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JPRS L/9619

20 March 1981

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 13/81)

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WORLDWIDE REPORT
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
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AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

CANNABIS BUST--A man and woman have pleaded guilty in an Adelaide magistrate's court to having imported cannabis resin worth about \$250,000. They have been remanded on bail to appear for sentence on Monday. The crown prosecutor told the court that the 27-year-old woman and the 43-year-old man had acted as couriers for a drug syndicate. He said Melbourne airport customs agents had found the cannabis resin in two cassette recorders in a luggage compartment of a plane on flight from Bombay in India to Auckland in New Zealand. [Text] [OW262052 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Feb 81]

CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

NEIGHBORHOOD FEARFUL DUE TO MARIHUANA TRAFFICKING

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 2 Jan 81 p 3

[Text] The people from the Subur Alley, near Dr Saharjo Street, in the upper Menteng region, are very concerned. It appears that among the residents, there are persons who for some time have been involved in marijuana trafficking to the youth and the students who are constantly coming in from other places.

Several people told KOMPAS yesterday that Dd, living at RT 010/RW 08 gave the marijuana to a group of unemployed youth, An, Ba, among others. These youngsters smoked marijuana and also sold it to whoever wanted it. According to the residents mentioned above, the drug trafficking was carried out in the afternoon and night. Many students wearing their school uniforms bought it. After receiving the money from their sales, the youths would frequently have a noisy beer drinking party.

"The head of this neighborhood was afraid to take measures or report to the officials. Some time ago he had received a letter threatening to burn his house from the people who are handling the marijuana," he said.

The residents are worried because they fear their children might get caught up in this dangerous activity.

Recently, a young man named A, who had been involved in the marijuana dealings in this neighborhood, said he became a victim of his friends. His parents had found out about his involvement. A told them that his parents knew about it, and then they wanted to kill him.

A was taken to Jagorawi Street, where he was thrown out of the car and left behind. But he did not die.

Their intention had been to kill him so that their activities would not have to fold.

The people in the area appeal to the authorities to quickly take this very dangerous problem in hand.

9556
CSO: 8323

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

GUILTY OF HEROIN POSSESSION--The Central Jakarta State Court, yesterday morning passed a prison sentence of 7 months, minus the time already served since the arrest. The two defendants, Rudy Patislanu, age 23, and Donald Sinau, alias Odon, age 24, were found guilty of using heroin and possessing dangerous weapons. A member of the Indonesian Police Force arrested the two defendants last July 15th at Salemba Raya I street, a day after the above event. The police confiscated a small dagger-like knife blade from Odon and a box of heroin cigarettes from Rudy Patislanu. During earlier questioning, they said that the heroin had been purchased from one of two witnesses, Umang, for 14,900 Rp. During the trial the accused brought charges against the previous testimony. According to them, the heroin and the knife blade belonged to the second witness, Raymond. Since the witnesses, Raymond and Umang, could not be brought before the court the attorney's charges could not be proven. The judge, Slamet Riyanto, presiding over the session, finally passed a 7 month sentence. Oden is recidivous. He is presently serving a 7 year sentence for a murder charge in Nusa Kambangan. However after serving 4 years of that sentence, he escaped in 1980. [Text] [Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 7 Jan 81 p 3] 9556

CSO: 8323

PAKISTAN

DRUG ABUSE MAY BECOME ENDEMIC IN NATION

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 15 Feb 81 p 3

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 13: "The menace of drug abuse was likely to become endemic in Pakistan unless concerted efforts were made to reduce the demand and supply of narcotic drugs besides curbing the smuggling, said a former official of Pakistan Narcotics Control Board, Alauddin Masood in a new book "Manashiat: Aisi Buhundi Aisi Pasti".

Observing that drug scene in Pakistan was much complex because of growing number of addicts, cultivation of poppy in the tribal areas, natural growth of cannabis, production of narcotic drugs from these two plants and smuggling of various drugs, Masood urged review of drug control policies, which he claimed, had not shown any tangible results despite involving an expenditure of over Rs. 60 million by Pakistan Narcotics Control Board (PNCB) alone over the last seven years.

He pointed out that mere promulgation of laws and their enforcement would not be able to achieve desired results as illustrated by over 600 years old history of narcotic laws enforcement in the sub-continent.

Elaborating, he wrote that un-

less the demand for narcotic drugs was reduced by bringing a change in the attitudes of the people through a sustained campaign their supply and smuggling would proliferate.

Asserting that the problem of narcotic control in many Asian countries, including Pakistan, was different from the developed countries, he said if the Asian countries did not harmonise their enforcement activities with measures aimed at reducing the demand and supply of narcotic drugs then because of increased supply at home their prices would fall thereby increasing local consumption.

The 128 page book, which is written in a simple language, deals with various aspects of drug abuse, i.e. their awful consequences, the cause and cure of drug abuse, narcotic laws, alternatives to drug abuse and also suggests ways to wean away the addicts from drugs; find out the early symptoms of drugs abuse among the youth and educate them about hazards of drug dependence.

The book is replete with actual case histories of score of addicts, which makes it reading much interesting.—APP.

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

CHARAS, HASH OIL SEIZED--Customs reported seizure of two unclaimed suitcases containing 10 kilos of charas and 3 kilos of hash oil from the airport yesterday. A briefcase found near the suitcases yielded two passports and a PIA ticket for Dubai. The passports were in the name of Saleem of Rawalpindi and Mohammad Islam of Karachi. Also, they reported arrest of an Egyptian, Al-Syed Suleman Ferhat, and a PIA Traffic Assistant, Syed Munawar Ali, in connection with the seizure of 50 kilos of opium. The Egyptian was to board a Tripoli-bound plane when intercepted. It is alleged the Egyptian was in collusion with the PIA man who had arranged the loading of his suitcase containing contraband opium. The customs were also investigating a case of misdeclaration in respect of a huge quantity of foreign cloth, electrical goods and other valuable items reached at NMB Wharf in a launch from Dubai last weekend. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 13 Feb 81 p 4]

SMUGGLER KILLED--A smuggler lost his life in a clash between a gang of smugglers and the Sulej Rangers during the night on Friday at Manawan Border. Five of the smugglers made good their escape in the darkness leaving behind 34 kilogram of opium worth Rs 60,000, they were carrying for smuggling to India. The deceased Amanat Ali Pakhiala, Narang in Sialkot district and five of his companions were heading towards Indian Border with the contraband opium late at night. They were spotted by a "Naka Party" of the Rangers. The smugglers opened fire on the Rangers which was replied. Amanat Ali died on the spot while others escaped from the scene. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 15 Feb 81 p 3]

CHARAS, OPIUM RECOVERED--Sialkot, Feb 14--Sialkot police have recovered and confiscated 14 maunds of illicit charas and 20 kilograms of illicit opium worth Rs 2 lakh from a car on Muridke-Narowal Road about 70 kilometre from here last night. The seized charas and opium were valued at Rs. 2.53 crore in the international black market. The car driver, Mohammad Aslam resident of Multan, has been arrested with a loaded revolver in his possession. The Toyota Corolla car No 021-429-Karachi 70-71 has also been impounded. PPI [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 15 Feb 81 p 6]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

CITIZENSHIP FOR KMT DIVISION, NARCOTICS INTERESTS DISCUSSED

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 4, 5 Feb 81

[The Sky Above, the Earth Below column by Chalom: "The 93rd Division"]

[4 Feb 81, p 4]

[Text] There was a small news item in the newspaper last Sunday that said that, at present, the government is in the process of conferring citizenship on the heirs of KMT soldiers of the 93rd Division who remained in Thailand.

This was disclosed by the governor of Chiang Rai Province. He stated that this KMT division, which was driven into Mae Chan District in Chiang Rai Province, has now completely disintegrated. Only the children who were born in Thailand remain. There are no more than 10,000 such people and they have nowhere else to go. If they are granted citizenship, there should not be any problems and it should be easy to govern them. They have been well educated.

Almost all of those belonging to the older generation have died.

Those who have followed the story of the 93rd Division of Chiang Kai-shek, which was forced out of China and into the mountains in northernmost Thailand for political reasons more than 30 years ago, probably agree with this decision by the government to grant citizenship to them since this will solve the problems once and for all. The matter of the 93rd Division will be history. The present generation and their children will be Thais who will live in villages and communes in the mountain valleys just like the many other hill tribe groups living in Thailand today.

The matter of the 93rd Division is, therefore, a matter of "old people" who are almost all gone and who are becoming legends for their children and the younger generation. Some of the old trails used by these "old people" when they first came are probably still in existence in the mountains and forests and along the rivers.

Concerning the "old men" of the 93rd Division, when they first arrived in Thailand they were around 30 years old. Those of them who are still alive are now around 60 to 70 years old and they can no longer fight.

The 93rd Division was a part of the KMT army of President Chiang Kai-shek. When he was still in control of the mainland, he fought a war against the communist army of a man named Mao Tse-tung. This occurred more than 30 years ago.

When Mao's army advanced into Yunnan in southern China and to the north of Thailand, Chiang Kai-shek decided to secretly send one division out of China and into Mae Hong Son and Chiang Rai provinces in Thailand with the aim of counterattacking Mao's communist army stationed in Yunnan.

But now this has almost become history. It is said that the 93rd Division of the Koumintang Army was airlifted out of China and that it landed at Don Muang Airport. I do not know how true this is but that is what they say.

The 93rd Division entered Chiang Mai and then moved to Mae Hong Son and Chiang Rai. The Thai government of that time closed its eyes to this because it did not like the communists. The 93rd Division then moved back into Yunnan.

The path they took took them through the area where Thailand, Burma and Laos come together, an important area known as the Golden Triangle.

The war did not last much longer before President Chiang Kai-shek had to flee from the mainland. He fled to an island called Taiwan and the man named Mao Tse-tung took control of China.

The 93rd Division was swept away by Chairman Mao and had to retreat into Thailand, again living in the jungles and mountains of Mae Hong Son and Chiang Rai provinces.

They have lived there to this day, becoming like "mountain people."

In the past, these "old people" of the 93rd Division still had hope. When they were still young and armed, they believed that one day they would be able to return to their homes in mainland China and be victorious in driving Mao out.

They talk about a lake in Taiwan with the beautiful name of Suriyan Chantra. On New Year's, each year Chiang Kai-shek sent a New Year's card to the 93rd Division.

The "old people" who read this will say that "we still have hope of returning to our homeland some day."

A friend of mine who told me this story once travelled to where the soldiers of the 93rd Division were living. When he went there 10 years ago, he talked with soldiers of the 93rd Division.

"The old people cried and were homesick for their country and loved ones."

[5 Feb 81, p 4]

[Text] The commanding general of the 93rd Division was General Limi. His two top assistants were General Lao Li and General Lao Tuan. All three of these men were still [family] young when they arrived in Thailand. If [General Limi] was alive today, he would be about 80 years old.

After Nationalist China was formed, these three countryless warlords led the 93rd Division here and there like gypsies. They wandered in the mountains and jungles along the Thai border and in areas that later became important, including the Golden Triangle area.

Besides raising enough vegetables and rice to live on, it is believed that it was soldiers of the 93rd Division who opened up the Golden Triangle area and filled it with a type of flower that [movie] stars like to sell on Veterans' Day -- poppy.

The thing that later brought joy to some and unhappiness to other influential people in Thailand was this poppy. News reports about the opium activities of the 93rd Division and about narcotics and opium have spread to all corners of the world because the drugs come from the Golden Triangle.

But where did [their] women come from?

The answer is that many women followed the 93rd Division from Yunnan and there were also women from Taiwan. As for those men who were single or whose families were trapped in mainland China, some of them married these women while others married Burmese and Karen hill tribe women.

As time has passed, everything has gradually changed.

General Limi, their leader, has died. His son, known as Khun Sa, who inherited his father's position, led a force out to live in Burma.

General Lao Li has gone to live in Mae Hong Son while General Lao Tuan has settled down in Mae Chan District in Chiang Rai Province.

Both generals have children who have become the "lords" of their territory. It is said that many of the sons and daughters of these two generals study in the United States.

During semester breaks they return to visit their families.

And it is also said that, when they have time, generals Lao Tuan and Lao Li come and stay in Chiang Mai City where they go swimming in their pools.

A friend of mine who once visited them said that members of the 93rd Division were later allowed to settle down because of a bargain made with the Thai government of that time, which wanted this group to give up the opium trade. To reach the 93rd Division village of General Lao Tuan, you must travel through the jungle or ride a horse and this takes many days. There are no roads for vehicles.

Their villages are similar to those of rural Thais except that they are located on hill tops and mountain peaks. They are enclosed by a bamboo fence and the roofs of the houses are made of teak leaves, which are similar to nipa leaves. At night, they use kerosene lamps. They number about 10,000 people.

Another important occupation is hunting. They use the animals for food or sell the antlers and hides.

And even though the high-ranking people such as the "princes" can speak English, the village schools that they have established are Chinese type schools that teach Chinese.

Various items in the villages, from tools to medicines, are modern goods purchased in the cities. As for the "princes," they are ultramodern. They have rock tapes and tapes of the Beatles, which they turn up very loud.

The remnants of the 93rd Division have never thought, or felt, that they would have to move to Taiwan. For more than 30 years, this land has felt more like home to them. Those of the older generation have begun to die and those of the younger generation have grown up without the dream of returning to mainland China. This dream really came to an end with the death of Chiang Kai-shek, the old lord.

Certainly, there is no problem in conferring citizenship on them. These people will become Thais in the end.

However, my friend also said that this border area is filled with trade interests kept secret from the government. For example, there is the trafficking in and transport of opium and heroin, there is trading in livestock such as cattle and buffaloes and there is trading in precious stones such as rubies and jade.

Even though the 93rd Division has stopped growing poppy and turned to growing upland field crops, there is still opium and other types of narcotics and it is believed that the drugs still come from the Golden Triangle.

Who are the growers, who are the sellers and who are the traffickers?

My friend told me: Let the answers remain in the Golden Triangle.
Do not try to learn too much!

11943
CSO: 5300

THAILAND

CHIANG RAI TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN BANGKOK

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 5 Feb 81 pp 1, 16

[Article: Heroin Valued At 100 Million Baht Seized"]

[Text] The Suppression Division arrested a major heroin gang in the middle of Bangkok. A detective disguised as a diamond merchant was used to set up a drug transfer in the Siam [Square] trade center. At the appointed time, [police] rushed up and arrested the gang and seized drugs valued at 100 million baht.

Police Major General Sanguan Khlongchai, the commander of the Crime Suppression Division, had learned that a narcotics gang from the north was going to bring a shipment of drugs into Bangkok to sell them. He therefore ordered Police Lieutenant Colonel Nitiphan Singhonlaka, the deputy head of Precinct 7P, to disguise himself as a diamond merchant from Mo Village and go meet Mr Prakit Chaicharoen, who lives at 92/1, Village 1, Mae Ai Commune, Mae Sai District, Chiang Mai Province, at the Lido Restaurant in the Siam [Square] trade center at the appointed time. Both men agreed to a sale of 2 kilograms of No 4 heroin valued at 300,000 baht here or at 100 million baht abroad. After arranging a time to transfer the drugs, the two separated.

Then, Police Lieutenant Colonel Nitiphan reported this to Police Major General Sanguan and, together with Police Lieutenant Colonel Songphon Waenkaeo, Police Lieutenant Colonel Prakat Sataman, Police Lieutenant Colonel Choengchai Chomthawat and several other officials from the Crime Suppression Division, formulated a plan to conceal policemen in the Siam trade center area in Pathumwan. Police Lieutenant Colonel Nitiphan disguised himself as the diamond merchant and went and waited in the A A Restaurant in the Siam Center. Then Mr Prakit, the heroin trafficker, arrived in order to check the money brought to buy the heroin. Police Lieutenant Colonel Nitiphan opened his briefcase and showed him the money. When he was satisfied, Mr Prakit left and telephoned his accomplices.

Then at 1200 hours the same day, while Police Lieutenant Colonel Nitiphan and Mr Prakit were waiting at this restaurant for the heroin to arrive, a green Datsun Sunny sedan, license Number 2K-5104,

arrived and parked in the parking lot of the A A Restaurant. Mr Prakit took Police Lieutenant Colonel Nitiphan to this car in order to pick up the heroin. Police Lieutenant Colonel Nitiphan then signaled the other officials hidden there to come and arrest Mr Prakit and the woman who had driven the car containing the heroin. It was later learned that she was Mrs Khanittha Medan, age 30, who lives at 156 Phahoyathin Road, Muang District, Chiang Rai Province. Two kilograms of No 4 heroin were seized, The police took both suspects to the Crime Suppression Division for further handling of the case.

11943
CSO: 5300

CANADA

ADMITTED TRAFFICKERS ACQUITTED OF IMPORTING

Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 3 Feb 81 p 14

[Article by Tony Cote]

[Text]

Two men charged in connection with an international drug importing ring walked away free Monday, but the Crown immediately served notice they'd soon be up on different charges.

Scott Penney, 26, of Winnipeg, and Earl Rose, 28, of Uplands Drive in Ottawa, were charged 10 months ago with conspiracy to import \$200,000 worth of liquid hashish from Jamaica. Penney spent the time since in jail while Rose was free on \$25,000 bail.

After the pair were found not guilty Monday, however, the federal Crown attorney told their defence lawyers charges of conspiracy to traffic in hashish will be laid later this month.

Both Penney and Rose admitted during their trial that they headed trafficking rings centred in Winnipeg and Newfoundland, and Monday they said they will plead guilty to the new charge.

When the proceedings began last year, both the accused had offered to plead guilty to the trafficking charge to spare the time and expense of trial on the more serious charge, but the Crown insisted on the importing charges.

The trial began in July, and following eleven days of testimony over an eight-month period, provincial court Judge Jack Nadelle declared he was "not satisfied" with the Crown's evidence.

"The Crown has proved they were both involved in a trafficking conspiracy," Nadelle said during his 30-minute ruling. "And there is evidence of multiple conspiracies, but I'm not satisfied with the evidence they are involved in a conspiracy to import."

The judge admitted evidence was presented that proved the pair were aware of plans to import drugs made by Rose's older brother Derek.

"Knowledge doesn't make a conspiracy, nor does being in the presence of someone involved," Nadelle said.

"Burden of proof always remains with the prosecution," Nadelle said. "This case involves circumstantial evidence. (To convict) it must be consistent with guilt."

During the trial, evidence was heard from three of the 20 people charged in connection with the ring, including self-confessed ringleader Derek Rose. He pleaded guilty to the importing charge in July and is serving seven years.

Two of the witnesses were women used as couriers. One was sentenced to seven years in jail, the other to 16 months. Together, they carried eight pounds of liquid hashish into Canada inside the false side of suitcases.

The RCMP began investigating the ring's operations in October, 1979,

when an American was arrested on a drug possession charge in Ottawa.

The probe grew to the point where he was implicated in a much larger organization, along with people in Newfoundland, the Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Jamaica, New York and Arizona.

So far, only two people haven't been brought to trial: the original American who escaped from an U.S. jail shortly after last April's roundup, and the Jamaican supplier.

Penney and Rose are the only ones to have beaten the charges.

CSO: 5320

CANADA

BRIEFS

WEAPONS, DRUGS SEIZED--A 29-year-old man faces several drug and weapon charges today after police seized an estimated \$20,000 worth of illegal drugs and two handguns Thursday. Members of the Windsor police-RCMP drug squad recovered just over six kilograms (14 pounds) of marijuana, almost 1,600 hits of LSD and about seven grams (one-quarter ounce) of cocaine. Two loaded handguns were also seized at the house in the 400 block of Pierre Avenue. Kenneth Wayne Kirkpatrick, of Pierre Avenue, was to be arraigned on charges of possession of marijuana and LSD for the purpose of trafficking, possession of cocaine and possession of restricted weapons. [Text] [Windsor WINDSOR STAR in English 13 Feb 81 p 3]

DRUG CHARGES--Two Harrow residents were to be arraigned on drug charges today after \$4,000 worth of cocaine was seized at the Windsor side of the Detroit-Windsor tunnel early this morning. Peter Gelsthorpe Aston, 34, and Leah Sharron, 31, both of Lake Crest Beach, Harrow, were arrested at 4 a.m. when a customs officer found a quantity of the illegal drug. [Text] [Windsor WINDSOR STAR in English 23 Feb 81 p 3]

COCAINE SEIZURE--Seventy-two kilograms of cocaine bound for Canada and worth an estimated street value of \$50-million have been seized and 11 people arrested following a nine-month investigation of an international drug-smuggling ring. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, assisted by drug enforcement agencies and police in the United States, Colombia, Venezuela, and the Bahamas, conducted the investigation. The cocaine was destined for Toronto and the Canadian drug market. "To our knowledge, the seizures represent the largest amount of cocaine destined for Canada that has ever been seized," the RCMP said in a statement. "We feel the seizures and arrests should have a dampening effect on the flow of illicit cocaine to North America from Colombia." Charges of conspiracy to import cocaine into Canada have been laid against Joaquin Montanez and Hernando Garcia, both of Toronto. Four Venezuelan citizens and one Colombian have been arrested in Caracas, Venezuela, for possession of narcotics. Warrants have been issued for the arrest of two Colombians and two Miami men. Three U.S. citizens have also been charged in Buffalo with trafficking offences. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 28 Feb 81 p A5]

CSO: 5320

YUGOSLAVIA

BRIEFS

YEARLY NARCOTICS SEIZURE FIGURES--Dimitrovgrad, 24 Feb (TANJUG)--Last year, 89 attempts of smuggling were detected and 1,093 kilograms of hashish, heroin, marijuana and morphia were confiscated at the border crossing of Dimitrovgrad, Republic of Serbia, Eastern Yugoslavia, at the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier. Its customs officials cut many westward smuggling canals coming from Syria, Lebanon and Iran. [Words indistinct] paid them tribute a short time ago for their successful struggle against smugglers of narcotics. Further, 95 [word indistinct] mostly deluxe ones, were confiscated with the narcotics smuggled. A total of 120 smugglers were sentenced, among whom two-thirds were Turkish nationals. [Text] [LD250536 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1614 GMT 24 Feb 81]

CSO: 2020

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN--President Garcia Meza said today in Cochabamba, during the peasant rally held on (San Sebastian) Hill in support of his government, that the armed forces government together with the peasants are waging an open struggle against the drug traffickers in order to finally root out that scourge of mankind. He observed that the members of the armed forces, being patriotic men, cannot permit the operation of drug traffickers in the country. It is either them or us honest men of the armed forces together with our people, he emphasized to the large rally. He pointed out that the severe measures taken by the government to fight the drug traffic are not aimed at the peasants who produce coca leaves, but against the drug traffickers who have discredited and corrupted the country. He explained to the peasants that a rationalization of the coca leaf production will necessarily be imposed so that only the quantity needed by the country will be produced. He also expressed his appreciation to the Bolivian peasants for the support and understanding they gave the executive branch when it approved the economic measures. The president stressed that the economic corrective measures imposed by his government are basically aimed at overcoming the economic problems being faced by the Bolivian people. [Text] [PY2802036 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 Feb 81]

COCAINE FACTORIES DISCOVERED--Officials of the Cochabamba Antidrug Department have reported that 9.4 kg of cocaine base were discovered this Monday hidden in the tire of a car owned by (Gregorio Escalera Maldonado). The same sources also indicated that several abandoned cocaine factories were discovered recently in rural communities. [PY061108 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Mar 81]

COCAINE SEIZED--The Cochabamba 7th Army Division has reported that army personnel have seized 2 kilograms of cocaine and have arrested (Venedicto Armelio Bejarano) for drug trafficking. [PY051228 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 5 Mar 81]

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

DRUG TRAFFICKING, PRODUCTION IN AMAZON REGION DISCUSSED

La Paz HOY in Spanish 8 Feb 81 p 2

[Article by Justo Piernes]

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 6 Feb, TELAM--Brazil has become a trafficking and manufacturing site for cocaine, and its entire western border region, which is more than 9,000 km long, has been designated "in a state of alert" by the Federal Police.

At the end of a 6 month investigation, following the discovery of a twin engine plane abandoned in the Amazon jungle in the town of Sao Pedro, 100 km from the Colombian border, the Brazilian police made important discoveries.

An international organization operating in Colombian territory in the heart of the Amazon River jungle trained 500 members of the Xingu native tribe to industrialize cocaine by manufacturing the paste that is then converted into powder.

The Indians, who completed 3 months of study in this "drug manufacturing school," learned to make the cocaine paste by mixing chemical substances with the leaves of a plant known as epatu, which is similar to coca.

According to the police, the Xingus have been using epatu leaves for 500 years to "give their men energy." The possibility of substituting epatu for coca in cocaine manufacturing was discovered less than 2 years ago by a group of traffickers who operate in the Amazon.

The twin engine plane abandoned in Sao Pedro, after having "run out of gas" and making a forced landing, was carrying 600 kilos of cocaine paste manufactured by the Xingu Indians.

The production of cocaine paste at the source of the raw material--epatu--represents, say the police, "tremendous progress in criminal activity, since with this process the traffickers avoid transporting the leaves, whose volume requires using many vehicles and laborers."

One detail corroborates the above police opinion: from 14 kilos of epatu leaves 1 and 1/2 kilos of paste are extracted, which are then converted into 14 grams of pure cocaine.

The appearance in Brazil of this center for "manufacturing and distributing" cocaine disturbs the police because it involves a new group that is joined with the existing one and that has its operating axis where Bolivian territory (Santa Cruz de la Sierra) joins that of Brazil (Corumba in Mato Grosso).

It has been known for 10 years that Corumba, which is called "the capital of Brazilian cocaine" is the chief point of entry for cocaine into Brazil, from where it is trafficked to San Pablo and Rio de Janeiro, which are the local consumption markets and the most convenient and easiest gateways toward foreign countries.

But the huge volume of cocaine trafficking through Brazil occurs "in the backwoods" through the dense Amazon jungle, along an extended border with Bolivia, Peru, Colombia and Venezuela.

The cocaine is transported by air in private planes to cover long distances and left near the Venezuelan border, where most of the shipments go.

The police are having partial success. Two years ago in northern Amazonas State they discovered a 100 hectare plantation of coca leaves, which were burned together with another harvest of 200 hectares of marihuana, as was shown on T.V. Globo.

The drug was harvested by the local peasants, who had substituted it for the rice growing that until then had been their livelihood.

The reason was simple: for 1 kilo of rice they received 7 cruzeiros (10 cents), and for 1 kilo of illegal crops they received 250 cruzeiros (3.57 dollars).

Recently the Xingus became aware that for 1 kilo of cocaine paste the traffickers were paying the equivalent of 30 dollars.

Besides these police operations, a constant vigilance is maintained at the Corumba airport, which is 600 km by train from Santa Cruz de la Sierra (Bolivia) and has the only "domestic customs" in Brazil.

At Corumba all the passengers returning from abroad are checked by special methods of inspection, since cocaine has been found in the soles of shoes, in umbrella handles, inside an innocuous thermos of water, and even in hidden places on the persons of passengers employed as drug runners.

The problem is known and is being investigated by the police, but facts and geography are discouraging.

The battle against the manufacturing of and trafficking in drugs in Brazil has to be fought in the Amazon jungle, where there are open borders with four countries: Bolivia, Peru, Colombia and Venezuela, along a distance of almost 10,000 km, 10 percent of which is impassable.

9545
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

TRAFFICKER CARRYING MORE THAN 7 KILOS OF COCAINE SEIZED

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Feb 81 p 11

[Text] Campo Grande--Drug-trafficker Geraldo Lopes Fontoura was seized in flagrante the night before last in the Hotel Jandaia in downtown Campo Grande by agents of the Federal Police shortly before he was to leave for Rio de Janeiro carrying 7 kilos 500 grams of cocaine in a suitcase. The Superintendency of the DPF [Department of Federal Police] declared that this was the 5th largest seizure of cocaine in Brazil and that the merchandize could be sold for nearly 24 million cruzeiros. The cocaine, packaged in eight plastic bags, would go to Rio, where it would be delivered to a distributor who, according to the police, is an employee of one of the central agencies of the Bank of the State of Rio de Janeiro [BANERJ]. A short time ago Geraldo Fontoura was a farmer in the municipality of Coxim--300 kilometers from Campo Grande--but he sold his entire rice crop last year to go into the used-car business--including stolen cars--and the cocaine traffic. He declared that he had received the shipment of drugs from a Bolivian named Papy Mendes.

"I didn't pay anything for the product," he added, "because I received everything on consignment in Bolivia for delivery in the Hotel Jandaia to an Italian who was to take the drugs to Europe. I would receive from him, for my role as deliveryman, 300,000 cruzeiros a kilo, which would give me approximately 2.2 million cruzeiros."

Drug in Suitcase

However, the agents of the Federal Police had already been observing Geraldo Fontoura's movements for more than a month. In mid-December he left Porto Velho, Rondonia, carrying one kilo of cocaine in a black suitcase. The police were informed and in Campo Grande they stopped his airplane to check up. On that day, however, the police seized another suitcase of the same description, which had been abandoned on the airplane by a passenger who got off at Corumba. Geraldo Fontoura continued his flight and was able to deliver a little more than one kilo of cocaine to his contact in Rio de Janeiro, the BANERJ employee, who has been closely observed since then by the Federal Police. The trafficker declares that at this point he took up cocaine-trafficking in the hope of rapidly earning a lot of money. However, he had bad luck, since he was caught while doing his first job.

His supplier, Papy Mendes, of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, in Bolivia, is the same one who a few months ago was buying Brazilian automobiles from him, stolen or not. Together with the shipment of cocaine, the Federal Police seized a magnum revolver bought in Paraguay, loaded with explosive bullets. The drug was analyzed in the laboratories of the Federal Police and showed a degree of purity on the order of 95 percent.

12,116
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

RIO SCHOOLS BEGIN INSTRUCTION IN EVILS OF DRUGS

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 17 Feb 81 p 8

[Text] Rio de Janeiro will be the first state in the country to teach prevention of drug use in the schools. On 23 February, when classes begin, pupils in the first and second grades, beginning with the fifth series, will have the subject included in the science and biology program. "We are transforming one article of the drug law into reality," Arnaldo Niskier, the State Secretary of Education, said.

Yesterday, he opened the Educational Seminar on the Prevention of Drug Use, which is training 64 teachers representing the municipalities by means of lectures from specialists. The 64 teachers are to act as multipliers, training the other teachers in the way to introduce the subject in the classroom. The first lecture was by Judge Menna Darreto, on definition, classification and effects of drugs.

First Stage

Those 64 teachers will receive 30 hours of seminar training on a full-time basis and up to Friday they will meet in the Adalberto Nunes Physical Education Center. During this week they will be oriented by specialists and on Friday they should be able to draw the conclusions as to how these notions will be introduced into the schools, what the curriculum should consist of and what the scheduled teaching load will be. A proposal already exists from the Curriculum Laboratory of the Secretariat of Education on how the subject should be treated which also will be reviewed on Friday, as it may be approved as the official proposal.

After that seminar, the trained teachers must attend other seminars in their own regions and when classes begin the pupils will have the subject included in the science and biology curriculum. According to Arnaldo Niskier, "the course is the first step in the training of human resources necessary for the development of a drug-use prevention program."

When the seminar opened yesterday afternoon, the secretary said that the initiative of the Secretariat of Education "is a challenge, and the face of the challenge is frightful. However, we have confidence that our teachers can give an example of their capability by facing a problem which today is prejudicial to family and societal relations in Brazil with courage and intelligence." He added that the initiative of the Secretariat aims at "forestalling the consumption of drugs so that it will not be increased, and not to repress their use."

According to the secretary, that will be done by the gradual introduction even in the first grade classrooms of notions which lead to revulsion at the idea of using drugs. "We can teach the child what risks he runs if he takes a medicine without a prescription," he explained. "Conditioning of the child begins there, a conditioning not to swallow things which are not given by a person who has the right to do so: the parent or the doctor. Now beginning with the fifth series it is possible to begin to show the dangers of drugs to the body."

Holding the seminar is based on provisions of Federal Law 6,368 of 1976, the Law of Toxic Substances, which establishes by decree the inclusion of teaching relative to drugs which cause a physical or psychological dependence in the teacher-training programs, Niskier declared further. "However, up to now the decree has been only a decree. We are going to turn it into reality."

The first lecture given yesterday was by Judge Menna Darreto, who explained in a rather didactic class the definition, classification and effects of drugs. Today, the judge will give another lecture at 0830 hours on the causal factors of the use of drugs and on the legislation with respect to the subject. At 1400 hours, psychiatrist Oswald de Andrade will speak on "Drugs: Treatment and Recovery."

Tomorrow at 0830 hours psychologist Maria da Penha Simoes will give a lecture also devoted to the problems of drug use. At 1400 hours psychiatrist Talvane Marins Moraes will speak on the psychiatric-legal aspects of drug use, drug abuse and drug dependency.

Part of the morning of 19 February will be dedicated to a panel on rabies, to be directed by a representative of the Rio de Janeiro State Health Secretariat. That afternoon and the morning of 20 February, Professor Maria de Lourdes Marcier Medina will present the action plan on the school-unit level.

12,116
CSO: 5300

CHILE

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKER DETAINED--Sergio Ramirez Maulen, a former soccer player for Colo Colo, has been caught in his house with 2 kg of cocaine base and detained by the police. Ramirez Maulen's detention is related to the capture of a group of drug traffickers headed by (Gilberto Olmedo Rojas). [PY111920 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 11 Mar 81]

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The police have broken a ring of drug traffickers by seizing 40 kilograms of cocaine base and arresting (Veronica del Rosario Casillo) and (Ricardo Marquez) in Arica as well as (Gilberto Oliveira Rojas), one of the most wanted chemists in the country; (Irma Macus); (Victor Alamiro Vagas Orellana); (Ricardo Roco Perez); and (Jose Luciano Armijo) in Santiago. A laboratory to produce cocaine base was found in (Armijo's) house. According to the police the cocaine was produced for the U.S. market and introduced by Chilean (Jose Ogaldes Figueroa). The head of the group, (Alberto Salgado Salazar), is still at large. The raw material was brought from Peru. [PY102009 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 10 Mar 81]

CSO: 5300

JAMAICA

U.S. ACTION TO HALT GANJA AIRLIFT ADVOCATED

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 15 Feb 81 pp 1, 3

[Text] Which small Third World country has at least 30 international airports? And only two of them with radio control? The same small country that is setting up a major air crash. The same small island that was a haven for buccaneers two centuries ago, and today provides a bonanza for ganja smugglers.

Jamaica, land the pirates love. Where ganja planes are taking off every day and every night: at government airstrips, at private airstrips, and at numerous unregistered and illicit airstrips all over the island.

88 of these pirate planes were captured last year--but you should have seen the ones that got away!

The legitimate international airports, Manley and Sangster, do not have radar equipment and cannot monitor these flights. Jamaican Air Traffic Controllers depend entirely on the pilot reporting via radio his position, destination, and route.

For obvious reasons, ganja pilots do not do this, but they are buzzing about Jamaica at all hours of the night. To say that they are a safety hazard is an understatement. Air Jamaica has two night flights, Air Florida has one. Any other airline, if delayed, could be over the island after dark.

Ganja planes fly mostly at night, without lights. It is on the cards that one cloudy night one of these intrepid little pirates is going to fly smack into one of these legitimate aeroplanes, and supply us with a major air disaster.

Will the Government of Jamaica wait for this to happen before it gets tough over the ganja trade and all its related dangers? How much is the ganja trade really worth? In terms of lives and bad publicity?

How many?

The number of illicit--i.e. not registered with Civil Aviation Department--airstrips in Jamaica is uncertain. Twenty-eight (28) seems a conservative estimate. On a short flight, I identified fourteen of them.

I did not count legitimate registered strips like Braco, Kaiser-Discovery Bay, Llandoverly, Gilnock, Punchbowl, Marlborough, etc., though all of these used, some of them frequently for illicit flights.

I counted:

1. A strip within a few miles flying time west of Sangster--currently being asphalted.
2. A long strip on the beach at Coral Spring, plus crashed plane. Strip temporarily out of commission thanks to Hurricane Allen.
3. A strip under construction, in a cow pasture, at Bryan Castle, Trelawny. Because of a report that this property has been bought by the Coptics, I designated this an airstrip.
4. A marl strip in the hills a short distance east of Flat Bridge.
5. & 6. Two strips north of Goat Island. The one nearest the coast is impressive.

"Big Daddy"

On the St. Elizabeth plains there are at least 6 airstrips within a radius of 6 miles. I counted:

7. & 8. Two 'bush' strips, one red-dirt, one marl, close together between Nain and Santa Cruz.
9. The "Big Daddy" of them all--the Coptic strip at Elim. Approximately 5,000 feet long and 150 feet wide.
- 10 & 11. Two strips in the Brumdec development, one blocked by large pipes. Built, presumably, with Government permission but very handy for ganja-dealers. Why do they need two strips?
12. A marl strip north of Black River.
13. A very long strip, rivalling the Coptic one, on the South Coast, a short distance west of Negril lighthouse.
14. A strip nearing completion in the hills of Hanover, near Ramble. A short distance from the main road.

Much More

I missed other strips in the territory covered. Information received from pilots confirms the existence of:

15. A strip in the Barrett Hall area of St. James.
16. A red-dirt strip in the Sligoville hills.

17. A strip at Goshen on the St. Ann, St. Mary border, complete with two crashed aircraft.

18. A strip south of Monymusk.

I did not prospect east of Ocho Rios--Spanish Town. However it is reasonable to conclude that ganja airstrips are just as plentiful in that part of the island.

Obviously, these strips, sprouting like "junju" all over the island, cannot be adequately policed.

Even the legitimate strips cannot be adequately supervised: at Tinson Pen, a Cessna Titan 404 disappeared while being guarded by members of the Jamaica Defence Force.

Control

Fortunately, there are other ways of controlling the ganja airlift and ensuring relative air safety over Jamaica. For example: to legislate control over the construction, ownership and operation of private airstrips.

As the law now stands, anyone can build an airstrip. In theory, the permission of the local Parish Council is required; in practice it is seldom sought.

Parish Councils seem to be unaware of the construction of illicit airstrips even when Government equipment is used on the sites.

In 1973, the then Minister of Security, Mr Eli Matalon, issued a directive that all private airfields must be fenced, guarded, physically closed when not in use or dug up. This directive has never been rescinded, nor has it (except for the first months) ever been observed.

The present Government can pass legislation, and can institute fines for failure to comply with these or similar regulations.

At present, only airfields used for scheduled flights and to be licensed by the C.A.D. Why not require all airstrips to be licensed? And make these fines and licences substantial enough to offset the "payola" offered by ganja-operators.

U.S. Aid

How would these regulations be enforced? By "beefing up" the Air Wing of the J.D.F. and instituting helicopter patrols.

How would the integrity of the men doing the patrols be ensured? Difficult-- but if Mr Seaga's intelligence system is half as good as his opponents claim it is, it should not be impossible. Helicopter patrols have been used successfully to break the back of Mexico's drug trade.

Co-operation with the U.S. is necessary, and it is the U.S. that can provide the knockout to the ganja airlift--because of the route the planes take to Florida.

(In order to overfly Cuba, the pilot must file a flight plan with Air Traffic Control in Kingston, must depart from Manley or Sangster, and must stay on schedule because the Cubans are informed of his time of arrival. To fly, unannounced over Cuba is to court death or capture). Therefore, the ganja goes round the south-east tip of Cuba, via Turks and Caicos and the Bahamas, and the planes pass well within range of the radar at Guantanamo Bay.

What is to stop the U.S. Navy from challenging these 'phantom' flights? Illicit flights can be intercepted, taken into custody, or shot down.

Corruption

What prevents this course of action?

Only the possibility that the U.S. policy towards the ganja trade is as ambivalent as ours. Only the possibility that corruption in our Security Forces--and body politic--that facilitate ganja pirates is mirrored, and magnified, in the U.S.

As Mr Seaga has pointed out, without buyers there are no sellers.

Jamaica may be stuck with the ganja airlift for some time. Until the two governments co-operate in a genuine offensive against it.

Until that time comes, you reading this would be well advised not to let night catch you up in an aeroplane over Jamaica. Or you just might be present in a major air disaster.

You just might be the reason that the U.S. and Jamaican governments finally get tough about the ganja airlift. But you won't be around to get your reward.

CSO: 5300

JAMAICA

BLACK MARKET, GANJA, ECONOMY RELATIONSHIP DISCUSSED

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 15 Feb 81 p 5

[Article by Morris Cargill: "Black Market Controls and Ganja"]

[Excerpt] There is one reason only for our black market--a vast black market covering everything from television sets, to motor spares, to clothes and food. This reason is "controls." Everything in the country today is controlled by the bureaucracy except the one thing which should be controlled, namely, human reproduction. In consequence, and as usual, the people who are put at a disadvantage are the honest traders and merchants. The black marketeers are making a fortune. They were the only people who, under socialism, were becoming rich, if you leave out the party activists and a few Ministers.

Controls Must Go

Honest, straightforward trading will never be restored in this country until these controls are removed. Moreover, the dual economy under which we now operate will never be sorted out. As most of us know, we operate two economies--the ordinary one, and the Ganja Economy. Not all the black market is based upon the Ganja Economy. Much of it is supported by people who go to the Caymans, or to Miami and New York, and come back laden with goodies bought with hoarded U.S. dollars, or exchanged for Jamaican fruits and vegetables. But the really expensive Black Market, covering everything from fairly heavy machinery to a whole list of consumer durables, is firmly based upon Ganja money.

This wouldn't particularly matter if the Ganja money was going through the banking system. When Mr Seaga told the banks to grab the dollars and not ask questions, he was trying to get this money into the banking system, but succeeded only in part. The reason for this incomplete success is obvious. The other rigidly controlled, much of the ganja dollar has to be kept out to the banks to pay for illicit imports. "No funds" licences cannot cover everything.

As usual, we are in a vicious circle. We need to abolish control, if our country is to come out of the vast black-market syndrome in which we are caught. Yet how can we abolish the import controls when we have a dangerous foreign exchange deficit? One thing which might help would be to make the Ganja Economy work for the nation.

Were I the Prime Minister (which, thank God, I am not) I would call up the big Ganja operatives--you know who they are as well as I do, but one has to be careful of the law of libel, especially when it comes to religious organizations with bags of money--and say, in effect:

"Now boys. The Jamaican government cannot, for obvious reasons, supply the U.S. market with ganja, or even appear to be doing so. But we do recognise the value of the trade. So, we will put our blind eye to the telescope provided you channel ALL the money through the banks. If not, we will really fix you."

At the same time, I would say to the U.S.A.:

"We cannot afford to destroy the ganja trade. If you want us to do so we will, but it will cost you in free grants what the trade is worth to us annually."

In such a case, whichever way the cat jumped, we'd have it made. This may sound immoral. But what could be worse for us than the present situation in which we impoverish ourselves at the altar of U.S. prejudice while at the same time, helping a U.S. based corporation to make a fortune at our expense. Morality, as always, is comparative.

CSO: 5300

JAMAICA

BRIEFS

GANJA FIELD DESTRUCTION--Police on Friday carried out a raid at Wick Walk in Manchester and destroyed seven fields of ganja and 12 nurseries. About 127,000 plants in all were destroyed. One ton of ganja was seized and four houses and a shack were searched but no arrest was made, the police said. [Text]
[Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 16 Feb 81 p 2]

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

COLOMBIAN COCAINE SMUGGLER ARRESTED AT AIRPORT

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 5 Feb 81 p 4

[Text] Mexico City, 4 February (OEM)--Yesterday, a Colombian woman was arrested at the Mexico City international airport as she was attempting to bring in pure cocaine worth 30 million pesos in small bags attached to her brassiere.

The drug trafficker, Julia Viera Martinez, of Colombian nationality, arrived on Aeromexico flight 420 from Panama; but when attempting to go through customs in this city she was intercepted by Federal Judicial Police agents, who noticed an "exaggerated" bust. This caused them to be very suspicious, and they immediately asked her to stop for a more detailed search.

The guards were greatly shocked when, upon performing their duty, they discovered several bags of pure cocaine worth 30 million pesos on the black market.

When questioned by the police, the South American woman explained that she had purchased the drugs in her native Colombia, through a male friend of hers called "Javo," and that her contact in this capital was a North American whom she did not know. But he was to approach her with a key word, "flor" [flower], and this would be an indication notifying her to whom she was to deliver the drugs.

She later explained that this was the first time that she was involved in a drug trafficking activity.

She finally justified it by claiming that she did so out of necessity, to help her family, because they are living under very povertystricken conditions in her country.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

MARIHUANA PLANTATION OWNER ARRESTED IN TAMAULIPAS

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 14 Feb 81 Sec B p 7

[Text] Upon capturing an individual who was engaged in selling marihuana in the red-light district of Tampico, Tamaulipas, the Federal Judicial Police discovered a cannabis indica plantation on the El Abra communal farm in the municipality of Tula, Tamaulipas, where they also proceeded to seize several weapons of various calibers.

The presumed drug trafficker in question answers to the name of Ramon Coronado Reyes, from who 325 grams of "zacate" (marihuana) were seized. He had the latter as a sample, so as to make subsequent sales of the grass that he was harvesting on his farm.

He was questioned and eventually admitted the foregoing, taking the Federal Judicial Police agents to his farm, which was located on the aforementioned communal land.

There, he had a plantation measuring about 50 by 80 square meters, with a density of 10-12 plants per square meter, and a height of from 1 to 1.5 meters.

On the same site, the federal agents proceeded to destroy the drugs, at the order of the Federal Public Ministry.

In a hut located on the farm, the agents discovered a 32-caliber pistol, a 12-caliber shotgun and another rifle, as well as a (Roman type) scale that was used to weigh the drugs, and a motorcycle which apparently had been stolen.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

OPIUM, MARIHUANA TRAFFICKER RECAPTURED

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 15 Feb 81 Sec C p 1

[Text] Ricardo Gonzalez Zamora was recaptured by Federal Judicial Police forces, specifically by agent Jose de Jesus Tovar, in compliance with a warrant issued by the federal judge of the second district court located in Piedras Negras, Gilberto Carlos Canto Lopez.

The individual in custody is subject to a trial for crimes against health in the degree of possession and possible trafficking of opium and marihuana. It was learned that the recapture of Ricardo Gonzalez Zamora was based on the fact that the eighth circuit associated court located in Torreon, Coahuila, denied him protection and aid of the federal justice system, thus nullifying the release on bail that he had been enjoying.

His arrest took place some years ago, and he was later denied protection. On 27 March 1979, he was apparently concealing drugs in a vehicle; the drugs were seized by Federal Judicial Police forces, and the case was turned over to the agent of the Federal Public Ministry.

The federal judge ordered the recapture of Ricardo Gonzalez Zamora for the purpose of reestablishing the judicial proceedings and handing down the sentence that he deserved.

The individual in custody had bail amounting to 10,000 pesos, which his relatives had posted, thus facilitating his legal status for receiving this benefit.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

TRAFFICKERS ESCAPE JAIL--Mexico City, 30 January (INFORMEX)--After a gun battle in which two guards were wounded, 10 dangerous drug traffickers managed to escape this morning from the municipal jail in Agua Prieta, Sonora, and apparently succeeded in entering the United States. The escape of these convicts, who were serving long sentences for crimes against health, caused great mobilization among the local police, backed up by Federal Judicial Police forces. The local authorities immediately requested the intervention of those in the neighboring country in tracking down these criminals, who may possibly have connections with drug traffickers in the United States. Investigations were also started to ascertain whether the jail authorities were in collusion with the fugitives, who used high-powered weapons to attain their goal. The drug traffickers who succeeded in escaping via a wooden stairway are: Trinidad Rivas, Eulalio Gonzalez Quintero, Francisco Mendivil Gallardo, Manuel Jimenez Rios, Jose Luis Lopez Vazquez, Francisco Escalante Figueroa, Lauro Carvallo Martinez, Ramon Rodriguez, Juan Gomez Negrete and Antonio Lopez Rodriguez. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 31 Jan 81 Sec A p 4] 2909

POPPY, MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS BURNED--Four poppy and marihuana plantations were destroyed by Federal Judicial Police forces in a settlement known as Las Adjuntas in the municipality of Villa de Santiago, in the state of Nuevo Leon. These drugs were located on an area of 9,300 square meters, with a density of 10-15 plants per square meter, and a height of from 1 to 10 centimeters. Those responsible for the planting and the "guards" were not caught, because they fled before the destruction began, according to the headquarters of Zone 11 of the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation, headed by coordinator Carlos Aguilar Garza. The foregoing report was issued in a brief press release stating that efforts would continue to arrest those responsible, because it is presumed that they are members of an international drug trafficking ring with its real establishments in Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas, because its operations are easier to conduct in those states. The Attorney General's Office coordinating entity also reported that this action is based on the instructions issued by the attorney general, Oscar Sanchez, to destroy all plantations wherever they are located. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 11 Feb 81 Sec B p 3] 2909

ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN RESULTS--Despite the fact that the inclement weather in the state during January caused a stoppage of the air operations, the activities carried out by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic in the battle against drug trafficking brought good results, owing to the action taken by the Federal Judicial Police forces. This statement was made by the deputy coordinator for Zone 006 of

the permanent campaign against drug trafficking, Jose Domingo Martinez Riverol, who noted that the report on activities last month indicates that 58 individuals were arrested in connection with crimes against health in their various degrees. He announced that 10 kilograms and 460 grams of marihuana had been seized, as were 2 kilograms and 827 grams of opium gum and 476 grams of heroin, dealing a damaging blow to the drug traffic, because the marketing of those drugs both in the country and abroad was prevented. The deputy coordinator said that the seizure of weapons also had positive results, since 12 pistols and 94 useful cartridges of various calibers were confiscated. [Text] [Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 5 Feb 81 p 8] 2909

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT--The illegal activities of the presumed drug traffickers Raul Morales Zarate, alias "Bruce Lee," Antonio Lara Mijares and Alfonso Molina Lopez were thwarted on Sunday by Federal Judicial Police agents, when they were captured in Torreon, Coahuila, with a marihuana shipment. The three individuals had in their possession 50.5 kilograms of cannabis indica already packed in brick form. The agency of the Federal Public Ministry announced that the investigation of the three traffickers' activities had lasted several weeks. Some time ago, it was learned that Morales Zarate and his associates were engaged in purchasing and exporting marihuana to the United States, but nothing could be proven against them. They were kept under surveillance for several weeks, and it was on Sunday that they were caught in the act. In view of the evidence, they ended up confessing that they had been engaged for several years in buying and selling cannabis indica; and hence they were placed at the disposal of the Federal Public Ministry agent on duty. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 3 Feb 81 Sec B p 5] 2909

TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED--Yesterday, two Reynosa residents captured in January by the Federal Judicial Police for engaging in drug trafficking received jail sentences from the second district judge, Cayetano Hernandez Valencia. In trial 39/980, Francisco Javier Valdez Osteguin, or Juan Valdez, was found guilty of committing a crime against health in the degree of marihuana purchasing and transportation, and received a jail sentence of 7 years and 2 months, as well as a fine of 10,000 pesos. His accomplice, Juan Rodriguez Rojas, was sentenced to 7 years and 6 months in jail and given a fine of 10,000 pesos, for the purchase of marihuana in the degree of attempted robbery abroad. The two aforementioned individuals were arrested in Reynosa. On the Reynosa-Rio Bravo highway, the federal agents apprehended Juan Rodriguez Rojas and another individual named Antonio Estrada Castro. The former was driving a Toyota pickup truck that Rodriguez had stolen in the town of Harlingen, Texas. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 3 Feb 81 Sec B p 10] 2909

CSO: 5330

ST LUCIA

EDUCATION MINISTRY OPENS SCHOOL ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN

Bridgetown ADVOCATE NEWS in English 13 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] Castries, Saint Lucia, Thursday (CANA)--Saint Lucia's Education Minister, Senator Kenny Anthony has announced plans to combat a problem of dangerous drugs believed to be prevailing in the island's school system.

Senator Anthony, without giving details of the gravity of the problem, said that his Ministry did not, and would not accept or condone the smoking of marijuana by anyone in the island's school system.

Three years ago, former Education Minister Allan Bousquet stunned the nation with the revelation that there were teachers peddling marijuana to school children.

The allegation was vigorously denied by the Saint Lucia Teachers Union, which demanded that Mr Bousquet produce evidence to back up his claim.

Mr Anthony, addressing a meeting of the School Principals Association here, called for discipline to permeate all levels of the school system and lauded a recent report by the association on that subject.

He said: "This report is crucial and represents an important contribution to the development of education in Saint Lucia."

Mr Anthony spoke of plans for the preparation of a manual incorporating a code of behaviour, and the rights and responsibilities of teachers and principals.

The minister said his ministry had agreed to launch a "discipline awareness week" to coincide with the commencement of the new school year next September adding that there was need to reestablish clear discipline guidelines of a national character.

Mr Anthony said his ministry was concerned about the potentially adverse effects of the consumption of marijuana by school children.

"Let me make it abundantly clear that this ministry does not and will not accept or condone the smoking of marijuana by anyone in the system, whether teacher, student or principal," he said. The Minister added that he had instructed officials of the ministry to exercise the full weight of the disciplinary machinery within the context of existing regulations on anyone who was found peddling or smoking marijuana during school hours or hours connected to school activity.

CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

COCAINE CARGO--Caracas, 24 Feb (AFP)--Police and security agents confiscated 80 kg of U.S.-bound cocaine estimated at \$24 million and arrested five persons, it was officially reported. Government officials said this has been the most important police action in the Venezuelan struggle against the international traffic of cocaine. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1752 GMT 24 Feb 81]

CSO: 5300

IVORY COAST

BRIEFS

OVER 1,000 KILOS CANNABIS SEIZED--Yesterday morning, the ninth subdivision police station carried out a successful operation, seizing a Toyota van at the Marcory Groupement Foncier [subdivision of Marcory, a section of Abidjan] which was carrying more than 1,000 kilograms of cannabis. The four traffickers narrowly escaped the policemen from the ninth subdivision, who comprised two police officers, a warrant officer and two sergeants. The four criminals had precipitously left Villa No 2060 at the Groupement Foncier where they abandoned the van bearing licence plates AA 4849 CI-1. Yesterday's operation led to the largest seizure ever in such an exercise in the Ivory Coast's fight against drugs. In this regard, it is noteworthy that in October 1980 the gendarmerie unit based at Adzope won renown by seizing 600 kilograms of the "cursed weed" at M'Basso, a village in the subdivision of Yakasse Attobrou. Two traffickers, Issiaka Fafari and Bokary Abiere, bearing the Ghanaian nationality, were arrested by gendarmes from Adzope. The Ghanaian network had then been shaken by the M'Basso operation; but it recovered very soon, because it managed to carry 1,000 kilograms of cannabis to Marcory this month. [Text] [AB101934 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 10 Mar 81 p 1]

CSO: 5300

SOUTH AFRICA

DRUG ABUSE TRENDS DISCUSSED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Feb 81 p 9

[Excerpt]

SOUTH AFRICA faced changes in the trends of drug abuse which could create serious problems if ignored, Dr S de Miranda, director of clinical services at the Johannesburg Society of the South African Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, said in Pretoria on Wednesday.

A survey conducted at Phoenix House two weeks ago showed 13 percent of drug dependents experimented with drugs and alcohol for the first time before 12 years of age.

This was an alarming increase when compared with a survey conducted in 1976 in which only 2,3 percent of the dependents had experienced alcohol or drugs before the age of 12.

Dr De Miranda said a further cause for concern in South Africa was the serious swing towards more physically addictive drugs, including substances which could be injected.

"When we first looked at the drug problem in South Africa in 1970, the scene was unsophisticated. People were experimenting with a bit of dagga, alcohol, pills, cough

mixtures and various other unsophisticated chemicals. It was part of an adolescent rebellion.

Hooked

"Today, 33 percent of the patients treated are hooked on serious and specific drugs such as morphine, Wellcanol and barbiturates."

These changes spelt trouble and reports of young people dying from chemical substances being injected into their systems should not be seen merely as an accident, but rather as part of a serious pattern.

Dr De Miranda said the abuse of chemicals, under which he included alcohol, should not be seen as an isolated youth problem but as part of today's chemically orientated society.

CSO: 5300

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

POLICE DRUG RAID--In one of the biggest raids ever mounted in Natal, the SAP have destroyed 713 tons of green dagga worth R3,5-million in the Richmond and Msinga districts. The operation ended yesterday and started about three weeks ago. The party of 70 policemen were assisted by two South African airforce helicopters in locating the dagga fields which were cleverly hidden in mountainous areas. The police used the helicopters to drop into the fields, usually well hidden in dense vegetation. During the raid 24 men and 18 women were arrested for allegedly dealing in growing green dagga. The police also arrested 292 men for being connected with faction fighting in the Msinga district and confiscated 23 firearms which were allegedly used in pitched battles in the area in the last six months. The Msinga district is notorious for faction fighting. It is estimated that in the last eight months at least 35 people have been killed and another 27 seriously injured in the tribal wars. As a sequel to the raid, described by a senior police officer as "very successful," those who have been arrested will appear in regional courts at Richmond and Greytown. [by Tim Clark] [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 3 Mar 81 p 11]

CSO: 5300

SWAZILAND

BRIEFS

FOUR MANDRAX SUSPECTS HELD--Four South Africans, two men and two women, were arrested in Manzini last Monday suspected of being in possession of over 80,000 mandrax pills. According to the Assistant Police Commissioner in charge of the Criminal investigations Department, Mr. Sotsha Dlamini, the four are believed to have been on transit from abroad where they allegedly obtained the drugs and were on their way to South Africa. The names of the four have not been disclosed but they were due to appear briefly, before the Manzini Magistrate's court. No court officials were immediately available to comment at the time of going to Press. [Text] [Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 27 Feb 81 p 1]

CSO: 5300

DENMARK

NEW JUSTICE MINISTER'S COMMENT ON DRUG POLICY AIRED

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 23 Jan 81 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text] It was outstanding television. Erik Ove and Peter Olesen's in-depth look at Denmark's narcotics problems on TV Aktuelst last Tuesday was grim in all its realism. Grim, too, in that it did not contain anything new.

All aspects were presented: police description of how drugs find their way into Denmark from the Near and Far East; an encounter with the drug addict's glazed eyes; infants with inherited defects from the mother--and, not least, almost painful disagreement among politicians and physicians as to what to do about it.

As we all know, narcotics are not an isolated Danish phenomenon. Developments in Denmark do not differ essentially from the pattern common to all of Western Europe. The situation in Denmark is unique, however, in that the number of deaths due to narcotics is approximately one-fourth of that registered in the Federal Republic of Germany, which has 11 times as many inhabitants. Conditions in Denmark seem to be particularly favorable to international gangster activity in the area of narcotics.

Our response to the TV program must be that the handling of the narcotics problem--aside from the individual's untiring efforts--is completely irresponsible. Police Commissioner Kjeld Petersen, Odense, who for years has spent all his leisure time giving lectures on drugs, told BERLINGSKE TIDENDE 2 years ago that "idle talk on the part of politicians, physicians, the Health Department and social authorities is the primary reason for the growing number of drug addicts and the resultant crimes." The program left viewers with the impression that this, in its lack of ostentation, is an apt description of the harsh truth.

It seems absolutely incomprehensible that experts directly disagree on the value of methadone in the rehabilitation of drug addicts. It is incomprehensible that no position has been taken on the social problems connected with the rehabilitated addict's reentry into a drug-free existence. It is a parody that drug-hungry addicts are responsible for 80 percent of all thefts in the Copenhagen area, where buyers of gold and silver spring up like mushrooms. It is a parody on personal freedom that no file is kept on drug addicts. It is a parody that police cannot do what is deemed necessary because of a shortage of personnel and that a mayor can regard his efforts as adequate.

It was Ole Espersen's first appearance on television since he was appointed justice minister. He will be held to the statement that he sees a need to change course with respect to our prisons, among other things. Quick action across a wide front is what is needed in this complex of wide-reaching problems. Espersen has a major role. Let others see to medical and social problems as long as he tends to justice.

8952
CSO: 5300

DENMARK

TURK GETS NINE YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR SMUGGLING HEROIN

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 3 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] The 45-year-old Turk, Sukru Kalvan from Fredericia, got 1 year short of the maximum penalty for trafficking in narcotics, when a jury in Kolding last Friday sentenced him to 9 years in prison for extensive trafficking in heroin and hashish.

His 27-year-old Danish girlfriend, Lisbeth Stolt, got 4 years imprisonment for having stored the drugs and for having been an accomplice in the trafficking of the stuff.

The case against Sukru Kalkavan, who was sentenced for trafficking at least 5 kilos of heroin and 20 kilos of hashish, took place behind closed doors, something rather unusual for jury cases. The prosecutor actually went so far that he would give his reasons for his wish to have the doors closed, only behind closed doors, i.e., after the reporters and spectators had been asked to leave.

The official reason for keeping the case secret was for "inquiry considerations," i.e., that the witnesses were not allowed to read each other's evidence, and that the police probably had not yet finished arresting the group surrounding the Turk.

In the meantime, a number of Danes and Turks have already been sentenced to up to 6 years imprisonment in, among other places, Kolding, Aarhus, Fredericia, Herning and Vejle.

Sukru Kalkavan and his girlfriend were, however, clearly the head people in the Jutland narcotics league until they were arrested in November 1979, after 2 years of investigation. At that time, the police telephone tap exposed that the couple was busy importing heroin from Turkey to Denmark.

9667
CSO: 5300

DENMARK

BRIEFS

PRISONERS PROTEST SEARCH POLICY--Next Monday about 500 inmates in closed prisons will take action against a new policy which imposes tighter restrictions on visitors. This policy is the first phase of the stepped-up vigilance against drugs being smuggled to inmates. Beginning 1 February, prison personnel can search a visitor's purse and clothing and, if anyone objects to the search, he can be refused entry into the prison. The reason for the policy is the almost unlimited possibility of smuggling narcotics and other things to imprisoned friends and acquaintances. A Criminal Justice Department task force proposed the stepped-up vigilance, with the stipulation, however, there can be no general search--it cannot be applied to everybody, only in cases of justified suspicion. Most of the inmates at Vridsløselille, Nyborg, Horsens, Ringe and Herstedvester--all closed prisons--will refuse to work 2 February and will also consider further action if these restrictions are continued. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 24 Jan 81 p 1] 8952

HEROIN GANG BROKEN--In the wake of unraveling several bank robberies, Copenhagen police believe to have uncovered a broad-based heroin gang. Following months of investigation, nine persons were sentenced to prison in closed meetings of the Copenhagen Court of Justice yesterday. All are charged with drug crimes--reportedly smuggling, financing and selling heroin. Criminal Inspector Per Kanding was most reluctant to give out any information this evening. This is because the case is far from solved. There will be further arrests. Those sentenced include both men and women and they are said to be of Danish, Yugoslavian and Greek nationality. All the arrests--including several persons who were released after the hearing--were made Sunday and early Monday in Greater Copenhagen. The arrests were made following 3 days of intensive observation--including shadowing, during which several police officers did not get much sleep. The reason the robbery section was asked to investigate the matter and make the arrests is that theft and narcotics are inextricably connected. "By unraveling bank robberies, we hit upon narcotics and followed that line until we could make the arrests," said Per Kanding and pointed out that the narcotics section had been kept informed all along. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 20 Jan 81 p 2] 8952

JUTLAND GANG SMUGGLED HEROIN--With the arrest and imprisonment of 15 narcotics dealers and smugglers in Herning, the local police, in cooperation with the State police traveling team, hope to have dealt a decisive blow to a new and well-organized narcotics gang in Jutland. The gang is supposed to have sold mainly heroin and morphine. All 15 were charged with violation of the hard narcotics section in the

penal code and sentenced to 4 weeks of isolation. These gang members are principally Turks and police believe that the same backers who have been responsible for the narcotics network in Jutland cities are also behind the narcotics delivered to the persons just convicted. All the imprisoned gang members appeared in court behind closed doors and 13 of them appealed their sentence to the Superior Court, which turned down their appeals, upholding the sentences issued. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 23 Jan 81 p 2] 8952

GREEK LED HEROIN GANG--A Greek businessman is believed to be one of the principle figures in a well-organized heroin gang which is presently under investigation in Copenhagen. Several of those arrested are known for their previous connections with the narcotics trade, but the Greek businessman is thought to have been one of the gang's organizers since he made short trips to Denmark and thus had ample opportunity to smuggle in the costly heroin. The robbery section of the police department has strong suspicions that the gang's trade could be valued at several million kroner but, apparently, no narcotics have been confiscated. Some of police's charges are supported by the fact that several of those arrested have pleaded guilty in this case. Police do not want to give more detailed information, referring to the fact that nine members of an international gang were sentenced last Monday behind so-called doubly closed doors. Those sentenced are of Danish, Greek and Yugoslavian origin. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 21 Jan 81 p 2] 8952

HEROIN FROM PAKISTAN--A 37-year-old unemployed gas station attendant was arrested in Kastrup airport on Sunday, as he arrived from Pakistan with 81 grams of heroin hidden in the heels of his shoes and 15 grams of hashish hidden in his eyeglass case. He was jailed for 2 weeks this year. He denies having any knowledge of the heroin. Maybe somebody "manipulated" his shoes, he said. He went to Pakistan in order to buy 1 kilo of hashish. The profit was to get him out of a debt of 60,000 kroner. However, he became doubtful when he saw the hard life in Pakistan, and only brought back 15 grams of hashish. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 3 Feb 81 p 3] 9667

CSO: 5300

FINLAND

CASE OF ILLEGAL NARCOTICS PRESCRIPTIONS CONTINUES

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 24 Jan 81 p 10

[Article: "Narcotic Drugs to Be Placed Under Effective Control"]

[Text] The abuse of medical drugs containing narcotics, particularly methadone, is becoming more difficult as the proposals of the Central Medical Board's work group are being implemented. The supervision of drug prescriptions has already been made more effective.

The work group is proposing that prescription blanks for drugs containing narcotics be numbered and printed on paper with a watermark.

In the opinion of the work group pharmacies should be obligated to submit monthly reports on physicians who have prescribed drugs and on those patients who have received them for computerized accounting and observation.

A portion of drugs affecting the central nervous system should be transferred in their entirety to the control of specialized doctors, and even then the individual prescribing the drugs should be a patient's personal physician.

When the proposals are implemented, methadone will be used primarily in hospitals for the treatment of drug dependency. Eventually treatment will be concentrated in one hospital. Out-patient care would be given to patients in certain locations under supervised conditions.

The work group points out that supervision cannot be made more effective until the number of personnel is increased. Their report states that positions for one new chief doctor and one attorney should be created in the Central Medical Board.

On the whole, the renewal of prescriptions for PKV-drugs, which affect the central nervous system, was made more difficult for the first time in 1973. The renewal of prescriptions by telephone was prohibited. Now the work group proposes that drugs subject to extensive abuse should in their entirety be transferred to the control of specialized doctors. In the prescribing of such drugs the personal physician system should also be adopted or, in other words, such drugs should be dispensed only as part of a regular health care program.

If the extensive abuse of PKV-drugs is observed, they should in the future be dispensed by one and the same physician. Then a physician could only renew a prescription written by himself, recommends the work group.

Under present instructions to keep the matter confidential the Central Medical Board cannot provide physicians with information about suspicions of drug abuse. In the opinion of the work group regulations do not need to be changed, but the attending physician should have the right to know whether his patient has received narcotics or other drugs from another physician.

10576
CSO: 5300

FRANCE

BRIEFS

CUSTOMS OFFICIALS SEIZE COCAINE--French customs officials have seized 1,900 grams of the dangerous and illegal South American narcotic, cocaine, which was destined for the Danish market. An Uruguayan was arrested at the Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris last Friday, carrying the narcotics in a suitcase with a double bottom. He came from Lima in Peru and had a ticket to Copenhagen. The stuff has lately been used extensively in Danish drug circles. In December, the narcotics department in Copenhagen seized almost 1 kilo of cocaine, and shortly after the first of the year, the customs officials in Kastrup airport found 800 grams, hidden in a guitar. A southern gang and a courier are jailed in Copenhagen in connection with those two cases. On the other hand, there have been no arrests in Copenhagen since the exposure in France. Drug addicts pay 1,000 to 1,500 kroner per gram for cocaine. Yesterday, a 31-year-old Dane, of whom the police and customs officials became suspicious, was arrested in Kastrup. He arrived from Pakistan, carrying no luggage. A medical examination showed that he, in a contraceptive in his colon, had hidden 40 grams of a morphine preparation, probably heroin or morphine base. He will be brought before the examining magistrate today. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 29 Jan 81 p 2] 9667

CSO: 5300

NORWAY

SVALBARD DISTRICT GOVERNOR WORRIED ABOUT DRUGS

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 6 Jan 81 p 3

[Article by Tore Skoglund]

[Text] Longyearbyen--"Both the Store Norske Spitsbergen Kullkompani and the district governor consider the drug case that is currently being exposed on Svalbard very serious."

There are 10 to 15 persons involved and it is the first time the use of drugs has been discovered in the island group. The case, which only became known on Svalbard last Monday, has naturally shaken the mining community.

By mainland standards, the affair may seem innocent enough, since it involves the use of hashish. But here in the island group, the matter is viewed much more seriously. First of all, hashish smoking has occurred in the small mining community of Svea, where scarcely 100 people work. Second, the use of intoxicants is a very serious matter in a small mining area where safety is of importance at all times.

The assistant to the district governor, Bernt Fredrik Moe, told ARBEIDERBLADET that the use of hashish in Svea had been suspected for some time. Officials from the district governor's office took action on Friday, 2 January. Moe said that following this action, it became evident that a limited number of people had brought hashish from the mainland to Svalbard. These persons themselves smoked hashish last fall. They also gave the drug to others, so that altogether 10 to 15 persons are involved who have used the drug.

Moe stressed that at present there is no reason to believe that other, harder narcotics have been used. It is also too early to tell whether this case is related to cases previously exposed on the mainland, Moe said. He pointed out that so far no one has been jailed, but there have already been some admissions from the suspects.

District Governor Jan Grondal told ARBEIDERBLADET that the district governor's office considers the matter very serious, even though this case only involves the use of hashish.

"In the future, will surveillance of planes and boats arriving on Svalbard be tightened?"

"This is a matter that will be evaluated, but of course it is easy for us to make thorough inspections, even with limited resources," Grondahl said.

9336

CSO: 5300

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TURKEY

ADDICTION TO MEDICINAL DRUGS SWEEPS KASTAMONU

Istanbul CUMHURİYET in Turkish 27 Feb 81 pp 1, 7

[Article by Reha Oz]

[Text] Stradling both sides of the Karacomak Stream, which passes right through the middle of it, Kastamonu is a city wedged between the peaks. Although the view is that of a city overlooking both banks of the stream, one is captivated by the forbidding visage of this over-sized town. As the result of winter's diminishing waters, the Karacomak slowly flows along side us, carrying sediment and other debris. It has a dourness appropriate both to the general milieu of Kastamonu and its people. Holding on to railings along the Karacomak, I try to walk amidst the mounds of half-melted snow that has turned everything into mud. The sun shines a little but it is cold... It is afternoon. The scene in the schools, which are getting out, is that of hundreds of boys and girls, little children swarming and twittering about. I walk among them wrapped up in my own thoughts.

All of a sudden I hear a voice speaking in a thick Kastamonu accent. A very small boy with close-cut hair says, "Well, did you get the pill?" I immediately turn around to see three youths. They sound as though they are older. All of them have very short hair. I want to pick out the face of that child at whom the very shrill voice was directed, but in an instant they disappear among hundreds who resemble them. I am horrified. The age of these children was 12 maybe 13?

I pick up a local paper and read the following report: "Kastamonu's last folk poet, folklorist, and writer Ihsan Ozanoglu died on Friday afternoon."

Because of my interest in folklore I become curious. I ask a doctor friend. While we are talking he says, "Ozanoglu was living Kastamonu folklore. He was like a walking library." He pauses and looks at me, "There is something else that would interest you." "Tell me," I said. "He also died from pills." I replied that I didn't understand. "Let me explain," he said. He began:

"When I first came to the hospital he had paralysis of the bowel. That is, he had a severe case of diarrhea. Together with the help of colleagues at the hospital we struggled and worked hard. Ozanoglu was saved. He also had a heart ailment. We spoke every time he got out of the hospital. 'Hodja, look, henceforth you cannot take narcotic drugs. You cannot take baraljin (sic), panaljin (sic), renoval, nembutal. You cannot have optalidon...' But then Ozangolu would come back 15 days later. Again the same picture. 'Hodja,' again we would say. 'We won't be able to

save you later; don't take them.' He improved but came back. He was bedridden in the hospital some 4 times. Ultimately he was hospitalized in the same condition and this time he couldn't be saved. Even an intellectual and a strong man like Ozanoglu died in Kastamonu from pills. He was 75 but very vigorous. He died from paralysis of the bowel and the drug toxification that it engendered...because the toxemia could not be controlled. We said that Ozanoglu needed psychiatric treatment and that he could not live much longer unless he gave up those pills. But, in any event, Ozanoglu didn't accept this. He used every pill on the market. He also drank. Moreover, when his days grew short, he took the pills along with the liquor."

The recent efforts and petitions sent to various offices by Kastamonu governor Sadullah Verel has again put on the agenda narcotics--despite their having been known in this region since antiquity--and especially pills.

Sadullah Verel began to show concern for this social ill as soon as he was appointed to Kastamonu at the beginning of last November. Petitioning the Ankara University Medical Faculty on 27.1.1981 with letter number 763, he wanted research conducted at neurologic and psychiatric clinics on narcotic medicines used throughout the province in order that measures could be taken.

In his letter the governor stated that several pills that have a narcotic effect are used as sugar substitutes for guests and at weddings and that they are being used in the place of liquor. He also wrote "Our province has virtually been converted into a drug-treatment center (taksikomani klinigi) as the result of an addiction that seriously undermines social health with its own material and moral values. As a result, he wanted the necessary research conducted and measures in line with this research speedily adopted. He thus drew attention to a bitter reality that has persisted over many years. It is a reality that has not been altered despite numerous incidents and that has in the end brought society--even if only in Kastamonu--to the point of collapse.

Clearly, even before examining this bitter reality, it is necessary to have a good understanding of the term "toksikomani" used by Governor Verel. What is it?

"Toksikomani" is a term generally used for addiction to narcotic medicines. A "toksikomani" center is a health facility to which an addict (taksikoman) is brought and an attempt is made at treatment.

Individuals addicted to drugs cannot live without them. Narcotics have now become the primary crutch for these types of people. When they are not using these medicines their social lives become completely disrupted. According to the circumstance they become aggressive or even commit murders... They are so dependent on the medicine that without it they cannot carry on social relations even for a minute. They cannot do their work or function in society. In one sense, then, the medicine becomes a requisite for their being able to function at all in society.

Well, is Kastamonu gradually becoming a drug treatment center as Governor Sadullah Verel contends?

The doctor, whose name we don't want to reveal, again gives us the answer:

"For example, I am sitting in the pharmacy; one of them comes in and says, 'Give me the strongest cough medicine you have.' The reason for the strongest is the fact that it contains codein, destro-hidro-morfinon (sic), and diolin; that is, it is a

derivative of acetylated morphine. The fact that this ill individual asks for such medicine demonstrates that these cases do exist. Cases just like this find their way to the hospital... When suicidal, extremely aggressive, violent individuals cannot get the medicine, they often come in here to get it... But the individuals aren't aware of their problem. In Kastamonu there is an addiction to these medicines. The addiction causes ruptures in neighborly relations and friendships. Individuals taking the medicine greatly disturbs their surroundings with outrageous behavior. They discard custom and convention and act contrary to the norms..."

Kastamonu is an area that is provincial, without any industry in particular, and conservative. The lack of developed social services, location in mountainous terrain, and, most importantly, that fact that the arm of the government has rarely reached these areas have contributed to the creation of a closed environment.

This fact is noted in the "Kastamonu Province Yearbook," which was published on the Republic's 50th anniversary. It states, "The fact that specific social services have not been developed as in Turkey's major cities has resulted in a plain and provincial social existence."

Yes, Kastamonu is a small city of 36,000, Kastamonu is a city that doesn't contribute much to the country and, we believe, whose people don't make much of an effort to do so. It is one of our provinces in which emigration has attained extraordinary proportions. This is illustrated by the fact that there are over 500,000 immigrants in Istanbul and over 200,000 in Ankara.

And, symbolic of this backwardness, you encounter a coffee house on every corner. It is reported that the number of coffee houses was around 60 in the 1960's but now exceeds 100. That is, in this city of ours there is one coffee house for close to every 350 people. When you enter the city you see that every one of them is crammed full. In one sense this indicates the high rate of unemployment. These are men of the Republic grasping at the railings along the Karacomak but getting almost nowhere.

Besides all of this there is a governor struggling to check the use of narcotic pills...

There is a pharmacist saying, "Black market drugs are even being sold in the village stores, the village market place, in somewhat larger stores in the districts, and in stores in the city wards..." There is an Assistant Health Director who writes in a local paper, "Both in my findings and those of my colleagues, psychological abnormalities have been identified stemming from addiction to narcotic medicines. Involuntary movement, moral deviation in which the person does not conform to the customs, norms, and conventions of society, imbalance in personal relationships, sexual inadequacy, slowed mental processes, abnormal births, miscarriages, mental retardation, mentally retarded children.... Drug levels owing to pill overdoses in the hospital emergency room are such that comas and deaths result..." Another doctor says, "During our examination of babies up to now we have identified abnormalities not often seen in other regions. It is possible to relate these to endogamous marriages in Kastamonu which have isolated the region until recently and to a syphilis epidemic that has existed for years. However, we believe that narcotic pills--whose use we recognize as being wide-spread--have been a major contributory factor to those abnormalities." And in the face of all these bitter facts, there are certain intellectuals who remain reluctant to tie Kastamonu's name to pill popping and hope to diffuse the issue by saying, "The same amount is being used in Kastamonu as in other places..."

The drugs most frequently used in Kastamonu have assumed local names. It is possible to see all sorts of narcotic pills being taken but here are the most widespread with their nicknames:

Revonal (Alakuzu), Revonal Retard (sic) (Alakanat), Nembutal (Sarikiz/Saribomba), Proplemin Arsan (sic) (Yedek Sofor/Kriz), Bioptan (sic) (Optin), Efedrin Arsan-Efedrin Mercck (Beyaz), Optalidon (kirmizi).

Yes, pill popping in Kastamonu is so widespread that it will become a means of showing hospitality to village guests. Anyhow, the province's geographic make-up profoundly and detrimentally affects the people's health. Besides goiter caused by an iodine deficiency in the water and air, and stomach, gall bladder, and bile duct infections as well as kidney stones all caused by Kastamonu cooking, there is an addiction to pills... The toxic effect of this drug addiction is of primary importance at this moment....

CSO: 5300

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

HEROIN HAUL--Customs officers have seized heroin worth at least 50,000 pounds in a raid on a Birmingham hotel. Two Asians arrested at the hotel appeared in court yesterday charged with dealing in a prohibited drug. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 11 Feb 81 p 17]

COCAINE CHARGES--Fourteen men were remanded in custody by Uxbridge magistrates yesterday accused of smuggling cocaine through London Airport between February 15 and 18 this year. One of the accused is a police sergeant, Edwin Laurence Cork, 32, formerly of Scotland Yard's Flying Squad. He is stationed at Wimbledon and his home is in Brighton Road, Banstead, Surrey. Two Heathrow airport workers among the accused are Michael John Ready, 45, of Higham Langport, Somerset, and Ernest Raymond Hanlon, 31, of Reading, Berks. The other 11 are Jack Frederick Mott, 49, green-grocer, of Beulah Hill, South-East London; Norman Leonard Barrett, 32, of Langdown Road, Sandhurst, Berkshire; Edward Woolford, 45, of Windsor Court, Beulah Hill, South-East London; David Allan, 35, a cameraman, of Crescent Road, Barnet, Herts. Paul Andrew Ready, 37, gas fitter, of St Dunstons Close, Hayes, Middlesex; Peter Whitehead, 31, unemployed, of St Mark's Road, Notting Hill, London; Peter Birch, 48, builder, of St Clements Close, Cowley, near Uxbridge, Middlesex. Edward John Herron, 30, unemployed, of Algernon Road, Hendon; Robert Martin Hall, 32, of Westbourne Terrace, Paddington; Denis Paul Cox, 41, unemployed, of Edgar Road, Hounslow Middx; and an American citizen, William James Mitchell, 29, unemployed and of no fixed address. [Text] [London SUNDAY TELEGRAPH in English 22 Feb 81 p 40]

JAIL TERMS CUT--A retired major's daughter and a paraplegic, jailed for their part in a plot to smuggle cocaine valued at 200,000 pounds into Britain in wine bottles, won sentence reductions in the Court of Appeal in London yesterday. Sarah June van Lessen, 27, of Chapel Lane, Swanage, Dorset; and wheel-chair bound Kenneth Michael Ford, 44, of Bembridge, Isle of Wight, jailed for six and five years respectively at Winchester Crown Court on Nov. 20, 1979, for conspiring to import drugs, each had their sentence cut to four years. Three other gang members were refused leave to appeal against their sentences. They were Stephen Simmonds, 40, of Clarence Gardens, Shanklin, jailed for 10 years; Trevor Scattergood, 26, of Hayling Island, jailed for eight years, and Peter Williams, 31, of The Ridgeway, Acton, jailed for six years. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 27 Feb 81 p 8]

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