

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000200040029-4

10 JANUARY 1980

(FOUO 2/80)

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JPRS L/8862

10 January 1980

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 2/80)



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WORLDWIDE REPORT
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
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AUSTRALIA

'HEROIN PLAGUE' REPORTED TO AFFECT AUSTRALIA

Melbourne THE AGE in English 30 Oct 79 p 9

[Part Two of a series, "The Menace of Narcotics", by John Shaw]

[Text]

THE dimensions of the heroin threat facing Australia can be measured by a single statistic: so far this year seizures of the drug here are comparable to those in West Germany where there is a heroin "plague".

In the first nine months of this year West German authorities seized 116 kilograms of heroin, in a nation of 61 million.

In the same period 26 kilograms were seized in Australia, population 14 million.

West Germany has relatively short, heavily policed borders, but massive daily movements of people and freight make thorough surveillance against smuggling difficult.

Australia has long, lightly policed frontiers with comparatively few main entry points, but with thousands of kilometres of remote coast open to smuggling.

Heroin seizures in West Germany this year are greater than those in all other West European countries combined.

Since seizures are considered by narcotics agents everywhere to be an indication of the rate of undetected illegal importation, and thus use, of heroin, Australia's situation looks as alarming as that of Bonn.

Erich Strass, chief of Bonn's Federal narcotics office said recently: "We must put the drug danger on the same level with the terrorist danger. Otherwise we will be overwhelmed in a year or two."

Heroin, to West Germans, is more deadly than terrorists, at

least in casualty rates. Last year there were 430 known heroin overdose deaths in West Germany, one for every 100 known addicts.

West German narcotics officials were reported recently as saying, "Most of our people and politicians have not yet realised the danger, but the situation is almost out of hand."

They calculate that West Germany now has more heroin addicts than the United States, which has a population almost four times greater. The German death rate from heroin has increased eightfold in eight years.

In Australia, heroin offences last year jumped 40 per cent to 3250. This is a twentyfold increase in 10 years, a threefold increase in less than four years (the total in 1975 was 915).

The heroin component of known drug offences and of recorded drug offenders is growing rapidly.

The statistics apparently reflect some social and police tolerance of cannabis offences and police emphasis on heroin investigations.

For instance, overall drug offences and offender totals have fallen over the past two years while heroin offences and seizures have been rising substantially.

Last year, overall drug offences fell 12 per cent to 19,000. The number of known offenders dropped 17 per cent to about 10,000. Nobody, including narcotics squads, believes cannabis use has declined significantly, but known marijuana offences fell last year from more than 13,000 to about 9000.

Police are increasingly disinclined to pursue individual, personal offences involving "soft" drugs.

This social attitude to personal use of marijuana continues to evolve. This could lead to a stage in which the use of heroin, or perhaps cocaine, is more likely. That at least is the way the statistics, imperfect as they are, are pointing.

In 1977, one tenth of known drug offences involved heroin. In 1978 it was one sixth.

This may simply indicate more police efficiency in pursuit of heroin users. More likely, part of the increase is attributable to growth in heroin use.

These indications of a growing market in Australia for heroin are matched by evidence collected by the Narcotics Bureau, and others, of the existence of highly organised, lavishly financed professional heroin smuggling groups.

The 14 kilogram heroin cache seized in the port of Fremantle this month would have required a cash investment of at least \$150,000 (gambled against a 1300 per cent profit).

Since heroin is more expensive, more profitable, and far less bulky in terms of value and smuggling risks than cannabis, it is the ideal investment drug for professional criminals and their financiers. A courier's pocketful of heroin is worth far more than a suitcase of cannabis products.

"The most financially profitable of all human enterprises," is the description of the economics of heroin given by Dr. Alfred McCoy, an American scholar now

teaching in Sydney. He has just completed a book on organized crime in Australia; his previous work was 'The Politics of Heroin in South-East Asia'.

He is pessimistic about the impact on the heroin traders of Australia's new drug penalties and police powers, including life sentences, seizure of traffickers' assets, phone tapping and other electronic surveillance.

He says there is now so much money involved — the Narcotics Bureau itself estimates profits in the multi-millions — that traffickers can buy enough legal and police protection to stay at least one stride in the lead.

The specialist narcotics investigators, Federal and State, do not dismiss this, although they paint a somewhat less sinister picture.

They point to recent actions by police prosecutors and some magistrates in which connivance with drug criminals is among the possible explanations for surprising leniency or acquittals.

However, they point to the steeply rising graph line of punishments for drug convictions, particularly heroin.

Ten years ago, heroin trafficking offences brought up to two years' jail. Today a sentence of 10 years is more likely; in-

deed the Commonwealth would appeal against any sentence much shorter than that. The average heroin sentence is likely to be even longer as the mandatory life sentence for handling the largest amounts comes into operation.

Narcotics agents are still disturbed and questioning about the attitude of many courts to bail for drug traders.

Too often, they say, the bail sums bear no relationship to the value of the drugs at issue in the charge — or to the finance available to people handling narcotics of such value.

Since 1972, more than 170 alleged drug offenders have forfeited bail and absconded. More than 100 remain at large.

The courts seem to have learned little from this. For instance, in Melbourne recently a man charged with possessing half a kilo of number four heroin — the injecting type, of great purity — worth at least \$35,000 at street level was given bail of \$5000. He absconded just before committal for trial.

In Sydney last month a man charged with possession of 10 kilos of hashish oil, also worth more than \$30,000, was given bail of \$2000. Almost inevitably, he absconded.

Given the ease with which false passports can be obtained

in Australia, both could be over-seas by now.

Narcotics agents say the frequency of such cases shows how much money is available to rescue arrested traffickers. It also indicates the determination of their financiers to remove them from situations in which fear of imprisonment may lead them to seek lesser charges by giving evidence against their principals.

Thus, higher bail could be used as an intelligence tool — if the courts changed their generally lenient bail policies. Many magistrates would not consider that a healthy practice.

Another indicator from the courts of the finance behind the drug rings is known as the resistance factor. "When the QCs start coming in you know you are nearer the top and nearer the truth," is one agent's rule of thumb in major cases.

The briefing of expensive counsel, sometimes for weeks, on behalf of drug defendants who, ostensibly, cannot afford them, is a sign of the times in the emerging battle over organized narcotics crimes in Australia.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

RESEARCHER EXAMINES PROBLEMS OF HEROIN IN AUSTRALIA

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 27-28, 29, 30 Oct 79

[Excerpts from the book, "Heroin in Australia", by David Hirst]

[27-28 Oct 79, Supp. p 1]

[Text] [THE AUSTRALIAN editorial note: " 'Heroin in Australia', published this week by Quartet Books, is the first detailed study of the medical, legal and social attitudes to heroin addiction in this country. David Wilson has selected extracts from author David Hirst's shattering analysis of the heroin problem--an industry that potentially is one of the greatest threats to the social structure of Australia in the eighties. In this first extract the author--a Melbourne freelance journalist--examines the extent of heroin usage (there are an estimated 40,000 addicts and as many as 100,000 users) and the growth of the 'industry.']

IN THE seven years to 1979 Australia experienced an explosion in the use and availability of heroin: the problem has now reached epidemic proportions and there is no sign of it declining.

While the figures and estimates of heroin use are notoriously unreliable there can be no doubt that tens of thousands of Australians are addicted to or take heroin.

The only completely reliable figures are the numbers of arrests each year for offences involving heroin and these (compiled in the yearly Statistical Survey of the Commonwealth Police) indicate a minimum of 20,000 addicts up to 1977. The increases in charges rose by 48 per cent in 1973, 48 per cent in 1974, 178 per cent in 1975, 113 per cent in 1976 and 20 per cent in 1977. In 1977 2346 charges involving heroin offences were reported to the Commonwealth Police.

NSW health authorities estimate that there are at least 10,000 addicts in that State alone.

This figure is believed by many to be conservative. Victoria's addict population has always been lower than that of NSW, although a survey in September 1978 (Irving Saulwick and Associates) revealed that as many as 11,000 Victorians were using heroin at that time.

No one has any idea of the extent of addiction but a guestimate of 40,000 addicts throughout Australia would not be unreasonable. For each addict it can be assumed that there are up to six non-addict users and it seems likely that hundreds of thousands of Australians have at least tried heroin. Ten years ago such a situation would have seemed a nightmarish impossibility: today heroin use is part of our way of life.

Almost every day Australian newspapers report the deaths of addicts, arrests for trafficking or possession, seizures of heroin, and chemist and bank holdups pulled by addicts to pay for their habit. The drug problem has provoked three royal commissions and an indeterminate number of inquiries in the past few years.

To understand how Australia became such a rich and easy target for heroin we have to go

Back more than a decade to a time when words like marijuana and heroin were foreign to most Australians who, if indeed they ever thought of them, associated them with American ghettos and black jazzmen.

By the time the Haight Ashbury phenomena of the mid sixties hit Australia it was apparent to any kid with a half-decent record player that marijuana and LSD were essential ingredients to effective opposition of war, materialism, mum and dad, the law, the Establishment and just about everything that existed prior to their coming of age.

Australian musicians had nothing like the talent and technological facilities of their American and English counterparts at that time and it was inevitable that we accepted our culture from them. By the seventies the trickle of drug culture messages had grown to a flood.

When the drug counter-culture passed away a generation had arrived who knew nothing of consciousness-raising nor that work was considered a four-letter word five years ago. Work was in fact getting hard to find and heroin was readily available.

PERHAPS the turning point in the development of the drug industry in Australia came in Kings Cross in the late 1960s with the arrival of the first of 280,000 American servicemen taking rest and recreation leave (R and R) from the war in Indo-China.

The lowest estimate of American servicemen addicted to heroin is the 5.5 per cent discovered by urine tests of 86,082 servicemen between June 18 and September 10 1971. This figure is thought to be very low because almost every man knew when he would be tested and that he could escape detection by abstaining for 24 to 72 hours before the tests. The figure represents hard-core addicts who could not abstain or did not bother to use the clear heroin available at the time. Other estimates, including those of Congressmen Morgan Murphy and Robert Steel who toured Vietnam at that time, put the number of addicts among the American forces at 10 to 15 per cent and suggest that as many as 40 per cent of the troops were eventually crippled by addiction.

It can therefore be assumed that at least 28,000 of the servicemen who visited Sydney were addicts and there is no reason to believe that

they did not bring heroin to Australia. According to interviews with prostitutes who were working in the Cross during those years, no customs checks were made and many servicemen brought in their own supplies. Because the servicemen gave heroin to prostitutes and to other people they met the supplies they brought with them invariably ran out and to meet the demands of the ready market they provided a system of importation began to develop.

It seems unlikely that Australian troops who fought in Vietnam would have had a similar percentage of men using heroin. Pam Gorrington argues in *Two Faces of Deviance*: "Given the circumstances — a large number of young troops in a strange country, the absence of family, community and employment support systems . . . Given also the intense rivalry between American and Australian troops and the fact that the rivalry peaked when they competed for recreational facilities when on leave, it would be a reasonable assumption that, if the Americans scored, the Australians would see that they did too."

Frank Frost of the federal Parliamentary Library, who visited Vietnam in 1971 and 1972 to study the effects of Australia's commitment, commented: "I think that alcohol was by far the greatest problem. There was also some limited marijuana usage but heroin would have been noticeable. The Australians did not readily adopt American attitudes. The Australians were more materialistic and cynical about their involvement than the Americans, who tended to believe anti-communist rhetoric and then be dismayed to find they were fighting a war against peasants. This, combined with a lack of officer control of the Americans and the greater access they had to the Vietnamese civilian population, meant they were far more susceptible to heroin. Americans would have Vietnamese women living in their camps on a rotating basis, whereas the Australians, particularly at Nui Dat, were largely insulated from the population."

Colonel Murray Taylor, an army public relations officer who served in Vietnam in 1967-8 and again in 1971-2, states that he never observed or heard of a single instance of heroin use by Australian troops, although he was aware of two instances of marijuana use. The army never screened servicemen to detect addicts, nor was there ever a detoxification system as was used in the United States to treat addicts. One can only conclude that there was no need for any such treatment.

It is difficult to escape the conclusion reached by a group of researchers known as the *Ramparts* team after the magazine of that name who investigated heroin use among the middle class in the United States: "Heroin re-

turned from Indo-China to wreak a terrible vengeance on American society." Nor will those reluctant to accept the radical interpretation which the Ramparts team provides find little comfort in James Reston's statement in the *New York Times* that "this (the heroin problem) is one of the tragic consequences of the war where, as in Nikita Krushchev's vivid phrase, 'the living may envy the dead.'"

"I wish organised crime would take over the smack scene in this country. We might get some decent, regular stuff if these hippies were forced out." — a junkie in 1974, before it happened.

BY 1975 the popularity of heroin among Australian youth had become obvious to crime syndicates, and moves were made to increase its usage.

The New South Wales syndicates, although controlling the illicit drug scene in that State, had little influence outside Sydney. Even in Melbourne, a potentially huge market, heroin supplies were irregular, distribution networks were disorganised, and there still existed a large, unorganised marijuana distribution network.

Until the winter of 1976 the Australian distribution of marijuana, outside Sydney, was flourishing on what could be called a corner shop basis. It is becoming increasingly obvious now that most of the supply within Australia came from the Griffith region. Evidence which has emerged since the death of the anti-marijuana campaigner Don McKay leaves little doubt that Griffith was the major centre of the marijuana industry in Australia until about 1977.

Since the major "busts" at Colleambally and other places in the region late in 1976, the marijuana trade has been in a pitiful state. Other evidence, collected from interviews with people who had been associated with large-scale selling of marijuana and who because of the Royal Commission have lost their livelihood and are free to talk, indicates that the source of much bulk marijuana during the boom years of 1974, 1975 and early 1976, was Griffith. The famous Queensland heads, high-quality marijuana which flooded the market during these years, were in fact grown in the Griffith region.

The expression "corner shop" alludes to a distribution system which had evolved since the late 1960s, and which was, until 1976, one of

the remaining aspects of an otherwise disembowelled counter-culture. The dealers had survived for many years through a marijuana haze and perhaps it was their constant indulgence which allowed them to keep some of the counter-culture ideology intact. Dealers worked from their homes (the corner shops). In any suburb there might be a dozen or so dealers supplying twenty to fifty smokers with a few deals a week. Such outlets were relaxed and unsophisticated.

Locked doors were unacceptable and it was considered poor form not to smoke a few joints of the purchased product with the dealer. Credit was liberally given and broken. The dealers would survive, sometimes elegantly, often broke, on a mark-up of about \$10 an ounce. On paper it looked like good money but drug-induced generosity, bad debts and a tendency to consume the profits meant that such dealers rarely moved into the credit-card class.

The increased availability and popularity of heroin caused sharp divisions in the corner shop system. Many dealers considered heroin to be dangerous. Not only were they morally opposed to it but they realised that heroin dealers were never safe from the desperate addict. In the case of marijuana, they rationalised or believed that they were turning on people to something that was socially good and they often justified their involvement on that basis. To them heroin epitomised the worst social forces.

During the spring of 1976 marijuana smokers experienced what had become a tradition in the industry: the end-of-year drought. Because the system of production and distribution was not highly organised, crops maturing in summer would be consumed by the end of the following winter. Supplies would then be short until the new season's crop was harvested after Christmas. Such droughts were the cause of much winging but little discomfort. Wiser and more dedicated smokers put some away for the lean times, and enterprising importers usually timed their arrivals of hashish, hashish oil, Buddha sticks, and imported marijuana to coincide with the drought.

But the spring of 1975 was different to other years. The drought never broke — and in the place of marijuana, heroin was becoming more and more prevalent. Throughout the winter of 1976 organised crime had made its biggest ever move into the drug trade, smashing the corner shops and replacing them with drug supermarkets. Those who refused to become part of the heroin trade had their homes raided by armed hoodlums who beat up and robbed the

dealers, their guests, and, in some instances, their children.

I spoke to a number of corner shop proprietors in Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne. All their accounts were alarmingly similar. In each case a large number of men (up to ten) had arrived at night and terrorised the household for up to an hour. They had knowledge of the activities of the dealers and demanded money and drugs. They raided only dealers who refused to handle heroin and in all cases left threats of what would happen if another deal left the house. Most of the dealers curtailed their activities to supplying close friends or ceased altogether.

These gangs were more active in Melbourne than in Sydney. The drug scene in Sydney has always been more tightly controlled than in Melbourne and the common explanation was that organised crime had moved into heroin and into Melbourne in a big way. A Melbourne barrister, Mr Richard Rickter, who gets much of his work from drug cases, saw it this way:

"This (the raids) was an example of the Sydney takeover. You've got to realise that about six years ago some people in the marijuana scene started to mix with criminals. . . They

saw these people as being a lumpenproletariat group who were particularly oppressed by the police and made scapegoats for any crime that could not be solved.

"So you had the flower-power types, ex-student radicals and small-time dealers, mixing with a tough criminal element. Illegal activities soon came to the attention of criminals who were not turned on. The Sydney scene had been tied up and crims on the outside of things there realised that the lucrative Melbourne market was being run by a bunch of rank amateurs pushing peace, love and happiness. The raids were done either by organising local gangs or bringing ones in to do it. At the same time the massage parlor takeover was being instigated from Sydney and, of course, massage parlors are just as lucrative as smack (heroin) and good places for distribution, so the Sydney boys just moved in and took over."

Sydney criminals managed, in a few months, what various drug squads had attempted to do over years: they smashed the distribution network. Unfortunately, the network of the corner shop was quickly replaced by a supermarket chain whose principal retail line, heroin, was easier to move, more profitable and, most importantly, addictive.

[29 Oct 79, p 7]

[Text] [THE AUSTRALIAN editorial note: "By the time he was 28, journalist David Hirst had seen at least 10 of his close friends become addicted to and die of heroin overdoses.

["He developed a horror of the drug when he witnessed the heroin scene in Canberra during his five years at the Australian National University.

["Partly because of the deaths and personal destruction he had seen heroin cause he decided to find out why Australians were becoming addicted to the drug--the sale of which is probably the most profitable economic activity known to man.

["He set out to find why people became addicted; the role of organised crime in promoting and distributing drugs; what happened to the addicts in the courts and consulting rooms, and whether there was any way of saving young people from the drug.

["In 1976 he began work as a research officer for the Victorian Legislative Council and briefed senior government members on the seriousness of the heroin problem.

["His book, Heroin in Australia, is the product of three years' research. It will be published this week by Quartet books."]

THE association of heroin use with imminent death has created the widespread belief that heroin is extremely dangerous and harmful.

In fact, there are only two known harmful side-effects of the drug, both of which also have medical uses.

It slows involuntary muscle movements, retarding the movement of food through the body, and also restricts respiration.

Opium-based substances (chalk and opium mixture, Dover Powder) have long been used in arresting diarrhoea, and opium-based mixtures are used as cough suppressants.

Heroin's effect of slowing the movement of food through the alimentary canal and its tightening of the sphincter can mean addicts go for weeks, perhaps a month, without bowel function.

The problem of bowel movement is further complicated in withdrawal stages when the body begins to return to normal functioning and rock-hard faeces start to move.

Very little is known about the effect of heroin on the brain and why addiction occurs.

The vague but commonly held belief that addiction is a sign of weakness brought about by the pleasurable effects of the drug is used to justify the use of criminal law against addicts as a form of punishment.

But while psychological reasons are involved in early use of the drug, once addiction sets in the demand is powerfully physiological.

It appears that the human brain produces its own form of heroin, called endomorphines (the generic term for both enkephalins and endomorphines), which are 40 times more powerful than morphine and which act as an analgesic.

The link between endomorphine and heroin addiction seems to be confirmed by the work of a team, led by Dr Solomon Snyder and Dr Candace Bert, at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

They found another drug, naloxone, though almost identical chemically to morphine and heroin, produced none of their effects and in fact worked as an antagonist to these drugs.

Naloxone is now used as an extremely efficient means of reviving people with a heroin overdose.

They decided there must be opiate receptors, specific sites in the brain upon which morphine acts, and set out to find them. Their hypothesis proved correct when substances called enkephalins (from Greek meaning "in the head") were discovered.

They reasoned that if the distribution of the opiate receptor was the same as the distribution of some specific brain property, this property might be found within the areas of the brain involved with the perception of pain.

Dr Snyder states: "Clearly, man was not made with morphine inside him. The existence in all vertebrates of specific opiate receptors strongly indicated the presence of a natural morphine-like substance in the brain, possibly a neuro-transmitter that acts on these sites."

As Ron Hicks, medical correspondent for *The Australian*, wrote, why should the human brain have special

receptors for poppy juice and artificially made drugs?

Dr Snyder commented: "The discovery of endomorphine or enkephalin has suggested how enkephalin-containing neurons might play a role in addiction... under normal conditions, opiate receptors are exposed to a certain basal level of enkephalin."

"Administered morphine binds to usually unoccupied receptors, thereby potentiating the analgesic effect of the enkephalin system. On sustained treatment with morphine, cells which have opiate receptors find themselves overloaded with opiate-like material."

"By some hypothetical neuronal feedback loop a message (is sent) to stop firing and releasing enkephalins. When this happens the receiving cells are exposed only to morphine so that they can tolerate more and more of it to make up for the enkephalins they are no longer receiving."

"When the administration of morphine is stopped, the receptors find themselves with neither morphine nor enkephalins and the result is the withdrawal syndrome."

Dr Snyder also speculates that if the body produces its own analgesic then perhaps we can use that fact to discover a non-addictive analgesic.

After all, he asks, surely man is not addicted to himself?

Or is he? Work at the Californian School of Medical Science which involved the repeated injection of rats with beta-endomorphine produced symptoms of tolerance and dependency.

The extraordinary qualities with which some scientists endow endomorphines will make further investiga-

tion of these substances extremely important in understanding both the effects of narcotics on the brain and the working of the brain itself.

These emerging findings concerning endomorphines may also explain how people are able to withstand pain by means of acupuncture.

When nerve cells are stimulated with needles so as to alter transmitter release, messages are sent to the brain telling it to release endomorphines to kill the pain.

A similar process may occur with meditation, which may somehow stimulate production of endomorphine and thus allow people to do such things as walk over burning coal without feeling pain.

This theory is being explored by Dr Greg Chesher of the pharmacology department at Sydney University.

Theories are also being explored which may prove that

endomorphine production is associated with schizophrenia.

The English psychiatrist, Dr R. D. Laing, has for some time argued that there is a connection between schizophrenia and heroin usage.

Peter Laurie in his definitive work, *Drugs: Medical, Psychological and Social Facts*, describes Dr Laing's work in this area as brilliant.

Studies suggest a person with developing schizophrenia is potentially a pre-addict, that is, he is likely to seek out heroin and if it is available he will probably become addicted.

In this case he would be using heroin as a sort of self-prescribed therapy to repress the emerging conflicts within his personality.

Other scientists have had some success in exploring the link between endomorphine and mental illness, although the relationship is

not proved.

Professor L. M. Gunne, from the psychiatric centre at Uppsala in Sweden, found that all schizophrenics studied had raised endomorphine levels during their illness.

He concluded: "The present observations seem to implicate one or more of the brain endomorphines in mechanisms underlying hallucinations in the case of chronic schizophrenics."

Dr Laing's findings were further supported when it was discovered that drug addicts usually show reduced levels of endomorphines. This may be because the presence of heroin causes the brain to produce less endomorphine, or it may be, as Dr Chesher postulated, that drug addiction is really a shortage of certain molecules in the body.

[30 Oct 79, p 7]

[Text]

TO THE bulk of Australians, the world of crime is a shadowy, vague underground; their only contact with it is through a chance robbery, mugging or false arrest, or through incomplete pictures from the media.

Press reports of jail riots, murders, drug raids and gang war do little to convey to the public the everyday life of those who owe their living to crime.

The people who make up the legal edifice, and whose livelihood is dependent upon illegal activity, include the

lowest pimp and the proudest judge.

Within these social extremes are muggers, addicts, standover men, dealers in all illicit goods, court reporters and clerks, lawyers, barristers and magistrates, QCs and Mr Bigs, constables and chief commissioners, all of whom, from the most wretched to the most eminent, make up part of a structure.

All need one another for their existence.

The nexus, the ground on which these groups come together, is the police force.

The police, in this case the drug police, come into daily contact with informers, pimps and criminals, lawyers and magistrates.

To operate effectively the police must establish a relationship with them all.

With the magistrates, the relationship will be close, almost chummy, based on mutual self-interest.

With the legal profession, it will be a stand-offish, structured antagonism, which outside the court may be mutual respect or dislike.

In relation to the criminal, the police are in a position of power to be exploited at whim or necessity.

The drug squads are in a unique position. They work in an area of unreported crime, which forces them to turn to the most unpleasant of characters, the informer.

They have to rely on the morally obnoxious task of

spying (termed intelligence gathering or surveillance) on fellow citizens.

They come into contact with large amounts of money almost daily. Opportunities for corruption are everywhere and the unsavory nature of those with whom they deal can, in itself, be corrupting.

The Federal Narcotics Bureau has an institutionalised system through which regional commanders have complete personal control over a large slush fund.

The rationale for paying for information is that there is then no obligation toward the informer and, if he commits a crime, it need not be overlooked.

This tends to prevent officers from developing a close relationship with informers, and thereby reduces the possibilities of corruption.

The regional commanders keep a register of all paid informants. The individual agent must provide particulars of the informant (his name and the nature of his information) in order to gain money from the fund.

The fund holds at least \$5000 at any time, and payments to informants are considerable.

Information leading to arrests and the discovery of a sizeable amount of illegal drugs is worth about \$2000 to the informant, while information leading to the collection of further useful information and further arrest is worth \$200.

Just how well this system works is questionable.

That it does not prevent corruption in the Federal Narcotics Bureau became apparent when a former chief narcotics officer in the bureau, Ian Ramsay Brown,

was found guilty, in May 1978, of being knowingly concerned with the importation of narcotics and the theft of \$35,000 worth of hashish from the bureau in Melbourne.

Several other men were arrested with Brown: Robert Leigh, a Victorian ex-policeman was sentenced to seven years; Peter Dawson and Lance McMillan were charged with conspiracy to import narcotics into Australia.

Their trial provided some insights into the nature of the information system and the Federal Narcotics Bureau itself.

Jack Lazarus, defence counsel for Lance McMillan, told the jury that "the department is so degenerated by the system of informers, official and unofficial, paid and unpaid, where they have got to the stage of skulduggery".

Dawson, a registered informant with the bureau, told the jury in an unsworn statement that, "the bureau used me like a rag. When they are finished with you they throw you away".

He said he knew of half a dozen people who were now dead because their covers were "blown".

"The sort of intimidation methods and blackmail they (the FNB) used -- it used to make me sick what they did," he said.

Robert Rickter, acting for Dawson, told the jury his client was all alone, caught between the steamroller of the State and the sharp knives of people outside waiting for him.

Dawson was "trained" by the bureau, paid to operate in the twilight, in the grey area, which may have resul-

ted in death for him if his cover was blown.

The jury's refusal to convict Dawson can hardly be seen as a vote of confidence in the methods of the bureau. A senior Commonwealth Police officer gave the opinion that, although in any informer system there would be corruption, the system of direct payment for information was the least corrupting.

He commented: "Overlooking a single crime is committing a crime. There must be some flexibility, as when a minor offence is overlooked in exchange for information which clears up a major crime. But basically, by overlooking particular crimes, you are laying yourself open to blackmail and allowing a situation to occur where certain crimes can go unrestricted."

Perhaps the final word on the informer system, the basis of all police activities for those crimes which affect only the individual, could come from New York narcotics judge, Michael J. Dantzin:

"I find the whole system of informers distasteful and contrary to the American principles of jurisprudence. It reminds me of Germany and Russia in the 40s when children turned in their parents."

The analogy might be a little strong, but any person arrested in Australia for drug-related offences will find he will be treated better if he tells the police the names of friends and contacts who are also involved in illegal drug use.

This does not sit well with Australia's tradition of mateship and a fair go.

Fines and jail sentences by State, 1977				
	No. of fines	Mean fine \$	No. of jail sentences	Average sentence (months)
A.C.T.	6	113.33	2	3.00
NSW	1128	120.66	148	10.80
Victoria	530	117.52	42	11.52
Queensland	1616	295.28	88	7.41
South Australia	673	110.30	27	12.33
Western Australia	609	193.60	87	32.01
Tasmania	217	139.15	54	3.65
Northern Territory	41	153.78	3	6.33

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

PRESS REPORTS ADDICTS' USE OF MEDICINES, OTHER SUBSTANCES

Heroin Substitute 'Flood'

Melbourne THE AGE in English 3 Nov 79 p 4

[Text]

Police say doctors are freely prescribing a sleeping drug which has killed several young people.

They say addicts use the drug as a substitute for heroin.

The assistant police surgeon, Dr. Jim MacLeod, said the barbiturate Tuinal was flooding the drug market.

Ambulance officers report several overdoses of the drug in recent months.

It is a combination of Amylo-Barbitone and Quinalbarbitone.

Doctors say it can have a more harmful effect than heroin if taken in large doses. It can lead to addiction.

The drug is sold by prescription in a blue and red capsule and has a street value of between \$3 and \$20 a capsule, depending on supply.

Detective Sergeant Robert Falconer, of the drug squad, said: "Every man and his dog has got it, it's one of the most popular drugs around," he said.

It is replacing another relaxant, Mandrax, as a favorite with the drug users.

Mandrax has been taken off the prescription-listed drugs in Schedule Four of the Drugs of Addiction and Restricted Substances Schedule, 1966. It is now listed in the heavily restricted Schedule Eight.

Police have had great difficulty

charging a Tuinal taker, particularly if found with a prescription.

Failure to abide by recommended doses is a minor offence and difficult to prove.

There are many documented cases of the drug having been found in "legal" 100 and 250 milligram quantities in people's possession.

It has been found in the possession of people as young as 14. A 16-year-old girl died from an overdose of the drug in June.

The police surgeon, Dr. Peter Bush, is concerned about the drug's popularity and the difficulties police have in controlling it.

He is compiling a report on the difficulties police face in prosecuting people under the influence of drugs they have a legal prescription for.

Dr. MacLeod said the drug had been under notice for a while.

"The trouble is, it is easy to obtain legally," he said.

"There is a certain naivety among the medical profession with respect to filling out scripts for this drug.

"But if I was a practitioner I would be most suspicious if anyone asked for Tuinal by name," he said.

Dr. MacLeod said many doctors prescribed Tuinal in good faith for insomniacs, but many addicts were adept at hoodwinking them, he said.

Problems With Glue-Sniffers

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 30 Oct 79 p 2

[Text] Some shops had been forced to take toxic glues off open display to stop shoplifting by glue-sniffers, the Health Minister (Sir William Knox) said yesterday.

The incidence of glue-sniffing among young people had been brought to light following a report by the Government Medical Officer (Dr. Wilson) on the use of glue by aboriginal children, Sir William said.

The drug inquiry had further revealed extensive use of toxic glues by young people as a drug.

The Health Department was aware of the disastrous after-effects of toxic glues when sniffed.

Crime on rise

Sir William said there had been an increase in crime among juveniles relating to breaking and

entering hardware shops in search of glue for the habit.

If this continued it could mean hardware shops would have to lock up glues.

He said that while there were efforts to replace toxic glues with non-toxic ones, most glues were designed for specific jobs and it was difficult to replace specialist glues.

"You can take them off open display and a number of shop-keepers have done this," Sir William said.

This was because of shoplifting of the glues on open display by young glue-sniffers.

Cough Mixture Warning

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 23 Oct 79 p 4

[Text]

[SYDNEY: Some cough mixtures now sold over the counter might soon be available only on prescription because of abuse, the executive director of the Proprietary Association of Australia, Mr A. J. Wardell, said yesterday.

It was unfortunate that the abuse of mixtures containing antihistamines, mainly by teenagers, could lead to the restriction of the mixtures.

"It seems crazy to me that these products, which are beneficial to the community as a whole, may become prescription-only because of the abuse by a few," Mr Wardell said.

He said that there had been reports of young

people buying up to five bottles of cough mixture at a time. The Pharmacy Board of NSW was currently making inquiries.

REGULATED

The proprietary or over-the-counter medicine industry was the most regulated industry in Australia.

It was a strange imbalance that medications should be so strictly regulated while alcohol and tobacco, which were proved killers, were available without restraint.

Geographic pockets of abuse of analgesics included the Hunter Valley, northern Queensland and parts of Victoria, Mr Wardell said.

Heroin Dangers 'Over-stated'

Melbourne THE AGE in English 22 Oct 79 p 4

[Text]

Opiate drugs such as heroin were not as dangerous in society as people were led to believe, a meeting of probation officers was told on Saturday.

The heavy, dependent use of heroin was rare, said Dr. Tom Stephens, senior psychiatrist at Pentridge and Fairlea prisons.

But drugs like cannabis, alcohol and glue were much more widespread and harder to control, he told the conference.

Dr. Stephens said only 0.1 per cent of the population had used opiates, but 85 per cent of children under the age of 15 had used alcohol.

By KATE DUNSTAN

Two per cent used it heavily, getting drunk at least once a month and boys were involved twice as often as girls.

Five per cent of children had used cannabis, he said.

"Its use is increasing; it's certainly inevitable that it will be legalised."

Dr. Stephens, said cannabis could be less harmful to society and people than alcohol and tobacco.

"But it's not going to be legalised as an alternative to tobacco

and alcohol, but in addition, which isn't good," he said.

Dr. Stephen said the mood-altering drugs, like Vallum, which were widely available on prescription were also a problem "and the doctors are largely at fault".

"The rules say we only go to a doctor when there's something wrong with us.

"But some people say 'I'm depressed', and the doctor has to find a treatment for them so he gives them a drug.

"They won't get better. All that will happen is that they'll get addicted," he said.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

QUEENSLAND TO PUT STRICTER CONTROLS ON BAIL PROVISIONS

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 1 Nov 79 p 11

[Text] The State Government has moved to protect the community from alleged drug traffickers allowed at large before court proceedings.

The Justice Minister (Mr. Lickiss) told State Parliament yesterday a large number of alleged drug traffickers absconded while on bail and it was difficult for police to find them.

He introduced a Bail Bill which passed its first reading.

Mr. Lickiss said under the legislation bail would be granted only by order of a Supreme Court judge.

This would apply also to treason, murder, piracy or attempted piracy, assault, wounding or unlawfully endangering a person's life while committing or attempting piracy.

Mr. Lickiss said because of the large profits involved, drug traffickers could easily meet the se-

curity required by courts under the present recognisance system and obtain their freedom.

"It is equally unacceptable to have drug traffickers at large as murderers."

Prohibit

Mr. Lickiss said the Bill also provided that the court might prohibit publication of evidence taken, information given or representations made in the course of a bail proceeding.

He said allegations

made on an application for bail often were given considerable publicity, which might prejudice the fair trial of a defendant.

Mr. Lickiss said the present recognisance system was ineffective and would be replaced by the "undertaking" entered into by the defendant and his sureties, requiring the defendant to appear at the appointed time and place and surrender himself into custody.

"Failure to appear will be a criminal offence, punishable by imprisonment for two years," he said.

Mr. Lickiss said the changes in the Bill were recommended by the Law Reform Commission.

CGO, 5300

AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE POLICE NOTE INFLUX OF COCAINE ON DRUG MARKET

Melbourne THE AGE in English 24 Oct 79 p 17

[Report from Steve Ballard]

[Text]

An influx of cocaine has hit Melbourne's drug scene and police are investigating reports that some of it has been stolen from hospitals.

They say a gram of high quality medicinal cocaine is selling for between \$130 and \$180.

Social welfare workers said yesterday they knew of several drug dealers mixing the drug with amphetamines and selling it as pure cocaine.

Cocaine has been in short supply in Victoria.

Police say that until recently drug users considered cocaine to be "poor man's heroin".

In past years it sold for about \$70 a gram — compared with about \$140 for heroin.

Police have been reluctant to admit the use of cocaine in Australia because they believe publicity would boost demand for it.

The head of the drug squad, Inspector Geoff Baker, said yesterday less cocaine had been seized in

Victoria than any other illicit drug.

"From time to time, we do get small amounts which have been mixed with amphetamines," Inspector Baker said.

Drug users either sniff or inject the drug which is widely used in America and Europe.

One source said yesterday there had been short bursts of cocaine on the drug market from time to time.

"But they have not been regular."

The source said this irregularity immediately guaranteed cocaine dealers a big slice of the illegal market.

Only a small percentage of drug charges laid by police since 1974 have related to cocaine.

In 1974, 18 offences relating to the drug were detected in Victoria.

There were 16 in 1975; 23 in 1976; 18 in 1977; and 17 in 1978.

No figures are available for this year.

Cocaine is an extract from the leaf of the South American coca bush and is mainly used as a local anaesthetic for delicate eye and nose surgery.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

BAIL REFUSED--An unemployed woman, 22, was remanded in custody when charged in the Magistrate's Court yesterday with possession of 28 grammes of heroin. Carmel Francis Childs, of Dornoch Terrace, Highgate Hill, appeared barefoot. The Crown prosecutor (Miss J. L. Dobson) said that it would be alleged that 28 grammes of heroin were found in Childs' possession on Thursday. Approximately half of the heroin was divided into 17 small packets which could have been prepared for sale. It would be further alleged that Childs bought the heroin for \$2500. Street value of the drug was estimated at \$5600, Miss Dobson said. Federal police also found \$701 in cash, glucodin, a set of scales, and syringes at Childs' home. The prosecutor said the maximum penalty for a conviction on the charge was 25 years' jail. [Excerpts] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 3 Nov 79 p 22]

ATTEMPT TO ROB PHARMACY--A 25-year-old drug addict could be a danger to the community, the East Perth Court was told yesterday. The court probation officer, Mr. B. Steel, said that Shane Martin Jeffree was a drug addict of long standing. Jeffree, a cook, of Elstead Way, Balga, was charged with attempting to steal drugs from a Tuart Hill pharmacy on Thursday while armed with a knife. He was not required to plead and was remanded in custody until November 12. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 3 Nov 79 p 26]

MARIHUANA GROWER JAILED--Melbourne: A 49-year-old mother of seven was sentenced to three years' gaol when she pleaded guilty to a charge of cultivating cannabis. Charges against Maria Medaglia and her husband Ross (48) were originally listed for trial, but in the Wentworth District Court Judge Ward was told that the couple had decided to plead guilty. The couple operate a vineyard near Wentworth in north-western Victoria. Police said that they found almost 20,000 cannabis plants growing in the vineyard. The judge ordered that Maria Megadlia serve a non-parole period of six months. He fined Ross Medaglia \$2000 and placed him on a three-year good-behavior bond. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 1 Nov 79 p 37]

GRANTS FOR DRUG STUDIES--A pharmacologist at Sydney University, Dr Greg Chesher, has been given \$18,000 to find out how to measure the effect of marihuana on driving. The NSW Minister for Health, Mr Stewart, announced the grant yesterday on behalf of the NSW Drug and Alcohol Authority. Dr Chesher said yesterday

there was no doubt that marihuana impaired driving skills, but the extent and duration of the effect was unknown. He said Dr Eric Cairns, a New Zealand chemist who was developing a reliable method of measuring THC in the blood, would join the project, to begin in March. Mr Stewart also announced a grant of \$12,000 to Professor T. Watson, of the Department of Pharmacy at Sydney University. Professor Watson will study the role in road fatalities of all drugs, including sedatives and tranquillisers. [Excerpts] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 1 Nov 79 p 2]

HEROIN IMPORT CHARGE--A man alleged to have imported about 1 kg of heroin worth \$500,000 to Perth appeared in the East Perth Court yesterday. Ahmet Djemal Ziballari, of Broadmeadows, Victoria, was charged with importing a prohibited import and possessing the drug. Mr G. Calder, prosecuting, said that Ziballari was known to the Narcotics Bureau. His fares overseas had been paid by a friend. Magistrate G. Fielding remanded Ziballari in custody till November 7. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 30 Oct 79 p 22]

MORPHINE PUSHER ON PROBATION--A 20-year-old man appeared to have the motivation to overcome his drug addiction, Mr Justice Brinsden said yesterday when he put the man on probation for two years. He made it a special condition of the probation order that Frank Eric Rossi abstain from using narcotic substances, unless they were prescribed by a doctor. Rossi, unemployed labourer, of The Esplanade, South Perth, had been found guilty by a Supreme Court jury on September 25 of possessing morphine on May 24 this year with intent to sell or supply it. Mr Justice Brinsden said that police had found 0.99 gramme of a substance, containing seven per cent morphine, at a house in Waterloo Street, Joonanna, where Rossi had been living. Though this was below the trafficable amount, the jury believed that he had intended to sell some of it to another man. [Excerpt] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 27 Oct 79 p 20]

HEROIN PUSHER BAILED--A student teacher was committed yesterday for trial on charges of having possessed and sold heroin on July 3. Teresa Ann Yates, 22, of Moncrief Road, Cannon Hill, entered no pleas to the charges and was committed to the Supreme Court criminal sittings, begging on November 19. Mr. Fardon, S.M., allowed her \$1000 self-bail on the selling charge and \$500 self-bail on the possession charge. [Excerpt] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 26 Oct 79 p 18]

FOUR OFFENDERS JAILED--Four men and a girl were sentenced in the Supreme Court yesterday to gaol terms for offences involving drugs. Tracey Jane Manthorpe (20), kitchen hand, of Stirling Highway, Nedlands, who was said to have become addicted to methadone during visits to an Alcohol and Drug Authority Clinic, was gaoled for four years. Judge Wallace set an 11-month minimum. Rodney William Seamons (27), of Glen Iris, Melbourne, who was arrested at Perth Airport with three condoms containing heroin in his stomach, was sentenced to 18 months with a three-month minimum. The judge said the

crown accepted that Seamons had the heroin for his own use. He sentenced Christopher Thomas Bunny (23), a New South Wales cook who came to WA in February, to six years' gaol with a 2 1/2-year minimum for six counts of possessing drugs with intent to sell or supply. Bunny had pleaded guilty. The judge said Bunny had stolen from chemist shops and intended to distribute the drugs obtained. Ross Dalrymple (26), of Lucas Street, Willagee, who was said to have had his first experience of hard drugs in Fremantle prison, was sentenced to five years gaol with a minimum term of two years and eight months. He had admitted two attempted armed hold-ups at pharmacies at Melville and Ardross when he was said to be desperate for drugs. Leslie William Patching (29), unemployed, of Mayflower Street, Craigie, was sentenced to three years' gaol with a 10-month minimum for possessing bromide with intent to sell or supply it. [Excerpts] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 26 Oct 79 p 17]

CRIME INTELLIGENCE BUREAU--Australian and New Zealand police are to form a joint crime intelligence bureau with the main aim of combating drug trafficking between the two countries. Announcement was made in Wellington by the Australian Federal Police Commissioner, Sir Colin Woods, and New Zealand's Police Commissioner, Mr (Bob Walton). The purpose of the bureau would be to exchange information that had not been coordinated elsewhere. Sir Colin said the spread of drugs in Australia was greater than people realized and should now become part of organized crime. [sentence as heard] He said coordinated action by police on both sides of the Tasman Sea was the most important step in fighting drug trafficking. [Text] [OW131617 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Dec 79 OW]

CSO: 5300

BURMA

SENTENCES PASSED FOR HEROIN POSSESSION

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 5 Dec 79 p 8

[Text] Rangoon, 4 Dec--The Pabedan Township Court No (2) today sentenced one Tun Aung alias Tommy (30) of No 127, 21st Street, Latha Township to seven months' imprisonment on conviction of an offence under Section 14(d) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.

A party from the Vice Prevention Squad of the Rangoon Division People's Police Force searched Tun Aung alias Tommy and Lay Myint of Ahlone Township on board a taxi No Salone 9315 at the corner of Anawrahta and 26th Streets on 3 April 1979. A packet of heroin worth about K 400 was found on Tun Aung. He was sent up for trial before the Pabedan Township Court No 2 under Sections 6(b) (Possession), 10(b) (sale), II (commitment in the offence) and 14(d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law and was convicted on one count (failure to register for treatment) and given a seven-month jail term.

A police party from the Vice Prevention Squad of the Rangoon Division People's Police Force seized some K 500 worth of heroin filled in a penicillin vial from one Zaw Win (25) of No 13, Zaburit Street, Sanchaung Township, yesterday evening.

The seizure was made during a search in Ma Kyee Kyee Street, Sanchaung Township.

Police are taking action against Zaw Win under Sections 6(b) (possession), 10(b) (sale), II (commitment in the offence) and 14(d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.(H)

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

HONG KONG REPORTED TO FEAR DRUG AVALANCHE

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 26 Oct 79 p 9

[Report from Ruth Youngblood in Hong Kong]

[Text]

HONG KONG narcotics officials are gearing up to fight an avalanche of heroin unleashed by an erratic Mother Nature.

A drought in the Golden Triangle, the area straddling Thailand, Burma and Laos, combined with government crackdowns dealt a severe blow to drug traders this year.

But optimum weather conditions have produced a bumper opium crop for next year.

Most of the world's opium, which is converted into morphine and heroin, is grown by hill-tribe farmers.

While the Thai Government considers narcotics a priority blight, the re-export process begins there with the drugs ending up in the United States, Europe and the rest of Asia.

Hong Kong's Commissioner for Narcotics, Peter Lee, said farmers in the opium-growing region were hoping to make up for the losses they suffered from last year's drought.

That poor harvest of only 150 tonnes practically generated a heroin famine, hiking

prices to unprecedented levels.

Thousands of addicts, unable to support their habit, turned to the Hong Kong Government-operated methodone treatment centres.

The next harvest will be in February, Mr Lee said, with the yield expected to be back to a level of about 500 tonnes.

Mr Lee and his colleagues are working fast to drive home an anti-drug message before the bumper crop is smuggled in.

The task is enormous. The senior narcotics information officer, Peter Choi, said even with the shortage, officials estimated up to 50,000 heroin addicts had been paying HK\$150 (\$30) daily, more than double the price of a year ago.

Sellers are just as anxious as the growers to compensate for losses.

"With another flood of heroin, traffickers who are clever will initially lower their prices to lure new addicts and encourage relapses by former users," Mr Choi said.

The unscrupulous dealers have an added advantage with the psychological effects of the world's highest population density.

Officials admit the congested conditions provide a ripe environment for occupants to turn to drugs to relieve the frustration in their lives.

Authorities in every department — from law enforcement to recreation — are considering all factors.

Confiscating as much of the heroin as possible is paramount.

Smugglers used to rely exclusively on boats but detection by marine police prompted a switch to small-quantity, high-frequency imports carried by couriers, concealed in air cargo or personal belongings, or sent through the mail.

Customs officials have tightened up search procedures and more staff will be added, but Mr Choi said with millions of passengers and packages coming through Kaitak international airport, it was virtually impossible to even know whether more drugs confiscated indicated more enforcement success or a bigger flow.

Eighty educational programs are held each month for staff from law en-

forcement agencies, and drug treatment, rehabilitation and after-care facilities.

Former addicts describe the social problems which prompted their first encounter with heroin, the growing reliance and expense and eventual alienation from everyone, living only for the next fix.

"We hope to deter the young from experimenting with drugs and motivate people to report drug traffickers, pushers or manufacturers," Mr Choi said.

To ease tension resulting from overcrowded housing, recreation officials are organising and supplying the transport for weekend hiking and camping trips to the New Territories, the vast rural and mountainous area outside Hong Kong.

Factory owners and other employers have been asked to offer jobs to rehabilitated addicts and not to sack those they suspect are succumbing to drugs.

Officials are convinced that no matter what they do, the real solution is in weaning the farmers away from opium growing.

GSO: 5300

INDIA

BRIEFS

HASHISH CHECK DISCLOSURE--Srinagar, Nov 27--Describing the overall situation on the 750-km long line of actual control in Jammu and Kashmir where BSF men are facing Pakistan army personnel as "not abnormal," the Inspector-General of BSF, Northwestern Frontier, Mr K. C. K. Raja, said "we have to continue to maintain constant vigil to prevent Pakistani infiltration and smuggling." Addressing a press conference here today, Mr Raja said that even during the current year when the situation was normal compared to previous years, BSF personnel had apprehended 50 Pakistani intruders and handed them over to the army and police authorities. Besides they had seized smuggled goods worth about Rs 2 lakhs from 22 Pakistani smugglers when they were trapped while crossing the line of actual control. The goods included hashish, gold and arms. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU 28 Nov 79 p 10]

CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

CONFERENCE HELD ON NARCOTICS USE BY YOUTHS

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 24 Oct 79 p 2

[Text] With regard to the abuse of narcotics among adolescences a research conducted by the body for the cooperation of social work for the development of good citizens puts the blame on the parents who have neglected their children, thus causing the latter to seek attention elsewhere. Mrs Kartasusuma told the press at the Department of Information auditorium last Monday.

She said that love begins at home; but when they see their parents quarreling with each other, the children no longer feel at home and look for love and affection somewhere else, so they take dangerous drugs.

According to Mrs Kartakusuma, in its effort to lessen the dangers of narcotics, the organization has turned to preventive methods, such as disseminating information in various schools through teachers and in parents' associations.

For this effort, it is necessary to have the cooperation of youths' organizations, such as Karang Taruna, National Committee for Indonesian Youths (KNPI) and their circles.

Availing himself of the opportunity, Suharyono explained that what we now have in Indonesia is hemp, but not narcotics. If narcotics are available, they must have been imported from abroad.

Answering questions from the press, he said that 722 narcotics addicts were treated at the hospitals from 1972 to 1977 (according to statistics of the Health Department), but police records showed that 3,666 drug-addicted persons were arrested during the 1971-79 period.

Of the total figure, only 10 percent were completely cured of drug addiction, he added.

Besides, some parents refused to report that their children were abusing narcotics. "Maybe they are ashamed, so they send their addicted children abroad," he said, explaining that according to the narcotics laws, both parents and their children must report the use of narcotics to the authorities.

As part of its program, the body for the cooperation of social work for the development of good citizens is scheduled to hold its first worldwide congress from 29 October until 3 November 1979 in Jakarta.

The congress will be attended by representatives of social organizations from Australia, the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, Muangthai, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Nepal and England.

The theme of this first congress is: "How To Intensify Public Service To Cope With the Dangers of Narcotics." Apart from participants from non-governmental social organizations, government officials charged with controlling narcotics will also be invited to attend as observers.

It is hoped that the conference will result in weaving closer and more practical collaboration among non-governmental social organizations charged with the control of narcotics.

9300
CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

SEVEN POSTAL PARCELS CONTAINING NARCOTICS FOUND IN JAKARTA

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 22 Oct 79 p 2

[Excerpts] Seven parcels received by the Pasar Baru post office, Jakarta, last Saturday were suspected of containing narcotics. Two trained dogs utilized by the customs and police bit the packages.

This was the second time within a week that trained dogs belonging to the Indonesian police were utilized for detecting narcotics in postal parcels.

Last Wednesday the same dogs singled out seven parcels, which turned out to contain tobaccos, soaps and clothes, from among heaps of parcels which had arrived recently from overseas.

The police are still examining these parcels.

An official of the Directorate General of Customs and Excise said that operations to eradicate narcotics smuggling into Indonesia will be intensified, in line with the instruction of the director general of Customs and Excise, Mr Tahir.

As a preventive measure, Mr Tahir has instructed all apparatuses under his jurisdiction to cooperate with the police in various regions to scrutinize postal parcels and other imported goods using the narcotics dogs.

The main markets for narcotics products are Australia and the United States.

9300
CSO: 5400

JAPAN

NATIONAL POLICY AGENCY ISSUES WHITE PAPER ON DRUGS

OW261055 Tokyo KYODO in English 1001 GMT 26 Dec 79 OW

[Text] Tokyo, 26 Dec KYODO--The National Police Agency (NPA) said Wednesday it has confiscated an all-time record 114 kilograms of drugs and stimulants worth yen 34.2 billion at street value this year, indicating Japan as a top drug market in the world.

NPA's white paper on drugs and stimulants said the seized drugs and stimulants sharply increased by 21 per cent in powder and by about 4.5 times in raw material over last year, breaking last year's record.

NPA arrested 17,239 persons for drug charges during the January-November period, up by 4.3 per cent or 712 persons over the same period of last year. They included 8,841 members of underworld groups.

The paper said 60 per cent of drug inflow into Japan estimated at three tons came from South Korea and the rest from West Germany via the Philippines and Hong Kong.

Cases in which one or more kilogram of drugs were found in a search totaled 27 including one in which an all-time record 12.65 kilograms of drugs was smuggled from Hong Kong.

In recently increasing cases, drugs were smuggled into Japan by South Korean freighters. The drugs were unloaded at minor ports of Tomakomai, Hokkaido, Sakata, Yamagata Prefecture, Sakai, Osaka Prefecture, and others.

The drug inflow into Japan is on the increase and the scale of each case is becoming larger, the paper said.

The paper also said NPA has arrested many housewives, junior and senior high school students and other people as suspected drug addicts during the 11 months.

They included 128 taxi drivers, 288 truck drivers, and 116 dump truck drivers according to the paper.

The paper also said 550 persons have been arrested as penal criminals in connection with drugs. The figure was greater than last year.

Juvenile drug addicts arrested totaled 1,292, an increase of 37 over the same period of last year, the paper said.

To cope with the situation, NPA hopes to increase investigators exclusively in charge of drug cases to 1,500 across the country, the paper added.

CSO: 5300

JAPAN

BRIEFS

AMPHETAMINE SMUGGLER--Osaka, 8 Dec, KYODO--Police have arrested a South Korean tea house operator for allegedly attempting to smuggle into Japan two kilograms of amphetamine worth yen 600 million in street value. Police said Pak Su-ok of Fukiai ward, Kobe, was held by customs officers at Osaka International Airport late last month when he carried the drug in a paper sack. He was among travellers from Pusan. Pak, 61, said he was asked by his confederate in Pusan to smuggle amphetamine during his business trip there, according to police. Police said Pak has made about 40 trips to South Korea over the past four years. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English, no time given, 8 Dec 79 OW]

CSO: 5400

NEW ZEALAND

BORDER TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION TO COMBAT DRUG TRADE DISCOURAGED

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 8 Nov 79 p 16

[Editorial: "Border Barriers Against Drugs"]

[Text]

The enormous profits to be made from illegal drug dealing, the fact that some people become dealers to finance their addiction, and the connections between drug-dealing and other crimes, all complicate the fight against the use of drugs. New Zealanders and Australians can buy illegal drugs relatively cheaply in parts of South-East Asia. Large profits are possible if the drugs can be smuggled successfully to some other parts of the world. It is inevitable that some are tempted.

Just as inevitably, some have been caught as a result of their amateurism. Some have been betrayed to the police; others have been caught simply because the police watch has been keener and wider. The rise in the number of drug-related crimes in New Zealand may not be a clear sign that moral standards or common sense have declined: the increase may be no more than evidence that new and strongly directed pressures are being put on the market of potential drug users.

During the Vietnam War, one theory goes. American troops there formed a growing market for drugs. The movement of military aircraft and ships helped the flow of drugs to the United States. When the troops went home, the market largely dried up. New Zealand and Australia had the

potential, with their comparatively affluent and largely European populations, of becoming new markets for drug dealers connected with the South-East Asian drug networks.

This may not be a sufficient explanation of the activities of the drug dealers. Naivety, daring, a sense of vogue, experiment, or protest are all different qualities, but all are exploitable by profit-seeking drug pushers and all can be converted by adroit persuasion or by the use of the drugs themselves into disregard for the most horrific consequences of addiction.

In this part of the world, New Zealand and Australia face the problem together. The fullest possible co-operation between the drug detection officials of the two countries is necessary and appears to exist.

From time to time there have been calls, as there was in the Australian Parliament on Tuesday, for some form of travel documentation to be required for travel across the Tasman Sea. Such a measure might mean that a few drug couriers or other criminals would be caught. The same might be said in favour of travel documentation between the two islands of New Zealand, or between the states in Australia. There has to be a balance of personal liberty with the needs of the society to

have police detect crime. Travel documentation between New Zealand and Australia would increase the sense of separateness between two countries which, in most other fields, are attempting to draw closer together.

Uncomplicated travel across borders is common in many other parts of the world. The advantages enjoyed by Australia and New Zealand in this should not be denied by the campaign against illegal and dangerous drugs. Much more rigid barriers than these two countries are ever likely to contemplate have not stopped the traffic elsewhere.

CSO: 5320

NEW ZEALAND

HEROIN DEATHS DWINDLE AS POLICE STEP UP PRESSURE

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 9 Nov 79 Sec 1, p 1

[Text]

Heroin deaths in New Zealand have fallen by more than half this year as increased police pressure and other factors have greatly disrupted the flow of the illicit drug.

So far this year 13 drug deaths have been notified to the police, compared with 29 over the same period last year.

And police say the squeeze on the heroin flow has meant that in some places the drug cannot be obtained at all. In other places all that is available is extremely poor quality heroin.

The drop in supply is reflected in statistics which show police seizures of heroin have dropped substantially in recent months. In the past three months 332 grams were taken, compared with 1300 grams seized in the previous three months.

In some weeks there has been the unusual situation of no significant seizures being made.

The head of the crime directorate at police headquarters, Detective Chief Superintendent M. T. Churches, said yesterday that there were several factors thought to be responsible for the scarcity of heroin:

- Additional resources and powers given to the police last year to fight the drug traffic.

- Extensive inquiries and pressure put on the drug underworld by detectives working on the Margaret Bell killing in Auckland this year.

- Pressure applied internationally by police in New Zealand, Australia, Singapore and Britain investigating the activities of a New Zealand-based drug ring.

Mr Churches said each of these factors had had a considerable impact on the drug scene, and had in turn led to other factors:

- Several arrests had been made by the police.

- Traffickers had left the country or had decided to "lie low" until the pressure was [word illegible].

- This in turn had led to disruption to drug supply.

- The squeeze had been further tightened by droughts in Thailand this year, which had resulted in a poor opium crop, providing less heroin for import to New Zealand.

Supplies were down, prices up, and with the constant pressure and arrests by detectives working in not only the drug squad, but also the homicide inquiry and the criminal intelligence section, suppliers were being kept off the streets, Mr Churches said.

Bigger Squad

He said that in Auckland, particularly, suppliers had found life a lot more difficult, and this year the heroin had just not been available in New Zealand's biggest city.

Together with the problems faced by drug rings in other centres, Auckland dealers had been pursued by a much bigger drug squad reinforced by eight extra officers this year.

The head of the Auckland district Criminal Investigation Branch, Detective Chief Inspector R. N. Macdonald, said the shortage had been

particularly noticeable in Auckland in recent months.

The heroin that was available in Auckland was of a poor quality, he said.

Reports from Hamilton indicated the supply there was down even further, and the Anchorage drug rehabilitation hostel trust chairman, the Rev Tony Clark, said yesterday that drug addicts he had contact with had moved to Auckland.

And the Parnell rehabilitation centre director, Dr Fraser McDonald, said the scarcity of, and adverse publicity to, heroin trafficking in recent months had pulled many addicts away from the habit.

"For some of them heroin used to be a sort of family affair — friends and relatives would bring the stuff back from overseas to share out among each other," he said.

"But now they are being sickened by the whole criminal atmosphere to it. They don't like the ruthlessness, and beatings and the murders," he said.

"It is no longer a fun thing for them."

Pressure On

Dr McDonald said the squeeze was helping drug workers in efforts to assist addicts out of their drug-taking.

The squeeze applies only to heroin.

Mr Churches said it did not appear to have had much effect on the flow of marijuana, and in fact the vacuum may have been filled by a mild upsurge in supply of cannabis resin and LSD.

CSO: 5320

NEW ZEALAND

BRIEFS

DRUGS CHARGE CONVICTIONS--Auckland (PA)--A jury in the Supreme Court at Auckland yesterday returned verdicts of guilty and not guilty against two men charged with drug offences. The jury retired for four hours and a quarter before finding Brian James Curtis, aged 45, a self-employed property developer, of Glen Eden, and David Andrew Fisher, aged 32, a panel-beater, of Remuera, not guilty on a charge of conspiring together with Susan Florence Rennie (or Skipper) to import heroin and cannabis. But the jury found Curtis guilty on a charge of conspiring with Rennie to import heroin and cannabis. On a third charge the jury found the two men guilty of conspiring together to import cannabis. They had pleaded not guilty to a charge of conspiring together to import heroin and cannabis. Both men were acquitted on a further charge of conspiring together with Rennie to import heroin and cannabis. The two men were convicted by Mr Justice Vautier and remanded for sentence. [Text] [Christchurch THE PRESS in English 28 Nov 79 p 6]

CSO: 5320

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

MORPHINE TABLETS, CHARAS SEIZURE--Three vials of pathadine injections and 115 tablets of morphine were seized by the Excise Staff on Wednesday morning. A barber of Lohari Gate and his two accomplices were arrested and cases registered against them under Shariah Law. Two kilograms of contraband charas was also seized. Mohammad Yasin who hails from Sukkur was taken into custody at the Lahore Railway Station when he allegedly tried to smuggle the charas from Peshawar. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 29 Nov 79 p 3]

OPIUM SEIZURE--Peshawar, Nov 30: Customs authorities of Torkham, on Pak-Afghan Border, today seized about 1,800 kilograms of contraband opium, worth over Rs 20 lakh. Customs sources said that the contraband opium concealed in 66 crates, of 28 kilograms each was being smuggled across the border, by Truck No PR-1277. The cleaner of the truck, Sameen Khan, has been arrested, while its driver escaped. The truck has been impounded. Further inquiries are in progress.--APP. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 1 Dec 79 p 8]

PAK OPIUM SMOKERS--Opium smokers in Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province spend half their monthly income on narcotics, according to a survey on opium smoking in the NWFP published in a U.N. bulletin on narcotics. More than 60% of the addicts earn less than Rs 300 monthly.--PTI. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 10 Dec 79 p 9]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

THAI NARCOTICS OFFICER REPORTS ON DRUG MEETING

BK221211 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 10 Dec 79 BK

[Text] Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, secretary general of the Narcotics Control Board, has reported on the recent meeting of narcotics control chiefs which was attended by representatives from two other countries [as heard].

[Begin Phao recording] Several topics brought up for discussion are of interest for our country. The first was the discussion on the supply of a liquid used for the production of heroin, which is called acetic anhydrite. This solution is not produced in Thailand. It comes from Europe and Japan. We also had Japanese representatives attending the meeting. In Asia this solution mainly comes from Japan. Japan produces and exports it to other countries. Since this solution is necessary for the production of heroin, we discussed how to ask producing countries to control their exports. Importers should also take control steps. In Thailand, we have a new law which was promulgated this year defining acetic anhydrite as a type of narcotics. Those having it are liable to 10 years imprisonment. Despite our control efforts, there have regularly been cases of smuggling it into our country. Yet, we are not giving up our efforts. If control of acetic anhydrite is effectively made, heroin production will be completely suppressed from Thailand. As I recall, this is an issue the United Nations has discussed every year--trying to request producing countries to place effective control over acetic anhydrite.

Another topic of interest was our discussion about passport controls. In Thailand, we have many problems in this category. We cannot control the passports of foreigners arrested in our country in connections with narcotics. Some countries hold that the passports of their citizens cannot be subjected to confiscation by other countries. We have no right to hold their passports. On this matter, we in Thailand have already held a meeting and agreed that from now on when foreigners are arrested on narcotics charges, we will hold their passports. Next, we will report the arrests to the Narcotics Control Board and the board will report to the respective embassies. In the past, we granted them bail and gave back their passports, and this resulted in most of them fleeing the country. The problem was

discussed at this UN meeting [as heard]. But in fact we in Thailand have already adopted new regulations pertaining to it.

Another topic was about the training of suppression officers. The matter was discussed at this ASEAN meeting [as heard]. It had also been discussed in previous meetings. Thailand was asked to serve as a training center for narcotics suppression officials from Asian countries. Those countries gave us credit due to our past record of arrests of major narcotics cases. We are happy to respond to their request if this is necessary. In my opinion, we are in a position to help them. In fact, we have already started it. To cite an example, early last month, we sent our narcotics officer, Pol Maj Winat Chutimit, to Australia at the request of that country to give a 2-week training course for students at the Australian Police School.

At the meeting we also discussed narcotics laws. Countries which do not have strict laws were urged to draw up laws with stronger penalties for drug dealers. Thailand has already enforced a new law this year with stronger penalties. Other countries were urged to enforce a strict law to discourage the drug business. It happens that many suspects arrested this year had hidden the drugs on their bodies. We arrested many at Don Muang airport when they were about to leave Thailand. Well, in some countries, body searches are not allowed. At the meeting we discussed this matter and requested the countries which have laws prohibiting their police authorities from carrying out body searches to seek to amend the law in order to facilitate suppression since it appears that this method of heroin smuggling is becoming more widespread.

In addition, we also urged better control of goods shipped by containers since containerised shipments also make narcotics smuggling easier.
[End Phao recording]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

THAI CABINET REJECTS CALL FOR HARSHER TREATMENT OF DRUG PRISONERS

BK120336 Bangkok BANGKOK POST In English 12 Dec 79, p 3 BK

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday rejected a proposal by the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) that no leniency or amnesty be accorded to prisoners convicted of drug charges.

The ONCB had earlier proposed to the Cabinet that these prisoners should not receive any leniency--including the reduction of sentences for good conduct, parole, privileged status or be eligible for royal amnesty.

The Cabinet said they are satisfied with the correction department's present regulations concerning leniency towards all prisoners. They reasoned that harsher measures would create resentment among the prisoners and would run counter to the correction department's policy of rehabilitating, rather than punishing, the prisoners.

The correction department normally never allows convicts who were major drug producers, distributors or were involved in serious drug cases to be paroled.

For those who were convicted of minor drug charges, parole regulations apply only to prisoners showing good conduct or signs of rehabilitation.

Moreover, parole for prisoners in such cases merely involved transferring them to other locations within the prisons rather than releasing the prisoners, the Cabinet said.

The Cabinet agreed with the correction department's normal practice that good behavior alone would not automatically guarantee the granting of special status to prisoners.

On the granting of amnesty, the Cabinet said that the correction department had never asked for royal amnesty for drug offenders as quickly as for prisoners convicted of other offences.

The recommendation for amnesty for drug offenders would be made whenever the authorities feel that the prisoners have improved their conduct or have been rehabilitated.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

HONG KONG TOURISTS ARRESTED AT DON MUANG

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 28 Nov 79 p 3 BK

[Text]

TWO Hong Kong tourists were arrested by Customs officials at Don Muang Airport yesterday morning as they tried to smuggle out two kilogrammes of No. 3 heroin.

The drug was estimated to be worth around 300,000 baht in local market or five million baht in Hong Kong.

The two suspects, identified as Kwong Kam Wing, 22 and Mak Sai

Wah, 25, were arrested while they were about to board a Singapore Airline flight at 10.30 am.

Upon searching the two, customs officials found four bags of No.3 heroin hidden on their bodies.

They were later turned over to the Crime Suppression Division for interrogation.

A police source said

that it was believed there were drug syndicates behind the smuggling.

Meanwhile, police in Chiang Mai arrested two New Zealand tourists Monday night after discovering about 300 grammes of No 4 heroin in their possession.

The two, identified as Miss Roseta Andrea Kanela, 25, and Matthew Cojo, 22, were nabbed from their room in Chiang In Hotel.



The two suspects, Kwong Kam Wing (left) and Mak Sai Wah, after their arrest at Don Muang Airport.

THAILAND

HEROIN FOUND ON ISLAND IN NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 Dec 79 p 1 BK

[Text]

IN one of the year's biggest drug hauls, police have seized almost 200 kilogrammes of No 3 "brown sugar" heroin thought destined for Singapore.

The seizure was made Sunday by a joint Samut Prakan and Nakhon Si Thammarat marine police team on the deserted island of Kra, about 80 kilometres off the shore of Pak Panang in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province, a delayed police report said yesterday.

The heroin — with a retail value in the West of \$150,000,000 (three billion baht) — was found in seven oil drums on the shore of the island. No one was arrested.

The discovery followed a tip-off that a fishing boat would

take the heroin from Bangkok to an island in the area, where it would be picked up by another fishing boat and taken to Singapore.

A Samut Prakan marine police team left Bangkok early Saturday morning, and patrolled in the Gulf of Thailand. They were joined by the Nakhon Si Thammarat marine police team, and spent the day searching islands in the area.

The police landed on Kra Island on Sunday morning, and discovered the heroin after a search of some hours.

It was assumed the boat that had delivered the drug had long since left the scene. The seized heroin will be brought to Bangkok this afternoon.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

TWO HELD FOR HEROIN--Two New Zealanders were in custody in Chiang Mai yesterday after police allegedly discovered 700 grammes of heroin in their hotel room Monday night. Police identified the two as Miss Resetar Andrea Karnela (25) and Mr Matthew (22) and said they had arrived in Chiang Mai over the weekend. Police said they raided the room, at the Chiang Inn Hotel, after being informed that heroin had been delivered to the New Zealanders. They said they discovered 700 grammes of No. 4 heroin and a number of syringes. Police said the two suspects admitted being addicts, but refused to reveal where the drugs had been obtained. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Nov 79 p 3 BK]

CSO: 5300

CANADA

SURVEY SHOWS CANNABIS USE UP IN SCHOOLS

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 22 Nov 79 p 1

[Excerpts]

More male than female students in Ontario schools prefer smoking cannabis to tobacco and the numbers trying the illegal drug are on the increase, according to the Addiction Research Foundation.

Tobacco had been used by 34.7 per cent and cannabis by 31.7 per cent, although significantly more girls than boys smoked tobacco.

The number of males using tobacco increased only slightly from 28.5 per cent in a 1977 survey to 32.1 per cent. For cannabis, the increase was from 29.4 to 36.4 per cent.

The number of females using tobacco jumped from 32.1 per cent to 37.5 in the same period and for cannabis, from 21.1 to 26.8 per cent.

About half of the cannabis users said they had smoked it 10 or more times in the previous year and about a quarter of the group had used it 40 or more times.

In Grade 7, 57 per cent said they had used alcohol, 10.4 per cent had used cannabis and 20.3 per cent tobacco. By Grade 13, the equivalent percentage using alcohol was 92.1 per cent, cannabis, 43.6 and tobacco, 33.7.

Barbiturates were the next most commonly used drug with 12.8 per cent reporting the use of prescribed barbiturates, and 6.8 per cent using non-prescription ones.

There was a marked increase since 1977 in the use of non-prescription stimulants, from 7.2 to 10.6 per cent, and of LSD, from 6.2 to 8.6 per cent.

There was little significant change in the use of other drugs: sniffing glue, 4.3 per cent; heroin, 2.3; speed, 3.6; cocaine, 5.1; miscellaneous hallucinogens, 5.3.

The study, developed by Dr. Reginald Smith and Dr. Michael Goodstadt of the ARF, was carried out in 20 school-board areas.

CSO: 5320

CANADA

RCMP SEIZES MARIHUANA, COCAINE IN QUEBEC

Quebec LE SOLEIL in French 14 Nov 79 p A 9

[Article by Guy Dube and Marcel Collard]

[Text] Seven persons have been indicted at the Quebec Palace of Justice, in connection with a seizure of 25 bags of marihuana and 35 grams of cocaine last Thursday evening in the parking lot of the La Canardiere commercial center in Quebec.

The members of the drug division of the RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] went into action at the moment of the transaction and the unloading of the merchandise.

The seven individuals who were arrested are Gerald Boucher, 31, of Beauport; Guy Laroche, 24, of the rue Abbe-Beauchemin in Giffard; Robert Gosselin, 38, from the rue du College in Beauport; Joffre Tousignant, 33, of the rue des Ormes in Quebec; as well as three young girls who were accompanying the quartet.

They were charged with possession of narcotics with intent to sell, and they denied their guilt. Laroche was able to secure his release in return for \$2000 bail posted by a person with security; he will have to present himself on Tuesday and Friday of every week at an RCMP station while awaiting his preliminary investigation on 5 March 1980.

Gosselin benefited from \$1,000 bail posted by a person with security, with the same conditions as Laroche.

Tousignant was refused any bail by Judge Jean Dutil because of his previous legal history. His preliminary investigation has been set for 28 November.

The inquiry into bail for Boucher was scheduled for tomorrow.

The three young girls, who were charged with conspiracy in the acts of which the four defendants are accused, they have been released until their preliminary investigation.

In addition to the narcotics the police seized two automobiles, \$11,000 in Canadian banknotes, a gold-plated scale, as well as 90 "Mandrax" capsules and some "Valium." Over and above the two automobiles, the merchandise seized is valued at some \$35,000.

8946
CSO: 5300

CANADA

BRIEFS

POLICE SEIZE DRUGS--Police seized a large cache of suspected LSD with a street value of \$180,000, cash, and a handgun early this morning when they searched a car that reportedly failed to stop at Canadian Customs. About 1:30 a.m., police were notified by customs officials at the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel of a late-model car failing to stop for inspection. Several minutes later, officers spotted the car parked in the 700 block of Erie Street East. A woman driving the car was questioned and in a search under the hood of the 1979 rental car, a brown paper bag was found stuffed into a corner of the engine compartment. Inside the bag, they found bags containing 60,000 hits of suspected LSD, 250 capsules of an unknown white powder and a plastic bag containing \$3,100 in Canadian currency. There was also a .38-calibre revolver and five rounds of ammunition. Diane Lynn Hillman, 25, of St. Pierre Street, Tecumseh, was to be charged today with possession of a restricted weapon and several yet-to-be determined drug charges. [Text] [Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 21 Nov 79 p 3]

CSO: 5320

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZED--Officials of the Narcotics and Dangerous Substances Directorate have seized 700 kilograms [as published] of cocaine in Naranjitos, 30 kilometers from Trinidad, after a small plane carrying the drug crashed. No one aboard the plane was injured, but there was no report of arrests. [PY191611 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 13 Dec 79 p 10 PY]

CSO: 5300

CHILE

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED--The Chilean Narcotics Brigade captured two drug traffickers and seized 2 kgs of cocaine hydrochloride from them. (Carlos Alvarez), Chilean, 24, and (Billy McIntyre), American, 19, were arrested while attempting to bring the drug into the country hidden inside a television set. They bought the cocaine in Bolivia and said that they intended to sell it on the New York blackmarket for \$200,000. [PY191612 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Dec 79 PY]

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

'OPERATION COMMANDO' NETS TRAFFICKERS

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 4 Nov 79 p 10-A

[Text] San Luis Potosi, SLP, 3 November (OEM)--In a quick "Operation Commando" which began here and ended in Irapuato, Gto., agents of the Federal Judicial Police seized a ton of "lambs-tail" marihuana--the highest priced kind--valued at 10 million pesos; and captured 9 individuals who were traveling in a Mercury automobile with Tamaulipas license plates.

Lauro Miguel Garcia Atilano, agent of the Federal Public Ministry, reported that the vehicle was driven by Felix Araiza Uribe and Dante Ruben Sanchez del Castillo, and was detected by federal agents on the Mexico Laredo highway, outside Soledad Diez Gutierrez.

Moments before, the agents had stopped another three automobiles in which contraband merchandise was being transported.

When they checked the trunk of the Mercury, nothing was found, but on searching the gasoline tank they noticed that it had been removed; they took out the screws, and confirmed that it had a double bottom; later inside they found approximately a kilogram of marihuana.

They suspected that they were dealing with something larger, because taking so many risks loading a vehicle for only a kilogram of drugs would not pay.

A little later, the occupants of the car revealed that they were returning from Matamoros, with a sample of the drug which had been sent to the "mafia" which brings narcotics into the United States, in order to coordinate a large-scale operation, and they were going to Irapuato, where the warehouse was located.

8131
CSO: 5300

MEXICO

PROGRESS REPORT ON FEDERAL POLICE, ARMY ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 24 Nov 79 Sec B p 2

[Text] Mexico City, 23 November--During the past 4 days, the Federal Judicial Police, in cooperation with Mexican Army forces, succeeded in capturing 217 drug traffickers in various towns of the republic, from whom they seized drugs worth over 140 million pesos in all.

This announcement was made today by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic through its official spokesmen, who said that the confiscated drugs consisted of 1.5 kilograms of heroin, 2.5 kilograms of cocaine, 5 tons of packed marihuana and 2 kilograms of opium gum.

The spokesmen also reported that, in the settlement of Llano Grande de Oti- napa, in Durango, the air services of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic discovered two clandestine runways, one of which had a Cessna light aircraft, with registration N76G-N, model 188, on which the drugs had been shipped to various parts of the republic and abroad.

Moreover, during the campaign to destroy plantations, the federal agents arrested 217 drug traffickers, whom they discovered in 30 different loca- tions in the country, and from whom they seized, in addition to drugs, 25 firearms, including pistols, rifles and submachine guns which they had used to guard the plantations.

Also confiscated were 20 land and four marine vehicles, as well as a mobile laboratory in which the drug traffickers processed the drugs.

In addition, 1,176 poppy plantations were destroyed, on which 7.5 million plants about to be processed were discovered; as well as 180 marihuana plantations, on which 1 million shrubs which had reached a height of 1.5 meters were found.

Furthermore, two super-tonnage scales, several combing machines and various laboratory utensils for making heroin were seized.

Finally, the official spokesman for the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic stated that, in spite of several confrontations between the federal agents and the drug traffickers, there were no losses on the part of the federal agents.

2909
CSO: 5330

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MEXICO

HIGHWAY POLICE SEIZE MARIHUANA

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 7 Nov 79 p 6-D

[Text] Puebla, Pue; 6 November--The Federal Highway Police have confiscated marihuana valued at more than a million pesos, which was being transported in a pick-up truck with Texas license plates IVG-4967. Its driver escaped.

The PFC [Federal Highway Police] reported that a police post located at kilometer 10 on the highway to Veracruz detained the vehicle mentioned because the driver, about 32 years of age, with a "chicano" appearance and a Texas sombrero, seemed suspicious.

However, when they asked for his documents, the driver quickly jumped out of the vehicle and fled among the cornfields.

While some agents pursued him, others checked over the vehicle, and found the drugs.

The police said that it is possible that the "chicano" had loaded the vehicle in Oaxaca and Veracruz, and was planning to bring it to Texas, since it was also carrying two drums, each containing 200 liters of gasoline.

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MEXICO

INTERNATIONAL DRUG RING SEIZED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 3 Nov 79 p 29-A

[Text] The way in which international gangs of drug traffickers operate in our country transporting drugs to the United States, and how they involve municipal, state and Federal Highways authorities, was described by the republic's attorney-general's office, after Commander Florentino Ventura Gutierrez and his special force captured a Vietnam veteran and two Mexicans as they were preparing to load a light plane with 3 tons of marihuana on an unauthorized landing strip.

The marihuana had been transported from Chiapas, Tabasco and Veracruz to Zacatecas, without the trucks being intercepted by the police. The brothers Fidel and Oscar Gomez, natives of Sinaloa, had been stealing trailers and cargo trucks to take them to the places where marihuana is grown and harvested, then load them and drive them to clandestine air strips, where planes crewed by Vietnam veterans would land to take them to Texas and California.

Mark J. Carpenter, an ex-soldier, was arrested on a clandestine field located 10 kilometers to the north of the village of San Tiburcio, town of Concepcion del Oro, Zacatecas. He was piloting a Piper Aztec two-motored plane, registration M-3259P, with a cargo capacity of a half ton.



Traffickers Fidel Gomez, Mark J. Carpenter and Oscar Gomez were arested by the special force of Commander Forentino Ventura Gutierrez. Some 3 tons of marihuana was confiscated from them.

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MEXICO

STUDENT ADDICTION IS SERIOUS PROBLEM

Mexico City METROPOLI DE EL DIA in Spanish 7 Nov 79 p 8

[Text] Toluca, Mex., 6 November--The director of public education, Professor Sixto Noguez Estrada, has admitted that there is a serious problem of drug addiction in the schools, especially in Ciudad Nezahualcoyotl and Ecatepec.

He explained that the proliferation of businesses dealing in inhalants on the outskirts of the Federal District gives rise to addiction in primary and secondary school pupils.

The official said that the problem of drug addiction among students has various causes, which include the population explosion, lack of one of the parents in the family, poverty, and the ease of obtaining volatile drugs in paint stores and workshops, pharmacies, shoe stores, etc.

Besides Ciudad Nezahualcoyotl and Ecatepec, these problems have also been detected in Coacalco, Tlalnepantla, Naucalpan, Atizapan and other towns in the north of the state of Mexico, such as Tultitlan, Cuautitlan de Romero Rubio, Cuautitlan-Izcalli, etc.

In the schools, the Office of Public Education is limited to preventing the use of stimulants. But the real problem is outside the walls; not, in fact, in the schools.

Finally, Noguez Estrada reported that the attorney-general's office is taking measures to combat the problem all over the area, especially on the outskirts of the Federal District.

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CSO: 5300

MEXICO

PARM: HARSHER PENALTIES FOR TRAFFICKERS

Mexico City METROPOLI DE EL DIA in Spanish 5 Nov 79 p 3

[Article by Eduardo Macias]

[Text] In view of the serious problem of drug addiction, and especially of the sale of narcotics at the doors of primary and secondary schools, the parliamentary faction of the Authentic Party of the Mexican Revolution (PARM) will propose a drastic increase in penalties for everyone who commits crimes against health.

After reporting this, the Parmist deputy Carlos Cantu Rosas declared that the problem of drug addiction in youths and children concerns every sector of society, and that it is the responsibility of parents, teachers, police and all responsible persons to report it and fight it. He stated that today the legislative committee on public education will meet, presided over by Jose Luis Andrade Ibarra, and that in it the parliamentary faction of the PARM will set forth solutions for the serious social problem of the sale of narcotics at school exits.

Cantu Rosas said that drug addiction was one of the most deplorable problems mentioned to the deputies in their campaigns.

Because of this, he added, means should be found to strengthen defenses against, and discover and drastically punish all those who distribute the criminal substances.

The deputy explained that despite the fact that no statistics exist as to the number of children and youths who are victimized by the poisoners, it is certainly a large amount, and it is urgent to look for solutions.

Finally, Cantu Rosas said that these solutions concern the whole of society, and that the deputies should pass laws so that penalties for the commission of crimes against health will be stronger. However, the most important thing is preventing them.

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MEXICO

BRIEFS

TRAFFICKERS KILL TWO POLICEMEN--Mexico City, 12 November--Two agents of the Federal Judicial Police and three drug traffickers were killed during a gun battle which took place in the settlement of Tinajas, Veracruz, after an ambush set by the drug traffickers in that locality for the authorities. According to an announcement by the general directorate of that police entity, which is subordinate to the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, the incident occurred last Sunday, when the federal agents were conducting an investigation to locate a drug trafficking ring which was operating in that area, and which was supplying drugs to the entire central part of the country. The ambush took place in the settlement in question when the agents stationed themselves there. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 13 Nov 79 p 1] 2909

PILL TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED--A prison sentence of 7 years and a fine of 10,000 pesos were imposed on Noe Landeros Sanchez by the third district court for the crime of possession of toxic pills. Yesterday morning, the individual in custody was notified of his sentence. He was subjected to proceedings No 2-979 after having been captured when he was caught, together with Jose Guadalupe Mendoza Avendano, with a large number of toxic pills in his possession. As for Jose Guadalupe Mendoza Avendano, the judge gave him a sentence of 1 year and 2 months in prison for the crime of concealment, which was also reported to him yesterday by the head of the third court. The capture of these two individuals who have been duly convicted took place on 27 December 1978, in the town of Reynosa, Tamaulipas, as EL DIARIO was told by the officials from that court. As of yesterday, the two men began serving their sentence, which they will have to complete in the Social Rehabilitation Center headed by Hector Garcia Trevino. It was also reported that the documentation on other proceedings is being speeded up, so that the cases that are submitted may be resolved as promptly as possible, and the decisions of the judge in each of the cases being heard may be announced. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 20 Nov 79 Sec B p 5] 2909

MYSTERY IN HEROIN CASE--Inexplicably, personnel of the third district court kept absolute secrecy regarding the inquiries being made last week about

proceedings No 269-979, being held against the presumed drug trafficker, Juan Cisneros Veliz, and his codefendants. At the time, EL MANANA attempted to obtain information concerning the statements of the accused, but it was at all times refused information on the subject. Yesterday, it was learned that Cisneros Veliz and his codefendant, Jorge Cisneros Cisneros, were declared officially imprisoned as persons presumed guilty of a crime against health, only in the degree of heroin possession. However, in the same proceedings, an order for release with legal reservations was issued on behalf of Apolonio Dominguez Veldez, or Vazquez. The strange part of the case is that, of 10 persons who were arrested by the Federal Judicial Police in connection with the seizure of 300 grams of heroin, the Federal Public Ministry remanded only the three who have been mentioned. In short, the court declared as officially imprisoned only two of them; namely, Juan Cisneros and Jorge Cisneros, the former of whom is a brother of the deceased drug trafficker, Fidencio Cisneros Veliz, alias "La Picharra." [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 20 Nov 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

OPIUM GUM TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--The third district judge imposed a prison sentence of 7 years and 3 months and a fine of 10,000 pesos on an individual named Jesus Ramirez Galvan. The aforementioned individual was tried for a crime against health in the degrees of possession and trafficking in the form of attempt, of opium gum. Proceedings 107/979 were brought against him, and he was notified yesterday of the final decision made in his case. Ramirez Galvan was captured by federal agents on 16 March of this year, at a location in the Modelo development of the town of Matamoros, Tamaulipas. On that occasion, the federal agents detailed to the port of Matamoros were informed that there was an individual in the Modelo development who was engaged in the trafficking of hard drugs. The federal police undertook the investigation, and found Jesus Ramirez Galvan at his residence. Upon being questioned, he admitted to having been engaged in the sale of drugs; and, under the mattress on one of the beds, the representatives of the law found seven containers filled with white powder. At first, it was thought that the confiscated substance was cocaine. However, the powder was subjected to the pertinent laboratory analyses, which disclosed that Ramirez Galvan was trafficking in opium gum. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 24 Nov 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

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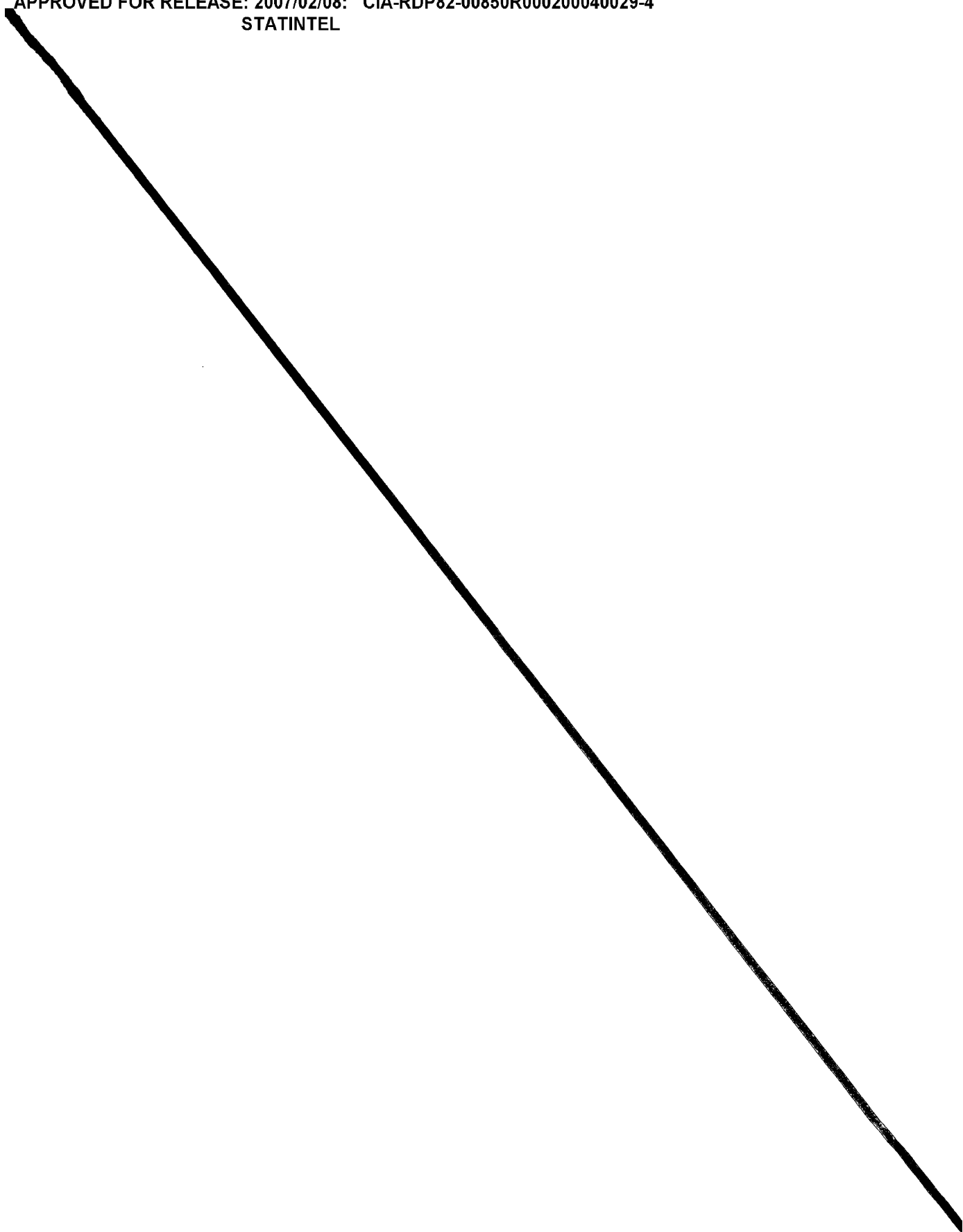
PANAMA

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Treasury and Finance Ministry officials captured their 35th drug trafficker this year at Tocumen International Airport on Christmas Eve. Gregorio Marcos Patton, a Bolivian citizen who was a former driver at the Bolivian Government palace, arrived in Panama from Santa Cruz early on 24 December. The ministry officials found two packages in a suit he was carrying containing 660 grams of cocaine valued at \$25,000 in the blackmarket. He told the ministry officials that the suit and baggage belonged to a man named Rivera who had asked him to carry them for him. Rivera was no where in sight but the baggage claim tickets were in his name. The Treasury Ministry authorities told us that \$15 million worth of drugs have been seized in Tocumen so far this year. [PA262100 Panama City CIRCUITO RPC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Dec 79 PA]

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VENEZUELA

LARGE AMOUNT OF LSD SEIZED, THREE ARRESTED

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 21 Nov 79 pp 2-27

[Text] Metropolitan Police seized a shipment of drugs, including LSD tablets, marihuana, and cocaine, when they searched an apartment in the Residencias Arichuna building on San Martin Avenue, San Juan district. Three people were arrested and are being questioned.

Arrested were Joaquin Quiros Centeno, a Colombian holding a Venezuelan residence card; Sergio Wladimir Perez Mautone, of Caracas, 31 years old; and Rafael Perez Rondon, of Barlovento, 37 years old.

Col Fortunato Mora Salas, head of the Intelligence Division of the Metropolitan Police, said that the men were in apartment 2, 4th floor, of the Arichuna building.

We do not have an estimate of the street value of the drugs at this time, but it is the first time such a quantity of LSD has been seized.

The prisoners were presented to reporters, and one of them, Rafael Perez Rondon, frankly states that he has nothing to do with drug traffic, even saying of Sergio Wladimir Perez, the man police say is most strongly implicated, "that man is innocent."

There was a toy warehouse in that apartment, and Rondon, who calls himself a businessman, said that he was there trying to buy merchandise to sell at Christmas.

Sergio Wladimir Perez Mautone is the apartment's tenant, and according to Col Fortunato Mora Salas, he has a long drug record for drug use and traffic.

Moreover, it was indicated in the Intelligence Division, that when police entered the apartment, Perez threw a full dish of cocaine out a window.

This operation is the result of work that has been continuing for some time, and at last action was taken at just the right time.



Joaquin Quiros Centeno, caught in the apartment where he was distributing drugs.



Sergio Wladimir Perez Mautone, indicated as the owner of the business where a shipment of LSD and other drugs was found.



Rafael Perez Rondon says he is innocent.

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CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

COCAINE, MANDRAX SEIZED, THREE ARRESTED

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 4 Dec 79 p 46

[Text] More than half a kilogram of cocaine, Mandrax tablets and marihuana was seized last weekend by the Narcotics Division of the Judicial Technical Police [PTJ] in the course of several raids carried out in several areas of Caracas during which three alleged narcotics traffickers were captured.

In its announcement the PTJ also stated that the arrests and the major drug seizure were carried out during the so-called "Operation Cateo" [Operation Search], which is continuing throughout the metropolitan area of Caracas.

The three alleged drug traffickers were identified by the authorities as Myriam Sanchez Romero, known by the nickname of "La Calvita" [Little Bald Lady], who was arrested as she was distributing drugs in downtown Caracas; Santiago Aponte, known in the slum districts as "El Ruletero" [The Taxi Driver] because he uses a "Por Ruesto" pickup to distribute cocaine and marihuana; and the third person arrested, Jose Aniceto Martinez, known as "El Rey de las Mayas" [King of the Daisies], from whom a quantity of Mandrax tablets was seized.

This information was disclosed by Chief Maximiliano Lopez of the Narcotics Division, who also announced that Operation Cateo will be continued until the end of the year.



Santiago Aponte ("El Ruletero"),
arrested in the "Por Puesto"
pickup filled with drugs.



Jose Aniceto Martinez,
arrested by the PTJ.



Miriam Sanchez Romero,
"La Calvita," arrested by the PTJ.

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VENEZUELA

OPERATION EXTASIS NETS COCAINE, MANDRAX

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 2 Dec 79 p 2-1

[Text] In the course of an operation called "Extasis" [Ecstasy]--carried out within the framework of Operation Navidad [Operation Christmas]--the Metropolitan Police [PM] during the past 24 hours arrested 32 individuals and seized 1,500 Mandrax hallucinogenic tablets, 2 kilograms of marihuana in the form of small loaves, a quantity of marihuana cigarettes and six tubes of cocaine.

The Press and Public Relations Office of the PM goes on to state that Jose Visitacion Quintana Oliveros, 20 years of age; Felix Enrique Torrealba Otero, 20; and Daniel Onesimo Jimenez Roca, 24, were arrested in the act of injecting drugs into their arms as they sat in an automobile (license number AOL-600) parked on Nueva Granada Avenue. Two hypodermic needles containing a white powder--presumably cocaine--were confiscated from them together with several ampoules of distilled water.

Daniel Enrique Valdivieso Barreto, 23 years of age, was arrested on the ground floor of the residential complex at No 30 "23 de Enero" Street, with five tubes of cocaine and 1,900 bolivares (presumably the product of drug sales) in his possession.

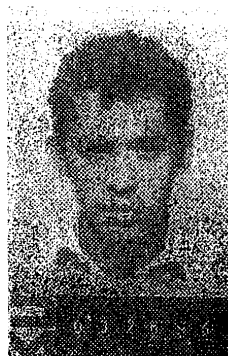
The Colombian national Armando Rios Buitriago, 23 years of age, was arrested in a house at No 185, between the intersections of El Muerto and El Viento, with 201 Mandrax tablets, 1,940 bolivares in cash, and 160 Colombian pesos in his possession, all of which he was keeping under the mattress of his bed.

Luis Eduardo Guerra Carvajal, 23, was arrested on Antimano Boulevard in front of the Pepsicola building with 1 kilogram of marihuana and 160 Mandrax tablets in his possession.

The remainder of those arrested (including 9 persons under 18 years of age) also were in possession of marihuana and Mandrax and had arrest records for the commission of the same crime, according to the aforementioned source.



Daniel Enrique Valdivieso Barreto



Armando Rios Buitriago



Luis Eduardo Guerra Carvajal

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CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

COCAINE, LSD DISCOVERED--A drug shipment worth about a million bolivars was seized at dawn yesterday in Ocumare de la Costa by members of the National Guard and the Directorate of Military Intelligence of the central district. According to reports here, the shipment of drugs was brought from Trinidad to Ocumare de la Costa, for distribution in Caracas, Maracay, and Valencia. Reports indicate that the alleged traffickers are Marin Jose Otero, 29 years old; Jesus Arnaldo Pena Silva; Oscar Jose Benitez, 25 years of age; and Jesus Abraham Afcue, 38, a Cuban and head of the gang, who are being held under orders of the Armed Forces of National Cooperation. According to reports, 175 kilograms of cocaine, and 470 LSD tablets were seized. The drugs were unloaded from launch XLM-1749. [Text] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 18 Nov 79 pp 2-38] 8587

CSO: 5300

IRAN

BRIEFS

HASHISH FOUND IN SAVEH OFFICE--Saveh--The revolutionary guards discovered 12 kilos of hashish in the storage room of the city sugar office. It is still not known how the hashish got there and as yet no one has been arrested. Investigations are continuing. [Text] [Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 12 Dec 79 p 7]

CSO: 5300

KUWAIT

DRUG SMUGGLERS' RING BROKEN UP

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 12 Dec 79 p 5

[Text] Col Muhammad Ahmad al-Qabandi, director of the State Criminal Investigations Directorate, has reported that the men of the directorate have been able to uncover a large network which was smuggling drugs and selling them on the market domestically.

Col al-Qabandi indicated that some of the members of this network were using their work in the port of Ash-Shuwaykh as a front in order to set up their suspected operations in the drug traffic.

This gang includes five Indians and three Pakistanis. They are: Sabir A., 'Abd-al-Rahman Sh., Ahmad 'Abdallah, Mahbub M., Methel Khan H., Sayyid A., Minur W. and Mawla S.

The inquiries of the investigators led to a number of persons who worked in the port of Ash-Shuwaykh and were assisted by others abroad to import the drugs by sea. They then distributed them in Kuwait. Col al-Qabandi quickly made a plan to round up the members of the gang in flagrante delicto and requested that this plan be carried out in cooperation with the responsible agencies in the port of Ash-Shuwaykh, which tendered understanding and a large measure of support for the capture of these criminals who were all turned over to the public prosecutor. They continue to be held during the course of the prosecution.

CSO: 5300

RHODESIA

BRIEFS

SCADA IN JEOPARDY--Salisbury's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse is on its knees. Without a substantial injection of money, the council will have to close its doors to the scores of people whose every hope is pinned on the association's rehabilitation programme. "The results would be disastrous," Miss Joan Goldschmidt of SCADA says. Upon her experienced shoulders rests the responsibility of SCADA's continued existence. She is the council's director, treasurer, secretary and information officer--on top of being its one and only social worker. "Our future hangs in the balance. We ended the last financial year at a loss of \$3 000--if we cannot pull in more money, there is no doubt we will have to close." In an attempt to swell the coffers, SCADA is holding a flag day in Salisbury tomorrow morning. The money raised will help plan for a future in which alcoholism and drug abuse are growing more commonplace. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 14 Dec 79 p 13]

'HARD'DRUG INFLUX--Bulawayo--The lifting of sanctions could have one adverse effect on Rhodesia--the Bulawayo Drug Abuse Committee is afraid that "hard drugs" may start to come into the country illegally. "At present the drug scene in Bulawayo is like a Sunday school picnic compared with countries overseas, and that is how we would like it to remain," said Miss Margaret Lloyd, chairman. "However, the Drug Abuse Committee is facing facts and realises that with the lifting of sanctions, hard drugs will now come into the country." With this in mind, the committee intends to step up its fight against drug abuse. Miss Lloyd, who returned to Rhodesia last year after spending about five years working at rehabilitation centres for drug addicts in America, said in an interview that the committee also aimed to teach adults the signs and symptoms of drug abuse. "Our main message to the public, and to drug users in particular, is that there is a cure...if they want to be cured." [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 17 Dec 79 p 7]

CSO: 5300

DENMARK

PARLIAMENT DEBATES WORSENING NARCOTICS SITUATION

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 20 Nov 79 p 6

[Text] Although the number of drug users is not increasing greatly and may even have leveled off, the whole situation surrounding the use of narcotics has become more serious in the last few years. That is acknowledged on all sides in the Folketing, which had a drug debate yesterday.

If the problems have become greater, it is due in part to the fact that many older narcotics addicts really cannot help themselves, that the number of fatal cases is rising--there will be about 100 in 1979--and that the whole drug environment has become grimmer, since hard drugs such as heroin and cocaine have gained a foothold on the Danish market.

Henning Rasmussen, minister of the interior and of justice, said in the report he made to the Folketing on his own behalf and on behalf of Ritt Bjerregaard, minister of social affairs, yesterday, that according to the general opinion of the treatment institutions the clientele of drug abusers have become more and more socially impaired. Whatever there may have been in the way of a fashion for the use of narcotics is long since gone. Because of the high prices of narcotics the crime rate is high, and the environment is harsher and more brutal than it has been seen before.

The minister said that the sociopedagogical form of treatment had benefited the majority of the patients, but there were big problems for especially the older clientele, who began to use drugs in the 1960's and are now in an incredibly poor physical and mental condition. Long-term administration of methadone cannot be used as a part of the general treatment of drug users.

Henning Rasmussen stated that police action against dealers and "importers" had been strengthened, and that this had yielded quite good results. The general impression, however, was none too bright. In spite of the police efforts it must be admitted that it has not been possible to help the persons who are hardest hit by their difficulties, and there was also a continued need to make an effort in the field of prevention.

The use or abuse of drugs among youths has been known as a phenomenon here in Denmark since 1965. The number of drug users was constantly rising from 1965 to 1971. Since then there has been something like stagnation, with possibly a slight drop until 1975 and possibly a renewed slight increase in the last 2 years. At a conservative estimate there are now 6,000 to 9,000 drug users in Denmark who need treatment.

The parties represented in the Folketing recognized the seriousness of the problem. They emphasized the importance of greater preventive efforts, more effective treatment, and especially more information. In response to a number of statements, the minister said that there are always about 400 criminal addicts in the prisons, but also an increasing number of dealers who are not addicts themselves. The government's Christiania committee, by the way, has been summoned to meet next week.

The Progress Party called for commitment of drug addicts to mental institutions, and Finnur Erlendsson, who is temporarily a member of the Folketing during the illness of Kirsten Jacobsen, introduced a resolution to that effect. It was sharply rejected by all the other parties and by the minister.

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CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

PROBLEMS, TASKS OF THERAPY FOR ADDICTS ANALYZED

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 3 Dec 79 pp 256-260

[Article: "'A Lifelong Task for the Addict'"]

[Text] As many as 600 heroin deaths by the end of this year--making the 1979 German drug scene comparable to the U.S. one of 1976, when heroin addiction there was at its height. While the number of fixers in the United States has gone down in the meantime, experts believe it will rise even further in the FRG.

Those addicted to the needle are to go and get their daily ration of heroin from government hospitals, under medical supervision.

This is the "emergency measure" that the Italian minister of health, Renato Altissimo now wants to resort to. Only in this way, he thinks, can the number of drug addicts be limited, can the vicious circle of "procurement criminality" be broken. Heroin addiction as a medically and socially sanctioned deficiency disease like scurvy or diabetes?

"To eliminate the mental-psychological defects of those outsiders whom medical science gives up on"--that is something society cannot afford to do, for financial reasons alone. This is the argument--probably quite close to the sound commonsense of the man-in-the-street--put forward by the Palatinate social medicine scientist Hermann Arnold in the MUENCHENER MEDIZINISCHE WOCHENSCHRIFT. Ought it not to be possible for "those in charge," Arnold asks, to "summon the courage" to punish all narcotic criminals, "both big and small," as "potential murderers deserve"?

Between the two extremes a debate--inconclusive for the time being--is taking place on how society should handle the problem of drug addiction, on what attempts should be made to save (or reject?) the addicts.

"Drug addicts," says Antje Huber, the minister of health in Bonn, "do not belong behind bars."

Late in October the minister explained the new draft law with which the coalition wants to counter the worsening heroin problem. The key points: Stricter punishment of narcotic dealers and, in turn, "therapy rather than punishment" as the principle applying to the "small" addict.

But how much therapy is possible in light of the 50,000 heroin addicts in the FRG, with the number tending to rise further, and what kind of therapy promises results?

With still discouragingly small, though already clearly improved, results psychiatrists, therapists and social workers are trying to improve the fate of the drug dropouts. These professional helpers in the past few years have been joined by another group of people willing to help--the so-called parents groups which have set themselves up in more than 40 towns. In any case of narcotic addiction, it is the families that are affected most.

Worn down by empathy and as a rule in need of treatment themselves, parents in these "groups" seek contact with one another and with the therapeutic institutes, almost all of them having already realized that on their own they cannot free their son or daughter of the addiction.

It is 10 years since the first parents group was organized in Bonn by Else Meyer--"out of despair" about her son who had become addicted to narcotics. In those days--the 12 months of 1968--the police confiscated all of 1 gram of heroin in the whole FRG. Last year it was 187 kilograms--a good 3 1/2 centner sacks' full of the deadly white powder.

In 1967 all of 1,226 people were "known offenders" in narcotics, with 22.5 percent under the age of 21. Now--that is, according to the count in 1978--there are 39,962 such, with about 40 percent under 21. In the Lehrter Strasse women's prison in West Berlin 9 out of 10 inmates are so-called BTMists (persons who have come into conflict with the BTM [narcotics] law).

This is the narcotic scene confronting the police and those engaged in helping drug addicts. And for the host of about 50,000 heroin addicts there exists only a minute number of places for extended therapy--the only kind that promises results.

In West Berlin, for example, there are about 6,000 heroin addicts but only about 200 therapy places. Or in Frankfurt--to cite another instance--only 28 of the 99 heroin fixers who last year were admitted unconscious to hospitals for intensive treatment were enlisted in withdrawal programs. All others were released from the clinics--back into addiction--after a day or two.

In the so-called long-term establishments, on the other hand, where drug addicts spend up to 2 years under sociotherapeutic care or in self-aid ("Synanon") groups, 20 to 60 percent--if they stick it out--are freed of their addiction.

These results, therapists say, are better than 10 years ago, when therapy was still working in the dark without any kind of orientation or benefit. Yet it remains a Sisyphean task: since 1973 (to take Frankfurt again as an example) the number of drug addicts has risen by 36 percent annually, each of them on the average needing from DM 150 to DM 300 a day, which must be "scrounged" or acquired some other way from one shot to the next.

The term "scrounged" was used by Prof Wolfram Keup of the Karl Bonhoeffer Neurological Clinic ("Bonnies Ranch") in West Berlin, who has observed the drug wave since 1968, since the rise of the "hash ideology."

In the meantime, Keup says, the scene has been "deideologized." Most drug addicts today are young people without a profession or trade, he says, a large percentage having "no occupation, not even being students." And along with the change of scene the drug spectrum changed as well. The curiosity consumption of hashish decreased, particularly at the schools. The number of those going directly for heroin increased--"quite often via initial snuffing of crystalline heroin ('sniffing')," Keup says, "which wrongly continues to be assumed not to be addictive."

Between 1971 and 1977 "fixers" switched almost entirely to heroin. Keup estimates the death rate among addicts to be 10 percent each year, which he says means that those who now consume heroin daily "will have died out within the next 10 years."

The statistics at "Bonnies Ranch" reflect the role played by drugs in proportion to other addictives--headed by alcohol. Of 1,077 patients admitted to the Bonhoeffer Clinic within a 6-month period,

--64.1 percent were alcoholics,

--5.9 percent were drug addicts,

--5.4 percent were addicted to medications (primarily Mandrax, Vesparax, Valium),

--and the remaining 24.6 percent were "polyvalent"--that is, they took at least two and often more different addictives in no particular order.

In absolute terms, alcohol is the No 1 killer. In 1978 there were 2,616 dead from alcohol compared with 430 dead from heroin. Yet it is a moot point whether, compared with hashish and heroin, alcohol is not actually the "much more dangerous," the "truly destructive," narcotic.

So far attempts to dry out the addictive alcohol, established and socially integrated in Western countries for centuries, have consistently failed. (The estimated number of persons addicted to alcohol in the FRG is 2 million.) In those circumstances the chances probably are better to stop the influx of new addictives. In any case, alcohol and drugs are only different sides of the same coin--addiction, or the attempt to solve problems chemically.

Owing to the "ever-increasing coupling of the various forms of abuse," therefore, the therapeutic measures must also be "geared less and less to drugs and more and more to addiction." This is the way Klaus Wanke, professor of psychiatry at the Uniklinik in Frankfurt, formulates a conclusion which is hardly disputed among experts any longer, namely, that while it is indispensable to try to curb narcotic criminality, the real aim, particularly of the therapists, is to cope with society's proneness to addiction.

Regardless of whether a 40-year-old woman living alone sells out to alcohol or an unemployed young man in Berlin-Neukoelln sells out to heroin, in both cases (Wanke writes in the journal DIAGNOSTIC) "the addictive attitude of the addict toward life" is the only point of leverage for possible therapy.

According to Wanke, it is a question of "a particular kind of attitude, of avoidance and suppression, of one's conception of oneself and euphoria," quite independent of the substance used in the particular instance and with "psychological laws of its own."

To overcome the addiction, says the Frankfurt psychiatrist, remains "generally a lifelong task of coping with life as far as the patient is concerned."

The "cold turkey"--the great howling and gnashing of teeth when the drug is withdrawn--is but the lesser evils and only the first step. As a rule, according to Wolfgang Heckmann, responsible for narcotic affairs in Berlin, the withdrawal symptoms are exaggerated by the addict, being "portrayed in a very theatrical manner." Actually, he says, the withdrawal syndrome may be compared to a medium case of flu and passes after only a few days.

This "detoxification," however, is only the first link in a "therapeutic chain." It has to be followed by weaning, rehabilitation and followup care. "Any inpatient accommodation, of whatever kind, makes sense only if aftercare is insured," Wanke states. And sometimes living under protective conditions--for instance, in residential communities--is "the maximum attainable."

The addict--as the therapists of the psychosomatic clinic in Bad Herrenalb, specializing in the treatment of alcoholics, put it, must "change his self-destructive pattern of behavior." The most difficult phase apparently is the time after the physical detoxification, when, in Wanke's words, the patient is ruled by "an inner emptiness, listlessness and awareness of the positive effect the drug will have after withdrawal." As many as 75 percent of all drug addicts undergoing long-term therapy interrupt their attempt at being cured, take off and relapse.

Naturally so far psychiatrists and drug helpers in setting their "therapy aims" have been guided by the individual case, the individual addict, the key terms being "reorientation," "raising the spiritual stamina," "restructuring the personality" and "late maturing."

But now criticism of this concept is coming from their own ranks--for example, from the Working Group of Drug Consultation Centers in North Rhine-Westphalia, which states that while such an "approach" is relieving the burden on society, it is "nevertheless wrong," because in fact it hardly touches the problems of the addicts and their social reality.

It is true that, particularly among young people, the debate about the sociopsychological background of the increase in addiction continues to be conducted with slogans--"lack of perspective," "pressure of performance," "limitation of creativity," "insecurity vis-a-vis the development of society." But there are two concepts that keep cropping up like a leitmotiv in this discussion--the "progressive loss of functions...of family, school and church" (Wanke) and the lack of suitable life models ("spiritual crisis").

According to U.S. psychologist Stanton Peele of the University of Michigan, one becomes an addict if one no longer has any "natural support" in one's life except drugs. A proof of Peele's thesis" Many U.S. soldiers became heroin addicts in the Vietnam war and then very soon after having returned home to their families did not need the narcotic any more. Many did not even manifest any withdrawal symptoms.

Heckmann, responsible for narcotic affairs in Berlin, recently pointed out that time and again "panaceas" were being discussed by the public and politicians concerning drugs. Basically there were three that were put forward regularly:

- Liberalization for the release of all illegal drugs;
- issue of drugs or substitute drugs to addicts;
- compulsory treatment or also confinement of drug addicts.

Connoisseurs of the scene do not regard any of the three proposals as practicable.

Invariably the main argument of the advocates is that in this way "the market (would be) dried out," with the dealers being deprived of their business and their customers.

Experts like Heckmann say, on the other hand, that precisely because the drug scene is such an extremely lucrative business, "drying out" is impossible; those who are now conducting the business would see to it that "in no time at all a new army of drug addicts" would be recruited. The sales techniques are aggressive enough, and the number of people in jeopardy is big enough.

West German drug experts are also skeptical about the road taken in Italy--issuing a daily dose of drugs to addicts. This concept has been followed

in Great Britain for more than 10 years--unsuccessfully. A total of 600 "legalized" recipients of heroin and 1,000 addicts put on the substitute drug methadone contrasts with 20,000 illegal heroin addicts.

As far as coping with life is concerned, this substitute therapy does not do anything for the addict anyway. It amounts to capitulation to addiction in line with the dictum: The doctors too realize that I cannot live without the crutch of heroin or methadone.

The substitution therapy with methadone moreover has a predecessor of ill fame. In 1898 the firm of Bayer brought out a new extremely effective painkiller, which additionally, according to the advertising at the time, "has a pacifying effect in case of cough and is useful in curing drug addicts."

The drug was available without prescription and in fact was used with great success in withdrawal from morphine. The sole disadvantage: The former morphine addicts now could not do without the new drug.

The reason has become apparent in the meantime. The agent in Bayer's cough medicine and the painkiller pills was heroin.

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CSO: 5300

FINLAND

POLICE INTENSIFY EFFORTS AGAINST CANNABIS WHOLESALERS

Helsinki UUSI SUOMI in Finnish 18 Aug 79 p 3

[Article: "Police Fear a Drug Wave, 'Cannabis Moves as a Market Commodity'"]

[Text] Thirteen years have passed since the first Finnish cannabis case. Today the police are directing their efforts toward preventing the importation of drugs.

"However, drugs continue to remain on the market -- as much as the market will bear," states Bureau Chief Torsti Koskinen of the narcotics section of the Helsinki Police Department.

Currently it is estimated that there are 50,000 drug abusers in Finland. Out of this number there are approximately 5,000 actual addicts. An average of three people in Finland die from drugs every year.

Narcotics have never been as great a social problem in Finland as in Sweden or in "liberal Denmark".

"We are a little behind, but, unfortunately, we are following in the same footsteps," states Bureau Chief Koskinen.

The narcotics section of the Helsinki Police Department was established in 1967 when drugs also became a problem in Finland.

"The worst years were 1969-71. After that there has been a decline -- it is significant that we have not taken a turn for the worse," states Unto Vuono, director of the research section.

The majority of drug users is in Helsinki. However, the police are directing their efforts toward the wholesale dealers. Finns primarily around the age of 30, frequently themselves users, make up the majority of importers.

Drugs which originate from the drug triangle in the Far East come to Finland through Copenhagen and ever more frequently through Amsterdam. It is believed that as the economic picture improves the importation of so-called harder drugs will increase.

"Finland continues to be a transit country," states Professor Antti Alha of the Medical Jurisprudence Institute of Helsinki University.

It is rare that there is an opportunity to use any drugs harder than heroin in our country. Thus, for this reason, the users of such drugs have moved to Denmark.

Many of the first generation of Finnish drug users in the 1960's have moved to Kristania on the outskirts of Copenhagen. Denmark does not punish drug users.

For this reason Denmark has been criticized by the other Nordic countries.

In Sweden a fuss has been raised over a motion picture about the drug culture of the 1960 hippie era: "Ett Anständigt Liv" (A Decent Life) relates the life and death of these people who have already reached middle age in a documentary manner.

The manuscript for the film could very well have been written in Finland. Even about today.

"One son died because of drugs, another is in the hospital," states a certain Helsinki mother.

"Parents should pay attention and not ignore them in their most difficult times," she continues.

This Helsinki mother is now participating in a program to aid youth with drug and alcohol related problems. The name of the organization is Vihrea Keidas [Green Oasis], which took care of 200 young drug addicts in 1978.

"There is a continuous need for voluntary workers," states Jarl Jarkka, chairman of the organization.

"At this time we are lacking that most important first aid, a place of welcome, to which youth could come.

"Without support the police would be powerless," states Torsti Koskinen.

"The Green Oasis is an important facility for caring for drug addicts -- if one were to compare it with private institutions," states Unto Vuono.

The most recent figures of the medical jurisprudence system bear this out: in 1977 five Finns died as a result of drugs, six died from sniffing thinner and glue.

10576
CSO: 5300

FINLAND

INTERPOL DRUGS INSPECTOR DISCUSSES DRUGS SITUATION

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 18 Sep 79 p 9

[Article by Matti Backman: "Interpol's Drug Expert Returned to Finland, Heroin An Increasingly More Serious Problem in Western Europe"]

[Text] The importing of heroin into Europe is on the increase, states Finnish policeman Matti Backman, who has served as a narcotics liason in the international police organization Interpol.

However, officials in Central Europe have begun a serious counterattack. In one year the Dutch police succeeded in placing a significant portion of the dubious honor of being the drug center of Europe on its neighbors, particularly the Federal Republic of Germany.

In Matti Backman's opinion it is difficult to judge whether the drug problem in Finland is more or less serious than elsewhere. "The drug problem is only as serious as each country experiences it."

Having served nearly 5 years as a liason man for the Nordic area in the drug section at Interpol Headquarters, Matti Backman has acquired a relative perspective. There are differing limits of tolerance with respect to drugs.

In September Backman resumed his position as chief inspector in the police section of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

"If I were to say that the drug situation in Finland is bad, many will waste no time in demonstrating with statistics that the drug problem in Finland is slight compared to many other countries".

Backman would be able to tell them about a mother whose two children died from an overdose of drugs.

"I would not say to this mother that the drug problem in Finland is slight".

However, Backman will agree that Finland's drug situation is not the worst among the Nordic countries. "Fortunately, we are one of the last links of the drug chain. Therefore, we have been spared the worst."

Interpol Has Put Project Europe Into Effect

The drug situation in Europe was becoming critical when the international police organization Interpol decided to make its struggle against drugs more effective in 1974.

Interpol divided Europe into five areas, each of which was assigned to a liaison man in the headquarters located in France. Specialists in this field were selected as liaisons. One of them was the long-time chief of the narcotics section of the Finnish Central Police, Criminal Inspector Matti Backman.

Backman was made responsible for the Nordic countries. One of the most important duties of a liaison was to develop a channel of communication between the national police organizations of the area and between the chief secretariat of Interpol.

Backman's original 3-year assignment at Interpol stretched into nearly 5 years.

Backman complains that very little has been said publicly about the activities of Interpol. Trained in a difficult international war against drugs the policeman who is always known for his taciturnity becomes even more restrained.

Backman has reservations about evaluating the results of Interpol's Project Europe. "Last year two times as much cannabis products was confiscated as in the previous year. Is this a reflection of the fact that the situation has become two times as bad? Or does it mean that the police have been two times as effective? Or does it mean that the member countries of Interpol are being more conscientious in their reporting," asks Backman.

Backman also asks what unit is used to measure the seriousness of a drug problem. "By the amount confiscated, by the number of users arrested, or, perhaps, by the number of deaths due to an overdose?"

Heroin Situation Becoming Worse

The making of conclusions and evaluations is apparently difficult. Backman is satisfied with enumerating the facts about recent drug developments in Europe.

In 1978 nearly 540 kilos of heroin and 54,000 kilos of cannabis products were confiscated in Europe.

A new drug on the European market is South American cocaine. Last year three times as much of this drug as in the previous year was confiscated.

Confiscations of drugs such as amphetamines and morphines, which stimulate the central nervous system, have decreased. This has been the consequence of legal changes adopted in certain countries making it easier for the police to ascertain illegal preparations.

The amount of LSD appearing in Europe is now very small. LSD, which was at its height 5 years ago, is being used less although there is still an interest in this drug. Opium as such is seldom encountered in Europe.

Backman states that three-fourths of the heroin in Europe continues to come from the Far East. Most frequently individuals belonging to Chinese minority groups, or so-called ethnic Chinese, act as the couriers in various countries.

Interpol Acts as Information Center

In Backman's opinion it can be said without a doubt that one of the effects of Operation Europe is that the exchange of information between member countries and the secretariat of Interpol has become more rapid and its content more precise.

Interpol headquarters, which is located in the small town of St. Cloud on the outskirts of Paris, annually receives 25,000 messages concerning drugs from the police of its member countries.

Part of the secretariat answers questions from member countries, part maintains communications as well as advises on measures, and the remaining segment analyzes information and gives reports to the field.

Backman gives an illustrated example of the need for cooperation in the international war against drugs: "The subject may be a Danish drug seller who operated in Switzerland and obtained his drugs from Pakistan. Information must be easily exchanged between all three countries. Interpol acts as a coordinator of information."

What kind of information do the member countries request from Interpol?

Backman is somewhat troubled. He answers anyway: "A typical situation is that somewhere in the world a drug seller has been arrested. At that time it is possible to ask through Interpol where this individual has been seen before, in what activity, with whom, and so on."

In 1976 four heroin smugglers from Singapore, who aroused attention, were detained at the Helsinki-Vantaa Airport. What role did information obtained from Interpol play in this arrest?

Backman gives the interviewer an amused look: "Now you don't really think that you will get an answer to that question."

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FINLAND

CENTRAL POLICE DRUGS INSPECTOR: SMUGGLING INCREASES

Helsinki UUSI SUOMI in Finnish 18 Sep 79 p 3

[Article: "Drugs in Small Shipments, Smuggling Increases"]

[Text] Drug smuggling into Finland is increasing at an increasingly rapid rate. Indeed, the amount of smuggled shipments has decreased because of the danger of being disclosed.

Criminal Inspector Risto Veijalainen of the Central Criminal Police states that the basic drug problem in our country has stayed the same and is good in the sense that the use of hard drugs, heroin, and amphetamines in Finland is relatively low.

Last year's report by the Central Criminal Police indicates that drug confiscations have become fewer and the amounts confiscated have been "down-right small".

However, it is pointed out in the report that this does not mean that drug related criminal acts have declined, "but to the contrary there are definite signs that drugs are being brought into Finland at an increasingly rapid rate".

According to the report the fact that smuggling is taking place in ever smaller consignments is explained by the fact that the possibility of disclosure is reduced as the size of shipments is reduced.

Veijalainen states that another reason for such small consignments is that we have few large funders.

"Less drugs are being brought in at one time since there is no money to buy large amounts."

The new procedures for smuggling also make it very difficult to uncover incidents of smuggling. According to the report of the Central Criminal Police the method now being used for transporting the majority of drugs is "to hide it in a prophylactic which is then inserted in the anus".

Several Thousand Users

According to Veijalainen there are several thousand habitual users of drugs in Finland. This figure does not include so-called experimenters and those who use drugs infrequently.

According to Veijalainen the number of users in Finland is increasing slightly, but the situation is not yet alarming.

"All in all the problem here is not as serious as in Central Europe. Relatively few hard drugs are used here since the primary drugs being used are cannabis products, marijuana and hashish."

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FINLAND

THIRD CASE OF HASHISH SMUGGLING FROM USSR REVEALED

Helsinki DEMARI in Finnish 8 Aug 79 p 7

[Article: "Again Hashish From the Soviet Union"]

[Text] For the third time this year hashish has been smuggled into Finland from the Soviet Union. At the end of July the police arrested a Helsinki jeweler from whose car and home nearly 700 grams of powdered hashish was found.

At the hearing the jeweler admitted to having been in the southern portion of the Soviet Union on a vacation trip just prior to his arrest. There he purchased a kilo of hashish from a certain individual and paid for the goods with approximately 3,000 markkas' worth of jewelry.

The jeweler smuggled the drugs into Helsinki as transit goods through Seutula Airport. At the time of his arrest nearly 700 grams of hashish was confiscated from the jeweler. He stated that he had used the missing drugs himself while on his vacation and after his arrival in Helsinki. The man was arrested on 19 July.

The jeweler is now in the Helsinki Provincial Jail.

Torsti Koskinen, director of the Narcotics police, states that the case is still being studied. The police are trying to determine whether it is just a question of an individual incident or whether this incident is part of a broader ring.

The cache of hashish disclosed in July is the third large amount of drugs to be smuggled into the country from the Soviet Union this year. In July the Helsinki Municipal Court condemned three men from Lappeenranta to imprisonment for the smuggling and sale of nearly three kilos of hashish. The drugs were brought into Finland in February and April in two separate consignments and it was sold in Helsinki, Kuusankoski, Porvoo, and Lappeenranta.

The men from Lappeenranta had paid their Soviet counterparts for the hashish in jeans, leather coats, and plastic handbags.

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FINLAND

BRIEFS

SENTENCES FOR SMUGGLERS--The Helsinki Court of Appeals lightened the sentence of imprisonment for two Lappeenranta men who smuggled drugs from the Soviet Union. The Helsinki Municipal Court condemned a mechanic to 2 years and 10 months and a teacher to 2 years and 1 month imprisonment for smuggling of drugs. The court of appeals lightened the sentence of the mechanic by 2 months and the imprisonment of the teacher by 6 months. The court of appeals considered that the mechanic and the teacher were not guilty of smuggling but of its promotion by funding and otherwise aiding a salesman from Lappeenranta who was found guilty of smuggling. The salesman was condemned to 2 years and 10 months imprisonment. The court of appeals did not change his sentence. [Text] [Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 19 Oct 79 p 13] 10576

HELSINKI RING BROKEN--The Helsinki Criminal Police has uncovered a drug smuggling ring. A 28-year old Helsinki translator was imprisoned for importing and distributing hashish. His wife and sister were also detained for participating in the smuggling. The man was arrested a couple weeks ago in the center of Helsinki. The police found approximately 220 grams of hashish on his person and in his home. He had purchased this amount as well as previous amounts from Amsterdam. The drugs were brought into Finland through Naantali. The criminal police stated that the investigation of this incident will be expanded. They suspect that in addition to Helsinki the hashish was also distributed to other communities. The case will be brought before Helsinki Municipal Court in the near future. [Text] [Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 26 Sep 79 p 8] 10576

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FRANCE

BRIEFS

VOSGES DRUG TRAFFIC--Nineteen persons less than 25 years of age were charged with trafficking in and using drugs after an investigation begun last October by the Epinal (Vosges Department) Security Police. Making use of prescription blanks, about 500 of them, obtained from a doctor who was an uncle of one of the principals, the members of a small network of suppliers provided themselves with drugs listed on official list "A" and consumed them. The 19 youths involved, seven of whom had been imprisoned, were all freed on bail on 24 December. According to the investigators, all those implicated in the affair have not yet been apprehended. [Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 30-31 Dec 79 p 7]

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NETHERLANDS

POLICE BREAK UP AMPHETAMINE SMUGGLING RING

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 1 Dec 79 p 3

[Report: "Amphetamine Case Now Before Arnhem Court; Demanded Sentence Again 2 Years"]

[Text] Arnhem, 1 December--Smuggling and trading in amphetamine were the most lucrative occupation of a Limburg-based underworld at the beginning of the seventies. Most of the ampuls with this stimulant went -- with a beautiful profit margin -- to Sweden, so that the authorities of that country -- confronted with a continuously spreading addiction of its youth-- continued to harass with protests the Dutch policy which had not placed amphetamine on the forbidden list.

Meanwhile these types of products have been included in that list and consequently the kingdom of, amongst others, the Limburg drug king P. and his court has been undermined by the prospect and meting out of very heavy penalties. But the Dutch courts, including the supreme court, still have to deal with the inheritance from that period.

One of the cases -- taking place in this world of deception and intimidation -- which came up before the Arnhem court yesterday, is the De F. case. Did De F., suspected of smuggling an amphetamine product to the Netherlands via his business located in Bentheim (FRG), become the victim of a crafty web of lies spun from opportunistic motives by a meanwhile deceased amphetamine dealer -- another P. -- or did he try at the time to look for substantial earnings in the amphetamine trade?

New Witnesses

In earlier phases of the trial against De F., the court in Maastricht and the court of appeal in 's-Hertogenbosch had come to a judgment against De F. which ultimately had led to a sentence of 2 years. After a few judicial maneuvers, the supreme court decided at the beginning of this year to review the 's-Hertogenbosch sentence, after this highest court of justice itself had heard new witnesses, an unusual procedure.

The supreme court stated amongst other things: "The facts and circumstances included in the statements and documents rendered do not seem to be consistent with the earlier reported statement of proof (of the 's-Hertogenbosch court --editor), so from that a serious suspicion may be derived that if they had been known to the court, the investigation of the case would have led to the acquittal of the accused."

Thus the Arnhem court, chaired by Mr J. Gijnsman, yesterday had to hear the case again, whereby it was confronted with witnesses who either swallowed earlier statements, or had not been heard yet. In any event, that which was produced by both categories appeared to be extremely relieving to De F., whose life seemed to have been thoroughly affected by alternate periods of imprisonment and interruption of the sentence, all according to his juridical position.

In official reports, according to statements of witnesses, there could have been a matter of mistaken identity -- De F. looks a lot like the son of the amphetamine dealer P. mentioned above. A Swedish witness, who has been living in the Netherlands for 7 years and who was closely involved in the amphetamine trade at the time, told that in those days he had never heard De F.'s name mentioned as a supplier.

At the end of the day's session Attorney General M. L. de Haas concluded that not a single wedge had been driven into the structure of proof which the court in 's-Hertogenbosch had constructed at the time.

He found that the sentence of the court in 's-Hertogenbosch -- 2 years for De F. -- ought to be sustained.

'False Documents'

Mr De F.'s attorney, Mr L. Hamer, called de De F. case "the end of a criminal proceedings-tragedy of exceptional scope." The production of false documents by interested parties and the toughness dictated by the diligence of the police and the public administration in Maastricht to make an end to the amphetamine trade, had obscured insight into "a number of obvious improbabilities" in the trial against his client.

Mr Hamer's conclusion: acquittal.

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PORTUGAL

INTERNATIONAL DRUG RING DISCOVERED, LEADER ARRESTED

Lisbon DIARIO DE NOTICIAS in Portuguese 1 Nov 79 p 10

[Text] The dismantling of a drug traffickers ring, culminating in the capture of one of its main leaders, which happens very seldom, was achieved now by the Judicial Police. This is an event which gives greater merit to their work carried out for several weeks in Lisbon and in various points of the country. The seizure of marihuana and hashish oil for a total value of over 8,000 contos should also be stressed.

This is the third drug traffickers ring which has been neutralized by the PJ [Judicial Police] in 4 months. The ring was made up of nine individuals, some young, others not so young. Two of them are repeaters in this type of crime. All of them are Portuguese nationals, although two of them were born in Mozambique. Their names have not been made public. All the arrests have been approved by criminal judges and the individuals are being held without bail.

Because of the nature of the charges, the possible sentences may range from 2 to 8 years in the penitentiary.

The "brain" of the ring is an individual who has been living in South Africa for many years residing in Johannesburg where two of his main accomplices are also established and live. To their occupation as businessmen they added that of "couriers" of the ring. They were the ones who brought to Lisbon the "plants" (marihuana) which the gang imported from Swaziland. The drug was transported in suitcases with false bottoms. In their role as businessmen the two individuals justified as business their constant flights between Portugal and South Africa.

Once in Lisbon, the drug was sent to "agencies" of the organization in Viana do Castelo, Porto, Tondela, Torres Vedras, Cruz de Pau, Sines and Portimao, and also in Alges, and in the capital, in Bairro da Charneca do Lumiar from where the drugs were sent to their marketing circuit supplying retailers or directly trusted consumers.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE: 2007/02/08: CIA-RDP82-00850R000200040029-4

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The capture of the leader of the ring was made possible when he came to Lisbon to personally direct a large transaction which was to be made last Friday. The investigators (Central Section of Traffic and Drug Investigation of the PJ) tipped off about the plan mounted adequate action to surprise, on the scene, the leader and backer of the ring.

The largest amount of marihuana was seized in Tondela, no less than 20,226 grams of the 54 kg seized from the ring.

Some 682 grams of hashish oil was found stored at the Alges "branch," whose total value is 8,120 contos. The rest of the marihuana seized was as follows: Porto, 11 kg; Portimao, 2,115 [measuring unit not given]; Torres Vedras, 1,730; Charneca do Lumiar, 1,586; Cruz de Pau, 27 grams.

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PORTUGAL

BRIEFS

THREE DRUG RINGS DISMANTLED--The Drug Section of the Judicial Police after careful investigation in the past few days succeeded in dismantling three drug trafficking and marketing rings which were operating in several areas of the country. The Judicial Police not only dismantled the rings but also arrested 33 drug traffickers whose ages range between 18 and 30, who engaged in importing morphine, marihuana and hashish from abroad and selling it on the domestic market. Close to 5 kg of marihuana, a reasonable amount of hashish in slabs and powder, and 54 grams of morphine were seized from the traffickers. The morphine is sold on the illegal market for about 15,000 escudos a gram. The traffickers--one of whom is a woman--acted in the area close to Lisbon, in Almada, Cova da Piedade, Costa da Caprica and Cocilhas and in other areas of the country, such as Vila Franca, Sintra, Coruche, Santarem and Olhao. [Text] [Porto O PRIMEIRO DE JANEIRO in Portuguese 20 Oct 79 p 6] 11634

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SPAIN

BRIEFS

POLICE CONFISCATE MARIHUANA, HASHISH--Jose Luis Garcia Gomez, a resident of La Victoria de Acentejo (Tenerife), was arrested after it was ascertained that he had a marihuana patch in the garden of his home and that he kept an up to date account of the quantities of the drug sold and the payments received for it. A total of 4 kg of marihuana ready to be sold, 48 marihuana plants and a book of detailed accounts were confiscated from him. [Text] [Madrid YA in Spanish 26 Oct 79 p 41] 9204

TWO ARRESTED TRANSPORTING HASHISH--The Civil Guard of Algeciras has arrested Antonio Gomez Fernandez and Javier Calderon Munoz, residents of Ceuta, who were captured in an automobile which had aroused suspicion. They were transporting 100 kg of pressed hashish in the vehicle. [Text] [Madrid YA in Spanish 26 Oct 79 p 41] 9204

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED, DRUGS CONFISCATED--The Judicial Police of Madrid arrested 28 traffickers and users of drugs in an apartment of 27 Canillas Street and in another at 8 Carranza Street. The police identify as principal offenders Moises Campos Jiminez, 37 years old; Manuel Santaolalla Fraguero, 29 years old; Carlos Castilla Plaza, 28 years old; Mario Roberto Gomez Ramirez, 22 years old; Juan Maria Gonzalez Buron, 23 years old; and Bernardo Santos Santiago, 24 years old. Some 100 gm of very pure heroin (over 95 percent pure) which had been brought to Spain from Thailand by Campos and Santaolalla was confiscated from them. This amount, after being cut, would have become 700 gm of heroin which on the black market is now priced at 8,000 pesetas per gm, which means that it would have had a value of 5.6 million pesetas. Carlos Castilla was arrested as accessory to the crime. Part of the heroin and precision scales were found in his home. He was also the addressee of a package sent through the mails containing 100,000 pesetas worth of hashish. Mario Roberto Gomez, owner of the apartment on Canillas Street, was, according to the police, one of the drug pushers. Several users met daily in his home. Early in the year he had another rented apartment which he used for the same purpose and in which two boys suffered serious drug poisoning. The apartment on Carranza Street was rented by Gonzalez Buron and 150 gm of marihuana, several packets of cocaine and various utensils were found there. As for Bernardo Santos, he had in his possession 20 gm of cocaine over 90 percent pure and he was arrested in Gonzalez Buron's residence along with 22 youths of both sexes who were there to buy drugs. [Text] [Madrid YA in Spanish 11 Nov. 79 p 23] 9204

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TURKEY

BRIEFS

PURE HEROIN SEIZED--A security directorate narcotics team has confiscated 13.17 kilograms of pure heroin and a heroin production laboratory. They also detained an official of the Istanbul security directorate and six others for collaborating to have this heroin smuggled into Europe. Three persons are being sought in connection with the issue. Security directorate officials have said that this is the largest narcotics smuggling case of the past 35 years. [TA201427 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 19 Dec 79 TA)

CSO: 5300

UNITED KINGDOM

BRITONS SOUGHT AFTER EIRE DRUGS SWOOP

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 10 Dec 79 p 19

[Article by James Allan in Dublin]

[Text]

WARRANTS for the arrest of two Britons, one a former Soho vice merchant, are being considered by Dublin detectives who last week smashed a multi-million-pound drug racket based in County Limerick.

The former vice operator, well known in London's underworld, lived in a bungalow on the outskirts of the quiet village of Knocklong, on the borders of Limerick and Tipperary, for about a year.

He rented two other bungalows in the area, which police found were used as a drugs laboratory and store.

Detectives believe several million poundsworth of drugs were shipped to Britain and to the Continent in the past year.

Fled to Paris

The Briton, who was last seen in the area three weeks ago, is believed to have fled to Paris. In Knocklong he posed as a retired businessman with an interest in greyhounds and horses.

He drank in local bars and told residents he was looking for a farm to keep his greyhounds, which he raced. He had regular visits from English people and a woman the villagers took to be his wife.

The vice merchant was popular in the area, and his dark-blue Cadillac was a familiar sight in the narrow lanes. He also hired several cars locally.

Police believe these may have been used to transport the drugs to Dublin, for shipment to Britain. A massive haul of drugs, worth about 2800,000, in County Kildare recently, is believed to have led police to the Limerick factory.

24-hour surveillance

They kept watch around the clock on the three bungalows for some time before moving in. They hoped to catch the vice merchant and his associates, but he appears to have got wind of their intentions.

Police found drug-making equipment worth £50,000, including 15 cartons each containing 56 lb. of chemicals used to manufacture drugs, and 50 one-gallon drums of liquid.

The three properties have been completely stripped for clues by forensic scientists. Detectives have questioned several local people whom they suspect may have been involved in the operation.

But they are anxious to question the Briton. An application to a Dublin court to issue warrants for his arrest and that of another Briton may be sought soon, police sources indicated yesterday.

CSO; 532Q

UNITED KINGDOM

IRANIAN WOMAN TRIED FOR HEROIN SMUGGLING

Claims Drug 'Planted'

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 20 Nov 79 p 3

[Text]

A LITTLE old lady from Iran had two surprises for Customs officers at Heathrow, a jury heard yesterday.

Her big brown suitcase had a false bottom, and contained heroin worth £500,000. And when Mrs ROBAHEH MOHEBY, 66, was strip-searched, a bundle of banknotes was found in a zip pocket in her knickers.

Mr LEONARD KRICKLER, prosecuting at Reading Crown Court, said the heroin was destined for Los Angeles and the cash was her pay-off as a drugs courier.

Mrs Moheby, a grandmother, from Teheran, denies smuggling about 5½ lb of the drug into Britain in May.

Mr KRICKLER said Mrs Moheby was stopped in the green channel of the airport's terminal 3 after Customs officers suspected her suitcase had a false compartment.

Her knickers' pocket contained 25,000 Iranian rials, worth about £170.

Trip to see son

Mrs Moheby, who speaks no English, told Customs men through an interpreter that she was on her way to see her son in Los Angeles and it had been "a long-promised trip."

Mr Krickler said: "She told them she had bought the suitcase three days before she left Iran from a door-to-door salesman. She had packed it herself and knew nothing about the white powder."

"She said heroin addicts were shot in Iran and she thought addicts were worse than animals. Mrs Moheby said she was pro-Shah and because of this someone probably planted the drug in her suitcase to get her into trouble."

The trial was adjourned until today.

Not Guilty Verdict

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 22 Nov 79 p 19

[Text]

A 66-year-old Iranian grandmother, who had heroin worth £500,000 in her suitcase and 250,000 Iranian rials, about £170, in zipped pockets in her knickers when stopped at Heathrow, was refused costs yesterday after jury cleared her of smuggling.

The jury at Reading Crown Court took two hours to find Mrs ROBANAH MOHEBY not guilty of smuggling about 5½lb of heroin in the false bottom of a suitcase.

But Judge CHRISTOPHER LEE rejected her application for costs. Mrs Moheby, from Teheran, was not legally aided.

She had claimed that the drug was planted on her in Iran because she was opposed to Ayatollah Khomeini.

Mrs Moheby told the court through an interpreter that she had no idea where the heroin had come from and that she brought the suitcase for a trip to Los Angeles to visit her son, from a door-to-door salesman a few days before leaving Iran.

She said she could only believe that the drug had been planted by someone who disliked her because she had pro-Shah sympathies.

CSO: 5320

UNITED KINGDOM

PARAPLEGIC SENTENCED IN COCAINE SMUGGLING PLOT

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 21 Nov 79 p 19

[Text]

A PARAPLEGIC who used his wheelchair and disabled driver's car as "props" in a plan to smuggle cocaine valued at about £200,000 into Britain was jailed for five years yesterday.

He was one of a gang of eight sentenced at Winchester Crown Court after a six-week trial.

The cocaine, which had been distilled in water and hydrochloric acid, was discovered in four wine bottles brought into Britain from South America by one of the gang.

The jury heard that the original plan had been for one of the smugglers to meet the paraplegic, KENNETH FORD, 43, at a Paris airport and hand the bottles to him so that Ford, accompanied by his young son and nephew could bring them to Britain.

But the men missed each other and the smuggler, TREVOR SCATTERGOOD, 24, flew on to Heathrow with the bottles. He was stopped by Customs men.

Sentence reduced

Sentencing Ford Mr Justice AAKNER said: "Your wheelchair and special disabled driver's car were part of the

props to enable this deception to succeed," while his son and nephew, aged 15 and 11 were "part of the necessary scenery."

As Ford, of Love Lane, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, had agreed to use his disability to further the conspiracy then, in logic there should be no discount on his sentence, said the judge.

But he added: "It is well said that mercy should on occasions season justice." He had therefore reduced the sentence of seven years which he would otherwise have passed.

Ford, who was paralysed below the waist following a go-cart accident, had been convicted for his part in a conspiracy to import cocaine.

Major's daughter

The other accused included SARAH VAN LESSEN, 25, of Swanage, Dorset, daughter of a retired Army major, and her boyfriend DAVID ELLIS, 30. She said she had agreed to give Ellis a baby if he would give up smuggling but he had refused. Miss Van Lessen was jailed for six years.

Ellis, of the same address, was jailed for eight years.

STEPHEN SIMMONDS, 38, of Shanklin, Isle of Wight, who provided the chemical expertise, received 10 years and SCATTERGOOD, of Hayling Island, Hampshire, eight years.

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END

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