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JPRS L/9353

20 October 1980

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 44/80)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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WORLDWIDE REPORT
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
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BURMA

DRUG TRAFFICKERS HELD FOR TRIAL

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 28 Sep 80 p 4

[Text]

RANGOON, 27 Sept—Men of the People's Police Force Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and No 6 Intelligence Unit last month rounded up eight narcotic drug dealers. The eight have been sent up for trial before the Hlaing and Mingaladon Township Courts under Sections 6 (b) (possession), 7(b) (transport), 10(b) (sale) and 14(d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.

The law enforcement authorities seized 34.85 grams of heroin from Kyi Nyunt *alias* Awe A of No 47, Bogale Bazaar Street, Rangoon, when they searched Mazda Familia No Hslein/7146, on 22 August. Three others involved in the drug traffic

were later rounded up. The four have been sent up for trial before the Hlaing Township Court.

CID men also seized 11.23 grams of heroin from Maung Ngwe Hlaing, a passenger bound for Tavoy, at the Rangoon Airport on 23 August. Acting on information given by him police arrested Ngwe Soe *alias* Phone Gyi of Daw Pu Ward, Moulmein, a heroin dealer, and Kan Myint *alias* Thitsa of Daing-wun-kwin Ward, Moulmein, and Mya Aung of Shwetaung Ward, Moulmein, who acted as go-betweens. The four men have been sent up for trial before the Mingaladon Township Court.

NAB

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

POLICE SMASH SYNDICATE DEALING IN HEROIN, OPIUM

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 10 Sep 80 p 16

/Text/

Narcotics Bureau officers yesterday smashed a Chiu Chow drug syndicate, uncovering a heroin processing centre as well as an opium distribution centre in separate districts in Kowloon.

Five men, aged between 35 and 55, were arrested in raids.

Detectives working under the direction of Chief Superintendent John Thorpe seized drugs worth more than \$620,000.

Detectives broke into a flat on the eighth floor of 88 Sai Yeung Choi Street, Mongkok, shortly after 11 am.

They arrested three men and seized more than a pound of heroin base, two kilograms of caffeine and a quantity of chemicals and equipment.

In follow-up raids, detectives uncovered an opium distribution centre in a flat at 41 Hang On Street, Kun Tong where two men were arrested and a pound of prepared opium seized.

CSO: 5320

HONG KONG

THAI NATIONAL, LOCAL MAN GUILTY OF DRUG TRAFFICKING

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 11 Sep 80 p 9

/Text/

A lorry driver from Bangkok and a Hongkong taxi driver were each sentenced to seven years' imprisonment by Mr Justice Baber in the High Court yesterday for possessing dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking.

Suk Sittijindakul, alias Lee Chung (28), a Thai national, and Wong Sum-fung (43) had pleaded not guilty to possessing 1,796.29 gms of a mixture containing 1,469.62 gms of esters of morphine.

A jury of five men and two women, after deliberating for one hour, returned unanimous verdicts of guilty on the two.

The case for the Crown was that a police party kept watch at Austin Road, Tsimshatsui, at 2 pm on February 21, and saw Suk walking towards Chatham Road with a travelling bag.

He met Wong and after a brief discussion, the two walked to a taxi which was then driven by Wong.

The police party intercepted the taxi and found in the travelling bag eight packets of dangerous drugs.

Police also found \$10,000 on Suk.

When the defendants were taken to the Narcotics Bureau, Suk admitted he had come to Hongkong to collect a bag of heroin for \$10,000.

He was to have been contacted by someone later at his hotel.

The court was told the drugs could be processed into heroin worth \$5 million.

Counsel for both defendants pleaded for leniency, saying they had no criminal records in Hongkong.

Miss Esther Toh, counsel for Suk, said her client was just a small pawn being made use of in a lucrative trade.

He was tempted into taking part in the venture because of poverty. His father had just had an operation, she said.

The judge ordered the confiscation of the drugs and the \$10,000 seized from Suk.

Mr Anthony Sedgwick defended Wong.

Crown counsel Ronald Noble, assisted by Chief Inspector John Thomson of the Narcotics Bureau, prosecuted.

CSO: 5320

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

THAI TOURIST ARRESTED--A Thai tourist had a briefcase containing \$600,000 worth of heroin base when he was intercepted outside a Kowloon hotel, a High Court judge and jury were told yesterday. Phaichit Pojanakorn (54) pleaded not guilty to possessing three pounds of esters of morphine on April 17. The court heard evidence from customs officers that on April 17 they intercepted Phaichit when he came out of a Kowloon hotel holding a briefcase in which were two polythene bags containing heroin base. /Excerpts/ /Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 2 Sep 80 p 10/

ACCUSED MEN CLEARED--A crane worker was yesterday found not guilty by a High Court jury of a charge of possessing dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking. The jury deliberated for four hours before finding Wong Hung (40) not guilty by five votes to two. Wong had denied possessing 4,964 kilos of prepared opium on January 24. The prosecution's case was that Narcotics Bureau officers, who had been trailing Wong, found prepared opium worth about \$165,000 in two shopping bags which he was carrying. Wong told Mr Justice Zimmern and the jury that the two bags were handed over to him at a restaurant that morning by another crane worker. He was told that the bags contained engine spare-parts and he had no knowledge that they were drugs. /Excerpt/ /Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 10 Sep 80 p 17/ A factory worker was found not guilty by a jury in the High Court yesterday on a charge of possessing 1½ lb of esters of morphine for unlawful trafficking. Liu Muk-por (28) was accordingly discharged by Mr Justice Liu. He had pleaded not guilty. The drugs, worth about \$380,000, were found in the false bottom of a paper bag he was carrying when he returned from Bangkok on March 31. Liu told the court in his defence that he went to Bangkok for a holiday with a woman friend on March 18. Five days before their return to Hongkong, the woman friend gave him the paper bag to carry, and he did not know there were drugs at the bottom. /Excerpt/ /Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 11 Sep 80 p 9/

MALAYSIAN, PARTNER HELD--Customs officers arrested a Malaysian businessman and a partner of a club on Wednesday and seized 1,400 grams of dehydrated

opium. Customs officers said the drugs, if converted into prepared opium, would have had an estimated retail value of \$160,000. /Text/ /Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 Sep 80 p 13/

MALAYSIAN TRAVELER HELD--A young Malaysian was arrested at Kai Tak airport when 900 grams of heroin base was found concealed in his socks during a routine check by customs officers on his arrival from Singapore yesterday afternoon. Customs officers said that the seized drugs, when converted to No 3 heroin and sold to local addicts, could fetch a retail price of \$1.2 million. The arrested man, aged 22, was last night charged with possession of dangerous drugs for the purpose of unlawful trafficking and will appear in San Po Kong Court tomorrow. /Text/ /Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 14 Sep 80 p 8/

HEROIN COURIER SENTENCED--A customs officer who stuck a needle into the lid of a briefcase carried by a traveller at Kai Tak airport found traces of white powder on the point, the High Court was told yesterday. This led to the discovery of over 684 grams of heroin worth \$700,000 in a false lid of the briefcase. Chow Pui-yuen (47), unemployed, who was carrying the briefcase, was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment by Mr Justice Macdougall when he pleaded guilty to possessing drugs for unlawful trafficking. Chow admitted he knew the drugs were in the case, but said he acted only as courier. /Excerpts/ /Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 18 Sep 80 p 11/

AIRPORT MORPHINE HAUL--Two men arrested at Kai Tak Airport on Friday appeared in San Po Kong Court yesterday charged with possessing about \$800,000 of dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking. Man Wai-shing (27) and Chan Yu-nan (27) were searched at the airport baggage reclaim hall after arrival from Singapore. Man and Chan are charged with possessing a quantity of esters of morphine for unlawful trafficking. /Excerpt/ /Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 21 Sep 80 p 9/

- MALAYSIAN SMUGGLER JAILED--A Malaysian was yesterday sentenced to 4½ years' imprisonment for possessing \$600,000 worth of dangerous drugs for unlawful trafficking. The drugs--prepared opium and heroin--were found by customs officers at Kai Tak airport when they conducted a body search on Ngooi Pak-sang (38) on August 20 when he arrived from Kuala Lumpur. Ngooi pleaded guilty before Judge Leathlean at Kowloon District Court. The court was told that the drugs were found inside Ngooi's shirt pocket, his underpants and the waistband of his trousers. The drugs comprised a 461.1 gram mixture containing 362.7 grams of salts of esters of morphine and another mixture of 2.18 grams of prepared opium. /Text/ /Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 23 Sep 80 p 11/

CSO: 5320

NEW ZEALAND

BARBITURATE ABUSE LINKED TO DWINDLING HEROIN SUPPLY

Death of Teenager

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 3 Sep 80 p 1

/Text/ The sleeping pills which cost Porirua 15-year-old Hugh McMillan his life on Monday are being sold in Wellington hotels for between \$2 and \$10 a tablet.

Hugh died after taking an overdose of the barbiturate sodium amytal.

The co-ordinator of the national drug intelligence bureau (Detective Senior Sergeant Paul Fitzharris) said today police knew sodium amytal and other barbiturates such as tuinal and seconal, were being sold in hotels in small quantities.

"They are being traded off for anything from \$2 to \$10 a tablet," he said.

Very dangerous

"We are extremely concerned about this. These drugs can be very dangerous," Mr Fitzharris said.

But he said barbiturates were a lot more difficult to clamp down on than other drugs such as heroin.

"These barbiturates are legitimately manufactured, imported, and prescribed by doctors in the community," he said.

There were thus major difficulties in stopping the illicit trade of barbiturates in hotels.

"If police come upon this sort of thing in hotels, the tablets being sold may have been prescribed by a doctor, and we have to prove the drugs were being sold — and that can be very difficult," he said.

Mr Fitzharris said barbiturates were popular with drug abusers.

"People can obtain them legitimately from doctors and then deal with them illicitly by trading them off in hotels."

"There are problems in some areas with doctors being too free in prescribing them," he said.

Barbiturate abuse was linked with the drying up of the heroin supply in New Zealand since last September.

"If heroin is not available, drug abusers will tend to seek other drugs, and the popular ones are the barbiturates."

In May, the director of the National Society on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (Mr Roy Johnston) noted that drug deaths in Wellington had not declined with the drying up of heroin supplies.

He blamed barbiturate abuse, and was dissatisfied with the Health Department's lack of action in cutting back prescriptions.

In early June, the Health Department's director of clinical services (Dr John Phillips) said doctors had been requested not to prescribe barbiturates to anyone under the age of 30.

Dr Phillips said barbiturate prescriptions were about a quarter of what they were in 1969, and he said most of the barbiturates on the streets were coming from burglaries, not legitimate prescriptions.

However, he said today that the department was preparing more advice for doctors on barbiturate prescription, to be released in a circular in about a month.

A number of people rang the youth aid section of the Porirua police last night with reports of young people they knew to be taking barbiturates in the city.

The officer in charge of the section, Sergeant Peter Kegwell, said the reports would be followed up.

Police offer advice

He urged parents who thought their children might be taking drugs to seek

police advice. He said it didn't necessarily mean there would be a full investigation into the matter if parents contacted police when they felt concerned.

Porirua police superintendent Ross McLennan also issued a warning today to both parents and children on drug abuse. He said the dangers had been made obvious by Monday's death.

"Parents should be keenly aware these drugs are about," he said.

Medical Group's Stand

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 4 Sep 80 p 1

[Text]

THE New Zealand Medical Association wants the public to lay official complaints against their own doctors if they believe they are prescribing too many barbiturates.

The action is being taken following the death of a 15-year-old boy this week from an overdose of barbiturates.

The council chairman for the association, Dr Bryan Jew, said today that he was determined to identify the source of supply for the drugs "even if it means the laying of an official complaint against an individual doctor", he said.

But the association is not going to stop there. With the help of the Health Department, it intends to go through copies of every prescription written.

"It will be a very difficult and time-consuming exercise, but it is certainly worth it," Dr Jew said.

"The vast majority of doctors have heeded our advice over the years that there is no longer any need to prescribe a large number of barbiturates for medical reasons.

"But a small number of doctors are still guilty of prescribing excessive supplies of barbiturates.

"Some of them are prescribing too freely to patients who they are not familiar with," he said.

"The New Zealand Medical Association will do everything in its power to identify faulty prescribing and to limit it.

"We are working with the Health Department to try to control the situation."

Certain moves to clamp down on prescribing had already been under way by both organisations, but the death of the 15-year-old boy had spurred on the campaign, Dr Jew said.

Wellington POST Editorial

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 5 Sep 80 p 2

[Editorial: "Death Weapons"]

[Text]

THE STRONG stand being taken by the New Zealand Medical Association against abuse by doctors in the prescribing of barbiturates is to be welcomed.

The drying up of heroin supplies has brought in its wake another evil — a growing traffic in the selling of barbiturates in public houses and on the streets. Only a portion of this relatively

new drug traffic can be attributable to break-ins at chemists' shops; the rest originates from prescriptions in doctors' surgeries.

The death of a 15-year-old Porirua boy this week from an overdose of barbiturates has, sadly, pointed up the horror of the situation. It is not an isolated case — it was recently stated that an average of one person a week in

Wellington alone dies a drug-related death.

Doctors throughout New Zealand were recently warned by the Health Department not to prescribe barbiturate drugs to persons under the age of 30.

But it is obvious that warnings are not enough, and the positive action being taken by the medical association following the Porirua boy's death is a necessary step. The association wants the public to lay official complaints against their own doctors if they believe they are prescribing too many barbiturates.

The council chairman of the association, Dr Jew, has expressed his determination to identify the source of

supply for the drugs "even if it means the laying of an official complaint against an individual doctor."

It is believed that only a small number of doctors are still guilty of prescribing excessive supplies of barbiturates — but the harm they can do is incalculable.

Doubtless, some of the over-prescribing is due to laxity. But where it is wilfully done without regard for the consequences, it should be a clear case for the doctors concerned to be struck off the register.

In these circumstances, it is not a case of ministering to the sick. It is nothing less than the handing out of weapons of death.

Auckland HERALD Editorial

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 4 Sep 80 p 6

[Editorial: "Control of Barbiturates"]

[Text]

A drop of 80 per cent in the prescribing of barbiturates which has occurred since the 1968 peak of 27 million doses must contribute to the mental and physical well-being of New Zealanders. While such drugs have an undisputed role to play in medicine, they were never conceived as a long-term crutch upon which a significant proportion of the population could lean.

Doctors are more conscious than ever before of the need to limit such prescriptions to short-term treatment. A large share of the credit for limiting the supply of barbiturates must go to the Health Department, which has waged a campaign to wean all but

those in genuine need off such drugs. So determined has the department been that in May it examined 25 million prescription forms to identify doctors who might be prescribing too freely.

The reduction in the use of barbiturates must assist the Government's quest to cut the nation's \$132 million annual bill for prescription drugs, but the department's concern is primarily in the interests of better public health.

Nevertheless, the news is not all good. Barbiturates are commanding high prices among addicts deprived of illicit drugs seized by the police. Even greater control on the supply of pills may be needed to curb such trafficking.

CS0: 5320

PAKISTAN

HIGH GRADE WEST ASIAN OPIUM MAY ENTER SOUTHEAST ASIA

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 20 Sep 80 p 2

[Text]

SINGAPORE, 18 Sept—Pakistan has issued a warning that vast quantities of high-grade opium might be on their way to South-East Asia from West Asia, police here said today.

The alert went out to several countries, including Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Hong Kong, a few months ago, the Deputy Director of the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) Poh Geok Ek told *Reuters*.

Anti-narcotics authorities in these countries were keeping a tight check on import shipments from West Asia, he said.

Early this month, CNB officers acting on a tip-off, seized 40 kilos of opium with an estimated market value of one million Singapore dollars (about 500,000 US dollars) from a Maldivian cargo vessel and arrested three foreigners and two Singaporeans.

Poh said the opium seized had 30 per cent more morphine content than opium from the "Golden Triangle".

The countries threatened by the suspected new wave of opium-smuggling from West

Asia lie outside the "Golden Triangle", he added.

Poh pointed out that one kilo of Karachi "opium" cost 75,000 Singapore dollars (34,000 US dollars) here compared to 56,000 Singapore dollars (25,400 US dollars) for one kilo of opium from the Golden Triangle.

The CNB believed that the smugglers intended to use Singapore both as a market and as a half-way house for opium shipments to Hong Kong, he said.

He added that Hong Kong and Singapore authorities were keeping each other informed on the situation. The CNB had also asked Pakistan for its cooperation, he said.

The authorities were maintaining a close watch on opium dens in the country, but so far no sizeable amounts of the drug has been seized from the streets, he added.—*NAB/Reuter*

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

CONTRABAND OPIUM, CHARAS, HEROIN SEIZED

Karachi DAWN in English 27 Sep 80 p 8

[Text]

One hundred and sixty maunds of charas, 2.5 maunds of contraband opium and 1,000 grams of heroin were seized from a tenement in "Bara Market" on Super Highway here yesterday by the Excise Police with the help of Coast Guards.

Mohammad Gul Khan, who is alleged to be the keeper of the storage, and Chowkidar Juma Gul have been arrested. Investigations are being made under the supervision of Director, Excise, Karachi.

On receiving a information, the Excise staff conducted secret investigation about the narcotic dumps. The suspected tenement was watched from a safe distance for several days. The raids were carried out yesterday and the narcotic dumps were seized.---
PPL

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

CHARAS HAUL--Faisalabad--People's Colony People have arrested Quyyum Iqbal and his accomplice Mohammad Akram for smuggling charas. The police recovered 30 kilograms of charas from their possession. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 25 Sep 80 p 6]

KARACHI AIRPORT SEIZURE--The Customs (Preventive) staff posted at Karachi airport seized two kilograms of morphine which was being smuggled out on the KLM flight leaving for Amsterdam. Sub-inspector Imran Ashraf of Airport Security Force who was on duty at the departure lounge has been arrested while carrying the contraband through the departure lounge towards exit gate for delivering it to the passenger. The Sub-inspector has been remanded to Customs custody and search for the passenger is still continuing. The contraband is assessed to have street value of about Rs. one crore. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Sep 80 p 12]

CAR WITH DRUGS SEIZED--Toyota car laden with narcotics was impounded near Attock Bridge and three occupants were arrested on the spot. The police, acting on the directive of S.S.P. Syed Kamal Shah chased the Rawalpindi-bound car No. PRC-2774 and recovered 704 Kg. of charas, 32 Kg. of opium and 31 bottles of foreign made wine of Johni Walker and White Horse brands. The culprits arrested were Feroza Khan, Ayub Khan s/o Sher Jan and Amanullah s/o Mohd Amin of Tehkal Payan. [Text] [Peshawar KHYBER MAIL in English 21 Sep 80 p 1]

CONTRABAND CHARAS--Pakistan Coast Guards and local Excise Police, in a joint raid yesterday morning recovered and seized 20 maunds of contraband charas worth about Rs 10 million from a house in Sohrab Goth on Super Highway. One man was arrested and police were looking for another. The officials reported the arrest of one Ameen in this connection and said they were looking for the "financier" of the charas deal. The value of the contraband was assessed at about Rs 10 million in the foreign market. Earlier this month Excise Police had seized over 200 maunds of charas, two and a half maunds of opium and one kilogram of precious heroin. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 30 Sep 80 p 6]

OPIUM SEIZED--Tandoallahyar--The CIA Police Inspector, Chand Khan, has in a raid on a house of Lal Dino alias Lala, recovered opium worth Rs. five lakh. Police are investigating. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Oct 80 p 10]

CSO: 5300

PHILIPPINES

MASSIVE ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN SET IN NORTHERN LUZON

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 20 Sep 80 p 3

[Text] Camp Dangwa, Benguet--A three-pronged approach to combat drug abuse will be launched shortly throughout Northern Luzon by 14 government agencies led by the Philippine Constabulary and Integrated National Police (PC-INP).

Col. Valeriano Perez, deputy PC-INP regional commander, said the campaign will be conducted following the signing of a memorandum of agreement by the agencies concerned.

The government agencies adopted three-pronged strategies, namely:

--Conduct preventive education campaign targetting parents and other sectors.

--Intensified law enforcement activities through the machine of the PC-INP regional command and other agencies, and

--Rehabilitation of persons apprehended for drug abuse.

Perez said that since 1978 the joint PC and INP has confiscated some P28 million worth of marijuana and other dangerous drugs from seven provinces in Northern Luzon.

"While we are proud to have accomplished this much, it is not an indication, however, that more marijuana is produced in the region than others. Perhaps we have more efficient police system than the other regions," said Perez.

Perez said targets of the antidrug campaigns by various government agencies are parents to prevent their children from falling victim of drug pushers.

He said that assuming that the PC-INP recorded about 99 percent efficiency in the prevention of drug abuse based on the number of apprehensions, there are still about P200,000 worth of marijuana planted in the market.

Perez explained that if the campaign is successful, we may be able to eliminate the evil from its very roots.

Other agencies involved in the antidrug campaign are the Ministries of Public Information, Local Government and Community Development, Labor, Health, Education and Culture, and Agriculture. (PNA)

CSO: 5300

SOUTH KOREA

TOUGH PUNISHMENT SET FOR GLUE SNIFFING

Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 4 Sep 80 p 8

[Text]

People who possess, sniff, or deal in adhesives and other materials for their hallucinating effect will be given up to one-year jail terms or will be fined not more than 2 million won under a proposed revision to the Law on Poisonous Materials.

The draft bill, prepared by the Office of Environment, was sent to the Cabinet yesterday. If approved, it will be submitted to the National Assembly.

OE officials said that legal ground for the control of "bond" smelling was urgently needed as the habit among youngsters had been on an increasing trend.

They said that the OE and ministries concerned were also making efforts to prevent students from smelling industrial adhesives and other chemicals for hallucinating effects, while they were working on developing bond products having no such effects.

The proposed revision is even tougher than the provisions in the Japanese law covering handling of poisonous and hazardous materials as it provides imprisonment, not only fines for violators. The Japanese law stipulates up to 300,000 yen in fines but provides no jail term.

Some OE officials, however, admitted that it would be hard for officials to discern those possessing or dealing in bond and other products for the purpose of getting hallucinating effects from those who did so only for innocent purposes.

Whether one is going to smell the products or not is wholly in one's mind and it is all but impossible to prove such misuse, an official said.

However, OE officials who took part in the preparation of the revision bill revealed optimism that dealers in the products could easily tell those wanting the items for hallucination from those who buy them just for their use as adhesive.

CSO: 5300

YUGOSLAVIA

BRIEFS

OPIUM DEALERS--The district court in Stip [Macedonia] has sentenced 14 persons from Belgrade, Radovis, Strumica, and Stip for buying and selling raw opium. Two of the accused were released because of insufficient evidence. Kadri Jasarov from the village of Topolnica near Radovis, the main person involved in the illegal trade, received the highest sentence of 5 years. Predrag Milutinović from Belgrade who has been sentenced several times in the past received a 3-year sentence, while the other members of the smuggling group got sentences ranging from 6 months to 2 years. [Text] [Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 8 Sep 80 p 14]

CSO: 2800

BAHAMAS

BODY RECOVERED FROM MARIHUANA-FILLED PLANE

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 24 Sep 80 p 1

[Excerpts]

TWO DEFENCE Force boats were on their way to Nassau today with a large Hatteras boat in tow and two bodies taken from an aircraft that sank off Williams Island, Andros, August 21.

The body from the twin-engine Aztec that crashed into the water off Ragged Island August 23 is yet to be recovered.

The Ragged Island crash was seen by the men of the Spanish Wells fishing boat "Miss Joleen." The fishermen reported that between 10:15 and 10:30 on the night of August 23 - Saturday - a twin-engine Aztec circled the Joleen. The plane was making a strange noise as though it was running out of fuel and the men feared the plane was going to crash into their boat. Instead she went down about 80 feet from them.

They reported pulling up alongside the plane - which floated for several hours before starting to sink slowly - and seeing the pilot "who appeared

to be dead." They reported that the plane was so full of "grass" that most of the body was hidden. The marijuana was stashed right up to the door, they said.

They immediately notified Bahamas Air Sea Rescue and the police and were advised by both not to touch the body or make any rescue attempts.

The fishermen secured a buoy to the aircraft to prevent it from completely submerging and to mark the site for the police.

However, mystery still surrounds the aircraft. A second person was reported to have been on board when the plane left Jamaica. Acting on a theory that the plane might have stopped at Inagua to put the second person off, a check was made at Inagua. As far as is known there is no record of the plane having landed.

"The only other place it could have landed would have been Cuba, and that's highly unlikely," a source commented today.

CSO: 5300

BARBADOS

DRUG TRAFFICKING, USE ON INCREASE

Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 14 Sep 80 p 4

[Text]

Barbados police, alarmed by increasing drug trafficking here, are considering ways to halt its spread.

Acquiring specially trained dogs and increasing the penalties for illegal use, are among the deterrents under study.

Ten years ago, four people were convicted in Barbados of possessing marijuana, the main drug in use. In 1977, that figure climbed to 38. By last year it had jumped to 178.

Although no figures on conviction are available for this year, 144 people have been brought before the courts for drug offences up to the end of July.

Said Commissioner of Police, Mr. Aviston Prescod: "There has been an increase in the use of marijuana. I am satisfied that Barbados has been used as a transit point for drugs going up to North America and it is coming from well known places in the region."

The growth of the problem has spurred police into looking for deterrents. Mr. Prescod said, "We are looking at dogs for the purpose of sniffing drugs. They would have to be specially trained. We have dogs, but they haven't got that kind of training. A dog that is properly trained

would be very helpful in the control in the use of drugs in Barbados."

"We are also examining the present fines to make some recommendation to the next meeting of the Crime Prevention Panel. I personally feel that the punishment will have to be increased to act as an effective deterrent," he added.

The police view that most of the illicit drugs in Barbados are imported, is reinforced by the fact that a substantial part of this traffic is intercepted at the lone International Airport here.

"Jamaica is the principal source," Mr. Prescod says. "I think that it is the general understanding in Jamaica that that that country exports the drug and maybe what is coming to Barbados is a very insignificant amount in terms of the overall business. We have identified the means whereby it is coming and this has helped us to detect it when it arrives."

The alertness of police and customs officials has been much tested this year amid increasing signs that traffickers are using more and more sophisticated methods to avoid detection.

In addition to the traditional places police here have found marijuana, ~~stashed in~~ ^{stashed in} ~~ladies~~ ^{ladies} bodies, woven into straw mats, and in one case enclosed in a pair of hand carved wooden ornaments.

CSO: 5300

CHILE

CHILDREN, AGES 4-12, INTOXICATED BY VALIUM

Santiago LA NACION in Spanish 1 Sep 80 p 1-C

[Text] The poisoning of 14 young girls between the ages of 4 and 12 from the Divine Providence Home caused excitement in the Los Andes Hospital yesterday. The girls ingested various doses of Valium as well as other medicines that belonged to a girl under treatment.

There are several different reports of the case which alarmed the community and the 40 girls who live in this home for girls in irregular circumstances located at General del Canto 790, in Los Andes.

In the Hospital

The physician on duty at the hospital, Juan Carlos Ferrer, reported that at 0900 hours the 14 girls entered the hospital with slight symptoms of poisoning. At that time, nine of them were hospitalized and three had their stomachs pumped. The others were resting comfortably and were under observation until 1700 hours. However, two girls, Elba Castillo, 12, and Maria Carolina Serrano, 11, remained in the hospital as a result of taking the medicines.

Dr Ferrer indicated that their condition was not serious, but that they would stay in the hospital until they were completely recovered.

The doctor told us that the reports of the case are unclear, and that each girl took about 10 to 20 milligrams of the drugs, as well as concentrated vitamins and antidiarrhea drugs.

The Girls' Reports

The girls in the hospital had differing explanations of the case. One of them, Elba Castillo, said that she had taken seven pills because an older girl threatened to hit them if they did not. She said that she had a bad stomachache and that she had taken the pills by twos because they tasted good.

Carolina Serrano said that she found them in a locker where the residents' nightclothes are kept, and they spilled onto the floor, where she could not keep the other girls from eating them because they were different colors.

Sister Sara, of the Order of the Transfiguration of the Lord, who has been in charge of the Home for several years, said that the incident occurred because of the carelessness of a mother who left her daughter a package of drugs without telling any of the nuns or monitors of the home.

"Apparently," the sister said, "the girls found the package in the dormitory, and took the pills without anyone seeing them. Thank God we realized in time from the look of one of the girls, and within half an hour we had them all in the hospital."

The striking thing about the incident was that none of the girls' fathers came to the hospital after the news was released, as the majority of the girls were abandoned by their fathers.

8587
CS0: 5300

CHILE

BRIEFS

EXTRADITION OF TRAFFICKER IN ITALY--Leontina Ginette Jacobelli Berrios, 61 years old, was recently arrested in Milan, Italy. She fled our country some time ago after being involved in a criminal case for trafficking in and providing drugs. She was given a prison sentence in absentia of 5 years and 1 day by Adela Manquilef, judge of the Fifth Criminal Court of Santiago. Interpol reported the woman's arrest to Chilean police, who sent the records to the court. Judicial sources reported that the Supreme Court, in a decision released a few days ago, approved the request for Leontina Jacobelli's extradition, which was made by the Fifth Criminal Court, and ordered the necessary arrangements made with the Italian government to get the woman back to Chile. According to court sources, Leontina Jacobelli Berrios will have to serve the 5 years and 1 day to which she was sentenced. According to the record, the woman committed the crime in Santiago in February 1976. The criminal docket number is 101,875. On 25 June of this year, Adela Manquilef, acting judge of the Fifth Criminal Court, sent an official request to the Supreme Court for Leontina Jacobelli Berrios' extradition. The attorney general of the Supreme Court, Gustavo Chamorro, reported to the Supreme Court that it was legal to ask the Italian government for the woman's extradition. The Supreme Court agreed in a decision signed by ministers Rafael Retamal, Victor Manuel Rivas, Enrique Correa and lawyer members Enrique Urrutia and Roman de Amesti. It was reported to EL MERCURIO that during her criminal career Leontina Jacobelli Berrios used the aliases of Isabel Antonia Gomez Diaz, Leontina Munoz Berrios, and Purisima Jacobelli Berrios. [Text] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 5 Sep 80 p C-8] 8587

CSO: 5300

JAMAICA

BRIEFS

ILLEGAL AIRSTRIPS--Security forces in Jamaica have discovered 28 illegal landing strips in various parts of Jamaica. Security forces spokesmen say the small airstrips were being used mainly by foreign aircraft involved in marijuana trafficking. [Text] [FL191226 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 19 Sep 80]

MARIHUANA ARRESTS--Two Jamaican soldiers have been arrested and charged with possession of marihuana as well as preparing about 4,000 pounds of the illegal drug for export. The interception was made after a helicopter patrol spotted an army truck loaded with boxes in the parish of St Elizabeth and became suspicious. The police was immediately alerted. A search of the truck revealed 75 packages of pure ganja, each weighing 50 pounds. [FL171220 St George's Radio Free Grenada in English 2330 GMT 16 Sep 80]

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

MARIHUANA SMUGGLING RING CAPTURED, IMPRISONED

Police Chief's First Blow

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 4 Sep 80 Sec B p 3

[Text] After having taken office as commander of the Judicial Police, Jose Isiordia Jimenez and group chief Narciso Estudillo Cerezo, broke up the first "gang" of drug traffickers, managing to capture seven persons and seize 298 kilograms of marihuana.

This first blow took place in the settlement of Los Angeles, in the municipality of Ciudad Miguel Aleman, Tamaulipas, where the seven individuals in custody were smuggling well-packaged marihuana to the United States in a boat. There, a person whom they identified as chief was waiting for the drugs to take them farther north in the neighboring country.

They are Leopoldo Barrera, aged 23, Lucio Estrada, aged 45, Jose Sifuentes, aged 39, Antonio Sanchez, aged 42, and Matilde Saucedo, aged 39, all from the aforementioned settlement, and Jesus Narvaez and Raul Ramirez, aged 16 and 18, respectively, both from Miguel Aleman.

It was claimed by the Federal Judicial Police that these individuals had already smuggled thousands of tons of marihuana in the aluminum boat, and that they carried out their operations two or three times a week.

The identity of the "gang's" chief could not be given in order to prevent his escape from justice, because a group of agents is pursuing him.

The account released indicated that the drug traffickers were attempting to smuggle the 16 bags in the aforementioned boat.

The individuals in custody are of uncouth appearance, and are involved in the business because of the pressing need to obtain support for their families.

Innocence, Torture Claimed

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 11 Sep 80 Sec D p 5

[Text] Using the by now commonplace system of arguing torture, and denying their connections with the drug traffic, seven presumed drug traffickers claimed innocence upon making their preliminary statement to the third district judge. The head of that court will decide today on the legal status of the accused.

The defendants answer to the names of Leopoldo Barrera Garcia, Lucio Estrada Soria, Jesus Nevares Estrada, Jose Sifuentes Lara, Raul Ramirez Ibarra, Antonio Sanchez Ulloa and Matilde Estrada Lopez.

They all claimed to be entirely innocent, while at the same time arguing that the Federal Judicial Police tortured them.

They said that they had been arrested in the United States for not having papers, and that, when the immigration authorities deported them through the town of Roma, Texas, they were arrested halfway across the bridge by the Federal Judicial Police.

The fact is that the narcotics agents arrested them when they were caught near the river studying the terrain, so as to take a marihuana shipment across later.

Since the drugs were still on Mexican territory, they were turned over to the Federal Judicial Police, and, when questioned, they confessed that they had, on the river banks, at the Los Angeles farm, near Miguel Aleman, 16 bags containing 298 kilograms of marihuana all ready, which they intended to smuggle to the American side at the instruction of an individual in Roma, Texas, for whom they were working.

Defendants Sentenced

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 12 Sep 80 Sec B p 8

[Text] The third district judge, Ricardo Rodriguez Villarreal, found sufficient evidence to take penal action against seven persons accused of committing a crime against health in the degrees of possession and attempted export of marihuana.

Rodriguez Villarreal declared Leopoldo Barrera Garcia, Lucio Estrada Soria, Jesus Nevarez Estrada, Jose Sifuentes Lara, Raul Ramirez Ibarra, Antonio Sanchez Ulloa and Matilde Estrada Lopez officially imprisoned yesterday. They were notified yesterday of the writ of official imprisonment, and will be incarcerated in the La Loma municipal prison, without being entitled to

the benefits of release on bail. The seven aforementioned persons were captured on 3 September by United States Border Patrol agents and, since their stay on American territory was illegal, they were deported.



Lucio Estrada, who was responsible for organizing the shipments across the Rio Grande to the United States.

Jesus Narvaez, aged 16, whose mission was to pack the injurious grass for delivery to Lucio.



Matilde Saucedo and Raul Ramirez, aged 36 and 16, respectively, are implicated in the marihuana traffic.



Leopoldo Barrera, who unloaded the trucks with marihuana arriving from the southern part of the country, and helped to pack it.



Antonio Sanchez, aged 43, a resident of the Los Angeles settlement in the municipality of Miguel Aleman, smuggled the grass.



Jose Sifuentes, who was responsible for rowing the boat to smuggle the grass.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

NEW FEDERAL POLICE COMMANDER PROMISES ANTIDRUG BATTLE

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 4 Sep 80 Sec B p 3

[Text] Upon being introduced to the reporters from the news media, the new commander of the Federal Judicial Police, Jose Isiordia Jimenez, stated categorically, "I am in this border port at the wish of my superiors, and the orders I have received are to combat relentlessly the underworld of smugglers of illegal emigrants and drug traffickers operating along the United States border and internationally."

Isiordia Jimenez added that one of the types of crime to be combated on this border would be the smuggling of illegal emigrants, since the rings which are operating have been identified, and he gave assurance that the main ringleaders with their respective groups would be captured at any time.

The commander said that, some time ago, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic had issued a circular letter throughout the country ordering the capture and punishment of those trafficking in human beings, and that this institution's surveillance has been placed on the border where such individuals have established their bases.

Drug Traffic

As for the drug traffic, he said that he knew of some "gangs," and that Nuevo Laredo would continue to breathe an air of relief that it has experienced up until now.

The official explained that he had come from the state of Sinaloa, where the work that he did involved mainly the destruction of heroin laboratories and the capture of the ringleaders.

'We Have Not Come To Create Problems, We Are Here To Solve Them'

Finally, the Federal Police commander, Jose Isiordia, added that he was not here to cause the citizens problems, but to solve them somehow. He cited the problems in which that entity has been involved, and gave assurance that his forces will respect citizens leading a good life.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FEDERAL CRACKDOWN ON PROSPEROUS TRAFFICKERS ANNOUNCED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 12 Sep 80 Sec B p 5

[Text] During the next few months, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic will conduct an unprecedented operation in this border town and in the surrounding towns, in view of the unusual appearance of many drug trafficking groups which, in the past, evaded justice and have lately taken over this district again to continue using the town as a springboard for supplying drugs to a large area of the United States.

Individuals fully identified as drug traffickers, who not only enjoy a reputation with the public for having amassed huge fortunes from the drug traffic, and whose names have often been mentioned in federal trials held in the second and third district courts, but who avoided punishment using strange, secret maneuvers, are again being observed in luxury cars, driving through the town with impunity.

Driving expensive cars and station wagons, living in lavish mansions, and wearing extremely expensive clothes and fine jewelry, individuals who at other times were regarded as genuine drug traffic czars are again grossly displaying their unusual prosperity, while the Federal Judicial Police insist that "the drug traffic has now been eradicated from this town."

Owning luxurious mansions, in which they house their families and their mistresses as well, fully identified traffickers are still operating with impunity, and irrefutable proof of the fact that they are continuing their operations is the serious setbacks dealt to these activities by the American authorities in such towns as neighboring Laredo, San Antonio, Houston and Dallas, Texas.

Recently, many traffickers have been arrested in those towns with large amounts of drugs in their possession which, as they admitted to their captors, were brought across illegally through this town. This applies to Juan Gaytan Elias and Luis Valdez Rendon, who were arrested in Dallas when attempting to carry out a million-dollar transaction for the purchase and sale of marihuana.

The agent of the Federal Public Ministry, Jaime Eugenio Torres Espinosa, initiated a preliminary penal investigation of the accident involving the overturning of a brand new 1980 Ford car owned by Valdez Rendon, in which a shipment of "powder" was allegedly being transported at the time of the mishap.

Investigations were conducted of this case, "in secret," but the public was never notified of the results of the probes.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

FEDERAL POLICE TRANSFERS--The "rotation" system used by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, involving changes in the group chiefs and commanders of the Federal Judicial Police in the country, had another effect on this town, when Jorge Nunez Mora was appointed local group chief, replacing Narciso Estudillo Cerezo, who was transferred to Ensenada, Baja California. After having served in this district for less than a month, Estudillo Cerezo was suddenly transferred to Ensenada, when he was just beginning to demonstrate his splendid qualifications as a police officer, because during his period of service, he brought results, arresting several smugglers of illegal emigrants and drug trafficking groups. He is being succeeded in the post by a young man considered by the Judicial Police administration to be a valuable link in the permanent campaign against drug trafficking. The foregoing statement was made by the coordinator of the campaign against the drug traffic in the states of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas, Carlos Aguilar Garza, who had him as group chief during the time when he headed the same campaign in Baja California. Aguilar Garza stressed: "He served in Tijuana for 2 years as group chief and, during that time, he fully demonstrated his ability and expertise in combating rings operating with powder, heroin and cocaine, and therefore I have no doubt that he will bring the same results in this town." [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 12 Sep 80 Sec B p 5] 2909

MARIHUANA SMUGGLER SENTENCED--Yesterday, drug trafficker Domitilo Hernandez, a native of Reynosa, Tamaulipas, was sentenced to 7 years in prison and given a fine of 5,000 pesos in cash. The third district judge, Ricardo Rodriguez Villarreal, sentenced him in connection with trial 40-978, finding him penally guilty of committing a crime against health in the degree of marihuana exporting. Hernandez Hernandez was arrested by the Federal Judicial Police on 22 January of this year, complying with a warrant issued for his arrest. The records appearing in the trial indicate that Domitilo Hernandez was cited in the case when the Federal Judicial Police arrested Juan Manuel Gomez Centeno, from whom a large marihuana shipment was seized, in 1978. Some of the drugs had already been smuggled to the American side, and it was Domitilo Hernandez himself who was responsible for exporting them. Therefore, penal action was taken against him and the warrant for his arrest was requested. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 13 Sep 80 Sec B p 6] 2909

PERU

OPERATION AGAINST COCAINE TRAFFICKERS

PY221851 Paris AFP in Spanish 2053 GMT 20 Sep 80

[Text] It was reported here today that hundreds of peasants from a Peruvian town on the shore of Lake Titicaca are fleeing for neighboring Bolivia to escape a police operation against cocaine traffickers. They are the inhabitants of Cachipucara, a village situated on a small peninsula at the south end of the lake which has become the stronghold of drug traffickers. The Peruvian police announced 2 weeks ago that they were preparing an operation with the help of military personnel to occupy the town and destroy the installations for cocaine production.

The peasants, armed by the drug-traffickers with submachineguns, rifles and explosives, had earlier driven off 80 detectives and policemen who tried to enter the region, causing an unknown number of casualties.

A report published today says that the 3,000 inhabitants of Cachipucara are abandoning the town before the imminent police raid and are leaving for Guaqui on the Bolivian shore of Titicaca. A Bolivian official has reportedly confirmed the arrival of many Peruvians.

The drug traffickers have persuaded the Indians to process the coca leaves they bring in from Cuzco department to the north. This is a profitable business so the peasants have abandoned their crops to dedicate themselves wholly to the processing of cocaine. They have obtained arms to defend themselves against the police whom they expelled from the town months ago.

CSO: 5300

PERU

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS DIVISION OPERATIONS--Lima, 16 Sep (LATIN)--According to Aurelio Palma, head of the Peruvian Investigative Police (PIP) and member of the narcotics division, Peru has become the world's biggest producer of cocaine, and the United States is the world's biggest cocaine consumer. During a conference, Palma disclosed that the Peruvian police have destroyed 36 factories and 29 laboratories where cocaine paste was manufactured. He also reported that the narcotics division during the January-August period of this year seized drugs worth \$1 billion and arrested 1,000 drug traffickers, of which 100 were foreigners. The following is a list of the drugs seized: 2,755 kg of cocaine paste, 982,986 kg of cleaned cocaine paste [pasta basica lavada], 140,946 kg of pure cocaine hydrochloride, 292,248 marihuana and 10 kg of opium paste. [PY240226 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0057 GMT 17 Sep 80 PY]

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Lima, 13 Sep (LATIN)--The police have reported the arrest of Colombian citizens Sonia Perez Castillo and Flor Marina Moreno Cabrera, both 25 years old, who intended to leave Peru with a suitcase carrying cocaine paste worth approximately \$1 million. The two women worked for Peruvian drug traffickers Diego Mori Panduro, Matias Stahl Noriega and Hector Romero. [PY240226 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0037 GMT 14 Sep 80]

MARIHUANA SEIZED, TRAFFICKERS KILLED--Mexico City, 7 Sep--Nearly 25 tons of packed marihuana, which was to be distributed in this capital among pupils and students on various levels, were seized in a joint operation conducted by Federal Judicial Police agents in several states of the republic. The seizure of the large drug shipment was made by federal agents in the states of Veracruz, Sinaloa, Oaxaca, Sonora, Durango, Tamaulipas and Jalisco, areas where the organized drug traffic stored the drugs while awaiting the return of students to classes. According to reports provided by the agents of the Federal Public Ministry in the aforementioned states, the detectives' activities were carried out in a coordinated manner, so as to find and confiscate the last gram of "grass" that had been detected in the interior of the country. It was also noted that, during the operations to capture the drug traffickers, the federal agents had a gun battle with them and, in the skirmish, five of the drug traffickers were killed and two judicial police officers were wounded. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 8 Sep 80 Sec A p 5] 2909

ARMS, DRUGS SEIZED--Acapulco, Mexico, 5 Oct (EFE)--The Mexican police today seized more than 150 kg of cocaine that was part of a contraband shipment intercepted by the authorities in this city. The drugs seized are worth approximately \$32 million. The contraband also included a shipment of high caliber arms. The immediate destination of these arms was Costa Rica. From there they were to be transported to El Salvador, according to official sources in this city in the Mexican state of Querrero. The drugs were found in the yacht "Day Dreamer," a U.S. vessel. The cargo and those transporting it--Central American and U.S. citizens--were put at the disposal of the Mexican authorities. [Text] [PA060202 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2304 GMT 5 Oct 80]

CSO: 5300

BELGIUM

BSR CONFISCATES HEROIN, ARRESTS SMUGGLERS

Brussels LE SOIR in French 28 Aug 80 pp 1, 4

[Article by J.C.V.: "Record Seizure of Heroin in Limburg: 20 kg (Value: 150 Million)"]

[Text] It was the largest seizure of heroin ever recorded in Belgium; 20 kg of very pure heroin and 2 kg of hashish were discovered in a Turkish truck, the three occupants of which, also Turkish, were arrested Monday morning in Heusden-Zolder, in Limburg. On the retail market, the drugs could have been worth some 100 million francs.

This seizure is the result of a lengthy investigation, led jointly by the BSR [Special Investigations Brigade] of Hasselt and Brussels and the Dutch "investigations" unit. The investigators have released very few details on the progress of this investigation. It is believed, however, that it is thanks to information from the Netherlands that the operation was able to be undertaken.

The Hasselt gendarmes knew what to look for in the truck which they searched Monday around 0330 hours. The vehicle, with Turkish plates, but no company markings, was stopped along the Meilandlaan, in Heusden-Zolder, very near the bridge of the Diest-Beringen highway, which spans the Liege-Antwerp thruway.

Three Turks were sleeping inside. When awakened by the gendarmes, they offered no resistance. The gendarmes then proceeded to search the vehicle, which was completely empty. No trace of merchandise, no trace of drugs either. The gendarmes did not hesitate and drove everything--vehicle and occupants--to the gendarmerie barracks in Hasselt for a complete search.

There, they soon discovered the drugs, hidden under the floorboards. There were two packages of hashish containing one kg each; the 20 kg of heroin were divided up into plastic bags.

The examining magistrate, Palms, of Hasselt, placed the three Turks under arrest. He still refuses, for the moment, to reveal their identity. It is only known that all three are from Istanbul and that they are between 40 and 50 years old.

The three Turks are in agreement: they were unaware of the presence of the drugs in their vehicle. They were only driving a truck from one place to another for an Istanbul firm.

They had already, all three, made a trip with another truck from Turkey to Italy, where the vehicle was to be repaired. There, they picked up another truck--the one currently in Hasselt--which they were to drive to Munich. Does the fastest route from Italy to Munich go through Belgian Limburg?

The investigators are convinced that the drugs were meant for the Netherlands. The location of the truck, close to the E39, indicates clearly that the Turks were heading for Holland.

Apparently, the heroin is of very good quality. To confirm this, the drugs are currently being analyzed in a specialized laboratory.

We have already said it: on the retail market, these 20 kg could be sold for approximately 100 million francs. The usual price, at the end of the line, is actually 2,500 to 10,000 francs per gram. Or, 2.5 to 10 million francs per kg. Multiplied by 20....

The purchase price is of course decidedly less. A Turk, arrested on 8 August in Zaventem, had bought the kg of heroin which he was transporting for 35,000 francs in Istanbul. Not even 1 million for the 20 kg seized in Limburg. In the drug traffic, the profits are really considerable.

8956
CSO: 5300

BELGIUM

BRIEFS

CUSTOMS CONFISCATES HEROIN, COCAINE--Operation "Can-opener" has succeeded! Over just one weekend, British customs agents and police seized as many drugs as during an entire year. The can-opener cut open the doors of a car loaded in Oostende, drilled through the suitcases of two travelers at Heathrow Airport...Results: 7 kg of heroin and 6 kg of cocaine, for a total value of 140 million Belgian francs. In Dover, 6.75 kg of heroin were discovered inside the doors of a British car coming from Oostende. The interrogation of the passengers triggered the second phase of the operation: a series of searches of apartments in London's south suburbs. A quarter of a kg of the same drug was seized and four persons were arrested. They are Turks, who admitted, during their interrogation, having planned to set up a new network to introduce and resell heroin in Great Britain where, according to them, the demand is very heavy. The customs agents continued their operation by intercepting at London-Heathrow Airport, two passengers coming from Rio de Janeiro. Each of them was transporting 2 kg of cocaine. Their interrogation led to the arrest of three more members of the network in a hotel on the West side of London. Two more kg of cocaine were seized there. The cocaine has a market value of approximately 40 million Belgian francs. [Text] [Brussels LE SOIR in French 3 Sep 80 p 1] 8956

CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

LAW REQUIRES DRUG SMUGGLERS TO PAY CUSTOMS DUTIES

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 18 Aug 80 pp 50-52

[Article: "Strong Measure"]

[Text] Fixer and dealer not only suffer ill effects
they must also pay enormous customs duties and taxes.

In 1975, the Karlsruhe District Court sentenced Doris Everth*, a housewife, to 3 years in prison for violating the narcotics law. As a "courier" she had transported several kilograms of narcotics between Amsterdam and Karlsruhe. She used most of the "provision," which was in the form of heroin, to inject herself, and she sold the rest.

Through her own efforts, assisted by prison officials, therapists and friends, she was able to get off the drug. As a consequence, the third year of her term was commuted and she was released on probation. In the beginning she was unemployed, then she attended a secretarial school. In December 1979, by which time she had no more relapses, she became a secretary in an automobile enterprise near Karlsruhe.

No more than 2 months later, her boss received a letter of attachment from the main customs office in Karlsruhe for the salary and other income of his secretary Doris Everth: more than DM 34,462 for customs duties and DM 33,371 for import purchase taxes. One month later the first collection letter arrived.

What happened to the young woman happens to many drug addicts and dealers, whether they have been sentenced or not, whether they have kicked the narcotics habit or whether they are still on the needle.

Because departments dealing with criminal cases in West German main customs offices are obligated by law to secure customs fees and taxes for the state even for ruinous, hot goods such as heroin, cocaine, cannabis or LSD.

*The name has been changed by the editor

Customs authorities are working parallel with prosecuting authorities in following traces, they can collect and impound wherever drugs are found and confiscated. The exact figure for fees and taxes depends on the quality of the confiscated stuff, above all, however, on the price that is paid by the buyer or, if he does not reveal it, the price that he presumably paid according to the market value.

The result is 12.8 percent in customs duties on heroin and 10.6 percent on pure cocaine as well as a 13 percent import purchase tax (EUST). Hashish is duty-free, only the 13 percent EUST must be paid. Computed according to current prices on the West German drug market, it amounts to DM 80 for 1 gram of heroin and approximately DM 50 for cocaine--in this manner, the sums that accumulate can reach the hundred thousands for professional dealers, even small consumers and casual dealers can be forced to spend the rest of their lives in debt.

It is evident that this makes things worse; a person who has abstained from drugs can suffer a relapse and be forced to enter the criminal element of procurement. And even in the case of Doris Everth, a payment of almost DM 68,000 which customs officials demanded was a threat to her livelihood--her net income per month is DM 1,435 and is barely enough for herself and her son; she cannot get anything from her husband from whom she is separated.

The fact that these circumstances leave no latitude for time payments, that the therapy patient could possibly "reenter the narcotics scene," was the concern of CDU Bundestag Deputy Bernhard Friedmann, who took an interest in this matter at the request of an assistant.

In a letter to the FRG Ministry of Finance in Bonn, which is in charge of FRG customs offices, he pleaded for a reversal in this matter.

The state, Friedmann stated, would not suffer any damage because the claim was actually "purely fictitious," and it would be "absurd" for the debtor to pay customs duties and import purchase taxes on goods "that were not even permitted to be imported."

Above all, however, the deputy, member of the Bundestag Budget Committee and the Auditing Committee, referred to an internal edict by the ministry addressed to the chief finance office, the contents of which may be known only to very few drug addicts. This edict (reference number III A 5--S 0457--1/78) grants authority to customs offices to dispense with taxes and fees in drug cases, "totally or in part," when "personal reasons of fairness" exist.

The three-page paper, which is also little known to lawyers, social workers and therapists, states: The recovery of import duties on illegally imported or illegally purchased narcotics can be dropped if it endangers therapeutic treatment or resocialization of narcotics consumers.

Three prerequisites, however, must be fulfilled:

--the narcotic must have been imported or purchased "for personal use" only "or for resale for the purpose of financing personal use";

--the taxpayer must be willing to undergo therapeutic treatment or already receive treatment;

--the taxpayer must prove that he would not be able to raise the money on his own to make the payments that come due without endangering his own livelihood or the support of his family.

Since 1978, this edict has been applied approximately 700 times--certainly a very small percentage of pertinent cases. Because in 1 year alone (1978) more than 10,000 persons were sentenced for drug crimes; five times as many criminal acts were registered during the same time period.

Dispension is quietly granted primarily to juveniles and also in cases of small financial debts. Robert Gauster, who works on criminal cases at the main customs office in Munich, stated: "A student who at one time or other gets into narcotics has normally nothing to fear."

At any rate, the edict can also go into effect when a drug-levy debtor's inability to make payments can be attributed directly "to his expenses for narcotics consumption."

Nevertheless, especially "strong measures" are to be applied to drug traffic crimes, the "social damage" of a crime is also examined--for instance, addicts may have been led astray, or the kind and quantity of the stuff may exceed the amount needed for personal consumption or retail trade.

An application for dropping the fees is already possible while criminal or tax proceedings--either preliminary investigations or main trials--are still in progress. According to the wording, it should actually be made easy for those involved:

West German customs authorities must automatically "point out the possibility than an appropriate application may be made as long as the prerequisites for the "reasons of fairness" are apparent.

As happens to many others, Doris Everth, however, was not informed of this chance. Nevertheless, the intervention of the Bundestag deputy was successful.

Bonn's Ministry of Finance canceled the entire debt of approximately DM 67,000. Even official "concern which might have been based on the large quantity of narcotics smuggled into the country by her," was put aside.

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FINLAND

BRIEFS

POSTAL OFFICIAL SMUGGLED COCAINE--A Helsinki mailman was accused in the municipal court of smuggling 60 capsules of LSD, cocaine, and hashish from Denmark to Finland. Of the drugs smuggled into the country the majority was resold by the mailman. Prosecuting Attorney Eino Patoila considered this smuggling to be a flagrant violation of the law since lsd is an especially dangerous and detrimental drug. The prosecutor also argued that smuggling 438 grams of hashish and 1 gram of cocaine into the country for personal economic gain constitutes a serious offence. According to the accusation the mailman also purchased approximately 340 grams of hashish in Finland and sold the drugs to numerous individuals in Helsinki, Loviisa, and Vantaa. He was fined nearly 50,000 markkas. The mailman pleaded guilty to most of the accusations and asked that he be allowed to answer each count in a written form. In subsequent sessions of the court more than 10 other individuals will be accused of complicity in the above drug transactions. The case will be continued on 15 September. [Text] [Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 2 Sep 80 p 9] 10576

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ITALY

FRANCO-ITALIAN ANTIDRUG OPERATION DESCRIBED

Paris LE MONDE in French 28 Aut 80 p 8

[Unsigned article: "The Arrest of a 'Boss' of the New Mafia: Part of the Heroin Being Sent to the United States is Refined in Sicily"]

[Text] Rome--A vast antidrug operation, carried out in the Palermo area in Sicily by carabinieri [Italian state police], Criminalpol policemen, and French police officials, led on the night of 25 August to the arrest of Mr Gerlando Alberti, one of the most notorious "bosses" of the new Mafia, as well as of eight other persons, among them three Frenchmen, Messrs Jean-Claude Champion, Jean-Claude Ranem and Andre Bousjet.

This dragnet operation led to the discovery of a drug "refinery" in San-Onofrio-di-Trabia, 30 kilometers east of Palermo. It was set up in a basement area of a construction site so that the very high electricity usage needed for transforming the morphine base to heroin would not attract the attention of the public authorities. A store of chemical products meant for these operations and a supply of unrefined drugs were seized west of Palermo not far from the Sicilian capital's airport.

Mr Gerlando Alberti, who is 53 years old and considered to be one of Mr Luciano Liggio's lieutenants, Liggio being the "boss" of the new mafia which replaced the old agrarian mafia at the beginning of the 1960's, had taken advantage on 10 October 1977 of being taken to Naples to disappear from his assigned place of forced residence on Asinara island. He seems to have been implicated in most of the new Mafia's gangland killings which have bathed Sicily in blood these last ten years, and particularly in the murder of the chief prosecutor of Palermo, Mr Pietro Scaglione, assassinated in 1971. He had always been acquitted for lack of evidence.

His arrest coming at the same time as that of Mr Bousjet, a "chemist" well-known in the Marseilles underworld, provides confirmation according to the

Italian police of the role which the Sicilian Mafia is playing as of now, in connection with the Italian-American Mafia, in international trafficking of drugs being sent to the United States.

According to a report of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency conveyed to the Sicilian public prosecutor's office last year, more than a third of the heroin sent to the United States appears to be refined in Sicily from a morphine base which originally comes from the Middle East. This annual production of about 20 tons of heroin brings in 10 billion centimes at the average market price. The sicilian network as of now seems to have replaced the French channels which passed through Marseilles.

Up until now, heroin leaving Palermo had been seized already "refined." But the investigators, and in particular the head of the Sicilian capital's security police squad, Mr Boris Giulano, assassinated on 21 July 1979, were convinced that the heroin was being produced on the island. Analyses of seizures showed each time that they were dealing with "fresh" heroin. His investigation also aimed to discover the financial mechanisms by which "dirty money," the "hot dollars" of drug traffic, was laundered and transformed into "clean lire," in public works contracts, financial dealings or bank accounts opened under the names of front men, then reinvested in activities beyond reproach.

A Vast Dragnet

Mr Emmanuelle Basile, the carabinieri captain who had reopened the case, was himself killed in Palermo last 3 May. Palermo's chief prosecutor, Mr Gaetano Costa (assassinated in Palermo last 6 August) then ordered a vast dragnet operation directed at the Mafia families, arresting 77 persons, among them Mr Nino Spatola, the third brother of his family of real estate developers linked to the Italian-American "Gambino" clan and already implicated in the phoney kidnapping of Mr Michele Sindona, who was condemned in New York to 28 years of prison (LE MONDE 15-16 June).

With these four parallel investigations which he was supervising, Palermo's chief prosecutor thought he would be able to explain the sudden wealth of certain suspects and find in that the proof of recycling of drug money. He was even going, before his murder, to ask for an investigation at the Bank of Italy to take the lid of secrecy off certain bank accounts and succeed in pinpointing the real beneficiaries, "above suspicion," of the heroin gold mine. A financial investigation had become all the more necessary since in 5 years the number of branches of small local banks opening in Sicily had increased by 500 percent. Mr Giovanni Falcone, the examining magistrate in Palermo responsible for the case, confirmed that a town in western Sicily, Trapani--with 70,000 inhabitants--was the No 2 city in Italy after Milan in terms of bank deposits.

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ITALY

DRUG SQUAD ARRESTS FOUR IN MILAN

Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 4 Sep 80 p 16

[Text] Series of arrests by local and national police in a drug roundup. The first is that of a bartender who was offering cocaine cigarettes under the counter. He is Adolfo Lorenzo Rastelli, 42 years old, of Via Guarnieri 34, proprietor of the "Musteca" bar on Piazzale Abbiategrasso. Policemen of the drug unit, having learned that drugs were being used on the premises, showed up at the bar and after a first check discovered doses of cocaine in Lorenzo Rastelli's pack of cigarettes. A search was then made at the bartender's home and another 30 grams of cocaine was found hidden in the kitchen.

Two young persons were handcuffed by agents of the Volante Sempione because they were selling drugs, displaying the merchandise under the hood of a car parked on Piazzale Cantore. They are Gaetano Serra, 32 years old, of Via Bobbio 6, previously reported for indecent acts and theft, and his French girl friend Marion Poidatz, 21 years old, Via Monte Rosa 14, who has a record of selling narcotics. Besides the merchandise displayed, the two had 15 small envelopes, probably containing heroin, concealed behind the cover of the car's gas tank.

A heroin seller has been arrested by police of the Via Moscova drug squad. He is Emin Ertugral, 30 years old, Turk, house painter by trade, living with his wife and two children at Via Botticelli 13. In a search in the house and attic the police seized 100 grams of heroin. Having learned that heroin marketed in the area of Piazzale Susa was being passed in the Turk's house, they showed up at the couple's house with a search warrant and found 10 grams of heroin in a glass jar in the kitchen. They then also checked out the ceiling and found another 90 grams of the lethal substance. The Turk's wife, Maria Salierno, 31 years old, was not arrested, as she has to look after 2 children of 2 and 4 years of age, one of them phocomelous. Emin Ertugral was not unknown to the police of the drug squad. His name had been taken last June when Osman Gunduz was arrested, caught in the Via Gulli with 1.5 kilograms of heroin.

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ITALY

ARRESTS FOR DRUG POSSESSION IN VENTIMIGLIA, ROME

Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 7 Sep 80 p 15

[Text] Ventimiglia, Imperia -- Nine youths have been arrested in the last 2 days by revenue officers at road and highway crossings between Ventimiglia and France for possession of narcotics for purposes of sale. The officers also seized 1 kilogram of hashish, 1 hectogram of marihuana, and half a gram of heroin, with a total value of 25 million lire.

Those arrested are: Guido Brandle, 20, of Swiss nationality; Massimo Tirelli, 21, Egidio Panzieri, 19, and Roberto Zini, 22, natives of Milan; Cesare Arduini, 18, of Bussolengo, Verona; and 4 Romans, Andrea Gallo, Maurizio Brizzolara, Fabio Salvi, and Bruno Croci, all between 19 and 25 years of age.

Those arrested, who according to the revenue service are "runners" belonging to a small organization of drug traffickers, had hidden the narcotics among their personal clothing, except for the four Romans, who had hidden the heroin in packets of tea. All of them justified the possession of the narcotics by personal use, in spite of the fact that the amount was greater than that allowed by law to persons addicted to narcotics.

At Rome eight youths, four Italians and four Africans, were arrested by the police on charges of illegal possession of narcotics for purposes of trade. The first were captured in the area of Viale Regina Margherita.

The police had seen the four Africans approach two other youths in front of the "Whisky Bar" on the Piazza Indipendenza; the group then went to the Viale Regina Margherita at its crossing with the Via Alessandria, where they were awaited by two compatriots who, when the police approached, succeeded in fleeing.

On the sellers, all of whom were arrested, were found two doses of a gram and a half of heroin and 400,000 lire. Those arrested are three Ethiopians born at Addis Ababa: Antonio Campisi, 23, Bruno Miglietta, 21, and Antonino Anfuso, 18; and a Sudanese born at Mabekal, Carlo Grossi, 23, all residing at Guidonia.

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The Italians arrested are Giuseppe Nizzari, 21, of Catania; Sergio Frimentu, 25, of Sassari; Fulvio Ciavano, 27, born at Salcito, Campobasso; and Cinzia Borioni, 19, of Rome. The police followed Frimentu in his movements in the area of Santa Maria in Trastevere, held him, and found on him 25 preparations of hashish and marijhana. In his apartment, where there were 3 other youths, were found 31 preparations of marihuana, some morphine, and empty containers of mannite, the substance used to cut heroin.

The Borioni woman was found in possession of 3 marihuana preparations.

In Ciavano's apartment 100 grams of marihuana and a small pair of scales were seized. The material seized (300 grams of hashish and marihuana) had been carried from Catania by Nizzari.

Two other youths found in possession of half a kilogram of hashish and a few grams of cocaine were arrested by police of the drug squad. They are Andrea Ruscio, 23, and his brother Marcello, 18.

They are accused of both possession and sale of narcotics. At their apartment the officers also found precision scales and everything needed for preparing doses.

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ITALY

DENTIST ARRESTED IN ROME FOR COCAINE TRAFFICKING

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 13 Sep 80 p 9

[Text] The five traffickers, including the dental surgeon in charge of the office, were arrested. Two of them, South Americans, procured the drug. Another trafficker arrested.

They had organized a clearing house for cocaine in a dentist's office in the Prati quarter. Five persons were arrested yesterday, seized by men of the narcotics section of the flying squad as they left the dentist's office. Among those arrested were the proprietor of the laboratory, Roberto Frisardi, dentist, 36 years of age, Salvatore Loche, 35, and Pietro Francoro, 42. Two South American citizens, Manuel Eduardo Caucino Fuento, 31, and Juan Carlos Hernandez Sajurilla, 25, were also partners in this business and traffickers in cocaine.

The members of the flying squad found out about this center for the sale of cocaine by checking the movements and activities of Salvatore Loche. He was known as one of the most active sellers of cocaine in Ostia and in some other parts of the center of the city. It was thus discovered that the man was continually going to the Frisardi dental laboratory, Via Crescenzo 43, in Prati.

In fact it was there that the sellers obtained their supplies of the drug. Another of those arrested, Pietro Francoro, was known to the police for his past activity as a drug trafficker. And during 1 week Francoro was observed to go to the dentist suspiciously frequently.

The other evening the five were arrested one after the other just after leaving the dentist's office. Apparently they looked like patients who had gone to have their teeth treated. In fact they were concealing a cocaine traffic that has been going on for some time. First of all the two South Americans were arrested on the Via Crescenzo. They had not even a gram of the drug in their pockets. Their job, as was learned later, was different. It was their job to procure the drug through contacts and

international rings. Both Manuel Eduardo Caucino Fuente, a native of Chile, and Carlos Juan Fernandez Sajurilla, from Argentina, were well known to the Interpol as traffickers.

It was then Salvatore Loche's turn. He had 100 grams of cocaine in his pockets, divided into small packets. Inside the dentist's office was found 3 million lire.

It was the proprietor of the office himself, Roberto Frisardi, who gave explanations of how the traffic was handled in the improvised but efficient clearing house. The man admitted that he received the drug from the two foreigners. He then resold it to Loche and to Francoro, who put it on the city market. All of the operations had the dentist's office as a base and supply center; it was a place frequented by many patients. Hence the periodic comings and goings of the wholesale suppliers and recipients of cocaine should not have aroused any suspicion. All five of those arrested were accused of possession and sale of narcotics.

A large amount of cocaine was also found yesterday at the home of Maurizio Palazzoli, 46 years of age. According to the narcotics squad the man, who was arrested yesterday, was supplier of the drug to the Roman shoreline and to Trastevere. Maurizio Palazzoli was at the time accused, but not convicted, of having a minor part in the kidnapping of Giovanna Amati.

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ITALY

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED IN BERGAMO--Gaudenzio Castelli, insurance agent, 20 years old, residing at 49 via Dante Alighieri in Bergamo, was arrested yesterday by a Porta Ticinese commissariat patrol for possession of 30 doses of heroin. Castelli and a friend were in a taxi in the vicinity of the park of the two basilicas. The police stopped the public vehicle after noticing something suspicious in the behavior of the two friends. The 30 doses of heroin were, in fact, hidden in the belt of the agent's jeans. [Text] [Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 29 Aug 80 p 16] 8568

COCAINE DEALERS MURDER SUSPECTS--Turin--Two men, Santo Strano, 35 years old, resident of Moncalieri, and Andrea Bruno, 36 years of age, of Turin, were arrested by the police of this Piedmont capital as suspects in the murder of Gaetano Catalano (a youth of 23, originally from Catania, who was found strangled in a meadow near Trana on the morning of 21 June) and in that of Paolo Di Gennaro, a drug addict without criminal record, killed by pistol shots on the night of 10 July while with two friends in a nonmoving car. According to what the investigators have ascertained up to now, the motive of the two crimes was allegedly failure to pay for a "canister" of cocaine valued at 10 million lire. Moreover, it appears that the two persons arrested belong to a circle of drug pushers and have the specific responsibility of collecting debts contracted in supplying the "merchandise." In addition, Santo Strano and Andrea Bruno are said to be "high-level members of the Catania "clan." [Text] [Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 3 Sep 80 p 5] 8568

HEROIN SEIZED IN SAVONA--A sort of dossier composed of numerous newspaper clippings concerning the attempted escape from San Vittori prison by Renato Vallanzasca and Corrado Alunni (an incident that occurred several months ago in Milan) and, inside it, a dozen doses of heroin with a value of ca. 1.5 million lire. All in a "Citroen" driven by a woman, Loretta Trussardi, 33, of Bergamo, arrested the other evening in the center of Savona by a pair of policemen on a regular patrol. The young woman showed up unexpectedly in the group of boys and girls that habitually hang around in the downtown Via Paleocapa near the "Astor" cinema, most of them known to the police. For that reason the police wanted to know more about her, and first asked to see her papers and then searched the car. With Trussardi, who was arrested for possession of narcotics, was a boy of Swiss nationality, whose name was not released and who is currently being investigated. [Text] [Rome L'UNITA in Italian 28 Aug 80 p 5] 5588

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EGYPTIAN POSSESSING MORPHINE BASE--Hamdi Khalifa, a 34-year-old Egyptian servant living at Via Cascina Corba 98, was arrested the day before yesterday by police of the narcotics squad, directed by Dr Portaccio, because he was found in possession of 1 kilogram of morphine base. According to what the investigators found out, the man was selling the morphine base as heroin. Some time ago Sergeants Lunardi and De Maria and Officers Cecere and Casella had learned from some drug addicts of the area of San Siro that an Egyptian was selling a queer kind of heroin. After a long series of stake-outs, the police succeeded in arresting, on Piazzale Lotto, this Hamdi Khalifa, a servant known at police headquarters for his record as a drug trafficker. The morphine base, from which heroin is obtained after a long and complex chemical process, was hidden in the "128 Coupe" that the Egyptian had left parked a few meters away. Handcuffed and taken to headquarters, the man admitted that for some time he had been selling the drug as it was without "refining" it. [Text] [Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 8 Sep 80 p 12] 5588

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NORWAY

POLICE SEIZE RECORD CACHE OF COCAINE IN OSLO

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 12 Sep 80 p 3

[Text] Narcotics with a market value of around 1 million kroner were confiscated from a 60-year-old Oslo man who was released on probation after receiving a 7-year jail sentence for narcotics violations.

The man was seized with 100 grams of cocaine in his underpants. That is the biggest cocaine haul in Norway to date, police official Christian Christiansen of the Oslo Police Bureau told NTB [NORWEGIAN PRESS AGENCY].

The police also seized 180 grams of amphetamines from one of the man's storerooms in Oslo.

The man charged--a businessman who has lived abroad for part of the time in recent years--has admitted only bringing in the cocaine.

The police suspect he has smuggled in more narcotics than those named in the charge, NTB was told.

The police have suspected the man for several months and when he came back to Norway a while ago from a trip abroad he was shadowed by narcotics detectives. He was arrested while driving a car in the center of Oslo.

In 1976 the 60-year-old was sentenced to 7 years imprisonment under the so-called pro paragraph but he was released on probation last December.

The police believe the man acted on his own and purchased the drugs himself abroad, dealing with a network of regular customers in Norway.

Because the case is still under investigation the police would not release many details about how the drugs were smuggled in. And the police refused to say if others had been arrested in this case.

"The case confirms that Norway has become an attractive narcotics market, partly because prices are higher here than in other parts of Europe," said police official Christiansen.

Cocaine has appeared relatively infrequently in Norway and most earlier seizures have involved quantities of less than 1 gram. Last fall 10 grams of cocaine was seized in Oslo and that was the biggest cocaine haul until the latest police seizure of 100 grams.

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NORWAY

REPORT CONFIRMS SHIFT TO HARDER NARCOTICS IN OSLO

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 15 Sep 80 p 7

[Article by Kristin Moksnes]

[Text] Oslo is an attractive market for narcotics importers due to the high price level. Unusually large quantities of heroin have been sold recently. The police and the External Section confirm a marked transition from milder to harder drugs in central addict circles. Customs officials are also seizing more drugs now although it has not been possible to get hold of the big importers.

Paradoxically funds for preventive work among exposed Oslo young people have been reduced while the drug scene is getting harder.

According to the semiannual report from the External Section in Oslo many people involved in the drug scene are now in mortal danger. The External Section is noting more and more deaths. In addition many die from suicide, accident and illness as an indirect result of addiction. "The deaths we record are probably only the tip of the iceberg," wrote division chief Hakon Formo Berntsen of the External Section in the report to be presented to the Social Affairs Committee on Tuesday. "The situation in Oslo is disturbing," Formo Berntsen wrote, "and calls for additional and more varied efforts."

Division chief Arne Huuse of the Oslo police narcotics section confirmed the gloomy developments. Although the smuggling in and sale of hashish and marijuana is rising steadily in the Oslo area a sharp rise in the sale of cocaine and especially heroin has been noted recently. There has also been a marked spreading of milder drug usage among young people. The police have noted drug scenes in a growing number of Oslo suburbs although the hard core still hangs out in the Slottsparken and Egertorget areas.

The expansion of the Oslo narcotics police section is now complete and Arne Huuse is hoping for quick results from the increased resources.

Paradox

"The worst thing is that the preventive work is in real danger while the narcotics sector is getting worse," said field worker Astrid Skretting.

In the budget proposal the city council will take up this fall the funds for the Youth Office have been drastically reduced. This will affect youth clubs, among other things. A reduction of around 2.4 million kroner has been proposed here.

"For young people in the danger zone the youth clubs represent a vital association. It is quite illustrative that when a leisure-time program was curtailed we found the young people in Slottsparken again," said Skretting who also asked about the immediate solutions in narcotics care suggested 2 years ago in an undersecretary's report.

More Seizures

Last year customs officials seized about 40 kilograms of cannabis that people were trying to smuggle into the country. Up to June of this year 27 kilograms had been confiscated. "The number of seizures increased somewhat and more drugs are in circulation than usual but we are not getting hold of the big importers," said Vidar Vestreng, first consultant in the control division of the Customs Directorate.

Drugs like cocaine and heroin are seldom seized. The drugs are probably smuggled into the country by couriers who conceal them in parts of their bodies. Consultant Vestreng admitted that most of the smugglers caught are regular users who smuggle for their own use and engage in petty smuggling to finance the trip. Seldom is more than a kilogram of hashish or marijuana seized.

Most seizures are made at airports and ferry terminals. The mail is also frequently used.

Compared to drug sales in this country the customs seizures are minimal.

While Amsterdam used to be a main exporting center attention today is directed toward the East, especially Turkey and Pakistan. The Norwegian customs authorities cooperate extensively with Scandinavian, German and English authorities, among others. The narcotics report and the new operating plan for the customs service have led to increased efforts against narcotics imports.

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NORWAY

OSLO POLICE: 50 PERCENT MORE HEROIN SEIZED THIS YEAR

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 18 Sep 80 p 2

[Article by Thomas Spence]

[Text] "So far this year we have registered 16 narcotics fatalities in Oslo. We had 22 deaths all last year. But I'll bet the real figure is over 100 deaths each year," said police inspector Arne Huuse of the narcotics section of the Oslo Police Department to the Workers Press Office.

"A number of deaths directly or indirectly due to the use of narcotics are not registered as narcotics fatalities. These can be car accidents, drownings and other deaths that are never cleared up," said Huuse who is seeing a harder climate in the drug scene every year.

"We have more reports, seizures and deaths this year than we did last year. More and more people are beginning to use narcotics and we are also now seeing many old addicts going over from weaker drugs to hard drugs because they no longer get any effect from using cannabis.

"We seize more and more drugs and developments in recent months are very disturbing. As of 1 September we had confiscated 50 percent more heroin than in all of last year, four times more morphine and ten times more cocaine. There have been fewer seizures of milder drugs but there is no reason to believe usage has declined.

"The sharp rise in hard drugs coincides with a development we see in both West Germany and Denmark. Both places are flooded with cheap heroin from the Middle East. One might call it a dumping market for heroin and it will be a hard job for the police and the customs authorities to check this development in Norway," said Huuse who does not think there are any narcotics-free areas in Norway any more.

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NORWAY

BRIEFS

NEW POLICE DRUG UNIT--The narcotics section of the Oslo Police has now set up a group within the section with the job of investigating small dealers and drug users. In this way the police hope to also find out who receives drug supplies and ultimately who the really big drug dealers are. Though the police would not give any information on how this group uncovers drug sales it has already produced good results, police inspector Arne Huuse said on NRK [Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation] News yesterday. Such special groups within the narcotics investigating branch have been used successfully in the past by the Danish police, partly in the free city of Christiania where they go under the name of the "disturbance patrol." Police there work at the grassroots level in the vicinity of addicts and petty drug dealers. The group from the Oslo Police narcotics section will also keep an eye on the scene and this will give the police a much better insight into what is going on in drug circles. At the same time the existence of the group will create a disturbance in the environment since drug dealers will no longer feel as safe as they often have in the past. [Text] [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 18 Sep 80 p 4] 6578

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END