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21 January 1982

# Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 4/82)



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NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS  
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HONG KONG

BRIEFS

DRUG MANUFACTURING RING SMASHED--Hong Kong, 29 Dec--Police believe they have smashed a drug manufacturing and distribution ring in Hong Kong following a massive series of raids that began on Sunday night. A police spokesman said today the 22-hour operation involving about 250 policemen ended last night. They raided 39 premises and seized 11.4 kilos (25 pounds) of heroin and heroin base with a street value of three million HK dollars (540,000 US). Twelve people, including three women, were detained for questioning, he added. Police believe the heroin base was brought in from Thailand by a local source. They said the drug ring was not connected with the one reported to be operating a major heroin smuggling network between Hong Kong and Europe. Reports from Paris on Sunday said French detectives arrested nine Chinese in the French capital on Christmas Day who were delivering 10 kilos (22 pounds) of heroin.--NAB/Reuter [Text] [Rangon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 30 Dec 81 p 5]

CSO: 5300/4915

INDIA

DELHI RESPONSE TO CONCERN OVER DRUG ABUSE SCORED

Madras THE HINDU In English 5 Dec 81 p 8

[Editorial: "Drug Abuse"]

[Text]

THE GOLDEN CRESCENT and the golden triangle seem to have become very active of late. The crescent consists of Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan and the triangle refers to Thailand, Burma and Laos. These countries produce 800-1,000 tonnes of opium per year, and India is now deemed to be a major conduit for the smuggling of narcotic and psychotropic substances to which people are succumbing in increasing numbers all over the world. Global receipts from illegal drug traffic are put at Rs 180 crores. It used to be thought that drug abuse was a malady of the richer economies and that countries like India were not exposed to it to any significant extent. But the increasing haul this year of sophisticated narcotics, chiefly heroin, in Bombay and Delhi and of cocaine at Madras coupled with the discovery of illicit narcotic manufacturing units in Uttar Pradesh (besides large-scale theft of opium from a government factory in Madhya Pradesh) point to the existence of a domestic Mafia peddling drugs to addicts and freshers on a regular basis. From being merely a transit centre for the drug trade, India is becoming a major production source for opium based drugs. This is not surprising because it is one of the largest producers of opium. The drug traffickers feel it more convenient to get the finished product manufactured in areas close to the sources of the raw material.

Some surveys have been made on the incidence of drug addiction in India. The overall

finding is that the use of opium and cannabis is much larger than of psychotropic substances. At a conference in New Delhi last October, one of the participants stated that the abuse of drugs among university students is on the decline. Definite data about the actual incidence and rate of decline over the last five years are difficult to come by. During a discussion in the Lok Sabha last Thursday, a reference was made by members to the illicit sale on a mass scale of charas, ganja and other narcotics and to the trade freely corrupting hundreds of Indian youth into indulging in the use of narcotics. The Government has not offered any information on what its own estimate is of the prevalence of drug abuse particularly among students. Its response to the concern voiced by the members of Parliament about the deterioration of the situation in this field is only a bland statement that a dog squad, crack intelligence teams in major airports and a special narcotic cell will be organised to watch out for and apprehend the smugglers. The proof of the intentions of the Government is in the results. The country is poorly equipped for rehabilitating the victims of drug abuse. There is only one bed for 32,000 of the population for the treatment of mental illness and 50 per cent of this bed strength is accounted for by long-time mental cases. Annual additions to mental health expertise are also meagre. If drug abuse is nipped in the bud, as it should be, the pressure on medicare facilities in this sphere can be kept within manageable limits.

CSO: 5300/7015

INDIA

# TRADING IN ILLICIT OPIUM REPORTED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 11 Dec 81 p 5

[Text] SHILLONG, Dec. 10: Even as India finds it difficult to dispose of its surplus opium, which it cannot sell opium warlords in Southeast Asia's notorious "Golden Triangle", have found new carriers in India's North-eastern insurgents to transport the drug to markets in Asia and the West.

With India's Northeast in ferment, the "red" corridor through Thailand and Burma has become the new drug route to India and from here to the West.

The new route was recently discovered by narcotics officials here when young chaps from the North-eastern states of Mizoram and Nagaland, bordering Burma were apprehended in Delhi with contraband opium.

Senior narcotics officials, investigating into this new drug channel told DPA here, that arms and drug smuggling go almost hand in hand in the region.

"Opium smugglers use these insurgents to transport their consignment, and in return provide them the necessary funds which will buy them their arms", says an official.

Some areas in this region also grow their own poppy crop illegally. Some tribes like the once belligerent 'K'novak' tribe of Nagaland, were said to have been introduced to opium cultivation by the British to bring them under control.

Ever since opium cultivation has been a way of life of the tribe and with the entry of international smugglers into the region, the drug is not becoming a commodity of business for the tribals.

The smuggling is facilitated by the difficult terrain along the Indo-Burmese border making it impossible to guard it adequately.

Customs outposts are often subjected to rebel attacks and recently one such outpost was burnt down, when some narcotics agents tried to get on the trail of these traffickers.

To combat the circulation of illicit opium, India is restricting its indigenous opium cultivation at a tremendous financial loss to itself, officials say.

India last week complained at the United Nations that it was suffering from a loss of 18 million dollars a year because the area under poppy cultivation, from which opium is made, has been reduced to half.

One reason in the fall in demand for India opium, in which it had earlier a virtual monopoly business in the drug market, is the entry into the market of Turkey and Australia where 'Morphine' is extracted directly from the poppy plant eliminating the opium stage.

The India dilemma now is what to do with the last year's bumper crop of 150 tons. Much of it is now falling in the hands of smugglers, say narcotics officials.

About 500 million rupees worth of opium was smuggled out this year to Pakistan and Nepal in trucks and trains, and carried by women and children in plastic bags, soap cases, drums and stepneys.

The Indians say opium grown in India had seldom figured in international seizures because of strict controls on its cultivation and export.

But with the glut in the market opium was now falling in the hands of international drug traffickers, who supplied it to the world's heroin addicts.—PPI

CSO: 5300/4594

INDIA

BRIEFS

OPIUM GLUT--The total stocks of 2,526 tonnes of opium at 90 degree consistency were laying at the two government opium factories in the country as on 31 October last according to official findings, reports PTI. Out of these 1,504 tonnes were laying at the Ghazipur factory in Uttar Pradesh and 1,022 tonnes at the Neemuch factory in Madhya Pradesh. The reason for such large accumulated stocks is stated to be that world production and supply had far exceeded the demand for opiates. Consequently the prices of these raw materials had steeply fallen in the international market. India had not carried out any experiment on new techniques of extracting morphine directly from the poppy capsules. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 6 Dec 81 p 5]

CSO: 5300/7016

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

DRUG SEIZURE IN PENANG--Penang, 2 Dec--A syndicate with international connections is believed to have been smuggling drugs through the Penang Port. This came to light following the arrest of a suspected courier and the seizure of more than six kilos of ganja (cannabis) in a police ambush at the wharf here last night. Two other suspects on a scrambler and scooter escaped. Sources said the sack of drug, worth about 10,000 Malaysian dollars (about 4,1000 US dollars) was thrown away by the detained suspect who was riding pillion on the scrambler. The drug was believed to have been smuggled in aboard a ship from Indonesia. The suspect had fallen and hit his head on a culvert in his bid to escape. He has been warded at the Penang General Hospital. NAB/AFP [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 4 Dec 81 p 6]

CSO: 5300/4914

PAKISTAN

SURVEY REVEALS ADDICTION MAINLY A MALE PROBLEM

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 12 Dec 81 p 3

[Text]

Drug addiction among females is comparatively lower, if not rare, in Pakistan. It is mainly a male problem, according to a survey carried out by the drug addiction unit of Civil Hospital Karachi.

In Pakistan the ratio of male and female addicts was even less than 100:1 as compared to 4:1 in Western countries. This estimate is supported by clinical experience both at private and state hospitals as well as reports from similar centres established in Hyderabad, Lahore, Peshawar.

According to the survey drug addiction among females in lower socio-economic group is restricted to opium. Those belonging to the upper-middle class were addicted to tranquilizers. Addiction to sedatives usually begins after these drugs are prescribed by the physicians to relieve the symptoms of anxiety and depression.

The survey also revealed that girls in the universities who mix and date freely with boys were more susceptible to addiction. The group of addicts at the Karachi University comprise a significant

number of foreigners. The students smoke hashish made from the resin of cannabis plant and is supplied by a drug peddler found in Sabzi Mandi and another source is a waiter working in a canteen at the campus premises.

It stated that the percentage of drug addicts in Karachi University blew up erratically in January 1976. "If today the number of drug addicts at the university has increased. So has its total population and so has the number of mentally sick people throughout the country. In this context it should be remembered that drug addictions related to mental health problems and is classified as a personality disorder".

The survey concludes that drug addiction among females is relatively more alarming and dangerous. Constant drug intake produces chemical changes within the body system. The risk of hearing a defective child, mentally retarded or mongoloid, is enormously high in a female drug addict.—PPL

CSO: 5300/4593

PAKISTAN

## COMMENTARY ON FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTICS

Karachi DAWN in English 27 Dec 81 p 9

[Article by Ghulam Husain Qamar Baloch]

[Text]

A RIGOROUS campaign to uproot the use of narcotics has been launched in Pakistan. Consequently the production, possession, processing and manufacturing of all intoxicant drugs, and poppy cultivation are being stopped.

However, the campaign against drug addiction would succeed only if the community, family and individuals are deeply involved in the educative and rehabilitation process. The drug addict is not only to be cured but has to be restored to the society as a self-reliant and self-respecting individual.

In compliance with the convention on narcotic drugs 1961 and the convention on psychotropic substances 1971, the Government is stopping production and consumption of opium except for medical and scientific purposes. An ordinance was promulgated early in 1979 which prohibited the use and production of all narcotic drugs.

A comprehensive legislation to meet various aspects of the problem will be enforced in the near fu-

ture.

Necessary laws are gradually being extended to merged areas and much of the poppy cultivation has been controlled.

The Government has asked the UN and its specialized agencies to assist in the formulation of a multidisciplinary programme to eliminate poppy cultivation; develop treatment and rehabilitation modalities for drug dependent persons in highly affected urban and rural societies. The focus of attention presently is Buner in NWFP and the replacement of poppy free farming system.

Treatment centres also have high priority. The Pakistan Narcotic Control Board is making arrangements to keep a vigil on all such areas in NWFP as are known for mass illicit cultivation of poppy. Its efforts have successfully brought down the production of opium in the country from 8,000 metric tons in 1978-79 to 85 tons in 1980-81. Crop substitution is, of course, the best possible way of ending poppy cultivation, and it has been used with considerable success in parts of the notorious "golden triangle."

The Government of Pakistan on December 2, 1981 signed an agree-

ment with the United Nations Fund and Drug Abuse Control (UNEDAC) in Islamabad for 4.2 million dollars assistance to expand efforts to eliminate poppy cultivation through crop substitution.

The Pakistan Narcotics Control Board (PNCB) will implement the programme in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The project aims at irrigating 3,400 acres of land to facilitate cultivation of a wide range of new crops in place of poppy.

At the same time, an expanded credit programme is being instituted to help farmers by providing fertilizers, improved seeds, pesticides and increased production of crops other than opium. To assist farmers in transporting the new crops to the market, roads are being improved in the area.

The provision of clean water and elimination of sources of water contamination constitute important objectives of the new three-year UNEDAC/UNDP/Pakistan efforts. The project will provide potable water facilities in 21 villages.

Another project aims at improvement of livestock production through artificial insemination and disease control and fourfold increase in poultry production.

CSO: 5300/4592

PAKISTAN

THREE VISITORS FROM BERLIN HELD FOR SMUGGLING HEROIN

Karachi JANG in Urdu 7 Nov 81 p 12

[Article by Abdul Waheed Husaini]

[Text] Karachi, 6 Nov a young blonde 14-year-old German woman, who came to Pakistan as a tourist, was sitting with her head bowed in the custody of Pakistani customs officials. She was perhaps cursing the moment when, for the sake of her Iranian lover, Reza Taqwi, she decided to participate in the smuggling of heroin worth 40 million rupees from Pakistan to Germany. Currently, Erika Josette, her boyfriend, Reza Taqwi, and their accomplice, Reza Mubasher Fard, are in the custody of customs officials who are interrogating them. Erika Josette and Reza Mubasher Fard were arrested 27 October at Karachi airport as they were attempting to smuggle out heroin in two suitcases. Reza Taqwi was arrested in Lahore as he was trying to escape to India. The airport deputy collector of customs, while giving the details of the case today, indicated to the reporter of JANG that Miss Josette and Reza Taqwi, after having arrived in Karachi, checked into the Gulf Hotel and contacted a man by the name of Rashid. Rashid handed them two suitcases, the secret compartments of which contained more than 4 kilograms of heroin. Another accomplice of the accused, Reza Mubasher, arrived in Karachi from Berlin by another flight. After a stay of 5 days he was given custody of the suitcases and was promised 10,000 German marks in Berlin for his trouble. In the meantime, Reza Taqwi did some shopping for carpets. On 27 October the German girl and Reza Mubasher Fard took the heroin to the airport hidden in the suitcases, which they checked in. Meanwhile, the customs officials had already received a tip about it. Reza Taqwi fled from the airport as soon as he heard about the arrest of his companions. Mr Kazmi pointed out that Interpol has also been informed about this case.

When the correspondent of JANG interviewed Reza Taqwi at the airport, he began to cry. In broken English he said that he is a well-to-do carpet dealer in Berlin. His family is also well-to-do. He is not really into the smuggling of drugs. He has not really been involved in this. The customs officials say that he tried to bribe them in Lahore with 15,000 Deutschemarks. Accused Reza Mubasher also looked very perplexed and said that he did not know that heroin was hidden in the suitcases. He was told that the suitcases contained gold powder and since there were no restrictions on the movement of gold powder in Iran and Europe, he would have no problems. As opposed to her companions, Miss Josette looked very composed. She indicated that she had separated from her parents at the age of 13. She completed high school in Berlin. She met Reza Taqwi last year in the restaurant where she worked and fell in love with him. She could not legally marry him because he already has a German wife and two

children. So far Reza Taqwi has been supporting her. Miss Josette further indicated that she is absolutely not addicted to drugs. However, she smokes two to three cigarettes a day. Her smoking has increased since her arrest. But Mushtaq Kazmi contradicted this baby-faced, attractive young woman. He said that she has been constantly asking for liquor. If you look at her eyes, he added, you will see for yourself that she is addicted to drugs. Miss Josette said that she is very fond of Iranian food and Eastern music. Generally she likes to wear Shalvar and Kurta. Tears welled up in her eyes when the JANG correspondent asked her about her parents. She said that she also has a younger sister whom she misses a lot. When told she may be imprisoned for smuggling, she cried out, "For God's sake, don't say that." In the view of customs officials, her equanimity was remarkable. They thought that either she was willing to endure anything as a result of her love for Reza Taqwi or, after her separation from her parents she had been involved with groups who made her a pro.

Miss Josette said that she was in love with her lover and could not bear even a moment's separation from him. When asked why she was returning to Berlin with the other accused leaving Reza Taqwi behind, she responded that she had come to Pakistan on a pleasure trip--to soak up some sun and to bathe in the ocean. But the men here followed her so much that she became disgusted. Often a policeman had to chase the people who were following her. She got tired of being cooped up inside a hotel room all the time. Reza Taqwi asked her to go on to Berlin and said he would arrive there in a day or two after completing the purchase of carpets.

Mr Mushtaq Kazmi indicated that the accused have been remanded up to 10 November and during this period they will be interrogated and thereafter they will be sent to prison, and the legal proceedings against them will begin in court. He said that there are plenty of witnesses against them. The accused came to Karachi on a return ticket from Berlin but they destroyed that ticket and purchased a new one for Karachi, Paris, Hanover and Berlin. The accused did not go to Berlin directly because police there have trained dogs that can detect drugs, while such is not the situation in Paris, and travelers coming from a European city to Berlin are not closely checked.



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CSO: 5300/4563

SINGAPORE

## STIFFER PENALTIES FOR DRUG OFFENSES URGED

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 10 Dec 81 p 7

[Text] **SINGAPORE, 8 Dec—ASEAN drug experts have urged the five member-nations of the South-East Asian organization to introduce stiffer penalties to fight the drug menace.**

Arguing that drug trafficking and drug abuse poses a threat to national security, stability and resilience, they called for mandatory preventive detention of drug traffickers, manufacturers and financiers.

The appeal was contained in a joint Press release issued at the end of the sixth meeting of ASEAN drug experts here yesterday.

Singapore and Malaysia already have provisions in their laws to detain drug traffickers and abusers without trial and the chairman of the six-day meeting, Poh Geok Ek, Director of the Singapore Central Narcotics Bureau, was today reported as saying Indonesia and the Philippines had indicated that they would make laws providing for preventive detention.

The Thai experts to the meeting will present the recommendation to their Government.

ASEAN countries have also been urged to adopt

measures to deny travel documents to illicit drug traffickers, manufacturers and financiers. Singapore and Malaysia already have a bilateral agreement on this.

Poh also told the *Straits Times* that an ASEAN narcotics desk would be set up in the ASEAN secretariat headquarters in Jakarta in about nine months.

It would be responsible for collecting data and information on drug activities which would then be shared with ASEAN members—Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

The 94 delegates to the conference also agreed that there should be maximum use of the mass media to win public support for the fight against the drug problem.

ASEAN countries were further urged to exercise tighter control on the import, distribution and export of chemicals used in the manufacture of heroin and to introduce stiff penalties for illegal

trafficking in these chemicals.

The conference tackled four main aspects of the drug problem: law enforcement and legislation, treatment and rehabilitation, preventive education and information and training and research.

Three ASEAN drug projects have been identified and one already implemented.

Thailand opened a training centre for middle management-level drug enforcers last year.

The other projects are the setting up of a training centre for information and preventive education by the Philippines and a centre for treatment and rehabilitation to be set up by Malaysia.

On treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependants, the experts agreed that community participation and the social integration of such people and former drug abusers should be strengthened.

Meanwhile, a report to the meeting revealed that four out of five drug abusers in Singapore have criminal records for offences like theft and gambling and two out of every three are premature primary or secondary school leavers.

NAB/AFP

CSO: 5300/4913

THAILAND

OBSTACLES CONFRONTING DRIVE AGAINST GOLDEN TRIANGLE NARCOTICS NOTED

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN in Thai 23 Aug 81 pp 18-22

[Article: "The Golden Triangle, a Story That Never Ages"]

[Text] The upper northern region of Thailand forms part of the area known as the "Golden Triangle." It is one of the world's important places for growing poppy and producing narcotics and heroin refineries are located in the Thai border area. The border, extending from Chiang Rai Province to Ranong Province, is 2,202 kilometers long. The mountain terrain and convenient communications routes facilitate the secret production of narcotics, and large quantities of narcotics are transported into Thailand from abroad along the Thai-Burmese border. Another problem is that large numbers of Thai hill tribesmen grow poppy to make a living, and minority groups in Burma who are enemies of the government use the drugs as a tool to get money and purchase weapons to fight the government. Thus, there is a serious drug situation in the Thai-Burmese border area concerning both drug production and trade and drug addiction among the people. This is considered to be a serious problem that creates an obstacle for national development in the manpower, social, economic and national security spheres.

Border Problems

There have been problems along the Thai-Burmese border for more than 30 years. Both countries are trying to cooperate with each other and not interfere in each other's affairs. Burma has a problem with communist party terrorism in the northeast and a problem with minority groups along the border. Thailand too has a problem with communist terrorism. The problems are rather serious because they can easily lead to misunderstandings. Three factors are involved. [The first is that] the two countries do not have a clearly demarcated border and the maps made by England are still used. Thailand and Burma have never had a chance to reach an agreement. Concerning the important border problems, there are three places concerning which agreements must be reached, these three being the Mae Sai river area, the Doi Lang area and the Chan river mouth area in Ranong Province.

The second factor concerns the understanding of both sides and the control of the border. Even though border points have been stipulated, there are still problems in some places because the people cannot read the maps. This cannot be ignored. And when the border has been clearly demarcated, it must be controlled using ground patrols, and border crossings must be controlled. At present, this is done at only two or three places since the terrain is composed of complex mountain ranges. Furthermore, there is still the problem of the minority groups along the border who are resisting the Burmese government. Thus, it is almost impossible to control the border here.

The third factor is that there are people who try to get the officials and people to engage in illegal activities. And among the people are many people who are involved in illegal activities. These people are Thai citizens and they use Thailand to carry on smuggling and other illegal activities.

The political situation in Burma -- in which Burma has used military forces to suppress the armed minority groups, including those of Burmese and Chinese nationality, in the Wah, Kachin, Kayah, Karen, Mon and other small states, and forced them to retreat into Thailand, where they can escape the danger and rest their forces, in order to gather forces, weapons and war materials for continuing operations in accord with each group's ideals -- is one thing that has promoted an increase in drug production and trafficking and in the smuggling of military weapons, timber and ore in the border area.

Even In 10-15 Years, Not All [Drug Trafficking] Will Have Been Suppressed

Ten years from now, opium will still be being transported in the three Burmese states where the most poppy is grown, and the central Burmese government will still not be able to control things here, especially in the Wah, Khokhang and Shan states. There are three ways to ship narcotics out of Burma. The first is to refine the opium and turn it into heroin at one of the 10 to 20 refineries in the border area. The locations of these refineries are constantly moved about in Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai provinces. The three groups that are engaged in such production are Khun Sa's group, the Payachau group and Lao Su's group. Thus, the drugs must pass through Thailand because there are roads and markets and there are network contacts reaching from the north to Bangkok and the south.

The second way is to transport the drugs through Burmese waters and the Andaman Sea to the south and to Malaysia following various islets. From Malaysia, the drugs can be shipped to Singapore, Indonesia or Europe. This is considered to be a new route for

smuggling drugs past Thailand. It takes more time and involves greater obstacles in loading but there are no blockades. While transport is said to be easy, things become more difficult when the drugs reach the centers in Phuket and Ranong provinces since more drug searches are made.

The Third way is to ship it by way of Bangladesh. Opium is shipped through here because, at present, the drug trade is very active in Southwest Asia. That is, in Pakistan and Afganistan more smuggling is taking place because of the political turmoil. The police do not have time to carry on drug suppression activities. This has enabled traffickers to engage in trafficking with the Middle East. Almost 90 percent of the drugs entering Europe come from the Middle East. The other 10 percent come from Asia. Thus, European interest is focused more on the Middle East than on the Golden Triangle.

As for the narcotics from the Golden Triangle that reach foreign markets, most is sent to America and Australia. The best raw opium and heroin in the world comes from the Shan State in Burma. It is then transported to the Thai-Burmese border, a distance of only 150 kilometers from northern Chiang Mai.

Police Major General Chawalit Yotmani, the deputy secretary-general of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB), suppression sector, stated that it will probably take several more years before the Golden Triangle problem, especially in Burma, can be solved. Another thing that is worrisome is that the Communist Party in Burma is supporting and encouraging the minority groups to engage in trafficking and seek profits, just as the communist terrorists have done in southern Thailand along the Thai-Malaysian border. This is a very worrisome matter. In particular, the Mae Chaem river basin area has begun to play a role. The communist terrorists have begun to provide support in order to connect Burma and Thailand. This is a security matter that does not concern the narcotics trade.

Even though Burma is receiving help from the United Nations in order to solve the crop growing problem in accord with the project to eradicate the poppy fields of the minority groups, they are doing things differently from Thailand, which has geared things toward development. Burma always says that it destroys tens of thousands of rai of poppy each year without giving any thought to security or to humanitarian concerns as does Thailand. "I think it will take Burma a long time to complete things. Because if the minority groups do not agree, the Burmese government does not have the sense to go in and provide them with help. Thus, I think that this problem will result in opium entering Thailand for at least another 10 to 15 years until some better trade replaces narcotics."

#### The 93rd Division -- Just As Involved As Before

In 1949, the Chinese communists took control of mainland China. The Chiang Kai-shek government fled and established a government on the island of Taiwan. One element of the Koumintang forces, or the Chinese nationalist troops of the 93rd Division, that was operating in the area south of Kunming in Yunan Province retreated south into the Shan State in Burma. It established its headquarters in the area of Chiang Lap near Chiang Tung. The Burmese government used military forces several times to try to drive them out but they were unsuccessful in their efforts to force these Chinese nationalist forces out of Burma.

When the Korean War broke out, the United States wanted to tie up the military forces of the Chinese communists and not allow them to move in additional forces to help North Korea on the battlefields of Korea. They therefore helped these Chinese nationalist soldiers by sending in weapons and war materials by air. At the same time, the Taiwan government sent General Li Mi, the former commanding general of the Eight Army who had fled from the mainland to Taiwan, to take command and expand the forces to a total of 20,000 men.

When the Korean War ended, the Burmese government appealed to the United Nations and, in the end, those soldiers who volunteered to go were moved to Taiwan in two phases. During the first phase, approximately 7,000 men were sent and another 4,500 were sent in the second phase in 1961. The remaining soldiers did not wish to return to Taiwan and, therefore, the Burmese government joined with the Chinese communists to wipe out these soldiers. This forced these Chinese nationalist forces to abandon their headquarters at Chiang Lap. They split into two groups and retreated into Thailand together with their families. [One group] formed the 3rd Battalion and established its headquarters at Tham Ngop in Bong Tam Commune, Fang District, Chiang Mai Province, with General Li Choen Fang the commander. The other group formed itself into the 5th Battalion and established its headquarters at Doi Mae Salong in Mae Chan District, Chiang Rai Province, with the late General Tuan Si Wun as the commander. General Li E Thien later became commander.

The 93rd KMT Division, including family members, had a strength of about 5,000 to 6,000 people per battalion. Later, forward Supreme Command Headquarters, in cooperation with government sectors concerned, disarmed both groups and registered them as civilian refugees. When General Kriangsak Chamanan was prime minister, he gave permission for them to become Thai citizens and have Thai identification cards.

However, both of these Chinese battalions had very large numbers of people. Some groups are still living in the Shan State along the roads past Mong Tang Yang, Mong Nai, Mong Chiang Kham, Mong Kung, Mong Sing and Mong Luang. Another road passes Chiang Tung, Mong Phong and Mae Salong. Some of these former KMT soldiers have joined the Ho Chinese and the Wah and Shan groups. Some groups are still making a living as armed soldiers and take part in producing and transporting narcotics just as before.

But some groups are indirectly working as "mercenaries" for the Thai government by opposing and blocking an increase in the influence of the communist terrorists in the northern region of Thailand. Examples are the nationalist Chinese soldiers who moved to Doi Yao and Doi Phanon in Chiang Khong and to Doi Luang in Chiang Saen District, Chiang Rai Province.

#### Khun Sa Must Be Captured

Narcotics have been talked about often. This is a very dangerous group. The well-known leader of this minority group that controls the most drug refineries is Chang Si Fu, or "Khun Sa" as he is better known among the Shans. He is the fifth most important heroin trafficker in the world. He has still managed to avoid being caught by the Thai authorities. The Police Department issued a warrant for his arrest on 17 July 1980 and at present there is a reward of 500,000 baht for his arrest. The statute of limitations for this warrent is 20 years. Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, the secretary-general of the National Security Council, announced that "we must capture him."

The members of Khun Sa's group are Ho Chinese who make their living by producing and selling narcotics. There are at least 15 refineries that refine heroin from raw opium. At present, they are still in operation in the mountain areas along the Thai-Burmese border since neither the Thai government nor the Burmese government can control this area. Also, it is safe here and economically this is suitable. It is easy to transport chemicals from Thailand in order to produce heroin. These chemicals are brought from Bangkok by animal or on foot. If the refineries are located deep in ide Burma, transportation costs will be high too.

In the narcotics trade, the refineries are the element that can make the most money. Previously Thai officials thought that the Burmese minority groups that were engaged in the drug trade were buffers against the Burmese Communist Party. But now the Thai government realizes that these groups are criminal narcotics organizations that

should no longer be allowed to exist. Khun Sa's group buys large quantities of raw opium from the Burmese Communist Party. This provides the BCP with money with which to fight the Burmese government in the Shan State and cross over into Thailand. They have expanded their secure base areas and control the border area from the northern part of Chiang Rai to Mae Hong Son. Khun Sa's group is the group with the greatest power, controlling 70 percent of the drug trade. It recently transported a shipment of opium to the border, where there are seven more large drug refineries.

This group has eliminated the small narcotics production groups and is trying hard to take control of the entire border and gain complete control of the narcotics trade. It has remained indifferent to the Thai government's order to drive the armed Burmese minority groups out of Thailand. It constantly moves its forces and drug refineries back and forth between Thailand and Burma. When Burmese troops make a sweep, they cease producing heroin, destroy the narcotics and chemicals and flee into Thailand. When Burma withdraws its forces, this group returns to Burma and resumes producing heroin as before.

#### Thailand and the Narcotics Problem

Previously, the government allowed opium to be consumed openly. There were special places, called opium dens, for those who wanted to smoke opium. The state made money by collecting taxes from the opium dens and from the opium tax. Most of the opium that was consumed was opium that came from Turkey and that was mixed with Thai opium. This was because Turkish opium contained 14 percent morphine while Thai opium contained only 7 percent morphine. When Field Marshal Sarit Tanarat took control of the government, he immediately outlawed opium in 1959. The problem that arose was that heroin, in the form of purple flakes, spread in place of opium. The quality was poor. It was sniffed only since if injected the person would die because the heroin contained arsenic, a poison.

Even though suppression went so far as to execute narcotics producers and pushers, this substance that was produced from opium using chemical methods and that had a stronger effect than opium spread among the people who were addicted to opium since it was easier to consume and it was easier to avoid the law. The production of heroin originated in Hong Kong. Heroin was then sent to Thailand, being encountered for the first time around January 1959. Then, Hong Kong chemists were sent over to produce heroin and they reached the Golden Triangle area. There, they established refineries to produce heroin from opium. The heroin was then sent to Thailand and smuggled to the world markets.

At the same time, hill tribe refugees from Burma and Laos moved into the mountain areas of northern Thailand and begun to grow poppy, which was an economic crop for them. This made Thailand a part of the Golden Triangle and the fifth largest producer of opium in the world. This year, Thailand will produce 48.57 tons of opium, an increase of 213.56 percent over last year. This is about the same amount as that of 1976/1977, when 45 tons were produced. The greatest amount, 71 tons, was produced in 1977/1978. Opium production for the entire Golden Triangle area will reach 600-1,000 tons.

The drug problem that is creating dangers for Thailand is becoming even more alarming. Statistics show that the number of drug addicts is increasing at a rate of 6,000 people each year. Formerly, most addicts were adults but now most are youths between the ages of 14 and 25. Concerning the economic problems, each drug addict must spend about 50 baht per day to buy drugs. This means that for 100,000 addicts, this amounts to 5 million baht per day or about 150 million baht per month. At present, there are 500,000 addicts and in Bangkok there are at least 300,000 addicts. This is more than 1 percent of the entire population of the country.

The governments of Thailand and Burma have signed an agreement on drug suppression. Burma will not allow any opium from Burma to be sent into Thailand while Thailand will prevent the chemical acetic anhydride, which is used in production, from reaching the northern border and prevent any secret heroin production. Thus the Thai government announced that eight provinces [in the north] are to be chemical-free areas. Also, four southern provinces along the Thai-Malaysian border are to be chemical-free too since chemicals are smuggled into Thailand from Malaysia.

The ONCB, in cooperation with the Region 3 border patrol police, implemented resolute measures with regard to the Thai hill tribes. It strictly prohibited them from planting poppy in Muang, Chiang Dao, San Patong, Mae Chaem, Fang, Chom Thong and Mae Rim districts in Chiang Mai Province and [asked them] to grow economic crops in accord with the Thai-United Nations crop substitution program. Also, it ordered the Thai hill tribes to destroy all existing poppy plants. However, suppression activities were not able to be carried out in accord with this order. This stemmed from the fact that the hill tribes claimed that the program sent crop seed too late and in insufficient quantities to support them. With opium, they did not have to look for markets; the merchants contacted them in their villages and prices continually increased. Another factor behind the failure [of this program] is that the Ho Chinese investors who gave financial support were the cogs and middlemen in the narcotics trade in the tribal villages.

### The Real Character of Thailand and Burma

Police Major General Phairot Putsayanawin, the commander of the Border Patrol Police, stated that some people have asked whether or not the narcotics suppression activities that are carried on daily in the border areas have achieved any results. His reply is that, concerning the work done in Thailand, valuable results have been achieved. We have seized much opium, heroin and morphine and many heroin refineries since we began in 1972. This is the reason that the amount of drugs and the number of refineries have decreased. In particular, it can almost be said that there are no refineries in Thailand. As far as is known, there are activities in Fang District. As for Burma, there are certainly [refineries] there and we know where they are. We would like to take forces in and destroy them if we could.

As for cooperating with Burma in destroying the refineries in the border areas, this was once done in the Huai Padam area in Muang District, Mae Hong Son Province. Police paratroopers from the Air Control and Support Division were used in cooperation with Region 3 border patrol police with the support of forward Supreme Command Headquarters. But that time, because of the weather and terrain, it was difficult to determine where the border was. The Thai helicopter crossed the border and dropped the paratroopers deep in Burmese territory where Burmese troops had already seized a refinery.

The Burmese sent forces to encircle and capture the Thai units and the helicopter. The Thais realized that they had actually crossed the border and, therefore, they felt that matters should be discussed since this was a joint operation. Perhaps the Burmese feared that the Thais would attack the morphine refinery that they had already seized. In any event, they charged that Thailand had sent forces to transport the narcotics from that refinery.

"Also, some Thais actually believed the propaganda of the Burmese and they repeated this against us. This hurt us quite a bit. By the time Burma released the men and helicopter, we had experienced several days of fear. This is an example of loose cooperation, and it shows the real character of the other side. This is a lesson that must be remembered for a long time," stated Police Major General Phairot.

### New Measures -- Seize Property

At present, there are five laws concerning narcotics. These are the 1979 Statute on Narcotics, the 1976 Statute on Drug Suppression, the 1975 Statute on Substances That Affect the Mind and Nervous System, the 1929 Statute on Opium, and Revolutionary Council Notice No 37 of 1958.

The Statute on Narcotics designated five types of drugs as controlled substances. The first type is heroin, which is the strongest narcotic. It is forbidden to produce, import or export distribute or possess this drug or possess it with the intent to sell. The second type includes morphine, cocaine and opium. The third type includes drugs that have been mixed with type two drugs. The fourth types includes acetic anhydride and acetic chloride, which are chemicals used in producing heroin. The fifth type are drugs such as marihuana and "kra thom" [a shrub of the madder family] that are not included in types one through four.

But the existing laws still have loopholes concerning the suppression of drug traffickers or the main people behind the drug trade. Thus, a subcommittee has been formed to revise those statutes that are not clear and that lack important measures so that they contain clear provisions and measures that will help to improve suppression activities. A new measure that is expected to be included in the new law concerns the arrest of drug ringleaders, their accomplices and those who have supported illegal activities involving narcotics and the seizure or sequestering of the property of suspects in drug cases involving production, import, export and possession of narcotics for sale or distribution. This will be done in order to allow the courts to order property confiscated and to promote cooperation between drug suppression officials and those involved in sending drug addicts for rehabilitation.

#### Produce and Sell It

There are many people who wonder why Thailand does not grow poppy and sell the opium itself. Mr Aran Suwannabuppha, the director of the Narcotic Plants Control Division, stated that, in reality, this would be very difficult because only a few countries have received permission to grow poppy and sell opium. At present, there are only seven such countries. In accord with the agreement made with the United Nations in 1930, the United Nations has been involved in opium suppression since the Shanghai conference. The countries that have been given permission to grow poppy are Turkey, India, Yugoslavia, Russia, Greece, Bulgaria and Iran. These countries are divided into two groups, the countries that have a tradition of growing poppy and the countries that have only recently started growing poppy for research purposes.

The United Nations, which supports this cultivation, allows opium cultivation only by older people who may grow opium so that they can make a living, or sell it. As for those countries that only recently became involved in poppy cultivation, they cannot produce opium for the purpose of selling it because the sale of opium is regulated by a commission. However, in short, more opium is produced than is needed. Thailand does not yet seem to have any

hope concerning this matter. "We must see if we can turn this problem to benefit for the country. If this is possible, perhaps we will have to continue to live with this problem."

At present, in producing opium in Turkey, where the opium produced is raw opium or opium that has not been cut, they collect and dry the opium and then put it in a machine that produces pure morphine, which can be sold to make medicine. At present, they have 65,000 tons in stock. In India, approximately 3 million people grow poppy. They have about 10,000 tons in stock which they cannot sell now since there is too much opium in stock in the various countries that produce drugs. Thus, legal opium is priced at less than \$50 per kilogram. For example, in India, the stipulated selling price is \$50 per kilogram but even so they cannot sell all of it. Conversely, market prices continue to increase daily.

#### The Gap Between Production and Suppression

The minority problem is a political problem. The government wants to arrest those people such as Khun Sa and Lao Su who are engaged in production but they have not been able to do so. Concerning Mr Phunsiri Chanyasak, or Mr Tong, who was arrested by the Lao government, if [Thailand] asks that he be extradited, Laos will certainly refuse to extradite him. Laos is producing greater quantities [of opium] and the opium and heroin trade is expanding. There are many dishonest Thai officials, but it is difficult to prove that they have done anything wrong.

As for exchanging information, it is possible to prevent chemicals such as acetic anhydride from being used to produce heroin from morphine by not allowing them to reach the refineries or by establishing additional chemical-free provinces. But in some places the border patrol police have a strength of only two or three men in the village. If the caravan or the forces escorting the opium have 20 to 60 armed men, there is no way to block or arrest them. Also, there is no demarcation line along the border or a definite border line. And the influence of the villagers who will not cooperate or who are part of the drug trade further increases the difficulties in suppressing [narcotics].

Concerning suppression work in production areas both in and outside the country, the kamnan or village headman, who live in the area where poppy is grown, should cooperate in reducing cultivation and in preventing people from coming to purchase opium at the place of production. Most transportation routes follow the mountain ridges and [the drugs are transported] on foot. Or they are transported by truck, boat or small aircraft, being hidden in every way possible in order to avoid capture. There must be [good] and accurate information and efficiency [in obtaining] information must be increased. Also, checkpoints must be set up in order to intercept the drugs.

In the long-term program, things should be arranged for the hill tribes to live together in the same area in order to facilitate control, to promote the cultivation of substitute crops and to eliminate the influence of those minorities, both within and outside the country, that have influence over the hill tribes in Thailand. This refers to the Khun Sa and the Ho Chinese groups in particular. To do this, the military units must carry out their tasks resolutely and seriously. Also, artificial rain can be used to help destroy the poppy that the hill tribes have planted so that there will not be a direct psychological effect.

The chance of these minority forces that are opposing the Burmese government forming their own independent government is remote or nonexistent. This is because the minority groups are split, they lack unity and ideals and their forces are not strong enough. But the activities of these minority groups, especially the narcotics trade in the Thai-Burmese border area, have a political effect on Thailand and violate Thailand's sovereignty. It is Khun Sa's group that is most heavily involved in the drug trade. But it appears that minority groups are still paid to serve as guards for road construction, even though the Third Army Area now has a policy of not using minority groups in guarding road construction.

But as is well known, in the Thai-Burmese border area, the policies of the Thai and Burmese governments concerning actions to be taken that are in accord with agreements that have passed border committees, from high-level to provincial and district committees, are difficult to implement. This is because this area lies mostly within the sphere of influence of the minority groups. Thus, the operations of these drug groups in the Golden Triangle will continue to expand.

#### Opium Production in the Golden Triangle

Country	1974 (tons)	1979 (tons)
Burma	430-500	200-350
Laos	135-150	70- 80
Thailand	135-150	30- 50

#### Statistics on Arrests Throughout the Country (January-April 1980)

Type of Narcotic	Number of Cases	Number of Suspects	Amount of Drug (grams)
Opium	336	393	174,034
Morphine	6	9	7,931
Heroin	2,432	2,541	49,601
Amphetamines	424	423	20,804
Marihuana	4,253	4,763	44,775,785
Madder	117	129	19,308

## Statistics on Arrests Throughout the Country From 1964 Through 1979

Year	Type of Narcotic (Kilograms)			Number of Suspects
	Opium	Morphine	Heroin	
1964	4,017	122	67	13,894
1965	5,929	147	51	11,478
1966	2,827	176	37	8,767
1967	4,588	255	226	9,280
1968	6,153	174	406	6,608
1969	3,078	36	53	5,236
1970	285	21	154	5,788
1971	1,327	19	61	5,440
1972	6,156	271	129	9,074
1973	14,186	708	155	9,473
1974	2,473	82	202	10,169
1975	1,793	43	116	9,799
1976	7,710	289	642	11,603
1977	1,646	184	427	15,859
1978	855	162	668	25,916
1979	739	153	399	27,988

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THAILAND

RAW OPIUM SEIZED IN CHIANG MAI

Bangkok TAWAN SIAM in Thai 17 Aug 81 pp 7, 12

[Article: "Police Seize Raw Opium In the Middle of the City"]

[Text] Chiang Mai: At approximately 1600 hours on 8 August, Police Captain Phayung Chinachit, the head of the police narcotics control unit, learned that raw opium was to be transported along the Super Highway in front of the Wattanothat Phayap School. He therefore took a force to set up a road block. At the time mentioned above, a middle-aged man and woman on a Vespa, license No CM 63063, drove up and were stopped. A search was conducted and a bag containing 6 kilograms of raw opium valued at approximately 100,000 baht was found in a basket on the front of the vehicle.

The suspects, who were later identified as Mr Thanwi Samrit, age 56, who lives at 234/4 Wualai Road, Hai Ya Commune, and Mrs Somkhit Chainarin, age 52, who lives at 57 Wualai Road, Soi 1, Hai Ya Commune, Muang District, were turned over to Police Lt Nipphon Narumitmongkhon, the officer on duty at the Chiang Mai provincial police station in Muang District. In proceeding with the case, the charges were that they had narcotics in their possession with an intent to sell.

Both suspects refused to testify in detail, saying only that they were taking the raw opium to the airport. They did not say who they were taking it to. The authorities have placed them in custody for further handling of the case.

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THAILAND

EFFORTS TO ARREST KHUN SA ANALYZED

Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPPADA WICHAN 16 Aug 81 pp 7-9

[Article: "In Arresting Khun Sa, Do Not Forget the Thai Officials"]

[Text] Khun Sa, alias Chang Si Fu, Kuan Kha Yo and Mr Chan Changtrakun, is an internationally important figure in the production and sale of narcotics. On 17 July last year, the government entrusted the Police Department with the task of issuing a warrant for his arrest on charges that he has supported and controlled the sale of narcotics and military weapons. He has formed an armed force, which is called the Shan State Army, with a strength of approximately 3,000 to 4,000 men.

Recently, General Prachuap Suntharangkun, the deputy prime minister, issued an announcement that a reward of 500,000 baht will be paid to anyone who provides the authorities with information leading to the capture, either dead or alive, of Khun Sa.

"We know that this reward is small when compared with the great sum of money, thought to be 10 million baht, that Khun Sa has made from selling narcotics. And we know that it is difficult to take forces in to capture him because he constantly moves back and forth across the Thai-Burmese border, which is a jungle area. Even Lao Su lives in one place in the Doi Klang area. A soldier once made contact in order to gain information but on his way back he was shot while travelling in the mountains. However, this reward is meant to tempt the soldiers of Khun Sa, who receive only 400 baht a month. Five hundred thousand baht is a large sum for them for capturing Khun Sa and turning him over to us. The authorities will distribute leaflets throughout the Golden Triangle area" stated Police Major General Phao Sarasin, the secretary-general of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB).

Khun Sa is a Ho Chinese of Burmese nationality. He has established a base in Mae Chan District in Chiang Rai Province and is beginning to expand his area of influence into Fang and Mae Ai districts in Chiang Mai Province. It is believed that this is a minority group that is constantly causing problems and difficulties for the

Thai and Burmese governments since the terrain in this area is composed of jungles and mountains and there are convenient communications routes. These things have lead to the secret production and transport of large quantities of narcotics. This group is an enemy of the Burmese government. It has used narcotics as a tool to get money and buy weapons to fight the government. In particular, Khun Sa's [group] is the group with the greatest influence. It controls more than 70 percent of all narcotics production and cooperates with the 93rd KMT Division, whose headquarters is located on Mae Salong mountain in Mae Chan District, Chiang Rai Province. General Li E Thien is now the commander; he replaced General Tuan, who died.

Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, the secretary-general of the National Security Council, revealed that the Thai government has ordered the expulsion of all armed Burmese minority groups from Thailand. Previously, Thai officials felt that, even though these armed minority groups were engaged in the narcotics trade, they served as a buffer against the Burmese Communist Party (BCP) along the border. Now, however, the Thai government feels that these groups are criminal narcotics organizations that should not be allowed to stay.

But there is one group that has not been willing to obey this order to withdraw its forces and that is the Shan State Army. It is being obstinate and has expanded its control all along the border from its secure base area in northern Chiang Rai Province to Mae Hong Son. The SSA has formed a large force and is the most influential organization in the narcotics trade in the Golden Triangle. It purchases large quantities of raw opium from the BCP in order to increase its strength. It uses the money to fight the Burmese government in the Shan State and trespasses across the Thai border.

Even though most of the forces of the SSA are in Burma, most of the operations against Burma are initiated from secure camps in Thailand and this is a challenge to the Thai government. The government has, therefore, ordered the Police Department to arrest this "heroin kingpin." The statute of limitations is 20 years. The air force has dropped bombs to destroy the area along the border where the drugs of the SSA are kept. During the period when General Prem Tinsulanon, the prime minister, visited Burma, there were discussions concerning controlling narcotics.

A news source stated that Khun Sa's [group] is just a group of bandits who are posing as the liberators of the Shan people. But in reality they are Ho Chinese and not Burmese as they claim. Khun Sa himself has presently set himself up as an "influential person." He collects taxes, at a very high rate, from the opium producers in order to purchase weapons and this has helped his forces to the point where they are presently the strongest force. He also makes a profit from the narcotics produced at 15 refineries along

Burmese border. Neither Thai nor Burmese narcotics suppression units can control this area. When the Burmese government carries on suppression activities, the producers flee into Thailand. After the Burmese soldiers withdraw, they return to Burma.

"The flee back and forth across the border into Thailand and Burma. At present, we are not certain of the whereabouts of Khun Sa," stated this news source.

The border between Thailand and Burma, running from Chiang Rai Province to Ranong Province, is 2,202 kilometers long. Concerning the present situation in only the northern region of Thailand, [part of which] is in the Golden Triangle area, poppy growing during the 1980/1981 growing season increased 213.56 percent. In Chiang Mai alone, where the most was grown, there was an increase of 300 percent and the area planted [in poppy] reached 37,661.46 rai. The yield per rai increased from 0.53 to 1.29. This is very alarming since it means that the smuggling of narcotics will increase and that these narcotics will be smuggled to world markets through Thailand.

That is the situation concerning the drug problem in the north and in the Golden Triangle. As for Laos, more heroin is being produced and trafficking is increasing. The Lao government arrested Mr Phunsiri Chanyasak, a "heroin kingpin" who fled from Thailand, for being an important producer in Vientiane and Savannakhet who smuggles heroin into the northeast of Thailand, where previously there was only an opium problem. As for Burma, last year production fell greatly because of the heavy rains.

Officials of the ONCB have revealed that only 60 tons of opium were smuggled in [last year], but this year it is expected that about 200 tons will be smuggled in from Burma. And in northern Thailand, about 50 tons will be produced. This is enough to satisfy the needs of the world market for several more years.

Based on surveys conducted by the ONCB and by northern border patrol police in 12 northern provinces of Thailand, the amount of opium produced this year is 48.57 tons, which has now been processed into heroin. A worrisome thing is the route used to smuggle drugs from the north to Bangkok or the south for shipment to world markets. A normal thing is that, in the Kanchanaburi area, more hill tribesmen from the north have begun to migrate to the area around the Chedi Sam Ong checkpoint, and Ho Chinese, who prefer the cold weather in the north, are moving down. This has led people to believe that there may be a drug transport route through Burmese territorial waters and the Andaman Sea to Kaeng Island and from there to Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia or Europe. Even though this route may pose difficulties for transporting drugs, there is no interdiction by suppression units as there is along the northern route.

Regardless of how great a reward the government offers for the arrest of Khun Sa, Lao Su or Mr Phunsiri Chanyasak or of whether it can punish them according to the law, one important thing is to prevent drug suppression officials, of all sectors and ranks, from becoming involved in and making profits from supporting the production and distribution of drugs. Those who do should be severely punished. Some influential persons, politicians and high-ranking soldiers still support the narcotics trade. This constantly affects the position and duties of the lower ranking people in the suppression units. Also, wealthy merchants have great financial influence and can bend things their way. This is a problem for suppression activities and some people have been framed.

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BAHAMAS

POLICE SAY ANGUILLA CAY USED AS DRUG TRANSIT POINT

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 20 Nov 81 p 1

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text]

THE ANGUILLA CAY area will have to be constantly patrolled by the Bahamas Defence Force following the third drugs seizure there in less than a month, Defence Force Commander William Swinley said today.

"It would seem to me that we would be in constant patrol around Anguilla Cay," Commodore Swinley said as he watched two Defence Force boats with over 200 bags of marijuana and four men arrive at the Prince George Wharf.

HMBS Fort Montagu, captained by Lt Commander Edwin Munroe, and the HMBS Exuma, under the command of Lt Bachelette LaFleur, steamed alongside Prince George Wharf at 11:15 am today and were met by Cmdr Swinley, Senior Commander Leon Smith and Commander Amos Rolle.

This is the third time that drugs and men have been brought in by the Defence Force from the Anguilla Cay area within the past month.

Cay Sal, which with Anguilla Cay is located on the perimeter of the western Bahamas, is where the previous two drug seizures were made at the end of October.

Commander Swinley said

Anguilla Cay is being used as a transit point for smugglers, who do not have to enter too far into Bahamian territory.

"It is an easy run from there to the coast of America," the Commander said.

Arms and ammunition were also seized by the Defence Force and brought in this morning.

Two automatic rifles and two pistols were found during the raid, which started Tuesday and ended Wednesday. Three men were arrested on Anguilla Cay.

Defence Force officials estimated they have brought in over 200 bags of marijuana, which were found on the cay.

On the first day of the operation a man was arrested on the cay and two others were seen running into the bush. The following day three men came out of the bush and were taken into custody.

Five Criminal Investigation Department officers were at the dock and took the drugs and the men into custody.

Fort Montagu, the Defence Force cargo ship, with soldiers dressed in sea-going blue or fatigues, arrived minutes ahead of HMBS Exuma.

CSO: 5300/7520

BAHAMAS

## BRIEFS

FINE OF COLOMBIANS--Two Colombians arrested on Anguilla Cay on November 17 along with 251 bags of marijuana, firearms and ammunition, were given fines totalling \$8000 while the other two men charged along with them were dismissed by Magistrate Joseph Alfred Wednesday afternoon. Manuel Antonio Quintanilla, 34, pleaded guilty to possession of dangerous drugs with intent to supply. On November 17 he was accused of being found in possession of 251 bags of marijuana. Attorney Godfrey Pinder, representing all four defendants, said that Quintanilla, who had not worked for six months had been approached somewhere in Miami, where all defendants live, and had been asked to go on a boat to fish. He said that his client did not know what he was getting into until he arrived at Anguilla Cay. Magistrate Alfred said that the charge must be viewed with the "gravest severity" but since it was his first offence he would fine him \$5000 or one year's imprisonment. Farid Jamett, 41, pleaded guilty to all charges of possession of firearms and ammunition. They had been accused of being found in possession of one .44 Luger magnum calibre, one .30 calibre, two .38 revolvers, and 290 live rounds of .30 bullets, twelve live rounds of .308 bullets and one .9 mm bullet. Lawyer Pinder said that Jamett had been out of work for eight months. He also had been approached in Miami to go on a fishing trip. Jamett was fined \$3000 or one year's imprisonment. Prosecutor Stubbs said that at 10.30 am on Tuesday November 17 members of the Defence Force aboard the HMBS Exuma had observed some men seated on a number of bags on Anguilla Cay. When they landed on the cay they saw three men fleeing from what later was found to be 251 bags of marijuana, firearms and ammunition. They searched the cay and caught all four defendants. Tomas Francisco, 27, and Armando Navarra, 24, both of whom pleaded not guilty to all charges, were dismissed. [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 20 Nov 81 p 1]

TREASURE CAY ARRESTS--Two men, one American and one Dominican both residing in Florida, were granted bail totalling \$40,000 when they appeared before Magistrate George van Sertima today accused of being found in possession of 329 bales of marijuana with intent to supply. Represented by attorney Godfrey Pinder were Jose Santiago, 29, an engineer, and Elliot Weir, 40, a local Florida businessman. According to a CID Spokesman on November 27 a DC 6 airplane landed at Treasure Cay Airport and later two foreigners were apprehended by police officers at Treasure Cay. The Defence Force boat, Fort Montagu, under the command of Lieutenant Edwin Munroe, picked up the 329 bales along with the two foreigners in police custody and brought them to Nassau. Attorney Pinder said that the defendants were not found in the vicinity of the drugs other than any other individuals standing nearby. He said that the men were there for "vacation purposes." Magistrate van Sertima set cash bail in the sum of \$20,000 each. The case has been adjourned. Our picture shows police officers from the police barracks unloading the bales from the Fort Montagu this morning at the Prince George Wharf. (Photo: FRANKIE ROBINSON) [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 2 Dec 81 p 1]

CSO: 5300/7520

BERMUDA

ANTIGUAN SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS IN MARIJUANA SMUGGLING

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 26 Nov 81 p 2

[Text]

A 37-year-old Antiguan was sentenced to five years in prison yesterday after a Supreme Court jury found him guilty of being in possession of 20 pounds of cannabis with intent to supply.

The seven-woman and five-man jury reached a unanimous verdict in less than one hour of deliberations. It also found Reginald St. Clair St. Luce guilty of importing the cannabis. St. Luce had denied both charges alleged to have taken place on July 12 at the airport.

The Chief Justice the Hon. James R. Astwood sentenced St. Luce to five years on each of the two counts, to be served concurrently.

St. Luce was apprehended by Police soon after his arrival in Bermuda on July 12 from Jamaica when a Customs Officer became suspicious about the weight of bongo drums St. Luce had in his possession.

Upon inspection it was revealed that 20 pounds of cannabis with a street value of \$50,000 was concealed in the drums.

In statements made to Police and Customs Officers, St. Luce did not deny that the cannabis was found in the drums. But he denied that he knew it was there.

"The Crown has to show that St. Luce knew there

were drugs in the drums," said Crown prosecutor Mr. Ian Kawaley. He added that there were inconsistencies in St. Luce's statements.

On the one hand St. Luce said that the drums were his and that he entertained with them all over the world. But later St. Luce said that he bought the drums from a rastafarian in Jamaica only days before being arrested.

Mr. Kawaley said "it seemed strange that anyone would sell drums containing \$50,000 in drugs for \$300."

In his summation, Mr. Astwood said he noted that before anything was suspected, St. Luce said the drums were his, and that he had taken them with him all over the world — implying that he had had them in his possession for some time.

But when suspicions were aroused, St. Luce said he had just bought them, and also became hard of hearing.

"Now that there is something possibly happening, he becomes hard of hearing," said Mr. Astwood.

St. Luce admitted one previous conviction for possession of cannabis in Antigua last year. He was then fined \$500.

His prison term was to run from yesterday, the time spent in jail since July having been taken into account.

CSO: 5300/7520

COUNTRY SECTION

BERMUDA

BRIEFS

REVIEW OF DRUG LAW--Cabinet has given the go-ahead to Minister of Health and Social Services, Dr. the Hon. Clarence James, to instruct the Advisory Board on the Misuse of Drugs to review the Misuse of Drugs Act 1972, with a view to making recommendations that would lead to a closer control of drugs. Particular emphasis will be given to consideration of methods which might lead to the successful apprehension and conviction of criminals trafficking in drugs, according to a Government statement. When completed, this review will be presented to the Minister and studied in conjunction with the Ministers of Home Affairs and Education, along with the coordinator of Addiction Services. The Ministry has had gazetted seven nominations to the Advisory Board, replacing members who have resigned. The expansion of numbers on the Board will assist in making it representative of a wider cross-section of the community. New members are: Mr. Vaughn Mosher; Mr. Robert Rego; Senior Medical Officer, Dr. John Cann; Principal of Purvis School, Mr. Donald Dane; Dept. of Education Attendance Officer, Mr. Ariston Furbert; Specialist Officer Nursing at the Prison Farm, Mr. Keith Watson; Mr. Lowdru Robinson, Director of Community Services. They will join present members: Det. Inspector George Rose, Mr. Roderick Pearman (Chairman); Dr. Ronald Lightbourne; Revd. Larry Lowe; Mr. William Francis; Ms. Lynanne Sharpe; and Mrs. Lynn Winfield. [Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 24 Nov 81 p 3]

CSO: 5300/7520

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

DRUG CONFISCATION--Quibdo--Official spokesmen have reported that (Joaquin Emilio Tapia Echeverri) and (Manuel Alberto Delgado) were arrested for possession of some 4,450 lbs of marijuana, valued at one million pesos, which were confiscated. They were arrested by the national police in the municipality of Acandi in the Choco Department. [PA062332 Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Jan 82]

CSO: 5300/2119

EGYPT

#### HASHISH SMUGGLING OPERATIONS ON COAST

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 22 Oct 81 p 7

[Article by Jamal Kamal]

[Text] Within just 3 days last month, the border patrol seized two drug smuggling operations at Abi Qayr and al-Hamam. The seizure totaled 21 tons, this being greater than the total drugs seized during all of 1979.

Added to the total drugs seized during the summer months, this amount reached 50 tons. This exceeds the total drugs seized during the past 2 years. The matter has become a conspicuous phenomenon, even to the border patrol. The smugglers' activities have increased tremendously during this year. Smuggling methods have become varied, and the trade itself has come to include new faces other than those traditional faces of big smugglers whose descriptions and moves are recorded by the border intelligence.

#### These Are The Reasons

The reasons are known; this is what Maj Gen Faruq al-Sahn, chief of the border guard, confirms. The coasts of Egypt became longer after liberation of North Sinai; they now extend 1100 kms, from al-'Arish to al-Salum. The growth of the [hashish] crop has doubled in Lebanon, Turkey and Cyprus. In the smugglers' opinion, Egypt is the largest market in the area, and the transfer of the "merchandise" to it does not cost much.

Moreover, there are new faces in the game. In the largest smuggling operation seized during this year on the northern coast north of the delta, the faces were new and none of them had been arrested smuggling drugs.

#### Smuggling Organizations

The border guard's eyes surveillance does not miss any smuggling operation, even if it were in the "initial" phase. Therefore, as Maj Gen al-Sahn said, the big smugglers formed organizations among themselves aimed at reducing losses in the event they were caught and putting large amounts [of the drug] in various places at one time.

#### New Technologies

Methods of smuggling have changed, and so have the smuggling technologies. All this has been taking place while the border guard watched.

Colonel Wahbi Ibrahim Habib said: "We witnessed this year several distortion operations from the big smugglers' side. Their new methods are evident to us. For example:

- The use of major banks along the Mediterranean Sea, such as Juma'ah Bank, to tug the drugs from the sea to agricultural lands in order to escape being tracked by patrols.
- The exploitation of Dumyat and Rashid harbors to let out motorized fishing boats carrying drugs, or to which drugs were attached at the bottom, as was the case when we seized the outboard "al-Jamil" in the Dumyat Harbor, which had 2 tons of drugs underneath it.
- The unloading of merchandise in isolated islands and places where the water is low, where we were able to seize 2 additional tons in one of the Bardawil Lake's islands.
- The use of the "preservation" techniques; i.e., putting the drugs in nylon bags and tying them to weights inside inner tubes under water, until they can retrieve the drugs when control quiets down.
- The provision of drug control offices with information, or imaginary agreements among the smugglers to cover the real operations.
- The frequent appearance of smugglers along the coast dressed as shepherds so that the guard members would get used to them, and so that they could gather as much information as possible about the type of guard and the patrols' hours."

Colonel Wahbi exposed the secrets of the two operations at Abi Qayr and al-Hamam, the largest operations that Egypt witnessed in years.

The al-Hamam operation began when an anonymous report was received about unloading drugs in Sidi al-Barani in order to keep the border guard busy. On the eve of the same day, 9 tons were unloaded in al-Hamam area west of Alexandria.

The intelligence agency and the border guard, of course, knew the game from its start. So, when the amount was confiscated, the large smuggler was caught unawares.

The Abi Qayr smuggler, noticing that the border guards were busy with the al-Hamam operation, left for Cairo and returned on that same day. One day later, he unloaded 12 tons but was surprised by border intelligence traps awaiting his arrival. He then went on al-Haj [pilgrimage] in a new attempt at camouflage.

#### Drugs for Vacationists

Strange phenomena in the world of smuggling are not over this year. For example, the smugglers and big merchants attempted to display their merchandise this summer in the summer resorts, taking advantage of their being overcrowded. Thirteen tons [of hashish] were seized from amongst the vacationists in al-'Ajami and Ra's al-Barr.

Furthermore, the big merchants and smugglers escaped being caught. They have not been arrested yet, although their operations had been seized. The reason is that legal procedures for arrest must follow, requiring the registration of an official report for each suspect smuggler before he can be arrested, renewing this report until the smuggler is caught redhanded, causing the failure of any operation in which big smugglers participate. This is why they [big smugglers] resort to using smaller merchants and carriers for camouflage. Twelve carriers have actually been arrested in Operation Honeymoon at al-'Ajami, and four others were arrested on an armed motor boat north of Sinai.

Twenty Eight Operations

Talking about motor boats, Col Wahbi said that the border intelligence's role is not limited to seizing drugs that are thrown in the sea or are unloaded. This year, 28 smuggling operations via armed motor boats were seized after their crews clashed with the border patrolmen. These boats were seized en route to the ports of Cyprus and Italy. Each boat had 4 tons [of hashish] on it, and one of them threw 6 tons overboard as soon as the clash began.

Exciting news in this strange world are never over; a world in which a heated conflict is on-going between the Egyptian border guard and the poison smugglers who want to destroy the minds and the health of the Egyptian people. But they fall at the end, because all eyes are watching to every move they make.

9455

CSO: 5300/5003

IRAN

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS ARRESTS, HAUL--According to the central news unit, the public relations office of the police of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced: The antinarcotics squad of the police arrested 27 offenders during the month of Azar [22 November to 21 December]. They seized 30.124 kg of heroin, more than 304 kg of opium, and 1.7 kg of opium dross from these offenders. [Text] [LD310847 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Dec 81]

OPIUM CULTIVATION BANNED--In his exalted name. Since the victorious establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni, officials of the country have endeavored to uproot home-wrecking and destructive narcotics, the source of all evil. This was done with such success and brilliant deeds that amazed even the international traffickers. The Shiraz Islamic prosecutor warns all farmers and landlords that should they attempt to cultivate opium poppies they will be dealt with decisively according to Shari'a law. All military and security forces are requested to identify violators and report them to the Islamic Revolution Courts of the country without fail. [Text] [GF031810 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 3 Jan 82]

KHORASAN DRUG HAUL--Personnel of the Torbat Jam gendarmerie have seized a total of 270 grams of opium and 0.7 grams of heroin from a number of individuals over the past few days. Three drug traffickers convicted of selling 42.96 kg of opium were executed in Birjand last night. [GF061350 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 5 Jan 82]

NARCOTICS HAUL--According to the central news unit, the public relations office of the antinarcotics squad of the Islamic Revolution Court has announced that following the continuous efforts of the central headquarters of the antinarcotics squad in Qom, 21 kg of opium, 6 kg of heroin, 4 kg of hashish, 6.7 kg of opium dross and 700 gr of opium residue were discovered. These items were handed over to the storehouse of the antinarcotics squad of the Islamic Revolution Court in the central province. [LD070220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 6 Jan 82]

CSO: 5300/5343

ISRAEL

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED--Last night heroin weighing more than 800 gm was seized from a 45-year old resident of Tel Aviv who had arrived in Israel on a flight from Greece. The man is known to the police as a criminal. He left Israel 5 days ago and was captured after detective and intelligence operations. [Text] [TA190757 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Dec 81 p 2]

CSO: 5300/4709

CYPRUS

BRIEFS

ESPERANZ DRUG CASE--Six crew all of them foreign nationals of the drug-smuggling vessel "Esperanz" apprehended last month with five and a half tons of cannabis resin off Kiti were yesterday sentenced to four years imprisonment by the Larnaca Assize Court. The vessel had a crew of nine, a Greek captain and eight seamen of whom two Egyptians, four Turks, and two Lebanese. All nine and two Lebanese arrested in Limassol suspected as liaisons were originally charged. However, the captain of the vessel, one crew and one of the two Lebanese arrested in Limassol were released and only eight were committed to the Assize Court which yesterday pronounced sentence on seven of them. The eighth, the second of the two Lebanese arrested in Limassol, was acquitted. The seven crewmen sentenced yesterday were: Sittah Abu al-Sa'ud al-Zayid of Egypt, Ouzoun Hassan, Karsaka Hairttin, Arif Tak and Arslam Salih of Turkey, and Joseph Zahia Ouez and Joseph Ehurkan of Lebanon. They were on four charges: possession of 5,350 kilos of cannabis resin without permit, intending to supply it to other persons without permit, possession of a pistol without permit and possession of 54 rounds of ammunition without permit. The president of the Assize Court Mr Y. Papadhopoulos summing up the case said the courts have to impose heavy sentences as deterrent for protection not only the Cypriot public but mankind in general. The narcotics, the pistol and the ammunition were ordered to be confiscated. [Text] [NC150829 Nicosia CYPRUS MAIL in English 15 Jan 82 p 1]

RECORD DRUG HAUL--Larnaca (Cyprus), 12 Dec--Eleven men appeared in a Cyprus court Friday after police seized five-and-a-half tons of cannabis resin from a Lebanese-owned cargo ship in the country's biggest drug haul. The men, including Barbarigos Ioannis, the 34-year-old Greek captain of the cargo vessal Esperants, were remanded in custody for eight days without being charged. The Esperants was stopped by Cypriot gunboats off the coast of Cyprus and escorted to Larnaca port after the authorities were tipped off by the international police organization, Interpol, police said. An officer of the Cyprus Criminal Investigation Division (CID), Michael Karaiskakis, said the ship had been on its way to Italy from Tripoli in Lebanon. He said the cannabis would be worth millions of dollars on the streets.--NAB/Reuter. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 13 Dec 81 p 4]

CSO: 5300/4914

GREECE

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED, OTHERS SOUGHT

Athens AKROPOLIS in Greek 20 Nov 81 p 3

[Text] After a dramatic chase, automobile crashes in the "Dukes" style, together with an engagement between police and criminals, another gang of narcotics dealers has been put out of action by the Piraeus General Security. The criminals' headquarters was located in the Agia Varvara area but they had extended their activities up to Aigaleo and Korydallos.

The gang was made up of the following: Georgios Vartelatos alias "Glaros," 22 years old; N. Batis, 24 years old; Vas. Demos, 23 years old; Evan. Trepeklis, 31 years old; I. Poulos, 20 years old; Evan. Alexandrou alias "Borantis," 29 years old; and Petros Petrokostas, 24 years old. The first three escaped and are now being sought.

A total of 15 "kapitzedes" (high quality hashish), the remainder of a large amount procured by "Borantis" from an unknown narcotics wholesale dealer, was found in the possession of the criminals and confiscated. Also confiscated was Vartelatos' vehicle, a Ford Escort, used to transport the merchandise, as well as a total of 34,000 drachmas, the day's take. Confiscated from Demos was a four-leaf cigarette paper envelope used by the gang. Finally, a small amount of "founda" was confiscated from Batis.

The first information coming to the Piraeus General Security mentioned that "Glaros" and his gang were handling and trafficking in hashish. Narcotics Persecution Service men set up a 24-hour surveillance of "Glaros" and his gang which distributed narcotics to their customers using their Ford Escort and motorcycles. When not used for transporting narcotics, the Ford Escort was converted into a rolling den for the personal enjoyment of the gang.

The police realized that the criminals being followed were very experienced in narcotics trafficking and that it was very difficult to catch them in the act. In the afternoon of 16 November, while the police were following the Ford Escort, the passengers, Glaros, Demos, Batis, Trepeklis and Poulos realized they were being followed and tried to flee by putting on a burst of speed. The police, together with two service vehicles, followed them and after a dramatic chase succeeded in cornering and stopping the Ford Escort.



The three "jackals" of the Agia Varvara gang who escaped (left to right): G. Varelatos alias "Glaros," N. Batis and V. Demos.

5671  
CSO: 5300/5333

GREECE

DRUG TRAFFICKERS, USERS ARRESTED, MINUS LEADER

Athens I KATHIMERINI in Greek 15 Dec 81 p 2

[Text] Fifteen persons, among them a high school teacher, were arrested by the Piraeus police for possession, use and traffic of drugs.

The arrested are Styl. Maravelias, 22, student, Margaret Karuana [phonetic], 23, an Australian citizen, Khar. Khairtas, 24, student, Al. Dikaos, 20, model, St. Koutsouvelis, 39, bus driver, K. A., 29, high school teacher, M.E., 18, high school student, T.A., 20, law student, Kon. Skopelitis, 26, unemployed, Sot. Kapsilis, 29, tradesman, Janice McKay [phonetic], 22, from Scotland, Ioannis Boukouvalas, 26, truck driver, Pan. Stavrelis, 20, Ioannis Gerakis, 22 and And. Khiou, 20, unemployed.

The leader of the gang, Loukas Stellas, is still at large.

Stellas had opened a den in the apartment of his girlfriend, Margaret Karuana, at 55 Riancourt Street, where he received his customers.

Five hundred grams of hashish powder, 150 grams of hashish in packets, 120,000 drachmas from hashish sales and Turkish currency the gang brought back from trips to Turkey where the hashish was purchased were found in the apartment.

Maravelias was found to be in possession of 50 grams of hashish in packets, and one packet was discovered in Khairtas' car. The high school teacher, who is employed by the American College, was charged with possession of two packets of hashish.

Additionally, an undetermined amount of hashish was found in Gerakis' car.

All those arrested were taken to the Athens attorney general's office and investigation into the case has opened.

CSO: 5300/5344

GREECE

BRIEFS

PORTUGUESE DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Customs officers in Volos have arrested two sisters Maria and Isabella Andre from Portugal for transporting in their automobile 97 kilograms of hashish in block form and 8 kilograms of hashish in pulp form. The two sisters had reached Volos from Syria. [Text] [Athens RIZOSPASTIS in Greek 19 Nov 81 p 11] 5671

PIRAEUS DRUG NET DISMANTLED--A gang of narcotics pushers which probably distributed the "goods" to students has been put out of action in Piraeus. The gang was made up of Sp. Kontis, 26 years old; Giannis Kontogeorgas alias "Xifias," 23 years old; Angelos Bangos, 23 years old; Al. Petrou, 22 years old; as well as the narcotics addicts D. Anninos, 25 years old; Th. Karamanlakis, 21 years old; M. Ambatzis, 24 years old; and K. Marounglianis, 21 years old. As became known, Kontis brought half a kilogram of hashish and half a kilogram of heroin from Istanbul in his automobile and sold it quickly at a high price. Another four persons involved in this case are still being sought. [Text] [Athens RIZOSPASTIS in Greek 24 Nov 81 p 11] 5671

POLICE DISRUPT INTERNATIONAL DRUG RING--Piraeus police on Friday night disrupted an international drugs ring comprised of a British woman, her German boyfriend and a Greek girl from Athens. They were identified as Christine Pitcher, 34, Rene Horst Behrens, 37, and Yeoryia Paskhalidhou, 19. When arresting police raided their hotel in the Athens District of Plaka, they found 11 grams of heroin. They also arrested two girls who went to get their dose from the heroin peddlers. The "customers" were identified as Austrian citizen Sabina Melher, 23, and local girl Yeoryia Sorou, 27, from the Island of Aiyina. The preliminary inquiry revealed that the British girl made many trips to Turkey and brought back heroin exclusively for distribution. On her last trip, she was alleged to have brought back only 50 grams of heroin, as Turks had stolen money from her suitcase which she would have used to purchase larger quantities. The drugs gang was charged yesterday with the possession, use and sale of hard drugs. [Text] [NC121836 Athens News in English 12 Jan 82 p 4]

CSO: 5300/5346

NETHERLANDS

BRIEFS

HASHISH SEIZURE IN ROTTERDAM--Rotterdam, 5 Dec--Customs and police officers seized several tons of hashish from the Lebanese coastal vessel Sami in the port here yesterday. Four members of the ship's crew, three Lebanese and one Sudanese, were arrested. Police were still unloading the substance last night and said it might be a record seizure. Part of the hashish was hidden under a false floor, and some of it--in water-proof sacks--was in the water and gasoline tanks.--NAB/AFP [Text]  
[Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 7 Dec 81 p 7]

CSO: 5300/4914

TURKEY

ANTIDRUG OPERATIONS NET RECORD HAUL IN 1981

NC120852 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 9 Jan 82 p 9

[Report by Erhan Akyildiz]

[Excerpts] It has been reported that teams from the narcotics branch of the Istanbul Security Directorate seized 44 kilograms of heroin in 1981 worth an estimated 150 million liras on the local market and about 450 million liras abroad. This was achieved through successful antinarcotic operations in Istanbul and its suburbs.

During the same year, the narcotics branch teams seized 460 kilograms of hashish worth about 70 million liras at home and 180 million liras abroad. They also seized 4 kilograms of raw opium originating from Iran. It has been stated that a kilogram of unprocessed opium costs about 500,000 liras.

It has also been reported that 420 people have been detained, 75 percent of whom were later arrested on the grounds they were found to be guilty. Due to continuous antinarcotics operations and stringent controls carried out in Istanbul and its suburbs in 1981, the quantity of narcotics seized increased 100 percent compared with the previous year. While the quantity of heroin seized in Istanbul and its suburbs was 24.5 kilograms in 1980, this quantity rose to 44 kilograms in 1981. The quantity of hashish rose from 284.5 kilograms in 1980 to 460 kilograms in 1981.

According to information obtained from the evaluation of the results of these operations, the narcotics are being smuggled into Turkey from the east--Iran. The narcotic traffic destined for Europe after transiting Turkey pursued two main routes until the beginning of 1981. The first route was: the Iranian border-Van-Diyarbakir-Malatya-Ankara-Izmit-Afyon-Izmir-Europe. As a result of stringent controls carried out in 1981, the narcotics traffic moved toward the south. As a result of the antinarcotic operations carried out in 1981, the narcotics traffic began to follow two new routes. The first route is: the Iranian border-Malatya-Gaziantep-Aleppo-Beirut-Turkish sector of Cyprus-northern Italy-Europe. The second route is: the Iranian border-Malatya-Gaziantep-Aleppo-Beirut-Turkish sector of Cyprus-Britain-Holland-other Baltic countries.

The MILLIYET news center reports that two Jordanians, Husayn Muhammad Sharaf and Ali Husayn Sharif, who wanted to enter Turkey through Cilvegozu, were caught by customs officers with 37.6 kilograms of hashish in their car. Both Jordanians were arrested after the initial interrogations.

Reports from Izmir say that a worker, Ahmet Komutan, coming to Izmir, Turkey, for the new year holidays, was caught along with four of his friends for possessing 1.3 kilograms of hashish.

CSO: 5300/5330

UNITED KINGDOM

# INTERNATIONAL DRUG SMUGGLING GANG MEMBERS SENTENCED

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 17 Dec 81 p 3

[Text]

**T**WO British drug-smugglers arrested in Iran were hauled before a firing squad three times, but each time the guards fired blanks.

The story of the mock executions emerged yesterday at Birmingham Crown Court, where RAYMOND WHELAN, 27, and STUART MARTIN, 34, were jailed for 10 and eight years respectively.

They were members of an international gang which smuggled cannabis and heroin by road from a frontier town in Iran to Britain.

Seven men were jailed yesterday for smuggling, and two women received suspended sentences.

They were arrested during a police drugs squad investigation known as Operation Gordon, in which 27 men and women were held in the West Midlands.

Since April, Mr JUSTICE STEPHEN BROWN has presided over a series of trials and passed sentences totalling more than 130 years.

## False compartment

Mr BRIAN ESCOTT COX, Q.C., prosecuting, said the drugs were usually smuggled into Britain in caravanettes fitted with a petrol tank containing a false compartment.

He described how the vans were driven through Turkey, ferried from Izmir to Venice or Naples and then driven through Italy, Austria, Germany and Belgium.

Two fresh drivers would take over, usually in Italy, with passports which would not reveal that the van had been near the drug-producing nations of the Middle East, so as not to arouse the suspicions of customs officials.

The smugglers bought their drugs from one main dealer who lived in Mashad, near Iran's border with Pakistan, and following the revolution in Iran some of the return journeys were hazardous.

## Saw men shot

Once the smugglers were fired upon by revolutionary guards as they smashed through a checkpoint.

And after Whelan, of no settled address, and Martin, of Wiggin Tower, Birmingham, had been arrested in Teheran

on suspicion of having alcohol, they saw three Iranians shot dead by a firing squad for drinking alcohol.

On another occasion a van had to go through the Khyber Pass and one of the smugglers even used a drug-running trip as a honeymoon.

One alleged leading member of the gang, Lyndon Roe, was found dead in a London flat from from an overdose of alcohol and drugs only days after a successful heroin run.

His 24-year-old wife DIANE, of Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull, was one of the two women given a two-year jail sentence, suspended for two years, for drug conspiracy offences.

The other was JOYCE METCALF, 30, of Wiggin Tower, Newtown, Birmingham.

The other five jailed yesterday on drug smuggling charges were: WARREN COLLIE 27, of Outlore Road, Sheldon, Birmingham, 10 years. GLENVILLE FITTON 31, of Tanhouse Farm Road, Solihull, seven years. DAVID SMITH, 31, of Shenstone Drive, Balsall Common, Warwickshire, six years. DAVID MUSGROVE, 26, of Hamilton Road, Radford Semele, Warwickshire, five years, and DAVID CRAIG, 35, of Remembrance Road, Willenhall, Coventry, four years.

CS0: 5320/15

UNITED KINGDOM

### TURKISH GANG SMUGGLED DRUGS IN TOMBSTONE

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 24 Dec 81 p 2

[Text] Three Turkish Cypriot members of a drugs gang who used tombstones in "a clever but macabre" way to smuggle 2 million pounds' worth of heroin, were jailed at the Old Bailey yesterday.

They hid the drug in two hollow gravestones because they thought Customs officers would not disturb a memorial to the dead.

Aysan Ziynetin, 38, was jailed for 12 years, Abdurrahman Mehmet, 37, for 11 years, and Halil Musa, 44, for five years.

The two stones, bearing fictitious names, dates and photographs of the "dear departed," arrived from Cyprus. Each contained £1 million worth of heroin.

The first got through, but the gang was trapped when the second arrived, in October 1980.

#### 'Dangerous conspiracy'

Ziynetin, a plasterer, of Green Lanes, Stoke Newington; Mehmet a machine operator of Sebbon Street, Islington, and Musa, a railway worker of Moray Road, Finsbury Park, were convicted of conspiring to smuggle drugs.

Judge Michael Argyle, Q.C., said: "This was an extremely serious conspiracy of the most dangerous kind."

Mr Alastair Hill, prosecuting, said that two white tombstones for non-existent men, arrived in England by ferry at Felixstowe. Secret compartments had been built into them in Cyprus.

The first was sent to an address in South London and its consignment distributed on

the streets. The second, in a wooden crate, aroused the suspicion of a Felixstowe Customs man.

#### Poor quality

He was suspicious because of the poor quality of the inscription, and found that the stone was lopsided.

Mr JAMES WRIGHT, a mason, was called in, and found the heroin after chipping away the stone.

Mr Hill said Customs officers decided to send the stone on its way to a warehouse in Green Lanes, Wood Green, after patching up the hole.

Then "Operation Tombstone" swung into action.

Customs officers kept watch as two sombrely dressed "mourners" collected the stone from the warehouse and put it in the boot of Musa's car.

They chased the smugglers to Musa's home in Finsbury Park, and recovered the stone from the back garden.

Judge Argyle commended the 25-strong Customs squad, led by Mr ANTHONY BRUGTS, for handling the inquiry.



Mr James Wright, a stonemason, demonstrating how he found heroin smuggled in a gravestone after he had been called in by a Customs officer to open it.

CSO: 5320/15

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

JAIL FOR CANNABIS SMUGGLING--Jeffery Litwin, 40, the owner of a number of haulage companies based in East London, was jailed for six years yesterday at Croydon Crown Court after being found guilty of conspiracy to smuggle drugs into Britain. Customs men at Dover told the court that 15 cwt of cannabis was found in a double compartment fuel tank of a lorry belonging to Litwin. A further load of cannabis of the same weight was found in another of his lorries in Vienna. The total haul had a street value of 3 million pounds and Customs men said it was the biggest drug haul ever seized at Dover. Both lorries had come from Pakistan. [Text]  
[London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 12 Dec 81 p 3]

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