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JPRS L/10441

9 April 1982

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 16/82)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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AUSTRALIA

REPORT PROPOSES SECRET PHONE TAPS ON DRUG DEALERS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 2 Feb 82 p 1

[Article by Stephen Mills]

[Text]

CANBERRA. — A special Scotland Yard investigation of the Australian Federal Police has recommended a strict policy of secrecy about the force's new powers to tap telephones of suspected drug offenders.

The recommendation, which has been accepted by the Federal Police Commissioner, Sir Colin Woods, would mean that evidence gained from phone taps would not be presented in court. Instead, it will be used by police for intelligence purposes to help crack drug rings.

Narcotics officers of the Australian Federal Police gained the power to tap phones in 1979 and began surveillance in 1980. Detective Chief Superintendent Algernon Hemingway was seconded last year from Scotland Yard to advise on the most up-to-date methods of employing the new powers. Superintendent Hemingway submitted a 140-page report to Sir Colin over Christmas after a six-month investigation.

He was also asked to report on ways of streamlining the Australian Federal Police's criminal in-

telligence work relating to drug offenders — the collation, evaluation and dissemination of information.

The new policy of non-disclosure of telephone tapping is based on the belief that presenting transcripts of phone conversations to a court can lead to the hearing becoming bogged down in irrelevancies. Police claims on the identity of voices on tapes are regularly challenged in court.

Sir Colin told 'The Age' that presenting transcripts to a court could lead to a legal probing of the whole system of gaining the information, leading, in turn, to exposure of police intelligence and informers.

Sir Colin said that Superintendent Hemingway had also given useful advice about handling information once it had been received from telephone taps, covering security of the material, access to it, and the preparation of information for the "sharp end" of the operation — the detective work. He had provided the benefit of British experience on extracting the deliberate deceptions used by criminal sus-

pects who believed that their phones were being tapped.

Sir Colin rejected the suggestion that police might develop a cavalier attitude to phone tapping if they were not required to produce the transcripts in court. Judicial warrants for telephone taps would be refused if police failed to make valid use of them, he said. "In the end, there has to be some accountability, whether it's once a week, once a year, or once every five years. I'm for the minimum amount."

Sir Colin said he was a "great believer" in revealing the number of telephone taps instituted by the force. "But the less heightened perception there is in the criminal world about the (telephone) intercepts, the happier I will be," he said.

Superintendent Hemingway also recommended that:

- Police should not be required to attend court when the accused had pleaded guilty;

- Time-saving charge sheets and crime offence reports be used.

The Administrative Services Minister, Mr Newman, is studying the report.

CSO: 5300/7537

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

SYDNEY HASHISH SEIZURE--Customs officials and federal policy in Sydney have seized more than 2 tons of high grade hashish--the largest haul ever detected in Australia. The hashish was seized after a search of a container aboard a ship containing Middle East foodstuffs. The business and consumer affairs minister, Mr Morre, said in Canberra, the ship first arrived in Melbourne from Marseilles but was then redirected to Sydney. He said the high quality hashish was individually wrapped in calico cloth and stamped with a trade mark. [Text] [BK260202 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Mar 82 BK]

OPPOSITION TO MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION--Australian police commissioners have come strongly against any moves to make the use of marijuana legal. The commissioners, who have been meeting in Canberra, say they did not endorse the decriminalization of the drug. They say a recent discussion paper by the Australian foundation of alcoholism and drug dependence on marijuana lacks conclusive data on the long-term effects of using it. There has been an increasing debate by prominent Australians recently on changing the laws relating to Marijuana. [Text] [BK260202 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 23 Mar 82 BK]

CSO: 5300/5688

BURMA

OPIUM, CARRIER SEIZED ON LASHIO TRAIN

Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 2 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] At 1000 on 22 January, acting on information, a Lashio railways police squad headed by Ko Sein Maung and Ko Ko Aye searched passenger carriage No 4 of the Lashio-Mandalay train as the train entered Hsipaw station. The team found from Nan Mya U of Shwe Chedi Ward No 8, Kyaukme, six balls of raw opium, weighing 6 viss [about 22 pounds] and worth about 20,000 kyat, hidden among the vacuum flasks in a rattan bag together with other contraband goods.



[Photo caption] Nan Mya U of Kyaukme seen together with 6 balls of raw opium seized from her on Lashio-Mandalay train at Hsipaw station on 22 January.

CSO: 5300/4926

MALAYSIA

NARCOTICS ARRESTS, SEIZURES IN JANUARY 1981

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Feb 82 p 19

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. — Three Singaporeans and a Thai were among 824 people arrested for drug offences in January.

Of the total arrests, 19 were for drug trafficking and 21 for pushing, CID Director Datuk Abdul Rahman Ismail said today.

He said police carried out 147 raids and 564 surprise checks.

Datuk Abdul Rahman said that except for raw opium, there was an increase in the seizure of other types of drugs.

Briefcase

About 3 kg of raw opium, 14 kg prepared opium, 5.2 kg of heroin, and 9.9 kg of ganja were seized.

On Jan. 1, police raided a house in Jalan Kem in Port Klang and arrested four men. They searched the house and seized 757 sticks of ganja.

The following day, police in Penang acting on information stopped a man at the jetty and seized a briefcase. In the false bottom of the bag they found 4.7 kg of heroin number 8.

In follow-up operations, four more people were arrested.

On Jan. 4, police stopped three men at Taman Tun Abdul Razak here and seized 19 sticks of ganja. In a plastic bag police found another three bundles of ganja weighing 966 gm.

On Jan. 9, a taxi was stopped at Simpang Tiga in Jitra and two men were detained. After searching the taxi 600 gm of ganja were found.

Then on Jan. 18, police detained a woman and her son when they found 100 sticks of ganja in their food stall.

On Jan. 26, at Jalan Raja Bot here, police found 3 kg of ganja left by

an unknown person. Police waited in ambush but no one came to take the ganja.

On Jan. 31 police raided a house in Jalan Delima here and detained two youths and seized 325 sticks of ganja.

CSO: 5300/8321

MALAYSIA

CUSTOM OFFICERS SEIZE RAW HEROIN

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 20 Feb 82 p 1

[Text]

IPOH, Fri. — Customs officers yesterday seized 1,000 gm of high-grade raw heroin, worth about \$1 million on the street, during an ambush on a house in Sungai Bakap, Province Wellesley.

The house is believed to have been used as a transit point for drugs smuggled in from north-west Thailand's 'Golden Triangle'.

A 40-year-old suspect from Province Wellesley and a Honda Accord car were detained.

The seizure, the biggest by the Customs here so far this year, was the result of two months of investigations on the activities of a local drug syndicate believed to be based in Province Wellesley.

The seized heroin is capable of being converted into 200,000 shots. A shot, at prevailing street price, costs about \$6.

Perak Customs Director, Haji

Wan Yeop Abdul Shukor, said the ambush was laid on a house near a mosque about 5 am by a nine-man Customs party led by Senior Customs Supt Ch'ng Kang Lam.

About 9.40 am, a Honda Accord bearing Penang registration plates, drove into Sungai Bakap Town from the north. It turned into a small lane leading to the house.

A Customs' car followed, and officers at other stations closed in. When the car stopped in front of the house, the driver was apprehended by Customs officers S. Munusamy and Sharifuddin bin Mohamed Yusoff.

"Their action was so quick, the driver did not even have time to unfasten his seat belt," said Haji Wan Yeop.

The driver threw out a package from the car which was found to contain the high-grade raw heroin.

CSO: 5300/8321

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

MARIJUANA FARM DESTROYED--Tinglayan, Kalinga-Apayao--The government has found a vast marijuana plantation in this mountain area run by armed regulars of the New People's Army. Believed to be a source of funds of rebels for buying arms, the farm eluded detection for many months as it was hidden in thickly forested hills. When raided by the elements of the armed forces' Northern Command six NPA members were still tending the farm. Also found in the plantation was a 20-bed rebel hospital stocked with assorted medical supplies and preserved food. The marijuana farmers who were captured told investigators they had been operating the plantation to help shore up NPA finances. Brig. Gen. Romeo Gatan, Northcom commander, said about 30,000 marijuana plants worth P6 million were uprooted and burned by the troopers. The farmers also admitted that a good part of their earnings were used in buying guns. According to intelligence agents, the marijuana is sold in school campuses and some urban villages. Military regional commanders told Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Gen. Fabian C. Ver, AFP chief of staff, that the 10 bulldozers seized by rebels last week in Pamplona, Kalinga-Apayao, were recovered yesterday by government troopers after a fierce gunbattle. Some 30 rebels guarded the heavy equipment, the regional commanders said. The dissidents earlier demanded a P500,000 ransom for the return of the bulldozers taken from the Pamplona Redwood Veneer Enterprises. The regional military command said no ransom was paid. The troopers said the dissidents, who withdrew after engaging troop enforcements in a one-hour firefight, were armed with armalites and other assorted guns. [Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 13 Mar 82 pp 1, 2]

CSO: 5300/4929

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

FIGHT AGAINST DRUG USE--The minister of state for law and home affairs told Parliament that the measures adopted by the government to combat drug addiction and drug trafficking in Singapore have met with considerable success. It was estimated that the addicted population had dropped from 13,000 in 1977 to 6,100 last year. Between 1976 and 1978, 50 persons were charged for drug trafficking offenses which could carry the death penalty, but the number dropped to 15 between 1979 and 1981. The prices of drugs on the street had risen as the result from \$7 for a 0.2 gram straw of heroin a few years ago to \$20 for 0.05 gram of heroin. He said that hardcore addicts remained a problem. [BK260202 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Mar 82 BK]

CSO: 5300/5688

THAILAND

KHUN SA SENDS LETTERS TO PREM, OTHER OFFICIALS

BK120350 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 12 Mar 82 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] In his report on 11 March, the MATICHON reporter in Chiang Rai said Khun Sa, leader of the Shan State United Army, whose headquarters at Ban Hin Taek was destroyed by the Thai armed forces in February, has written letters to several senior Thai officials. Last week he sent more letters to such officials again through local Thai officials in Mae Chan District, Chiang Rai.

According to the reporter, Khun Sa's letters were written in Thai Yai dialect and were addressed to Prime Minister Gen Prem Tinsulanon, Deputy Prime Minister Prachuap Suntharangkun, Director of Army Operations Maj Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Chiang Rai Governor Sakda O-phong and Public Welfare Department Director General Pramun Chanchamong. In the letter to Pramun, Khun Sa asked Pramun to deliver a separate letter to the king.

The contents of the letters were similar in that they say that the Thai king is revered as the king of the Thai Yai minority group since the Thai Yai and lowland Thai people are from the same origins. The incident at Ban Hin Taek is over and done and took place as a result of a misunderstanding. The Shan State United Army holds no grudge over the incident.

The letters say that regarding the Thai Government's allegation that Khun Sa is a narcotics trafficker and that his death or arrest would make opium disappear from the Golden Triangle, Khun Sa is willing to surrender himself to the Thai Government. Khun Sa also proposes to the Thai Government that he put the entire Shan State United Army under command of the Thai military in any operation, including operations against the communist terrorists or other minority groups.

According to the reporter, Khun Sa did not set any conditions on his proposal. It is believed, however, that Khun Sa will ask for permission to set up a sanctuary in Thailand like the one he had at Ban Hin Taek.

CSO: 5300/5689

THAILAND

AMPHETAMINE USE SAID TO BE GROWING

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 20 Jan 82 pp 1, 16

[Article: "Police Asked to Cooperate In Order to Quickly Suppress Amphetamines"]

[Text] Dr Sem has admitted that [the use of] amphetamines is spreading seriously. About 99 percent of the truck drivers use these drugs. These drugs are dangerous to the body and mind but they can be purchased easily from drugstores everywhere.

On the morning of 19 January, Dr Sem Phringphuangkaeo, the minister of public health, granted an interview before a cabinet meeting. He said that, at present, after people take amphetamines, they feel very alert. This is a very popular type of drug, especially among workers such as 10-wheel truck drivers. It is thought that up to 90 [sic] percent of these drivers take these drugs. At present, these drugs can be purchased very easily at various drugstores. Another reason for the popularity of this type of drug is that, at present, there are many factories. In Bangkok alone there are approximately 70 factories that employ approximately 80,000 to 90,000 workers. It is probable that the factory owners or others bring in these drugs and give them to the workers in order to increase their work performance.

The minister of public health emphasized that amphetamines are dangerous to the mental health of the people. He has tried to inform the people of the fact that this type of drug can destroy [a person's] health. During the first 4 hours after ingestion, the person will feel good, but after 8 hours, it will begin to have a bad effect on the body and mind. If a person uses this drug for a long time, he will become addicted.

Mr Amnuai Yotsuk, the deputy minister of public health, talked with reporters about factories giving the workers amphetamines in order to increase their work performance. He said that he had ordered drug inspections and officials from the Department of Health to go inspect the factories in order to take samples of the food and water and check the urine. If such drugs are being used, it is believed that the factories are in violation of many things, based on the drug and labor acts. The employers are also at fault. At present, activities are being coordinated with several government units.

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CSO: 5300/5666

THAILAND

HEROIN SMUGGLER, HIRED BY MALAYSIAN, ARRESTED

Bangkok TAWAN SIAM in Thai 1 Jan 82 p 1

[Photo caption]



[Text] Destructive heroin: Mr Pitikorn Saetang and the 20 bags of No 3 heroin, weighing 9.6 pounds and valued at 80 million baht, that were seized by officials from the Phahoyothin Police Station. He confessed that a Malaysian had hired him to transport the heroin.

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CSO: 5300/5666

THAILAND

HONG KONG MAN ARRESTED WITH HEROIN

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 9 Feb 82 p 3

[Text] A HONG Kong-Chinese man was yesterday apprehended after Crime Suppression Division police raided his apartment and allegedly found 3.1 kilogrammes of high-grade No 4 heroin.

The arrest of Chang Tuk Rung, alias Peter, 34, at Chamchan Court in Soi Thonglor, Sukhumvit Road, followed intensive investi-

gation by narcotics police of the CSD after the seizure of over seven kilogrammes of heroin and the capture of a Thai, movie producer and two actresses at Don Muang Airport over a week ago.

Pol Col Rungroj Yamakul, superintendent of the Seventh Sub-division of the CSD, said that

Chang has been living in Thailand for 14 years. He said Chang worked in a mining business in Ratchaburi for 7 to 8 years and later switched to a road construction business.

The heroin was found in 60 small plastic bags hidden in two suitcases in Chang's room, the police colonel alleged.



CSO: 5300/4926

THAILAND

COLUMNIST BLASTS EFFECTIVENESS OF ANTI-SUA RAID

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 9 Feb 82 p 5

[Please Wait, Sun column by Tabi Chaophraya: "Thoughts Before Sunrise"]

[Text] The poppies are still dazzling. I think people are correct when they say that even if Khun Sa dies, poppies will never die.

It is said that Khun Sa does not grow poppies but purchases raw opium, refines it into heroin and sells it, just like the 93rd Division, which does not grow poppies but makes money by running opium caravans. Even if Khun Sa leaves Thailand, the poppies will still be beautiful and dazzling. About 4 kilometers from Ban Hin Taek in the mountainous terrain, there are still very large areas planted in poppy, just as there is on Doi Mae Salong.

In short, on both Doi Mae Salong and in the mountains about 4 kilometers from Ban Hin Taek, on thousands of rai the poppies are blooming dazzlingly and waiting for the day that they will turn into dangerous narcotics. This product is produced by the various hill tribe groups that live on almost all the mountains here. Such groups include the Mussah, Ikaw and Lisu.

The irregulars [thahan phran] that drove Khun Sa out have confirmed that when they reached this area they smelled the strong smell of this plant. But they were not ordered to destroy the poppies! This may have been because the various hill tribes make their living growing poppy. That is, another group was encountered, one that much thought must be given to. This is what Thailand is like!

This is our country but others come and settle down here. They [should] not be above the law but it seems like they are. They [should not] have any rights but it seems that they do. We can only claim this and that. It is even necessary to "accept" them and give them comfort depending on the "reasons." Take the case of the United Nations refugees in Thailand, of which (only) 190,000 remain. Mr William Samaiser, the deputy high commissioner for refugees, has said that these refugees should be given Thai citizenship and allowed to settle down permanently in Thailand.

They know this is not right. Thailand is the one who has given these refugees a place to stay. But, as everyone knows, the Nobel Prize for Peace was given to the U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees. Yes. Thailand cannot get away from the word "must." We must accept these stateless people for humanitarian reasons and so on.

We probably cannot take any strong action against those who come to stay in Thailand for various reasons, and this includes the hill tribes who grow poppies for a living because of the various "reasons." But when everything is added up, it cannot be said that the Thais are the ones who "profit."

I am not blaming the Prem government for all these accumulated problems because the various diseases afflicting Thailand are like a chronic cancer than cannot be cured or that have been ignored so long that we are now in a coma.

In the report the "Smell of the Poppies," it is well known, isn't it, that 300,000 to 600,000 Thais between the ages of 16 and 24 are slaves to narcotics. They spend approximately 9.8 to 19.7 billion baht a year on drugs. How can we suppress narcotics? The only ones we can suppress are the small pushers! Or is there some way to "eliminate the weeds by digging up the roots?"

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CSO: 5300/5666

THAILAND

MARIHUANA SEIZED IN CHACHOENGSAO

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 14 Feb 82 p 16

[Article: "Young Man Transporting 1 Million Baht Worth of Marihuana By Truck to Bangkok [Is Arrested]"]

[Text] A DAO SIAM reporter assigned to Chachoengsao Province has reported that at 2200 hours on 12 February, Police Captain Wattana Charoensak, the deputy chief inspector at the Chachoengsao provincial police station in Bangnamprieu District, together with Police Sublieutenant Thirachai Chinsadathien, the head of the investigation section of the Special Operations Unit, and a force of officials went and inspected an unlicensed 6-wheel Hino truck belonging to Mr Michai Chaiwangsap, age 23, who lives at 128 Village 1, Tharae Commune, Muang District, Sakon Nakhon Province. The truck was parked in front of a Shell gasoline station opposite the Khlong Chao market along the Chachoengsao-Minburi highway in Bangnamprieu District, Chachoengsao Province.

During their search, the officials found 293 bags of marihuana, each weighing 6 kilograms, valued at approximately 1 million baht hidden in the compartment in the rear of the truck. The bags had been covered with bricks to keep them concealed from officials. The officials placed Mr Michai, the driver of the truck, under arrest, seized the marihuana as evidence and turned the suspect and evidence over to Police Sublieutenant Chaiyong Kritsanachinda, the officer on duty at the provincial police station in Bangnamprieu District for further investigation. Mr Michai stated that this marihuana did not belong to him but to Mr Noi (surname unknown), who, he said, had paid him 2,000 baht to transport it to Bangkok. But while Mr Michai was parked in front of the gasoline station waiting for another person to come and drive the marihuana the rest of the way into Bangkok, the officials came and arrested him. While they were searching the truck of Mr Michai, they noticed two pickup trucks drive up and survey the scene in front of the gasoline station. It is thought that these pickup trucks were the ones that were to meet the truck of Mr Michai but the two pickup trucks then sped off. After the investigation was completed, the officials placed Mr Michai under arrest for further handling of the case.

11943

CSO: 5300/5666

THAILAND

IRREGULAR TROOPS SAID TO BE MISUSED IN BAN HIN TAEK RAID

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 7 Feb 82 p 6

[Article: "The Secret 25 Million Baht Operation to Eliminate Khun Sa"]

[Text] "Last October, we received an intelligence report that a large shipment of opium would be transported into Thailand. The government ordered the irregulars [thahan phran] to intercept this shipment of opium. They did so and were also able to destroy three heroin refineries near the border," stated Major General Chaowalit Yongchaiyut, the director of the Directorate of Operations, on the "Conversations About the Country's Problems" program on the evening of 31 January.

He stated that in this operation, we lost one lieutenant and six warrant officers. The aim was to draw Khun Sa's forces away to the west so that the other 32 members of the [government's] force could escape.

MATICHON has checked the report file and it appears that this is exactly the opposite of what the Information Office of Supreme Command Headquarters reported on 8 October 1981. It reported that soldiers from the Third Army Area clashed with about 700 soldiers of unknown nationality on 7 October in the area of Ko Samakhi Village, which is located along the Thai-Burmese border in Chiang Rai Province. The fight continued through 8 October.

Thirty nine irregulars were ordered to go intercept a shipment of opium that was being guarded by 700 men (according to estimates of Supreme Command Headquarters). This does not make sense. First, how could just 39 irregulars engage a drug caravan since each caravan is escorted by hundreds of men. Second, these irregulars came from the Pak Thongchai camp in Nakhon Ratchasima. Most of them were northeasterners who were unfamiliar with the terrain. And what is important is that intercepting and destroying such caravans is the duty of the border patrol police.

Thus, there was probably something secret behind the venture of these 39 fearless irregulars.

A high-ranking news source of the border patrol police told MATICHON that the task of these irregulars was not to intercept the opium shipment but rather to kill Khun Sa, for whom a 500,000 baht reward has been offered.

Reports have stated that the army's Special Operations Center was the unit that coordinated things and formed the force. The government of one great-power country that has a policy of suppressing narcotics supported this by giving 25 million baht.

Of this 25 million baht, 13 million was used to purchase M16s with infrared [scopes] for the 39 irregulars, who underwent rigorous selection, and two pieces of infrared equipment. As for the remaining 12 million baht, it was used for the "personal expenses" of this unit that was to carry out a very risky operation. Each person received an average of approximately 400,000 baht.

This small operations unit was led by Lieutenant Athaphon (surname unknown). It was composed of eight warrant officers and 30 irregulars.

This brave unit travelled from the Pak Thongchai irregular camp in Nakhon Ratchasima to the Pratu Pha camp in Chiang Rai Province at the beginning of October 1981. Then at 0400 hours one morning they were dropped off in the Ban Sansai area, which is approximately 8 kilometers from Mae Sai District. From there, they walked through the jungle into the area of influence of Khun Sa in Burma. They clashed with forces of Khun Sa for the first time in an area about 4 kilometers from the Thai border. The news source stated that, during this clash, the irregulars killed 70 of Khun Sa's men when they attacked in the night in order to wipe out the irregulars. After this clash, this brave unit tried to make its way south. It had two more clashes with the forces of Khun Sa at Ban Mussar Puna-Chat. The news source stated that the unit killed about 100 of Khun Sa's men. This brave unit fled and re-entered Thailand at Ban Aku on 7 October. Forces of Khun Sa were moved in to eliminate it from both Burma and Thailand, that is, from the Ban Hin Taek area. Finding himself in this situation, Lieutenant Athaphon ordered his force to disband so that they could escape.

A special report in the 8-14 1981 issue of Prachamit on this top secret operation, an operation so secret that even Border Patrol Police Company 508, which is stationed near Ban Hin Taek, did not learn of the operation until after the clash, said that Border Patrol police Company 508 aided the eight irregulars who were wounded, which is in addition to the 10 who were killed. As for the others, the report stated that it is understood that they were captured by Khun Sa's forces. In this clash, inside Burma, Khun Sa's forces numbered at least 2,000 men.

It is not known whether this operation by this brave unit was carried out in order to intercept the shipment of opium or to kill Khun Sa and receive the 500,000 baht reward, or even the 25 million baht. But in any event it was a heroic operation and it should be publicized much more than it has been instead of being hushed up as if there was something hateful behind it.

11943
CSO: 5300/5666

THAILAND

BRIEFS

DRUG SEMINAR--Deputy Prime Minister Gen Prachuap Suntharangkun, who is also chairman of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board [ONCB], declared open the 5-day seminar on the prevention and treatment of drug dependence. Some 100 delegates from Thailand and abroad, including international organizations, attended the conference jointly sponsored by the International Council on Alcohol and Addiction, ONCB, and the Colombo Plan. The conference aims to hold wide discussions on drug dependence, including alcohol and other drugs, as well as legal and law enforcement intervention, therapeutic intervention, treatment and rehabilitation. [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 22 Mar 32 BK]

CSO: 5300/5689

CANADA

CONVICTION FOR COCAINE, MARIJUANA TRAFFICKING

Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 26 Feb 82 p A8

[Article by Gary Rennie]

[Text]

Joseph Bowyer was convicted by an Essex County Court jury Thursday of possession for the purpose of trafficking in cocaine and marijuana.

The 59-year-old Windsor businessman will be sentenced April 5 by visiting County Court Judge Frank Dunlap.

He was remanded out of custody pending sentencing but will report once a week to Windsor police.

Bowyer testified that cocaine found by RCMP in his car and other drugs found in his Windsor apartment belonged to a now-deceased business partner and that he had accepted the drugs as collateral on a loan.

BOWYER also denied that records seized from his apartment by RCMP and dealing with drug transactions were written by him.

But federal prosecutor Sheldon Schwartz told the jury Bowyer's story was ridiculous.

Schwartz said it made no sense for a businessman of Bowyer's experience to accept drugs as collateral on a loan. The drugs had no value unless they were sold, he pointed out.

THE JURY found Bowyer guilty Wednesday of possession of 24 grams of cocaine, 861 grams of marijuana, six vials of hash oil and possession of an unregistered handgun.

The issue of trafficking was dealt with separately by the jury. The burden of proof is on the accused to show that on a balance of probabilities he was in possession of the drugs for a purpose other than trafficking.

The cocaine and two loaded handguns were found when Bowyer was stopped in his car by RCMP March 13, 1980, not far from his Riverside Drive East apartment.

A SEARCH of Bowyer's apartment after his arrest turned up 861 grams of marijuana in two plastic bags, six vials of hash oil, weighing scales, and equipment that can be used to test the purity of cocaine.

Bowyer invested in mortgages in Windsor under his own name and a company name of St. Clair Investments.

He was also a co-owner of a LaSalle marina with Gary Parent and Roger Hunter, who died last year. The three

men paid \$185,000 for the property, now called the Pilot House, he said.

BOWYER said he loaned more than \$20,000 to Hunter but wasn't repaid and claimed he took the drugs, a handgun, and other drug-related items from Hunter as collateral on the loan. He said he had no plans to sell the drugs himself.

But Schwartz said it didn't make sense for Bowyer to take drugs from Hunter as collateral when Hunter's interest in the marina exceeded the value of the loan.

RCMP Sgt. Tom Stimpson, a handwriting analyst and document examiner, testified he examined known samples of Bowyer's handwriting and compared it with the handwritten records dealing with drug transactions that were found in Bowyer's apartment.

SGT. STIMPSON said he was satisfied all the records he compared were written by Bowyer.

RCMP Sgt. John Pratt, the officer in charge of the force's local drug section, said the value of cocaine at the time of Bowyer's arrest was about \$1,800 to \$2,600 per ounce

and \$90 to \$110 per gram, when sold on the street.

Pratt said the value of 861 grams of marijuana would have been about \$1,000 to \$1,100. The hash oil would have sold for \$30 to \$35 for a one-gram vial, he said.

PRATT SAID the records found in Bowyer's apartment dealt with a series of drug transactions.

Those records, which have been made exhibits in the trial, refer to a large number of transactions in cocaine, mescaline, LSD, hash oil and other drugs.

Schwartz told the jury the evidence showed Bowyer was a drug dealer at the distributor level, not the street level.

At the time of his arrest, Bowyer had two loaded handguns in the front seat area of the car, a holster under the seat, and cocaine in the glove compartment and trunk of his car, Schwartz noted. All this, he said, was consistent with the operation of a drug dealer.

IF BOWYER had really

accepted a box of drugs and drug-related equipment from Hunter, it would have made more sense for him to have put the box away in a secure place, Schwartz said.

Instead, Bowyer had various items around his apartment, including a substance used to dilute cocaine in his refrigerator. This was consistent with an existing drug operation, Schwartz said.

CSO: 5320/24

CANADA

MAN JAILED ON DRUG CHARGES CALLED MAJOR NIAGARA SELLER

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL, WEEKEND EDITION in English 6 Feb 82 p 5

[Text]

WELLAND — A man described as a major supplier of illicit drugs in the Niagara Region was sentenced in County Court yesterday to eight years in prison on four drug charges, including possession of \$500,000 worth of cocaine for the purposes of trafficking.

David Gordon Mitchell, 42, of Fort Erie, pleaded guilty to the cocaine charge in addition to a charge of possessing 10 pounds of marijuana valued at \$9,000 for the purposes of trafficking.

The charges were laid in September, 1981, by the Niagara Regional Police drug squad, which had staked out Mr. Mitchell's secluded country home for two weeks and arrested him when he retrieved a mayonnaise jar containing 1½ pounds of almost pure cocaine from an elaborate system of hiding places in a forest next to his property.

Court was told that Mr. Mitchell was seen to enter the forest and pull the cocaine from a rotten log. He had a German shepherd dog with him, but the animal failed to notice the hidden watchers, even though it once passed within five feet of two policemen.

Mr. Mitchell and his dog also failed to notice two policemen 65 feet up a tree, hidden behind a rough blind of twigs.

When police called to Mr. Mitchell, he ran and one officer fired a warning shot into the air. Mr. Mitchell fell to the ground and threw the bottle away.

In a search of his house after the arrest, police found watchdogs stationed around the property and a jaguar chained to the entrance to the house. Mr. Mitchell also kept a gaggle of geese, the best warning system in the world, Sgt. Stan Krysa said.

Defence lawyer

Charles Ryall told Judge G. G. Nicholls that Mr. Mitchell was a good neighbor.

In passing sentence, Judge Nicholls noted that Mr. Mitchell committed the 1981 offences while out on bail on previous drug charges.

CSO: 5320/23

CANADA

FIVE IMPRISONED FOR NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING

Windsor THE SATURDAY WINDSOR STAR in English 27 Feb 82 p A3

[Text]

Five men were sentenced in Essex County Court to long prison terms this week for possession of narcotics for the purpose of trafficking.

Patrick Benicy, 27, of Montreal was sentenced to 42 months in prison, and co-accused, Anthony Andreoni, 23, of Plantation, Fla., received an 18-month sentence.

Both men pleaded guilty to possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking. They were arrested Nov. 13 on the Canadian side of the Windsor-Detroit tunnel attempting to smuggle in 14 ounces of cocaine worth more than \$200,000 when broken down and sold on the street.

At the time of their arrest, the two men were under surveillance by a combined force of RCMP and U.S. drug enforcement administration agents.

Benicy and Andreoni were seen by agents leaving a car together on the U.S. side of the tunnel and then get on a tunnel bus.

THEY SAT IN separate seats on the bus and approached Canadian immigration officials separately as well. After

they were detained, the cocaine was found on Benicy.

In an unrelated case, three area men received prison terms after they pleaded guilty to conspiracy to traffic in marijuana.

Gary Freisinger, 23, and Graziano Callegari, 27, both of Windsor, were sentenced to 30 months in prison, and a co-accused, Mike Gillis, 27, of Colchester, received a 24-month sentence.

The three men were arrested July 7, 1980, in Wyandotte, Michigan, as they were loading a boat with 104 pounds of marijuana worth more than \$100,000 when sold on the street.

THE THREE WERE also under surveillance by RCMP, Michigan State police, and U.S. drug enforcement administration agents at the time.

They were observed picking up the marijuana in Riverside, Mich. and transporting it to a Wyandotte marina.

All five men were originally charged with importing narcotics, which carries a minimum sentence of seven years in prison, but pleaded guilty to the lesser charges.

CSO: 5320/23

CANADA

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED--A 28-year-old Prince George man has been charged following the seizure at Vancouver International Airport of 95 grams of heroin with a street sale value of about \$1 million. Jeremy Edward Nelson-Kent appeared Monday in Richmond provincial court and was remanded in custody to today. Nelson-Kent is charged with importing a narcotic and possession of heroin for the purpose of trafficking. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 26 Jan 82 p F8]

DRUGS SPUR CRIME WAVE--Montreal (CP)--The illegal drug trade has reached an all-time high in Montreal high schools and many students are turning to crime to support their habits including establishing their own drug-selling ring, says the head of the Montreal police drug squad. Robbery is the most common method used by teenagers to obtain money to purchase drugs, Det.-Capt. Henri Marchessault said. Police statistics indicate 46 per cent of armed robberies in Montreal are committed by teenagers. "The authors of these crimes often use the money they obtain as capital to set up their own trafficking businesses," the detective says. Because of the illicit nature of the trade, statistics are hard to formulate, but Marchessault estimates that the combined marijuana and hashish market in the city is worth hundreds of millions of dollars. Once accustomed to trafficking in so-called soft drugs, young people confidently turn to involvement in networks importing hard drugs such as cocaine and heroin, adds RCMP Insp. Al Breau. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 3 Feb 82 p B2]

CSO: 5320/23

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

ADDICTS ARRESTED--La Plata, 21 Mar--The Narcotics Department has arrested drug addicts Jose Alberto Martin, Argentine, 36; and Uruguayan citizens Miguel Angel Bermengo, 21; Martin Alvez Lopez, 25; and Romulo Ambrosio Vales Viera, 26. During the operation 250 grams of cocaine were seized. [PY261444 Buenos Aires CRONICA in Spanish 22 Mar 82 p 8]

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Buenos Aires, 23 Mar (TELAM)--Police Officer Lucas Belich reported today on the arrest of 18 members of two drug trafficking organizations and on the seizure of 10 and 1/2 kg of marihuana worth 141,500,000 Argentine pesos. The arrested persons are: Jose Serafin Aiello, also known as Pepe; Ruben Armando Moreno, also known as El Japones; Juan Carlos Perez, also known as Pingui; Carlos Alberto Ropano; Luis Roberto Gallino; Jorge E. Pillon; Nestor Angel Mentrina; Alberto Daniel Sosa; Mario Manuel Nunez; Raul E. Cairo; Adolfo Javier Aquilino; Enrique Juan Scamani; Jose Angel Gentile; Jose Damasco Fernandez; Alejandro Biardini; Hugo Guillermo Nenervini; Eduardo Daniel Brenner, and a minor whose identity has not been disclosed for legal reasons. [PY261444 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1715 GMT 23 Mar 82]

TRAFFICKERS KILLED, ARRESTED--Salta, 17 Mar (TELAM)--Authorized sources reported here today that one unidentified drug trafficker was shot dead and 10 others were arrested in an operation staged yesterday morning on Route 34 between the border town of Pocitos and the city of Tartagal, north of Salta. About 1,000 kg of coca leaves and 6 kg of cocaine, allegedly manufactured in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, were seized in the operation. [PY201813 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1343 GMT 17 Mar 82]

CSO: 5300/2244

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

TRAFFICKERS ESCAPE PRISON--La Paz, 9 Mar (AFP)--It was reported here today that six drug traffickers [as received] have escaped from the prison in the city of Cochabamba. Two of them have been recaptured, one was wounded in a confrontation, and Emilio Orellana, Andres Vusquez, Pedro Tapia, Pedro Villaroel and Pedro Esquivel are in hiding. Similarly, the Cochabamba police authorities reported that several hooded men, who passed themselves off as officials of the narcotics department, robbed a house located near the city of Cochabamba and killed one person. [PY261444 Paris AFP in Spanish 2204 GMT 9 Mar 82]

COCAINE FACTORY DISMANTLED--Santa Cruz, 15 Mar (PRESENCIA)--According to an official report, the army has dismantled a cocaine factory near the Japanese colony of Okinawa, 3 km from Santa Cruz. Thirty people were arrested and 54 kg of cocaine base were seized during the operation. [PY261444 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 16 Mar 82 p 4]

OFFICER DISCHARGED FOR TRAFFICKING--La Paz, 17 Mar (AFP)--It was reported here today that Bolivian Army Col (Ret) Angel Garcia Ricaldi, has been dishonorably discharged for having been discovered transporting five trucks loaded with coca toward San Borja, in the north of the country. [PY261444 Paris AFP in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Mar 82]

OFFICIAL CONVICTED ON DRUG TRAFFICKING--Miami, U.S., 22 Mar (AFP)--Former Secretary General of the Bolivian Agriculture Ministry Marcilio Ibanez Velez was sentenced by a federal court here today to 2 years imprisonment for having tried to smuggle \$8.5 million worth of cocaine into the United States. Federal Judge Eugene Spellman said when he pronounced the verdict that the defendant could be released on his own cognizance after completing at least one-third of the sentence. U.S. authorities were not able to capture Ibanez Velez, 35, when the crime took place, but he traveled voluntarily to the United States in January and confessed his guilt. [Text] [PY231340 Paris AFP in Spanish 0307 GMT 23 Mar 82]

CSO: 5300/2244

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZED--The police seized 2.65 kg of cocaine in Rio de Janeiro yesterday. The following persons were arrested: Joao Candido da Silva, Jose Quintino Pereira (57) and his sons Aldo Quintino Barreto (22) and Francisco Jose Pereira (34). [PY261444 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 19 Mar 82 p 18]

CSO: 5300/2244

COLOMBIA

MEXICAN COCAINE DEALER ACHIEVES FREEDOM

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Feb 82 p 2-A

[Article: "A Mexican Trafficker Scoffed at Everyone and Is Free"]

[Text] The "cock-and-bull story" of a lawyer, the apparent venality of a Legal Medicine official, and also the apparent ingenuousness of a criminal court judge made it possible for a powerful and dangerous international drug trafficker to scoff at the Colombian authorities and to go to Mexico, his native country.

David Enrique Kuri Mercader, a cocaine trafficking "leader," made use of every kind of trick to regain his freedom, after his arrest in Bogota on this past 4 December. When attempts at bribery of officials failed, his lawyer, with the help of alleged relatives, resorted to one of the legal provisions of the Legal Procedure Code and it turned out that the arrested person calmly flew off to his country.

The odd but not unusual episode began some days before 14 December 1981, when the Judicial Police of Eldorado received confidential information concerning the imminent arrival in Bogota of the Mexican drug trafficker, David Enrique Kuri Mercader, who was to arrive from Lima.

Detectives waited patiently until the arrival of the individual, who entered the country, seemingly in conformity with legal procedures. Then the suspected person was carefully followed. On 14 December he arrived at the Eldorado airport, to board a plane for Miami.

Kuri's Version

When the detectives searched David Enrique Kuri, they found 4 kilos of cocaine hidden on his body. On being analyzed at the Legal Medicine Institute, the cocaine was declared 98 percent pure.

At first Kuri Mercader gave a fantastic version, which obviously was not accepted by the authorities. He said that when he was in Unicentro he became acquainted with some unknown persons, and that they soon afterward put him in an automobile and told him that if he did not take a shipment of drugs to the United States, they would retaliate against Kuri's relatives in Mexico. And that, being

pressured by this threat, he had decided to carry out the orders of the gangsters.

When Kuri Mercader realized how skeptical the Judicial Police were of his "story," he changed tactics and offered money to the investigators if they would provide him with a favorable version. He told them that they should say that when he, Kuri, was arrested, he told the police that they had saved him from the threats of gangsters.

But the officials refused the offer, reported the fact, and placed the Mexican at the disposition of Judge 66 of the criminal court, Margot de Barragan. This officer ordered that Kuri be detained.

In the face of the failure of the above mentioned tricks, Kuri's lawyer decided to change his strategy. A powerful Mexican millionaire industrialist, Jose David Kuri Haddade, then appeared at the trial. He said that he was David Enrique's father and, in support of this, he presented a civil record to establish the relationship.

Then the industrialist said that his health was affected by the altitude of Bogota and went to Cartagena "on an emergency basis." There, Algio de Leon, a physician in the service of the Legal Medicine Institute, diagnosed Kuri Haddade as being in imminent danger of death. Kuri's lawyer used this certification and referred to article 452 of the Penal Procedure Code, which allows the suspension of preventive detention if the arrested person "is afflicted with a serious illness or when one of his immediate relatives or offspring, or the person's husband or wife, is in imminent danger of death in the judgment of official doctors."

Judge 66 of the criminal court, Margot de Barragan, heard the petition of the lawyer, decreed suspension of the detention, and returned Kuri's passport to him. She abstained, however, from obtaining authentication through consular channels of the civil record that presumably established that the "sick person" was really Kuri's father. Also, she omitted legal arrangements regarding surveillance for the person who had been granted the previously mentioned suspension.

Judge Margot de Barragan's decision produced a "miraculous cure" in the health of industrialist Jose David Kuri Haddade and the latter, accompanied by his alleged son, "as soon as he was free" flew up and away to Mexico, very much out of reach of the hands of Colombian authorities.

In the face of such mockery, the legal department of Bogota, headed by lawyer Fernando Navas Talero and the Attorney General's Office of the Nation, and through the Judicial Police, started an investigation, according to which it was established that Kuri Haddade had never been sick and that, in addition, it was never fully verified that he was the father of the drug trafficker.

One of the indignant investigators of this case told EL TIEMPO that the gangsters are right when they say that in Colombia "when the judicial authorities are not stupid, they can be bought." And international drug trafficking organizations make good use of this circumstance. They coldly calculate everything..."



David Enrique Kuri

8255

CSO: 5300/2215

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA SEIZED IN CESAR--Seven tons of marihuana ready for export were seized by the Colombian narcotics police in Becerril and Codazzi, Cesar Department. The drug traffickers fled before the police arrived. A clandestine airstrip with gasoline for refueling airplanes used for transporting marihuana was discovered in La Pinuela, (Pidijay), Magdalena Department. [PA261809 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Mar 82]

CSO: 5300/2221



Ramiro Vazquez Garza, Edwiges Enrique Martinez Vazquez, Abraham Martinez Vazquez, Santos Vazquez Garza and Pedro Villarreal Trevino were arrested by the Federal Police in a gully running from Guerrero to Sabinas, with a large shipment of smuggled electronic items. The latter was found to have half a gram of cocaine in his possession.

2909
CSO: 5330/70

MEXICO

SMUGGLERS OF ELECTRONIC GOODS CAPTURED WITH COCAINE

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 18 Feb 82 Sec D p 9

[Text] Agents of the Federal Judicial Police confiscated television sets and all types of electronic items in a gully between Guerrero and Sabinas Hidalgo, and succeeded in arresting five individuals, one of whom had with him half a gram of cocaine, which he claimed to be for his personal consumption.

Ramiro Vazquez Garza, Edwiges Enrique Martinez Vazquez, Abraham Martinez Vazquez, Santos Vazquez Garza and Pedro Villarreal Trevino are the individuals who were captured by the Federal Police and taken to this port to be placed at the disposal of the federal prosecutor on charges of smuggling.

Villarreal Trevino is the one found to have in his possession a small piece of paper containing a substance that was said to be cocaine, to which he claimed to be addicted. Now, the police will question him concerning the manner in which that drug was supplied to him.

The contraband, valued at 300,000 pesos, will be turned over to the customs authorities, according to the Federal Public Ministry, together with two vehicles, a pickup truck and a Volkswagen in which they were carrying the smuggled goods. They stated that they were attempting to carry the latter to Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon, where they would seek the means of shipping them farther south.

As has been noted, the Federal Judicial Police have been dealing heavy blows to the smuggling of goods all along the border strip.

MEXICO

BRIEFS

HEROIN RING SUSPECTS ARRESTED--One of the major figures in the border drug traffic, considered to have had this status for years, was captured by the Federal Judicial Police yesterday in this town, in an operation carried out to arrest the ringleader of the drug trafficking group that has been active in this region. The foregoing was reported to EL DIARIO yesterday by Federal Judicial Police sources, in connection with others allegedly arrested with Enrique Campos. The information provided last night was brief, and no official report or bulletin was issued announcing this important arrest. As may be recalled, Gustavo Campos (Enrique's brother), an individual who had been arrested with Beto Rodriguez, in Guadalajara, with over 8 ounces of pure cocaine, was released a few months ago. The trail of a presumed heroin distribution in this port is being followed, as is a purchase and sale contact which reportedly took place within the past few days. It is not known whether Enrique Campos was captured with any drugs, and it has been claimed that some more information regarding this arrest may be provided today. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 5 Mar 82 Sec A p 2] 2909

MARIHUANA SHIPMENT SEIZED--A total of 250 kilograms of marihuana concealed in the double bottom of a tank-type truck coming from Nayarit was seized by Federal Judicial Police forces at the Benjamin Hill plant health station. The drugs are worth 11.5 million pesos on the black market in the United States, the country to which they were enroute. The Federal Public Ministry agent, Pablo Ernesto Avila Triana, announced that the arrests of those responsible took place in two parts. The first one occurred on the Altar-Caborca highway, where the federal agents arrested Jesus Hector Lopez Beltran and Leonido Noriega Lopez, who were traveling in a 1977 Ford pickup truck with State of Mexico license plates. When they were subjected to close questioning those arrested stated that they had been driving in order to find the tank-type truck driven by Manuel Vazquez Torres, to obtain the marihuana shipment that was later to be taken into the United States for sale. A few moments later, those responsible for the aforementioned drugs gave the names of two other individuals implicated in this drug traffic, namely, the following: Jose Cruz Felix and Miguel Orozco, who were also arrested and placed at the disposal of the agent of the Federal Public Ministry. Avila Triana also reported that the 250 kilograms carried in the lower section of the tank-type truck, which had been divided into 43 cardboard boxes, is the largest marihuana seizure made this year. [Text] [Hermosillo EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 11 Mar 82 Sec A p 2] 2909

NINE DRUG PLANTATIONS DESTROYED--A total of nine plantations on which poppies and marihuana were being grown, located in the Alamos mountain area, on Cajon de Guirocosa, a communal farm belonging to the municipality of Alamos, Sonora, were burned by forces from the Fourth Military Zone, affiliated with the Canador [Marihuana-Poppy] Plan. The agent of the Federal Public Ministry, Pablo Ernesto Avila Triana, stated that on these plantations, which covered an area of approximately 5 hectares, two persons answering to the names of Gregorio Leon Ochoa and Luciano Apodaca Cebreros were arrested. Both were communal farmers, who were responsible for tending four plantations in that area. He added that, when these individuals were questioned, they gave the names of other subjects who are more directly involved in the planting of these types of drugs, and who will not be mentioned for purposes relating to the investigation, since it is intended to capture the ringleaders of this organized gang. As for the value of the drugs which were burned, Avila Triana said that the plants per se have no value except for the product extracted from them after they have been planted for some time, namely, heroin. In this case, he noted, it is estimated that the organized underworld ring intended to procure heroin which, when processed, would command a price of 2 million pesos on the black market. He said that the most important aspect of this case is the fact that, when these drug plantations are destroyed, the Mexican farmers are reincorporated into the country's food production, while at the same time the marketing of drugs is eradicated. [Text] [Hermosillo EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 10 Mar 82 Sec A p 10] 2909

CUSTOMS GUARD, TRAFFICKER KILLED--A drug trafficker with a sinister record in this town was killed early Tuesday morning during a gun battle with customs guards in a gully before he could reach Monterrey, Nuevo Leon. According to the reports supplied from Monterrey by the commander of the Seventh Customs Zone, Jesus Avalos Ficachi, the deceased answered to the name of Rodolfo Garza Cortez, alias "El Opi"; however, the name of the guard killed in the skirmish was not provided, because the Nuevo Leon authorities are continuing the investigation. It was said that Garza Cortez was driving a small truck through the gully, where a checkpoint had been established by the customs officials, who ordered the trafficker to halt; but the latter, instead of obeying the command, responded by firing a pistol. One of the bullets aimed at the group of customs officials hit a member of the latter, and hence they returned the fire, killing the drug trafficker. This individual had been incarcerated in the La Loma prison on several occasions, on charges of crimes against health; and his criminal career began in 1971. The latest action taken against Garza Cortez was brought by the penal judge of the first instance, for the commission of a crime of stealing livestock; and he was released in that case on 29 June of last year. Thus far, the reasons for the deceased's firing at the guards are unknown, but it is presumed that the truck which he was driving was stolen, and that at the same time he was carrying foreign goods brought into the country illegally. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 4 Mar 82 Sec A p 8] 2909

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS JAILED--Yesterday, the second district judge issued a writ for official imprisonment of Jose Luis Rodriguez Robles, or Luis Manuel Rodriguez Robles, alias "La Escalera", and Francisco Galvan Urbina, as

individuals presumed guilty of a crime against health in the degree of marihuana transportation. Following their release from jail, the two subjects heard the decision of the judge in whose jurisdiction the action to be taken against them for the crime committed previously will be continued. The Federal Judicial Police arrested "La Escalera" and his wife, Griselda Zamudio, as well as Francisco, when they were traveling in a Mexican Airlines plane last Wednesday, carrying with them three suitcases filled with marihuana, having a total weight of 30 kilograms. Naturally, "La Escalera" and Galvan Urbina denied the charges, particularly the statements that they had made to the State Judicial Police guard, claiming that they had been pressured to declare themselves guilty. The release of Griselda Zamudio took place at the agency of the Federal Public Ministry, according to the legal reservations, after the other two had stated that she had nothing to do with this case. "La Escalera", a subject with a police record in this town, had been watched for some time, when it was found that he was trafficking with grass, using the Mexican Airlines plane arriving from Mexico City. At first, this subject confessed that he had been engaged in this illegal business for some time. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 3 Mar 82 Sec B p 7] 2909

CSO: 5330/73

PANAMA

ROUTES, METHODS OF COLOMBIAN COCAINE TRAFFICKERS DISCUSSED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 7 Mar 82 p 180

[Article by John Alius]

[Text] Panama, by virtue of its strategic position as the hub of air traffic in the Western Hemisphere, is today an important point of intersection in international drug smuggling. Although precise statistics are unavailable on the volume of traffic in the country, it is estimated that about \$20 billion annually in cocaine, marijuana and other narcotics destined for consumer countries pass through Panama. The narcotics originate primarily in Colombia, which in recent years has become notorious for its cocaine; they arrive in the Caribbean aboard commercial and private aircraft, freighters or small vessels and are subsequently reshipped from Panama City. Increasingly, the preferred route is via Brazil. At first glance, to ship Colombian cocaine from Panama to the United States via Brazil might seem senseless. However, the narcotics syndicates are opting for "circuitous" routes to confuse drug enforcement agencies and throw them off the track. In this highly lucrative trade, which has become the most serious criminal problem in the United States, the Colombians are the cruelest and most ruthless murderers in this hemisphere.

Panama City--It only took a long afternoon asking questions in certain places to obtain several names and telephone numbers, but then it took 3 1/2 days of patient flattery and cajoling to arrange a meeting. This is not surprising; the matter at hand was an illegal business which, in the United States alone, annually represents more money than the Gross Domestic Product of most countries.

From the outset, we made no attempt whatever to deceive the professionals in the field. We never said we were new to the business and wanted, if possible, to negotiate with them--a lie which they would have seen through immediately. We said simply that Panama is known as an important crossroad for international narcotics traffic and that there must be someone, on the wrong

side of the law, who was willing to discuss the matter.

That someone, as we had already predicted, was a Colombian. Some years ago the Panamanians were deeply involved in drug traffic, but today, although Panama is considered the major exchange post for illegal drug traffic to the United States and other countries, it is the Colombians who are directing the operations. This is primarily for two reasons. The first is that the Colombians control the flourishing production of cocaine, which has become the world's preferred narcotic, and the Colombians are extremely ruthless when it comes to insuring their control over the wholesale and even the retail distribution of the product.

The second reason is that Panama's former strong man Omar Torrijos instilled an intense fear of drug traffic in his countrymen. This does not mean that money from the drug trade is no longer circulating among Panamanians. Generally, however, the amounts are small.

The Colombian had the egotistical air of someone who knows he is an important figure, albeit in a closed circle of outlaws. Curiously, however, he did not dress at all ostentatiously; the only jewelry he wore was a gold watch with a gold band. Our meeting, arranged through a local journalist, took place in the dimness of one of the countless nightclubs on Avenida Espana in Panama City. These establishments charge exorbitant prices to the tourists who venture out from their luxury hotels to frequent them.

"You can call me Sanchez," the Colombian said. "Roberto Sanchez. My wife, my lovers, the Panamanian authorities and the U.S. drug enforcement agents know my real name. But you can call me Sanchez.

"The problem for the police," he added. "is that they know who I am and what I do, but they have no evidence to prove it." This is because, although Sanchez annually deals in billions of dollars in drug trade, he has never had any physical contact with the cocaine, heroin, marijuana or narcotics in pill form that pass through Panama.

"The people who deal in this material or, as in my case, ship it are smart and rich," he said proudly at one point. "The people who use it are dumb and, for the most part, poor. I have never personally used any of the drugs that come through here because I am known and I do not want to be caught with drugs in my possession. I only arrange contacts between couriers and make and revise travel plans--things like that."

Sanchez describes himself as a combination of dispatcher and, occasionally, bill payer and collector for one of the five or six Colombian syndicates that use Panama as a redistribution point. "Most of the money changes hands in Colombia, Miami and New York--some of it in Frankfurt and some other European cities," he adds. "Even so, a few million passes through my hands every year and I enjoy the feel of it."

According to Sanchez, his syndicate generally uses commercial flights, but also uses small private planes, one or two freighters and small ships. The

The syndicate's cocaine shipments through Panama last year was between \$3.5 billion and \$4.5 billion--the "street" value of the product.

"This year the figure will be much higher," he added. "In the first place, the prices will be higher, and in the second place, with the disappearance of Torrijos, we foresee a relaxation of the vigilance against us here in Panama, which will enable us to use this area on a much larger scale than before."

Torrijos was killed in an air disaster at the end of last year. Some 10 years ago, disturbed by reports in the world press about the involvement of Panamanian government officials and diplomats (who were said to include his older brother Moises), Torrijos ordered a campaign against drug traffic, especially against the participation of Panamanian citizens, and he maintained his concern in the matter until his death.

Even so, only a small part of the drugs that pass through Panama is confiscated. In 1981, \$10 million worth of drugs was confiscated. As astronomical as that figure seems, it becomes almost insignificant when it is estimated that about \$20 billion in cocaine and other narcotics goes to consumer countries via Panama.

Billions at Stake

The DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration), the U.S. agency for the control of drug traffic, has a branch in Panama, with offices in the Embassy of the United States. A DEA agent said that no one has reliable statistics on the volume of traffic through Panama. "To know the exact amount, it would be necessary to detain every trafficker and check out his bag, but we have an approximate idea, based on the quantity of drugs actually seized and on the estimated consumption of these products in the United States. According to these calculations, between \$15 billion and \$20 billion in narcotics passed through Panama last year, owing to the strategic location of the country." The figure mentioned by the American agent is generally consistent with the information supplied by Sanchez, since the Colombian said his syndicate was only one of five or six syndicates that use Panama in their operations.

According to DEA estimates (based on "street" prices), over \$32 billion in cocaine and \$27 billion in marijuana was smuggled into the United States last year, over all routes.

Panamanian authorities dispute the figures supplied by the DEA regarding the drug traffic through Panama. According to one of these sources, based on street prices, the traffic was "more or less on the order of \$1 billion;" another source put the figure much higher: \$12 billion. Like the DEA agent, however, these sources admit they have no concrete evidence on which to base their estimates.

For the drug smugglers, Panama's value lies in the fact that the country is at the center of the air traffic in the Western Hemisphere and is located close to northern Colombia. In recent years, Colombia has become so notorious as a cocaine producer that customs inspectors all over the world go on the

alert when planes or ships arrive directly from that country.

Consequently, the syndicates ship their cocaine, marijuana and illegally manufactured drugs, such as quaaludes by all the routes at their disposal, preferring Panama as the point of reshipment. The cocaine is almost always shipped by air, frequently on private planes that fly only short distances and land on clandestine fields, but also aboard commercial flights and on small vessels that unload their cargo on the Caribbean coast. Whatever the means of their arrival in the country, the cocaine and pills are almost always rerouted through Panama City. The marijuana frequently goes through the region of Colon.

"An increasingly popular route," the DEA agent said, is from Panama via Brazil. To ship Colombian cocaine to the United States from Panama via Brazil does not make much sense, at first glance, but when you are dealing in a product worth billions of dollars, a few extra hours of flight time, a little added expense, ceases to be important.

"There is almost as little inclination to ship the drug directly from Panama to Miami or New York as there is to ship it directly from Bogota or Medellin. Those responsible for suppression of drug smuggling are already expecting this, but, in the past, who would have expected cocaine to arrive in New York from Rio de Janeiro? The U.S. customs inspectors certainly were not expecting it, and many of them do not consider such a possibility even today. Nor were the Brazilians expecting cocaine from Panama, because there is not much demand for it in Brazil."

Sanchez confirms this: "It is no secret to the narcotics agents (otherwise I would not be telling you, obviously) that we are using the most circuitous and confusing routes we can think of to get the material out of Panama. Cost is not an important factor. Last year we moved regular amounts of the material through Brazil."

Creating a Profession

Drugs are transported, for the most part, by "couriers" who fly on commercial planes.

"Many of these couriers," Sanchez said, "are individuals who are prepared to take the risk just one time, to earn what seems to them to be a 'huge bundle.' But there are a surprising number of people, at least in our organization, who make a career of it. They are not at all worried about the risk."

Sanchez prefers good-looking women to serve as one-time couriers. "When we recruit a woman with good legs and a pretty face, there is every likelihood that she will succeed in getting a few kilos of the drug through customs without any problem. The customs officers are just like any other men; they are a little shy around a pretty woman and are not inclined to suspect her, much less give her a hard time."

Besides Brazil, Mexico has also become increasingly popular as an intermediate point in shipping cocaine from Panama to the United States. A half-dozen airlines fly between Panama and Mexico, and the Mexicans, more hospitable to tourists than any other Latin American people, almost always allow passengers through customs without any problems. From Mexico City, the couriers may choose among various airlines with connecting flights to several North American cities besides New York and Miami, such as Los Angeles, San Antonio and Chicago. Some of them rent cars at Mexico City's international airport and drive to the American border. At some points--Tijuana, Nuevo Laredo, Ciudad Juarez and Matamoros--the U.S. customs inspectors have been on the alert for drug smugglers for some time, but in many other locations it is almost as easy to cross the border as it is to travel from one state to another in the United States.

"It is a long trip from Mexico City to the border, but it is worth the trouble," said Sanchez, "because it pays off."

The DEA agents are disappointed that they are not intercepting as much cocaine in Panama as they think they should. "But if you think about it," said one agent, "why should the Panamanians, Mexicans and others be concerned about drugs passing through their countries destined for the United States? The fact is that in their own countries, even in Colombia, they have few problems with narcotics, so they feel it is up to the consumer, i.e., the United States, to stop the drug traffic. They see little reason to do our work for us."

Sanchez agrees that there is little demand for drugs in Panama. "If we had to live off the sale of cocaine and marijuana to the Panamanians, we would starve to death. There is a certain demand for cocaine here in Panama City--by high society, on one hand, and poor people on the other--and a certain market for marijuana. In Colon, more marijuana is sold than cocaine, because the people there are poorer. But it is so little that it is not worth discussing."

Panama City, with its bustling international airport, is the transfer point for cocaine; Colon, an important port on the Atlantic side of the isthmus, is used for marijuana.

Pure cocaine does not travel well under humid conditions; therefore, given the great value of the product, it is usually transported by air. A quantity of cocaine with a retail value of \$1 million in New York City can easily be concealed between the shirts and socks in a man's hand luggage.

Production of this incredible substance begins in Colombia, Peru and Bolivia. It starts with coca, in the form of small, thick green leaves that grow in clusters. The leaves, which were once chewed by the Indians in those countries as a mild stimulant, are gathered, boiled and sold to primary processors for less than \$20 per kg. The processors place the leaves in open pits in the ground or in 200-liter barrels. They cover them with a mixture of kerosene, sulfuric acid, potassium carbonate and water, and let them "cook" for several days to extract the cocaine hydrochlorate. The resulting precipitate is a thick pasty substance, ashy-white in color, with a kerosene odor. It is known as cocaine paste. The paste, worth \$4,000 to \$8,000 per kg, is sent to

laboratories--most of which are located in Colombia but some of them are in Peru and Amazonia--where it is refined and turned into what is customarily called "pure cocaine." At this point--the stage at which the material reaches Panama--it is worth \$20,000 per kg, and it will be worth \$50,000 when it reaches its destination in the United States or, sometimes, in Europe. There it is combined with various other material in a mixture containing about 10 percent pure cocaine, packaged in tiny envelopes and sold on the retail market for \$100 to \$125 per gram, that is, over \$80,000 per kg. This is the so-called "street value" of the drug.

Bribery Part of the Business

"The idea," said Sanchez, "is to reduce the volume of the material as much as possible before shipping it. One of the beauties of the business is that you start with a huge volume of coca leaves; these are reduced to practically nothing--the phase in which the material is shipped to the market--and then you expand the volume again by adulterating. Marvelous!"

According to the Panamanian police, there are several small operators in the country. They get the refined cocaine from the syndicates that use Panama as a transfer point and prepare it for sale on the local retail market. There are no laboratories in Panama for production of refined cocaine, however, much less for cocaine paste, the initial phase of production.

Even if it were practical to set up laboratories in Panama, the Colombian syndicates would hardly have done so, for two reasons, according to Sanchez. "The laboratories would certainly have been discovered and they would have had to pay huge bribes to keep them in operation. And if the bribes didn't work--which would probably have been the case in Torrijos' time--the punishment here would have been swift and harsh."

Nonetheless, Sanchez said that he and his colleagues from other syndicates bribe officials of Panama's air and sea ports, which costs them thousands of dollars a year. "It's part of the business. You think we don't bribe North American airport employees? If I didn't buy off certain people here, before long we would not have any "pack mules" (couriers)."

In Panama the penalties for drug smuggling could amount to several years in prison, and they are imposed after summary trials. As an indication of how Panamanian justice can be "swift and harsh," there is the example of a purse-snatching on a recent Sunday afternoon. The theft occurred at 1430 hours. The thief was arrested after a swift chase, booked at a police station, taken to a local court, tried and sentenced to a year in prison at 1630 hours that same afternoon.

"Omar said to us before he died that we must put a stop to crime in this country," a policeman said. Torrijos was so disturbed by the reports involving Panama in drug traffic that he declared he was even prepared to order the arrest of his own brother.

When Moises Torrijos was a Panamanian ambassador, in 1972, U.S. Government officials accused him of being involved in smuggling heroin into the United

States. Other Panamanian diplomats were also accused. Omar Torrijos "begged" them to present evidence that the accusations against his brother were founded in fact, "because, if he is guilty, I will send him to prison." No evidence was ever forthcoming against Moises, but other prominent Panamanians were arrested. One of them was the former chief of the international transit department of Tocumen Airport in Panama City.

Since then, Moises Torrijos has been on the fringes of political life in Panama. None of the Panamanian political parties is inclined to take him very seriously and, at least in recent years, no prominent Panamanian appears to have been involved in drug smuggling.

"I could talk about some 'small fish,'" Sanchez said, "in both civilian and military sectors, but it would be very risky for me."

The American DEA office in Panama is one of the largest existing in foreign countries, but its agents will not talk.

"All our investigations are secret and, actually, everything we do is to assist our Panamanian colleagues," said a DEA spokesman. "You can be sure that there are very good reasons for the existence of a DEA office in Panama."

One of the reasons is that known and suspected couriers and traffickers who pass through Panama can be reported to DEA colleagues in the United States.

Cruellest Assassins

Paco Sepulveda and Marta Lidia Cardona are two Colombians who visit Panama from time to time to keep the business wheels running smoothly.

It is known that Sepulveda ships cocaine from Colombia to New York via Panama and Mexico. Cardona ships his merchandise mainly to Miami and other northern points in the United States, using South American routes.

Sepulveda is living in Mexico. Cardona, who occupied a luxurious residence in Miami before he was obliged to flee the country last year, is now directing his operations from Colombia. He was arrested "in flagrante" by the DEA in the United States and, since his trial was coming up, he posted bond of \$200,000 to obtain his release and fled the country. For him, this was a pittance.

Before he moved to Mexico, Sepulveda had his command post in New York. He left the United States because he had tried to take over another syndicate's territory and the climate in New York was very sticky for him. Justice officials the world over consider Colombian drug traffickers to be the most ruthless criminals in the hemisphere. In New York and Miami, where various syndicates and even independent traffickers are always trying to "cut each other's throats," there are several killings every month.

Sepulveda left New York after he narrowly escaped being shot to death by a gunman who killed one of his assistants. Since then, killers seeking to take

over the operations he directs from abroad have already murdered a half-dozen members of Sepulveda's ring. One of them was a 32-year-old Colombian named Jose Martinez, who carried six false passports. He, his wife and two daughters were recently killed on a New York street. A shotgun and a 0.9 caliber Beretta were the murder weapons. The two adults and the 4-year-old daughter, who were inside a car, were killed instantly. When the gunmen saw that the other child, aged 16 months, was still alive, they pulled her from the car by her feet and put six bullets in her back.

Police who inspected the Martinez apartment after the killing found \$1 million in cash, 70 kg of cocaine and several plastic bags containing gold jewelry.

"Nothing like that happens in Panama," said a police official. "We know perfectly well that the drugs come through here, although we feel that the volume is not as high as is thought. We do what we can to interrupt the flow, but we have limited resources. I can say, however, that if these murders occurred in Panama we would probably punish some people first and ask questions later."

"There is no reason for bloodshed in Panama," Sanchez said. "We just work here as dispatchers. The killings happen at the end of the line. It has never occurred to me to rip off some courier on his way to the hotel. We Colombians here live and let live."

The drug-related crimes in Panama seem to occur mainly in Colon and are generally the result of squabbles between local operators over the sale of marijuana.

Grass is easily obtained in Colon. Some transoceanic freighters that dock at this large port are used in marijuana traffic, but most of the marijuana, like the small amount of cocaine transported by sea, is carried on smaller ships.

According to information from sailors in Colon, a method often used to take drugs out of Colombia consists in loading them on "fishing" boats which rendezvous in Panamanian waters, to the north, with high-speed American luxury yachts. Drug smuggling is so lucrative that when the yachts' owners are in danger of being apprehended they do not hesitate to abandon their boats, which are worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. Many of these yachts are moored at Florida ports, confiscated by the Coast Guard.

It is extremely difficult to detect these boats entering and leaving Panamanian waters and even more difficult to catch them, because of the limited number of patrol boats available. "It is only the airports that we can make any real progress in combating drug traffic," said a Colon inspector.

The FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) also has agents in the U.S. Embassy in Panama. It is probable that they will soon join with their colleagues in the DEA and the Panamanian authorities in an effort to cut off the passage of drugs through this country. U.S. Attorney General William French Smith recently called narcotics the "most serious criminal problem" in the United States.

6362

CSO: 5300/2223

IRAN

BRIEFS

QUCHAN DRUG SEIZURE--The anti-drug squad has announced that during the past week they have seized 8 kg of heroin and 151.960 kg of opium from a number of persons in Quchan, Kashmar and Rey. [GF211804 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 22 Feb 82 p 2 GF]

TORBAT-E JAM OPIUM SEIZURE--The Torbat-e Jam anti-drug squad has seized 450 kg of opium from a number of persons. [Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 22 Feb 82 p 4 GF]

NEYSHABUR OPIUM SEIZURE--The Neyshabur Islamic Revolution Committee has seized 10 kg of opium and arrested the members of a smuggling band. [Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 22 Feb 82 p 4 GF]

TEHRAN DRUG SEIZURES--Members of anti-drug squad have seized 1.3 kg of heroin in Tehran. The public relations official of this squad announced its activities between 22 November and 19 February as follows: a) the Khorasan gendarmerie has seized 204.850 kg of opium; b) the Gorgan anti-drug squad has seized 2.45 kg of heroin; c) in Sistan va Baluchestan Province the anti-drug squad has seized 79.5 kg of hashish from a number of persons; d) the East Azarbayjan gendarmerie has seized 148 kg of opium, and 26,053 kg of heroin; e) the Yazd gendarmerie has seized 1.5 kg of opium and similarly, the Hamadan anti-drug squad has seized 3.750 kg of opium. [Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 22 Feb 82 p 13 GF]

DRUGS SEIZED IN NEHAVAND--The Nehavand Islamic Revolution Court has sentenced two persons to death for possession of 22.6 kg of opium. The Esfahan Islamic Revolution Court has sentenced one person to death for possession and sale of 20.8 kg of opium juice and 106 kg of opium and for hiding another 32 kg of opium. [Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 21 Feb 82 p 2 GF]

OPIUM SEIZED IN DARREH GAZ--The Darreh Gaz anti-drug squad has seized 5 kg of opium from one person. [Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 22 Feb 82 p 4 GF]

OPIUM SEIZURE IN SARAKHS--The Sarakhs gendarmerie has seized 25 kg of opium from two persons. [Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 29 Feb 82 p 4 GF]

HAMADAN HEROIN SEIZURE--The Hamadan anti-drug squad has seized 26.591 kg of heroin. [Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 28 Feb 82 p 15 GF]

SHIRAZ OPIUM TRAFFICKING--The Islamic revolution court of Shiraz sentenced a woman and man to life imprisonment on charges of trafficking 25.5 kg of opium. [Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Feb 82 p 7 GF]

BOSTANABAD OPIUM SEIZURE--Committee guards of Bostanabad seized 25 roll opium weighing 0.500 grams from an individual. [Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Feb 82 p 7 GF]

OPIUM DISCOVERY IN SABZVAR--Islamic revolutionary guards in Sabzvar seized 22.200 kg of opium and 30 roll opium from two professional traffickers. [Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Feb 82 p 7 GF]

ESFAHAN DRUG DISCOVERY--The Esfahan police seized the following quantities of drugs between 21 January and 19 February: 1.743 kg heroin, 3.246 kg opium, 0.97 gram burned opium, 0.505 grams opium juice, 22 grams of (jouhar-e naghari) and 105 tablets of hallucinogen. [Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Feb 82 p 8 GF]

OPIUM SEIZED IN 'ALIGUDARZ--Brother members of resistance headquarters of Deh Now village of 'Aligudarz seized 2 kg of opium from several traffickers. [Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Feb 82 p 8 GF]

SHIRVAN OPIUM DISCOVERY--The Islamic revolutionary guards patrol of Faruj discovered 3 kg of opium in an individual's possession. [Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 7 Mar 82 p 4 GF]

OPIUM SEIZED IN CHABUKSAR--Members of Chabuksar mobilization seized 1 kg opium from an individual. [Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 7 Mar 82 p 4 GF]

FARS DRUG SEIZURE--The Sapidan Islamic Revolution Guards patrol has seized 1 kg opium from a Peykan car. The four passengers of the car were arrested and handed over to the authorities. [GF301835 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 29 Mar 82 GF]

MASSIVE DRUG SWOOP--A group of drug peddlers has been arrested in Larestan and 25 kg of opium was seized from their possession. Fasa Islamic Revolution Guards recovered 2.2 kg of opium from two persons who were later handed to the authorities. [GF301834 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 30 Mar 82 GF]

HAMEDAN HEROIN HAUL--The Hamedan antidrug squad has seized 26.591 kg of heroin from a welding workshop in Hamedan and arrested four persons in this connection. [GF241800 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Mar 82 p 4]

MASHHAD OPIUM SEIZURE--The vigilant gendarmerie of Gonabad District has recovered 95.2 kg of opium from inside the tires of a pickup truck. Four traffickers were arrested. [GF241800 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Mar 82 p 4]

SMUGGLERS ARRESTED--Members of the "Ahmad Mostajab" group of international drug smugglers have been arrested near Kashan, and 225 kg of opium were seized from them. Some members of the group were killed in the encounter. [GF241800 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 1 Mar 82 p 4]

HUGE DRUG HAUL--The gendarmerie officials of Sistan va Baluchestan Province have seized 126 kg of opium and opium residue during the past 3 days. The guilty persons have been handed over to the authorities. [GF271440 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 14 Mar 82 p 2]

GUN, HEROIN SEIZED--The officials of the antidrug squad of Quchan recovered 35 kg of opium, 5 kg heroin and a Colt revolver from a group of smugglers in the hilly areas of Tayyebat. [GF271440 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 14 Mar 82 p 2]

OPIUM SEIZURE--According to IRNA, the Guards Corps clashed with some smugglers yesterday in Qal'eh-Kobra village in Torbat-e Jam and seized 97.5 kilos of opium. [Text] [LD230242 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Mar 82]

FARS DRUG HAUL--The Central Committee of Fars and Borazjan has seized 9 kg of opium. The guilty persons have been handed over to the Bushehr Islamic Court. [GF281949 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 28 Mar 82]

CSO: 5300/5377

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

WARNING ON DRUGS--Cape Town--South Africa was experiencing a serious drug problem which was getting worse, the head of the Narcotics Bureau, Colonel Vasie Smit, said yesterday. There had been a swing away from dagga to more dangerous drugs, like Welconel, Mandrax and Cocaine. It was impossible for the police to fight the problem alone and there was an urgent need for the community to adopt a more positive and aggressive attitude.--Sapa [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Mar 82 p 12]

CSO: 5300/5685

AUSTRIA

THREE NIGERIANS SENTENCED FOR SMUGGLING MARIHUANA

Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 23 Feb 82 p 6

[Text] Three dark-skinned defendants--two men and a woman whose varicolored head-scarf made her seem exotic--who had been in detention pending trial, were brought before a jury on Monday. They had tried to smuggle 84 kg of marihuana from Lagos, Nigeria, to Vienna by air, and then on to London, on 14 November 1981. Although the shipment of drugs was concealed with moth balls in all four of their pieces of luggage, a dog used for detecting narcotics discovered the drug. All three of them were called upon by Public Prosecutor Dr Ernst Kloyber yesterday to defend themselves against charges of violating the narcotics law and, in view of the tremendous quantity involved, endangering the public weal, and of attempted smuggling.

All three of the Nigerians, who were defended by Dr Peter Philipp and Dr Achim Maurer, admitted that they were guilty to a certain extent. The 44-year-old merchant Sulaiman Ayoade may have been the one who took the lead. He persuaded his friend Afolorunso Adebowale, who is also 44, to accompany him on a smuggling trip to Europe. Adebowale said yesterday that he had not been aware of the gigantic amount involved until the bags filled full of marihuana were checked in at the Lagos airport. He paid additional charges of the overweight bags. Ayoade asserted that he only transported the marihuana to Europe as a favor for his friend and that he had had nothing to do with buying it.

The third defendant, the 28-year-old Mulikat Fasaanski, Ayoade's wife, had kept the keys to the bags used for drug smuggling in her handbag. Nevertheless, her husband, Ayoade, claimed that his wife had not known anything about the drug smuggling and that she only wanted to buy clothes in London. That claim was refuted by a teletype message from Interpol which was presented to the court during the trial.

The confiscated narcotics represent a value of about 1 million schillings. Adebowale was sentenced to 3 years in prison and Ayoade and Mrs. Fasaanski were both sentenced to 3 and a half years.

9258
CSO: 5300/2220

BELGIUM

NETHERLANDER HELD FOR SMUGGLING HASHISH, ARMS

Brussels DE STANDAARD in Dutch 18 Feb 82 p 9

[Article by D.M.: "Drug Merchant Now Also Suspected of Arms Smuggling"]

[Text] Deurne--The Netherlander Johannes Fasen (31) from Breda, who was arrested together with his girlfriend Anthonia Lambregts (29) at the Deurne airport by the state police when 240 kg very pure hashish was found in his private airplane, at a market value of about 30 million [Belgian] francs, is regarded to be an important drug smuggler. It had been established that he regularly made similar trips between Morocco and the Netherlands. It is said that the reason he landed in Deurne was that there was trouble at the airfield in Seppe (the Netherlands), his usual destination. The detained Netherlander now has also been found to be under suspicion for arms smuggling.

The aircraft, an Air Commander TC14 with Dutch registration PH-REL, landed Saturday evening at the Deurne airfield. The state police assigned to guard the airfield subjected the airplane to a close inspection and asked the pilot Johannes Faser, who was accompanied by his girlfriend and compatriot Anthonia Lambregts, where they had come from and what their destination was. In answer they received a series of coordinates which was not an adequate explanation. The airplane was subjected to a sharp inspection with surprising success.

The police found eight packages packed in jute, each weighing 30 kg, consisting of four bricks of very highly refined hashish in plastic bags in each jute package. The trade value on the "market" for this quantity of narcotic is about 30 million [Belgian] francs, since it is known that drug users pay about 125 francs per gram.

According to rumor, the man promptly arrested was to have been paid a commission of 10 million francs. The airplane, the drugs and an orange Alfa Romeo Alfasud with Dutch license plates which was parked near the Deurne airfield were impounded by the police. Jerrycans full of flight fuel were also found in the airplane.

The machine was said to have already landed several times with similar cargo at Deurne. On the basis of the logbook, flight plans and the like, it was

established that Fasen, who provided a regular connection between Morocco and Seppe, an airfield between Roosendaal and Breda in the Netherlands, followed the coastline on his flights.

The detained pilot is a member of a flying club based at Seppe, and had obviously intended to land there last weekend. Presumably he had a message from the Netherlands that the coast was not clear there, and he landed in Duerne, where, as a safety precaution, a car--the Alfa-Romeo--was ready to finish out the drug shipment over solid ground.

The Deurne state police brigade, directed by Deputy Chief Van De Steen, in close cooperation with the detective services of Customs and Communications, is now pursuing an investigation into the business and travels of the Dutch detainees. A trail is also said to be being followed which could lead to the --Moroccan?--producers of the narcotics.

The drugs impounded will probably wind up in the ovens of the Court in Antwerp.

6940

CSO: 5300/2219

CYPRUS

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS IN FAMAGUSTA--While social unrest stemming from the unjust distribution of income in our country is mounting, the smuggling and marketing of narcotics has assumed enormous proportions as a result of the government's failure to take the necessary preventive measures. As we have stated in our previous issues, those selling narcotics have even managed to infiltrate our high schools. According to information we have obtained, 20 kilograms of narcotics were seized in nylon bags in the Karpas region of Famagusta on 26 March 1982. Meanwhile, another 5 kilograms of narcotics were found last week in the same region. The authorities are expected to make a statement on the quantity and nature of the narcotics seized. [Excerpt] [NC300900 Lefkosa [Nicosia] SOZ in Turkish 29 Mar 82 p 1]

CSO: 5300/5378

DENMARK

INTERIOR MINISTER WOULD PROHIBIT GROWING OF HEMP PLANTS

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 19 Mar 82 p 3

[Text] Interior Minister Henning Rasmussen plans a frontal attack on the Danish production of hashish.

This will take place by way of a regular prohibition of the cultivation of hemp plants, which may be used for the production of hashish.

The background is reports from the police districts around the country, stating that the police are unable to prosecute hashish producers because the growing of hemp plants is not prohibited, and hemp plants may, moreover, be used as cattle fodder and ornamental plants. So far, the courts have acquitted several persons whom the police suspected of producing hashish. The police, therefore, complain that it is impossible to prove that the hemp plant is being grown with a view to hashish production.

Minister of Justice Ole Espersen over 1 year ago requested all of the police districts in the country to register hemp growers everywhere in Denmark. Apparently, the Interior Minister is not aware of this. At any rate, he said yesterday to the daily AKTUEL that the Minister of Justice will now activate the local police authorities throughout the country with a view to registering the entire hemp cultivation. The Ministry of Justice confirms to BERLINGSKE TIDENDE that such registration took place long ago.

It would be the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice which would have to get together to work out a proposal for legislation to prohibit the growing of hemp plants.

7262
CSO: 5300/2235

DENMARK

DEATH-DEALING HEROIN SEIZED BY POLICE IN COPENHAGEN

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 18 Mar 82 p 3

[Text] The Trouble Spotters have saved a 24-year-old narcotics addict from dying after having a highly dangerous heroin shock. Other drug addicts are in danger of their lives, the Trouble Spotters state. Yesterday, the alarm was given when the Police Forensic Science Laboratory found a concentration of 44 percent heroin in a sample sent in for analysis by the Trouble Spotters.

It was a question of 1.2 grams of heroin found by the police last Monday in three cannular tubes, so-called straws, on a 24-year-old male drug addict in a flat in Saxo Street. The Trouble Spotters call the place a "fixing joint," where several persons were present when the police appeared. The three cannular tubes were seized from the male drug addict, who explained that he had bought them for 2,400 kroner from an unknown pusher in Isted Street.

The Trouble Spotters have just introduced weekly control analyses, paid for by the police. The heroin from Saxo Street was the first drug to be sent in for such an analysis, Ove Nielsen, police superintendent states. He introduced this "service" for drug addicts and treatment centers after at least 3 deaths in August of 1981 resulting from the taking of 56 percent heroin. The normal concentration of heroin sold for injection is 5-10 percent, and the 44 percent of the heroin from Saxo Street may be death-dealing.

Yesterday, the Trouble Spotters arrested the 24-year-old drug addict, who was subjected to a prolonged investigation in an attempt to find out who was his supplier. The police assume that the highly concentrated drug was put on the market by mistake, perhaps by some ignorant dealer. The tragedy in August was partly solved, and there were no indications of any intent to kill in connection with the sale of the death-dealing heroin, which was made to completely accidental drug addicts.

Last night, the police suspected a drug-related death at Frederiksberg and two cases of suspended heart action among narcotics addicts at Vanløse to be due to the newly detected death-dealing heroin.

7262
CSO: 5300/2235

DENMARK

OFFICIAL: SIXTEEN TONS OF METHADONE USED ANNUALLY BY ADDICTS

Copenhagen INFORMATION in Danish 23 Feb 82 p 1

[Text] The consumption of methadone is at least 16 tons a year, distributed on mixture and pills. The consumption also includes methadone for treatment of non-drug abusers who suffer from chronic pain, and this group is on the increase.

This appears from a reply from Dr. Michael von Magnus, chief physician of the National Health Service, printed in the most recent issue of UGESKRIFT FOR LÆGER. The reply follows a provocative article in the same issue in which Karl Vogt-Nielsen of the Anti-Drug Movement challenges the National Health Service. He assumed that the consumption by the 800 drug abusers on methadone maintenance alone was 18 tons, corresponding to a dope effect of well over 250 kilos of 15 percent heroin, or half the total Danish heroin consumption, according to estimates of the police.

Vogt-Nielsen refers to the report by the liaison committee in which it is stated that only in extremely exceptional cases shall methadone be used for prolonged treatment, and that methadone maintenance for more than 2 years should be avoided. He states, at the same time, that the number of people on methadone maintenance over a prolonged period of time is, at the moment, larger than the number of patients being treated without drugs, and that more than half of the drug abusers in Copenhagen have received methadone for more than 2 years.

He also points out that there are departures from the purposes contained in the circular of the National Health Service, according to which circular methadone shall be taken under supervision, regular uroscopies shall be undertaken to ensure that methadone does not end up in the illegal market, and that the drug addict does not take other drugs simultaneously with methadone.

"Defeats Its Own Purpose"

Vogt-Nielsen thus maintains that physicians leave it to drug abusers themselves to administer the methadone, that there are permanent places in Copenhagen where the drug is being traded, and that the methadone may be purchased practically everywhere, and at fixed prices. Furthermore, he states that drug abusers often cheat on their urine specimens by adding ascorbic acid, that not a single urine specimen analysis has been undertaken in Copenhagen, and that the

Municipal Council of Copenhagen has voted down a proposal to undertake such analyses at regular intervals.

"In our opinion, the administration of methadone has completely defeated its own purpose," he writes.

Dr. Michael von Magnus, chief physician, maintains that methadone is a "valuable supplement" in the treatment of certain drug abusers, that the number of drug abusers on methadone maintenance for a short or a longer period of time has not increased since 1979, and that the number of drug addicts who have been on methadone for more than 6 months is the same as in 1979.

As for the circular of the National Health Service, the chief physician states that the most important thing has been to stress the responsibility on the part of the general practitioner to ensure proper treatment. The rest is a question of guidelines--which, however, in the circular, are provided with a modest "should." But none of these points may be conceived as absolutes. The National Health Service has previously informed physicians that urine specimens may be omitted, as there have been problems having them performed at a reasonable cost.

Von Magnus states that the fact that methadone is not being used in Norway--nor in the county of Ribe--as pointed out by Vogt-Nielsen, is not comparable with the general Danish problems in the area. He states that the problems of insufficient resources for treatment are not being solved either by "unilaterally criticizing the use of methadone in the treatment of drug abusers in cases where this is the only realistic possibility in the specific situation."

Unjustified Criticism

The National Health Service, moreover, finds it unjustified to criticize the general practitioner for using methadone in the treatment of drug abusers, seeing that "the treatment institutions, to a large extent, have refused to use any methadone at all in their treatment of patients, and seeing that, in the individual cases, there have been no other relevant possibilities of treating the patients, and where prescribing methadone for use during a prolonged period of time might be relevant," the chief physician writes.

7262
CSC: 5300/2228

DENMARK

DANISH, NORWEGIAN POLICE: OVER A TON OF HASHISH FROM NEPAL

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 3 Mar 82 p 9

[Article by Helge Aamotsbakken]

[Text] Norwegian and Danish narcotics police believe that an international gang has smuggled 1.1 ton hashish into the Nordic countries since last summer.

Presumably, the total amount never will become known. Customs officers are unable to check the enormous amount of freight sent by way of Kastrup Airport.

The hashish has been sent by air freight from Karachi, Pakistan. It originates in Nepal and is of the finest quality on the market.

So far, Danish police have made three hashish seizures at Kastrup Airport outside Copenhagen. The first seizure, which was in a crate addressed to the B&W Shipyard, weighed 216 kg. Last January narcotics police seized another B&W crate. This time 100 kg hashish was confiscated.

Last weekend the police and customs officers made yet another seizure, again weighing 216 kg.

Norwegian narcotics police have made few comments on this case. Chief of narcotics police, inspector Arne Huuse, told DAGBLADET, however, that the case has been given high priority.

"Apart from the fact that last Tuesday we arrested a 24 year old Norwegian man in connection with this case, that he is charged with hashish smuggling, and that the quantity smuggled to Norway is relatively small by the standards of this case, I will not discuss the case further, due to the ongoing investigation," Arne Huuse said.

Commissioner Bent Hansen of the narcotics police in Copenhagen told DAGBLADET:

"We made the arrest after a long and intense investigation with 10 men in the field," commissioner Bent Hansen of the Danish narcotics police in Copenhagen told DAGBLADET. "So far we have made three seizures, but our investigation has revealed that at least six shipments have arrived."

"The invoices, which were falsified, indicate three other shipments."

9336

CSO: 5300/2214

DENMARK

WELFARE DIRECTOR: STOP UNEMPLOYMENT, DISABILITY AID TO USERS

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 16 Mar 82 p 3

[Text] "Drug abusers should neither have unemployment benefits nor sick leave benefits. It will have to be a hell to be a drug addict so that it becomes attractive to receive slow withdrawal treatment."

The above statement was made by Lars Lundgaard, county welfare director and chairman of the government's youth committee, at the annual meeting yesterday of the Crime Prevention Council. He warned against the so-called "silver platter principle":

"Kindliness and half-heartedness toward drug abusers often become a hindrance in the treatment. I would welcome consistent application of the rules and regulations on the part of the welfare and labor market authorities.

In this way, 75 percent of the drug abusers will within a reasonable time get in touch with a treatment center. And they will carry through the slow withdrawal treatment."

Lars Lundgaard presented his views during the debate on perspectives in the coming years' anti-drug efforts. The chief of the Copenhagen Narcotics Police, Bent Ejlerskov Petersen, criticized the politicians for lacking the will to eradicate narcotics:

"What is the use for the police to be allocated additional resources, when, for example, the customs authorities are unable to make an effort to put an end to the smuggling of drugs into the country? Those responsible do not plan any joint action, and the politicians have not laid down any superior objectives. Denmark is without any anti-drug policy. Each krone, each million spent in the efforts of the police to fight narcotics crimes are wasted, like the money thrown into the vessel of the Danaides."

The council yesterday presented a comprehensive information campaign financed for 800,000 kroner, granted by the Society of Insurers.

7262
CSO: 5300/2235

DENMARK

FOLKETING MAJORITY PREVENTS ACTION TO CLOSE CHRISTIANIA

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 17 Mar 82 p 2

[Text] There is every indication that "the Free City of Christiania" will remain in existence as an "alternative urban society" for an indefinite period of time. Proposals for its liquidation and clearance cannot be carried through for political reasons. However, the debate in the Folketing yesterday confirmed wishes on the part of the government and the Folketing for what they call a "legalization" of the conditions, and this will be the basis for the continued existence of Christiania.

A majority in the Folketing take notice of Minister for the Environment Erik Holst's report on the Christiania area. In the said report, which makes use of the draft by the consulting firm of Møller & Grønberg for the future use of Christiania, the minister assumes that plans will be made of the area, and that this will take place in a process concurrently with, and integrated in, an attempt to change the society of Christiania. The idea is thus that the general rules of the Danish society shall apply to the area. The hashish market will be removed, it is stated. The licensing and value-added-tax conditions of the pubs must be put in order. Buildings and installations must become legalized, and the health and environmental regulations must be complied with. The dangerous ramshackle buildings must be demolished, and the houses worth preserving must be restored.

In the course of the very long debate yesterday in the Folketing, Agnete Laustsen (Conservative Party) stated in response to the report by the minister that the statement now being made that Christiania was to continue but subject to the general laws of the society was reminiscent of statements made earlier. The legalization of the area which was to be the basis had not been fulfilled--on the contrary. There was no reason whatever to believe that it would now really happen, and that the government would take action.

During the debate, Minister for the Environment Erik Holst made it quite clear that the government cannot advocate clearing of Christiania, and his views were supported by the Social Democratic Party, as well as by the Socialist People's Party and the Radical Liberal Party. Ebba Strange

(Socialist People's Party) found it valuable to operate with alternative ways of life and forms of society, and Tage Dræbye (Radical Liberal Party) stated that Christiania will have to be supported, but that certain demands will also have to be made of Christiania.

The spokesman for the Progressive Party, Knud Lind, who said that the government had, for a decade, been cherishing a viper in its bosom, moved the following resolution on behalf of five parties (the Conservative Party, the Liberal Party, the Progressive Party, the Center Democrats and the Christian People's Party): "As the conditions in the Christiania area must still be regarded as unacceptable, especially with regard to the social and crime-producing conditions, the Folketing requests the government--in accordance with the judgement of the Supreme Court passed on 2 February 1978--to take the necessary steps immediately for closing of Christiania by the end of 1982."

This resolution was defeated as the majority adopted the resolution taking cognizance of the report by the minister.

7262

CSO: 5300/2235

DENMARK

REPORTER VISITS CHRISTIANIA, FINDS HASHISH SOLD OPENLY

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 16 Mar 82 Sec II p 1

[Article by Henrik Grunnet]

[Text] Hashish is being sold openly, even by 13-year-old girls, in the free city which likes to call itself "the village of the big city," but which has become a village with all of the weaknesses of the big city.

The air is suddenly pierced by the shrill blasts of 20-30 boatswain's pipes. It is the internal alarm signal of Christiania, which means that the police are on their way! In a matter of seconds, the entire Pusher Street, as this part of Christiania's only actual street is called, is cleared. Left are the unsuspecting buyers of hashish, who now become the only people caught by the police.

It is 4 o'clock in the afternoon. It is a weekend, and spring has come to Christiania. Pusher Street, the name of which clearly implies what happens on this street, has been marked by brisk activity since the early morning hours. A crowd of schoolboys has gathered around a seller, evaluating his "wares." They feel and smell at the hashish before deciding to buy it. "Have you also got black aphan," asks one of the boys who has heard that black aphan is the strongest kind of hashish on the market. The pusher answers in the negative by shaking his head but refers to a colleague who, at the moment, is in the process of selling a large quantity to a Swede, "but you should rather buy from me, for the black aphan is full of plastic and is bad to smoke," the pusher says. They do not hide anything. The traffic in hashish is taking place quite openly, and they pay no attention to the fact that it is actually prohibited in the Danish society.

The fact that the alarm signal has been sounded does not mean that the traffic has been interrupted but only that the pushers now disappear from Pusher Street, withdrawing to the pubs around the street where the traffic continues as briskly as before. If the police enter one of the pubs, the pushers disappear out of the back doors to continue the traffic in another pub.

Woodstock is one of the pubs at Christiania where the traffic in hashish may run into several hundred thousand kroner a day.

13-Year-Old Pusher

The sweet smell of hashish mixes with the stench of beer and vomit. Dogs of undefinable breeds dart in and out among the legs of the customers on the filthy floor. But nobody seems to pay any attention to them or to the surroundings for that matter. Most of the regular customers of the pub sit, a dull expression in their eyes, looking vacantly into the air. They are waiting for the next pipe of hashish. Only the pushers seem to be interested in what is going on around them. As soon as a new customer enters the room, he/she is being showered with offers of all kinds of hashish.

In a corner of the pub, a 13-year-old girl is sitting. On her lap is her 5-year-old sister, who slurps a coke. On the table in front of the girl is a big sheet of hashish. A piece is broken off and is carefully weighed on a small spring balance before the girl hands it to the customer. Out of her pocket she pulls a big bundle of 100 kroner notes, and with an indifference as if it were a bag of candy, she counts the notes and gives back on a 1,000 kroner note.

The current price for 1 gram of hashish is 50 kroner. Around the room one notices several hundred grams of hashish changing hands. It is primarily Swedes and Norwegians who purchase such large quantities, and these purchases take place with a view to resale in the home countries. In most places, only 2-3 grams are sold at a time, and the buyers are young people who have clubbed together for a weekend of fun and escape from reality. Both the police and the politicians recognize the fact that only hashish is being sold at Christiania today. Taking the law into their own hands and through strict measures, the inhabitants of Christiania have managed to put a stop to all traffic in hard drugs in the free city. Hard drug dealers who turn up at Christiania are being thrown bodily out again. However, the problem has not moved far away. At the pubs immediately outside Christiania, the traffic in hard drugs is taking place nearly as openly as the traffic in hashish in the free city.

Everywhere within Christiania one sees more or less ramshackle houses, the former military barracks. These now hold the permanent residents of Christiania who each of them have arranged their own flats or who live together in collectives. It is not as previously possible for just anybody to visit these flats. The doors are locked, and the private ownership is strictly observed. But, at the same time, this has meant that many flats are in a condition fully corresponding to what one will find at Nørrebro and Østerbro. All occupants reported (800-1,000) pay 250 kroner in rent, which goes toward Christiania's water, power and heat bills. The many Greenlanders at Christiania have to live in their own building, "the Star Ship." A ghetto within the ghetto, one might feel, but the

residents of Christiania are of the opinion that the Greenland culture, in too many respects, is incompatible with their own.

However, Christiania is more than old military barracks. On the ramparts of Christianshavn, one may experience an environment which comes close to real village idyl. Here are some of the most beautiful areas in Copenhagen, and, at this late afternoon hour, people of all ages are sitting or lying down, enjoying the last rays of sunshine of the day.

Restaurant Life

Outside a ramshackle house is an enormous heap of old, rusty bicycle parts as well as a few complete bicycles. Above the door is a board explaining the presence of the bicycles: "Have the cops taken your bicycle? Buy completely honest bicycles here. We make them ourselves." Next to the bicycle maker is a grocery store, and here the residents of Christiania buy all of their daily needs right from curative apricot juice to Christiania's own weekly newspaper. The goods are expensive, but one has a cozy time, and the people all talk with one another.

In a corner of the free city is a combined pub and restaurant with the imaginative name of "the Moonfisher." Here, food is being served between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. At a first glance, the environment is the same as in the pubs around Pusher Street, but on examining the place more closely, one notices important differences. The floor and the tables are clean, and the huge, home-made wrought-iron fire place in the center of the room is actually something of an architectural master piece. On the plentifully equipped bar are the papers of the day (including BERLINGSKE TIDENDE). The menu card, with which one is presented as soon as one has sat down, is varied. Right from vegetable soup at 15 kroner to sirloin steak at 50 kroner.

During moments when one succeeds in forgetting that the kitchen has never been inspected by the health control authorities, the sirloin steak tastes excellently and the Beaujolais wine at 50 kroner is splendid.

No wonder that the food is cheap, for here they pay no taxes, value-added-taxes or duties. After a quick calculation, one arrives at the conclusion that if the pubs were to pay these taxes and duties, and still make the same profits, the prices would have to be more than twice as high. It is not only through hashish traffic that easy money is made.

Christiania which once was a free city for hopeful young people with alternative ideas of society, has become a ghetto with enormous problems of sanitation and restoration, with a just as big class division as the society outside and where buses filled with tourists are an equally daily event to the residents of Christiania as to the animals in the Copenhagen Zoo.

At the exit of Christiania are around a dozen booths, selling everything, right from handcarved hashish pipes to picture postcards of Christiania. With or without the willingness of the residents, the free city of Christiania has become a market for commercial interests. "A village within the big city," the residents of Christiania like to call the area, but it is a village with all of the weaknesses of the big city.

7262
CSO: 5300/2235

DENMARK

POLICE ASSERT CHRISTIANIA IS DENMARK'S HASHISH CENTER

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 7 Mar 82 p 3

[Article by Anders Wiig]

[Text] The traffic in hashish at Christiania is a business involving millions of kroner. The extent of the traffic may be known by the principals controlling it and fetching the huge profits. Minister of Justice Ole Espersen estimates that 3-4 kilos are traded on a daily basis. That gives an annual turnover of 54-73 million kroner. According to the "Architect's Report," a group of residents of Christiania estimate that there is a daily turnover of 20 kilos--at 50 kroner per gram, this becomes 365 million kroner annually. The Trouble Spotters estimate the daily turnover at 10-15 kilos--an annual turnover of between 182 and 273 million kroner.

"I do not know on what the minister bases his estimate. But regardless of when we get out there, from the early morning to the late night hours, we invariably find a brisk turnover of hashish. We base our estimate of 10-15 kilos on the seizures which we manage to make when undertaking our 15-20 minutes of spot checks 2-3 times a week, at a maximum. In order to get hold of the hashish, we have to get into Christiania without being noticed. The residents of Christiania have got an efficient alarm system, involving boatswain's pipes, which may be heard everywhere as soon as we are observed. That gives the pushers enough time to remove the hashish from Pusher Street and about a dozen pubs. We, typically, seize 200-400 grams per spot check, seized on several people. It would be unrealistic to assume that these figures would be an indication of the actual turnover," Ove Nielsen, police superintendent of the Trouble Spotters, states with reference to the claim from the chairman of the legal committee, Jimmy Stahr, to the effect that only 10 percent of the traffic in hashish in Copenhagen is taking place at Christiania. In the news broadcast on the radio last night, Jimmy Stahr attacked Ole Nørgaard, deputy commissioner of the Copenhagen Police for dabbling in politics and using an unpleasant tone in maintaining that Jimmy Stahr had misunderstood the situation with regard to the traffic in hashish at Christiania.

Ove Nielsen, police superintendent, has no hesitation in referring to Christiania as the only hashish market of Copenhagen. On the traffic

taking place in other areas, he says: "It is not at all on the same scale. It may be a question of minor transactions among friends, involving 10-20 grams of hashish traded in a pub--and often this hashish originates in Christiania. Some months ago, we had a bit of hashish traffic in the Saxo Park at Vesterbro, but we put an end to that in 2 weeks."

Question: Why, then, do you not put a stop to the traffic at Christiania?

Answer: It is impossible to check the area effectively. It is a closed society with extremely efficient alarm systems. The working conditions of the police are hopeless--16 police officers were injured out there in 1981. It is the most difficult area for the police to work in of all of the Copenhagen areas. As things are, we cannot stop the traffic through normal checks in the area. That would require enormous resources. Each time that we check the area we need to send 25 officers out there, including two groups held in readiness to have the rear covered. It is almost impossible for the police to penetrate into a closed criminal community.

Question: Would you describe Christiania as a closed criminal community?

Answer. Definitely! For one thing, there is the large traffic in hashish, for the other, there is the traffic in stolen goods. One may ask oneself the question: Who makes all the money on the hashish traffic? I do not believe that the big money is made by the small dealer and the semi-criminals found out there.

7262

CSO: 5300/2235

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

LEADER OF FRANKFURT DRUG RING GOES ON TRIAL

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 1 Mar 82 pp 66,69

[Text] Joseph "Big Joe" Amiel, an Israeli, is on trial in Frankfurt. He is regarded as the leader of the largest drug ring ever broken up on the Main.



Defendant Amiel --
"Never used a gram"

Young female addicts who smuggled the dope from Amsterdam across the border obeyed his every command. Investigators listened in on these orders over the telephone: "a few grains in some paper," "a small packet in the mouth," "the green ones on the body under the panties"; or even "six like a tampon, internally."

Others obeyed Joseph "Big Joe" Amiel as well. His brother Nissim, for instance, sold the heroin in and around the Frankfurt railroad station to support his own habit, because "he didn't give him anything," as a prostitute told the police.

And if anyone ever entertained any ideas about doing business on his own, thoughts of terrible things kept him from it. "I'd get a bullet in the head," was what Simon "Kuschi" Rimon feared, so he stayed on with the boss.

The tavern owner from Tel Aviv had risen to the position of "king of drugs" on the Main (FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU). As befitted

his station in life, he acquired a villa for his family in Marbella, Spain, kept mistresses in Holland and Frankfurt and put what was left over into a numbered bank account in the "Schweizerische Creditanstalt" in Zurich.

Seven years later the former boss of the underworld is bowing and scraping at the Frankfurt-Preungesheim institution for pretrial detention. His hands clasped

behind his back and his head bent, he is obsequious toward the guards. Public Prosecutor Peter Korneck describes him this way: "He's trying to be very ingratiating." "He's a broken man," claims his defense lawyer, Fritz Sauer.

The Israeli says his condition is the result of torture and 5 years in prison in Buenos Aires, where Interpol caught up with him a year after his escape from the penitentiary in Dieburg. Amiel reports that he was "tortured with electric shocks," with the wires attached "to my tongue, penis and anus"; "I was impotent for half a year."

Scheduled for this week at the Frankfurt District Court is the belated trial of Joseph Amiel, who was turned over to the West German justice system last fall. He is charged with having "built a full-blown organization for the sale of heroin" in Frankfurt in 1974. According to the findings, he took charge of "purchasing and paying for the heroin in Amsterdam" himself, and he directed "from behind the scenes" the transport across the border and the sales operation in southern Germany.

The other members of the ring -- who were controlled by Amiel, according to the charges -- have already been tried. In April 1976 they received sentences of up to 9½ years in prison; they have meanwhile all been released, with most of them returning home to Israel.

The trial poses problems. It will be difficult to get around having once again to take a criminal court, replete with public prosecutor and defense attorney, on a long journey to Israel -- and possibly to the United States as well -- to take testimony from the members of the drug-trafficking ring who have already served their sentences.

For if the court does not want to run the risk of grounds for an appeal, it must accede to a defense request to question witnesses on the spot if necessary. And defense attorney Sauer considers testimony from those convicted to be urgently necessary in support of the defendant's case, because "at that time, when their freedom was at stake, they placed all the blame on my fugitive client."

The only prospect for a speedy trial is if the defendant pleads guilty, but Amiel has been indicating that he would be willing to testify concerning the organization and modus operandi of the drug business only if his 5-year prison stay in Argentina is counted toward his expected sentence -- a request that would be very difficult to grant.

On strictly legal grounds, this could not be done because the Argentine courts convicted the Israeli not of drug trafficking in Europe but of "expert falsification of documents," a simple passport offense that draws a sentence of scarcely more than 6 months in Argentina.

Defense attorney Sauer is more inclined to see in the severe sentence a "disguised punishment for what went on here; there was probably also a bit of anti-Semitism to it." There remains a possibility of taking the time already served into consideration when determining the length of the sentence. But at least the prosecuting authorities do not want to go along with this. Says Public Prosecutor Korneck: "The risk was all Amiel's."

Whether dealt with in brief form or in a lengthy procedure, the trial of "Big Joe" will provide a replay on a part of organized crime that has been leaving its mark on Frankfurt's underworld scene for years: the lucrative heroin trade. The confessions of prostitute addicts who got their drugs from Amiel's circle and tape recordings of the dealers' telephone calls reveal a picture of a tightly structured operation.

When it was "very dry," Amiel the boss boosted imports from Holland. Sometimes he would give the order to send "200-250 bottles," and then it would go back to "200 white shirts." He urged caution when "hell had broken loose and things were sticky" in Frankfurt. Jeshaja "Gingy" Fainsilber, a former master butcher, was let in on all business connections as his deputy. According to the investigations, the impresario Baruch Bar-Ziv took care of transport arrangements; he also worked with Amiel "cutting" the freshly imported powder.

A streetwalker noticed one time in the gang's apartment that "there was a lot of heat coming from the kitchen." "All three of the burners on the electric range were on, and on the table was a blue saucepan in which Amiel was stirring a gray substance with a spoon." The prostitute estimated that it was "at least 4 kilos of heroin."

An accomplice put most of the dope -- that had been cut with vinegar and powdered milk -- into small plastic bags which he sealed. Then other people sold the prepared packets to addicts, concealed "in a silver cigarette lighter" or as 5-gram packages in "4711" perfume boxes.

After 2 months of telephone surveillance, the criminal police moved in on the gang's apartment on Frankfurt's Diesterweg in March 1975. Once again the eavesdroppers had heard about an impending deal: "Gingy" was asking for "coins for the washing machine," and "Charly" answered: "I'm weighing right now."

Amiel managed to escape from pretrial detention just in time, right before the trial started; the break had "apparently been prepared long and well," according to Frankfurt Public Prosecutor Wolfgang Heinrich. It was the beginning of a long flight on which the drug leader's underworld friends and girlfriends smoothed the way for him.

In his cell at the Dieburg penitentiary, "Big Joe" worked for days knotting together a rope. On the appointed day he used it to climb the prison wall hand over hand and then went over the barbed wire. He suffered bleeding cuts on his hands in the process, but he "didn't even feel" them. The getaway car and driver were already waiting on the other side. They drove off in the direction of Holland.

Near Aachen, just before they got to the border, the fugitive was taken into custody following a traffic check because he was unable to produce any identification. Amiel told the police that he had "burned himself fixing a tail pipe."

The police dispensed with fingerprinting, and when a woman to whom he had made a hurried phone call in Holland brought him a passport the next day, the police released him -- 2 hours before notification arrived at the police station from the Federal Criminal Police Bureau indicating that he was a fugitive.

Amiel went underground at the home of a girlfriend in Holland, joined his family in Spain and took off for Brazil. There, he reported, a pregnant woman offered "to claim I was the father so I couldn't be deported."

But "Big Joe" moved in with his wife and Spanish-speaking children whom he had brought to Argentina. In Buenos Aires he was "taken from the car right in the middle of the street" after his "children's governess had betrayed him because of unrequited love," as he believes.

Then, according to the wholesale drug dealer, he was called a "Jewish son-of-a-bitch" by Argentine narcotics agents and "cruelly tortured." In jail he said he was beaten and repeatedly strip-searched all over for drugs.

But addicts from Frankfurt who obtained drugs from the ring report that he himself "never used a gram."

7458

CSO: 5300/2230

ITALY

ITALY'S GROWING ROLE IN NARCOTICS REPORTED

AU151004 Rome ANSA in English 0832 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Rome, 15 Mar (ANSA)--Italy's growing importance as a crossroads for international narcotics trafficking, and the cost in narcotics-related deaths that it has brought the country, were highlighted in a report released here at the weekend by the revenue police.

In its report, the Guardia Di Finanza Police Corps said that the major hurdles for controlling the traffic are Italy's long coast and the speed with which organized crime has switched from traditional smuggling to narcotics.

According to the report, most opium and morphine [words indistinct] in Italy comes from Lebanon and Turkey. These raw materials are then processed in laboratories run by the mafia in Sicily and the Camorra in Naples before being sent on to the end-users, primarily in the United States, Canada, and West Germany.

In terms of production flow, this makes Italy look like nothing more than a staging-post. But its curve of narcotics-related deaths has been rising catastrophically in the last four or five years.

Last year, the Guardia Di Finanza counted about 300 persons, most of them young, who died from heroin or similar drugs.

One proposal advanced in the report is that international conventions should be modified so that narcotics runners can be arrested outside territorial waters, a practice currently reserved for pirates and slave traders.

Another proposal is the offer of massive rewards for those prepared to denounce drug traffickers and smugglers to the police.

CSO: 5300/2241

NORWAY

PHYSICIAN SEES INCREASING BRUTALITY IN DRUG ENVIRONMENT

Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 2 Mar 82 p 11

[Article by Jan O. Helgesen: "Nyhus Strikes Back: Drug Environment More Brutal Than Ever"]

[Text] "The risk of being seriously injured, stricken with infectious liver disease, etc., is highly present when working with young drug abusers. There is no reason to conceal the fact that in this work very dangerous situations can arise. These problems will not disappear simply by our not talking about them. Contrary to Formo Berntsen, Mork and others, I believe that criminalization, prostitution and brutalization of the narcotics environment is creating a well-founded and realistic fear within exposed groups in the health and social sectors."

This was said by Medical Director Per Nyhus in a comment on his being accused of creating "archreactionary fear of drug abusers." Nyhus said that he has no reason to doubt that Health Director Mork is unfamiliar with the problems, but remains doubtful that he has given a correct picture of the facts.

"Last fall we became alarmed at the Youth Psychiatric Clinic by a new trend in developments. The clinic was attacked from outside. One of our employees was assaulted and his keys taken. There was an attempt at forcible entry at one of our branches. Our personnel have had their lives threatened over the telephone. The incident was reported to the police, but unfortunately not to the health director, which I deplore."

"Was this not an isolated incident?"

"No, or we would not have taken it so seriously. Since the youth environment in the city has become more militant, there have been clear signs of 'liberation actions.' The episode I mentioned is one of a number of other similar events in the health and social services of the city," said Nyhus. He

said that these are so well documented in the press that both Health Director Mork and Formo Berntsen should have noticed them. He mentioned that City Health Officer Mellbye requested police guards at the city health and social centers. Brutalization of the narcotics environment, violence against employees and threats against their families were the reasons given by the city health officer.

"We are approaching a condition when we must ask whether it is defensible to request health and social workers to perform their duties. The drug addicts have obtained their dwelling addresses and information as to where their smallest children are in day care or which schools the older ones attend," said Mellbye to an Oslo newspaper. And Director Erling Oyen at the Oslo health insurance office said to the same newspaper, "There are tough conditions at the health insurance office in Oslo. Drug addicts in need of money for drugs threaten insurance employees with razors, break windows and throw office supplies out on the street. Two professional security guards are on duty full time to protect the employees. I would prefer to avoid turning the health insurance office into a fortress," said Erling Oyen.

"Do Mork and Formo Berntsen believe that these statements are also intended to spread organized slander against the youth of the city? Honestly, there are numerous examples of how brutality is growing, regardless of what Mork, Formo Berntsen and the outside service wants to believe."

Outside Service and the Police

"It is not correct that I have recommended closing down the outside service. I maintain, however, that the district police in Oslo do a very good job, even if Formo Berntsen, Mork and the outside service are annoyed by this. I believe that Oslo could have an effective help service if we brought together some of the resources of outside service, child care and child and youth psychiatry. Regardless of what others say, the 'apparatus' that we have today does not function well enough together," said Medical Director Per Nyhus.

9297
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SWEDEN

NARCOTICS POLICE METHODS DESCRIBED

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 27 Feb 82 p 5

[Article by Leif Dahlin]

[Text] Each year narcotics police throughout the country undertake surveillance of hundreds of suspects. Often this surveillance is time-consuming, since couriers and smugglers themselves are using more and more sophisticated methods.

A recent example of prolonged surveillance, which to be sure resulted in the confiscation of 1.5 kg heroin but no suspects, is the so-called elevator case in Rinkeby north of Stockholm. After bags of heroin were found on the roof of an elevator in a building in mid-November, about 10 narcotics investigators were involved in the case until Wednesday when police gave up.

A man suspected of being a ringleader was found dead from natural causes in his home just as police were about to step in. The remaining gang members had been warned.

There are many examples of time-consuming surveillance that has amounted to nothing, but the goal is to provide a prosecutor with legally binding evidence.

Wanted

The following is a conceivable scenario in a drug case:

A Swede arrives by plane in Shiphol outside Amsterdam. Customs officers believe they recognize his appearance. A routine check is made by pressing several buttons on a computer and certain information appears on the screen. The man is wanted internationally in connection with an investigation in Sweden. Unseen by the Swede, the officer presses another button. Near the Shiphol exit the narcotics squad receives a warning signal.

The Swede gets into a taxi while two Dutch narcotics investigators follow him in a run-down looking car with a powerful engine.

Finally, the Swede is seen getting out of the taxi and boarding a canal boat. When he leaves the boat he is carrying nothing that looks suspicious. The man

is shadowed to a hotel.

Amphetamines

The man has taken a room at the hotel for several days. By now narcotics headquarters in Amsterdam has been alarmed and the liaison of the National Police Board in The Hague, Bo Johansson, has become involved in the case. If the case is considered urgent, Bo Johansson contacts the narcotics squad in Stockholm by telephone or telex. In less urgent cases he contacts the Stockholm office of Interpol, which keeps the narcotics squad informed.

The people on the canal boat are checked out. One of them has close contacts with a suspected amphetamine producer.

The Swede leaves the country. This time he travels by car with another Swede.

They travel through West Germany to Puttgarden. The surveillance is taken over by German narcotics police. The car continues by ferry to Rodbyhavn in Denmark. The same thing occurs there. Danish police "carry the baton" further.

Phone Tap

The car arrives by ferry in Malmo. Customs officers have been instructed to observe the car closely, but not to step in. A group of five or six persons in Stockholm continues to follow the two Swedes. To be sure, one of them is wanted, but he is allowed to remain "free." Police now are almost certain that one or both have made a large amphetamine deal in Holland, but it is not known for sure whether they have narcotics in the car. The head of the surveillance goes to the national police commissioner or his assistant and reports verbally on the situation. A written surveillance memo is issued. The national police commissioner approves a wiretap. Before the tap is made, a prosecutor is informed. He makes the same recommendation. He evaluates the case in the same way as the national police commissioner.

He turns to the court, which approves the wiretap. The chief of the narcotics squad or the prosecutor contacts a special division of the Security Police, which contacts the director of telecommunications in the district in which the suspects live and have their private telephones. The telecommunications director sees that the telephones are connected to Security Police facilities.

The tape rolls and the line is tapped at regular intervals. The wiretap may continue no longer than 1 month. During this time the investigators continue their surveillance in rented cars, even on bicycles, in emergency vehicles such as bloodmobiles, ambulances, taxis, etc. The case begins to tighten. The investigators receive a message in code: The wiretap has revealed that the two Swedes purchased a large quantity of amphetamines in Holland and had it delivered to a hotel in Stockholm! X will be waiting there at 1900.

The investigators are sent to the hotel. They move in just as the drugs are given to the Swedes in the hotel room.

The courier and the two Swedes are apprehended while other investigators arrest other suspects at locations previously under surveillance. Searches are made and additional drugs are found. All suspects are apprehended and placed under arrest. One of many "ordinary" drug rings has been broken.

9336

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SWEDEN

NATIONAL POLICE CHIEF DEFENDS USE OF DRUG GANG INFILTRATORS

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 27 Feb 82 p 5

[Article by Bo G. Andersson and Cecilia Steen-Johnsson]

[Text] "I am disappointed that the politicians have not taken a firm stand on this question. It is unfortunate that they did not take a position previously, when the debate was calm, for or against the methods used by police to combat narcotics. In general, we do not need kind remarks at official gatherings, but concrete support. Now, instead, the politicians have begun to shake in their boots after we failed in one case."

This was said by national police commissioner Holger Romander after it became known that the police used Fleming Broman last year to infiltrate a drug ring. The infiltration was unsuccessful and the police withdrew from the case. Holger Romander is disturbed that the mass media are devoting so much attention to this case.

"EXPRESSEN made a show of sympathy," he said. "First it printed long articles against narcotics and praised the new methods of the police. Now it is attacking us because we failed in this case, even though EXPRESSEN shares the guilt for our failure."

Risky

Romander refused to elaborate on that point, but his statement may be interpreted as confirming reports that a correspondent from EXPRESSEN was kept informed by a policeman from the narcotics squad the entire time Broman was involved in the case. Apparently, the police feared that someone from the mass media would witness Broman's purchase of a large quantity of heroin and be present when police went to make the arrest. This was one of the reasons the operation was called off.

"But the entire plan was unrealistic," Holger Romander said. "It was too risky, since the sellers were armed."

The national police chief was surprised that some politicians reacted so strongly against the surveillance method itself. Having policemen of former

criminals infiltrate drug gangs is by no means new.

"Many of the infiltrators have been extremely successful," Romander said. "For this reason, it is clear that we will continue to utilize these methods."

He stressed that most often volunteer policemen are used as infiltrators. Swedish police are used most often abroad and in Holland, among other places, such operations were extremely successful last year.

Holger Romander would not reveal how many times infiltrators had been used successfully so far, but he did not hesitate at all to maintain the legality of the new drug surveillance method.

"We believe that the police are totally free to infiltrate drug gangs and act as buyers, couriers, and agents," he said.

Well Developed

In other countries the system of infiltrators or "undercover agents" is well developed. The National Police Board took the idea from abroad, primarily from the United States. There agents are used as couriers and pilots for transporting drugs or as middlemen.

Holger Romander does not believe any regulation in law or in the constitution pertaining to such surveillance methods is needed.

"The general police regulations are sufficient. It is difficult to establish rules, since they would be either too limited or too general."

Justice and personal integrity are not endangered when police use infiltration in drug surveillance, according to Holger Romander.

"It is a completely different matter if coercive measures are used such as wiretapping and so-called wireless taps, but in that case the integrity of the individual must be sacrificed to some degree if we are to combat these crimes."

For the most part, the national police commissioner is satisfied with the preliminary report of the committee on coercive means entitled "Secret Wiretapping, etc." It recommends that the police be permitted to use hidden microphones, transmitters, "bugs," and TV cameras to keep suspected narcotics criminals and others under surveillance.

Secret Wiretaps

"These methods should be used only when other methods fail to produce results," Romander said. "I would imagine that secret wiretaps would be used in about a dozen or so cases each year--at most."

Fleming Broman maintained that in one case in which he was involved the police

had bugged a hotel room where he was to contact a drug dealer.

"He pulled this story out of thin air," Holger Romander said. "The police have no such equipment, nor do we have anyone trained to use it. We obey the law."

Holger Romander stressed that he had no exact information on the Broman case.

"It is not my job as national police commissioner to keep informed of details involved in individual operations," he said. "I also have no intention of finding out more. As far as I am concerned the case is closed."

Attorney General Investigating

Attorney General Bengt O. Hamdahl decided on Friday to investigate whether police acted properly in using former drug king Fleming Broman as an infiltrator last year.

"This case has drawn much attention and the surveillance method used is not exactly commonplace. I want to know if it is legal," Hamdahl told DAGENS NYHETER.

"First I want to question the policemen involved in the infiltration."

The attorney general supervises the police. Hamdahl made this decision after a conversation with national police commissioner Holger Romander.

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SWEDEN

DANES PROTEST SWEDES' LEAKING OF NEWS ON GANG INFILTRATION

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 27 Feb 82 p 5

[Article: "Danish Protest Against Swedish Police Leak"]

[Text] The National Police Board has received an extremely sharp protest from its Danish counterpart. A Swedish policeman on assignment in Copenhagen leaked the contents of a secret Danish surveillance report on a drug case to a Danish evening paper. The policeman belonged to the committee that hired Fleming Broman as an infiltrator.

The newspaper EXPRESSEN connected Fleming Broman with one of the policemen from the west coast who was to join the committee appointed to investigate the monetary crimes and drug trade of several Yugoslavs. The policeman had worked with members of the Huddinge Province narcotics squad. The policeman and a colleague had been assigned to Copenhagen to learn about a drug investigation related to the case in which they were involved.

Surprisingly, a large Danish newspaper published an inside description of the investigation. It even revealed the subject of the investigation by the Danish narcotics police. That same day EXPRESSEN published a similar article.

Danish police found this so remarkable that they questioned continued cooperation with the RPS (Swedish National Police Board) in certain drug cases.

The RPS has apologized for the incident.

When the Broman case was concluded in late June, Broman demanded compensation of about 60,000 kronor. He received 20,000 for "services rendered" and 7,500 for expenses.

"Later I was called by the newspaper EXPRESSEN which called on the police to pay Broman the sum he originally requested," commissioner Esbjorn Esbjornsson told DAGENS NYHETER.

Otherwise the newspaper would publish details of the surveillance.

According to Esbjornsson the policeman had been trusted, but when it became known that he had kept EXPRESSEN informed of the investigation the police

became uneasy. Immediately following the Broman case the policeman was transferred. He is no longer involved in narcotics investigations.

"Esbjornsson is lying," EXPRESSEN journalist Per Wendel said. "I never threatened him."

"Broman was terribly disappointed by the police. He felt cheated. He said the police had agreed to pay him 50,000 kronor. They also promised to help him obtain a visa to the United States."

"I called Esbjornsson and asked if that were correct. He said he had tried unsuccessfully to obtain a visa."

"I also asked if they planned to pay Broman his money. Esbjornsson said that this would be taken up at a meeting."

"But I never made any threat," Per Wendel said.

Editor in chief Bo Stromstedt of EXPRESSEN said he found it difficult to believe that the journalist had been involved in blackmail.

9336
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SWEDEN

MINISTER PROMISES TOUGHER PRISON REGIMEN FOR DRUG CONVICTS

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 22 Feb 82 p 6

[Article by Willy Silberstein]

[Text] Norrköping--It will be much more difficult for people convicted of serious narcotics offences to get out of prison on leave.

Any prisoner refusing urine tests will be denied leave. Prison visitors may be strip-searched to prevent drug smuggling.

These are several of the harsher regulations Justice Minister Carl Axel Petri will propose to be included in the criminal justice law, as revealed by him in a SVENSKA DAGBLADET interview.

"The purpose is to remove drugs from the prisons. This is a serious and unacceptable problem."

Some time ago Justice Johan Leche presented a report in which he proposed tougher regulations for the most hardened criminals in the country, between 60 and 80 persons.

Compromise

Following criticism in a committee report, the Justice Ministry chose to compromise: the regulations will not be as harsh as those proposed in the study, but they will apply to more prisoners.

Carl Axel Petri said that the group receiving special treatment probably would consist of several hundred prisoners: persons convicted of serious narcotics crimes and others suspected of continued serious offences while in prison.

Special treatment of this group means that these prisoners would be granted leave only under exceptional circumstances. This means, for example, leave to attend the funeral of a close relative--and even then the prisoner must remain in the presence of a guard during the entire leave.

According to other special regulations the prisoners would be housed in special sections of closed correctional facilities that will be converted for this

purpose. Which facilities will be involved has not yet been determined.

"By having only 12 to 15 prisoners in each section, we hope to improve the climate in the prisons and increase supervision at the same time," Justice Minister Petri said.

Telephones Removed

The telephone booths remaining at the closed correctional facilities will be removed. Calls will be permitted only in the presence of a guard.

Justice Leche stated in his report that the courts should determine who would be subjected to the harsher regulations, but Justice Minister Petri stated that the National Correctional Administration should make the decision since it could follow the behavior of the prisoner during his term of imprisonment.

Carl Axel Petri also is introducing tougher regulations for all prisoners, not only those convicted of serious drug offences.

In the future it will be easier for prison personnel to examine letters and other articles sent to prisoners. Grounds for suspicion no longer will be required for mail to be examined.

It will also be more difficult to make telephone calls. Prison officials will attempt to find out if the person the prisoner wishes to call is a drug user and if he or she has committed serious crimes.

Searches

Today visitors to prisons can have their handbags searched and guards can frisk their clothing. In the future guards may require visitors to remove their clothing as part of the battle against drug smuggling.

It also will be easier to perform bodily searches on the prisoners, for example, to look for narcotics hidden in their rectum.

A prisoner caught using drugs will have his leave canceled. This also applies to anyone refusing urine or alcohol tests.

Alcohol Tests

Alcohol tests are new. Previously the prisons have had no equipment to discover, for example, if a prisoner has been drinking after returning from leave, but now the institutes will be able to do this.

In order to stop the drug trade in the prisons, prisoners will be allowed only pocket money. If large sums are found, they will be deposited in the prisoner's bank account.

Petri was asked if this would improve prison conditions.

"We believe that the smaller sections for the most hardened prisoners will be more humane than the larger sections. There the pressure is greater," Justice Minister Carl Axel Petri said.

Eventually, however, the prisoners must adjust to life outside prison. Petri was asked if this would not be more difficult if leaves of absence were eliminated.

"It is correct to some extent that adjustment will become more difficult. Adjustment to life outside prison is still our goal, but when serious crimes are committed security must go before readjustment."

While Justice Minister Petri is making regulations at correctional facilities tougher, he is also shortening prison terms for less serious offences. The minimum prison term before parole may be granted is being reduced from 3 to 2 months.

Later this year a proposal will be made to improve open correctional facilities.

One Prisoner in Three Takes Drugs

Every third prisoner in our prisons uses drugs. Last year drug use in open corrective programs increased dramatically.

This was revealed in a study by commissioner Norman Bishop of the National Correctional Administration.

Of the 4,116 prisoners throughout the country on the day last year the study was made, 1,168 used drugs. Thus, 28 percent of the country's prisoners are drug users.

That is a dramatic increase over the first study made in 1966. At that time, 9 percent of the prisoners used drugs.

Constant Figure

The 28 percent found last year is also over the average for the entire study period of 1966 to 1981.

At the same time, Norman Bishop warned against the interpretation that the number of drug users was increasing steadily at prisons.

"The number of drug users has been amazingly constant, but since there are fewer prisoners now the percentage of drug users is greater," he wrote in his report.

Open correctional care has experienced a sharp rise in the number of drug users. Of the 15,451 convicts in open corrective programs, 3,344 are drug users, which amounts to 22 percent. Last year the corresponding figure was 16 percent.

9336
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SWEDEN

DUTCH TRUCK DRIVER SMUGGLES 42 KILOGRAMS OF HASHISH

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 17 Feb 82 p 6

[Article by Claes von Hofsten]

[Text] A Dutch truck driver was apprehended Tuesday by police after he attempted to conceal drugs valued at 13 million kronor in a Scanian forest.

The narcotics section of the National Criminal Police succeeded in making the seizure as a result of closer cooperation with Dutch police.

The Dutch truck driver landed in Trelleborg on Tuesday morning with his truck. Swedish police had already been informed. They were waiting on the dock when the ferry arrived. The police had been tipped off, but did not know exactly which truck was involved.

National Criminal Police investigators suspected the right vehicle, however. It was followed at a distance. The truck was supposed to deliver merchandise to a factory in Perstorp. Before the driver arrived in Perstorp, however, he stopped in a forest.

Hidden Tire

There he removed one of the spare tires and hid it in the forest. All this was observed by the police investigators. Later, when the driver arrived at the factory, he was arrested.

Meanwhile, police had searched the hidden tire at a tire workshop. It contained 42 kg amphetamines valued at about 13 million kronor on the street.

"There must be some organization behind the smuggling of such a large quantity of narcotics, an organization that is prepared to receive the drugs," said commissioner Hugo Nyberg, chief of the narcotics section of the National Criminal Police.

The police said they did not know who was expecting the shipment, but the investigation is continuing. It is estimated that the recipient of this shipment must have about 4 million kronor in cash to pay for these amphetamines,

which formed the second largest confiscation ever made in Sweden.

Several years ago 52 kg amphetamines was found in a parked car, also from Holland, in a garage in southern Stockholm.

Manufacture

Hugo Nyberg sees this seizure as evidence that the manufacture of amphetamines again is in full swing in Holland. According to commissioner Nyberg, amphetamines have been readily available in Sweden during the past 6 months. Previous seizures also indicate that the quality of the amphetamines is extremely high.

Tuesday's confiscation is not the first fruit of the cooperation between Swedish and Dutch police. Several weeks ago a Swede was apprehended in Amsterdam. He had 30,000 kronor on his person and over 200,000 kronor in his car, which was also specially prepared for narcotics smuggling. After he was apprehended. Dutch police also were able to locate a safe deposit box. It contained 8 kg amphetamines plus 100,000 kronor in Swedish bills. The Swede had been convicted previously for drug-related crimes.

Most Smuggled

Hugo Nyberg believes that most of the amphetamines sold in Sweden are smuggled into the country. No information is available on any large drug factories in Sweden. It is assumed that one reason for this is that the necessary chemicals are easier to obtain on the continent and that the risk of long prison sentences is less there.

9336

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UNITED KINGDOM

COMMENTARY NOTES USE OF DRUGS BY MIDDLE CLASS

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 2 Mar 82 p 14

[Commentary by Roderick Junor: "The Bourgeoisie Goes to Pot"]

[Text]

THE scene is a large detached house—seven bedrooms, three bathrooms—on the outskirts of a well-known Midlands town. It is 11.30 a.m. on a Sunday. A tray containing a bottle of gin, bottles of tonic water, an ice-bucket, glasses and a decorative tobacco box is brought into the sitting room, by the host, a company director.

The box contains "grass,"* home-grown in a greenhouse in the garden. Its appearance is brown and dried up, and it resembles tobacco although the strands are longer.

Real tobacco is then produced from another box, already in the room, and a mixture of "grass" and tobacco—half and half—is rolled into two King Size Rizla extra width cigarette papers joined end to end. The resulting "joint," about six inches long and two-thirds of an inch thick, is lit up with a Dunhill lighter and passed round for everyone to smoke while downing their gin and

tonics. A further three "joints" are rolled before "Sunday cocktails" are at an end and the guests, a plant manager, an actress and a barrister drive away.

★

THE scene is a three-bedroomed "town-house" in commuter land in the south-east. The time early evening. Guests are parking their BMWs, Range-Rovers and company Fords. Each one gets offered a "Harvey Wallbanger" (vodka, orange juice and Galliano) from a table beside the door as hats and coats are taken upstairs by the wife in the house, whose birthday it is.

Some guests bring the hostess flowers, some boxes of chocolates. One gives her a package which, on removal of its coloured wrapping paper, reveals a small multi-coloured ceramic jewellery box inside of which is a quantity of cannabis resin. It is accepted with hugs of pleasure and "joints" are soon being rolled and passed around.

There are some 40 or so present. The "joints" are handed round the entire company though some at the party do not inhale but pass them to their neighbour straight away, preferring the wine and cold turkey which is also on offer. The party goes on until the early hours of the morning when with a noise of jangling car keys, shouts of "goodbye," and much laughter, the accountants,

civil servants, publishers, journalists, teachers, lawyers and other professional people present depart.

The scene is a granite house in Scotland. Eight are seated for dinner. The menu is avocado with prawns, fresh Tay salmon and Aberdeenshire raspberries. Several bottles of chateau-bottled French white wine are served.

Then coffee is brought. With it comes eight bulbous brandy glasses. But the glasses do not contain brandy. They contain a white powdery substance: cocaine, otherwise known as "coke," "candy" or "snow."

Each of the guests is provided with a miniature solid-gold spoon, with which to "snort" the cocaine.

Three of those present are in the oil business, the executive jet of one of whom has brought in the drug. One is a local architect. With them are their wives.

As one doctor told me: "No one, but no one, in authority in Britain today seems to understand the scale of what is going on behind middle class curtains up and down the country. It is nation-wide."

"We know about those who come to surgeries for help, those who are found injecting themselves in public lavatories, those who are on the register. But we delude ourselves if we think these are anything but a microscopic aspect of the true picture: drug-taking has become a middle class 'in-thing,' and the majority we never see."

*"Grass" is one of the words to describe cannabis, the generic name for Indian hemp. The flowering or fruiting tops of the plant are usually known as marijuana, ganja or dagga, the resin obtained from the tops hashish or charras. Other names include charge, tea, pot, weed and bhang.

"Just look at the figure for seizures by the Customs—there's no way all these massive quantities could be bound simply for the human wrecks at Piccadilly Circus. Remember, seizures are reckoned to represent one tenth, at the absolute outside, of the real amount getting into the country—and they take no account of the stuff grown or manufactured here."

Customs and Excise have reported that the amount of cannabis seized in Britain in 1981 was 21 tons.

An indication of the scale of some individual smuggling operations is provided by just four cases in four months. In December, Scotland Yard was reported to have established that 15 diplomatic courier bags containing a quarter of a ton of cannabis had vanished in London. Later the same month, when a Tory candidate at the last general election who had worked for two years in Mrs Thatcher's "Think Tank" was sentenced at Middlesex Crown Court to six years for drug smuggling, it emerged that 1,868 grams of cocaine had been seized. In January, six men were jailed at Lewes Crown Court having been involved distributing cocaine in London and the south-east said to be worth £12 million. And earlier last month, an Oxford graduate who in 1981 had been found not guilty of a plan to import 15 tons of cannabis, pleaded guilty at the Central Criminal Court to being part of an inter-

national cannabis smuggling group. He claimed to have worked for MI6.

As one Customs officer told me: "The only times the general public gets to hear about drugs are when there's a big trial, when someone famous is involved, when police are accused of planting or trading in it themselves, or when a lot of money is involved—like the case of the 23-year-old student who was found last year to have squandered a £76,000 inheritance on drugs. But the phenomenon is in fact strongest where it is least known about—in middle class Britain."

There are many different qualities of marijuana and the types tend to get talked about in much the same way that different wines—and differing vintages—get discussed. In Holland, there has even been a regular radio programme broadcasting the going rate for cannabis from its different countries of origin. One housewife in Wales told me: "We used to gear a dinner party around which of our friends was the most entertaining or interesting talker. Now we gear it around who has the best 'grass'."

"In my view," said one Oxford expert on the drugs scene, "we are witnessing in Britain what has already happened in America with drugs. Even our armed forces in Germany have followed the Americans in the habit."

Just a year or so ago, America's LADIES HOME JOURNAL reported that "many Washington parties

serve cocaine and marijuana as naturally as martinis." Indeed, the popularity of cocaine is such that ENT specialists in the United States are having difficulty getting professional supplies for use in nose surgery. I myself have stayed with one surgeon in Virginia who was getting supplies from what the local police seized in raids.

★

FROM my inquiries, it is clear that Britain is undergoing a similar—if delayed—experience to what has happened across the Atlantic. The difference is that the British—particularly the British middle class—tend to be more tight-lipped than their American counterparts.

In America, where street sales of cocaine and marijuana are now estimated to be running at the rate of £19,400 million a year and £13,400 million respectively, it is said that the drugs have become so fashionable that even White House guests have felt free to indulge in them on the premises.

I have no doubt the same could not be said for Downing Street. But I do know that marijuana is so widespread in Britain that even in an Inn of Court near to the High Court in London there is a flat in which some 200 cannabis plants have been growing—and they were not planted for decoration.

A survey by the BBC programme "Midweek" in 1973 estimated that four million people in Britain had tried cannabis. The figure, I guess, is about double that now.

CSO: 5320/22

UNITED KINGDOM

HOME OFFICE NOTES INCREASE IN NUMBER OF DRUG ADDICTS

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 24 Feb 82 p 2

[Article by David Fletcher]

[Text]

YOUNG people caught up in the unemployment gloom are turning to heroin to escape their depression, a drug advice group said yesterday.

They prefer the "care-free oblivion" the drug induces to the despair of the dole queue.

And a continuing increase in the already "startling" number of hard-drug users is inevitable, the Release group said.

The warning follows the publication of Home Office figures which reveal an increase of about a third in the number of notified addicts in one year.

The Home Office said about 3,800 were receiving drugs from doctors to treat their addiction at the end of last year. At the end of 1980 the figure was 2,846 — more than at any time over the previous 10 years.

But Release said the true number of hard drug addicts was more like 50,000 "at a conservative estimate."

Mr Bob Nightingale, spokesman, said: "It's a despair among the young which makes oblivion much more desirable.

"Heroin makes you forget about things for a while, and people want that more now because their life is no longer enjoyable as it was 10 years ago."

Users, of both sexes, ranged in age from around 14 to 40, and spanned all social classes.

Turned to theft

Addiction led to vast expense, said Mr Nightingale, and some youngsters were having to resort to theft or prostitution to finance the habit. Others sold drugs to pay for heroin, currently about £80 a gramme. Addicts used a quarter or half a gramme a day.

The Home Office figures recorded only those addicts who were notified to the authorities. Therefore, said Mr Nightingale, they represented only a proportion of the real rise in popularity of the use of the hard addictive drugs.

In a statement, Release said that facilities for helping and treating heroin addicts were not only inadequate but "hopelessly overwhelmed."

It predicted a massive problem over heroin use in Britain unless priorities were revised.

The warning was echoed by the Standing Conference on Drug Abuse, another group which works with drug-problem cases.

It said time had almost run out for many drug addicts because of lack of Government action.

Mr David Turner, Co-ordinator of the Standing Conference said there had been a reduction in services available to people dependent on drugs largely because of public spending cuts.

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UNITED KINGDOM

DRUG SMUGGLER MARKS JAILED FOR THREE YEARS

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 17 Feb 82 p 3

[Article by Ian Henry]

[Text]

RUNAWAY drug smuggler DENNIS HOWARD MARKS, who became entangled up in a web of international intrigue while working for British intelligence, was finally jailed for three years at the Old Bailey yesterday.

Marks, 36, the Welsh village boy who became an Oxford graduate and turned to drug smuggling as a cover for his M16 work, smiled and waved to his wife Judith as he left the court.

Last November Marks was cleared of masterminding a plot to smuggle 15 tons of cannabis, worth £22 million, to a remote Scottish island. He was jailed for two years for passport offences.

Yesterday, more than eight years after being originally arrested in Holland for drug smuggling, Marks, of Cathcart Road, Fulham, pleaded guilty to conspiracy in 1973 to evade America's laws on drugs importation.

Policeman's
suicide

The Recorder of London, Mr James Miskin, Q.C., told him: "There was question of duress in your case, just greed and a total insensitivity to the misfortunes of the drug buyers."

Marks' disappearance while awaiting trial in 1974 that led to a court ordered report on his turtive links with the intelligence services.

The Thames Valley policeman who carried out the inquiry, Supt Philip Fairweather, committed suicide after allegedly confessing to having leaked his report to a journalist.

Extracts from the report appeared in the New STATESMAN in 1979. Last December Supt Fairweather stabbed himself to death in the garden of his home in Kidlington, Oxford.

He had accepted responsibility for the New STATESMAN leak, and according to police sources, was expecting to be charged under the Official secrets Act.

At the inquest last month, it was said he had been depressed for several weeks and had told police about something worrying him.

The top-secret report, details embarrassing allegations of links between the intelligence services and drugs and arms dealing syndicates.

Supt Fairweather is said to have been disubsted by some of the matters he uncovered.

Drugs hidden
in speakers

Yesterday LORD HUTCHINSON, Q.C. for Marks, told of Marks' undercover intelligence work and why he disappeared and failed to attend his original trial.

Mr JOHN ROGERS, prosecuting, said that in 1973 Marks was one of a group of Englishmen who smuggled cannabis from Europe to the United States.

The smugglers operated through a front company, Transatlantic Sound, with a false address in Brook Stret, Mayfair.

The company "managed" a non-existent group. Rock bands like to use their own sound equipment, and amplifiers are ideal for concealing cannabis.

The cabinets owned by Transatlantic Sound were specially built in Putney to conceal 100lb of cannabis. The "band" obtained customs documents from Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Holland, Ireland, France, America and Britain for the import and export of their sound gear.

The speakers were transported by road from Britain to the Continent, where they were packed with cannabis from the Middle East.

Then they were shipped or flown to America before being returned to Britain for the next trip.

During 1973 seven cannabis loads, worth £4 million, were

sealed in the speakers and sent to America. On the final run a sniffer dog detected 400 kilos of cannabis worth £170,000 and most of the gang were captured.

Marks, who was arrested in Amsterdam, voluntarily returned to England and disclosed his role as an MI6 informer. But before he could stand trial with others in April 1974 he mysteriously disappeared.

Reports at the time which linked his disappearance with possible abduction by the IRA or the Mafia were dismissed yesterday by Lord Hutchinson.

What happened, he told the court, had to do with those involved with the American end of the conspiracy who feared the evidence Marks might give, having heard that he had made statements to both the Dutch and English police.

Marks was taken to Italy and kept in a flat but after a week he escaped.

Mafia hit-man in London

Police and Customs marked his file: "Missing, possibly abducted or murdered."

The special police squad led by Det. Supt Fairweather was formed in Oxford to investigate the disappearance. He learned that an American suspected by the FBI of being a Mafia hit-man had been in London when Marks disappeared.

The man, using the alias BURTON MOLDESE, had visited all five people arrested in Britain in connection with the drugs syndicate and warned them to keep quiet.

Marks took on a false name, then returned to England and using various aliases worked in cancer research, electronics, publishing and producing video cassettes until he was arrested in 1980 for the other drug plot allegations.

Lord Hutchinson said Marks got involved in the drugs plot not only for financial reward "but also to legitimise his role as a drug smuggler and so give him an unassailable cover to ferret out information."

In fact, said Lord Hutchinson, Marks was working under cover for MI6 and provided information leading to the arrest several times of a notorious IRA Provisional gun runner James McCaan.

In his previous trial Marks claimed that through a former University friend, NORMAN HAMILTON McMILLAN who had joined the Foreign Office, he was working undercover to track down McCaan.

It was officially disclosed in the last trial that Marks had worked for a brief spell for British intelligence. Lord Hutchinson told the court Marks had a double motivation for his

involvement in the drugs plot in 1973.

While in Germany to help out a friend he had met McCann, Marks became aware that he was involved in drug and arms smuggling and that he was operating from Holland.

Just before this German trip his intelligence contact had made a request to him for assistance specifically saying that if he opened a Dutch branch of his clothing business Anna Belinda, the intelligence people might use it as a front.

Never the hippy type

All this, Marks told his father, harbour controller at Port Talbot steel works, and their close family friend, Mr DAVID RHYS, about his MI6 link.

Mr Rhys said: "He told me he felt honoured when he was asked to work for British intelligence. His father was very patriotic and Howard was never the hippy type."

"He believed he was doing something for his country. I accept absolutely his explanation that he was recruited to try to find out who was behind he trafficking."

Mrs Marks told the court that both of them were determined to get more to do with drugs. The court heard that at the time of 1980 evidence Customs officers found cash totalling over £33,000 belonging to Marks at three different addresses.

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UNITED KINGDOM

COURT HEARS POLICE 'TURNED BLIND EYE' ON DRUG RING COUPLE

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 20 Feb 82 p 3

[Text]

A COUPLE were able to run a drugs ring earning thousand of pounds a week because some policemen turned a blind eye, Sheffield Crown Court heard yesterday.

ANTHONY BASHFORTH, 25, was jailed for eight years for drug offences and LESLEY WHYMAN, 26, his mistress for 30 months. Bashforth, unemployed of Cypress Avenue, Sheffield was also ordered to pay prosecution costs not exceeding £2,500 and £1,600 found by police in a box at his flat was confiscated.

Mr Justice Taylor told Bashforth: "It is said you were in league with certain police officers and your dismal trade would have ended sooner had they done their duty."

"The Crown accepts that others remain to be brought to justice, but it is no mitigation on your part."

Mr DAVID SAVILL, Q.C. prosecuting, said Bashforth's 18-month-reign ended only when officers from the Humberside force were called in to investigate.

He said Bashforth and Whyman, of Topham Drive, Sheffield, had a five-year-old child. They ensnared clients by offering free drugs until they became hooked and then made them pay.

A man who could not pay his drugs bill was forced to take part in a pornographic film and a girl said to have handed over £9,000 for heroin was forced into prostitution to pay for her craving.

After the case Det Supt Ron Sagar, deputy head of Humberside C.I.D., said inquiries were continuing. He could not say how many Sheffield officers were concerned in his investigation but no charges had been made.

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END