); Deborah AL (Australian); Anthony VM (New Zealander); Frederic L (French); and Jeffrey AR (Australian).

Jakarta Police Headquarters, which launched operation "Madai II/Harum Manis" with officers from metropolitan Jakarta, arrested eight suspected of selling or using narcotics or proscribed drugs.

More in Riau

Of the 10 area commands participating in the operation, Riau Area IV apprehended the most suspects.

This area command caught 72 suspects with evidence comprising 34,000 milligrams of morphine, 554,100 milligrams of opium, 6,100 milligrams of processed opium and a quantity of proscribed drugs.

Area Police in Ache I apprehended 3 suspects with 8 kg of opium; Sumut area police caught 29 suspects with 5 ounces of opium and 39 packages of opium; Sumbagsel apprehended 10 suspects and confiscated a quantity of marihuana; Jabar caught 30 suspects, confiscating 43 kg of opium together with 199 sticks of marihuana; Jateng apprehended 13 suspects and confiscated a quantity of narcotics ingredients; Jatim apprehended 23 suspects with 3 kg of opium and 2,088 kg of proscribed drugs; West Kalimantan captured 4 suspects and confiscated a quantity of marihuana plants; the Lesser Sundas caught 4 suspects, including 3 foreigners, and confiscated a gram of heroin, 18.9 grams of hashish, 3 ampuls of morphine, and 2 hypodermic needles.

Most Conspicuous

Information Service Chief Soedarsono also said that the police caught a gang covertly selling narcotics, including morphine, in the area of Bogor (Jabar) and Jakarta.

The gang, which sold foreign narcotics, was led by Frd, a Chinese in Bogor, assisted by three from Jakarta: Str, Ab Ksr and Swrs.

The information chief said the activities were undertaken individually and stealthily by the distributors, sellers and users.

But it was pointed out also that it is evident from other current developments that there is a plan and schedule for planting marihuana on a grand scale.

From several areas it is known that previously the youth used prohibited drugs sparingly, but at the present time it is apparent that they are used without restraint.

The information chief said that the obstacles to continuing the operation involve a lack of narcotics expertise on the part of the police and a lack of data.

9198
CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

MARIHUANA CROP DESTROYED IN SUMATRA

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 5 Jan 79 p 8

[Article: "Hectare of Marihuana Discovered in Enggas Forest"]

[Text] About a hectare of marihuana was discovered by the 622 Police Command Resort in a forest atop Enggas Mountain, some 30 km east of Curup, Bengkulu. The marihuana field was located deep in the middle of the jungle, about 2 hours walk from Kampung Baru Manis, a nearby village.

With the help of the community, Command 622 officers ripped up the prohibited plants and burned them. The police confiscated 59 stalks of 2-meter long marihuana and more than 7 kg of dried marihuana leaves as evidence.

In addition, 125 stalks of harvested marihuana, 708 stalks as long as 2 meters, and 350 newly planted seedlings, were burned in an action witnessed by the officials and local community.

A Command 622 statement signed by Police Major Dr Soetikno Hadiprajitno and sent to Kompas cited three people arrested as suspected of having planted the marihuana. They were AB bin AM (30), An bin At (35) and Azr bin R (27), all farmers. Since 1976 the suspects had obtained seeds from the Kepahyang area and the marihuana was planted for commercial purposes.

Command 622 Commander Soetikno took the opportunity to testify to the destruction of the marihuana field.

9198
CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

62 POUNDS OF MORPHINE SEIZED IN KEDAH

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 3 Feb 79 p 1

[Text] Kuala Lumpur 2 Feb--The anti-narcotics group of the police force followed and intercepted a car with Thai registration at Shuang-chi Ta-lien, Kedah, and seized 62 pounds of morphine hidden in a specially-made compartment in the gasoline tank. The black market value of this illicit drug is estimated at \$13 million in Malaysian currency. Two suspects were arrested.

The abovementioned morphine, weighing a total of 62 pounds, was found in 15.5 bars which bear the mark "999." They can be processed into the same weight of heroin, which can be sold on the black market for 13 million Malaysian dollars.

This is the largest seizure so far this year. Deputy police chief Na-tu-ah-tu-la-man, who is in charge of the criminal investigation group, said at a press conference this afternoon that on 25 January a squad of anti-narcotics policemen followed a Toyota sedan with Thai registration in the vicinity of the Alorstar stadium.

The police car followed the sedan all the way to Shuang-chi Ta-lien, and did not stop it until it reached a court house.

A search led to the seizure of the morphine. The sedan was driven by a 23-year old resident of Shuang-chi Ta-lien. He was arrested at the scene.

In a follow-up of this case 2 days later, the police, acting on the basis of intelligence information provided by the public, arrested a 27-year old unemployed youth from Alorstar, and detained a car in Alorstar.

In addition, the deputy police chief disclosed that the police, acting on the basis of an intelligence report, put a residential house at Hua-yuan Middle Road in Kuala Lumpur under surveillance at 9:00 am on 19 January. About an hour later, two men emerged from the house. The two and a woman inside were arrested for suspected possession of narcotics.

A search of the house yielded 200 grams of heroin in 18 packages. Another 370 grams of heroin were found in a vinegar barrel outside the house.

Another three male suspects were arrested at Penang on 23 January. Two pounds of heroin were seized from their Cougar sedan.

Of these six suspects, the three detained at Kuala Lumpur will be prosecuted today, and the other three detained at Penang will be prosecuted on 5 February.

This is the largest seizure made by the police in recent years.

The deputy police chief disclosed that in 1978 the police seized 56.1 kilograms of morphine, 59.16 kilograms of marihuana, 429.85 kilograms of opium, and 72.5 kilograms of heroin. A total of 6,649 persons were arrested for possessing or peddling narcotics. Among them, 188 adults and 336 youths were prosecuted for possessing more than 5 pounds of illicit drugs, and 123 persons were prosecuted for peddling drugs.

The police units involved in the above cases were led by Fan Guocai.

1004
CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

EIGHT HEROIN LABS FOUND SINCE 1976

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 14 Mar 79 p 9 BK

[Text]

SEREMBAN, Tues. — Eight underground heroin-processing laboratories have been uncovered since 1976 and there are indications that there are better equipped ones, Pemadam president Datuk Rais Yatim said today.

Datuk Rais said some of the purest form of heroin known as "Number Five" were recently seized by the Customs and police in Penang.

Although none was intercepted at entry points "we believe that there are modern laboratories in existence using sophisticated apparatus to process drugs", he said.

"Only large amounts of raw opium have been seized at the entry points but the heroin, morphine and other derivatives

seized are comparatively small in amount," Datuk Rais said.

New sources

Datuk Rais, who is also the Menteri Besar of Negri Sembilan, was speaking to reporters after a meeting of State Pemadam representatives at the State Operations Room here.

He said "Number Five" has a concentration of 95 per cent heroin, compared to 75 per cent to 85 per cent in "Number Four."

Datuk Rais said the amount of drugs smuggled into Europe and the United States from Malaysia had dropped.

"Drugs are now mostly coming from the Middle East and they are mainly morphine, hashish and pills," he said.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

HEROIN PEDDLER--Taiping, Mal.--A 20-year-old suspected drug pedlar was arrested yesterday by the police anti-drug unit at Pokok Assam and 25 straws of heroin were recovered from him. Another 26-year-old suspect was later picked up in Jalan Lawan Kuda. Five straws of heroin were found on him. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 13 Mar 79 p 9 BK]

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

DRUG DEALING IN TAURANGA CALLED 'DISTURBING'

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 7 Mar 79 p 3

[Text]

TAURANGA, March 6 (PA).—Far too much drug-dealing was going on in the Tauranga area, Mr D B Wilson, SM, said in the Magistrate's Court today.

Mr Wilson said he was referring not only to hard drugs, but also to soft drugs such as cannabis.

Twenty people appeared in the Court today on charges related to drugs, most as a result of drug raids in Tauranga and Mount Maunganui on February 20.

Eleven faced charges of supplying heroin.

Mr Wilson remanded eight defendants till April 5 or 6 for the taking of depositions.

Jailed

A 21-year-old labourer, Kamomate Tai Walker, of Mount Maunganui, was sen-

tenced to three months imprisonment on a charge of using heroin.

Walker had previously admitted the charge.

Mr Wilson said he was disturbed that Walker had been arrested on this offence after having appeared in Court only a week before.

Kereopa Howard Bennett, 19, labourer, of Mount Maunganui, was fined \$750 on a charge of using heroin.

Sergeant R E Lynch said Bennett told police he was given half a packet of heroin and injected some of it.

Counsel, Mr P F Gorringe, said Bennett had had little involvement with using drugs previously.

CSO: 5320

NEW ZEALAND

CANNABIS OIL SMUGGLER REMANDED FOR SENTENCING

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 2 Mar 79 p 1

[Text]

\$47,000 worth of cannabis oil was imported into Wellington concealed in 23 contraceptives in the rectum of a Wellington man, the Magistrate's Court said today.

Robert John Caveny, 25, auto-electrician, represented by Mr Michael Reed, pleaded guilty before Mr W M Willis, SM, to importing cannabis oil into New Zealand last Friday, February 23, the total weight of which was 478.96 grams.

He was committed to the Supreme Court for sentence and remanded in custody.

Mr K G Stone, prosecuting, said the accused arrived at Wellington from Sydney at 3.30pm and had been marked for a full search as customs officers were aware that previous travel arrangements did not correspond with the particulars he had indicated on his current arrival documents.

Negative

His baggage was subjected to a full but negative search and as the customs officers were still not satisfied, the accused was informed he would be subjected to a personal search.

His passport was found in his left sock and when questioned about its concealment the accused indicated he had not wanted his arrival to be noted as it was his intention to later import a motor vehicle under the duty free concession.

Questioned in relation to other passengers on the flight, the accused denied any association with them. The investigating officers were not satisfied with his explanation, and asked him if he was in possession of any controlled drugs. He said he wasn't.

He consented to have a doctor carry out an internal examination and also to have x-rays taken of his abdominal area.

He was conveyed to a doctor's surgery where an internal examination was carried out. It resulted in the removal of four contraceptives containing cannabis oil from the accused's rectum. The doctor indicated there were other objects in the area, but he was unable to remove them without causing undue discomfort to the accused.

At that point the accused said he wished to give an explanation about the matter

and stated, "I don't think you understand the young people or the harm you are doing by stopping it from coming in. It will be legal in a few years anyway, and it is not so harmful as heroin. I just took the risk and lost, that's all."

X-ray

The accused said that "the stuff is hash oil . . .". He was later X-rayed at Wellington Hospital to establish the number of remaining contraceptives internally concealed, but the X-rays proved inconclusive and it was decided to recover any remaining contraceptives by natural process.

The eventual 23 contraceptives were taken to the DSIR for analysis and the contents were positively identified as cannabis oil, a class B controlled drug.

"The net weight of the cannabis oil is 478.96 grams with an estimated potential street value of \$43,000," Mr Stone said.

The information had been laid indictably and was one which had to proceed through to the Supreme Court. The accused entered a plea of guilty under section 153A of the Summary Proceedings Amendment Act, 1976, Mr Reed had previously informed the Court.

CSO: 5320

NEW ZEALAND

BRIEFS

DRUGS RAID--Tauranga (PA)--Nine persons, three of them women, were remanded in custody when they faced drugs-related charges in the Magistrate's Court at Tauranga yesterday after a police raid on Tuesday. The charges included possession, supplying, and using heroin. Twenty-two persons were before the Court. Others were charged with the possession and supply of cannabis, and were remanded on bail of \$1000. Most of the defendants were from Mount Maunganui. Others were from Waikino and Papamoa. They were remanded to February 27. No pleas were entered yesterday. [Text] [Christchurch THE PRESS in English 22 Feb 79 p 2]

SOUTHLAND CANNABIS PLANTATION--Invercargill (PA)--About 1000 cannabis plants, the biggest plantation found in Southland, were uprooted by detectives who went on to an island in the Waiau River, north of Monowai, after the arrest of two men in the area on Wednesday evening. The plants would have had a street value of "tens of thousands of dollars," according to the police, who had kept watch on the remote area in the Fiordland National Park after receiving information last November. The plants were growing in dense bush. Detective Senior-Sergeant K. Schwass, the head of the Invercargill C.I.B., said that police resources in the area had been stretched to the limit, in what had been one of the biggest actions of its kind in New Zealand. Two men appeared in the Magistrate's Court at Invercargill on Thursday, one charged with cultivating cannabis, and the other with possession of cannabis. They were remanded to March 1. [Text] [Christchurch THE PRESS in English 24 Feb 79 p 3]

CANNABIS OIL IMPORTING CHARGE--A 24-year-old auto-electrician was charged in the Magistrate's Court last Saturday with importing cannabis oil the day before. The accused, granted interim suppression of name, was charged indictably and remanded in custody to appear again in the Magistrate's Court on Monday when application can later be made to a Supreme Court Judge for bail. The prosecution was brought by the Customs Department, represented by Mr K. G. Stone. Mr Mike Reed appeared for the accused. The charge was laid under Section 6 (1)a of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1975 which deems the alleged offence to be in the dealing category. In applying for interim suppression of name, Mr Reed said that he had not had time to gain full instructions from the accused but there might be grounds to justify such an order. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 26 Feb 79 p 17]

HEROIN CONVICTION--Auckland, 2 Mar (PA)--A 28-year-old man, Barry Thomas Boag Gemmell, unemployed, who twice supplied heroin to an undercover constable, was remanded to the Supreme Court today for sentence. He admitted both charges when he appeared before Mrs G. C. P. A. Wallace, SM. The charges were laid indictably, but Gemmell elected to dispense with depositions. He was convicted and remanded in custody pending sentence. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 3 Mar 79 p 4]

CSO: 5320

PHILIPPINES

JAIL OFFICER, COP HELD FOR DRUG PUSHING

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 10 Mar 79 p 6

[Text] **THE ADMINISTRATIVE** officer of the Manila city jail and a policeman were relieved of their duties and placed under technical arrest for alleged drug trafficking.

Arrested and now being investigated on orders of Maj. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, PC chief and police director-general, are Cpl. Eduardo Calderon, administrative officer at the Manila city jail, and Pat. Ruben Macaroyo of police station 1 in Sta. Ana.

Also being investigated are six policemen who are reportedly members of the drug trafficking syndicate.

RAMOS GAVE Brig. Gen. Prospero A. Oliva, Metrocom chief and director of the Metropolitan Police Force, until March 13 to complete

his investigation.

Calderon was denounced by former Manila city jail inmates for alleged drug trafficking. Calderon's group reportedly supplied drugs to 900 out of the 1,500 inmates of the city jail.

Macaroyo was ordered arrested after a girl pointed to him as the leader of a drug-pushing and theft gang in the tourist belt.

The girl, a suspect in a theft case, told Judge Herminio Mariano of the Manila court of first instance, that Macaroyo had injected her with heroin and induced her to steal and sell drugs.

Sanchez told the court she was picked up by Macaroyo for vagrancy last month, but was not charged and instead taken to the policeman's house and forced to sell drugs.

CSO: 5300

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA FARMS BUSTED--Seven of the 77 farms raided by operatives of the constabulary antinarcotics units in February yielded more than 6,000 marihuana plants worth 680,000 pesos and marihuana seedlings worth more than 150,000 pesos. In a report to Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, Constabulary Chief Ramos said the Philippine constabulary also conducted 37 raids resulting in the arrest of 45 persons. [Manila FEBC in English 2330 GMT 27 Mar 79 OW]

MARIHUANA PLANTS UPROOTED--Some 1,200 marihuana plants were uprooted by government agents during a raid Wednesday at Carranglam, Nueva Ecija. The marihuana plants, worth 120,000 pesos, were brought to Camp Crame for analysis. The raid in Barangay (Tuklan) in Carranglam was the third within this month. [Manila Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 23 Mar 79 OW]

CSO: 5300

SRI LANKA

IGP CRACKS DOWN ON 'HIPPIE-TYPE' TOURISTS

Colombo SUN in English 16 Mar 79 p 1 BK

[Article by Ranil Weerasinghe]

[Text] Inspector General of Police Mr. Ana Seneviratne yesterday ordered the Police top brass in the country to crack down on 'hippie type' tourists who are believed to be responsible for escalating the drugs menace in Sri Lanka.

These orders come in the wake of intelligence reports that groups of these hippies were found engaged in the use and sale of narcotics and indulging in blatant nudism.

According to Mr. Seneviratne, the Police have now discovered that there is an increasing flow of ganja from areas such as Wellawaya, Vavuniya and Moneragala to the Southern coast.

In view of these findings, the police "Task Force" which is presently engaged in operation aimed at wiping out ganja plantations in the island's 'ganja belt' are to be deployed in the Hikkaduwa and Bentota areas for special anti-hippy operations. They will be assisted by Police narcotics dogs 'Sentry' and 'Bright'.

Commenting on the hippie problem in these areas, DIG (Crimes) Mr. R. Sunderalingam added that the Police were carrying out discussions with the Sri Lanka Tourist Board in respect of opening up Police posts in Hikkaduwa, Beruwala and Bentota.

It had also been noted, he added, that there was a sudden increase in the number of local gangs touting for mushroom tourist resorts in these areas. This had resulted in clashes between these rival gangs.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

'POT' PLANTATION--Nong Khai--A provincial police unit uncovered a 15-rai marijuana plantation at Tambon Chumpon in Phon Phisai District here yesterday afternoon, police reported. The discovery was made under a narcotic suppression operation to rid the province of narcotics. Police arrested five persons guarding the plantation and confiscated some 150 kilogrammes of dry marijuana hidden in a cottage. [Text] [Bangkok POST in English 15 Mar 79 p 3 BK]

SAILORS CHARGED--The public prosecutor yesterday filed a charge of possessing heroin for sale against two Spanish seamen arrested on December 19 last year with 220 grammes of No 4 heroin in their possession. The suspects, Jose Menco Reguart and Ricos Mallach, who both admitted being heroin addicts, were caught in a Sukhumvit hotel with the heroin hidden in a porcelain statue. They said the drug was meant for their own consumption. Five syringes, a small scale and 19 pages of a book reportedly discussing the heroin trade were also found with the two men. The court was told that Jose Menco pleaded guilty during police interrogation but Ricos Mallach denied the charge. The court has scheduled a preliminary hearing for Monday. [Text] [Bangkok POST in English 15 Mar 79 p 5 BK]

CSO: 5300

CANADA

FOUR MEN ADMIT GUILT IN HEROIN CONSPIRACY

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 6 Mar 79 p 9

[Text]

WELLAND — Four Niagara Falls men pleaded guilty to charges of conspiracy to traffic in heroin and brought a swift end to their trial that began in Welland yesterday.

John Thor Widema, 26, Dennis Peck, 25, Thomas Eugene Agretto, 33, and Fortunato Caliguiri, 45, will appear for sentence before Mr. Justice Frank Callaghan of the Ontario Supreme Court on March 22.

A charge against a fifth man, Norman Patrick Frail, 27, also of Niagara Falls, was dropped in court as the Crown offered no evidence.

Pasquale Rocco, 50, and Natale Mastroiani, 45, who also were charged but failed to appear, are believed by police to be in Italy, special prosecutor Barry Matheson said after the trial. Warrants have been issued for their arrest, but Mr. Matheson said no extradition treaty exists between Canada and Italy.

Mr. Mastroiani is believed to have left Canada before a preliminary hearing on the charges, which were laid in 1976. Mr. Rocco left the country following a preferred indictment in Octob-

er, 1978, granted by the then Attorney-General of Canada, Ronald Busford. A preferred indictment allows prosecutors to proceed to trial without a preliminary hearing on the evidence.

Mr. Matheson said charges were laid after a year-long investigation that involved sophisticated electronic surveillance by a joint drug investigation squad made up of the RCMP, provincial police and Niagara Regional Police.

The prosecutor said three ounces of heroin were seized during the investigation from washrooms in two Niagara Falls motels. Members of the group who were charged were observed entering and leaving the washrooms.

An RCMP spokesman said after the trial that the drugs were undiluted and had a street value of \$135,000. He said official speculation is that the drugs are part of a cache left over from a drug crackdown by U.S. and French agents in France during the early 1970s. The drugs are believed to have found their way to Italy and then to Toronto, from which they had been distributed in Ontario.

CSO: 5320

CANADA

POLICE SEIZE 625 KILOGRAMS OF HASHISH AT MIRABEL AIRPORT

Montreal LA PRESSE in French 6 Mar 79 p A 3

[Article by Michel Auger "Phoney CIA Agent Arrested at Mirable with 625 Kilos of Hashish; Largest Confiscation at New Airport"]

[Text] A young American, 27, who claimed to be a CIA agent, was apprehended on the weekend at Mirabel in possession of a dozen forged passports and 32 suitcases containing hashish worth \$9 million on the black market.

It is thanks to the perspicacity of customs officers at the airport that the alleged trafficker, Garry Dale Wallis, was first suspected of criminal activities. Investigation then led to the most important seizure of drugs ever made at Mirabel.

Carrying a forged diplomatic passport and various identity cards describing him as a special courier of the American Department of Defense, Wallis presented himself to customs officers Yves Berr and J. Duhamel for the usual inspection. The suspicious appearance of the young man, who declared that he lived in San Francisco, prompted the officials to begin a detailed search.

Looking more closely at his dispatch case, they discovered a double bottom, which, once opened, revealed a dozen forged passports and as many identity cards in the names of different "diplomatic couriers."

RCMP

RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police], when first informed of the discovery, initially thought they were confronting an international terrorist. The forged passports and the sum of \$25,000, which the young man had on his person, put the investigators on this track.

With remarkable composure, the suspect described himself as a CIA agent on an ultra-secret mission. "You haven't had a call from Washington yet?" he asked them after his arrest. He squarely refused to answer prying questions.

Finally, when the police showed him the tags of 27 suitcases and five golf bags consigned to the airport, Wallis simply told them to be careful when handling the baggage, which, according to him, contained electronic apparatus. "It's dangerous," he told them.

625 Kilograms

Searching the suitcases in question, the police lost no time in discovering 625 kilograms of hashish from Southeast Asia. This drug, which sells for approximately \$8,000 wholesale, is worth \$9 million when resold in small quantities to users.

"That's a conservative estimate," pointed out Sgt Raymond Ayotte of the RCMP which is responsible for investigation of narcotic smuggling in the Mirabel area.

Deepening the investigation, Cpl Robert Perrin and his colleague Jean Saint-Cyr reconstructed the entire periplex performed by Wallis. The latter, accompanied by 11 other persons, all holding forged diplomatic passports, had left New Delhi in India to go to Mirabel via London.

The final destination of the group, according to the air tickets, would have been Acapulco. Still, the police think that it is highly improbable that this drug would have been sent to Mexico, since hashish is produced in that country in industrial quantities.

Not to be Found

Despite an intense search, the 11 couriers were able to escape police. The investigators believe that by his composure their "alleged CIA fellow" was able to permit all his couriers to flee, and this even before the drug had been discovered.

The young American, who says he is from Missouri, appeared yesterday before Judge Stephen Cuddihy of Saint-Jerome, where he pleaded not guilty to the charge of hashish smuggling. Ordering non-publication of the details of the case, the judge ordered the investigation held over on bond until Thursday.

Meanwhile, with the help of agents of the American Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), local police of the GRC tried to identify the couriers who slipped through their fingers. They also tried to establish whether the name of Garry Dale Wallis is indeed that of the suspect whom they apprehended. "With all the lies this fellow told us, we are not even sure if he gave us his real name," one of the investigators of the federal police commented yesterday.



9380
CSO: 5300

CANADA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SMUGGLING CONVICTIONS--Brampton (CP)--Four U.S. residents convicted Jan. 22 of smuggling 10 pounds of cocaine into Canada were given eight to 15-year prison sentences yesterday. Augustian Nadreau, 39, of Los Angeles, and Jean Jerome, 41, of Miami, were sentenced in provincial court to 15 years by Judge Kenneth Langdon. Olga Diaz, 31, of Corona, N.Y., and Jocelyn Charles, 25, of New York City, were given eight-year sentences. The two men and two women were convicted Oct. 27 of importing cocaine with an estimated street value of up to \$5-million. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 6 Mar 79 p 10]

CSO: 5320

BULGARIA

NEW FORM OF NARCOTICS SMUGGLING DESCRIBED

Sofia POGLED in Bulgarian 19 Feb 79 p 11

[Article by Aleksandur Vasilev: "More About 'Wonder Cures' for the Gullible"]

[Text] The "polite encounters" at our border checkpoints between customs inspectors and certain transit passengers -- tourists and guests of our country -- continue although the winter season by now has left its mark on the number of these.

This time our border inspectors came across a new version of smuggling which, indications are, will assume larger proportions in 1979, namely, the smuggling of medicines of most diverse nature and most diverse origin.

There are warnings from the international health organization that the Mafia narcotics smugglers have recently turned anew to transporting narcotics across borders camouflaged as harmless medicines for headaches, fatigue, colds etc. These "medicines," put up in pretty packages with the initials of a number of well-known companies cross the borders of the Western countries more readily and are marketed more rapidly, more efficiently and without special formalities. Along with them, new "Mafiosi" have appeared -- this time persons who smuggle whole shipments of the most diverse unknown medicines across the borders and sell them as the "latest" breakthrough in the pharmaceutical industry.

Such a case was recently recorded in our country. A foreign transit tourist was, reportedly, carrying with him in his car a suitcase crammed with the most diverse medicines: ampoules, pills in the most diverse packages and for the most diverse purposes, interestingly shaped glass bottles full of medicinal drops for ulcers, gastritis, colitis, migraine, hay fever, you name it. The verbose explanations of the owner of the suitcase were answered by our customs inspectors in a far different manner, and quite effective at that. They sealed the suitcase and the traveler obtained the right to open it only once past the Bulgarian-Turkish border. Nevertheless, such unknown medicines do get into our country. They are not just brought in by foreigners either, but by our tourists, too, bringing health "nostrums" along with them.

Besides that, we have to say that all the medicines are not . . . cures! In the West they still remember the terrible effect on people, and mostly on children, of the drugs thalidomide and eraldin that became a synonym for death. The Western press permitted the advertising of these drugs far and wide as wonder drugs. But after a whole series of gullible people paid with their health and their lives for using it, the preparation was halted as a deadly drug. The outcome, however, was 18 fatal cases, 600 people in serious condition, 100 on the operating table, 20 who lost their sight.

In the business world, human diseases are becoming a very remunerative and effective source for the accumulation of profits. For these hucksters it is as clear as can be that even a poor person will spend his last resources on medicine to save his health and life -- his only possessions. In their great rivalry for exorbitant profits, the pharmaceutical firms put huge quantities of drugs on the market in 1978. Many of them, according to the World Health Organization bulletins, are useless, while others often cause irreparable harm, not to mention those that contain narcotics. Most of these superprofits go to concerns and pharmaceutical plants and laboratories in West Germany, the United States, England, Japan, Switzerland and, to a lesser extent, in France and Italy. Recently China, too, has begun to engage in the reexportation of such dubious medicines.

A famous drug scandal is that of the notorious Merrell pharmaceutical plants. They succeeded in flooding the market with the latest "space" drug "Merrell" which supposedly reduces the cholesterol content of the blood and prevents cardiovascular diseases. The drug, subjected to thorough analysis, completely ruined the firm because not only did it not possess these qualities, it also caused great damage to the human organism.

That is why all our tourists traveling abroad must take a very cautious attitude towards the various "miracle cures" that are offered to them in the market-place.

6474
CSO: 5300

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

BAHAMAS

BRIEFS

CAPTURE OF MARIHUANA SHIPMENT--Nassau, Bahamas, 22 Mar (LATIN-REUTER)--
Lawrence Major, spokesman of the Bahamas police, announced that 350 bales
of marihuana were confiscated last night. The bales were found aboard the
vessel Presidente Tomas Mosquera, which was off the Berry islands. Eleven
Colombian citizens on board the vessel were arrested. The shipment has an
estimated value of \$10 million. The police also found several automatic
weapons and munitions on the vessel, which was being towed to Nassau today.
[REUTER item] [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0338 GMT 22 Mar 79 PA]

CSO: 5300

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

COLOMBIA

DAS CHIEF RESPONDS TO 'TIME' STORY ON DRUGS

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 25 Jan 79 pp 1-2

[Article by Luis Eduardo Carrillo]

[Text] Dr Rafael Poveda Alfonso, director of the Administrative Department of Security (DAS), commenting on the article published by TIME magazine, which was exclusively reproduced in part by this newspaper and which carries the headline "The Colombian Connection," an account of the growing, processing, transporting and using of marihuana and cocaine in our country, stated:

"Many comments can be made about a news report. Also it is impossible to make such categorical statements about certain events as was done by this article."

"Naturally," Dr Poveda Alfonso asserted, "there are many aspects which can in no way be denied, among them all that President Julio Torbay Ayala's government is doing with regard to crime in all its forms, particularly drug growing and trafficking."

When he was informed that the Drug Enforcement Administration of the United States is preparing a conspiracy case with respect to cocaine involving four countries, including Colombia, which will be made public and which implicates many persons, including diplomats and area business officials, the DAS director stated:

"If there are persons who have committed a crime connected with those activities, it is well that their names be mentioned and that they be brought to public attention, provided there is sufficient evidence. There is nothing worse than unfounded statements."

DAS director Rafael Poveda Alfonso said that arrests are being made every day and that drastic punishments are meted out by local authorities. The criminals are subjected to the drug law which provides quite harsh penalties, in addition to fines ranging into millions of pesos.

He said that Colombia is moving forward "full speed" in its campaign against that situation. The DAS, for example, with a veritable intelligence team and the army and the police with their weapons are engaged in a frontal and total attack and are operating under the scrutiny of the nation so that their successes and failures are known to the entire country.

Discussing the subject of Colombian marihuana growers he stated that they were not to blame for being tempted by drug traffickers, as they were deceived and given large sums of money to engage in other activities besides the growing of marihuana.

"That is," he asserted, "they are made to see that the growing of marihuana is more profitable than planting coffee, corn, garden vegetables and other crops. Then the peasants choose not to plant corn or coffee and grow marihuana."

As is known, it is almost always Americans who bring all that money into the country which is passed from one intermediary to another until it reaches the grower.

He also said that the fight against drug traffickers is not being conducted only on the Atlantic coast but throughout the country, particularly in the eastern plains where agents of the Rural DAS are engaged in a vast campaign to exterminate marihuana fields. Individuals are being arrested continually for these illegal activities. Also, large plantations of marihuana are destroyed as soon as they are discovered.

Poveda Alfonso said emphatically, "The Administrative Department of Security with its rural and urban forces, the National Police and army are conducting a fight to the death against criminal rings and organizations which are growing, processing and transporting cocaine and marihuana."

"Many agents specialized in the fight against marihuana growing and trafficking are working tirelessly around the clock throughout the country, especially in places where it is known that marihuana is being grown, with the sole objective of eradicating this evil once and for all," Poveda Alfonso said.

Dr Rafael Poveda Alfonso, in his comments about the TIME magazine article, recalled, "December was described as one of the most positive in the fight against rings of drug traffickers, due to the fact that four light planes with American registry were seized, one DC-3 with American registry, one sailing vessel, one truck with 40 bales of marihuana; and six U. S. nationals were arrested."

He also said that at times crashed planes are found that have been burned drug traffickers. He said as recently as yesterday, "A plane was found in the municipality of Puerto Berrio, Antioquia, Department, which was totally burned."

It is enough to note, Poveda Alfonso said, "Planes with American registry which transport marihuana or cocaine crash when they are overloaded. In most cases their occupants manage to escape; however, in other instances they are killed."

At the Airport

A Judicial Police official at the Eldorado International Airport who asked that he not be identified said, "We are doing the best we can, but we lack the principal elements needed to combat drug trafficking."

8143
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

FRENCH CORRESPONDENT WRITES ON ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN

Paris PARIS-MATCH in French 9 Mar 79 pp 40-47

[Article by P-M special correspondent Roger Holeindre: "The Colombian Connection"]

[Text] In 1973, the "French Connection" died, brought down, after making headlines for 8 years, by a coalition of police forces in many countries in Europe and America. Today, the United States must cope with an equally serious threat: the "Colombian connection," which ships, by boat or by plane, dozens of tons of marijuana -- grown by peasants in northern Colombia -- to 40 million American soft-drug smokers. The Colombian army has been mobilized against the Mafia-backed traffickers. Roger Holeindre was an eye-witness to the traffic and its repression, and he gives us the story and the pictures.

Jet Tries To Down Pot-Smugglers' Plane

Flying at rooftop level over the city, a twin-engine light plane draws curious citizens out of doors; in no time, the streets are full of people, each of them commenting knowingly on the acrobatics the pilot performs in his efforts to stay out of the line of fire of the army helicopter vainly trying to force him down.

With a deafening roar, a T-33 jet fighter plane joins the dance. On the ground, they very quick to understand that the smuggler pilot has only one idea in mind: to wear the helicopter out and to stay over populated areas at all times so as to prevent the Colombian air force jet's opening fire on him.

By now, the streets are black with people, arguments are well under way, and the whole population is on the smuggler's side, to a man. Because the news spreads fast. Some men drive into

town to explain what this air show over the roofs of Riohacha is all about. A few kilometers outside the town, in the open desert, workmen were loading a ton and a half of marijuana into the twin-engine plane when a patrol helicopter appeared. The young American pilot, a Vietnam veteran, demanded that the loading continue, then, once the cargo was all aboard and not until then, while the armed helicopter was flying tighter and tighter circles around him, he gave his plane full throttle and took off like a madman, even fully loaded, maneuvering his aircraft with a master's hand and thumbing his nose at the helicopter, which then called on the air force for support.

The airborne rodeo lasted almost an hour. At one point, though, the military opened fire but, badly hit, the civil aircraft stormed down the main street, skimming the chimneys, emerged from the town in the direction of the sea and, with a deafening roar from both its engines at the outside limit of their capacity, climbed into the clouds and vanished...

It was in the first few days of October that the Colombian government decided that, starting on 1 November 1978, there would be tight surveillance by air, sea, and land, against the drug traffic and smuggling in the province of Guajira. Lying along the Venezuelan-Colombian border, this region of northeast Colombia has always been an area of heavy smuggling.

A semi-desert, swarming with snakes of all kinds, it is nothing less than an aircraft carrier jutting out into the Caribbean, constantly lashed by sandstorms reminiscent of the Djibouti Khamsin. Here and there a few Indian huts and little towns like Maicao and Riohacha break the monotony.

Maicao is the Mecca for contraband traffic with Venezuela. Every kind of radio equipment in the world is there, with toys from Hongking, watches from Switzerland, cigarettes, liquors from France, textiles from India, all the junk, all the castoffs elbowing the latest Japanese TV sets and cameras. The booze flows like water: 180 pesos for a bottle of Chivas -- around 20 French francs, or 15 francs for a bottle of Ballantine's.

Everywhere you look, over square kilometers, amid the American trucks or carrying contraband, are hundreds of thousands of empty cardboard and plastic cartons, on which everybody walks, tramps, or drives, giving the town the look of a gigantic trashcan.

Riohacha, though, was only a little fishing port whose name may have meant something to Frenchmen who had read Papillon, since that is where the fugitive from the prison at Cayenne was put in prison by the Colombian authorities after he had slipped across the Venezuelan border and lived for a long time among the Indians of Alta Guajira, who today are utterly ravaged by alcohol.

This grubby little town could have lasted a long time, with its drunkards and its traditional Saturday night brawls, if it had not been for the hurricane...

The hurricane, for this entire dirt-poor region, was drugs, marijuana, what the people here call "marimba."

About 10 years ago, hippies used to come from just about everywhere and quietly smoke the grass that grew on the foothills of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. It cost them practically nothing, and bothered nobody.

Then, all of a sudden, everything changed. The local peasants, all of them poor, all of them in debt, never managing to get a dime's worth of credit from the "Caja Agraria" -- the local farm loan and extension bureau -- suddenly found themselves offered hefty sums by people who would give them the seed, firm orders, and substantial advances such as these poor people had never dared imagine in their wildest dreams brought on by a bout of aguardiente. This hurricane of dollars ushered in the era of the "marimberos," the men who make their living by selling marimba, and who work hand in glove with the American Mafia. Very quickly, immense fortunes were made. The American buyers had large requirements, and would pay in cash. Some of the peasants regularly harvested two crops a year, and, on request, would grow a brightleaf variety known as "mona," which is highly prized and even more highly priced.

Then it was the Far West all over again... the day of the paternalistic marimberos. These men, who had become immensely rich in a very short time were and still are respected by the peasants. With the peasants, they make up an entity, something: one without the other would be nothing. The marimbero has the money, the weapons, the contacts, access to protection. The peasant furnishes his field, his labor, his harvest, and his unshakeable loyalty.

From Llenos, from the Valle de l'Antioquia, the grass came in in immense quantities. The vital transfer point was Guajira. They had to set up an infrastructure of storage places, of clandestine depots; to map and build secret landing-strips. Month by month, the marimberos watched their private army grow. It was made up of people who owed them everything, to whom they had brought, if not wealth, at least a standard of living and sums of money never before seen in this desert, where the only "wealth" in the old days had been salt, until tomorrow, when maybe there would be gas or oil...

Drivers, muleteers, leaf-strippers, dryers, pressers, balers: by the thousands, they found well-paid jobs.

At night, in the starry skies, planes in ever-increasing numbers and in ever-larger size, came ever more frequently seeking out the secret air-strips which expert teams would light at the right moment with flaming gasoline cans, while tank-truck drivers stood by to provide fuel if needed. Directly and indirectly, 60,000 to 70,000 people now live on the fortune brought in by marijuana or its fallout.

Arriving in Riohacha at night, I was given a room in a fairly decent hotel, which was completely surrounded with barbed wire, including its terrace overlooking the sea. At dawn I could discern a dirty town, but one in which there were buildings going up wherever I looked: here a 14-story building loomed grotesquely out of place in this landscape; farther off, another one with a sign stating that it would be 12 stories high. Looking out over the magnificent Caribbean Sea, an 11-story hotel rises from the ground. All of this, according to public rumor, is being built with "marimba" money.

Things could never be simple in a "macho" country like Colombia, but also in this coastal region, so unlike the rest of the country with its almost Latin customs, [there is] a kind of exuberance unknown elsewhere, and a willingness to make easy money, and above all, to let others know you've got it.

Already, the legend that was just waiting to be born grows richer every day with new "feats of arms." There are names that are heard everywhere for a while, only to vanish just as swiftly from human ken. A man known as "Lucho Baranquilla," settling in Santa Marta, was the very model of the paternalistic "marimbero." He was a "public benefactor": gifts, loans, contacts -- he took care of any little thing his "people" might require.

When the local police in Santa Marta began giving him some problems, he bought the building in which the police station rented space and, while the delighted public looked on and laughed, he, as the owner of the premises, summarily evicted the guardians of law and order. Like many another before him, though, he came to a tragic end, gunned down by a rival gang.

At Riohacha the shops would close on the stroke of 1700 hours, and the marketplace would empty. At the drop of a hat, men would draw their revolvers and shoot one another dead. In the tawdry dancehalls, gunmen sprawled over tables, arms dangling, winding up the evening before they were kicked out into the gutter, while some of their colleagues, not quite so drunk, would dance alone as they burned \$5-dollar bills to the beat of the Cumbia.

Incredible scenes from the Wild West that might have come out of the tallest western scenarios were everyday sights. Rival

gangs with scores to settle would chase one another even after their leaders were dead, and the burial of one of them was the occasion for a sensational chase scene between the laden hearse and raving pursuers who would fire into the coffin to kill the occupant dead or still -- and all this right in the middle of town.

A US pilot, crash-landing his flaming plane, was hauled from the fire in critical condition. He was immediately taken to the Santa Marta hospital under military escort. A few hours later, a gang of hoods snatched him out of the hospital as they fought off police. Meanwhile, a hospital plane sent from Miami by the Mafia was landing without authorization at the municipal airport at the very moment when, with the police in hot pursuit and returning their fire, the "kidnapers" came screeching in. Ensued a full-scale battle to cover the transfer of the dying pilot... The hospital plane managed to take off for the US.

Around 9 months ago, Bogotá sent a special "incorruptible" delegate to try to restore order... He arrested some traffickers, some US pilots, and some delinquents, and proceeded to clap these fine fellows into jail. In broad daylight, the prison was attacked and all the prisoners freed by their marimbero friends.

That same day, a few kilometers outside town, a bus was taken hostage at 1500 hours, and the women and girls aboard it were brutally raped in the middle of the highway.

Things could not go on like this. The government ordered the army to take the matter in hand.

The second brigade, based at Baranquilla and commanded by Brig Gen José Maria Villareal Abarca, was assigned the job. When the brigade had been reinforced with air and sea transport, it was, as it is now, up to division strength. Its mission covers 25,000 square kilometers, or around 5 percent of the total land area of Colombia. Gen Villareal spelled out for me the rationale behind the civil government's request for the army to take a hand.

"In Colombia, the army does not engage in politics. It is one of the oldest armed services in South America, having been officially established on 23 July 1810. Since that day, aside from one or two special cases, when it was all the civil government there was, it has been faithful to the mission entrusted it under the Constitution, and to the civil government. Its task has been primarily to assure the stability of our institutions and to maintain public order: the fight against subversion and its armed supporters, the guerrillas, and the fight to stamp out smuggling and the drug traffic along our 9,672 kilometers of border....

"The drug traffic has reached such dimensions that it threatens Colombia's moral fiber, and even the national economy. Before the current measures were adopted, people caught red-handed in drug-dealing were liable to a fine for dealing in products on which no entry duty had been paid.

"Cargoes have been loaded onto plains right on the Baranquilla airport. At the economic level, we are seeing a cutback in lands under cultivation, with many peasants abandoning their traditional food crops. The traffickers had it too much their own way. Newly rich, they thought they could do as they liked. They bought, or tried to buy, everybody -- and then bragged about it, shouted it from the housetops.

"Only the army could put a stop to the scandal."

Colombia's army is made up in large part of young draftees from the peasantry or the working class, who serve for 18 months. The total strength is estimated at 46,000 men: 1,800 officers, 9,000 non-coms, 35,000 troops, and 5,000 civilian employees. The basic unit in the Colombian army is the battalion. Its strength is 32 officers, 115 non-coms, 750 troops, and ten or so civilian employees. The battalion breaks down into three combat companies, one command and services company, and one training company.

All officers are graduates of the Military Cadet School, where they serve 4 to 5 years. Some go for training to the United States or to the Panama Canal Zone. The basic weapon is the G-3 automatic rifle; its machineguns are Browning 7.62s and 12.7s. Although handicapped by a chronic shortage of vehicles, the army is very well disciplined and no order is ever disputed.

I was able to find that, in this mission -- from top to bottom of the military hierarchy -- everybody obeyed orders to the letter, not with much enthusiasm, but with determination.

Since 1 November 1978, the date when the blockade went into effect, military units of the second brigade have captured 2,623 tons of marijuana. That staggering tonnage gives one an idea of the real extent of the traffic. A thousand people have been arrested, 331 in flagrante. Second brigade troops have captured 271 weapons, 45 vehicles, including trucks and tankers, have been seized; as well as 35 ocean-going vessels.

Also seized were 19 aircraft, DC-3s, DC-6s, and C-147s in flight condition, and eight more aircraft were destroyed on the ground. Fifteen entire crews of US aircraft have been killed. Sixty-nine aliens, most of them aircraft crew members, have been imprisoned. The marijuana problem has never once stopped growing since pot-smoking became fashionable in the United States.

is the ... for ... in the world, with its 40 million users of marijuana alone,

Thanks to its geographical position, Colombia, and particularly the northeastern tip of Colombian territory, have become major transit points for drugs of all kinds, including cocaine, which is not produced here, but which comes in along the international routes running through Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, and the islands of the Caribbean. Marijuana is grown in countries other than Colombia, but "Colombian" today is esteemed as the best there is by millions of smokers.

It is the size of the foreign demand that poses such great difficulties for Colombia. Marijuana is not a problem at home. In Guajira, for example, although millions of tons of "grass" pass through the town, there are practically no local smokers. That is why more and more people are beginning to believe, and to say that it is wrong not to allow Colombia's peasants to make money by selling a product the whole world is begging for, and which is sold to rich "gringos" who live a hundred times better than they do.

Widespread rumor sets the amount of land currently devoted to growing marijuana at 300,000 hectares. Brig Gen José Maria Villareal Abarca, though, thinks that should be no more than 100,000 hectares. Even that, though, is considerable, and, given two or even three crops per year, represents incalculable tonnages and sums of money far greater than the budgets of many South American nations.

Organizing the traffic and financing its flow between Colombia and North America is the American Mafia, beyond any possible doubt. It is the Mafia that has invested the most money, but apparently there are some rich Colombians who have put capital into the trade. The traffic shows several patterns of organization: 1. US buyers come directly to Colombia and handle purchasing and shipment; 2. US organizations provide funds to Colombians who are commissioned to develop planting, harvesting, and shipment; 3. Colombian marimberos handle the whole local operation, and sell to US shippers; 4. Colombian peasants, who have accumulated a little bit of capital of their own, are now selling direct to US or Colombian buyers.

The regions where the drug is grown are hard to reach. The peasants themselves can get there only on muleback. The harvested plants are then brought back down to the plains by the same primitive transport. One soldier told me he had stumbled upon a convoy of 200 mules, escorted by armed farmers. He took cover, so to stay out of harm's way. Although there is war to the knife among the various drug traffickers -- often leading to exchanges

of rifle fire -- the army, for its part, has no desire to make war on the peasants.

Right now, Colombian farmers are selling marijuana for 20,000 pesos per 100 kilos, or around \$500, which is \$5,000 per ton. After passing through Miami or along other routes, that same grass will sell for half a million dollars a ton on the street in New York.

As of now, prices are still rising. Perhaps the shipments captured by the army are behind that trend. It would appear that in back of the measures recently taken by the Colombian government is the influence of the American government and of the Narcotics Bureau. Very heavy penalties are now the lot of people caught in possession of the drug. Sentences can run as high as 10 years in prison. Those caught carrying weapons are liable to even stiffer sentences.

Those arrested -- though not taken in the act -- are liable to fines of 100,000 to 500,000 pesos (1 peso = 11 French francs). If the guilty man cannot pay up, he must serve 1 day in jail for each 500 pesos of the fine. As a rule, those sentenced pay the fine. Any boats, trucks, or aircraft seized are subject to immediate confiscation. But, in spite of the fines, the losses, the deaths, and the seizures, the traffic goes on.

One clandestine test of defoliation has been run. The trouble is that it is impossible to burn the marijuana without affecting other crops; the peasants plant their fields in checkerboard fashion, sowing marijuana in small plots entirely surrounded by another crop, such as corn or manioc. Given the wrath of Colombia's peasants, it is certain that this operation, mounted directly by the United States without the knowledge of the Colombian authorities, will not be repeated.

However, the army lacks the means required to wipe out the plantations, all of which are difficult of access, particularly those in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. So it would appear that, as they have done elsewhere with the consent of local governments, the Americans are going to make a mighty material and financial effort to help the Colombians themselves put a stop to this soft drug traffic, which poses problems only to the US but which is, in some areas of Colombia, including Guajira, an unbelievable manna of dollars. These regions are in fact the only places in the world in an underdeveloped country where the dollar is worth less on the black market than on the official exchange.

Already the radar installations are in place, hidden in the mountains and manned by gringos. Advisors from the Narcotics Bureau often hang around in the hot zones.

Rumor has it that the Colombian army will be getting wheels and helicopters to help it carry out its mission more effectively. I believe, though, just on a hunch, that the ordinary soldiers from peasant families are not going to do anything to stop the growers from getting just a little bit prosperous. I think that the tactics being used today and tomorrow will try hard not to harm the little people, the families of the Colombian people. Drugs are seized, and more will be seized, since the plan adopted is to run for a period of 5 years; but any grass that is captured is almost always found in the possession of gringos, and that means that the peasant from the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta loses no money, or loses nothing at all. Whatever happens, he stands to make ten times more this way than by growing corn or cabbages.

On the other side of the coin, what makes this such a hard fight is that, so as not to lose by the decline of the dollar in their transactions, the marimberos agree to take payment from the US Mafia in the form of vehicles and raw materials. You can see Mercedes, BMW 600s, Cherokees, Jeep Renegades -- some of them worth a million pesos and more, parked in front of rough wooden shacks or in the middle of squalid shantytowns.

In addition to these deliveries, which are, when all is said and done, pretty nice, there are unfortunately others which are far less welcome. Two million pills of a synthetic drug were seized by second-brigade infantrymen. Analysis showed that this drug is dangerous when taken with alcohol. According to military sources, it was Mandrax 7/14. This drug, which can drive people mad, is allegedly often used as payment for loads of marijuana, with Colombian mafiosi undertaking to get it into Europe. There are two planned routes: one through Amsterdam, and the other through Bordeaux. The drug is said to be intended for a blasée clientele that has already tried everything else.

Night was falling along the river in an out-of-the-way corner of Guajira. Kids of 18 were stacking up the 40 tons of marijuana that had been seized that day, and which they were about to burn. As I watched them working, I calculated in my head that every bale they were carrying represented, for each one of them, 10 years' pay at the going market price in New York.

Before they could burn the marijuana, they had to wait for the arrival of the civilian authorities, in this case Dr Genaro Feijo Pino, the "judge" [fiscal] of Guajira: a little man of sixty or so, flanked by his deputy, Renaldo Redondo Redondo, the local district attorney. The little judge made statements to me that were absolutely thunderous, dumbfounding in a country where everybody shuts up when somebody starts talking about drugs and the law.

"We are going to stamp out this drug, right down to the roots!" he told me.

"But, Judge, aren't you afraid?"

"Afraid of what?" he retorted, bristling as he drew himself up.

Then, standing on tiptoe to make himself just a little bit taller, he asked me, indignantly:

"Who would dare attack a representative of the law in this country?"

Then he ordered the soldiers to start the fire. Jerrycans of gasoline were emptied over the bales heaped up there, some of which had been weighed so as to assess the tonnage being burned. Gigantic flames leapt skyward. A few minutes later, the drug began to give off its special odor; a fortune was going up in smoke. Standing on the riverbank, the little judge contemplated the spectacle. He had done his duty, once again, for a few hundred pesos a month.

The army's latest fear is that subversive movements may get involved in the drug traffic, and thus gain access to the financing they have always lacked hitherto.

Everywhere, on horseback, muleback, or donkeys, peasants armed with machetes, proud, tough men, ride the roads. Roaring past them, buses driven by machos who cannot conceive of anyone's passing them drive the race that sometimes ends in a ravine.

Like the busdrivers in Bogotá, they get no fixed wages, and are paid only on a percentage basis: the competition for riders is wide open.

At almost every curve, little crosses with flowers at their feet show that here a macho, a man, a real man, died rather than be taken for a weakling, a "pansy," a "woman."

And yet Guajira, for all this activity, is still a fairly calm region in Colombia. It was kept completely out of the civil war which, for 10 years -- up to 1960 -- drenched the country in blood and killed tens of thousands of people, liberals and conservatives alike. In Guajira, the people want five contradictory things at once: they want to raise marijuana, to get rich, to have it known that they are rich, and, at the same time, not to have their wealth and its source too widely known so as to preserve their "honor" and respectability in the eyes of people outside Guajira, who might get the wrong idea and doubt the "respectability" of the native sons.

Reading the paper aboard the plane back to Bogotá, I learned that 500 people die every year in Colombia solely in quarrels involving the drug traffic.

Back in Bogotá, I happened upon an ambulance on the Avenida 100, one of the capital's busiest thoroughfares, carrying Horacio Martínez, a well-known mafioso, who had just been hit by seven bullets from a machine pistol. Out of his pocket had fallen a bag of emeralds, which was swiftly snapped up by a bodyguard. A passerby who knew about such things told me: "There's at least 6 million pesos' worth there!" Two lifetimes' wages for the little judge who had reminded me, as we were saying goodbye, not to forget to put "doctor" in front of his name.

That same evening, thanks to some help from friends, I disguised myself as a nurse and managed to get into the Country Clinic, where the mafioso with the emeralds had been taken. In front of the door to his room stood three armed guards. When the nurse opened the door a crack, I counted seven more sitting at the foot of the bed or looking out the window; in a corner were several machine pistols... I thought it wiser to wind up my story right then, and not to try for pictures.

In front of the clinic, as I made my way out, I spied a brand-new Mercedes, and it too was crammed with armed men. Who would dare attack a representative of the law in this country? Most assuredly, I could never forget my little judge. I am still wondering whether he was mad or brave. Both, maybe.

Sometimes it is nice, at the crossroads of the world, to come across men who are still able to do their duty and risk their lives for a few pesos....

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. A young soldier guards a load of "marimba" seized by the army on trucks in the Sierra Santa Marta.
2. Aircraft bought as American surplus (top) and old boats flying flags of convenience (below) carry the drug to the United States.
3. A patrol stops a bus. The soldiers search the passengers, hoping to find bundles of currency of dubious origin.
4. In groups, mounted carabinieri comb the mountains in search of clandestine marijuana fields or convoys of pot-laden mules.
5. It is these young soldiers from peasant families who are fighting the drug traffic. They do it without enthusiasm, but with determination.
6. The "fiscal" (judge) of Guijara, Dr Genero Feijo Pino, for a paltry salary, brings scrupulous integrity into his war on the traffickers.
7. A detachment of soldiers have just seized a truckload of marijuana. Two of them are waiting for the judge, as they sit atop thousands of dollars worth of merchandise.
8. The order is given to destroy the drugs that have been seized. After being sprinkled with gasoline (left), 40 tons of "marimba" goes up in smoke.

6182
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

MILITARY STRIKES AGAINST TRAFFICKERS DESCRIBED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Feb 79 p 7-B

[Text] Guajira--Authorities on the Atlantic coast are dealing effective and telling blows against rings of organized drug traffickers, within the framework of the Armed Forces' campaign to repress this crime.

More than 3,000 bales of marihuana have been seized, 65 persons arrested and at least 56 firearms confiscated as the result of successful operations carried out during the past 7 days, according to information supplied by the Ministry of Defense.

The Office of Information and Press of that ministry released a bulletin yesterday in which it reports the operations conducted. The bulletin reads as follows:

The Ministry of National Defense reports:

That in the period from 2 to 9 February 1979, in the conduct of operations on the Atlantic coast to counter the activities of drug traffickers, the following results were obtained:

2 Feb 79: In a place called La Enea, troops of the Cartagena Battalion seized 250 bales of marihuana and one scales.

2 Feb 79: At a place called Macho Bayo, troops of the Cartagena Battalion seized two San Cristobal carbines and arrested one person in connection with the crime.

3 Feb 79: At places called El Totumo and Caracoli, Fuerza de Tarea Rondon [Taskforce Surprise] troops seized 160 bales of marihuana, four revolvers, three pistols and arrested three persons.

4 Feb 79: Troops of the Fuerza de Tarea Rondon confiscated 60 bales of marihuana, four revolvers, two shotguns and arrested two persons at the Riodulce ranch, which is located on the Fonseca-Barrancas road.

4 Feb 79: Troops of the Fuerza de Tarea Rondon in Buenavista seized two suitcases containing marihuana on a bus belonging to the COPETLAN company.

4 Feb 79: The Fuerza de Tarea Rondon seized 5 arrobas of marihuana, one revolver and arrested two persons.

5 Feb 79: The Boyaca, a Colombian navy vessel, captured a boat named "Restless" with 400 bales of marihuana and arrested its four crew members off Punta Ocho Palmas, near Camarones. The "Restless" is of American registry.

5 Feb 79: Troops of the Cartagena Battalion seized 181 bales of marihuana and a scales in a place called Dosvenados, municipality of Caracoli.

5 Feb 79: A Fuerza de Tarea Rondon patrol moving between Maico and Aremazain was attacked by a man with a revolver.

6 Feb 79: Troops of the Cartagena Battalion seized 22 bales of marihuana and one 16-gauge shotgun at a place called Puente Bomba.

7 Feb 79: In the performance of their duties, troops of the Fuerza de Tarea Rondon arrested 51 persons and confiscated the following material at places called Cascajalito and Tomarrazon: 2,186 bales of marihuana; 3 pistols of various calibers; 5 revolvers of different calibers; 7 carbines of different calibers; 17 shotguns of various gauges; and 7 vehicles.

7 Feb 79: Troops of the Cordoba Battalion seized a Beechcraft light plane of American registry and arrested the two crew members at the El Banco airport.

8143
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

TRAFFICKERS' ARMS SHIPMENT SEIZED

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 10 Feb 79 p 8

[Text] An airplane with American registry landed illegally at the city of Santa Marta airport, and its pilot was immediately captured. The airplane bears registry number N-6811 and, according to authorities, came from Miami.

The plane landed at 0500 hours yesterday; authorities immediately arrested the pilot who has been identified as Peter Henry Philbriza. He was taken to DAS [Administrative Department of Security] installations where he was rigorously interrogated.

The authorities found a large quantity of arms in the light plane. Presumably the arms were destined for the drug trafficking rings which operate in this region of the country, particularly in Guajira Department. Our informant did not specify the number of weapons or their models, limiting himself to stating that they were very modern.

The landing as indicated took place at 0500 hours while the Simon Bolivar airport was not in service; and because of this, the landing lights of the principal runway were not lit. The incident surprised the authorities of the capital of Magdalena who showed concern at the daring of the American who was piloting the plane.

The secret state organizations were summoned to inspect the aircraft. The pilot of the light plane was unable to explain the reason he was forced to land on the principal runway of the Simon Bolivar airport, limiting himself to saying that he had made a mistake.

Police sources believe that the arms were to have been exchanged for marihuana which probably would have been transported to Miami, the plane's point of origin.

8143
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

RECENT ACTIONS AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKERS REPORTED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 19 Jan 79 p 3-A

[Text] Drug traffickers in Colombia have suffered serious setbacks during the past few days with the confiscation of four airplanes, three boats, several tons of marihuana and the arrest of several drug traffickers.

According to a communique issued by the Ministry of Defense, in the last few hours a spectacular strike was delivered against the mafiosi, with the seizure of two ships capable of making ocean voyages and the confiscation of more than 15,600 pounds of marihuana.

According to official sources, the operations took place in the waters of the Atlantic; during these operations three men and one woman, all American nationals, were arrested.

The first strike occurred in the vicinity of Santa Marta where a luxury yacht without a name or registration was discovered with more than 10,000 pounds of marihuana on board. The vessel was without a crew.

The second positive action took place off the coast of Guajira where the Colombian authorities seized the "Tohe," a ship with American registry. The authorities found 112 bales of marihuana on board and four persons of American nationality. The prisoners included one woman.

Summary

In a summary of the actions taken against drug traffickers, the Ministry of Defense reported that the operations of the past few days, between 9 and 15 January 1979, could be broken down as follows:

Persons arrested, 30; carbines of various calibers seized, 3; rifles used exclusively by the army, 4; 12-gauge shotguns, 3; cartridges for different firearms, 141; clips, 4; one telescopic sight; bales of pressed marihuana, 1,150; 4 airplanes of various kinds; 3 ships and one launch.

8143
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

COLOMBIA-VENEZUELA JOINT COMMISSION--The government appointed five representatives to the Colombian-Venezuelan joint commission for the repression of drug trafficking pursuant to the agreement signed by the two countries. The appointment document states that on 13 December 1978 an administrative agreement between Colombia and Venezuela was signed in Bogota to prevent, control and repress illicit trafficking in drugs and psychotropic substances and that in accordance with the terms of the agreement a joint commission was established to be composed of representatives of the appropriate organizations of the two countries to act as the mechanism of cooperation and liaison in that sector. To this end, Colombia appointed the following individuals to represent it on the commission: the chief of the D-3 department of the Military Forces Joint Staff, Brig Gen Carlos Guillermo Narvaez Casallas; the chief of the police services, Brig Gen Luis Felipe Estupinan Fuertez; the prosecutor delegate of the Judicial Police, Office of the Attorney General of the Nation, Mario Restrepo Tafur; the psychologist of the mental health division, Ministry of Health, Maria Teresa Camargo Abello; and the chief of the legal office, Administrative Department of Security, Heriberto Tamayo Medina. Dr Rodolfo Garcia Ordonez, deputy secretary for administrative affairs, Ministry of Foreign Relations, was appointed coordinator; and Dr Ramon Mantilla Rey, an attorney with the legal affairs division, Ministry of Foreign Relations, was named as his alternate. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 11 Feb 79 p 9-A] 8143

COCAINE LABORATORY SEIZED--Popayan, 12 Feb--Police agents seized a complete cocaine laboratory worth 5 million pesos in the village of El Silencio, municipality of Almaguer, and arrested four persons, three of whom are brothers. According to the police report, Edil, Plinio and Samuel Astudillo, 30, 25 and 24 years of age, respectively, and Marceliano Burbano Navia were arrested. An official source also revealed that 60 arrobas of coca leaves, both untreated and in process, were confiscated. In a related matter, this newspaper was told that a coca plantation about the size of seven city blocks had been discovered. It was also learned from a judicial spokesman that the prisoners had been turned over to the civil-criminal municipal judge who initiated the pertinent investigation. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 13 Feb 79 p 7-A] 8143

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

DETAILS OF 'OPERATION CONDOR' MANEUVERS DESCRIBED

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 22 Feb 79 pp 1, 5

[Text] We often hear that "Operation Condor" caused a certain number of arrests, that countless poppy plantations were destroyed, that the drug traffic is still proliferating, etc., but, up until now, few (and we include ourselves) of us have really known the vicissitudes and problems experienced by the individuals who are striving assiduously to combat the planting of drugs (marihuana and poppies). Therefore, we asked Cruz Garza Lopez, the coordinator of Zone 06 in the permanent campaign against the drug traffic, to allow us to accompany his men on a raid in the Western Sierra Madre.

Yesterday, we arrived at the hangar of the Office of Attorney General of Justice, with our photographer, Octavio Marquez, and the reporter; and that is how our mission began.

At an early hour, there was an extensive movement of men and machines at that location: technical personnel, pilots, navigators, forces from the Mexican Army and countless persons moving all about in an attempt to complete their initial duties, so that those who were going out to fumigate poppy plantations would have everything ready and could start another workday.

And we call it another, because for 363 days of the year (except for New Year's Day and 25 December each year), there are daily flights of this type, to discover poppy plantations in the steep mountains.

But upon returning to the hangar of the Office of Attorney General of Justice, the coordinator for the air service area has already formed the four groups of machines (helicopters) that will leave on the mission assigned for today, which consists of locating, fumigating and insuring that the previous work has had the desired results.

The representatives from EL SOL DE SINALOA are told that they will be leaving with the group designated as number 3, whose mission is to tour sector 072, which is the area adjacent to the municipality of Badiraguato. Therefore, we immediately take our seats in the helicopter with registration number XC-BEJ, and wait for the order to take off. The engines begin to warm up.

The Apparatus Is Inspected In Great Detail

There are people everywhere hastening to complete technical and mechanical details. When it has been ascertained that all the equipment is in perfect order, the order for departure comes.

The flight begins, and the weather conditions are pleasant, with little sun and wind, and rather good visibility. Thus, we begin to leave the federal airport in Bachigualato behind.

The aircraft in which we are traveling arrives at Surutato, after having flown over Pericos, Badiraguato and some other settlements; but we continue to penetrate the rugged Western Sierra Madre, heading toward the border of the state of Chihuahua.

The First Poppy Plantation Is Discovered

Our altitude at the moment is between 7,000 and 8,000 feet, and we suddenly encounter the hill known as Toallanna, the highest in the state of Chihuahua. We pass many ravines, winding among the rocky crags of the mountains, and suddenly the helicopter's navigator indicates to the captain (with a signal) the site on which the first poppy plantation can be discerned.

Captain Mosqueda heads toward the indicated location, makes a reconnaissance flight and approaches the cultivated area to measure the height of the plants and the terrain on which they are growing. Just then, the fumigating helicopter goes into action, spraying at a distance of no more than 2 meters the herbicide that will do its work within a maximum of 3 hours.

The Skill of the Helicopter Pilots

We lack sufficient space to describe the countless maneuvers that the skillful commander of the aircraft makes to surmount natural obstacles which crop up in our path; because we are in a ravine, and at the top of a hill, and we retrace our steps to check the visual inspection.

Nearly 2 hours have been spent doing this, and the fuel is barely sufficient for our return to the base in San Jose del Llano; and therefore, we head for that location, still running the same risks and dangers that we confronted since we began our flight over the mountains.

The arrival in San Jose del Llano is a relief for those of us who are passengers in the helicopter; because we were more than exhausted, since the trip is very tiring. We still cannot understand the stamina of the personnel in command, and of the soldiers accompanying us to protect the aircraft and its occupants.

Refueling the engine takes only a few minutes, which we use to stretch our legs and rest from the deafening sound made by the aircraft while aloft, and also to smoke a cigarette to calm our nerves.

While preparing to take off, we question the navigator about the documentation (navigation chart) that he uses to recognize the exact location of every piece of terrain. His response is concise: "We are provided with the navigation charts by the DETENAL (Directorate of Studies of the National Territory), which is responsible for making those reports in scale. This allows us to obtain vast knowledge of every hill, every ravine and anything that makes up the geography of Zone 06."

Aloft Again, Working Untiringly

We are again ordered to board the aircraft, and we immediately take off for the desolate mountain regions. We gradually discover poppy plantations, and the operations involving reconnaissance, fumigation and confirmation of the work that has been done are repeated. Nothing is left to chance; everything is perfectly synchronized and calculated, because a mistake would be fatal.

We spend another 2 hours aloft, time that is used to destroy a total of 19 plantations over an area of approximately 200 square meters of plants, which are grown on the most difficult terrain and the most isolated parts of the mountains.

How difficult it is to combat the planting of drugs by air, although most people think that flying in a helicopter is something comfortable and even pleasant. But how mistaken we are, because one becomes more tired after a 5-hour ride in one of these aircraft than when driving constantly day and night.

They No Longer Fire at the 'Nitwits' From the Ground

Fortunately, the personnel performing this task no longer run the risks of the past, when they used to be fired upon to prevent them from doing their duty. Nevertheless, the dangers that they face from the terrain, bad weather conditions and natural problems of a mechanical nature place their lives in great jeopardy.

We were told by another member of the group that, last month, they had to land because of the bad weather, which forced them to remain with those accompanying them for 4 days without food, and suffering from a frightful snowstorm. Fortunately, there was no personal injury, but they were very much frightened. This occurred 60 miles east of the site of the San Jose del Llano base.

It was on Mohinora hill, which remained frozen for a month and a half, owing to its altitude above sea level (11,600 feet).

The Small and Big Problems in the Operation

Probing into the technical aspects of the work done by these men who have been ignored, we discover that they have to carry their own fuel in a

receptacle called a "boot," which is made of rubber and has a capacity to hold 3,500 pounds of fuel (about 1,800 liters of jet fuel), as well as the other implements for the work which they must perform efficiently.

When we have landed, Lopez Garza gives us additional information on the coordination of Zone 06.

35 Pilots, the Crew of the Cruz Lopez Fixed Wing

Lopez Garza told us: "The coordinating entity consists of the Air Services Unit, which has 35 fixed wing (airplane) pilots and an equal number for helicopters. Its equipment includes 16 helicopters: eight Bell 212 and Eight Bell 206; 14 Cessna 185, 206 and 210 models; a Porter pilot, which we use to carry personnel; and a Twin Otter, which serves to transport military personnel and supplies.

"Then there is the Maintenance Unit, with 50 specialized mechanical technicians, who give all the aircraft painstaking service, under the direction of a supervisor. They are responsible for performing the 100, 200 and 1,000 hour service; because the hangar is perfectly equipped for this.

"Next is the Reconnaissance and Checking Unit (which is the most important one, per se, without underestimating the others, because the activities depend on it; and hence the national base for this unit, which is under the command of engineer Sergio Zatata Ibarra, has been set up in Culiacan).

"This unit is experimenting with the new Scanner tracking system, which is being carried out in conjunction with the photographic system, while the former is being improved."

The Growth of the Plants Is Gaged From the Air

"The main functions of the latter unit is to make the reconnaissance flights to determine the height, bloom and density of the plantations, and the area on which they are located. The speed and priority with which action must be taken to destroy them depend on this.

"The Logistical Backup Unit is responsible for supplying all the fuel to the various bases or sites where the work is done; as well as food, in the event that they have to remain longer than the normal flight schedule stipulates.

"Next is the Communications Unit, which is in constant contact with the three fixed bases that the coordinating entity has, located in Choix, San Jose del Llano and Topia, Durango. It also establishes immediate contact with all the mobile bases which must be established to meet the needs of the campaign.

"There is also the Administrative Unit, which is charged with preparing all the necessary documents for satisfactory management of the entire coordination,

in addition to making purchases, preparing the checks for paying the suppliers and paying the salaries of all the personnel.

"There are also 60 members of the Federal Judicial Police incorporated into the coordinating entity, making a total of nearly 300 persons who, in one way or another, are fighting against the planting, cultivation and trafficking of drugs.

"It should be pointed out that, in addition to all the elements that have been listed in general, we also receive vast assistance from the Mexican Army, which, through Military Zone 6 and 'Operation Condor,' is aiding us constantly in our activities, suffering equally with all of us who are engaged in this battle for the welfare of society."

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

TRAFFICKING RING DISCOVERED IN MEXICALI JAIL

Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 11 Feb 79 Sec B p 16

[Text] Mexicali--A surprise raid by agents of the State and Federal Judicial Police on the public jail in Mexicali disclosed a drug trafficking ring which had created a wave of terror within the prison, including attacks made on guards.

Five inmates of the jail were involved in the incidents, as well as the wife of one of them and one guard, all of whom were arrested and placed at the disposal of the agent of the court of equity public ministry.

The director of the State Judicial Police, Francisco Palau Navarro, announced the foregoing yesterday, stating that those implicated are inmates Hernan Moreno Mancillas, Abdon Delgadillo Velazquez, his wife Dara Moreno de Delgadillo, Carlos Medina Ruiz, Epifanio Garcia Perez and Manuel Ayala Garcia, and guard Gerardo Lopez Nieves, aged 21.

Inside the jail, they seized 13 envelopes containing marihuana, valium and lorazanen pills, and 11,120 pesos, resulting from this traffic; all of which was in the possession of Abdon Delgadillo.

In the latter's residence, located at 1191 Zacatecas Street, they found a shoe-box containing marihuana and a plastic bag with 500 pills, as well as a 1975 Chrysler car which had been reported stolen from Santa Ana, California, on 25 September 1978.

As LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA reported a few days ago, federal prisoner Juan de Jesus Arballo, alias "La Carla," aged 30, was attacked in a hallway of section 1 of the jail. Someone threw a blanket over him, shot him in the left thigh and robbed him of 400 pesos in national currency and \$150. The inmate is the hairdresser for the jail.

On Thursday, the inmates perpetrated an attack on the guards. The judicial police immediately mobilized and, at night, paid a surprise visit to the jail, where they discovered a large number of inmates incarcerated for federal crimes under the influence of drugs.

The Connection Appeared

As a result of the investigations, it was learned that the distributor of the drugs was federal prisoner Abdon Delgadillo Velazquez, aged 42.

To bring the drugs into the jail, he used his wife, Sara Moreno Cordova de Delgadillo, aged 44, who turned them over to guard Gerardo Lopez Nieves, aged 21. The latter had them given to Abdon through inmate Hernan Moreno Mancillas.

Upon searching Abdon's cell, they found 13 envelopes containing similar amounts of marihuana, and other envelopes containing valium and lorazanen pills, which depress the central nervous system, as well as the money, which Abdon subsequently admitted to be the product of the sale of drugs in the jail.

Abdon himself confessed that it was his wife who brought him the drugs, and gave the police the location of his residence, where the shoebox was found, containing marihuana and the package of toxic pills that he intended to bring into the jail via the same route.

This was how the police arrested his wife, Sara de Delgadillo.

The inmates Carlos Medina Ruiz, Epifanio Garcia Perez and Manuel Ayala Garcia were identified as individuals presumed guilty of attacks on the guard force.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

'ANGEL DUST' THREAT CITED--Mexicali--The public health institutions in the state and those involved in preventing drug addiction warned about the danger posed by the introduction of a new drug, called "angel dust," which has been exacerbating the problem of drug addiction in the state. Dr Guillermo Figueroa Velazquez, chief of the Mental Health Department, confirmed this fact, noting that the necessary measures for coping with this serious problem have been adopted. He said that members of that institution had been assigned to attend lectures to be held in El Centro, California, in which specialists from Los Angeles and San Diego would participate, discussing the consequences of the use of this drug, and its effects on the individual. [Text] [Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 17 Feb 79 Sec B p 16] 2909

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The individuals who have always been regarded as the czars of drugs on this border, namely, Roberto Rodriguez Mendez, alias "El Beto," and Juan Gustavo Campos, were arrested in Guadalajara, Jalisco, by forces of the Federal Judicial Police and members of the United States DEA [Drug Enforcement Agency], and 7.5 pounds of pure cocaine were confiscated from them. The foregoing announcement was made by unofficial sources, noting that this is one of the most important actions taken on behalf of the entire northern part of the republic, where these individuals had set up their establishment and were considered somewhat untouchable. "El Beto" Rodriguez was also regarded as the most elusive drug trafficker, because he had been sought and investigated constantly by the Federal Judicial Police in this port, but nothing had ever been found on him. It may be recalled that he was involved in the disappearance of the 1.5 kilograms of heroin from the district court, and that about 1 kilogram of that same heroin had been seized from him at the time of Marquina. But he later recovered his freedom because, when the heroin was replaced by powdered sugar in the district court, this excuse was used to release him. The same thing happened to Gustavo Campos, who had often eluded arrest by the Federal Judicial Police. But, finally, both men have been captured. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 24 Feb 79 Sec A p 1] 2909

ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN RESULTS--The Coordination for Zone 06 of the Permanent Campaign Against Drug Trafficking, headed by Cruz Lopez Garza, has been intensifying its activities aimed at preventing the proliferation of the planting,

processing and distribution of drugs, and it has accrued excellent results thus far this year. According to the information provided to EL SOL DE SINALOA, as of 12 February, there have been 73 arrests, four involving foreigners, and 9 tons, 90 kilograms and 610 grams of marihuana have been seized, as well as 65 kilograms and 300 grams of marihuana seed, 2 kilograms and 923 grams of opium gum and 400 grams of cocaine. Confiscations were also made of three vehicles, two long-barreled weapons, seven short-barreled weapons and 155 rounds of ammunition of various calibers, which were being carried or had been concealed in hiding places by those under arrest. With regard to the plantations, quite successful operations were carried out to destroy them. A total of 3,413 poppy plantations covering an area of 11,031,950 hectares were destroyed, while 50 marihuana plantations on an area of 11,270,000 hectares were devastated. The action was taken jointly by members of the Federal Judicial Police and Mexican Army troops, which afforded greater success in the campaign, because the areas of the Western Sierra Madre in the state of Sinaloa and on the border of Durango and Chihuahua were being constantly searched. [Text] [Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 17 Feb 79 Sec B p 1] 2909

HEROIN TRAFFICKER DENIES CHARGES--Yesterday, in the district court, there was a confrontation between Federal Judicial policeman Francisco Javier Rayas and the accused drug trafficker, David Alonso Ramirez. At the meeting, the policeman upheld the information contained in the report, while Alonso Ramirez claimed that he only admitted to having had in his possession some syringes, a scale for making measurements of small weights and other items used for "cutting" drugs, but he denied having any connection with the individuals who identified him as being the heroin supplier. This matter is related to the arrest of two persons, a married couple, in the neighboring Eagle Pass, Texas, who had a small amount of heroin in their possession. Upon being questioned, they said that they had purchased the drug from David Alonso Ramirez, in the town of Sabinas, Coahuila, and that this was not the first occasion on which it had happened. Various contradictions were noted between David Alonso Ramirez' statements in the confrontation; and it was decided that he would have to be subjected to proceedings wherein a series of details must be clarified. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 24 Feb 79 Sec B p 1] 2909

TRAFFIC TO U.S. CONTINUING--Tijuana--Manny Najera, head of the frontier customhouse with headquarters in San Diego, stated that the trafficking of drugs to the United States from Mexico has not declined, and stands at the same level as last year. However, he noted that the cooperation between the Mexican and United States Governments in their common battle against the drug traffic has not only increased, but is taking place with more harmony; yet it has proven incapable of curbing the volume of drugs entering the United States every day. However, Najera said that he is certain that, within a short time, the results anticipated from these new efforts on the part of both governments to combat this smuggling will be forthcoming. Najera remarked that the new efforts involve not only vigilance on land, but in the air as well, since it has been recently discovered that there have been an alarming number of small planes landing secretly in United States territory. [Text] [Mexicali LA VOZ DE LA FRONTERA in Spanish 17 Feb 79 Sec B p 12] 2909

JAILED OFFICIAL RELEASED--Mazatlan, Sinaloa, 22 February--The Ninth Circuit Unified Court in this town revoked the order for official imprisonment issued against the former municipal president, Rafael Tirado Canizales, and District Judge Raymundo Veloz Segura ordered his release for lack of evidence with which to try him. Rafael Tirado Canizales was arrested on 24 October 1978, at the order of the district judge, on charges of escape of prisoners and crimes against health committed during his administration. After the writ for his official imprisonment had been issued by the district judge, Rafael Tirado Canizales' defense appealed this ruling. The result was that there was insufficient evidence for trying him, and the judge's decision was revoked. The report of the release of former Municipal President Rafael Tirado Canizales was made at about 1130 hours yesterday. The order for the official imprisonment of Gildardo Canizales Manjarrez, Guillermo Perez Esparza, Cesar Delgado Toscano and Antonio Ayala Vega was confirmed. They had appealed in the same manner as the former municipal president, but there is evidence to try them for crimes against health. Moreover, Felix Coronado, who was also named in the proceedings regarding the escape of inmates and drug trafficking in the jail, as a co-defendant, was not notified of any decision in favor or against him; despite the fact that he, too, had appealed the ruling of the district judge regarding him as guilty. Felix Coronado had been jailed in Escuinapa, 8 months prior to the discovery of the presumed drug trafficking maneuvers and the escape of inmates from the municipal jail. Rafael Tirado Canizales' return home was an occasion of an emotional celebration of joy for his relatives. Accompanied by his wife and Guillermo Osuna Guerrero, he arrived home at about 1400 hours. In a voice choked by emotion, Rafael Tirado Canizales said that he was happy to be at home with his family. [Text] [Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 23 Feb 79 p 3] 2909

CSO: 5330

PERU

BRIEFS

'FINDER' OF BRIEFCASE ACTUALLY DRUG DEALER--Agustin Acevedo Polo, the "lucky" man who said he found a briefcase containing 13 million soles, is a drug trafficker and the money was from the sale of cocaine paste, according to the PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police]. Now the detectives from the Office of Drug Traffic Investigation are trying to find out if the man's accomplices gave him the money. The possibility that the 13 million belong to someone else has not been discarded. Through its investigations, the PIP has learned that Acevedo Polo, a driver who lives in Chimbote, traveled a short while ago to Tingo Maria to finalize the sale of cocaine paste. From there he traveled by river to Iquitos and then flew to Lima. He was arrested when he arrived at the International Airport. The police said that Acevedo acted suspicious by trying to hide the bulky briefcase so they detained him. When arrested, Acevedo Polo said that he found the briefcase with the money on the shores of the Amazon River in Iquitos. [Text] [Lima LA CRONICA in Spanish 14 Feb 79 p 6] 7717

CSO: 5300

URUGUAY

DOCTORS, DRUGGIST INVOLVED IN PSYCHOTROPIC DIET PILL CASE

Pill Racket Discovered

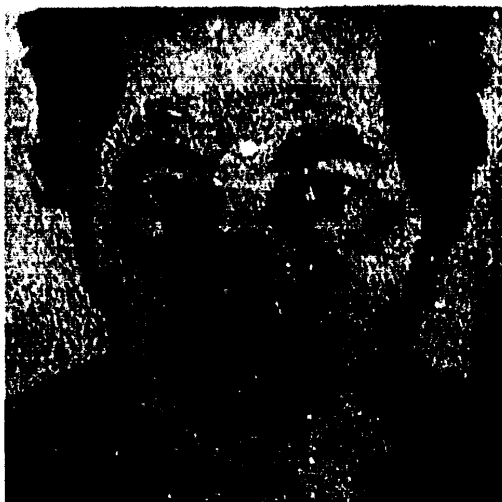
Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 8 Feb 79 pp 1, 8

[Text] The seizure of 12,000 bottles of pills at an illegal laboratory set up in a pharmacy located in the Goes district and used as a front has led to the arrest and trial of the pharmacy owner. He has been sent to prison for the crime of supplying drugs. His record shows that he previously served time in prison as the result of an arrest that occurred when he and another individual tried to smuggle a large quantity of psychotropic drugs into the country. The current arrest also involves the investigation of an Argentine doctor who prescribed the medicines in a manner clearly deviating from legal practice and from administrative procedures outlined by the Ministry of Public Health (MSP).

The place where the prescriptions were prepared is located in a back room of the pharmacy at 2521 Avenida General Flores and does not even meet the most basic sanitary requirements. In order to concoct the formulas which the prescribing doctor indicated, substances were taken from different bottles of medicine, following which, by means of a coffee grinder and a blender, they were mixed until the product was completed. The average price for a bag containing five bottles was 120 new pesos. The labels bore fictitious numbers not registered with the Ministry of Public Health.

The profits declared by the owner of the pharmacy amounted to 300 million old pesos last year alone. The doctor stated that by working six days a month in our country, he made a net profit on the order of \$8,000. On the average, he handled 300 patients a week in Montevideo.

The clue that led to the downfall of the illegal laboratory and the individual behind it was provided a few weeks ago when a young woman went to a private clinic complaining of strong neuropsychiatric depression. She said that her condition had possibly resulted from the ingestion of a diet medication whose name she could not remember. In her purse was a bottle bearing an unfamiliar label. The doctors in attendance faced the dangerous situation of not being able to prescribe any antidote for a drug whose composition they did not know as such a step could be fatal.



Bernardo Gerstenbluth Platzman [above], owner of the pharmacy at 2521 Avenida General Flores, where he had set up an underground laboratory where "diet" drugs were prepared using undeclared narcotics. The pharmacy, which served as a front, will certainly be closed because of its illegal activities.

When the case of the young woman was brought to the attention of the Narcotics Squad, a patient investigation began which led directly to the Israelita Pharmacy located at 2521 Avenida General Flores and therefore to the arrest of a man already known to narcotics officials: merchant Bernardo Gerstenbluth Platzman, 44 years of age, married, and of Uruguayan nationality, living at 2369 2 de Mayo, Apt. 403. Shortly thereafter, the doctor was also arrested and the employees were questioned. It should be noted that despite the fabulous profits declared by the owner of the pharmacy (and they obviously must be much higher), the employee that mixed the drugs to be distributed in industrial quantities and at sky-high prices was paid only 5 new pesos per hour.

Using the statements made by all persons questioned, the officials of the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Squad, a division of the National Information and Intelligence Directorate, managed to put together a case against the two principal suspects so that they could be brought to justice. They also compiled a memorandum addressed to the Ministry of Public Health so that the latter would be able to adopt the proper administrative measures.

Various details have been learned about the operations in which the pharmacy has been engaged for some time. The doctor, an Argentine citizen whose university degree was accepted in our country although he is not a legal

resident, outlined the so-called "master" formula in which he specified the quantity of each of the components of the medicine prescribed for those following his treatment in order to lose weight, but the prescription was sent directly to the pharmacy and not given to the patient to prevent any competitors from learning the formula. At the underground Gerstenbluth laboratory, thousands of vials of medicines containing amphetamines (requiring prescriptions in order to be shipped) were used. Under the most unsanitary conditions, every prescription was prepared, which involved the use of a coffee grinder and a blender. The bottles of medicine were then made up with a label not registered with the Ministry of Public Health.

The sales of the medicine were not recorded in any book, nor were the amounts of amphetamines used, since the pharmacy owner would then have had to pay the taxes he was avoiding. The master formulas were not registered, despite administrative provisions governing pharmacies and drugstores.

In addition to his own fees, the doctor collected 50 percent of what the pharmacy took in for every prescription. Early on, he had set up his office in the same building.

The owner of the pharmacy was tried and sent to prison, having been found guilty of the crime set forth in Article 35 of the Narcotics Law (14,294 of 11 January 1975): supplying drugs. The doctor was released since the courts found no grounds on which he could be tried.

Court Proceedings

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 15 Feb 79 p 16

[Text] A doctor of Argentine nationality and an individual connected with him will once again be brought before the examining magistrate of the Fifth Court Today. The Narcotics Squad arrested the doctor and seized a large quantity of bottles containing "diet" prescriptions which it appears include five types of mind-altering drugs, according to chemical analysts.

As reported in our last edition and as a result of the investigation which began with the arrest of another Argentine doctor and the owner of the Israelita Pharmacy -- now on trial as the result of the discovery of an underground laboratory in a back room of the pharmacy -- the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Squad was alerted when an abnormally large number of women were admitted to clinics complaining of severe depression. In all cases, they reported having taken "diet pills." However, when the containers or capsules were found, no one could ascertain the contents because the brand was not registered with the Ministry of Public Health and no pharmacy carried it. The doctor in question brought the capsules into the country illegally by means of the Uruguay River bridges and sold them himself in the different cities in the interior, where he eventually set up offices.

In his luxurious gold, two-door Chevrolet S2, registered in Buenos Aires, the doctor, who had his university degree validated in our country, brought

hundreds of bottles of the diet pills into the country, generally using the Paysandu-Colon bridge. He began his profitable practice in the capital of Paysandu.

It then extended to Mercedes, Colonia, San Jose and Montevideo, where he was finally arrested. It has been learned that in the respective offices in the interior, departmental police have seized a large quantity of the smuggled drugs.

The flippancy of the individual was such that when he was asked about the origin and brand of the capsules, he said: "That is not your business... They were made in Argentina." To a certain extent he was right, although once he has settled his accounts with the Uruguayan authorities, he will have to answer to the Narcotics Division of the Argentine Federal Police.

The arrested physician said that in Buenos Aires, he had engaged in the same operations as the one recently broken up at the Israelita Pharmacy in Montevideo. In partnership with a pharmacist in Buenos Aires, he sent the formula stating the quantity in milligrams of every substance used so that every capsule could be made up with the ingredients listed. When the capsules or bottles were sold, he naturally shared the profits equally with the dishonest pharmacist, who also used psychotropic drugs in the preparation process without properly notifying authorities.

It was learned yesterday afternoon, after the acting judge, Dr Manuel Antonio Mercant had scheduled a new hearing, that officials were awaiting the results of the analyses made of the alleged diet pills. It was reported that five types of psychotropic drugs had been detected as ingredients of the capsules involved in the treatment. If this story should be confirmed, the situation of the doctor will be highly compromised since the crime of smuggling will not be the only one in question.

There is already solid evidence of smuggling due to the large quantity of containers seized and because of the fact that the doctor himself was selling them in Uruguay despite being of Argentine nationality. However, if psychotropic drugs are involved, he may be charged with violations outlined in Article 31 of Law 14,294 (narcotics trafficking), in addition to Article 221 of the Penal Code referring to the use and supplying of substances harmful to health. Proof of the latter is contained in the fact that several of his patients had to be hospitalized as the result of the emotional trauma produced by the supposed diet pills. Today we shall learn the court's ruling on the situation of the doctor who, while not paying anything into the Professional Fund or any taxes, competed with them by using his "foreign" image, which for a certain type of patients has an element of snob appeal.

Argentine Doctor Investigated

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 16 Feb 79 p 13

[Excerpts] As the evidence continues to mount up, the Fifth Criminal Court yesterday ruled that it would try the Argentine doctor arrested on suspicion of narcotics trafficking and smuggling and the crime of "repeated smuggling."



Jacobo Nenezian Vartevanian [above], the Argentine doctor tried yesterday.

The investigation was patiently continued until the members of the Narcotics Squad succeeded in arresting the doctor who was prescribing the so-called "diet pills" that were causing so much harm in our midst. At the same time they seized a large quantity of bottles with the unnamed capsules whose analysis is now in the final phase. Unofficial sources report that the capsules contain five types of psychotropic drugs as specified by the formula given by the doctor now on trial. The capsules were prepared by using psychotropic drugs put out by well-known laboratories. The operation took place in a Buenos Aires pharmacy. The case is like one discovered some weeks ago in Montevideo.

The individual arrested and now being held as a result of a ruling by the acting judge, Dr Manuel Antonio Mercant, is Jacobo Eduardo Nenezian Vartevanian, 39, married, of Argentine nationality. He resides at 2168 "A" Calle Melian in Buenos Aires and has his office in the federal capital at 2534 "2d C" Calle Viamonte.

In addition to his national registration as a general practitioner, Nenezian also had regional registration in Buenos Aires, Santa Fe and Entre Rios provinces. He had validated his degree in Uruguay.

While Nenezian was jailed for "repeated smuggling," since all the "diet" medications had been brought into the country in large quantities from

Argentine to be sold in Uruguay, he could also be charged for crimes outlined in Article 31 of Law 14,294 -- that is, narcotics trafficking -- provided there is confirmation of the results of the analyses of the capsules prepared by the Argentine pharmacist who acted as a partner in the profitable scheme. It should be noted that if the diet pills contain amphetamines or psychotropic drugs, the charge of common smuggling would then become one of narcotics trafficking. Nor must one forget the provisions of the Penal Code (Article 221) concerning the supplying of substances harmful to health.

It will be necessary to await the results of the analyses and then the request for extradition (by the Republic of Argentina, since the Narcotics Division of the Argentine Federal Police has become involved in the case and is investigating all the operations of Nenezian and his pharmacist partner, based on the statements of the doctor, who admits having committed "illegal" acts, but not in our country).

Another Doctor Jailed

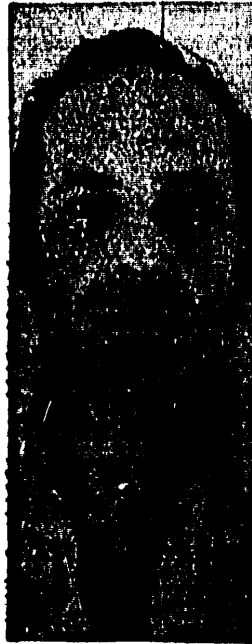
Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 20 Feb 79 p 18

[Excerpts] Another Argentine doctor was jailed last night, although this time the crime in question is more serious and would point toward a new hearing for his colleague who was recently tried by the crime of repeated smuggling. The individual arrested yesterday is charged with crimes outlined by Article 35 of Law 14,294 of 11 January 1975 (supplying narcotics). The penalty ranges from 24 months in prison to 4 years in the penitentiary. The Argentine physician was identified as Mario Guillermo Vindver, 40, married, who resides at 2897 Sarmiento in Buenos Aires and coincidentally at 2369 Sarmiento, Apt. 403, in Montevideo.

The detained suspect was investigated when the examining magistrate of the Third Court, Dr Ramon Lucas Reggiardo, scheduled the trial of the owner of the Israelita Pharmacy, Bernardo Gerstenbluth Platzman. In an underground laboratory located in a backroom of his business at 2521 Avenida General Flores, the latter prepared the "diet pills" under the most unsanitary conditions, using large quantities of amphetamines which he did not declare. Since there initially were no grounds for trying Dr Vindver, the judge transferred the evidence to the criminal prosecutor and with the intervention of the Ministry of Public Health, specific analyses were made to prove once and for all the direct connection.

A similar situation involves another recently tried Argentine doctor, Jacobo Nenezian Vartevanian, who was charged with smuggling by the examining magistrate of the Fourth Court while awaiting the results of tests from the Technical Forensics Institute and the Office of Secretary of Public Health. If the results are positive, in addition to the charge of supplying narcotics, Nenezian could be charged with crimes outlined in Article 31 of the Narcotics Law (trafficking), given the fact that the processing of the supposed diet pills (which did nothing but cause serious secondary reactions in the nervous

systems of the patients) took place in Buenos Aires and had been brought into the country illegally. If it should be shown that the pills contained psychotropic drugs, as stated in one of the reports, then the crime of smuggling would be changed to that of narcotics trafficking, which according to the law entails a sentence of 3 to 10 years in the penitentiary.



Mario Guillermo Vindver [above], the Argentine doctor being tried for supplying narcotics.

Israelita Pharmacy

In editions published at the beginning of this month, we reported at length on the operation dismantled by the Narcotics Squad which led to the jailing of the irresponsible owner of the pharmacy on Avenida General Flores and now to that of the doctor associated with him. The two shared equally in the profits which the credulity of hundreds of patients brought them.

When the pharmacy was raided, over 12,000 bottles of a medication not registered with the Ministry of Public Health were seized. The capsules were sold as "diet pills," although they contained a certain quantity of amphetamines taken from their original containers and ground up in a coffee mill to be made into the "miracle drug" of patients wishing to shed excess pounds.

The judicial ruling on the Argentine doctor was made known last night shortly after 2200 hours, when the examining magistrate confirmed the statements of the physician on trial and those of several witnesses who had been summoned to testify. It is thought that the case will have even further as yet unsuspected ramifications. Consequently, the tireless members of the Narcotics Squad are still working on the case, although officials decline to make any type of comment.



The Israelita Pharmacy [above] at 2521 Avenida General Flores, where at the beginning of this month, an underground laboratory was discovered. It was here that amphetamines were used to manufacture "diet pills." The partners in the operation, a doctor and the pharmacy owner, have both been jailed.

Additional Crime, More Arrests

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 21 Feb 79 p 18

[Text] While new charges were brought against the Argentine doctor on whose trial the last edition of EL PAIS contained an exclusive report, another physician and a pharmacy owner were headed for jail as the result of an operation carried out early this month at the Israelita Pharmacy, where an underground laboratory was discovered. The laboratory was used to prepare "diet pills" containing psychotropic drugs and other elements.

In reporting on the trial of the doctor yesterday, EL PAIS added that the case would have as yet unsuspected ramifications. This has been confirmed by the scheduling of three new trials.

The examining magistrate of the Third Court has added to the charges already filed against Mario Guillermo Vindver TcImaher, the 40-year-old Argentine doctor, the crime outlined in Decree 454 of 20 July 1976: "practicing without a license," because while Vindver did have his degree validated in our country, when he began his profitable practice in our country, he had not yet done so. Consequently, according to Uruguayan law, the Argentine physician was practicing illegally. It should be noted that in the beginning, Vindver had set up his temporary offices in the residence of another individual already tried: Bernardo Gerstenbluth Platzman, owner of the Israelita Pharmacy on Calle 2 de Mayo.

Jailed along with Vindver for violating Article 35 of Law 14,294 of 11 January 1975 (supplying narcotics) was Aquiles Manuel Torra Malinelli, a doctor and pharmacist, 70 years of age, single, of Uruguayan nationality, and Homero Jupiter Monza Arena, 56, married, also of Uruguayan nationality.

Torra Malinelli and Monza Arena were both the victims of Gerstenbluth since the former, as a technician, and the latter, a pharmacy employee, did nothing more than cooperate with the dealings of the individual who, according to his statements, pocketed over 300 million old pesos during one year of illegal activity. The doctor-pharmacist was paid a wage of 900 new pesos, while the employee received 1,300 new pesos. Torra Malinelli signed the books "in confidence," which was the action that led him to prison. Monza Arena prepared the prescriptions according to the orders of his employer, but was fully aware of the elements he was using in the apparently harmless "diet pills."

Based on the direction taken by the investigations connected with the case, it is thought that important information will soon be learned concerning the situation of another Argentine doctor already tried: Jacobo Nenezian Vartevanian, who for the time being is only jailed for the crime of "repeated smuggling." However, the charge could be changed to that of "narcotics trafficking" as provided by Article 31 of the respective law.

The cases heard in recent days once again point up an omission on the part of the Ministry of Public Health concerning the provisions of the Narcotics Law because if it had been enforced, the discoveries made by police would have been detected much sooner.

Without any further comment, we are reprinting Article 14 of Law 14,294, promulgated on 11 November 1974 and in force since 11 January 1975: "The Ministry of Public Health will, within a period of 90 days following promulgation of the law, organize a registry of professional doctors, veterinarians and dentists, with their names, addresses, private telephone numbers and office numbers and will provide a copy authenticated by its signature.

"The pamphlet containing this information will be sold at cost price to all laboratories, pharmacies and drugstores, who will be required to have it in their possession so as to control the possible falsification of prescriptions related to drugs specified in Article 5.

"This pamphlet will be revised in January of every year and distributed before the conclusion of this same month in accordance with the conditions set forth in the preceding paragraph. Use of the prescription book by technicians graduating following the latest publication of the professional registry will be governed, until the time of the following publication, by the regulation set forth by the Executive Branch."

11,464
CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The Judicial Technical Police confiscated 400,000 bolivares worth of cocaine when they arrested Canadian Shirley (Ampit) and Dominican Eduardo Alberto Baez Alemar on charges of being drug traffickers. The police are investigating their ties with international drug trafficking gangs. [Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 1530 GMT 21 Mar 79 PA]

CSO: 5300

EGYPT

DRUG TRAFFIC INCREASING, ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTERS NECESSARY

Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 25 Dec 78 pp 37-41

[Article by Majdi Muhanna: "Drug Empire Continues; Director of General Drug Administration: We Will Continue To Blow Into Punctured Rubber Water Bottle, Unless; Drug Control Division of Cairo Security: Possession Law Is Obstacle in Face of Seizure and Control Agencies"]

[Text] It seems that the principle of direct proportion is applied effectively to drug smuggling and to controlling the drug trade in our country. Despite the continued drug control campaigns carried out by the Ministry of Interior and its various drug control agencies and despite their escalated and concentrated campaigns against drug smugglers and merchants, the latest statistics on the quantities seized this year in comparison to previous years indicate an increase in these quantities.

There is also an increase in the number of addicts using drugs--that effective weapon for destroying the mind and a weapon with which the addict buys his inevitable end with his completely free will. This is why we should not bury our heads in the sand and say that the empire of al-Batiniyah has collapsed or ended. The collapse of al-Batiniyah cannot be brought about with 1, 2 or 1,000 campaigns. Al-Batiniyah will continue to be a center for the sale of drugs until it is eliminated completely and then replanned.

Increase in Smuggled Quantities

The words are clear and need no explanation. If there is an improvement in the control operation, then there is on the other hand an increase in the number of addicts and, consequently, an increase in the volume of the drugs smuggled. This means that the drug empire continues and will continue to live until we view the issue differently and until we complete the links of the chain so as to close the circle. Control, according to Maj Gen Sami As'ad, is only one of three links represented in:

1. Control and seizing of smugglers.
2. Dissuading and educating people.
3. Treating addicts.

The three links cannot be separated from one another and if separated, as is happening at present, then it means the pillars of the drug kingdom's throne will continue to stand and will not be affected by the control agencies.

Blowing Into Punctured Rubber Water Bottle

The director of the General Drug Control Administration admits that we are actually "blowing into a punctured rubber water bottle." When we close a hole in the bottle, another appears. To put it simply, drugs are demanded by the consumers and supply and demand have become the law of this illegal trade. Where large quantities are seized with the drug smugglers, the demand rises, and so does the price and so forth.

The director adds: Unfortunately, the demand is increasing and this makes the drug smugglers and dealers increase the supply to meet the demand. This, adds Maj Gen Sami As'ad, makes the adventurous among the smugglers and dealers grow hashish and opium in Upper Egypt, even though the Ministry of Interior's control agencies have become aware of this and are lying in wait for such people to prevent the spread of drug production through the cultivation of drugs at home. This fact has speeded up presentation [presumably to the People's Assembly] of the bill to confiscate cultivable lands used for drug cultivation.

On the other hand, the production of synthetic drugs and of hashish and opium derivatives, such as heroin, morphine and pills, has made the control and seizure operation more difficult. This is in addition to the fact that the drug crime is difficult to prove because what is important is possession. The dealers are always clever and they carry out their activity without exposing themselves to danger or to seizure. Thus, young children who have become experienced in this work sell the drugs and collect the money.

Why al-Batiniyah?

Even though al-Batiniyah is one of the main centers for the distribution of drugs in Cairo, so much so that we have come to believe that it is the only source of this disease, the fact is, according to Lt Col Tal'at Mansur of the drug control section of the Cairo Security Department, that drug trafficking spreads throughout the popular quarters generally. There are the areas of al-'Assal and al-Hafziyah in Shubra and the areas of al-Sayyidah Zaynab, al-Jamaliyah, al-Wayli, etc. However, al-Batiniyah is distinctive among all these areas by its unique geographic character, in addition to the fact that its inhabitants are either related or know each other and that their fundamental trade is drug trafficking.

Lt Col Tal'at Mansur adds that the law of possession and acquisition represents a hardship and an obstacle in the face of the control agencies. The law says that as long as the item (drugs, for example) is not in your possession or in your home, then you are innocent. If it is right to apply this

law to anything else, it is inadequate in the drug control operation because the testimony of the drug officer in the court should be considered a proof. For example, we may be certain that this or that person does actually traffic in drugs, but because such a person is extremely careful not to have drugs in his possession, he entrusts selling the drugs to young children and thus escapes being caught.

On the other hand, despite hardening the legal penalty to temporary or life prison term with hard labor, this increased penalty has led to increasing the number of not guilty verdicts and to reducing the penalty. This has happened and is happening in many sentences against drug smugglers and traffickers. Therefore, it is my opinion that it would be better if the legal penalty were reduced but implemented strictly.

Another Gap

Col Ahmad 'Uthman, the deputy director of the drug control section of the Cairo Security Department, adds that permitting pharmacies to sell some drugs, such as pills, sedatives and injections, has led some pharmacists to become greedy and to traffic in these substances for profit. Such drugs are sold on the black market. Even though there are controls for the sale of such drugs, even though it is required that they be sold on a doctor's prescription and even though each pharmacy is allotted a certain amount which it should not exceed, large quantities of such drugs have been seized in some pharmacies.

Col Ahmad 'Uthman adds: Unfortunately, the legal penalty is small and tantamount to only a fine. Consequently, raising the penalty and implementing it strictly will make contravening pharmacies think twice before peddling such drugs, especially since this phenomenon is spreading gradually among the youth and the addicts generally, while addiction to natural drugs, such as hashish and opium, is declining.

Maj Husam Abu Sa'dah adds: Abroad, processed and synthetic drugs of all kinds and forms have become prevalent among addicts. In the United States, for example, hashish trafficking has become very limited, whereas other drugs processed locally by individually owned laboratories have spread. The most dangerous kind is the L.S.D. pills. This trend is also spreading in the backward countries.

Maj Husam Abu Sa'dah further adds that the United States possesses advanced means, such as telecommunications equipment and planes, to use in drug seizures. Moreover, the drug control agencies there can engage in buying and selling drugs to traffickers to catch them redhanded. This is due to the availability of financial resources.

Finally, Maj Husam Abu Sa'dah says that the highest penalty in the U.S. law, reaching the death sentence is a great deterrent.

Social Aspect of Issue

While the methods of smuggling in Egypt are advancing and reaching the degree of the use of airplanes to transport and smuggle drugs from ports and across the sea, our control agencies are not as advanced and our resources for drug seizure operations are modest. All this makes us ask: What is the solution? Is it in enhancing the capabilities of the control agencies? This leads us to another question: Where will the control lead?

Will we be able to wipe out this disease through control? This makes us deal with the other aspect of the issue and urges us to approach the issue with a new and comprehensive view and with a different philosophy represented in treating the addicts, because this is the fundament for containing and wiping out this disease. Only thus will the chain's links be completed.

Maj Gen Sami As'ad says that drug trafficking and addiction have become a top-level social problem. The demand must be curbed, fought and reduced by preventing new persons and consumers from joining the ranks of addicts. At the same time, the addicts must be treated and a big boost must be given to the prevention and treatment agencies.

The General Drug Administration director adds that this is actually the new philosophy which the Ministry of Interior will follow in cooperation with various other ministries, such as the ministries of Social Affairs and of Health. This requires the establishment of hospitals to treat drug addicts. The information media shoulder a major responsibility in this task.

Equations on Way To Being Solved

But what is the real picture regarding the treatment of addicts at present?

You may be surprised to learn that the budget of the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Treatment Society is 2,000 pounds, half of which is paid by the Ministry of Social Affairs and the other half by the Ministry of Health. When we learn that the salaries of the society's 11 workers amount to 137 pounds monthly, i.e. 1,650 pounds annually, it means that the rest of the budget, totaling 350 pounds, is supposed to cover the society's other expenses, including the rent for its premises. The society now owes the Religious Trusts Authority 500 pounds, i.e. one quarter its budget, in back rent. The 350 pounds also cover the water, electricity, tea and coffee expenses and the expenses for the treatment of patients throughout the year. Naturally, this picture requires no comment or explanation, because there is no greater misery than this. The only society for the treatment of drug addicts in the entire republic is supervised by two physicians, each working 3 days.

The second bitter fact is that the number of patients frequenting the society, most or all of whom do so voluntarily, reached 3,354 patients as of the date of opening the outpatient clinic in October 1969 and until these lines were

written. You may be surprised to find that the number of patients is dropping annually. For example, the number in 1970 was 1,540 patients, i.e. nearly one half the total number. In 1971, the number of cases amounted to 579, of whom 403 cases were treated. Those returning for treatment numbered 176 cases.

In 1972, the number of patients dropped to only 243 cases. The number continued to decrease, amounting to 116 in 1974, to 122 in 1975 and to only 95 cases in 1976. In 1978, there was a slight increase and the number of patients rose to 165. This is the second problem, namely the problem of treating the drug addicts in Egypt.

Coffee Only

Instead of being transformed into a hospital for treatment, the society is being used by patients as a coffee shop or a recreation place to kill their free time. It is truly regrettable that this society lives on donations and on the personal efforts of this or that person to be able to perform its message at a time when there are rehabilitation clubs that are under the control of the Ministry of Social Affairs, that have branches in Misr al-Qadimah, in Hada'iq al-Qubbah and in Lazughli. The only thing these clubs do is to give those frequenting them 10 piasters each, which the addicts take and go to the Drug Addicts Treatment Society.

The question is: Why shouldn't these clubs be annexed to the society to strengthen its activity and to increase its budget at the same time?

If we examine the number of addicts frequenting the society in a certain year, let us say 1971 when the number was 579 addicts, we find that they included 12 unemployed, 61 white collar workers, 83 carpenters, 47 service workers and 200 craftsmen [figures as published]. The areas with high cases were: Shubra with 52 cases, al-Darb al-Ahmar with 31 cases, al-Sayyidah Zaynab with 30 cases, each of al-Wayli and Bulaq with 24 cases and Bab al-Sha'riyah with 21 cases.

As for the ages of those frequenting the society, the highest percentage of addicts was in the 40-50 year age group, then the 50-60 group, then the 30-40 group. The lowest percentage was among ages 70 and above.

Naturally, a big change has happened in this age distribution as a result of the spread of new modern drugs, such as injections and pills derived from hashish and opium which are spread among the youth in particular at present.

Latest Case

The latest addict to visit the society did so on 15 November 1978. He is 40 years old and from al-Qammanah village in Naj' Haradi. He came to Cairo without the knowledge of his family and is currently staying at his own

expense in a hotel for a period that may last a month or more. This addict came to know of the society through a friend of his who was also an addict. He works in trade and agriculture in his village and is married and has six children. His monthly income amounts to 150 pounds of which he spends 105 pounds on his drugs: 75 pounds for opium, 15 pounds for hashish and 15 pounds for cigarettes.

He takes three doses of opium daily by mouth and smokes hashish once daily, using a water pipe. He has been a hashish addict for 15 years and opium addict for 10 years.

The reasons for his taking drugs were sexual weakness, even though he has six children. The results of his physical checkup showed that he has bilharzia, an ulcer, proctitis, sexual impotence and psychological disturbance.

This is the latest case to come to the society.

Muhammad 'Abdallah, the society's social worker, says that the income of 90 percent of the addicts is not in proportion to what they spend [on drugs]. This is why some of them resort to crooked means to get money, especially borrowing, selling house furniture and theft when things get really rough. Ninety percent of the addicts use drugs for sexual reasons.

Solution in Tax

The solution, according to Maj Gen Sami Ahmad himself, can be achieved only by treating the addicts and preventing others from joining their ranks. This admission by the top official in charge of drug control has a major and clear significance. It urges us to speed up the establishment of hospitals for the treatment of addicts, to supply them with equipment and resources and to open branches for them in all governorates of the republic so that an addict may not have to come from Aswan or al-Daqahliyah to be treated in Cairo, for example.

On the other hand, a 1 percent tax can be levied on each bottle of whiskey or alcohol for the treatment of drug addicts. The revenues from such a tax will be large, naturally. The sums made from the sale of seized opium, or part of it, to the drug companies may also be used for this purpose.

These resources, in addition to the cooperation of the various companies and agencies and their aid to the hospitals to realize this message, can contribute toward solving this issue. This is in addition to the state's fundamental participation. Meetings must also be held in factories and other work places to explain to the workers the benefits accruing to the individual and to society from avoiding the use of drugs. At the same time, the addicts must be treated without being made to feel ashamed. Each establishment should take care of treating its addicts. All this requires great information efforts on the part of the press, the television and the radio.

The bitter fact of which we are aware is that addiction is widespread among the workers to help them keep awake and increase their activity. Even though the wages of some categories of workers range from 5 to 8 pounds daily, the addicts among them spend this money on their pleasures and addiction. The Ministry of Health must also participate effectively in this regard, and the drug companies should supply the Drug Addicts Treatment Society with medicines to treat the addicts. The Ministry of Social Affairs should also prepare programs to rehabilitate the addicts. With these and other means, we will save our society from this destructive disease.

8494
CSO: 5300

CYPRUS

BRIEFS

DRUG CARRYING FREIGHTER IN PORT--The freighter which was apprehended in New York harbour with a haul of 40 million dollars worth of hashish did stop at Cyprus, but it was only in January last and at the time of its two week stay it was anchored off Larnaca harbour. According to New York despatches the freighter, under a Liberian flag with a crew of seven, three Germans and four Americans, had arrived from Cyprus. After investigation here it was confirmed that the freighter "Olaug" did stay off Larnaca for two weeks from 7 to 23 in January. It entered harbour only twice, once to take on water supplies and refuel and the second time for water only. It had arrived from Cadiz in Spain and declared it had no cargo to unload and did not take on any load. When it left on January 23 the captain, a German did not declare the next port of call, saying they would receive instructions from the owners while at sea. Cyprus authorities had observed nothing suspicious about the ship while it was outside the harbour or when it entered the harbour on the two occasions. According to Cyprus records, the vessel was at the time found to be registered in the Cayman islands. [Text] [Nicosia CYPRUS MAIL in English 21 Mar 79 p 1 NC]

CSO: 5300

DENMARK

SEVEN ICELANDERS ARRESTED IN LARGEST COCAINE SEIZURE

Reykjavik MORGUNBLADID in Icelandic 6 Mar 79 p 3

[Text] Seven Icelanders and a Hungarian fugitive have been ordered into custody in the wake of the investigation of one of the biggest narcotics cases in Denmark. They were arrested in the "Five Swans" Hotel on Asinge Street in Copenhagen, and narcotics worth about 5 million Danish kroner or the equivalent of about 310 million Icelandic kroner on the black market in Denmark, were found in their possession. Several other items were found among their belongings, such as a loaded revolver in the possession of an Icelandic couple who were arrested, and about 13 million kroner in cash. As mentioned above, this is one of the biggest narcotics cases ever in Denmark, and the narcotics police in Copenhagen has never seized a larger amount of cocaine, 485 grams.

It was by sheer accident that police got on the right track last Friday night. The police got a phone call at around 2000 hours complaining about noise from a room in the "Five Swans" Hotel. The caller also mentioned that he suspected that hashish was being smoked in the room.

A group of policemen arrived on the spot and arrested first a 27-year old Hungarian who has no passport. They searched the room and found 400 grams of cocaine, half a kilogram of hashish and 70,000 Danish kroner, in addition to two passports. One was Finnish and the other was Swedish, and both had a picture of the Hungarian. They also found a piece of paper which gave police directions to room number 141/142 in the same hotel, where they arrested a 25-year old woman and a man of the same age. They searched the room and found 50 grams of cocaine, 300 grams of hashish and 80 grams of amphetamines in various places, for example behind the toilet tank. The woman had a valuable gold ring in her possession, but she asserts that it belongs to an Icelandic who was staying at the same hotel.

During the search a 28-year old Icelandic came for a visit, and they found half a gram of cocaine on his person, which he said he had just bought in Christiania.

More people came in while the police were searching the hotel room. An Icelandic couple came by with hashish worth 600 kronur. They said they had gone to Christiania to buy it, while their child, who is in a cradle, had been in the care of the woman in the aforementioned room.

All these people were arrested, and the police then went to the room of the owner of the gold ring, number 207/208 in the hotel, where they arrested another Icelandic couple, who had hidden 19 grams of cocaine and a briefcase containing Danish and Swedish money totaling 215,000 Danish kronur. In addition, they found a 7.65 caliber revolver, a mink coat worth 50,000 Danish kronur and jewelry valued at 90,000 kronur. They also found many scales with weights in the room.

The arrested individuals have all been subpoenaed for narcotics trafficking. Four of them were ordered into custody for 27 days; one for 7 days; two for 6 days and one for 3 days.

"This indicates that cocaine is gaining momentum on the domestic market," said Mogens Lundh, a police detective in Copenhagen. "The people in custody have clearly been dealing in cocaine worth hundreds of thousands of kronur. We never seized so much cocaine at one time, since usually people of a lower profile use this drug. Cocaine is a stimulant and increases the sexual drive. It does not dull the senses as does, for example, heroine."

As far as we know, the Icelanders deny owning any of the large quantity of cocaine which has been found. One of the Icelanders admitted that he bought about 20 grams of cocaine and that he uses it. He said he bought it from a stranger. Investigations of the matter will continue in full force.

"We have not been contacted in regard to this case," Gudmundur Gigja, a police official at the Narcotics Department of the Reykjavik police, said in a conversation with MORGUNBLADID yesterday.

"We have suspected that a group of Icelanders was involved in a large-scale narcotics trade in Copenhagen," Gigja said, adding: "We gave the narcotics police in Copenhagen the information we had gathered, but I do not know if it has been of help in this case. It is no secret that the police authorities in the Scandinavian countries have close cooperation and exchange information that they think might be of help."

Yesterday, MORGUNBLADID contacted Thorleif Thorlacius, the secretary of the Icelandic Embassy in Copenhagen, who said that no one had been in touch with the embassy in connection with this case and that the Icelanders had not asked the embassy personnel for help. He said that he had called the police Narcotics Department on Sunday morning, when he read about the case in the papers, and that he had gained information on how things were going. Furthermore, he said that the court which orders the Icelanders

into custody last Sunday, had also ordered a number of Danish lawyers to handle their case.

Thorlacius said in conclusion that the Danish press had reported on this news item both on Sunday and on Monday.

8743
CSO: 5300

DENMARK

NARCOTICS POLICE OFFICIAL DISCUSSES HARD DRUGS SCENE

Copenhagen BERLINSKE TIDENDE in Danish 10 Feb 79 p 5

/Text/ "There has been a considerable shift in the clientele receiving drugs abroad with a view to sale in Denmark. At the end of the 1960's the large dealers in hashish were mainly the children of well-to-do people, but today, now that harder drugs have come on the market, it has spread to all levels of society, because there is easy money to be had by the sale of deadly dangerous drugs," said Police Inspector Mikael Lyngbo, deputy chief in the Narcotics Police judicial section.

Mikael Lyngbo also said that it is known that hard drugs are pouring in but that the total amount cannot be easily determined.

Number of Those Addicted to Injecting Drugs not Known

"We can develop many theories, but as long as we do not know how many people there are who are addicted to injecting drugs in Denmark, we cannot determine how large a percentage is being confiscated."

It is known that there are between 5,000 and 10,000 addicts in Denmark and if they all must have a fix each day, which means a half a gram, this would be a total of between 2 and 5 kilograms of drugs at a black market price of 1,000 to 10,000 kroner per gram.

"The big problem for the narcotics police is that there are many people who cynically exploit those who misuse the dangerous drugs. It is a temptation for many weak souls to start a career of crime with quickly and easily earned money from the narcotics trade.

The clientele that we have arrested under suspicion in narcotics cases also shows clearly that all levels of society and gradually also all age groups from the 20's on up are represented," Mikael Lyngbo said.

Information on the Risk

"We often discuss the problem, and we believe that there is a danger in giving too much information about the fact that there are new and dangerous materials on the way. We must realize that there are those cynical types in narcotics crime who will not shrink at anything to make money on the unhappiness of others.

These people will try to make money at every opportunity, no matter what the cost in human life," Lyngbo said.

There are no addicts who want to help find the main man behind the trade. They think of the seller of the drugs as a saving angel who can help them out of their misery and need for the drugs.

There are very few addicts who consider themselves to be victims of cynical criminals. The only time they get angry is when they must pay too much for the drugs," Lyngbo said.

Cooperation between users and police is therefore bad.

9124
CSO: 5300

NORWAY

CUSTOMS NARCOTICS SEIZURES REACH RECORD IN 1978

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 7 Feb 79 p 3

[Text] The Customs Service confiscated 28.7 kilos of hashish and marijuana in 1978. That is a considerable increase from the previous year when 16 kilos of the cannabis substances were seized. In 1976 Norwegian customs seized 5.6 kilos.

Customs director, Jens Sterri, informs ARBEIDERBLADET that the statistics from 1978, which are now available, tell us that 54 tablets and 136 grams of amphetamines were seized, compared to 62 tablets and 74.6 grams in 1977.

In 1978 there were 139 seizures of narcotic substances, i.e. almost double to the year before. The Customs director explains these facts with the srrong increase of inspections by the Customs Service. These seizures are in addition to those made by the police.

Most of the seizures by the Customs Service were made on ferries between Oslo-Kristiansand and Larvik-Horten. A considerable amount was confiscated at the airports of Gardermoen, Forneby, Stavanger, Kristiansand and Bodo. Some were also seized on boat inspections, in the mails and on train-and car inspections. Up to now there has been no statistical information as to the nationalities of the smugglers, nor the age-group they belong to, but this is presently being considered.

"Our best resource in tracking down narcotics are the 'drug-dogs' with their guides. About half of the seizures last year were made with the aid of dogs trained to track down narcotics. The Customs Service has a total of 8 such dogs distributed between Oslo, Bergen, Stavanger, Kristiansand and Orje." Director Sterri states that the Customs Service will tighten up the control of drugs even further, especially at airport and on ferries.

9349
CSO: 5300

NORWAY

'SNIFFING' BECOMES NEWEST YOUTH DRUGS PROBLEM

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 13 Feb 79 p 14

[Report on Interview: "A Bright Spot Every Time it Ends Well"]

[Text] The 17-year old who sits in front of me next to police officer Tormod Boe in the district's police station is a gentle and open young man. But--as he himself says--he is also rather nervous about having to talk about himself. Let us call him Petter.

"I can thank Boe for the fact that I'm sitting here. He was the one who helped me get away from the sniffing culture, and he was the one who got me a job and a room when I was thrown out from home." Petter's story comes across in a powerful and painful way as he tells it here in the office of the new police building. One's thoughts automatically go out to all the children and young people one has encountered in the areas near the subway, all reeking from the odor of sniffing. How does the whole thing actually get started?

As far as Petter is concerned, it started when he was 16 years old, and a friend urged him to try the effect of inhaling the fume from contact glue in a paper bag.

"In the beginning I found it disgusting. Couldn't get my breath. But when I got high it was exactly as if I heard a sound in my head. Then I began to laugh and after that I was completely out. I didn't remember anything more until I came to again in a totally different place. Then I had a sore throat and I felt dizzy. That's how it went each time. It was exactly as if I were dreaming, and each time I began to laugh a lot. By the way, it wasn't always that enjoyable in the land of dreams. It also happened that I had nightmares and someone knifed me. But when I woke up again I would only remember a flashback from my dream.

No Desire

"Actually I didn't want to sniff, but I still continued to do it. After a couple of months I was arrested by the police. At that time I lived at home and the police called home and said that I had been sniffing.

Someone at work had also seen me in town when I was high and had called my home. After all, I had been absent from my job and when I showed up one day I was fired."

"I had smoked hashish a couple of times before I started sniffing, and when I had been sniffing for about three months I tried hashish again. The high it produces is completely different and easier to describe than the high produced by sniffing. You drift into the high produced by hashish while laughing at all kinds of things that are nothing to laugh at."

[Question] How did you get money for drugs?

[Answer] I knew a few girls working the street and they gladly treated me to a joint. Or I would get a day's work in between and get some money that way. Sometimes you could only get three joints for a hundred crowns, whereas other times you might get twice that amount. Then we started to shoot it, i.e. we began to inject it. I got it from a girl I knew. I laughed from that too--but in a different way--an awfully strained laugh. We would walk quickly, then sit down, but we couldn't sit very long, we'd begin walking again, and that's what we kept on doing for the 6-8 hours while the high lasted.

Pills from the Doctor

"I also tried amphetamines, valium and other tranquilizers. We got those from a doctor. I was in touch with several doctors. My friends would wait outside while I was in the doctor's office. I said I was nervous. Of course I was a little nervous, but I made it out to be worse than it was. So I would get a prescription for 50 or 100 tablets which I shared with the others. We got high from the pills, but it wasn't a pleasant high."

"I was thrown out from home after making a racket when I had been sniffing. I thought that was wrong. But I had so much trouble with my old man that they couldn't take it any more at home. I was very sorry after each time we had trouble. Oh yes, I've been quite a troublemaker. I started to make trouble even in first grade. I never did like school very much, and it didn't like me to well either."

[Question] But don't you know that often the guys who turn out best are the ones who were troublemakers in school?

[Answer] I don't see myself as one of the best--yet. But I'm still happy to have a job that I like. And there isn't going to be any more sniffing and foolishness.

Petter remembers more: "I was sleeping outside for three months last summer before I stayed with someone else in the group. Then I got to know Boe and others of the district police.--But now it's your turn to tell,

Tormod, because I don't remember," says Petter to police officer Boe. And Boe describes how he found Petter as deep in the dumps as you can get after a high. He just barely got him inside the office at the police station. There the boy threw himself on the floor crying as though his heart would break. Gradually he collected himself enough to engage in a conversation, among other things for example, the health aspects and damage to the kidneys. At that time he had severe pain in his kidneys.

On the Right Track

"Then I began to straighten out more and more," Petter interrupts. "But I didn't stop sniffing altogether. I was in contact with people at the Child Welfare Council. I received 40 crowns a day from them for food expenses. If I was high I didn't get anything. During that entire period I kept in touch with Boe who made an appointment for me with a doctor. I was worried about my kidneys because I had lots of pain. Fortunately there was nothing wrong, but the doctor told me that I was well on the way to destroying my kidneys, especially because of the sniffing."

"This was the turning point for me. And I have to thank Boe for that. He got me a job at a place where he told them all about me. He also got me a room, and later on he made it possible for me to move back home. I am really happy about that. It's much better to live at home than in a rented room, even if it's like living at a hotel in many ways, where one is awakened in the morning and eats and sleeps. As a rule I'm home around ten o'clock at night and I'm very busy in a club I've joined. Now I've had a steady job for four months and I've cut all ties with the old environment. Never again will there be sniffing or joints for me."

Sorry for the Others

[Question] How do you react when you see others sniffing?

[Answer] I feel sorry for them. I have many friends who have come into this environment without sniffing, but who also now are into that. It seems so easy to do. But fortunately, I have a chance to pound into the heads of a few of them just how silly it is to play around with that stuff. I feel it's revolting to have to take that odor when I enter the subway station where they are sniffing. But I don't think that people should demonstratively turn away or make gibes at them. They don't need to get involved in the affairs of the young people. I don't preach to them, but several times I've said how stupid it is what they are doing.

[Question] But do you understand how difficult it is many times for those who work on the subway? Could you see yourself working there?

[Answer] No, I could never do that. But there are differences among those who work down there too. Once an inspector told me that we could stay there if we didn't make a racket and disturb the public. Then nobody made a fuss.

[Question] But what about when young people come into shops and threaten those that work there with knives?

[Answer] Oh yes, of course I understand that they become fearful. I don't defend anything like that.

Somebody Cares for Them

[Question] Do you feel that anyone is concerned about the young people who are caught up in the sniffing environment?

[Answer] "The district police cares about them. All who want to can get help there. But you have to want to get out of that environment yourself. The longer you stay with it the harder it gets. It's no use to say: 'I'll stop tomorrow.' You have to stop all at once. I used to say to myself for a long time that I was going to stop, but not today. That's no use. But I can thank Boe that things went so well for me, and I'm happy to stay in touch with him."

The future looks bright to Petter. He has a job he likes. But he finds that he doesn't have enough knowledge in mathematics, so now he intends to catch up in nightschool so that he can get his graduation certificate from junior highschool. He dropped out right away after the 8th grade.

[Question] How does a police officer feel when everything works out well with one of his "cases?"

[Answer] "These are the bright spots. It helps one to start with renewed energy in dealing with other young people. I don't believe it's as hopeless a task as it is made out to be by many. In any case, it's worth a try to get young people on the right track. But in order to achieve better results we need more people, and above all a more extensive cooperation between the different agencies who work in this field. We all work toward the same goal. The fact that we are policemen should not be a barrier to cooperate fully with us," says police officer Tormod Boe.

9349
CSO: 5300

SPAIN

BRIEFS

HASHISH SHIPMENT SEIZED--A haul of 115 kg of hashish resin, worth 11.5 million pesetas, has been discovered by the civil guard on the coast near Algeciras. Two Moroccan subjects have been arrested in connection with the drugs. [Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Mar 79 LD]

CSO: 5300

TURKEY

'HURRIYET' ON FORMER DEPUTY'S INVOLVEMENT IN HEROIN CASE

Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 25 Mar 79 pp 1, 11 NC

[Excerpts] The sad incident involving a former deputy has assumed new proportions following a statement by the prime minister's office confirming and explaining the incident. It has also assumed new proportions following reports that the Germans are not passing information to the Turkish police because of mistrust and following a statement by National Salvation Party [NSP] leader Necmettin Erbakan to the effect that "certain persons may have been involved in certain acts." The Turkish Government has already sent a special official to the FRG to investigate the incident and to "show its sensitivity." The Germans, however, are not passing information to the Turkish police to enable the Turkish branch of the heroin smuggling network to be uncovered. Even so, HURRIYET correspondents have managed to learn the names of seven members of the "former deputy gang." Of these, Suleyman Tanriverdi has been reported missing by his family for the past 4 months. His family said that Tanriverdi has been seen driving luxury cars recently.

According to reports from HURRIYET correspondents in the FRG, Istanbul and Ankara the "heroin gang" incident stands as follows:

In the FRG, former NSP deputy Halit Kahraman, who was caught with 7.5 kilograms of heroin in his possession, reportedly faces a jail sentence of 10 years. It is understood that Halit Kahraman--whose heroin is worth 200 million Turkish liras on the market--and four of his friends had links with a 17-man gang in the FRG which was captured earlier.

Despite the efforts of the West German police to keep the names of the smugglers secret, the culprits are being revealed one by one. It has been learned that a person named Hasan Alagoz, a resident of Gaziantep, is among those captured. It has also been reported that Hasan Alagoz entered the FRG as a tourist.

7

It has been reported that Halit Kahraman and his friends intended to take the heroin in their possession to Frankfurt and Stuttgart. American troops stationed in these areas reportedly pay high prices for these drugs.

It has been determined that the Turks who brought the heroin to the FRG are collaborating with Germans. The German smugglers are helping the marketing of the drugs.

It has been understood that West German legal authorities are not publicizing the names of those captured because they do not trust certain people in the Turkish branch of INTERPOL and because they fear that certain contacts of gang may escape. As a result of the insistence of the HURRIYET correspondents, the FRG narcotics bureau chiefs revealed the following names only: Halit Kahraman, Metin Suleyman Tanriverdi, Hasan Alagoz, Cahit Munir, Ismail Kal and Mustafa Sari.

The West German branch of INTERPOL did not give these names to the Turkish branch of INTERPOL. Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit is the only one who was secretly informed of the incident.

Meanwhile, NSP leader Necmettin Erbakan, in a press conference yesterday, said that the "NSP is the cleanest party," Erbakan said:

"Even if certain individuals have been involved in certain acts, it is extremely vile to even remotely link the acts of such persons--on the basis of Greek press reports and for certain known motives--with the NSP, which is the cleanest institution in this nation. No one must be a tool in such tricks.

CSO: 5300

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000100040009-7

4 APRIL 1979

() 15/79

2 OF 2

TURKEY

BRIEFS

HASHISH SEIZED--Thirteen kilos of processed hashish were found in the Aleppo-Haydarpasa passenger train. The market value of the hashish is 558,000 Turkish liras. It was found in the suitcase of a Syrian during a search of the train in Gazinatep's Islahiye district. The Syrian was taken into custody. [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1000 GMT 8 Mar 79 TA] A total of 5 and 1/2 kilos of powder hashish has been seized during searches conducted by narcotics units in Samsun and Konya. One revolver and 4 and 1/2 kilos of powder hashish were found in a taxi near a Samsun cemetery. Three persons were taken into custody and another person is being sought in connection with the incident. Another kilo of powder hashish was found during a search of a house in Konya. One person was taken into custody. [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1500 GMT 8 Mar 79 TA]

CSO: 5300

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

HEATHROW DRUG FIND—A suitcase containing hashish and heroin valued at more than 500,000 pounds, has been found at Heathrow by Customs, it was disclosed yesterday. The suitcase was discovered on Sunday in the unclaimed luggage office at No. 2 Terminal and a watch was kept on it by Customs but no one had claimed it by yesterday. The drugs, nine kilogrammes of hashish and three of heroin, valued at more than 1/2 million pounds at street level, had been flown in on a Turkish Airlines flight from Ankara. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 14 Mar 79 p 1]

CSO: 5320

WEST GERMANY

BERLIN COLLECTIVE BEGUN IN EARLY 70'S HELPS ADDICTS

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 22 Jan 79 p 11

[Article by Thomas Michelsen]

[Text] A self-governing collective for addicts is one of the most successful projects for treating narcotic addicts, particularly heroin users, in West Berlin. There are not any educated experts in the traditional sense at this collective, no doctors, psychiatrists or social workers. Instead you find here the accumulated experience of the addicts themselves in regard to narcotics and misuse.

Here narcotic addicts break the habit without the help of medicines or other drugs. Thus, the only thing available is the support of the collective.

This collective was formed at the beginning of the 70's. Now, it has two large houses in West Berlin and an old mansion in one of the few green suburbs of West Berlin. At the moment 44 people live at the collective, including six children. Over the years about 500 people have been at the collective and lived there for short or long periods.

In the beginning it was called "Release" but later it was renamed to "Synanon." But it is, however, only this name which the collective has in common with a movement of the same name in the USA.

Self-Governing

The fact that the collective is self-governing does not mean that ever one is in on the decision-making. Quite the contrary, there is a distinct hierarchy. Those who came first are the leaders in the collective.

Discussions in the collective take place in the form of a kind of "game" which occur regularly three times a week. During these "games" anyone can criticize anyone.

The rules in the collective are strict. All drugs, without exception, are forbidden; no alcohol or tobacco is allowed. An individual who joins the collective must sever contacts with all previous acquaintances, family and relatives for a long time. In the beginning the new recruit can not go out without being accompanied by another member of the collective.

The system can, of course, be regarded as compulsion, but also a prop which narcotic addicts need in order to break away from the narcotic environment. The big problem is of course not detoxification. The difficult problem is rather to prevent relapse, keeping people from getting into the same situation again.

Participation in the Synanon collective is, however, voluntary. Anyone who does not like the rules can leave.

Apprentice

Ralph Wilk is one of those who has been in the collective a long time. He was an apprentice in an electrical firm before he started with hash and later went over to heroin. He took injections for half a year before he became completely ensnared. He continued for four years—with constant unsuccessful efforts to stop.

He tried various hospitals. But that was the worst, for there he was completely surrounded by drugs. It was a continual temptation. He lost confidence in social workers. They offer only encouraging words and promises.

By chance he heard about the collective and decided to try there. Here they did not take seriously the agony of detoxification, abstinence, so seriously. Here everyone had been through it and knew it wasn't so bad. All know that addicts put on an act in order to get help from the doctor.

He who wants to be admitted into the collective must come sober to a reception interview. There he must promise to follow the rules of the collective. And he has to have his hair cut off. Big manes of hair are a kind of status symbol. The collective maintains that the person who is not ready to sacrifice the beauty of his hair in order to end his dependence upon narcotics doesn't really wish to be free from addiction.

Close Cut

Ralph Wilk says that "in the beginning only new people cut their hair short. But then we wondered why we who had been here longer should be treated differently. Now we all have short hair. Perhaps it looks strange, but it is not important. In time perhaps we shall let our hair grow."

The collective is on the whole self-supporting. Only 20 percent of the cost is received from the city of West Berlin.

"Actually the authorities wanted to give us more. But we don't want it. We don't want to give up our independence," Wilk says.

The collective earns money from a trucking firm with several vehicles. In addition there is a small print shop where brochures, newspapers and forms are printed. A carpenter shop will be established soon. The first permanent member of the staff, a master carpenter who can provide vocational training for the members of the collective, is expected shortly.

In everything else they have managed on their own. For example the person responsible for the off-set printing learned the skill on his own.

Dormitories

In its houses the collective lives partly in dormitories and partly in familyrooms. In the beginning up to 18 people lived in a single dormitory, and in the first house, an old factory, there was only one shower.

Over the years the collective has grown to include several houses, its own well-equipped office, careful book-keeping for the print shop and trucking business.

But Synanon is an exception in the treatment of drug addition in West Berlin. Most efforts are largely financed with public funds. These involve different types of therapy groups and of course beds at most clinics for detoxification and psychiatric care.

6893
CSO: 5300

END

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

April 10, 1979

TL

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000100040009-7

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000100040009-7