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(FOUO 23/80)

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28 May 1980

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 23/80)



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WORLDWIDE REPORT
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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AUSTRALIA

DRUGS AGENTS POINT TO DEFICIENCIES IN DETECTION

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 19 Mar 80 p 7

[Report by Michael Sinclair-Jones]

[Text] Policemen generally avoid the Press like the plague. Coaxing information from them can be like trying to wring blood from a stone.

So it was remarkable last week that narcotics agents shed their cloak-and-dagger mantle of secrecy to "spill the beans" on what they claim are serious deficiencies in drug detection in Australia.

Their desperation was underlined by further leaks from the Williams royal commission into drugs, which criticised customs checks in WA.

The agents, and sources close to them, claim that morale is at an all-time low, that important sources of overseas intelligence have dried up and, perhaps worst of all, for the agents, they feel they have become the laughing stock of the drugs underworld.

The Narcotics Bureau hit the headlines last May after the Federal Government launched an inquiry into alleged leaks from the bureau to a multi-million dollar drugs syndicate.

A New Zealand couple were said to have been murdered after a dispute with drug ring leaders. Police alleged that the couple had previously supplied them with information leaked from the Narcotics Bureau computer.

Then in October a confidential police report described the Narcotics Bureau as corrupt and inefficient. It claimed that the bureau offered lavish rewards to informants which, in some cases, had encouraged drugs trafficking.

Transfer

Ten days later, Federal Cabinet abolished the bureau and transferred its drug detection operations to the newly-created Federal Police.

The Federal Police had been in existence for only two months. It replaced the former Commonwealth Police and the ACT police. The aim was to restructure Australia's police defences against terrorism and interstate crime in the wake of the 1978 Sydney Hilton bombing.

Virtually overnight it also became an antidrugs forces with the addition of 138 narcotics agents from the Customs Bureau.

The agents, including 13 from WA, were hastily sworn in as "special members" of the Federal Police after it was discovered that existing Federal legislation did not allow them to become fully-fledged federal policemen.

Now, five months later, the Federal Government is understood to have approved a recommendation from the Federal Police Commissioner, Sir Colin Woods, to amend the Police Act to enable 84 narcotics agents to accept invitations to become federal policemen.

A further 34 agents have been offered public service posts in crime intelligence operations.

But this alone will not solve problems raised publicly by narcotics agents last week.

When their operations switched from the Customs Bureau to the Federal Police, the narcotics agents lost their rights to use powerful open warrants available to customs men under the Customs Act.

Instead, like any other State or federal policemen, the agents must apply for individual search warrants from magistrates or JPs before they can enter premises to search for illegal drugs imports.

The Federal Police say they prefer it this way because it places their operations above suspicion and protects people's right to privacy.

However, the narcotics agents say that the ordinary warrants are too severe a restriction in their particular field of work.

One agent claimed recently that it could take up to a day and a half for Federal Police warrants to be approved.

They claim that Federal Police red tape has interfered with the narcotics intelligence network. Working liaisons with other government departments have broken down.

More seriously, important overseas law enforcement agencies no longer trust drug intelligence information to narcotics agents in Australia.

Overseas

"We maintain the only overseas contacts with police and law enforcement agencies other than Interpol," one agent said.

"Our investigations into a big smuggling operation in WA in the past 12 months resulted in several arrests and drugs seizures in overseas countries.

"But the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency has dropped us because it no longer trusts Australian agents. The Canadians and the New Zealanders have dropped us too.

"What can you expect when a royal commission calls you corrupt and inefficient?

"We cannot say that every member is not corrupt—there is an element of corruption in every police force—but the allegations in that report were generally unfounded.

"Because of it, our sources of information are shot."

The agents say they still maintain fairly good contacts with drug squad detectives in the State police, though some were reluctant to pass information to narcotics agents.

Though narcotics agents' arrests—dealing only with drugs imports—were fewer than State police arrests, shared information had led to several State police arrests of people using, possessing or cultivating drugs.

"If we investigate premises and find cannabis being grown,

we tell the State police," an agent said.

The agents said their investigations of small dealers in drugs had revealed connections to people higher up the chain who had lots of money but no obvious sources of income.

"There are people like this in WA," an agent said. "They deal mainly in heroin, which is the big money-spinner.

"What might be worth only a couple of thousand dollars in Asia can be worth up to \$1 million a kilogram after it is diluted with arsenic and other compounds.

"The stuff is diluted to almost nothing by the time it hits the streets.

"We estimate that this year the Middle East countries will probably produce about 1600 tonnes of opium—enough to supply 75 per cent of the world's heroin market.

"Most of the stuff in Australia comes from the Golden Triangle of South-East Asia.

"It is easy for a smuggler's yacht to slip away from the northern coast, pick up a big consignment of drugs and then return to its home port with a story that the crew had been on a fishing trip for a couple of days.

"There are no customs checks, no police searches, nothing.

"About 60 per cent of the heroin used in Australia is landed on the WA coast."

The narcotics agents believe that more drugs are entering Australia than ever before.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

ROYAL DRUGS COMMISSION REPORT PRESENTED IN PARLIAMENT

Minister's, Opposition's Remarks

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 1

[Report from Russell Barton, Political Correspondent]

[Text] Canberra.--The problem of drug abuse is a national emergency requiring a national strategy, according to the Australian Royal Commission of Inquiry into Drugs, tabled in Federal Parliament yesterday.

The five-volume report took two and a half years of investigation by the Commissioner, Mr Justice Williams, formerly of the Queensland Supreme Court. It covered all drugs, including alcohol and tobacco.

It maps out a strategy for national action, involving new legislation, new organisations, and increased surveillance, requiring greater Government spending.

The problem of drug abuse in Australia contains many elements of a wartime situation, the report says, warning that "penny-pinching accounting" must be avoided.

But in tabling the report, the Minister for Health, Mr MacKellar gave Government support "in principle" for only a handful of the Commission's 246 recommendations.

He announced that the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, had written to Premiers suggesting that the National Standing Control Committee on Drugs of Dependence be the appropriate forum for initial discussion on the report's recommendations.

Yet the report comes out strongly against the use of the NSCC as a vehicle for action.

"The evidence had convinced the Commission that the National Standing Control Committee has

"declined in effectiveness in recent years," it says.

"In 1969, the creation of the National Standing Control Committee was an appropriate initiative, but its constitution and functions have not changed to meet public expectations in a very much larger and different 1979 situation.

"In consequence, the Commission is of the view that the development of the proposed strategy towards a national policy

against drug abuse should not be appropriately left to the National Standing Control Committee."

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Hayden, attacked the Government for dealing with the massive report in a perfunctory 10 minutes.

"It's like trying to cook an elephant in a crock pot. It just won't do," he said.

Mr Hayden said there was nothing affirmative in what Mr MacKellar had to say, apart from approvals in principle for some of the recommendations.

'May well be forgotten'

The report would go to the bottom of a Parliamentary notice paper already containing more than 80 items. "It may well be becalmed and forgotten forever," he said.

Mr MacKellar agreed with the report in that any strategy to limit the abuse of drugs must embrace all drugs, including alcohol and tobacco.

He announced that there would be no relaxation of the present national prohibition on cannabis, while acknowledging that the Federal Government has limited powers. This was in line with the report's recommendations.

Central to the Commission's recommended national strategy is the establishment of a network of Drug Information Centres to monitor the cost of drug abuse, the cost of law enforcement, the cost of treatment, and to fill the present gap in drug-related statistics.

The report lists the aims of the Drug Information Centres as determining whether drug abuse is a victimless crime, whether the present crime/medical approach is too expensive, and whether money spent in education is achieving results.

"Their work will be of inestimable value in a review, after a decade, of a number of social and legal problems connected with drugs," the report says.

"For example, should cannabis use be permitted? A strategy whose worth is not being constantly measured cannot, after a lapse of some years, be accurately evaluated."

'Inadequate, misdirected'

Mr MacKellar put the fate of the all-important Drug Information Centres in the hands of the National Standing Control Committee, listing the subject as a major item for the committee's talks.

The Commission slates a number of aspects of past and present aspects of the fight against drug abuse, labelling the coastal surveillance effort as "inadequate and misdirected", with the majority of detections being fortuitous.

It recommends that the present fragmented surveillance work be centralised with the Australian Coastal Surveillance Centre.

It says there has been a large degree of inefficiency in law enforcement operations.

The Commission sees future law enforcement strategy comprising the harassment of organised groups by the seizure of drugs and convictions and the identification of users and street pedlars and drawing them into a "treatment net" rather than concentrating on convictions as in the past.

But it warns that sympathy for the user should be tempered with the realisation that he may be involved in encouraging others to use his drugs.

The Commission says any convictions recorded against juvenile "experimenters" should be expunged after a period of good behaviour.

Ban urged on Mandrax

Turning to the "legal" drug problem the commission first recommends the banning of imports of Mandrax - the drug methaqualone or "mandies" as they are known in the drug scene.

The Commission indentified the drug in the form of Mandrax as the most abused prescribed drug in Australia.

The Commission says alcohol should be treated as a drug of dependance for all purposes, but its historical place in our society means that logic must give way to practical considerations.

On tobacco the report recommends that its use should be monitored by the Drug Information Centres and controls should be introduced under drugs of dependance legislation which should be limited initially to prohibiting the distribution of tobacco to people under the age of 16.

Recommendations Summarized

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 10

[From the feature, "Williams Drug Report"]

[Text] [SYDNEY MORNING HERALD Editor's Note: "Copies of the five-volume 1,608 page Williams Report will be available from Australian Government Publishing Service bookshops from about noon today for \$35.40."]

Mr Justice Williams made 246 recommendations which would transform the enforcement of drug laws, the detection of drug offenders and pushers, and the treatment of addicts.

They include:

MARIHUANA: No relaxation of the present prohibition on cannabis should be made for 10 years from the opening of a series of a new type of Drug Information Centre across the country.

After the 10 years the Commonwealth and State Governments should jointly review the legal prohibition against cannabis.

MANDRAX: The drug methaqualone, or Mandrax, or any other preparation containing it should be absolutely prohibited from import into Australia, and its use or possession after June 30 should be absolutely prohibited in any part of the Commonwealth.

ADDICT REGISTERS: Each State should register all persons who have been treated for narcotic use, or who are receiving

narcotic maintenance to eliminate the giving of multiple doses.

The registers would be confidential to a special section of the States' Health departments.

FEDERAL POLICE POWERS should be widened to make them responsible for enforcing Commonwealth drug laws beyond Customs barriers, as at present.

POLICE FORCES in general should co-ordinate their actions against drug-related crimes according to a national strategy on drug abuse.

SHIPPERS and **IMPORTERS** should be subject to new Customs laws dealing severely with any attempt to alter, break or tamper with a new type of seal to be used on containers.

BODY SEARCHES at Customs barriers should be conducted under revised procedures normally starting with an ultrasound examination using an external device, and proceeding to a physical examination of body cavities by an authorised doctor if reasonable suspicion

of drug concealment remained. Suspects could be detained for up to three days for the purposes of an internal body search, and brought before a magistrate after three days if an order for a further examination was sought.

CORRUPTION allegations made against police should be investigated where possible by a police team including elements from another police force.

The desirability of having an ombudsman to monitor investigations by police of allegations of misconduct or corruption should be reviewed. An ombudsman should be used if desirable for reasons of effectiveness or public confidence.

PRESCRIPTIONS for drugs should be controlled by all States and Territories using the system developed in Tasmania to regulate the prescribing, dispensing and consumption of drugs by doctors, pharmacists and patients.

DOCTORS' REPORTS: Uniform laws should require doctors approached by persons seeking narcotic drugs to record whether the patients have used narcotics within the previous six months, details of the doctors or institutions who provided them, and the circumstances.

PHARMACISTS throughout the Commonwealth should be required to follow the NSW practice which prohibits prescription of specified drugs of addiction if the pharmacist is unfamiliar with the doctor's handwriting, does not know the person for whom the drug was prescribed or has not verified the prescription with the doctor who made it.

UNIFORMITY: The Governments of the States and Territories should enact laws to provide for the uniform scheduling of drugs of dependence throughout Australia.

TRANS-TASMAN PASS-PORTS should be introduced, subject to negotiations with the New Zealand Government, for all travellers.

PASSPORT regulations should be drastically tightened, together with a possible review by the Registrars of Births of the conditions under which birth certificates are provided and whether a test of identity might be introduced.

DEPORTATION: The Migration Act should be amended to put all persons who are not Australian citizens on the same footing in relation to deportation and to abolish the provision that an immigrant with five years lawful residence in Australia cannot be deported.

ETHNIC RECORDS: The Commonwealth Government should study the possibility of collecting, on a selective basis, records of travel and residence of members of any groups of common ethnic origin known or suspected to be involved in illicit drug-related activity. The proposed Criminal Drug Intelligence Centres, which the Commission later recommends be set up, should be able to make this selection.

DEFENCE FORCES should be involved in coastal surveillance as much as possible. Extra expenditure on the Defence Forces so that they can conduct more surveillance will often be cheaper than expenditure otherwise incurred and will bring extra benefits to Australia in the form of increased Defence Force training.

CROP SUBSTITUTION programs in the drug producing regions of Asia should continue to receive Australian Government support at the present level.

DRUG MONEY: Efforts should be made to determine the total amount of money generated by the illegal importation, production and trafficking of drugs in Australia, and the sources and destinations of such funds.

In the view of the Commission it is only in the light of the most complete information, that the impact of the illegal drug trade on Australian society, the Australian economy, and Australia and Australians as a whole, can be fully appreciated. It is only when that impact is fully appreciated that responsible and effective decisions, for the allocation of resources and in respect of the adequacy of existing laws, can be made.

BANKING: The Federal Police should take steps to gain access to records held by the Reserve Bank concerning foreign currency transactions.

TAXATION: Changes in the law should be made to enable Taxation officers to report people who appear to be importing, producing or trafficking in drugs.

The police officer receiving the information could claim absolute privilege against disclosing his source of information.

CUSTOMS or POLICE officers should be able to read mail when postal items are opened for inspection but the contents should not be used or disclosed except in the investigation or prosecution of drug offences.

POSTAL REGULATIONS should be altered to enable inspected items of mail to be delivered without any indication that the mail was opened.

TELEPHONE tapping and the "bugging" of conversations should be permitted in the aid of drug law enforcement, but the use of such powers should be restricted to cases where drugs are illegally imported, produced or trafficked on a substantial scale.

In the case of telephone tapping and similar systems, interception should be permitted only on the order of a Judge of a Supreme Court or of the Federal Court.

FORENSIC science laboratories should be set up in each State and Territory to provide services to all Federal and State agencies working in their area.

They should be established without waiting for unanimous agreement as to their exact form, but they should be independent of police and other government departments.

DOGS used for drug detection work should be trained under a single national establishment.

ETHNIC language skills among State and Federal Police officers should be entered on an index, and these officers made available to pursue the investigation of criminal activities among ethnic groups.

Deficiencies in language skills should be rectified by sending selected police to foreign language courses.

Marihuana Study Urged

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 10

[From the feature, "Williams Drug Report"]

[Text]

The Williams Report recommends that more study be done on marihuana use because "frequent chronic" use may be a significant risk.

Mr Justice Williams said it was suspected that marihuana may cause alterations to genetic functioning in humans.

He also said that there was no definite evidence of malformations in unborn infants caused by marihuana but investigations are continuing.

He said the acute toxicity of

marihuana had a much wider safety margin than alcohol.

"It is almost impossible to get a lethal dose of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) from smoking marihuana joints.

"At the present time, it would not seem that infrequent 'recreational' use of cannabis produces any severe direct consequences to health.

"There is impairment of driving ability." However, Mr Justice Williams said further research was needed because chronic use may be a significant risk.

Coastal Surveillance Scored

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 19 Mar 80 p 10

[From the feature, "Williams Drug Report"]

[Text]

Coastal surveillance for drug smugglers was inadequate and misdirected, the Williams Report said.

It was a waste of time and effort for the Bureau of Customs to attempt to mount its own surveillance.

The report recommended that the defence forces play a more important role.

The commission painted a bleak picture of the bureau's efforts and included in the report a story of a Taiwanese fishing boat which sailed up the Brisbane River, past the quarantine, Navy, Customs and Water Police officers.

There was also a report of a Customs launch which broke down 83 times in travelling from Eden to Brisbane. It was unable to get closer than 14

miles to the ship it was supposed to shadow.

The majority of detections by all agencies involved in surveillance "have been fortuitous or as a consequence of a source of information unrelated to coastal surveillance," the report said.

"It would be fair to say that smugglers, whether of drugs or other commodities, have little to fear from the customs fleet," the report said.

It was essential that the Customs launch fleet be expanded and modernised to give it a sufficient number of sea-going vessels.

The commission took evidence that the area of highest risk for the importation of drugs was the coast between Geraldton in Western Australia and Cairns.

No launch designed for ocean-going patrols was based on the east coast south of Cairns or on the south or south-west coasts — "which for all that is presently known about drug importations may be the high risk area."

The commission recommended that the role of the Australian Coastal Surveillance Centre be expanded to cover the development, co-ordination and direction of all civil coastal surveillance.

"The Centre should track all ships and planes approaching the coast until Customs or another agency takes over the operation," the report said.

It recommended that the centre maintain close liaison with the proposed National Criminal Drug Intelligence Centre, and that responsibility for the three Nomad aircraft

used by Customs for coastal surveillance be transferred to the centre.

The report criticised the lack of co-operation between Customs and other agencies.

The lack of information given to the ACSC by Customs "presented a grim picture of resources not fully utilised and lost opportunities for co-ordination and co-operation."

It quoted evidence from a senior officer of the Department of Transport that Customs officers would "hide behind the word 'covert' all the time." To make the system of detection effective, the commission said, the different agencies must co-operate and acknowledge information and help offered by other agencies in a joint operation.

"The present effort in respect to coastal surveillance as to drugs is inadequate and misdirected," the report said. "The majority of detections have been fortuitous." The report said the commission was acutely aware there was a danger of an expedient solution being adopted to combat the drug problem, a solution which would prejudice a longer-term plan to create an organisation to deal with all threats to the Australian coast.

"However, against this danger there must be set off the fact that lengthy evaluations lead to substantial delays and often considerably escalated costs.

"Furthermore, the present situation is obviously acute and becoming more pressing with the passing of time."

Cost to Economy Given

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 19 Mar 80 p 3

[Text] Canberra.--The drain on overseas funds through the illegal import of drugs could total \$100 million a year, the report of the Federal Royal Commission on Drugs said yesterday.

"The illegal import, production, trafficking and use of drugs involves money on a scale which almost certainly has an effect on the Australian economy," the report said.

The commission estimated that there could be between 14,200 and 20,300 hard core heroin addicts in Australia.

These addicts would require between 914 and 1303 kilograms of 80 per cent pure heroin a year to meet their needs, it said.

The amount of money needed to buy this quantity of heroin in Bangkok or Kuala Lumpur would range from \$2,700,000 to \$15,600,000.

There were various other expenses involved in its import.

The commission also stressed that the amounts it quoted took no account of heroin imported for users other

than hard-core addicts, imported hashish or hashish oil or cannabis in stick form.

It quoted calculations, which the report said it regarded as "no more than broad indications", that 35 to 52 tonnes of cannabis tops, 16 to 24 tonnes of cannabis resin and 655 to 977 kilograms of cannabis oil entered the illegal drug market in 1978.

When these were taken into account, the estimate of \$100 million being drained from Australia's overseas funds would appear to be justified, the report said.

The commission also noted that without allowance for further cutting, the street value of the estimated supply of heroin required by hard core addicts could be between \$1000 and \$1600 million.

This estimate compared with private consumption of \$3698 million on alcohol and \$1319 million on cigarettes and tobacco in 1978-79.

Mr Justice Williams, who headed the commission, said the widespread abuse of legal drugs, including analgesics, sedatives, and tranquillisers, should also be recognised. Steps should be taken to attract people abusing these drugs to treatment.

Alcohol was as much a drug of dependence as heroin, although in the conventional wisdom the two should hardly be mentioned in the same breath.

"Yet alcohol is pre-eminently the problem drug in Western society today," he said.

"The young may be told by their elders that

drugs are harmful, but what are they to believe when they see those same elders dependent upon alcohol, analgesics and tranquillisers to get through daily life?"

On the subject of drugs control the report said: "the commission is satisfied it cannot be said that there is a single individual or group of individuals controlling illegal drug activities in Australia or any part of Australia.

"There are rather a series of associations or groups centred about particular individuals, not necessarily restricted to a particular geographical location or to a particular kind of criminal activity.

"There are often, but not necessarily, associations between various groups."

Eastern Influence Noted

Melbourne THE AGE in English 20 Mar 80 p 5

[Text]

CANBERRA. — More than a fifth of Australia's heroin users are influenced by Eastern religions, according to evidence given to the Williams Royal Commission on Drugs.

While most users of illegal drugs had no religion or were agnostic, a Melbourne survey of the drug culture found Eastern philosophy and religion did have some influence on them.

The survey found 16 per cent of the drug culture was influenced by the East —but this was much higher among intravenous-drug users than marijuana smokers.

Another survey presented to the commission found that users of drugs, especially heroin, had better relationships with their mothers than with fathers.

Other elements of the Williams picture are:

- More men than women use drugs illegally;

- Most drug users are between 16 and 35, with 18 to 24 year-olds predominant.

- More university students experiment with and regularly use drugs than those at colleges of advanced education, nursing homes and teachers' colleges; and

- Working blue-collar youths used drugs more than white-collar youths.

Worries Over Legal Opium

Canberra THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English 22-23 Mar 80 p 4

[Text]

THE Williams Royal Commission on Drugs has questioned the security of the Southern Hemisphere's only legal harvest of opium — in Tasmania.

According to the commission's report at least one recent death can be attributed to the drinking of tea brewed from stolen opium poppies.

The report says the death "was due to an overdose of alkaloids (morphine, thebaine and codeine) which were present in the body in the same proportions as in poppy capsules".

The commission was told: "Arrangements for boiling up capsules (parts of the blossom) had been found in the bush."

As well, people returning from leave to drug treatment centres sometimes had positive urine tests for morphine as a result of drinking tea made from poppy capsules.

Known cases of interference with poppy crops in Tasmania had risen from 15 in 1976 to 41 in 1978.

But a witness employed by the Health Department had told the commission the 15 cases reported in 1976 were thought to be only a small percentage of total cases.

The number of cases resulting in prosecution was small — one in 1976 and five in 1977 and in 1978.

Poppies are grown like any other crop, in paddocks and behind ordinary farm fences. Often the paddocks adjoin public roads.

Poppy-growers do what they can to watch over their ripening crops. Police patrols of country roads can hardly be expected to catch a person who might only have to leap a fence and grab a handful.

Security was one reason why Tasmania was chosen as the State to grow Australia's only legal opium poppies. Commercial production began in 1971.

The industry boomed with the end of legal opium poppy cultivation in Turkey in 1971.

By 1977 about 7000ha in Tasmania were under poppies and production of poppy straw and capsules — from which codeine and morphine are manufactured — neared 10,000 tonnes.

The area under poppy cultivation has dropped off since then, mainly because Turkey is back in production and there are fears of an eventual glut.

As a result the two companies which contract growers to supply have cut

back in the past year.

Because Tasmania is an island and it is easy to seal exits, there has been no evidence that stolen capsules or straw are being taken from the State nor that the legal harvest has been tampered with between farm and factory.

But the Royal Commission points out that so long as thefts can be kept down and illegal narcotics continue to reach Australia from overseas, then production of narcotics from Tasmanian opium poppies is not likely to be a significant problem.

But this situation could change if

interception of illegal imports created a shortage of street heroin.

The Williams Report has caused concern in Tasmania, where authorities are sensitive to suggestions that the poppy industry be mismanaged.

The State Minister for Health, Mr Barnard, said that some changes to security had been made since evidence was given before the Royal Commission.

The president of the Poppy Growers Association, Mr Bill Casimaty, has been critical of the report, and says that security is not a problem because of the efforts of growers.

'Ethnic' Label Questioned

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 20 Mar 80 p 9

[Text] The report of the Federal Royal Commission into drugs has drawn quick criticism from the Commissioner for Community Relations, Mr Al Grassby.

The recommendation by Mr Justice Williams for the possible collection of selective information on specific ethnic groups suspected of drug trafficking could be a demonstration of racial prejudice, he said yesterday.

Under the proposal, drug law enforcement agencies could keep details of travel and residence for people of any common ethnic origin known to be or suspected of being involved in illicit drug activities.

Mr Justice Williams made 246 recommendations which would transform the enforcement of drug laws, detection of drug offenders and pushers and the treatment of addicts.

A number of the recommendations refer to ethnic groups.

Mr Grassby said it was unacceptable to treat groups living in Australia differently.

"Any attempt to treat Australians on a different basis because of racial or ethnic origin is incompatible with the Australian laws or our international obligations", he said.

"This could be a demonstration of racial prejudice."

Mr Grassby said he would write to Mr Justice Williams to seek clarification of what he meant by the term "ethnic".

"Is he referring to the largest ethnic group, the English, or

is he singling out smaller ethnic groups such as the Italians or the Greeks?" he said.

The president of the Council for Civil Liberties in NSW, Mr Malcolm Ramage, said the council would be looking at the report with great interest and concern.

"The fear of terrorism and the fear of drugs are seeing a lot of cherished notions about personal liberty going out the window," he said yesterday.

Mr Ramage was not sure how long it would take the council to consider what effects the report's recommendations might have on civil liberties.

A spokesman for the Australian Taxpayers' Association said in Melbourne the association would have to study the difficult question of more access to confidential tax records to fight the drug trade.

The spokesman said the social security and education departments already had access to tax records to determine eligibility for benefits or scholarships.

The report of the Royal Commission recommended changing the tax laws to give law enforcement agencies access to records in the Taxation Office.

Mr Justice Williams proposed that police officers receiving tax information could claim absolute privilege against disclosing the source of the information.

Federal, NSW Reports Compared

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 21 Mar 80 p 7

[Text] AFTER years of investigation and court hearings, two massive reports on drug trafficking in Australia have been published in the past five months.

In 1977, when the NSW Royal Commission into drug trafficking and the Australian Royal Commission into drugs were established within two months of each other, the Federal and State Governments were accused of useless duplication.

As the NSW Royal Commissioner, Mr Justice Woodward, said, "at the time, promises of a Government inquiry had a political flavour and there was some degree of sparring between the Federal and NSW Governments."

But it was argued that the two commissions did not conflict and there was a need for an inquiry on a national scale.

Mr Justice Woodward, in his report, made the point that his terms of reference "were narrowly limited to law enforcement" while the "Australian Royal Commission is fundamentally concerned with broad matters of international importance."

The NSW inquiry terms of reference also specifically sought the identity of individuals involved with drug trafficking and connected crime.

Some critics maintained these terms of reference were too narrow, and others argued that the Federal terms of reference were too narrow. Some wanted the social drugs — alcohol and nicotine — included in the inquiries.

However, Mr Justice Williams, who presided over the Federal inquiry, said his terms of reference were of

"great breadth" and the inclusion of social drugs "might well have extended the life of the commission to an unacceptable extent."

Thus, superficially, the two inquiries had different guidelines. The NSW Royal Commission was to be a specific and relatively narrow inquiry while the Australian Royal Commission would adopt a broadbrush approach.

However, both inquiries were still looking at illegal drugs, except where alcohol or other social drugs might have had a bearing on illegal drugs, and enforcement of existing laws.

The methods of the two commissions were also superficially dissimilar.

Mr Bill Fisher, QC (now Mr Justice Fisher) was the counsel assisting the NSW inquiry and he led a team of investigators including 12 police officers and 10 investigating accountants.

The NSW commission interviewed addicts off the street, convicted drug offenders, self-confessed pushers and dozens of alleged marihuana and heroin dealers.

The object was to work up the pyramid of drug selling to establish the methods of drug distribution, and to pinpoint those involved.

Mr Justice Williams's methods, however, did not include a permanent team of investigators and the commission received proportionately more evidence from law-enforcement officers, recognised experts in drug problems, and interested groups.

Both inquiries were looking at the same problem but, largely, from different sides of the law.

The NSW commission's

'alphabet soup of secret witnesses, Mr A, Mr BB, Mr X and Mr Y, provided intense personal experiences of the drug trade and the report presented a profile of drug users and pushers.

The Australian Royal Commission's report included dozens of graphs and tables estimating the amount of heroin and other drugs smuggled into the country and the numbers of drug users.

Rather than smugglers' stories of successfully avoiding a body search by hiding heroin between two pairs of the same-coloured underpants, the Federal inquiry included Customs seizures in false-bottomed suitcases.

But even with these basic differences in guidelines, perspective and approach, the two commissions came to fundamentally similar conclusions where their jurisdiction overlapped.

Both commissions urged more police powers, greater emphasis on "economic detection" of illegal funds, greater co-operation of State and Federal police, and centralised drug intelligence.

The commissioners' attitudes to the softening of laws on marihuana were almost identical, and both came to the same conclusion on organised crime.

Mr Justice Williams warned that there was a "vacuum" at the top of the drug industry in Australia which might be filled by crime figures with foresight, and Mr Justice Woodward said there was a "void" that might be filled by organised crime.

Sydney, both reports found, was the centre of drug importation and distribution in Australia and Sydney's crime figures were using overseas contacts to become increasingly involved in drugs.

"Legitimate" business had to be used by the drug industry so that large amounts of cash could be hidden from police.

Except for the particular areas of the national drug authorities, where the Williams report concentrated, and the marihuana industry in NSW, where the Woodward report concentrated, the two reports agreed.

Thus, with the particulars of individual recommendations and conclusions aside, one report was a microcosm of the other.

The commissions approached the drug problem in Australia with similar philosophies, dealt with common problems and arrived at similar conclusions.

Recommendations Questioned

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 20 Mar 80 p 6

[Editorial: "Fighting Drugs"]

[Text]

IT MAY well be, as the Australian Royal Commission of Inquiry into Drugs says, that the elimination of drug abuse in Australian society is an unattainable goal and that, at best, society can hope merely to contain the problem. Nevertheless, containment is essential, and the main interest in Mr Justice Williams's massive report lies in the measures he considers necessary. To some extent the edge has been taken off his findings by his interim recommendations on the since-abolished Narcotics Bureau, which the Federal Government has adopted. But he covers a very wide field, and much that is important remains to be pondered.

The Government has already decided to support, either outright or in principle, several of Mr Justice Williams's major recommendations. These include a national strategy to deal with Australia's drug problem; setting up a national system of forensic science laboratories; establishing a national system of criminal drug intelligence centres; and (although here the Federal Government has limited powers) no relaxation of the present national prohibition of cannabis. The Royal Commissioner has much to say, as did the Woodward Royal Commission in NSW, about the lack of a coherent national policy against illegal drug abuse in the past decade.

The lack of co-operation between Commonwealth and States, and between law enforcement agencies, has been conspicuous. The picture is one of some enthusiastic mutual assistance, some grudging joint action, and some "active non-co-operation." No wonder, then, that Mr

Justice Williams says the time has come for a national policy to be put into effect "as a matter of urgency." The Federal Government agrees, but has rightly noted that such a policy can succeed only if the Commonwealth, State Governments and agencies co-operate. It can begin by seeing that its own departments and agencies become more co-operative.

Fortunately, moves have already been made towards establishing a national criminal intelligence centre; this suggests that the need for greater co-operation is now better understood. There is also much to be said for the Royal Commission's recommendation that a network of drug information centres be set up throughout Australia. This stems from Mr Justice Williams's view that, apart from the availability of drugs, the greatest contribution to the recent increase in drug abuse has been the lack of education. He insists that a determined effort must be made to educate and support youth so that recourse to drugs is lessened.

There is a good case for persuading the defence forces to help, "as much as possible," with coastal surveillance. The same may be said of the recommendation favouring a national code to deal with

drug trafficking. But other recommendations are far more controversial. The Federal Government should look very critically indeed at the proposal that taxation officers should be able to report people who appear to be importing, producing or trafficking in drugs; or that the Federal Police should be given access to Reserve Bank records of foreign currency transactions. There is too much of the odour of the Police State about these ideas.

As for body searches of suspected drug offenders, no doubt they are sometimes necessary; but is it justifiable, as Mr Justice Williams recommends, to detain suspects for up to three days? It remains questionable. And so does the recommendation that all travellers between Australia and New Zealand should have to carry passports. The New Zealand Government made it clear last week that it did not favour the idea, and is not likely to be influenced by the unconvincing arguments in the Royal Commission's report, which admits that the obligatory use of passports would not eliminate abuses. That being so, there is no case for inconveniencing the great majority of innocent travellers.

Warning against 'Obsession'

Melbourne THE AGE in English 31 Mar 80 p 13

[Editorial: "A National Drugs Strategy"]

[Text]

AUSTRALIA'S third recent Royal Commission into drugs has completed its report to the Federal and four State Governments which appointed it. Mr. Justice Williams' report is the most comprehensive and, being most in tune with public opinion and political inclinations, is the most influential to emerge from the three over-lapping inquiries. The South Australian commission headed by Professor Ronald Sackville sought to dispel popular myths and fears about the non-medical use of drugs, to put the exaggerated emphasis on marijuana and heroin into reasonable perspective, and to recommend a sensible range of official responses to various forms of drug-taking. But its suggestion for the limited decriminalisation of marijuana for personal use ran ahead of present public and political acceptability. The NSW Woodward commission investigated an

Alleged conspiracy of immigrant marijuana growers who, it found, were responsible for the presumed murder of the Griffith anti-drug campaigner, Donald Mackay. Although the commission called for a tough law enforcement response to drug trafficking, it threw little light on the organisation of the illegal drug trade, its connection with other criminal activities and its suspected corruption in high places.

The Williams commission takes a more balanced approach than the Woodward commission. Like the Sackville report, it points out that some of the most socially destructive drugs are readily obtainable within the law. But it agrees that illegal drug abuse is a most serious problem in Australia, and a growing one. It notes that drug abuse is not restricted to any particular types of person or identifiable groups within the community. The chain smoker who compulsively puffs his way to a premature death, the alcoholic who ruins his life and those of others, the suburban housewife who gobbles tablets to help her through each day, and the young person who experiments with drugs for thrills are all participants in the national drug problem. Australians spend one-third as much on alcohol as on food, and a similar amount on tobacco, prescription drugs and narcotics, bringing the national bill to more than \$6000 million a year.

Mr. Justice Williams calls for a national policy to reduce drug abuse. Its immediate aim should be to make commonly abused drugs less available. At the same time, the treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependants should be improved. Over the longer term, greater efforts should be made to educate people on the dangers of drugs. The strategy requires stricter controls on the promotion and sale of legal drugs, but the commission's recommendations concentrate heavily on a combined attack by Federal and State authorities on illegal drugs. Here the commission can see no sensible alternative to the present approach of criminal sanctions and medical treatment, except to make law enforcement and the care of drug dependants much more effective.

In giving priority to law enforcement measures, the commission recognises that the popular political response of increasing penalties for drug trafficking does more to satisfy public indignation than to deter drug pedlars. What is needed is a better rate of detection and conviction. As Mr. Justice Williams notes: "It is a far greater deterrent that nine traffickers go to

... jail for five years each than that one is sentenced to jail for life." He also points out that the present approach of punishing drug traffickers severely while showing leniency towards users is not logical, "because nearly all users are traffickers, albeit on a minor scale". A young person, he argues, is more likely to be introduced to illegal drug taking "by a friendly neighborhood addict than by an organised syndicate".

However, the enormous profits to be made from illegal drugs have attracted the interest of criminal groups and, the commission warns, could lead to "a significant transfer of Australian resources and assets into the hands of criminals" and to large-scale corruption in the Australian community. Mr. Justice Williams rejects the argument put by some critics that if criminal sanctions on drug possession were removed, there would no longer be any role for drug trafficking syndicates to play. He argues that the reason for the apparent failure of the criminal law to stop the spread of drug abuses is that law enforcement efforts have been too ineffectual and unco-ordinated. His first recommendation, that the Narcotics Bureau be disbanded and the powers, strength and effectiveness of the Federal Police be increased, has already been accepted by the Federal Government. The recommendations for a

Uniform Drug Trafficking Act, the establishment of national and State criminal drug intelligence centres, and better coastal surveillance are among the many being considered. Proposals for treatment and rehabilitation are directed mainly to State Governments, and are generally in line with the Victorian Government's thinking.

There is no doubt that the abuse of legal and illegal drugs is a serious and costly enough social problem to warrant a concerted and determined effort by Federal and State authorities to combat it. Governments should beware, however, of becoming obsessed with the fight against illegal drugs, which arouse public indignation but involve a relatively small number of users, at the expense of an effective campaign against the abuse of alcohol and pharmaceutical drugs and the health hazards of tobacco. But the criminal connections of the illicit drug trade, as well as the devastating effects of narcotics on those addicted to them, justify a more rigorous and better co-ordinated law enforcement effort. Mr. Justice Williams is confident that the national strategy he proposes would diminish the problem of drug abuse. We can only hope so. Perhaps there should also be a moratorium on drug inquiries for 10 years, after which, as Mr. Justice Williams suggests, it will be time for another to evaluate the success or otherwise of his recommended programme.

GSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

WILLIAMS CONCLUDES DRUG HEARINGS IN QUEENSLAND

Denial of Police Involvement

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 21 Mar 80 p 3

[Text] A man, 35, convicted of trafficking in heroin, told the Australian Royal Commission of Inquiry into Drugs yesterday he knew nothing about the Police Commissioner or senior Queensland police officers being involved in drugs.

John Edward Milligan, sentenced to 18 years' jail in a Sydney District Court on Wednesday, said he knew of nothing which would discredit the Police Commissioner, Mr Lewis.

He told Mr C. E. K. Hampson, QC, he did not know of anything which could discredit CIB chief, Supt Tony Murphy, or former policeman, Glen Patrick Hallahan, with respect to drugs.

Milligan told the royal commission his only relation with Hallahan was concerned with a land sale.

He said he had not met the Police Commissioner, Mr Lewis, or Supt Murphy.

He had never heard of the three men referred by the expressions "triumvirate" or "rat pack" until he was interviewed by a former Federal Bureau of Narcotics agent, Douglas John Shobbrook.

Milligan said Shobbrook tape-recorded interviews with him for five days.

Shobbrook had mentioned these things about Lewis, Murphy and Hallahan, he said.

He said, however, he had confessed this in a tape-recorded interview with Shobbrook because he believed it was what Shobbrook wanted him to say.

Milligan said it was a "ridiculous" atmosphere with Shobbrook running around trying to arrest the police commissioner.

Shortly after Milligan gave this evidence, the royal commission was held in camera while Milligan listened to tapes and read transcripts.

When he left the commission, in the Central Courts Building, he appeared not to be heavily guarded and was not handcuffed.

Milligan was flown under police escort to Brisbane yesterday morning to give evidence before the commission.

In Sydney on Wednesday he was jailed on two

charges of conspiring to import heroin and a third of knowingly being concerned with the importation of heroin.

Mr Hampson told the commissioner, Mr Justice Williams, there was no further oral evidence to be placed before the commission in Queensland.

Mr Justice Williams adjourned the hearing to the commission office today where documentary evidence is expected to be tendered.

Final Hearing in Brisbane

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 22 Mar 80 p 2

[Text]

At a brief hearing in his Brisbane city office yesterday, Mr Justice Williams concluded his Royal Commission of Inquiry into Drugs.

A series of documents, many of them confidential, were handed in by solicitor, Mr L. B. Moynihan.

These included sworn statements by informants whose names were kept secret, tape recordings, commission investigators' written reports of certain telephone conversations, coroners' inquest records and police documentation.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

WEST AUSTRALIANS COMMENT ON STATE'S DRUG PROBLEMS

Marihuana Cultivation

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 20 Mar 80 p 3

[Text] Canberra: A senior WA policeman has told the Williams royal commission into drugs that there have been cases of cannabis cultivation virtually all over WA.

Inspector D. T. Ayres of the drug squad, said that the demand for cannabis was far in excess of the supply available from local production.

He thought that most cannabis was grown by people for their own use.

The royal commission's report, which was tabled in Federal Parliament on Tuesday, said that witnesses named the Margaret River and Blackwood River regions, the metropolitan area, Claremont, Malda Vale and Sawyers Valley as areas where cannabis was grown.

Inspector Ayres said that 102 people were charged with cannabis cultivation offences in 1977-78.

Though most of the cultivations were small, a big plantation of more than two hectares had

been found at Lake O'Connor, 380km south-east of Perth, in January, 1978.

A total of 10,000 plants and about 100kg of dried leaf had been seized.

The report said that cannabis cultivation had been detected in all Australian States and territories, though climatic conditions were less suitable in Tasmania and the Northern Territory.

Inspector D. H. Haswell of the Commonwealth police said that two cannabis crops were detected in 1974, four in 1975, eight in 1976 and 20 in 1977.

The director of the Cannabis Research Foundation, Mr A. W. Parsons, told the commission that two million Australians had been catered for and the market supplied 400,000 regular users.

Call for Drug Education

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 20 Mar 80 pp 3, 10

[Text] Much more needed to be done to educate young people on the dangers of drugs, the former chairman of the WA Alcohol and Drug Authority, Mr R. J. L. Williams, said yesterday.

He said he hoped action in this area would flow from the report of the federal royal commission on drugs headed by Mr. Justice Williams.

Meaningful education on drugs was needed in WA schools.

Mr Williams, who was chairman of the ADA from 1974 to 1977, said that everyone agreed on the need for drug education in schools but nothing constructive had been done about it.

The honorary royal commission on drugs which he had headed in 1972 had recommended action in its report in 1973.

It had also covered most of the points raised in the federal report.

But many of the WA commission's recommendations had not been followed up.

"I hope something positive will come from the latest report," said Mr Williams, who is also a Liberal MLC.

Earlier, the Minister for Health, Mr Young, said that the general recommendations in the federal report in the area of drug education were in line with principles already adopted in WA.

The report had recommended that steps should be taken to establish specialist training in the field of drug dependence for medical and non-medical professionals and that encouragement to voluntary organisations should be in the form of financial aid conditional on evaluation of treatment programmes.

Mr Young said that these recommendations were in line with development taking place or proposals planned by the ADA.

Recommendations deal-

ing with a network of drug information centres encompassed functions within the current legal competence of the ADA and duplication should be avoided.

Mr Young said the report had recommended a drugs of dependence unit to administer a uniform national Drugs of Dependence Act.

However, the unit appeared to be analogous to the present pharmaceutical division of the WA Department of Health and Medical Services.

The report said that the expansion of treatment services and facilities should be undertaken in a rational way so that ideally no one would be too far removed geographically from clinics and

The ADA had always recognised the importance of attracting drug users in the early stages, as suggested by the report.

Forensic facilities already existed.

It was considered that the creation of separate forensic laboratories would be an unnecessary duplication of facilities.

The WA police said yesterday that they already had a policy of concentrating on catching drug dealers rather than users.

This was illustrated in the police commissioner's annual report for 1978-79 which reported an increase of 42 per cent in the number of people arrested in drug dealing.

Police Commissioner Leitch said that the establishment of criminal intelligence drug centres in each State and Territory sounded good in theory but there would be problems in putting it into practice.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

MAGISTRATE SEES EVIDENCE OF THREE-STATE DRUG RING

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 18 Mar 80 p 15

[Text] Sydney: A magistrate said yesterday that there was evidence of a three-State drug ring operating in NSW.

Mr W. Power made the comment when refusing bail for four South Australian men and one Victorian arrested after an early-morning police raid near Hay in south-western NSW.

He alleged that they were in possession of 262kg of Indian hemp with an estimated street value of more than \$750,000.

HEMP

The men, who were before the Lidcombe Court, have been charged with supplying and possessing marihuana at Hay.

Two of the men have been also charged with possessing unlicensed pistols.

The five men are Rocco Carboni (33), cafe proprietor, of Salisbury, SA, Agostino Caruso (37), shop proprietor, of Marion, SA, Stefan Romeo (38), unemployed of Paradise, SA, Dominic Catanzariti (22), unemployed, also of Salisbury, and Frank Bonfa (37), driver, of St Albans, Victoria.

PISTOLS

Carboni and Caruso face additional charges of possessing unlicensed pistols.

All five have pleaded not guilty.

The police prosecutor, Sgt Jim Bell, said in court that the five defendants were arrested 15km from Gunbar on Mid-Western Highway about 6am on Saturday.

The Indian hemp had been in two motor vehicles, one driven by Catanzariti and the other by Bonfa.

When the two vehicles had stopped, a third vehicle allegedly belonging to Caruso and being driven by Carboni, stopped beside them, St Bell said.

Carboni had been in possession of a loaded 0.22-calibre pistol when he was arrested.

A fully loaded 0.38-calibre pistol was in the car belonging to Caruso.

Caruso had admitted to the police that it was his pistol and that he had bought it in an Adelaide hotel, Sgt Bell said.

In refusing bail, Mr Power referred to the seriousness of the offence, the defendants all coming from interstate and the possibility that other people were involved but had not been apprehended.

The five were remanded to appear at Lidcombe on March 24.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

DOCTOR, JUDGE DISCUSS PROBLEMS OF DRUG ADDICTION

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 21 Mar 80 p 3

[Text] One of Australia's leading gynaecologists and researchers yesterday called for the death penalty for drug smugglers, describing them as "similar to Nazi mass-murderers."

Dr William McBride, who alerted the world to the dangers of the drug Thalidomide, told a Sydney Jaycees luncheon the life expectancy of a heroin addict who administered the drug by needle was two years, and that just 2kg of heroin was capable of killing many people.

He believed the death penalty would be a deterrent to drug runners bringing large quantities of drugs into the country for huge amounts of money.

"People may run drugs knowing the penalty was a couple of years in jail--but not if there was a death penalty," he said. "We must frighten people."

Dr McBride said it was a sad reflection on the community that, as had been brought to light in the Williams Report on the Australian Royal Commission of Inquiry into Drugs, police and people in high office were involved in drug trafficking.

"The community must not abide citizens of note being the brains behind drug trafficking, or police involvement," he said.

Speaking on the subject Challenges for Children in the 1980s, Dr McBride pinpointed unemployment, with ensuing boredom often followed by depression and drug-taking, as the major problem to be faced in the next decade.

In another attack on the drug trade, a judge said yesterday it was well known that drug addiction led to crimes of ever-increasing gravity, including armed robbery and murder.

The Chief Justice, Sir Laurence Street, made the comment in the Court of Criminal Appeal in Sydney when the sentence of a man convicted on Indian hemp charges was increased from three to seven years in prison.

Paul James Oliver, 29, had pleaded guilty to cultivating Indian hemp at Glennies Creek near Singleton; managing premises for the cultivation of Indian hemp; and supplying Indian hemp.

FALSE NAMES

The offences occurred between August 1, 1978, and February 8, 1979.

Sir Laurence said the Indian hemp involved was of "enormous value".

He said a farm property was bought at Glennies Creek in July, 1978, by two men using false names.

It was not suggested Oliver was one of those men.

In August 1978, Oliver and his wife moved into the homestead on the farm and he began planting and cultivating Indian hemp.

In February 1979, police saw Indian hemp plants up to 1.8m in height growing on the farm.

Sir Laurence said there was evidence that Indian hemp drying in a shed weighed 980kg, and the total fresh weight of plants under cultivation was estimated at about 20,000kg.

He said there was evidence that the street value of Indian hemp was more than \$1000 a kg.

Sir Laurence said: "... underlying what is called the drug scene are activities involving greater or less degrees of criminality — huge sums of money are involved and this brings with it the whole spectrum of crime associated with illicit trafficking."

The court sentenced Oliver to seven years jail for each offence, all sentences to be served concurrently, and fixed a non-parole period expiring in March, 1982.

Meanwhile, the NSW Minister for Police and Services, Mr Crabtree, has called for an urgent conference of police ministers to consider recommendations made by Mr Justice Williams in his report on the Royal Commission.

Mr Crabtree told Parliament yesterday he was prepared to attend a conference at an hour's notice to examine recommendations in the report concerning a national strategy to deal with the illegal use and trafficking of drugs.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

PHARMACIST FINED--Melbourne: A pharmacist who supplied an addict with drugs has been fined \$1700 and put on probation. Donald William McLeod (36), of Warrnambool, pleaded guilty to having supplied and used various drugs including marihuana. Andrew Gordon Ford (19), unemployed, of Warrnambool, was placed on a good-behavior bond for having smoked marihuana. [Excerpt] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 29 Mar 80 p 29]

HEROIN OFFENDER SENTENCED--A man found in possession of 964 grams of heroin said to be worth \$500,000 was gaoled for seven years yesterday. Ahmet Djemal Zibillari, former car factory inspector, of Broadmeadows, Victoria, must serve four years before being eligible for parole. A Supreme Court jury acquitted Zibillari in February of importing the 68 per cent pure heroin into Australia on October 28 last year. But he was convicted of possessing the imported heroin at Perth Airport on that day without reasonable excuse. [Excerpt] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 27 Mar 80 p 23]

MARIHUANA CULTIVATION CONTROL--Canberra: The Federal Government was asked yesterday to introduce more stringent legislation to control and eliminate marihuana-cropping. Senator Harold Young (Lib., SA) urged the Government to take steps to confiscate the property belonging to those convicted of growing the drug or any property on which the drug is grown. He also called on the Government to deport any person convicted of growing marihuana who was not a naturalised Australian. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 26 Mar 80 p 61]

ALLEGED HEROIN IMPORTER--Glenn Hans Anderson, whose address was given as Wolseley Road, Point Piper, was charged under the Customs Act with being in possession of a quantity of heroin, reasonably suspected of being imported into Australia, at Sydney on or about March 24. Anderson's counsel said the charge would be denied. Mr. G. Smith, SM, allowed Anderson the bail with reporting and other conditions. [Sentence as published] The matter was adjourned to April 8. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 26 Mar 80 p 17]

HEROIN SMUGGLERS CHARGED--Federal Police have charged four Melbourne men over the seizure of more than \$250,000 worth of heroin at Tullamarine Airport late

on Saturday night. The men were detained by Customs and Federal police officers soon after an international flight arrived from Singapore. Police said the arrests followed attempts by two men to smuggle 489 grams of heroin through Customs on Saturday night. The heroin was wrapped in condoms and inserted in their rectums, police said. A third and fourth man were arrested soon afterwards and charged on counts relating to the importation of heroin. The arrests follow months of investigation by Federal Police into a syndicate which imports drugs into Australia by this method. [Excerpt] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 24 Mar 80 p 3]

HUGE MARIJUANA CROP--Adelaide.--Drug squad detectives will today burn more than \$1 million worth of marijuana plants seized in a raid at Myponga, south of the capital. About 45,000 mature plants were found by police late on Friday afternoon on an eight-hectare property off the Adelaide-Victor Harbour road. In a related raid early Saturday morning several hundred kilograms of marijuana was found in a house at Ashton, an Adelaide Hills town. The haul was the biggest in South Australia for about a year. The spokesman said two men arrested after the raid on the Ashton house owned the Myponga property. Vincenzo Blefari, 54, of Woods Hill Road, Ashton, and Saverio Blefari, 32, of the same address, were charged in the Adelaide Magistrates Court on Saturday with cultivating, trading and possessing Indian hemp for sale. Both men were granted bail of \$3000 in their own recognisance with two cash sureties of \$1500. Four men and a youth, 16, appeared in the Christies' Beach local court on Saturday on charges following the Myponga raid. They were Giuseppe Pangallo, 56, of Ayton Avenue, Fulham, Sebastian Giorgi, 42, of Mayfield Avenue, Hectorville, Carmello Triulcio, 32, of Falcon Avenue, Mile End, and Domenica Romeo, 29, of First Avenue, St. Peters. They were granted \$2000 bail on their own recognisance with additional sureties. [Excerpts] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 24 Mar 80 p 14]

VICTORIAN DRUG SQUAD--The Victorian drug squad is the most undermanned in Australia. It has 23 men, three undercover cars and one car in the police car pool to serve a population of 3.9 million. In comparison, the New South Wales drug squad has 47 men and 12 cars to serve 5.2 million people. The Opposition spokesman on police matters, Mr. Simpson, said yesterday the size of the drug squad in Victoria was representative of the problem facing the whole force--lack of numbers. Parliament is expected to debate matters relating to the drug industry, including the squad, next Tuesday. [Excerpts] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 22 Mar 80 p 11]

OFFENDER ON PROBATION--A 26-year-old man who was placed on probation for two years yesterday for two drug offences was told he must sever any connection that he had with the drug scene. Mr Justice Smith was sentencing Damien Moldrich, of Wardlow Way, Balga in the Supreme Court. Moldrich had pleaded guilty to supplying heroin on July 20, 1979 and attempting to supply heroin on July 21, 1979, at Newman. Mr Justice Smith said that on July 21 Moldrich attempted to inject his girl friend, Pauleen Anne Ahmet, with heroin after

she has failed to do so. She collapsed and was taken to hospital where she died of alcohol and drug poisoning. Mr Justice Smith said that he accepted that Moldrich was not an addict. It had been his affection for Mrs Ahmet that led to his involvement in obtaining heroin for her use. [Excerpts] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 20 Mar 80 p 22]

DRUG SMUGGLER ESCAPES--The mastermind behind one of WA's biggest drug-smuggling operations has escaped from Bartone Mill prison. The police say that the escapee, Peter Lawrence Miller (31), has probably fled the country. Miller, a New Zealander, was arrested on the yacht Law Ling off Shark Bay in 1977 while bringing cannabi worth about \$1.25 million into Australia from Thailand. [Excerpt] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 20 Mar 80 p 1]

MARIHUANA SYNDICATE MEMBER DEAD--Sydney.--A man named in the New South Wales Royald Commission on Drugs as a member of a marihuana syndicate has been found shot dead in his Sydney home. Vincent Peter Ferraro, 33, real estate agent, was found lying dead in the bedroom of his home in Fairfield West, on Monday night. Police found a single-barrelled shotgun near the body. Inspector Jim Royen, of Fairfield Police, said there were no suspicious circumstances. Inspector Royen said it was alleged Ferraro had given false testimony to the Royal Commission and a court case against him was pending. [Text] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 18 Mar 80 p 2]

DRUG AGENTS CHARGED--Two Federal narcotics agents appeared in Phillip Street Court of Petty Sessions yesterday on charges alleging that they revealed information about drug smuggling. Richard John Spencer, 32, of Flers Street, Allambie Heights, and William John Brindle, 30, of Wyatt Place, Greystanes, were charged with conspiring with each other and with Terrence John Clarke to obstruct, prevent or defeat the course of justice. The charges alleged that they caused information about importing and distributing drugs to be disclosed some time between May 28 and June 2 last year. No pleas were entered. Mr C. Gilmore, SM, adjourned the hearing until March 24 and allowed them \$1,000 bail. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 18 Mar 80 p 4]

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

MORPHINE POSSESSION PLEA--A 20-year-old man, Cheung Wai, pleaded guilty in the High Court yesterday to possessing \$70,000 worth of dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking. On the application of Mr Cheng Huan, Cheung's counsel, Mr Justice Rhind deferred sentencing for two weeks pending probation, training centre and detention centre reports. The court was told that Cheung arrived from Bangkok on January 1. A customs officer at the airport, on examining his briefcase, noticed that the top cover and bottom layer were unusually thick. Inside the lining were found 1,002.6 grams of a mixture of salts of esters of morphine and 28.27 grams of barbitone. Under caution, Cheung said he had collected the briefcase from a Thai in Bangkok as instructed by a friend in Hongkong. Police tried to locate the friend but were not successful. Crown counsel Eric Martin prosecuted. /Text/ /Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 2 May 80 p 18/

HEROIN SEIZURE--Customs officers last night arrested a man in Fanling and seized 1.1 kilograms of No 3 heroin worth \$500,000 on the retail market. The man was charged with possession of dangerous drugs for the purpose of unlawful trafficking and will appear in Fanling Court tomorrow. /Text/ /Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 4 May 80 p 1/

CS0: 5320

JAPAN

BRIEFS

HEROIN SMUGGLING--Osaka, 24 Apr (KYODO)--Two young jobless brothers were reported Thursday arrested on charges of plotting to smuggle into the nation from Thailand about 230 grams of heroin worth some 69 million yen at street market value. Futoshi Yoshiki, 20 of Fukuoka prefecture, and his elder brother Koji, 25, of Nagasaki prefecture, were turned over Thursday to the Osaka district public prosecutors' office on charges of violating the customs law and narcotic control law, customs officials reported. Futoshi Yoshiki returned April 6 to the Osaka International Airport at Itami, Hyogo prefecture, from Bangkok. He allegedly was found hiding a total of 170.05 grams of heroin in cigarette cases when customs officials checked his personal things at the airport, according to customs officials. Koji was also arrested for hiding about 60.72 grams of heroin in cigarette cases and the reverse side of his belt, customs added. [Tokyo KYODO in English 24 Apr 80 OW]

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

HUSSEIN, MAHATHIR ADDRESS DANGER OF DRUG ABUSE

BK241025 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Hussein Onn has expressed the hope that the whole nation would undertake the responsibility of eliminating dadah [drugs] in the country. In a message to the third annual conference of the National Association Against Dadah Abuse in Penang today, he said the participation of all sections of society was important to overcome the problem. He said that dadah was a threat to the security of the country and could delay the economic progress and destroy the life values and the people's aspirations.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed in his message said the progress and success in the eradication of dadah in the Malaysian society had not been easily achieved. Speaking at the opening of the conference, Home Affairs Minister Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie said the world must regard the dadah problem as a security and not a social problem.

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

OPIUM, MARIJUANA SEIZED--April 21: The Directorate of Customs Intelligence, Rawalpindi, on Sunday intercepted over 300 kg of opium and marijuana at Tarnol checkpoint. A truck No. ADA 429 was taking the narcotics to Karachi ostensibly it was loaded with Mobile Oil. On search, however 249 kg of opium and 54 kg of marijuana worth about Rs. 7 lakh was found in false cavities under, the floor of the truck. Driver and cleaner were arrested.
[Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 22 Apr 80 p 5]

CSO: 5300

PHILIPPINES

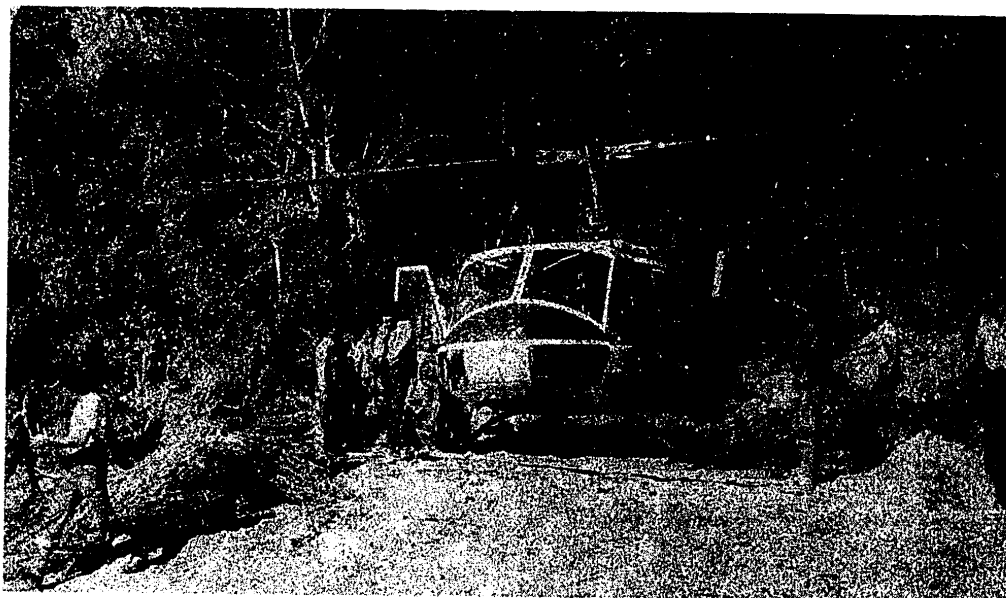
35,000 MARIJUANA PLANTS UPROOTED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 13 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] Some 35,000 fully-grown marijuana plants worth P3.5 million were uprooted Friday by agents of the Constabulary Anti-Narcotics Unit in a forested area in Pantabangan, Nueva Ecija.

The marijuana plants, the biggest single haul yet effect by CANU, were discovered in six sites in sitios Manadlong, Baluko, Mandunot, Ligayap, and Manatab, all in barangay Conversion in Pantabangan.

The plantations were strategically located in the highly inaccessible mountain range surrounded by creeks. The sites were reached only after the combined raiding team of CANU and the Nueva Ecija police were dropped by a Philippine Air Force helicopter to a small clearing carved out by the team's advance party.



SOLDIERS load seized marijuana plants in a helicopter during a raid in a mountainous area in Pantabangan.

Brig. Gen. Bienvenido Felix, CANU chief, said the plants were transported by the PAF helicopter to the CANU advance command post in Carranglan, Nueva Ecija in eight shuttle flights.

Felix said the sites were three kilometers apart from each other and so located that any intruder approaching them could easily be detected by the cultivators.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION PROGRAM

BK270806 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 26 Mar 80

[Interview with Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, secretary general of the Narcotics Suppression Committee, date not given--recorded]

[Text] [Phao] The government is aware of the magnitude of the narcotics problem in our country. It wants us to suppress this problem as soon as possible and as fully as possible. I believe we are doing our best. I think we can do better if we are given a larger financial allocation and more manpower.

In addition to suppression efforts within the country, we also work toward preventing the chemicals used to produce narcotics from entering the country and preventing narcotics from entering the country from Burma. As we all know, virtually all narcotics are from the north.

[Question] Please describe anti-narcotics cooperation with Burma.

[Answer] We began to receive good cooperation from Burma 2 years ago. At that time, we discussed what form our cooperation should take. President Ne Win subsequently visited our country, and I had an opportunity to give him a briefing on narcotics activities along the Thai-Burma border. He gave great attention to the matter and instructed his officials to cooperate with Thailand.

About 3 or 4 months afterward, a Thai delegation headed by Gen Saiyut Koetphon and comprised of Central Intelligence Department officials and myself went to Burma. We agreed to exchange information and to participate in any narcotics suppression campaigns which would be launched.

He also noted that opium came from northern Burma and chemicals came from Thailand. Therefore, to keep narcotics production plants from operating Burma must prevent opium from coming from its northern territory, while Thailand must prevent chemicals from reaching northern Thailand. In this regard, we enacted a law outlawing possession of acetic anhydride and acetyl chloride and declared border districts where we know narcotics is produced

ether and chloroform-free areas. Ether and chloroform are chemicals used to produce heroin.

This is an experiment. If it does not produce sufficient results, we may enlarge the chemical-free areas.

I feel that Burma and Thailand have enjoyed good cooperation. You may know that recently Burma destroyed a heroin production plant near Mae Sai, at Ban Hin Taek. This is very useful to us, because that plant had produced large amounts of heroin, some of which was sent to our country. Burma's destruction of that plant benefits Burma itself, our country and other countries which are beset by narcotics problems. We must praise Burma for this act.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

THAI-U.S. RAID SMASHES HEROIN REFINERY NEAR CHIANG MAI

BK280144 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Mar 80 pp 1, 3

[Text] Chiang Mai--Thai and American officials seized a heroin refinery and confiscated large amounts of narcotics, drug processing equipment and ammunition near the Burmese border yesterday.

The raid, the first major one in the northern region this year, was a joint effort by U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration officials and members of the Third Zone Border Patrol Police.

The haul included 11 kilogrammes of heroin, 11 kilos of raw opium, 17 tons of marijuana and 3,000 rounds of ammunition.

According to Pol Maj-Gen Wichai Wichaithanaphat, commander of the Third Zone Border Patrol Police, 150 crack BPP men Tuesday [25 March] headed towards a valley in Mae Ai district, near the Burmese border, where intelligence sources had indicated the presence of a heroin processing laboratory.

The policemen, moving on foot through the rugged mountains, reached the valley yesterday morning, and sighted thatched houses near the Mae Kok River.

The police moved cautiously on the houses until they were close enough for an officer to use a bullhorn to call on the armed Karen guards to surrender, this approach was used to avoid unnecessary bloodshed, police said.

But when the police eventually moved in the guards and Pabokungsue, a Wa hilltribesman reportedly sent by the Chinese Haw to operate the refinery, had escaped across the river into Burmese territory, police said.

The factory compound consisted of two lodgings, a sort of health clinic, a godown and the refinery.

Police said they found 9.6 kilos of No. 4 heroin, 1.5 kilos of No. 3 heroin, 11 kilogrammes of raw opium and 17 tons of dried marijuana in 1,000 gunnybags.

Also discovered were 3,000 rounds of M-16 ammunition and chemicals including ether, acetic anhydride, soda ash and charcoal.

CSO: 5300

35

THAILAND

BRIEFS

TWO SENTENCED FOR HEROIN--A man and a woman were yesterday sentenced by the Criminal Court to jail terms of 10 and 20 years on drug possession and trafficking charges. The duo, Khao Duang-ngam and Mrs Supatra Choosakul, were arrested on June 6 last year when they handed over nearly two grammes of heroin to a policeman who posed as a drug purchaser in Kong Toey slum. They were charged with possessing two tubes of heroin, totally weighing 1.90 grammes and estimated to be worth about 57 baht, for sale. They allegedly planned to sell the heroin at 300 baht. Khao denied his involvement with the trafficking while Supatra pleaded guilty. The court ruled that there was sufficient evidence to slap charges of drug trafficking against them. Khao was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment and Supatra 10 years. [Text] [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 28 Mar 80 p 3]

AUSTRALIAN SMUGGLING RING REVEALED--Alleged Australian drug trafficker William Sinclair has been accused of accepting a large sum of money from a convicted drug smuggler in Sydney in December, 1977, according to the Sydney Morning Herald. The paper reported that the accusation was made by someone identified only as C.H. to the New South Wales Royal Commission into Drug Trafficking on the 6th of this month. C.H. told the commission that Sinclair, who is on trial in Bangkok, and the convicted drug smuggler, Murray Riley, had been business partners, but had fallen out. C.H. said that Sinclair met him at Tattersalls Club in early December, 1977, and asked if he would be interested in collecting about A\$20,000 in debts from Riley and Riley's business partner, Kenneth Derley, for a commission, reported the Sydney newspaper. Through an arrangement made by Sinclair, the paper said, C.H. collected the money from Riley in a park and was paid his commission by Sinclair. A judge forbade publication of C.H.'s full name, address and details. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Mar 80 p 5]

AUSTRALIAN ARRESTED--Narcotics agents of the Customs Department Saturday night arrested an Australian on charges of possessing 80 grammes of No. 4 heroin at Don Muang Airport. The officials apprehended Benjamin O'Brien (32) as he was waiting to board a plane for Amsterdam. In addition to heroin, the agents said, they found a tube stuffed with cooked opium in the Australian's possession. They said the heroin was hidden in two condoms and a tube concealed inside O'Brien's clothing. Narcotic officials said O'Brien had visited the country three times in the past five months with no obvious reasons. The agents followed him on his most recent trip and finally arrested him for possession of the drug. He was charged with heroin possession and with an attempt to smuggle the drug out of the country. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Mar 80 p 1]

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Sao Paulo, 10 May (AFP)--A spokesman of the federal police reported here today that approximately 200 kg of hashish and 100 kg of marihuana of Paraguayan origin have been seized from four drug traffickers arrested by the police. The arrested traffickers are part of a gang of criminals which operates the Pedro Juan Caballero (Paraguay), Ponta Pora, Presidente Prudente and Rio de Janeiro run. [PY141423 Paris AFP in Spanish 1726 GMT 10 May 80 PY]

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

DRUG-RELATED DEATH--Two U.S. citizens were killed when their plane carrying a shipment of marihuana out of the country crashed. The U.S.-registered DC-3 crashed for unknown reasons near the port of Gamarra. The plane's crew and the marihuana burned in the crash. [PA171503 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 May 80 PA]

COCAINE HAUL--Bogota--Agents of the comptroller's office last night seized over 200 kg of pure cocaine valued at over 5 billion pesos in three districts of Bogota. Five persons were arrested, including a woman said to be one of the leading organizers of an international drug ring. Four of those arrested were identified as Luis Espinoza, Marlene Orjuela Sanchez, Julio Rodriguez and Manuel Yepez. [PA171503 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 May 80]

COCA PLANTATION--Police have discovered more than 150 hectares planted with coca in Cauca Department. Meanwhile, in the municipality of [name indistinct], Cundinamarca Department, the F-2 confiscated 200 kg of (?cocaine) and arrested five drug traffickers. [PA171503 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 16 May 80]

CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED WITH COCAINE, MARIHUANA

Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 21 Mar 80 p 17

[Text] Quito--Suspected traffickers in gold and silver, traffickers in marihuana and cocaine, and an international swindler have been arrested by agents of the Pichincha Interpol.

Gold and Silver Traffickers

The Interpol agents arrested Ammeter Arnold, a Swiss citizen, and German Romero de la Cruz, a Peruvian, in the Mariscal Sucre airport of this city. They were found to have in their possession 7 1/2 gold bars, weighing 3,126 grams, and 3 silver bars, weighing 802 grams. The foreigners mentioned arrived in this city from Lima, Peru, and were arrested by agents when they were traveling to the center of this city in search of lodging.

The detainees did not have any documents to show that they were the legitimate owners of the confiscated gold and silver, nor any document to authorize the entry of the metals into the country.

However, Ammeter declares that the metals are his property, left over from his former company "Peruvian Gold, S.A.," and that Romero had melted down the remaining scraps to obtain this amount of gold and silver.

Marihuana

Carlos Orlando Ramirez Rojas, age 24, Ecuadorian, was arrested in the central part of this city carrying 1,535 grams of marihuana, prepared for sale to users in that sector, and in "El Placer."

On being questioned, he reported that he carried out this activity jointly with Fernando Pareja and an individual nicknamed "El Sambo," who are wanted by Interpol, and said that he acquired the drug in Ipiales, Colombia.

Maria Ines Quinonez Rodriguez, of Colombian nationality, was discovered with 75 grams of marihuana, when she was attempting to bring the drug into the Garcia Moreno Prison.

The arrested woman stated that she had been staying in the country illegally for some years, and that when she was arrested she was entering the prison to visit her companion Jorge Flores, who is imprisoned for dealing in drugs.

Cocaine

Paul Bartley Barker, a Panamanian, was arrested in this city with 24 grams of cocaine paste, when he was preparing to wrap little packets or envelopes securely for distribution in this city.

Swindler

Jose Franklin Guerrero Sarquen, a Peruvian, a wanted international swindler, was arrested when he was preparing to leave the country at the Mariscal Sucre Airport.

Guerrero Sarquen is charged with having carried out various frauds in money exchange offices, using for this purpose booklets of illegally acquired travelers checks of the First National City Bank and the American Express Company.

In carrying out the frauds he had been passing himself off as an Argentine citizen, using for this purpose an altered passport No 10.750.703 in the name of Toribio Delfin Nunez Mendoza, the name he used in carrying out the swindles.

The Interpol also was able to establish that Guerrero acted in company with Jose Carrasco Campos, presumably a Bolivian, because he was operating with a passport of that nationality, No 777999. However, there are serious suspicions that Carrasco is a Peruvian.



Paul Bartley Barker,
Panamanian, cocaine
trafficker



Jose Guerrero
Sarquén, Peruvian,
money exchange
offices swindler



Maria Quinonez
Rodriguez, drug
trafficker



Carlos Ramirez
Rojas, Ecuadorian,
marihuana traf-
ficker

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CSO: 5300

MEXICO

SICILIA FALCON, ACCOMPLICES SENTENCED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 7 Mar 80 p 31-A

[Text] The international drug trafficker, Alberto Sicilia Falcon, was sentenced yesterday to 10 years in prison by the judge of the 4th criminal common court, Guillermo Rivas Rodriguez, for damage to property, fraud and bribery.

Sicilia Falcon is being tried for drug trafficking at the first penal court of the district, where the sentence has not yet been handed down, and also assigned to the fourth penal court where he was sentenced yesterday for damage to property caused in an escape attempt with other inmates on 29 April 1976. He is also being tried for fraud against inmate Julio Lopez Garza whom he had asked for various sums of dollars to "buy protection" inside the Lecumberri prison, and for bribe offer to security chief Edilberto Gil Cardenas so that he would transfer them to the same cell on the night they escaped.

Sicilia Falcon was given the following cumulative sentences: 2.5 years of imprisonment and 3,000 pesos fine for damage to property; 4.5 years and 5,000 pesos fine for fraud; and 3 years and 1,500 pesos fine for the bribe offer to the security chief. According to experts the excavation of the tunnel from the house at 25 Tercera Cerrada of San Antonio Tomatlan to cell 29 of the demolished Lecumberri prison, caused material damage amounting to 7,232 pesos.

Sicilia's accomplices, Roberto Hernandez, the brothers Luis and Eladio Zuccoli Lopez and Fernando Gardner Pasquel were also sentenced to 3 years in prison, but the sentence was suspended because of the time elapsed.

11635
CSO: 5300

MEXICO

FOREIGN COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 25 Mar 80 p 33-A

[Article by Rafael Medina Cruz]

[Text] An international drug traffic gang--comprising three Bolivians and one Spaniard--who had planned to extend their operations to Mexico and the United States, was captured at the Mexico City international airport and a city hotel, with 2.2 kg of pure cocaine.

Thanks to these arrests it was possible to find out the name of the main cocaine distributor in Bolivia, and that of the buyer in Houston, Texas.

The arrest of the 3 Bolivians and the Spaniard took place after the agents of the Federal Judicial Police posted at the airport, surprised Juan Carlos Baldiviezo Parada when he tried to pass through the international terminal with a shipment of 2.2 kg of pure cocaine, valued at over 20 million pesos, attached to his body.

When he was questioned, Juan Carlos Baldiviezo said that the Spaniard, Antonio Rivera Gonzalez had accompanied him on the flight, to guard the drug and that Miguel Vargas Anzoategui and Eduardo Aguilera would wait for him, one at the air terminal platform and the other in a hotel in the city.

The federal agents were able to make the arrests thanks to the vigilance established at the airport.

Questioned by the agents of the Federal Public Ministry who are in charge of the case, the arrested men said that the drug was purchased in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, on Third Street, from Jorge Aguilera Aguilera, named as the main distributor of cocaine in his country.

They also said that Juan Carlos Medina, a partner of Aguilera Aguilera, was in charge of establishing contacts with buyers in the United States.

These names were reported by the office of the Attorney General of the Republic to the Bolivian authorities, so that the gangsters may be investigated and arrested.

11635
CSO: 5300

MEXICO

COCAINE SEIZED IN DURANGO, FIVE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 11 Mar 80 p 8-A

[Text] Members of the Federal Judicial Police [PJF] have seized 6 kg of high quality cocaine and 1 kg of heroin, and arrested 5 drug traffickers in Baja California and Durango.

The leaders of the cocaine traffickers, Guadalupe Gutierrez Mercado and Cruz Diaz Lopez were arrested in Mexicali while traveling in a 1978 Brasilia station wagon, license 121-REM. They had with them six plastic bags containing 1 kg of pure cocaine each.

Members of the PJF continued their investigation and went to Tijuana, Baja California, where they arrested Enrique Solorzano Felix, who was the traffickers' contact in that border city. Later, in Guadalajara, the police were able to arrest Elio Gutierrez Labra, another member of the gang who was about to leave the country.

Appearing before the agents of the Federal Public Ministry, the arrested men confessed that all the drugs were destined for the U.S. blackmarket, where there is a great demand among artists, gamblers and millionaires.

In addition, the federal agents today completed an investigation of heroin traffic, arresting Samuel Leon Leon, who had with him 1 kg of heroin in a 1979 Ford station wagon, Sinaloa State license TV-4956. Samuel Leon confessed that he constantly traveled from Coloma, municipality of namazula, Durango, to Sinaloa where a man nicknamed "Yaqui" picked up the merchandise. The police reported that they will continue this investigation until they find where the drug comes from.

11635
CS0: 5300

MEXICO

BRIEFS

PSYCHOTROPICS DEALER SEIZED--The main distributor of psychotropic pills in the United States--who was being sought by the Judicial Police since last week, when a secret amphetamine laboratory was discovered in Mexico City--was arrested yesterday in Tijuana, Baja California. The man is Francisco Antonio Flores Sanchez, who is the owner of a line of miscellaneous freight trucks which he used to transport the drugs. It is estimated that he introduced over 20 million pills into the United States. The arrest was made by agents under Commander Clemente Moreno and coordinator Carlos Aguilar Garza. The Federal Judicial Police last week discovered and closed the secret laboratory in the Federal District, Anahuac section. They arrested 8 persons who said that in 6 months they manufactured 15 million pills valued at \$1 or \$1.50 each in the United States. [Rafael Medina C.] [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 4 Mar 80 p 34-A] 11635

HIGHWAY POLICE TRAINING--Tampico, Tamaulipas--Officers and patrolmen of the Federal Highway Police are receiving constant training and new and modern weapons to counteract drug traffic in this area and the rest of the country, according to Maj Hector Dario Huidobro, commander of that entity based in Tampico. He also said that several policemen are in the capital of the republic being trained in new techniques of fighting drug traffic and smuggling. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 15 Mar 80 p 5-F]

CSO: 5300

NICARAGUA

BRIEFS

DRUG ARREST--Tomas Felipe, (Briones Barreto) and (Norma Lucuadra) have been turned over to the second district criminal judge by the Sandinist police on charges of possession of six bags of cocaine worth approximately 3 million cordobas. [PA171503 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 May 80]

CS0: 5300

PARAGUAY

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The police have reported that Fernanda Caceres and Francisca Dolores de Paniaqua were arrested on 11 April after it was learned that they were involved in a drug trafficking operation in the town of Pedro Juan Caballero, where they sold 5000 ampoules of amphetamine which was brought from Buenos Aires by a third person who still remains at large. [PY052240 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 3 May 80 p 27 PY]

CSO: 5300

IRAN

HEROIN SMUGGLING FROM IRAN TO WEST EUROPE INCREASES

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 13 Apr 80 pp 37, 40

[Article by Ake Ringberg]

[Text] The Iranian economy has practically been destroyed but one market is blossoming to an unprecedented extent--the narcotics trade. After the revolution drug abuse grew so rapidly that it is beyond the control of the authorities. There are at least 700,000 addicts, many of them living in Tehran's enormous slum area.

Iran is also one of the leading opium producers in the world. The heroin market in England, for example, is now controlled entirely by Iranians.

A Street in the Tehran Slums

They sit huddled up in groups of four or five on the sidewalk, covered with sacking or plastic, living for the moment when they can inhale heroin fumes. Other groups lie in a happy stupor and sleep in the street. Still others stagger around with desperation in their eyes. At another location, 100 meters from my observation post in a house marked for demolition in Tehran's old brothel district, I saw a desperate fight break out when dealers arrived with the latest delivery.

Every morning a truck picks up four or five dead bodies from this street. This is only a small part of the gigantic slums of southern Tehran where heroin is playing an increasingly dominant role. There are no statistics on the number of addicts but it is estimated that 700,000 people are entirely dependent on heroin. Others cite figures twice that high.

Devastation

I was really out with one of the Islamic Revolutionary Committees to view the now totally destroyed brothel district whose existence westerners heard of only in whispers while it was still going strong. Today this

area resembles a bombed-out part of the city. During the revolution the SAVAK forces first burned some of these areas, spreading the rumor that Khomeyni's people were responsible and now in recent weeks the Khomeyni forces have moved in with heavy earthmoving equipment and probably dynamite charges as well, putting the "red light district" out of action. (The prostitutes had long since fled from the punitive hand of the Islamic Revolution.)

Inferno

But right next to the brothel district is the heroin district and the street I saw resembled a scene from hell. The dealers come into Jamshid Street three times a day and it is reported that each delivery involves 50 kg of heroin. The hospitals in the vicinity are filled with dying victims but resources in this poverty-stricken part of Tehran are very limited and the only way to solve the problem would be to strike at the sources of cultivation and distribution.

Bosses Go Free

"And that's exactly what we are unable to do," admitted one of the leaders of this district's revolutionary committees. "We pick up the dead every morning, we try to get at the dealers, we take some people to hospitals where they are kept alive on small doses since direct withdrawal is fatal. But the big bosses--the men at the top--are out of our reach. They have too much power."

I was told that among the tens of thousands of heroin addicts there were all kinds of people, not just slum dwellers. Society's number one evil, as they call heroin here, strikes at all classes of society.

The reason they can't strike at the root of the evil is that there is evidently an intensive power struggle going on among the Iranian "big wheels" over the drug trade inside Iran as well as the smuggling of narcotics to Europe and the United States.

It is a well-known fact that the deposed shah and his family were one of the most important links in the Iranian narcotics trade. In practice the shah and his so-called Pahlavi Foundation had a monopoly on the opium trade which provided him with hundreds of millions in income annually. In eastern Kerman Province 30 tons of opium were harvested each year for the shah.

Asraf Arrested

The shah's twin sister, Asraf--regarded by Iranians today as perhaps the most corrupt member of the Pahlavi family--was once arrested in Switzerland with suitcases full of heroin. Bertrand Russell has said that both

the customs service and the FBI in the United States were well aware that Iran was one of the most important sources of drugs smuggled into the United States but that the importance of the shah's oil to the west was regarded as considerably more important.

Now that the shah has been forced to leave Iran a power vacuum has arisen in the narcotics branch as well and that is where the intensive power struggle is taking place. The revolutionary committees are quite powerless and it is possible there is also a disinclination to come to grips with the problem. Big sums are involved and those who control the drugs are ready to pay handsomely to keep their business going. Big bribes and corruption have always been part of the heroin trade regardless of the regime in power.

In general the big narcotics trade is directed by the "highest circles" and by this is meant the top political leaders. The shah and his family are one example. Another is the narcotics traffic as practiced in the Levant. When the then president of Lebanon, Suleiman Franjeh, arrived in New York in November 1974 to deliver his big speech to the United Nations he was seized by customs agents at the airport and some of his luggage was confiscated. Franjeh has always had close political and economic contacts with his Syrian friends....

In Iran they say that among the few things that are working--the economy has shut down almost entirely--the narcotics trade has a prominent place. Last year's harvest set a record; the opium plants produced 600 tons and another 400 tons were smuggled in from Pakistan and Afghanistan. Of this 200 tons went to Iran's 180,000 registered opium consumers, mostly in the form of morphine or heroin.

To Sweden

And much finds its way to the slums of southern Tehran where thousands of people inhale heroin fumes under the dirty sacking and sooner or later are gathered up the next day by the sanitation trucks. And some finds its way to western Europe, some to Sweden and some to the Transit Center and Sergels Square in Stockholm where one can also find victims of heroin almost every morning.

Increased After Revolution

Along with Afghanistan and Pakistan Iran is one of the world's largest centers of the illegal opium trade--only the so-called Golden Triangle in Southeast Asia (Burma, Thailand and Laos) has a bigger market. The revolution in Iran with the general breakdown of most social functions greatly contributed to the growth of the heroin trade and narcotics smugglers have had an almost open market. They said in Tehran that never before has Iran been overrun by so many drug dealers and the problem has obviously grown beyond the point where the authorities can control it.

Even so this is a relatively new problem for Iran--to be more precise, it spans a period of 30-40 years. Before then drugs were used mainly for medicinal purposes and there were relatively few heroin victims. The widespread abuse is due to the British, just as it was in China at the end of the 19th century.

According to an expert in this area in Tehran we must distinguish between the presence of opium in Iran which goes back to antiquity and the problem of abuse which is relatively recent. During the latter part of the Qajar dynasty and the rule of Shah Riza a British plan was adopted to remove all restrictions on the cultivation of opium and as a result heroin addiction reached epidemic proportions after World War II.

Various Iranian and international experts have estimated that in the early 1950's there were close to 1 million addicts in a population of 20 million.

But a 1955 law banned the cultivation, distribution and use of opium and this law was so well enforced that cultivation and with it addiction had been almost totally eradicated within 10 years. Drugs smuggled in from Turkey, Pakistan and Afghanistan were so expensive that only members of the upper class could afford them.

A turning point came in 1967 when the restrictions were lifted and limited cultivation of opium was allowed, with the authorities issuing special cards to addicts. This set the avalanche off again (addicts had declined to around 300,000 despite a population increase).

Why was the ban lifted? The official explanation was that neighboring countries were increasing their production and that Iran was losing foreign exchange money due to smuggling from its neighbors. But the real reason, it is now said, was that the shah and his family along with many members of the court had established a cooperation with the opium trade. Instead of cracking down on the smuggling and cultivation of hard drugs they were encouraging these practices.

Today an effort is being made to get farmers to turn their opium harvest over to a special company within the Agricultural Ministry and they are trying to get Iran's religious leaders to officially condemn the illegal heroin trade. But so far these efforts have met with no success.

In recent years Iranian heroin has become an increasingly difficult problem for European narcotics police forces. The trade in heroin from Iran is particularly high in Great Britain. In the last 12 months alone 240 Iranians have been arrested by English police and customs agents, suspected of smuggling heroin.

Most of the heroin on the British market comes from Iran. The rest, about 30 percent, is imported from elsewhere in the Middle East and from Southeast Asia.

The heroin market in England is controlled by Iranians. In the last 21 months 370,000 Iranians have entered Great Britain. The illegal importation of heroin has been linked with the political unrest in Iran after the fall of the shah.

Many Iranians have sold their possessions and purchased heroin and other drugs which they smuggle out of Iran in suitcases.

In recent years the availability of heroin in England has been relatively stable and the price is around 700 kronor per gram.

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IRAN

BRIEFS

DRUG DEALER ARREST--Shiraz police have arrested a number of drug dealers. They were carrying 2 kg of heroin at the time of their arrest. They, along with 25 other individuals, have been turned over to the prosecutors office. [GF121604 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 12 May 80 GF]

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ISRAEL

HEROIN HAUL AT AIRPORT

Jerusalem JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Mar 80 p 3

[Article by Yoram Bar]

[Text]

TEL AVIV. — Acting on a tip from Amsterdam, police on Tuesday evening swooped on two Tel Aviv men as they got off a KLM plane at Ben-Gurion Airport. The two were allegedly found in possession of 400 grams of heroin worth over IS\$500,000 concealed in a false-bottomed suitcase.

The two, aged 21 and 25, have previous convictions, the older of them for drug trafficking.

Brought for interrogation to Tel Aviv, the younger man was found to be concealing a further 20 grams of heroin, wrapped in plastic, in his anus.

A police source yesterday told *The Jerusalem Post* that a special team headed by Pakad Amnon Shemesh has been working on the case for several months. Police knew that the older man had made several trips to Europe recently to build connections with drug pedlars there.

The decision to move in on the two came when word was received that they were coming back to Israel well-stocked with drugs.

The country's drug addicts have apparently fallen victim to gang warfare between rival drug dealers. There is a shortage of hard drugs and prices have recently been driven up steeply.

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ISRAEL

ARRESTS IN GAZA FLOATING HASHISH CASE

Jerusalem JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Mar 80 p 3

[Text]

GAZA (Itim). — Police have arrested eight persons in connection with the hashish-laden floats which have been washing up on the southern coast all week. At least one package is thought to have been retrieved and hidden by a resident, but a total of 1.1 tons of the resin, worth some IS6m., has been recovered.

On Monday 216 "soles" of hashish, weighing about 60 kilos, were dug up a metre and a half underground in a Gaza area orchard. Police believe that the find was the contents of two floats, minus some already sold. A Gaza resident

suspected of being a drug dealer was arrested.

In another incident, police recovered another float full of hashish after a youth who found it sold it to another Gazan for IS30. The youth's older brothers were angered by the terms and demanded that the goods be returned. But the youth had already spent IS2, and while the haggling continued, police learned of the affair and recovered the booty.

In another drug arrest, two Rafah residents were being held for possession of a 304-gram sole of hashish.

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JORDAN

BRIEFS

AUTHORITIES SEIZE HASHISH--The competent public security departments yesterday seized 350 kg of hashish in one of the suburbs of the capital after receiving information from a person who once worked with a group of smugglers. The director of public security supervised the operation of seizing this quantity of hashish. The antinarcotic department in the directorate of public security arrested another group of hashish smugglers, including three Egyptians. A quantity of 5 kg of hashish was found in their possession. The group was referred to a military tribunal for legal action.
[Text] [JN110840 Amman A:-AR'I in Arabic 11 May 80 p 1]

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

LARGE AMOUNTS OF HEROIN SMUGGLED INTO BERLIN PRISONS

Hamburg STERN in German 24 April 80 pp 78-82

[Article by Gabriele Weber: "Solitary Confinement Used Against the Heroin-Mafia"]

[Text] Authorities have tried imposing tighter conditions and raids on cells to free prisons of drugs. Anyone like Hans Riedel, who has been in Tegel for 9 years, and who is suspected of being a dealer, is put in solitary confinement. Here dealers are pumped full of tranquilizers. Many of them are now addicted to pills.

A man with a massive build is on the defendants' bench in the Berlin municipal court Tiergarten. His name: Ralf Artz, 30 years old, 14 of which he has spent in prison, brought in from the detention center at Moabit, prisoner booking number 1167/78. Occupation: none. Previous convictions: many, always for assault and petty theft.

But today's court session is concerned with something quite different. On 27 January 1979 Artz had accused an employee of the center at Moabit of smuggling beer and heroin into the jail and delivering them to him. As evidence he had handed over a can of "Uebersee-Export" beer to the prison administration.

But the state prosecutor did not investigate the jail employee. Instead, the accused, Executive Court Secretary Johann Brem, brought charges against Artz--for defamation of character. And won. Artz' attorney Ruediger Portius told STERN: "First of all they complain that they don't know how drugs are getting into the prison. But if prisoners identify prison officials as carriers, they get charges filed against them." It has long been an open secret in the Berlin justice system that many prison officials are earning enormous sums on the black market in jails. It is more difficult to prove that prison personnel are also involved in the lively traffic in heroin.

Only one thing is certain: people are fixing behind bars. Of 3,500 prisoners in Berlin, 540 are proven heroin addicts--not to mention unreported cases of around 1,000. In the women's prison in the Lehrter Strasse 100 out of 120

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inmates are hypodermic addicts. In the detention center in Moabit it is one in four. In Tegel one in three injects daily. Heroin flooded the prisons in 1976. Most of the new prisoners came from the drug scene--principally young people who had obtained money for heroin as pimps or by mugging, and who were sentenced. Currently in the FRG 50 percent of the women and 40 percent of the male prisoners are drug users.

The heroin market is booming. More and more prisoners are becoming addicts, either with the first, free trial shot, or forcibly. A 37-year old father who was in Tegel for a traffic offense was held down by fellow prisoners and received the first shot from a dealer--the one that addicts people.

The pimps in the Berlin prison soon discovered that a lot more money can be made in prison with heroin than with gambling or liquor. In prison 35 packages at 50 marks each are made from 1 gram of heroin. Total 1,750 marks. At the Zoo Station a gram can be bought for 175 marks. Experts estimate that 1 kilo of heroin is disposed of in Tegel each month--for 1.75 million marks

The money for the expensive stuff is obtained in various ways. Some earn it by male prostitution in prison, others have their girls earn it outside. The father who was forcibly addicted even went so far as to cash in his house savings contract to pay his heroin debts.

"Drug consumption reaches fatal limits on occasion," says Tegel psychologist Walter Kindermann. One drug user gives the following explanation why no heroin deaths have so far been officially recorded in prison: "If you lie in the toilet for 2 hours, you're dead, in here you're found sooner, and they look after you. And a lot of drug users have already died in Tegel. The death certificate said heart failure."

The Tegel prison director, Klaus Lange-Lehngut, told STERN: "Drugs are more taxing to prison methods than the terrorists problem. With the terrorists I only have to make sure that none of them escape, but with drugs I have to stop the smallest amount from coming in." A difficult job. There are lots of ways of funneling the lethal stuff into Tegel: ...Prison wardens on leave and those with permission to enter bring it in in trouser seams or concealed on their bodies. Often it is carried in the stomach or intestine.

...Visitors hide it under wigs, in diapers, in cigarette packs.

...Well packaged, it is thrown over the Tegel prison walls during the night and is unobtrusively picked up in the morning by those who know where to look.

In the women's prison on the Lehrter Strasse the heroin problem is even more in evidence. "What else are we supposed to do all day, we don't have anything here," Baerbel Stankovic told STERN. There are only six apprenticeship positions available for the 120 women prisoners, and it is not possible to make up a school leaving certificate. "We are short of new permanent

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positions. Four social workers and a psychologist are not enough. But there will be no change before 1984," said prison director Wolfgang Hoefflich.

Very often it is women who have been released who are supplying their former fellow prisoners with drugs, because they expect to end up in prison again. Or pimps who want their women to stay addicted while they are in prison so that they will go straight back on the streets after their release. It's no secret to prison chief Hoefflich how the heroin gets into the prison: "The stuff is thrown over the wall in cigarette packages and collected during exercise periods."

Psychologist Roswitha Soltau has not yet given up completely: she has organized a group of five female addicts who want to get off heroin. "We don't want a prison full of drugs," the psychologist told STERN. "This is the last place we can get the people clean and convince them to undergo therapy. But the courts still consider punishment more important than therapy; and in prison a lot of people think that heroin keeps things quiet. Anyone injecting doesn't resist."

The authorities' measures against the heroin traffic make an ineffectual impression. To cleanse the prisons of drugs they make conditions in the prisons harsher. "There is no doubt that the law is playing right into the dealers' hands. These rigid concepts of security and order and their effects on daily life are preparing the soil in which the dealers' seed--i.e. business--blossoms," prisoners wrote recently in an open letter to the Berlin Senator for Justice.

In Tegel a special security group was organized against the traffic heroin. The prisoners call it "GSG 9 Tegel." This group was trained by the police in drug recognition, for many of them were unable to tell dextrose from heroin. The officials carry out raids on cells, often frisk the wardens and are supposed to intervene in the event of a prison riot. If any inmate is suspected of dealing in heroin, he is transferred to the dealer station, which was set up in 1978. Here he only gets photocopies of his mail, so that no drugs can be hidden under the stamp. He is not allowed to work, and the windows are covered with screens. Packages are forbidden.

Those suspected of dealing spend most of their time in solitary confinement. This too has consequences. "I've become addicted to pills here. The whole prison couldn't consume the sedatives that are passed out in this section," according to prisoner Joachim Hoffmann.

But even in the special section the dealers cannot be kept completely in check. When the prison hospital pharmacy was broken into and 300 vials of morphine disappeared, two prisoners from the dealer-station were the suspects.

Prison director Klaus Lange-Lehngut has dreamed up another trick to control things: soon all prisoners are to wear an ID photograph clipped to their

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clothing. The plastic card is a different color according to the prisoner's section. It is intended to prevent the prison dealers from moving freely among the sections and being able to distribute drugs. A total of 400 prisoners have complained to the Administrative Court about this "modern Star of David." The well-intentioned move has also been criticized by experts: The ID's help the dealers to recognize their customers more easily. "It is wrong to fight the syndicate gangsters of the computer age with bookkeeping methods out of the 19th century," is the judgment of Dr Heinrich Kremer, who became known as the reformer of Tegel and is now project director of the "Criminology Research Institute of Lower Saxony." Three years ago Kremer had suggested to the Berlin Justice Administration that the "Criminal Union of the Organized Heroin-Mafia be combated by targeted searches and police informers. His suggestions were ignored.

For the police the Berlin prisons are blank areas on the city map as far as heroin is concerned. "We offer more advice than action," says the head of the Narcotics Division, Gerhard Ulber, "we cannot assume control of the prisons. The Justice Department must do that itself."

There are very few witnesses who are willing to testify against the heroin-Mafia in Tegel. The reason: anyone who has dared to do so has been abandoned by the law. Like Udo Franke, who became addicted in prison. After 2 years he wrote to the prison governor, telling him that he was an addict and wanted to undergo a cure. Franke also described how the drug found its way into the prison.

The law reacted in its own way: first of all preliminary proceedings were begun against him for narcotics abuse. Then Customs arrived, claiming that Franke had contravened customs' regulations by his consumption of heroin and he had to pay several thousand marks in back customs duty.

The heroin dealers who had been betrayed also reacted in their own way: One witness from the dealer station said in a statutory declaration: "Franke was pictured as a rat and informer who had given damaging testimony against the "Mafia" in Tegel. As revenge he was to have a rape pinned on him."

And in fact a prostitute brought charges of rape against Franke, who had been released in the interim. Some 6 weeks later there was a second charge of rape. Fortunately for Franke he had reliable witnesses in his defense in both cases.

The third time the heroin gang was more successful. Franke had no witnesses and was sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment, which he is now serving. He is hoping for a new trial: in the meantime the supposed rape victim has been charged with perjury.

Another example of the pressure exerted by the Heroin-Mafia against those willing to testify: The former top dealer from Tegel, Rudolf Hozak, had

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told everything he knew about the heroin trade after his mother had been badly beaten by rival dealers. His confession led to the arrest of over 20 dealers, many of whom have since been sentenced.

For security Hozak was transferred to Moabit, because Lange-Lehngut, the governor, said: "I cannot guarantee the safety of a prisoner who denounces others." Hozak was put in solitary confinement. Since he could not take the isolation, he requested to put in a cell with other prisoners. Instead, the administration informed him that he was to be transferred back to Tegel. Two days later Hozak hanged himself.

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

TEN TURKISH KURDS ON TRIAL FOR SMUGGLING HEROIN

West Berlin DER TAGESSPIEGEL in German 22 Apr 80 p 22

[Text] The trial of 10 Turkish Kurds and a Spanish disco club manager has opened in Frankfurt District Court before the Hessian Chamber of National Security; they allegedly sold 16 kilos of heroin between the end of 1977 and mid-1979 in Frankfurt, Emmerich, Celle, The Hague and elsewhere. According to the prosecution the hot goods were produced in Turkey and then smuggled into the FRG in cars, with the drivers earning DM 10,000 to 15,000 per trip.

The principal defendants of the group are said to have paid DM 30,000 to 40,000 per kilo of narcotics in Turkey and to have sold it to middlemen in Frankfurt for DM 70,000 to 120,000. Some of the accused are said to have invested millions of Deutschmarks in real estate and businesses in Turkey. The prosecution also said on the basis of witnesses' statements that substantial sums had also found their way to Kurdish political groups. The accused Turkish Kurds came to Frankfurt in 1977 and 1978 as supposed "political refugees." They applied for political asylum and then turned to the drug trade. In 1978 with the help of anonymous tips the police arrested one group of the Kurds. According to statements from the Public Prosecutor's Office the Turkish Kurds involved in heroin traffic were tightly organized. Anyone betraying the group "received the death penalty." The Prosecutor's Office said that so far one instance of this "self-imposed justice" had been established.

The trial will probably last for a year. Twenty-two attorneys are defending the accused; only the Spaniard was not in custody.

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

BRIEFS

HEROIN CONFISCATION--Frankfurt--Police in Frankfurt and Ruesselsheim have confiscated a total of 28 kg of heroin with a street value of about DM20 million and arrested 26 suspects. The police told journalists today in Frankfurt that 40 kg of hashish had also been seized there. [LD160610 Hamburg DPA in German 1407 GMT 15 May 80 LD]

HEROIN DEALERS SENTENCED--Hamburg--The Hamburg regional court today sentenced 5 Chinese to prison terms ranging from 10 to 15 years on charges of dealing in heroin on a large scale between 1975 and 1978. Last December, 3 other Chinese, out of the 11 Asians originally charged, received similar prison terms. [Excerpt] [LD160610 Hamburg DPA in German 1608 GMT 14 May 80 LD]

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FRANCE

DRUGS, ARMS SMUGGLED BETWEEN NETHERLANDS, ITALY

Paris LE FIGARO in French 25 Apr 80 p 16

[Article by Jean-Michel Eulry]

[Text] Among the passengers on the Amsterdam-Milan express, the fast train linking those two great cities five times a day by way of Brussels, Luxembourg, Thionville, Basel and Strasbourg there was once again a trafficker. Not of drugs, but of precious stones....

A few minutes before the train entered Switzerland the Mulhouse customs inspectors apprehended a 50-year-old American traveler named Ohanes Darakgian, who had hidden about 100 emeralds, with a total weight of 236 carats and a value of 1.5 million francs in his sock.

On that train, or rather on those trains, all kinds of passengers are mixed together: diplomats on their way to the headquarters of the European communities in Luxembourg, or going to the Strasbourg Parliament, Asiatic tourists discovering Europe, students returning from America or from the Far East. This heterogeneous crowd of passengers creates an ideal hunting ground for every kind of trafficker, as far as the French customs agents are concerned. The prostitutes have disappeared, or almost disappeared from the sleeping cars or the corridors and the "godfathers" have taken their place.

Instead of being called the "Edelweiss," the "Iris" or the "Italia Express," these trains which are really not like other trains should be called "drug," "foreign exchange," "gold," "precious stones," "arms."

If the Amsterdam-Milan is more commonly called "the drug train," it is simply because the directors of the customs don't say anything about the other traffic. Those other matters are more often the subject of transactions, which are furthermore completely legal.

The customs inspectors have a hard job. The four to six inspectors who get on at Luxembourg or at Basel have only about 20 minutes to inspect a train of eight to 15 cars carrying 100 to 300 persons, depending on the season.

So that the customs inspector's chief weapon is his intuition. It is certainly impossible, as we all know, to devise a stereotype of a trafficker, but most often and in contradiction to a certain legend, the passer does not have long hair. He does not use perfume and he does not wear jeans. He is more likely to be a man 35 years of age, well dressed and of good appearance, of any one of several nationalities: Italian, Belgian, Austrian....

Several years ago the Mulhouse customs inspectors apprehended, after considerable hesitation, an Englishman dressed in an elegant dressing-gown, apparently a lord on a business trip rather than a trafficker. However, he was carrying diamonds weighing 4,000 carats around his waist. And at the same time his protestations had almost convinced the inspectors, who were careful not to commit too many blunders. The inventiveness of the traffickers passes all understanding. Unscrewed restroom signs, suitcases with false bottoms, dolls, heels of boots and shoes, an innocent neighbor among whose effects a package is hidden. Thus an unfortunate student was arrested in Mulhouse a few months ago for drug possession. She served several days in jail before being released. It was her traveling companion, a Swiss, who had hidden a compromising package in her clothing.

No Illusions

It is obvious that it is impossible for the customs agents to inspect all the packages and suitcases lined up in the corridors. For the traffickers, the simplest and most effective procedure is to put the package down, watch over it and fiercely deny that it is theirs if it is discovered. Recently a young man who was stretched out asleep on a bench with his head on his jacket, which was spread over a large quantity of hashish, denied knowing where it came from. He was accused and then released by the court. However, there are the other times when the trafficker's frightened appearance is great help to the inspectors.

However, their success is essentially based on experience. It is unnecessary to insist on the fact that you can't expect them to disclose their tricks. There are also those agents in plain clothes who mix with the passengers on the 250-km stretch of French territory that the trains cross. It was their perspicacity which was at the bottom of the last arrest to date, that of the American with the emeralds.

The customs officials don't work under any illusions. The balance on arrests, even if it is spectacular--seizures in 2 weeks of one kilo of cocaine, 800 grams of heroin, 8,000 doses of LSD, 3,750 of them at a time, 1.5 million francs in emeralds--unfortunately amount to only a small sample of the traffic that those funny pilgrims on the Amsterdam-Milan express carry on under their noses every day.

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GREECE

NARCOTICS LECTURES FOR STUDENTS REPORTED

Athens EPIKAIRA in Greek 17-23 Apr 80 p 76

/Text/ The Secondary Education Supervision Center /KEME/ agrees that the proposal to enlighten the students on the dangers of narcotics should be broadened. Thus, in a memorandum to the Ministry of Education which asked for a study of the subject and for clearly defining the methods for such an enlightenment program, KEME submitted the following recommendations:

1. As concerns the education of students on the dangers of narcotics, it would be expedient to limit it at least for the present only to secondary education schools. In the secondary education schools the cultural courses and especially the subject on narcotics as mentioned in various courses (the one on anthropology, for instance) can have positive results if properly exploited. The cultural courses and activities must maintain the ability and the possibility of covering a large spectrum of cultural subjects while the appropriate teachers should be encouraged to deal with subjects related to narcotics--subjects which the students consistently bring up--and in organizing anti-narcotic lectures.
2. The chapters on narcotics in school handbooks should be expanded so that a new emphasis would be given on enlightening the students on the dangers of narcotics.
3. The teachers should be supplied with bibliographical data and necessary aids for coping with the needs they will be facing in teaching the subject.
4. Special programs should be telecast by educational television and appropriate and responsible persons should be invited into schools for analyzing the subject and answering the students' questions.
5. During ad hoc KEME congresses or at other opportunities the seriousness of the subject should be underscored and the cultural activities and the special chapters of the handbooks /on the subject/ should be systematically projected so as to protect youth from the danger it is facing.

With regard to the subject of social education, KEME proposes that it be included in the proposed home economics course which should include and

put to good use anything relevant to the students' social behavior. It is considered expedient that the course on Elements of the Democratic Political System be maintained unaltered.

Regarding KEME proposals one could observe the following:

a. They refer to "generalities;" they fail to point out clearly the implementation methods for such enlightenment of the students on narcotics and social behavior, nor do they mention the agents (ministries, schools, higher education institutions, etc.) which could cooperate toward this end. Undoubtedly these general KEME proposals need still greater study before they are implemented.

b. Only two means are being recommended for the students' enlightenment: books (and the teaching in the classroom) and educational TV. But it is known that classroom teaching is tiresome and does not help the student. As for educational TV, what positive result can it have with its limited number of viewers?

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GREECE

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZURE--The largest quantity of heroin ever seized by European authorities--8 kilos worth 30 million German marks and enough to satisfy the German market for many months--had traveled on a truck loaded with oranges through Thraki and Makedonia to Yugoslavia where it was seized by the Gevgeli border post guards. The truck, driven by two Germans, had just passed the Greek border post at Eidomeni where the guards failed to notice "the load of death." A reliable source in Salonica said yesterday that Interpol had advance information about the movement of the 8 kilos and had sent its best agents into Turkey where the heroin was to be loaded. Indeed the heroin, well packed in plastic bags, was loaded in Dalika [transliteration] on a truck belonging to a German company and was covered with 20 tons of fresh oranges destined for Lindau [transliteration] of West Germany. Interpol was able to trace the travel schedule of the truck on the basis of advance information it had gathered. The truck had entered Greece at Kipous of Evros, traversed Thraki and Makedonia and reached Gevgeli in Yugoslavia where it was searched by the waiting policemen. The drivers were arrested and an investigation is already underway to discover the "big shots" who are hiding behind the arrested. [Text] [Athens AKROPOLIS in Greek 24 Apr 80 p 3] 7520

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NETHERLANDS

BRIEFS

MID-EAST IMPORTS INCREASE--The Hague, May 6--Holland will consult the Turkish Government on the possible stationing of a Dutch police official in Turkey in an attempt to curb heroin imports from the Middle East, Health State Secretary Els Veder told the Second Chamber today. In a written reply to questions she said heroin imports from the Middle East had increased and were twice as large as imports from Southeast Asia by the end of last year. Holland already has a police official stationed in Bangkok who is cooperating with the Thai authorities in the fight against drug trafficking. [Text] [The Hague ANP in English 7 May 80 p 4]

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END