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3 June 1982

# Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 25/82)

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WORLDWIDE REPORT  
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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MALAYSIA

GERMAN GROUP WOULD SET UP REHABILITATION CENTER

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 9 Apr 82 p 19

[Text]

IPOH, Thurs. — Daytop — a private German institution for therapy and rehabilitation of all kinds of addiction — is keen to set up a therapeutic training centre in Malaysia to cater for the needs of the Asean region.

This non-profit making organisation, which has 12 therapeutic centres in Germany, is also ready to start a drug rehabilitation centre solely for women in Malaysia.

The organisation is prepared to pump the initial funds to start the projects but it needs the support and cooperation of local agencies, individuals or even Government or non-Government bodies to keep the projects going.

Its representatives here have carried out preliminary discussions with the Welfare Ministry on its proposals.

The organisation has named the therapeutic

training centre project "Daylight" — meaning the light in local initiative of getting help through treatment and therapy.

Two Daytop officers are in Ipoh to study the possibility of accommodating both the proposed therapeutic training centre and women's drug rehabilitation home at the Batu Gajah Pusat Pertolongan.

They are Mr Martin Lutterjohann, 33, and En-cik Yakob Abdul Rahman W. Scholer, 41, (the founder of Pusat Pertolongan) from Daytop's research and project development department.

Mr Lutterjohann said Daytop had picked Malaysia because of the Malaysian Government's open-mindedness towards solving the drug abuse problem.

"Such awareness and acceptance of the existence of the problem by a Government is unusual and we hope to be able to play our part to support the Government's aim to eradicate the problem," he said.

CSO: 5300/8325

MALAYSIA

SHORTAGE OF MORPHINE PROCESSING AGENT

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Apr 82 p 7

[Text]

**PENANG, Sun.** — Malaysian and Thai police have identified four international drug trafficking syndicates, CID chief Datuk Abdul Rahman Ismail said here today.

"Twenty-seven big-time traffickers have also been identified and the police are zeroing in on them," he told a Press conference at the end of a two-day Malaysia-Thai CID liaison meeting.

He said the activities of illicit poppy growers in the Golden Triangle had been disrupted and underground labs destroyed by Thai narcotics officers.

The flow of drugs into Malaysia and Thailand had been reduced following this success, he added.

Datuk Abdul Rahman said there was an acute shortage of *acetic anhydride*, the chemical which is used to produce heroin.

"The shortage forces illicit chemist to stop processing morphine into heroin.

"The police have taken all measures to control the diversion of *acetic anhydride* from lawful sources in Malaysia into

the illicit market in Thailand," he added.

He said combined and intensified measures taken by both countries had also resulted in the arrest of several important traffickers and the seizure of large amounts of narcotics.

The secretary-general

of Thailand's Office of Narcotics Control Board, Mr Pow Sarasin, said his government was going all out to cripple drug trafficking and capture the narcotics "King", Kansa, operating in the Golden Triangle.

He said the Thai drug problem was acute, with

300,000 addicts, 60 per cent of them between 14 and 25 years of age.

He added that heroin was the most popular drug in Thailand. There were 60 rehabilitation centres in his country but they were unable to cope with the number of addicts.

CSO: 5300/8325

MALAYSIA

SELANGOR POLICE SEIZE 5 POUNDS OF HEROIN

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 1 May 82 p 8

[Text]

**KLANG, Fri. —** Selangor police seized 2,470 grammes (about five pounds) of heroin in Petaling Jaya yesterday.

They also detained a 32-year-old suspect and a 17-year-old girl. The drugs seized could provide more than 500,000 "shots".

Police believe the man is a local and international trafficker.

Selangor CID chief ACP Niah Seen Heck said the anti-drug section from the Petaling Jaya police got their break on Wednesday

when they checked the 32-year-old suspect who was walking in the SS2 area at 3.45 p.m. and found three small packets of heroin on him.

Subsequent investigations showed that he had international connections and was a wanted trafficker.

Yesterday, a police party led by ASP Chan Cheng Mun raided a house in Section 17 and seized the 2,470 grammes of the drug in plastic bags.

The raiding party also detained a girl in the house for questioning.

ACP Niah complimented the PJ police on their success.

CSO: 5300/8325



MALAYSIA

## FRENCHWOMAN HELD ON TRAFFICKING CHARGE

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 7 May 82 p 6

[Text]

**PENANG, Thurs. —** The High Court today reserved its decision on whether to call French secretary Saubin Beatrice to make her defence on a drug-trafficking charge.

Mr Justice B. T. H. Lee said he would defer his decision until the hearing, on May 21. He said this after defence counsel Mr. K. Kumaraendran and DPP Encik Asmi Ahmad had given their submissions at the close of the prosecution case this morning.

Beatrice, 21, from Paris, is charged with trafficking in 534 grammes of heroin at the Bayan Lepas international airport at 2.15 pm on Jan. 27, 1980.

**'Shabby'**

Earlier, Mr. Kumaraendran in his submission said the prosecution had not made out a prima facie case and that his client should be acquitted.

He said Beatrice's cautioned statement which was tendered to the court clearly showed that she had no knowledge of the heroin hidden in her green suitcase.

In her cautioned statement, Beatrice had said she had come to Asia eight months prior to her arrest. She said she was in Bangkok where she kept her suitcase in a hotel before coming to Penang with only a sling bag.

She had said that she bought the green suitcase from a Chinese man in

Penang for \$40 and she did not know that it contained heroin.

Mr Kumaraendran said the investigation carried out by the Customs officers was "shabby" as it had failed to take hand swabs, finger prints and finger nail clippings of Beatrice to determine whether there were traces of heroin.

DPP Encik Asmi Ahmad in asking the court to call for her defence, said the prosecution had made out a prima facie case. Beatrice was found in custody and control of the suitcase at the airport, he said.

The DPP added Customs officers had seen her boarding a taxi at the E and O Hotel carrying the green suitcase.

When she was searched at the airport, her clothings, some books, her plane tickets and passport were found in the suitcase.

The heroin, the DPP said, was also found in 22 plastic packets hidden in the suitcase. As such, the DPP said, there is presumption under the law that she had knowledge of the heroin. Her cautioned statement was one of mere denial of knowledge of the heroin.

Earlier, a witness, Supt. of Customs Encik Mohamed Dhajudeen bin Shahul Harneed said he found 11 plastic packets of light brownish substance on the top layer of the suitcase and another 11 plastic packets of the same substance on the bottom layer of the suitcase.

CSO: 5300/8325

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

HASHISH SMUGGLING BID FOILED--New Delhi, April 16--A West German and a Swiss national has been arrested here for attempting to smuggle 20 kilograms of hashish worth eight million rupees (two million marks) to Europe earlier this week, authorities disclosed Thursday. The two were detained at Delhi Airport following a tip-off after Customs authorities intercepted their baggage as it was being loaded into the plane. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 17 Apr 82 p 3]

CHARAS SEIZED--The Excise Police seized a car and recovered 107 kilogram of charas valued at Rs 48 lakhs in Karachi on Monday. On a tip that one Tahir Ali was selling charas to narcotic peddlars in city, the Excise police organised a raid when the accused was going to sell narcotic on Tariq Road and recovered charas from various hidden cavities of the car. The man escaped, but the car was seized.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 21 Apr 82 p 8]

CHARAS SEIZED NEAR MULTAN--The Customs Intelligence has arrested here two members of an alleged international smugglers gang and seized from them charas worth about Rs. ten lakh. Truck driver Jan Mohammad and cleaner Hidayatali Shah were taking the contraband from Bara (Tribal Area) to Karachi (50) and were trapped on the way near Multan. Local lawyer and social worker has been arrested here under Martial Law Regulations for allegedly spreading hartedo against the Government. Four persons, identified as Nazir, Khaleel, Murtaza and Sharif, have been arrested here for allegedly preparing packets of adulterated red chillies and dhania in the factory. They allegedly used to mix a red coloured powder and Burada in there commodities. [as published] Eight lakh tons of wheat will be procured at all one hundred and sixty procurement centres in all five districts of Multan Division. Various committees have been set up by the Food Department to check the working at these centres. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 14 May 82 p 11]

CSO: 5300/5749

SINGAPORE

PACT WITH MALAYSIA ON CROSSBORDER PURSUIT

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 8 Apr 82 p 11

[Text]

**SINGAPORE, Wed. — Malaysia and Singapore have set up a coordinating body that will enable drug enforcement officers from either side to operate across their common border, the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) said today.**

**CNB Director Poh Geok Ek said the formation of the Border Drugs Committee (BDC) followed serious concern in the two countries over the possible influx of drugs after a recent bumper opium harvest in the so-called "Golden Triangle," where Burma, Thailand and Laos meet.**

**Mr Poh said direct telephone links had been established between the CNB and the Malaysian police in all State capitals of Peninsular Malaysia in conjunction with the setting up of the committee.**

**Malaysia and Singapore have been linked by a joint drug liaison committee for the past two years. But prior to the establishment of the BDC, their officers were not allowed to cross the border in pursuit of drug traffickers.**

**Since the formation of the BDC, Malaysian and Singapore narcotics agents had detained four Malaysians in Singapore and recovered 250 grammes of heroin from their hideouts in Johore Baru, Mr Poh said.**

**He said Singapore had denied travel documents to its citizens with a drug record and hoped that other South-East Asian countries would do the same to help prevent movement of drugs.**

**Singapore have sent about 19,000 drug addicts for compulsory treatment at rehabilitation centres in the past five years.**

**About 500 suspected drug traffickers are now in jail under laws that provide for indefinite detention without trial.**

**Singapore's drug laws also prescribe the death sentence for trafficking in over 15 grammes of heroin.**

**Ten people, including a number of Malaysians, have been hanged for drug offences since the Misuse of Drugs Act came into effect in 1973. — Reuter.**

CSO: 5300/8326

THAILAND

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DISCUSSES ANTIDRUG DRIVE

BK170258 Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 17 May 82 p 5

["Excerpts" from interview with Deputy Prime Minister Prachuap Suntharangkun]

[Excerpt] Question: How did the second offensive against the Shan rebels start?

Answer: Khun Sa was still trying to make Thai territory his base for his logistical reason. We found out that military-like barracks had been erected and decided to work out a plan in the form of our own exercise to counter the move. In the future we will apply similar pressure on all foreign armed elements on the border to prevent them from crossing the border. After our last offensive in January, the rebels came back to build their strongholds and we had to move in to destroy them.... When our aircraft flew over Baan Lao Lue (eight kms northwest of Ben Hin Taek), we were fired on. We detected about 40 Khun Sa men and began repelling them. We still did not find their presence in other parts of the border. The rebels had no definite locations.

We took aerial pictures of the border areas every month. That was why we immediately spotted the 100 houses erected. We will send in ground forces to confirm the type of the houses which had the military appearance. We have to find out first whether they are just houses or whether they are other structures. We will certainly stage air attacks as soon as we find out what they are.

Question: Is the offensive part of the Thai-Burmese cooperation plan?

Answer: We have made four points of principle of cooperation (with Burma). One is that we will consistently suppress the drug trafficking movements. Secondly, we will exchange intelligence reports. Thirdly, we will have discussions over important matters and lastly, we will implement crop substitution programme.

Our war with Khun Sa has not finished and we will continue our suppression until we could drive them out of Thai territory. We regularly inform the Burmese Government on what we do and this is not a kind of request from Rangoon. But joint operations with the Burmese Government have not been planned. It depends on where the Khun Sa's army happens to be. If it is found on the Thai side, we would take action and if it is on the Burmese side the Burmese would do it.

But if the rebels happen to be just on the border, a joint operation is then necessary. But we will have to wait until that time comes. However, we will try to avoid it (joint operations) because it has to be a large-scale operation.

Question: Was the question of joint operation discussed during your last visit to Rangoon?

Answer: There is no problem even if it was not discussed. But the size of the Khun Sa's Army does not make it necessary for such joint operation. The rebels now number no more than 2,000. We captured some very young soldiers during our last operation.

Question: There has been concern that Khun Sa might have joined hands with the Communist Party of Burma (CPB).

Answer: We are not yet certain about such possibility. Contacts between them might have been established in the past. CPB might have sold opium to Khun Sa or Khun Sa himself might have approached it for opium. But we can rule out the chance that they will unite in a bid to liberate the country (Burma). I just simply can't imagine any activities of Khun Sa that might resemble a war of liberation.

Question: Khun Sa was said to have more opium-growing areas inside Burma than inside Thailand.

Answer: Khun Sa and his men are not opium growers. He goes after others for opium. He maintains agents inside villages where opium is grown to purchase it. He might even distribute opium seedlings too. Around 700 tons of opium is being grown in the Golden Triangle this year. Fifty tons of them are grown in Thailand and Laos. Our country offers a much better communication systems and that is why the drug traffic has been hectic.

Question: Is it true that CPB has begun refining heroin?

Answer: It is not only the Burmese Communists. Anyone can do it anywhere. There are chemists who can produce heroin without having to use much know-how. But the report that CPB has turned to opium trading is so distant and we are not in a position to comment on that. But we have heard news that CPB has resorted to opium trading because of reduction in aid (from China). The same thing (cut in aid) is also happening to the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT). They (Chinese) now consider government-to-government relations more important (than the party-to-party relations).

Question: What kind of development play [as published] is going on at Baan Hin Taek?

Answer: The Interior Ministry and the Supreme Command are doing the job. We are trying to urge foreign countries to take part in the development projects there.

Question: How valid is the report that Khun Sa tried to negotiate with Thai authorities to return the body of Thaveep Kaentapim, the news editor of MATUPHUM daily?

Answer: No, Khun Sa wrote me a letter several months ago but there was nothing new in its contents. Khun Sa is in no position to make any negotiations. We would be mad if we negotiated with him. He claimed in the letter that he had done nothing wrong and was willing to cooperate with us to crack down on opium trade.

He also asked for the captured arms of the rebels to be returned saying he wanted it to liberate the country. I don't want to get involved in Burmese politics.

The Burmese Government appears appreciative of the present Thai policy because we keep our words. The premier (Prem) said we would suppress Khun Sa and we did it.

Question: Were the offensives against Khun Sa linked to visits to Burma by Thai senior authorities?

Answer: No they had nothing to do with the visits at all. We have to keep on suppressing the rebels before they can recruit new members. We will have constant surveillance and

destroy all heroin refineries we come across. There are now no more heroin refineries inside Thai territory. But there are still some inside Burma.

Question: Has Burma ever told us it is facing problems, for example the problem with the minority groups?

Answer: The Burmese Government has never asked for cooperation (to fight the minority groups) from us. We only discussed narcotics and that could be the first step of our future talks.

Question: What has become of Lao Su, the heroin kingpin who escaped during detention?

Answer: Lao Su is just a minor figure compared to Khun Sa. He is only a henchman for Khun Sa. The two may have had contacts.

Question: What kind of cooperation in anti-narcotics work was discussed during your visit to Singapore?

Answer: We talked about the so-called "preventive detention law" which enable authorities to detain drug suspects without trial. There are about 3,500 people under detention there and 450 of them are drug traffickers. But we still cannot have this kind of law here. The law imposes a maximum prison term of 10 years and a two years of detention.

Another topic of discussion was on chemicals used in refining heroin. We told Singapore authorities we want to have information on the movement of these chemicals from Singapore and Malaysia into Thailand.

Question: Will the preventive detention law be adopted in Thailand?

Answer: We are studying the matter. But we don't think parliament will accept it.

Question: How good is our cooperation (in drug suppression) with Singapore and Malaysia?

Answer: Very good. But we have to go to Malaysia after the elections.

Question: How would you describe the government's performance in fighting against narcotics?

Answer: Speaking on behalf of the government, I would say that we have made tremendous achievements. During the Sanya government we caught Lo Hsing-han, the heroin overlord. But the present government is taking action against Khun Sa and it is a very big task. We lost 17 lives in the fighting against Khun Sa in the first big offensive in February, and it simply showed how much sacrifice we are making to fight against drugs.

We have no policy of making a false show out of the affair. We still don't understand the motive of the people who lied to Khun Sa and urged him to return to the border.

We are considering improving the communications in the areas to pave the way for development. If we develop the northern areas we will have the country's best tourist spot there.

Question: How long did we know about the activities of Sihadet Chindawong (Thai vice consul in Chicago) before he was arrested?

Answer: We had followed him for quite some time. In fact, we wanted a bigger fish but the news began to leak, so we decided to move and arrested him.

CSO: 5300/2295

BOLIVIA

COCA FARMERS CLAIM GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZED PLANTINGS

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 4 May 82 p 4

[Text] Santa Cruz--3 May--The department of registry and control of coca production and marketing, subordinate to the narcotics bureau, has authorized coca planting in the northern part of Santa Cruz, and the governor's office of Yapacani has levied a tax per arroba produced, according to documents given to this correspondent's office by the farmers.

When the latest raids were made by military troops in Ichilo Province as part of a vast drug operation, assisted by the U.S. Narcotics Bureau, the rural producers who were seriously affected in their economy say that they do not understand the severity with which the military is acting inasmuch as the Ministry of Interior was aware of the plantings.

The farmers showed authorizations of the second census of coca producers in which parcel numbers and coca plot locations are consigned. This census was taken at the beginning of the year.

The National Directorate for the Control of Dangerous Substances was the organization which authorized the plantings, requiring, according to the farmers, an annual sum of 2,000 pesos for a parcel of 20 by 100 meters (two lots).

The farmers say they are "disoriented and terribly affected inasmuch as coca was their principal source of income." They say that they would have reduced the plantings substantially if they had known they were illegal; the fact that they had official authorization, they say, gives them the right to ask the government and Narcotics Bureau, which directed the coca destruction operations, for compensation for their losses and for an effective program to enable them to continue to live from agriculture.

Units of the seventh and eighth army divisions, with bases in Cochabamba and this district, mobilized approximately 1,000 troops to cover an area of 700 square kilometers between Puerto Grether and Puerto Ramos in El Chapare up to Villa Busch in Yapacani. According to the official report, just during the first week 140 factories of cocaine-base sulfate were destroyed, foreign and domestic money was confiscated and dozens of persons connected with coca traffic and drug preparation were arrested.

Helicopters and navy launches were used for this operation. Although it has not been possible to obtain precise information about this operation, the U.S. Embassy in La Paz has denied that its staff supervised the raids and destruction of factories and coca plantations.

The result of this project is the destruction of 180 hectares of coca plantations through both manual means and the use of herbicides. A rapid depopulation is taking place between the Ichilo River and Yapacani through the massive exodus of the settlers whose only means of income was the leaves of the coca plant.

Although the National Antidrug Struggle Commission has repeatedly said that the coca plantations in Santa Cruz were illegal, this position is being ignored, since, according to the area's farmers, there are complete official registries on coca producers and their contributions made "religiously to narcotics agents, the governor's office in Yapacani and control posts."

The farmers have begun to show provisional receipts, many typewritten but with stamps from the National Directorate for the Control of Dangerous Substances, the Narcotics Bureau and the Office of Coca Control in Santa Cruz.

8568  
CSO: 5300/2289



BOLIVIA

RESEARCH ENTITY STUDIES LEGAL INDUSTRIALIZATION OF COCA

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 1 May 82 p 11

[Text] The use of the coca leaf for medicinal purposes and its industrialization to obtain food concentrates were some of the conclusions reached from a sociopsychiatric study on coca now being published by the Multidisciplinary Society for Research in Native Medicine and Pharmacology [SMIMFA].

That institution explained its findings on 27 April, and it was then planned that government officials will arrange an audiovisual presentation on that aspect of coca.

SMIMFA expressed its opposition to the use of herbicides, of whatever type or number, guaranteed or not by scientists, for the elimination of coca crops, due to the inestimable ecological and genetic damage they cause, according to that institution. In addition to their high cost--in the purchase price, reparations for the damage caused, injury to health and damage to the environment--the country's economic situation, according to the institution, does not make it possible to incur those expenditures.

It advises that herbicides used in Vietnam, even though guaranteed, caused incalculable damage which can only be termed as monstrous, since they not only affected the environment but also the people.

The study now completed makes it possible to propose the legalization and domestication of the natural extract of the coca leaf as a psychotropic, antidepressive medicine. It says that throughout the world there is massive consumption of drugs for psychiatric purposes and that these drugs are trying to imitate the antidepressive effects of coca. It adds that, like every synthetic product, the drug causes mental and physical damage known to health specialists. The generic name of those drugs is amphetamines, and Bolivia imports those products.

Among the contentions it makes is that the natural extract of coca, in addition to not being harmful, as shown by the fact that the Aymara race has been chewing the coca leaf for centuries, contains vitamins, minerals and nutritional elements.

It also proposes the industrialization of the coca leaf and the production of food concentrates, since its nutritional properties, as shown by a study made by Harvard University, surpasses various South American cereals, some 50 species, among which are pigweed, string beans, peanuts and others.

Bolivia, it concludes, is undergoing a serious crisis and, therefore, cannot permit the destruction of that worthy material which, it says, should be considered as one of Bolivia's strategic materials.

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CSO: 5300/2289

BOLIVIA

CONCERN OVER USE OF TOXIC HERBICIDES NOTED

INC Institute's Warning

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 28 Apr 82 p 9

[Text] The National Settlement Institute [INC] has warned of the serious danger involved in destroying coca plantings with toxic weedkillers, which can destroy the usability of the land for the cultivation of other farm products.

At a press conference, the executive director of the INC, accompanied by various technicians, announced the development of the programs being carried out in various zones of the country.

Speaking of the situation created recently by the campaign to eliminate coca plantings in the Chapare zone, he said that the use of toxic herbicides to eliminate the coca plants will destroy the land entirely and for a number of years, since the organic matter, the chemical nutrients and microorganisms which nitrogenize the earth will disappear, and the land could only be rehabilitated at the cost of vast investments. The use of toxic weedkillers will convert the settlement zones into veritable wastelands. These zones formerly suited to the cultivation of foodstuffs could only be rehabilitated by the transfer of humus from other unaffected regions, which would mean the loading and transportation of millions of metric tons of earth.

The INC technicians further revealed that even the pesticides used in farming have serious effects on the land, but their toxicity is not by any means as great as that of the substances used to eradicate coca plants.

Engineer Hernan Munoz Duran, director of the INC, said that the Chapare settlers who were given land and established illegal coca plantings, and who are not aware of the potential of the soil, have not been given technical aid for the raising of other crops, nor have they been aided by other bodies specializing in this field. He said that the struggle for the production [sic] of coca does not call for the institute to penalize the settler-farmer. He said that land is reclaimed only when the settler has not put the land to use. Moreover, engineer Munoz Duran said that when toxic weedkillers are used, it is the duty of the Bolivian Institute of Farm Technology to investigate the case and to deal with the possible difficulties which may occur in Chapare, both with regard to the settler-farmers and the peasants using land provided by the agrarian reform and settlement programs.

of earth to reestablish crop-growing areas necessary. In this connection, it is pertinent to make it clear that on the basis of tests carried out in Peru in connection with the destruction of coca plantings, supported by the written report of U.S. scientist Fred H. Tschirley, 2-4-D is rapidly destroyed by the action of the microorganisms in the soil, such that its residue remains for only 4 to 8 weeks.

Consequently, the crops planted after that period of time on the land where coca plantings were destroyed will be capable of normal development.

4. Also the fear that the use of 2-4-D would damage nearby crops, such as plantain or cassava, has been expressed. This fear also is without justification, because of the carefully studied and responsible method employed, involving direct application under low pressure to the basal portion of each stem, as far as the corona of the root, which is located almost at ground level. Consequently, application has been done plant by plant.

5. The fact that 2-4-D has been widely known and used in the department of Santa Cruz for years precisely as a weedkiller for crops, including sugarcane, among others, both by agroindustrial enterprises in the zone and by small farmers, is ignored. Also, other similar weedkillers would be used. As use has been made of this product year after year without detection of any harm done either to crops or to individuals, there is no logical reason to suppose that there will be any different results for the crops adjacent to the coca plantings destroyed.

6. Only limited use has been made of 2-4-D in destroying a part of the illegal coca plantings in Yapacani, and this has been virtually completed. The purpose of its use was to evaluate the efficiency and cost of using one method or another, manual or chemical, for destroying illegal coca plantings.

7. Both for the reasons mentioned, and the fact that the limited goal has already been achieved, and due to a desire to offer the public and private bodies which have made known their adverse criticisms of the use of weedkillers in the destruction of coca plantings an opportunity to confirm or revise their views in more objective circumstances, it is now being made known that there is no further project for the use by the council of 2-4-D or of any other herbicide."

#### Political Leader Issues Protest

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 30 Apr 82 p 5

[Text] Politician Enrique Acha Alvarez has expressed his disapproval of the use of herbicides to destroy coca plantings in an open letter addressed to the president of the republic, stating that in this way, "the criticism of the conduct of the National Council to Eliminate Drug Trafficking is endorsed."

He said that "meekness and need must not be allowed to reduce us to this extreme. Even in the eras when mankind was subjected to the greatest slavery, the masters at least provided a morsel of bread and a little water. Never has it been the case as it is now in Bolivia that the slave must invest his strength and equipment in a blind obedience which humiliates and degrades the nation."

In conclusion, he said that no soil studies have been carried out in the Chapare zone so that the peasants could diversify farm production to replace the coca crops. He stressed that the INC is ready to cooperate with the bodies involved in making an economic-agricultural projection for Chapare, but that it has neither the economic resources nor the other facilities needed to carry out a task which has currently become urgent, in view of the fact that ecological problems pertaining to the land have developed on a worldwide scale, and there are few programs designed to deal with this situation.

#### Economic Project

Speaking of the so-called "Chimore" program the INC is carrying out in the Chapare zone, he said that the establishment phase has been completed. He noted that the INC plans to embark during this fiscal year on the economic-agricultural consolidation program, with financing from international bodies and the government bodies for support of such programs. He said that in the first phase, the INC established the basic infrastructure in Chapare, beginning with the building of schools, health stations, secondary roads, etc. He added that the IDB financed the first phase with a total credit allocation of \$6.5 million. The program began in 1965, and at present 2,500 settlers have been sent to Chapare and 5,000 have settled there spontaneously.

#### Narcotics Council Informs Public

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 30 Apr 82 p 3

[Text] In response to reports carried in the press as well as statements issued by state and private bodies about the real scope of the use of weed-killers to destroy coca plants in the Yapacani region, the National Council to Eliminate Drug Trafficking has released a communique with the following text:

1. Indiscriminate mention has been made of Agent Orange, Paraquat and 2-4-D as the weedkiller used to destroy clandestine coca plantings. This confusion reveals an obvious lack of information, since the first-mentioned is a defoliant, and its broad use in Vietnam earned it generalized criticism on the international level, while the second substance is a weedkiller specifically applied by aerial spraying in Mexico in order to destroy marijuana planting. Furthermore, it should be stressed that the council has never used nor will it use either Agent Orange or Paraquat.
2. The above confusion seems to have serious emotional impact insofar as the effects of any weedkiller are identified with the lethal and destructive results on all types of vegetation caused by the defoliant Agent Orange. Although legitimate, the concern expressed has no objective foundation in this connection, since 2-4-D (dichlorophenoxyacetic acid) is different in chemical composition, a fact which can be established by any public or private body interested in doing so. To this end, on written request, we will make available a suitable quantity of this herbicide for the necessary analysis.
3. It has been said that 2-4-D could produce the virtual destruction of the soil since it would not dissolve in water and would cause the organic matter to disappear, making vast investments and the movement of millions of tons

Speaking of the processes being pursued to combat drug traffic, Acha said that "the news reports tell us that our compatriots have paid the price of their very lives. Tasks and conditions have been imposed behind the backs of such a generous people as the American people, who must be ignorant that we are being harassed and humiliated in this way. Nor is it dignified for the Bolivian military to persecute men who out of hunger and need engage in the transportation of coca leaves."

He states emphatically that the most serious thing is that we are being used as guinea pigs to demonstrate that the herbicides used in Vietnam have been perfected.

Enrique Acha also criticized the economic measures promulgated by the government harshly. In this connection he said that "no one can be unaware that an economic passage has been under study for 8 months, only to change it after 30 days and then to announce that yet another amendment is being contemplated, due to the inability to float the loan. It would seem that our lack of an ocean has a negative effect even on achieving proper dollar flotation, and we are being dumped into an empty swimming pool for the second consecutive time."

On the other hand, he also said that immorality has won general acceptance. It is not found only in the most important offices nor is it a matter of partners only. "Even cousin is set against cousin, and parents and children have even developed enmity due to mutual accusations."

Finally, this open letter to President Torrelio said that "if you go ahead with the plan to allow the high military command to order changes in the assignments of the present components of the regime you head, the national conscience, that of your comrades and that of the generations to come will be obliged to offer you their gratitude. If on the other hand egotism guides your actions in this crucial hour, they will hold you responsible for what you did and failed to do."

5157  
CSO: 5300/2288

BOLIVIA

RETIRED ARMY OFFICER ARRESTED TRANSPORTING COCA CARGO

Santa Cruz EL MUNDO in Spanish 18 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] La Paz--17 Mar--A retired Bolivian army colonel was arrested in Caranavi, 180 km northeast of this capital; he was leading a convoy of trucks loaded with coca leaves and chemical elements for the manufacture of cocaine and pretending to be a shipment of materiel for a civilian action project of the armed forces.

The local evening paper, JORNADA, stated in today's edition that Col Angel Garcia Ricaldi was arrested at a military post after the guard suspected that the alleged shipment of construction materiel, declared by the convoy's leader, was concealing "something strange," as seen in the "nervousness of the drivers of the five trucks."

Col Garcia Ricaldi, wearing a military uniform and "armed with the necessary documents," was accompanying the convoy in a jeep and, in view of his rank, had received preferential treatment at the control station, whose commander, an unidentified army captain, had even invited the colonel to lunch.

Once the convoy's true shipment was discovered, Col Garcia Ricaldi, according to the newspaper report, offered his captors a bribe, consisting of two of the five trucks.

According to JORNADA's informant, Garcia Ricaldi is being held by the military police and will be given a dishonorable discharge "to set an example."

According to military regulations, an officer may take voluntary retirement but continues to belong to the military registry and may, at any time, request reinstatement in active service. Garcia Ricaldi is now in that situation as a colonel retired from active service.

8568  
CSO: 5300/2289

BOLIVIA

CHARGES OF ARMED RAIDS AGAINST COCA FARMERS DENIED

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 29 Apr 82 p 4

[Text] Santa Cruz--28 Apr--Col Raul Gonzales, national director of the Antidrug Struggle Council [CLN], gave his assurance that no armed confrontations have been reported in this city and that no casualties have resulted from the operations the army has been carrying on since last Thursday in northern Santa Cruz.

After returning from another expedition into Ichilo Province, Gonzales reported that operations are continuing and denied reports by the local press that almost 50 deaths had occurred among the farmers.

According to other reports put out by the army, the armed forces suffered three deaths in this operation due to an accident on the Ichilo River when a launch capsized, piloted by Lt Genara Patton Arancibia and containing one NCO and one enlisted man.

With regard to excesses committed against settlers in the Yapacani and Ichilo area, Gonzales said he is inviting church representatives, especially San Carlos priests, to participate in the operations to receive proof that reports given by farmers and settlers in this respect "are somewhat exaggerated."

Ever since steps were taken to dismantle factories in El Chapare and Ichilo, the area of influence of Puerto Grether, numerous reports have been made about outrages, excesses of authority, illegal arrests and other abuses.

Based on a report by the Special Federation of Farmers of the North, the local press says that 50 farmers allegedly died in raids against drug traffickers, that helicopters are being used to bomb certain centers and highly toxic herbicides are being used to destroy coca plantations.

Arrests

There is no precise figure on the number of arrests made up to now either in El Chapare or in the Yapacani area where troops of the seventh and eighth army divisions, belonging to Cochabamba and Santa Cruz, are advancing and continuing to destroy plantations and sulfate factories, sulfate being used as a base for cocaine.



CLN officials say that this is the largest operation undertaken in the country up to now and that the search will continue in the hope that more persons connected with the illicit activity will be arrested.

According to military sources, the drug traffickers in question have offered no resistance up to now and have given up immediately upon being overtaken. Some have escaped to the woods, "but it will be only a few days until their food runs out."

On a number of occasions the farmers of this area have expressed concern over the results of this search. Many settlers, whose coca plants are being destroyed, are leaving the area.

#### 'Sepes' Released

Colonel Gonzales admitted that it is a real problem to maintain those arrested, since just to feed them means taking provisions away from the troops. The CLN has decided to release those who, attracted by the pay, arrived in El Chapare to work as "sepes."

These individuals (the "sepes"--a kind of ant) were assigned to carry bundles of coca from El Chapare to Yapacani via paths in the woods. The trip took several days and was extremely dangerous due to gangs of "acrobats" who, posing as narcotics agents, took possession of the coca and money and even killed those who protested.

It was announced that, once they have made their first statements, the "sepes" will be taken under guard to their place of origin and released with the stipulation that they report to the police every few days as a means of control.

#### With Regard to Herbicides

Those in charge of this military action have stressed that bombs from helicopters are not being used to destroy coca plantations and factories.

Moreover, Gonzales said that the council has given its assurance that the land where herbicides are being used to destroy coca plants will undergo no change whatever, since the product, 2-4D, has been tested scientifically. The U.S. Embassy guarantees that there is no danger if it is used according to the advice given by scientist Fred H. Tschrey, who came to Bolivia precisely to give information on the use of herbicides.

8568  
CSO: 5300/2289

BOLIVIA

## BRIEFS

TORRELIO LAUDS CAMPAIGN--President Celso Torrelío said yesterday that he has received in Cochabamba information about the "joint operation" being carried out by the army, air force and Bolivian navy to eradicate the drug traffic "which has caused so much damage to the country's image." "I had pledged to cleanse the image of the institution (the armed forces) and the Bolivian people, and that is what I am doing through these operations which are being carried out successfully," Torrelío said yesterday shortly after his return from Cochabamba. According to the information given to him by the military and civilian leaders assigned that task, "to date we have destroyed a great many clandestine cocaine factories. The battle we are waging against drug trafficking, which has done the country so much damage, is underway and will continue with great energy," he said. "This sore, which has done so much damage to all Bolivian people, must end," he stressed. According to information from the National Directorate for the Control of Dangerous Substances, the operations in Cochabamba and Santa Cruz are, in fact, being carried out by groups of the three branches of the armed services. The activity will conclude with "strict control of the plantations" on which certain experiments are being conducted to eradicate them. In some cases herbicides are being used; in others, manual systems are being employed. [Text] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 28 Apr 82 p 9] 8568

LARGE-SCALE CRACKDOWN--La Paz, 25 Apr (AFP)--Carlos Soliz, a former mayor of the city of Montero--Santa Cruz Department--1,000 km east of here, is one of the leading members of the international drug traffic ring and the owner of three cocaine factories, it was disclosed here today. The disclosure was made by a cocaine courier captured by the armed forces during a large scale operation launched in El Chapare (at the center of the country) and in Santa Cruz. It was learned that the operation is being carried out under the guidance of U.S. experts and with the participation of the Ustárez Regiment, the Special Operations Center (paratroopers), the naval force and experts in narcotics. Peasants of the areas in which the military dragnet operation is taking place have charged that uniformed personnel had raped two girls in Cochabamba and had taken their money. Therefore, they have filed the appropriate charges before the courts. [Text] [PY040956 Paris AFP in Spanish 1452 GMT 25 Apr 82]

CSO: 5300/2295

COLOMBIA

LIFE IN COCA-DOMINATED PUERTO LEGUIZAMO ECONOMY

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 12 Apr 82 pp 1-A, 3-A

[Article by Marbel Sandovalo; EL TIMEPO special envoy]

[Text] Puerto Leguizamo, Putumayo--In Leguizamo, the cocaine business is an honorable profession, although almost everyone denies that he openly engages in it. They say, "I do not have any but I know who can sell you 2 kilos of good quality."

Three or 4 years ago the Huitotos, Inganos, Uinanes and Boras Indians raised the small shrubs on their parcels of land for their own personal use. Now they are wage earners in the coca business.

So are most of the settlers who live along the banks of the Putumayo, Caucaya and Caqueta Rivers. They no longer plant yucca, corn or pineapples. They buy these products from the settlers on the opposite side of the river, from the Peruvians, or the Ecuadoreans.

The raising and processing of the "paste" requires personnel so people have come from other places: Bogota, Tolima, Antioquia, Caldas. They are seen only on Saturdays when they come down to town to drink until Sunday night when they stagger drunkenly to their 40 or 60 HP canoes, to get back to work.

Juan Correa is 84 years old and lives in Puerto Alegre, a half-hour from Leguizamo. More than 50 years ago he stopped working for Casa Arana and made a home in these lands. He cleared away a piece of the jungle where he planted corn, bananas and pasture.

A long time ago he heard talk of the financial advantages of planting coca but he decided to do so only 3 months ago when an emissary of one of the largest cocaine traffickers of the region came to his farm to ask if he had seedlings for sale. He had with him 200,000 pesos to buy seedlings.

Correa decided that he had to obtain the seedlings. So much money had never before been offered to him. He spoke to an Indian in the area and ordered several small plants from him. The Huitoto Indian asked 25,000 pesos for them so Correa sold a young bull to obtain the money but the Indian did not sell him the plants.

Like Correa, many settlers attempt to get into the business. However, he says that it is not profitable to process the coca. "A poor man can only make money by raising and selling it."

Correa's 18-year old grandson said to him, "Grandfather, I'm going away to learn to process coca." The boy worked for a year on coca farms and when he returned, the old man, with his Indian craftiness, said to him, "I'm going to buy you 2 arrobas of coca to see what you can make from it," and did so.

In Putumayo an arroba of coca costs between 300 and 400 pesos. In addition, 7 gallons of gasoline, 3 kilos of sulfuric salt and 2 tablespoonfuls of ammonia are needed for each arroba.

In Leguizamo, a gallon of gasoline costs between 100 and 150 pesos, depending on its availability. In Puerto Ospina or in La Chorrera it costs up to 500 pesos a gallon. The sulfuric salt costs 500 pesos per kilo and, according to Correa, they may charge up to 300 pesos for a tablespoonful of ammonia. However, lemon juice can be used as a substitute for the ammonia.

First the coca leaves are spread out on a piece of plastic in the shade and covered with sulfuric salt; then they must be "turned over and over and over until they are cooked." When the salt has burned the coca leaves they become black. They they should be left for 24 hours in gasoline. Several coca men who were consulted said, "Even petroleum can be used."

The mixture should then be washed with water. According to them, after the leaves are washed two or three times, they are wrung out in a cloth and the paste or unrefined cocaine remains in the cloth. This is the basic material purchased by the large scale traffickers who continue processing it until they obtain pure powder.

The "salesmen" carry samples of 40 or 50 grams in small bags in which, to outward appearances, only a sort of thick, slightly dark sugar can be seen.

But Correa seems to be right. The only thing that is profitable for the poor farmer is to grow it; processing it is too expensive. The 2 arrobas of coca cost Correa 800 pesos. He also had to pay 1,400 pesos for 14 gallons of gasoline, 3,000 pesos for sulfuric salt and 1,200 pesos for the ammonia. His total investment was 8,600 pesos.

On this occasion, he said, he obtained 25 grams which, sold at 500 pesos per gram, amounted to 12,500 pesos. The profit was 3,900 pesos.

Perhaps this is why they prefer to just raise it. A worker earns 600 pesos a day and has Saturdays and Sundays off. Half the day is spent in the planting and half in harvesting the leaves.

At first, the work is hard. They must begin by clearing off the jungle--10, 12, 15 hectares of trees must be cut down. Then the entire area must be burned to clear away the underbush. In the jungle solid ground is 40 or 50 centimeters down, the rest is rotting organic material.

Once the burning has been completed, the little bushes, 20 or 25 centimeters high, are planted in the ashes.

"After 6 months the first harvest is very small; that of the 15th month is larger. If the first harvest produced half a pound of paste per hectare, the larger harvest may produce 2 to 2 and a half kilos of paste per hectare," says one of the planters.

#### A Town With a High Cost of Living

In the municipality of Leguizamo, a farmer can no longer find workers. Nor can one find bananas, yucca, pineapples, oranges or any of the other foods which were in abundant supply in the past.

With wages at 600 pesos a day, nobody wants to work for 200 pesos which is the most that a person who is not engaged in raising coca can earn.

The men go down to the town with their pockets full of bills but there is nothing they can buy. The women who live in Leguizamo must get to the markets before 0600 hours if they are to find food for the day. They cannot ask the price of an item but must take it at once."

A bunch of bananas costs 500 pesos, a chicken costs 800, a brown sugar loaf 30. A package of Pielroja cigarettes costs 50, a package of filter cigarettes 100 pesos, a soft drink 25, a gallon of gasoline 100 pesos (most people cook with gasoline), a package of crackers 90 and a sack of potatoes 1,300 pesos.

That is because on the banks of the Putumayo River the raising of foodstuffs has been abandoned. The few farmers who insist on raising foodstuffs manage to harvest just enough for their own needs. For this reason, when large canoes come from Puerto Asis loaded with foodstuffs, they are boarded quickly and many ask, "What do you want for your entire cargo?" and without any more ado the cargo belongs to the inquirer, because he can most certainly pay with cocaine or currency.

Tired of the jungle by noon on Saturday, the men begin arriving to take over the town for more than 24 hours. Then the peaceful houses, where every afternoon the old men sit to cool off and wait for nightfall, become bars.

A record player or even a victrola appears out of some corner playing Mexican songs, boleros sung as duets by distorted voices. The men sit around the tables and begin a memorable night of drinking liquor.

The singing and shouting of the drunkards are to be heard until Sunday morning. At noon or at nightfall they begin to go back for another week of work.

The coca people here do not want currency for many things. All want large record players, money for batteries and many cassettes. They also want a large canoe with a 25, 40 or larger HP motor.

On Saturday evenings the town girls dress up and stand at the doors of the town's two discotheques with "black lights." The youths who want a girlfriend come to them.

On week days there is nothing to do in Leguizamo. At 2000 hours half the population goes to the theater at the base. They remain there until 2230 hours and they barely reach home before the electric lights are shut off.

These people have difficulty finding a mate. "She already has a man and he is good looking," an Indian woman exclaims proudly, pointing at her daughter who is pregnant.

The Indian prostitutes who work in the redlight district demand that the men pay only with 200 peso bills. They call the men "coffee pickers" perhaps because they think that the coffee farmer who comes there brings good luck and money just as the coca picker does.

These men are the wage earners of the coca business. They are the ones who raise it and see some of the money but perhaps do not know about the big business in it which exists outside.

However, its use is beginning to increase among the people of Leguizamo and vicinity. More and more frequently they acquire 1 or 2 grams of "paste" to mix with cigarettes. The Indians also continue to chew it."

Cocaine for chewing is prepared differently. The dry leaves are mixed with ashes from Yarumo palms. "Otherwise it burns the mouth." This mixture is placed between the molars so as to consume it little by little throughout the day.

"One does not feel anything. One does not feel thirst, hunger, nor does one get tired. Just joy!" said a toothless old man with a tired voice who repeated, "One does not feel sorrow, nor poverty, nor anything."

Thus lives the wage earner of the cocaine business, sometimes using it, sometimes only processing it. These men and the women, when the fleeting bonanza is over, will live with the memory of the days when they had a lot of money in their pockets, a motor, a canoe and the wish that conditions would always be the same.

9204  
CSO: 5300/2278

MEXICO

FEDERAL OFFICIAL CLAIMS 90 PERCENT CUT IN DRUG PRODUCTION, SMUGGLING

Hermosillo EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 4 May 82 Sec A p 5

[Text] The assistant general prosecutor of justice, Samuel Alba Leyva, who is also the national coordinator of the campaign against drugs, stated here that the production and smuggling of drugs in the Mexican Republic have declined 90 percent between 1976 and the present, as a result of the measures adopted by the Federal Government to combat the sale and consumption of drugs in our country.

The high-ranking official visited San Luis-Rio Colorado as part of a working trip that he has been making on a national scale, in order to make an evaluation of the efforts and the way in which the Federal Public Ministry agencies are operating.

Upon being interviewed by EL IMPARCIAL, Alba Leyva said that there is under way a plan to concentrate several air units belonging to the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic in a single region or zone of the country, in order to make intensive flights to detect drug plantations.

He added that the northwestern section, which includes the states of Baja California Norte and Sur, and Sonora, has always had problems with drug production and marketing; however, the Attorney General's Office is covering this vast region, and has allocated a fleet of 12 helicopters and six airplanes to engage in air reconnaissance of the territorial area.

The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic has 80 aircraft to engage in the detection of drug plantations, and the measures that have been instituted by the Federal Government to combat this illegal activity have brought positive results. In this respect, a deciding factor has been the bilateral agreement on information concluded between Mexico and the United States, since large seizures have been made, and individuals have been arrested.

In commenting on the foregoing, the federal official cited as an example the 30 hectares planted with poppies in Sahuaripa, noting that the villages had been fumigated on time because, fortunately, the plants were in flower and did not have any fruit. He also mentioned the case of Mexicali, Baja California, where 1.5 kilograms of heroin and another kilogram of cocaine were seized.

Alba Leyva remarked that the exchange of information with the United States has enabled them to obtain quick and accurate data on drug traffickers or on the ground and air units used to ship drugs. He said: "We exchange that information within a maximum interval of 10 minutes."

He added: "The agreement on exchanges of information has been cited as an example to be imitated by other countries, in the antidrug agency of the United Nations Organization, owing precisely to the good results that we have achieved."

The official was escorted here by the Federal Public Ministry agent, Fernando G. Medina Castro, who explained the status of the office to him, explaining that the latter has operated normally, and that the Attorney General's Office's proposals regarding the professional training of agents have been reflected positively when it was time for them to do their duty.

2909  
CSO: 5330/82



MEXICO

MARIHUANA SHIPMENT SEIZED, TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 13 Apr 82 Sec A p 2

[Text] The commander of the Federal Judicial Police in the northern zone, Mario Espinoza, succeeded in capturing two individuals involved in marihuana trafficking and in seizing a shipment of this grass which was intended for "retail" distribution among the addicts working at the Rio Escondido thermoelectric plant.

The capture was due to the forceful vigilance and the campaign that is being carried out in the entire northern region, with surveillance and investigation of various activities at different strategic points in the district.

One of those arrested answers to the name of Jose Vicente Ricardo Neavez Portillo, who is widely known in this port. He was arrested with a large box in his possession containing marihuana which was being carried from Torreon, Coahuila. In his statements, he claimed to be working as a timekeeper at the Rio Escondido thermoelectric plant. He said that he sold this marihuana in the form of joints to the addicts who smoke the drug on that location.

An investigation is also being made of Carlos Lara Ontiveros, because he was caught on the Anahuac bus coming from Torreon, Coahuila, with a suitcase filled with marihuana on his seat. He was suspected and questioned, but the confidentiality of the case is being maintained, because there is a possibility that the suitcase was not his property. Hence, this individual was arrested only for questioning, and he may go free this very week.



Jose Vicente Ricardo Neavez Portillo was arrested by the Federal Judicial Police when he was caught with a shipment of marihuana in his possession intended for distribution among addicts at the thermoelectric plant.

2909  
CSO: 5330/79

MEXICO

## BRIEFS

MARIHUANA SUPPLY FOUND--Mexico City, 17 April (INFORMEX)--After an exhaustive investigation, the Federal Judicial Police succeeded in confiscating nearly 3 tons of marihuana in this city and over 3 in the state of Veracruz. The official report on the cooperation associated with the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic stated that, at a school of advanced studies Jose Manuel Monjarrez Roman was arrested with a briefcase containing 360 "grass" cigarettes, weighing approximately 360 grams. The subject under arrest supplied sufficient information to enable the Federal Judicial forces to go to the town of San Gaspar, in the state of Mexico, and discover a 2.5 ton shipment of packed marihuana. They also found a 22 caliber machine gun, a 16 caliber rifle and a 16 caliber shotgun; but, unfortunately, the drug traffickers who owned the shipment managed to flee and have not been apprehended to date. Moreover, the Judicial Police assigned to the base in Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, discovered Ruben Garcia, Rosa Alicia Morales and Micaela A. Gonzalez, at the Cana Verde farm, as they were loading a 1978 pickup truck with license plates YN-5098, with marihuana. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 18 Apr 82 Sec A p 3] 2909

'EVALUATION PLAN' RESULTS--Hector Aviles Castillo, coordinator for Zone 06 of the permanent campaign against drug trafficking, described the "Evaluation Plan" carried out from 16 March to 13 April as excellent because, in addition to affording exact information on the location of poppy and marihuana plantations, it served to have them destroyed at the proper time and prevented their products from being harvested. He noted that the 800 hours of flight made by five 212 helicopters to reconnoiter the 111,338 square kilometers comprising the zone, enabled the 11 206 aircraft to fumigate 700 poppy plantations and about 50 of marihuana. He stated that the outlay made for the aforementioned aircraft, as well as for the two Cessna planes which were also active during the period in question, amounted to over a million pesos; and Aviles Castillo considered that amount small when the success attained is taken into account. The Zone 06 coordinator explained that it is extremely important to attack the problem during the early months of the year, because weather conditions are favorable for the development of the plants, and that this had been the intention before carrying out the Evaluation Plan. [Text] [Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 23 Apr 82 pp 1, 3] 2909

ARREST FOR HEROIN POSSESSION--Leonel Cisneros, aged 29, was sent to the county jail after being arrested by police on charges of heroin possession. According

to the report, Cisneros was in McDonald's restaurant when he was captured by the police, who had a warrant for his arrest. The order, which had been issued by the No 49 district court, was carried out without any resistance on the part of the accused. Bail was set at \$10,000 for the release of Leonel Cisneros. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 21 Apr 82 Sec B p 8] 2909

SONORA ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN--The agent of the Federal Public Ministry, Pablo Ernesto Avila Triana, announced that during the past few days the permanent campaign against drug trafficking run by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic detected and eradicated 150 drug plantations in the Sonora mountains. He said that, every day, seven helicopters, five small airplanes and several tank trucks tour the state's mountains, carrying out reconnaissance on the terrain, and detecting and eradicating the plantations of drugs of any type. He went on to say that this action is being executed under orders from the regional coordinator of this campaign, Aaron Juarez Jimenez. He added that, at first, it had been thought that Sonora was merely a state used for "passage" to the United States, a factor which the organized underworld used to advantage, covering the mountains in the state with drug plantations, which will be exterminated by fumigation. He stressed that these chemical compounds do not contaminate or upset the components of the soil in farm land at all. Avila Triana stated that, although this type of action is carried out year after year, this is the first time that the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic has decided to send reconnaissance aircraft and fumigation helicopters which come from various states, such as Chihuahua and Durango. [Text] [Hermosillo EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 24 Apr 82 Sec A p 5] 2909

CSO: 5330/81-82

EGYPT

SECURITY FORCES FOIL SEVERAL DRUG-SMUGGLING OPERATIONS

Cairo AKHIR SA'AH in Arabic No 2475, 31 Mar 82 pp 16-17

[Article by Munir al-Musayri: "Failure of Most Dangerous Smuggling Attempts; How Smugglers Tried To Infiltrate Northern Coast and How Chase Took Place"]

[Text] With the start of the smuggling season, smugglers have renewed their desperate attempts to penetrate the strong blockade imposed by the border guard all along the northern coast. Over the past 15 days, there were four consecutive attempts to smuggle hashish and crude opium valued at 21 million pounds.

An interesting week-long chase then began between the smugglers and the border guard vehicles all over the desert paths and in bedouin camps. The chase then extended to Alexandria, until all of the smugglers, including 'Awad Abu Dubun, the biggest smuggler in the western desert, were apprehended.

AKHIR SA'AH publishes here exclusively the full details of this exciting chase and of the attempts to which the smugglers resorted in the past 2 weeks after changing their smuggling methods.

With the start of the smuggling season, beginning at the outset of the current month of March, the information accumulating before Brig Gen Wahbi Habib, the border guards intelligence chief, indicated that despite the successive failures they had encountered throughout the past season, smugglers were preparing to smuggle new shipments of drugs, that they changed the methods that they had followed in the past and that their new method relied on quick operations carried out at unexpected times.

Staff Maj Gen Faruq al-Sahn, the border guards commander, immediately instructed Maj Gen Samih al-Tuhami, the chief of staff, to intensify the border watch, to besiege smugglers all along the northern coast and to strike all of their attempts.

Information was accumulating rapidly on four planned smuggling attempts in a single month and in various and widely-spaced spots, beginning with al-Tarh beach near Rashid and ending in al-Sallum.

While the coast guard was making its preparations, the smugglers were able to penetrate the blockade in a lightning quick operation near the town of Marsa

Matruh, close to Sidi al-Barrani beach. But the attempt was quickly discovered. By the time the coast guard trackers found al-jarrah, namely the tracks left on the coast by the drug-laden rubber tires dragged on the coast after being taken out of the water, the information acquired by Col 'Abd al-Hamid Sanjar, the Alexandria intelligence director, confirmed that 'Awad Abu Dubun, the biggest drug smuggler in the western desert, was behind this shipment. The smuggled drugs totaled 2 tons valued at 10 million pounds. Brigadier General Wahbi instructed that a plan be drawn up to chase the smugglers, along with their shipment, in the desert.

The bottleneck area, an area covering 70 kilometers between the coast and al-Qattarah depression--this is the narrowest corridor in the desert which then broadens and makes it almost impossible to engage in chase operations--was sealed off. This is the method Montgomery followed when he sealed the area off in the face of Rommel's forces.

Intensive patrols then began to roam the corridor to seize the smugglers and the drugs.

At the same time, other patrols proceeded to look for them. At the outset, the tracks left behind on the sands by the smugglers and read by the trackers indicated that the drugs had been transported by a Daihatsu car, accompanied by a private car for guard purposes. The pursuit and chase of the smugglers began. It was then found that the Daihatsu car had been replaced by two Toyotas, and so the chase turned out to be against three cars instead of two--two Toyotas carrying the drugs and a private car to guard the drug shipment. The smugglers' cars then turned to the mountain area--the same old area used by smugglers of contraband from Libya.

The chase, relying on tracking marks and reading of the smugglers' movements on the desert sands, continued.

It was then found that the smugglers had resorted to some caves and some beduoin shacks in the area when their tracks began to disappear, to be replaced by the marks of sheep and goat grazing.

Then began another new day in this exciting chase and in the search for the tracks of the smugglers in the desert.

The smugglers went into hiding near the edge of the corridor while waiting for one of the patrols to move away so that they could infiltrate through this area. In an instant, they were able to penetrate the corridor. But the attempt was discovered soon afterward and one of the coast guard patrols hastened to pursue the smugglers. Suddenly, the patrol found the three cars in front of it after having discovered the path they had followed. The distance between the coast guard patrol vehicle and the smugglers' cars began to diminish gradually.

#### Battle With Firearms

In a flash, the vehicle guarding the smugglers turned around and moved at extremely high speed in the direction of the coast guard patrol vehicle. At the

same moment, the patrol officer saw a rifle aimed in the patrol's direction. In the same instant, a round was fired. Here, fate intervened to save the coast guard officer's life. The bullet was a dud. Immediately, the officer instructed the patrol to open fire, which it did. The smuggler and his assistant were hit. The coast guard men then fired at the vehicle's tires and proceeded to chase the drug-carrying vehicles. This happened on the third day of the chase. The light of dawn started to appear after the night's darkness. The smuggler's vehicles were heading in the direction of Burj al-'Arab road after being forced by the chase to change their original course, set for Wadi al-Natrun. The smugglers had to get rid of their load before the break of dawn so the load would not hamper their escape.

They began to drop their load in the middle of the road in front of the patrol vehicle. The chase continued but the smugglers were able to reach the road they wanted and to disappear, without their load. The patrol car turned around, picked up the drugs from the road and returned to the smugglers' guard vehicle. What the patrol found there was a great blob of blood on the desert sand and the tracks of a vehicle with a flat tire. The guard vehicle had managed to reach a populated area and to escape. All that was left was a dud bullet shell, which could have cost the life of one of the officers keeping a watchful eye on Egypt's security.

#### Smugglers Trapped

Three full days had passed on this chase in the desert. Col 'Abd al-Hamid and Majors Ahmad al-Badawi and Yusri al-Tuni then started to pursue the smugglers to arrest them. Quick and careful investigations were conducted on the two wounded smugglers, 'Awad Abu Dubun and his brother Rahim, the two biggest smugglers in the western desert. Information began to flow in rapidly indicating that the two smugglers were hit and still bleeding and that they had offered a physician 60,000 pounds to save them and to take out the four bullets that had hit them in the legs. 'Awad, a 60-year-old man, had bled for 8 full hours and was unconscious. The doctor told them that the only way to save them was to have them admitted to a hospital. He then referred them to a hospital in Alexandria.

The border guard officers verified the information, and one of the officers proceeded immediately to the hospital concerned and waited for the people visiting the wounded defendants to leave. Meanwhile, he was able to identify all of the persons involved in the case. Whenever one of them left after visiting the wounded, he was arrested. After all the individuals involved had been arrested, the two wounded defendants were arrested.

The total number of defendants in the case was eight, including brothers 'Awad, Rahim and 'Abd al-Mawla Abu Dubun and 'Abd al-Wahid Karim Hafiz, who had driven one of the drug vehicles.

#### Millionaire Shepherd

When prosecution attorneys Muhammad al-Turrawi and Sa'id Shihatah, under the supervision of Counselor Mahmud al-Hinnawi, the general drug prosecutor, questioned the wounded 'Awad Abu Dubun and his brother Rahim at the hospital,

the two denied the charges and stated that they were herding sheep in the desert when they were surprised by the coast guard vehicle opening fire on them.

But who is shepherd 'Awad Abu Dubun? The coast guard investigation of the records shows that he is the most dangerous smuggler in the western desert and that his star began to rise in the sky of the poison trade after 1967 when hashish and opium smuggling shifted to the northern coast and when most of the smuggling operations conducted in this area came to be controlled by 'Awad and his brothers. As for the shepherd, he owns three Mercedes cars and 100 feddans of the best farmland, cultivated with fruit and citrus trees, in al-Matamir, in addition to other large areas of land in Burj al-'Arab and al-'Ajami, an apartment building in Alexandria and a villa in al-'Ajami area.

#### Second Attempt in Rashid

A few days later, the second attempt took place. The information showed that the attempt would take place near Rashid. It was already known that smugglers begin their infiltration and smuggling operations to the coast from sunset until 0200. If not finished by then, they withdraw with their (boats) to international waters to await a new day.

This is because smugglers take into their account the time consumed by the smuggling operations, beginning from the moment the rope is thrown to the smugglers' workers on the beach to the moment of the smugglers' return to international waters before the break of dawn.

But in this attempt, the smugglers changed their methods. A Turkish smuggling boat carrying the smuggled shipment from Lebanon moved close to al-Mu'addiyah beach at 0330. One of the smugglers descended to the water, holding in his hand the end of the rope to which the drugs were tied, before exchange of the all-clear signal between the smuggling boat and the Egyptian smugglers on the beach so as to save time. But the attention of the coast guard observers in the area was attracted by the movement of the shadows of persons in the graveyard in the area. The coast guard moved quickly to the beach and opened intense fire on the smugglers' boat, which dropped its load and fled at the sound of the first bullet. The workers [on the beach] also fled. The coast guard forces descended to the water and picked up the smuggled shipment, which amounted to 1 ton of crude hashish valued at 5 million pounds. The coast guard forces also noticed that the fleeing Egyptian smuggler's workers had prepared a tractor to pull the rope to which the drug parcels were tied so as to drag the drugs out of the water and to the beach instead of having this done manually--a tiring and time-consuming process that usually requires nearly 40 men to perform.

#### Using Passenger Boats

A few days later, the third attempt took place. This attempt was also different in its method. This time, the smugglers resorted to using passenger boats coming from Lebanon. The smugglers board the boat carrying some small parcels shaped like suitcases or small parcels inside cases similar to passenger



suitcases. Upon entering territorial waters and before reaching the straits, the passenger ship is met by a fishing boat. At a given prearranged signal, the smuggler starts to throw the parcels overboard gradually and the fishing boat, which is by now moving parallel to the passenger boat, picks up the parcels.

When this information became available, a coast guard launch was awaiting the passenger ship along with the fishing boat. Naturally, the fishing boat assigned to the smuggling operation departed immediately and the coast guard launch moved close to the passenger boat instead. The smuggler on board had no choice but to dump the parcels on the other side of the passenger boat to get rid of them before the boat entered the port. The coast guard launch picked up the drugs, which consisted of four small cans filled with crude hashish valued at a quarter of a million pounds.

The coast guard forces then arrested the two smugglers who had traveled aboard the passenger boat, namely, 'Ali Hafiz Muhammad and Muhammad al-Sayyid Mahmud.

#### Inside Abandoned Cave

Also, a few days later, the latest of these attempts took place. This time, the information available to the coast guard agencies agreed with that of the General Drug Control Agency. The investigations of Col Faruq Abu al-'Ata, the head of the General Drug Control Agency branch in Alexandria, indicated the presence of a large shipment of hashish and opium in one of the unpopulated islands in al-'Ajami Sea. The agency's units moved under the supervision of Maj Gen Mamduh Salim, Drug Control Agency director, and Col Muhammad 'Abbas, director of operations. Colonels Faruq Abu al-'Ata, Mahmud Yasin and al-Sayyid Ghayth; Lieutenant Colonels Muhammad (Jamil) and Nur Hamidah; and Maj Tariq Isma'il proceeded to seize this shipment. At the same time, the border guard forces were pursuing the shipment. This time, the information disclosed that the smugglers would make their attempt in a totally new and different way. The information also indicated that the Lebanese smugglers had agreed with the Egyptian smugglers not to let the Turkish smuggling boat, specialized in infiltrating to the Egyptian coast, come from the Lebanese coast to the territorial waters, considering that one of these boats, totaling three altogether, had been seized earlier. This is why the Egyptian smugglers this time used Egyptian fishing boats or launches to meet the Turkish smuggling boat near the territorial waters. There, the drugs are transferred to the Egyptian fishing boats, which then smuggled them into the country gradually over interspersed periods to avoid suspicion. It was not easy to keep watch on the Egyptian fishing boats, especially since they were returning without any drugs. The information then indicated that the Egyptian fishing boats were transferring the drug shipment to a cave in one of three unpopulated islands in al-'Ajami Sea. When this information became available to the coast guard and to the General Drug Control Agency and its branch in Alexandria, a joint force conducted a comprehensive survey of the islands' waters and the drugs were found in a cave in one of the islands. The cave had been covered by the smugglers with seaweed and some rocks. The shipment consisted of 10 cans of crude hashish powder and 38 kilograms of crude Turkish opium, which is considered

one of the purest kinds of opium in the world. The shipment's value was 5.5 million pounds.

Thus, with the start of the new smuggling season, the smugglers have failed to transport their poisons to the market, despite all their tricks to penetrate the security men's blockade.

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EGYPT

FEATURE ARTICLE ON OPIUM CULTIVATION IN EGYPT

Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic No 2995, 5 Mar 82 pp 25-30

[Article by 'Asim Rashwan: "The Seriousness of Opium Cultivation in Upper Egypt"]

[Text] Destruction is cultivated in Upper Egypt. Weapons, murder, and drugs. Hundreds of feddans are cultivated by people without conscience. It is possessed by people without conscience, as well. Many fingers point to prominent individuals who are behind the cultivation of death. Certain names stand out in the drug kingdom--a strange world, in which the plants are cultivated by night and harvested in the early morning hours. When will this strange world come to an end?

There is one dominion in Egypt called the kingdom of drug trafficking. But there is also another kingdom, the kingdom of drug cultivation, which is no less powerful or influential. It is a strange kingdom in which crops are cultivated in broad daylight and harvested at the break of day in spite of all the efforts of the police and anti-narcotics agents and the provisions of the law, which call for 5 years to life in prison. However, this kingdom does not openly declare itself, but operates only in secrecy. It is a kingdom which has its men and its servants. Indeed, many signs point to officials who participate in it or operate clandestinely within it. This strange kingdom is located in the governorate of Asyut--the same governorate that produced the infamous "Upper Egypt line" that controlled the cultivation of drugs in that area and was brought to an end by the police in the 1960's. The "line" was a legend. But its end was not in itself the end of the strange kingdom. It was the beginning of other efforts. The people of the town of al-Ghanayim, who became famous for drug cultivation, relocated their efforts to other areas within the same governorate.

Col Husni al-Dab', chief of criminal investigations in Asyut, had this to say:

"The growing of poppies--the opium plant--is centered in the areas of Abnub and al-Fatah, particularly in the villages of East al-Ma'abidah, West al-Ma'abidah, Bani Muhammad, and East al-Hawtah in the district of Dayrut; al-Ma'abidah Island, al-Hawatikah, and Tamiyah Bani Sha'ir in the district of Manfalut; al-Qasir and Dayr al-Qasir in the district of al-Qusiyah; al-Fawallah and al-Gharib in the district of Sahil Salim, which have the

fewest farms; and the villages of East al-Kullabat and West Kullabat in the district of al-Fatah, which are famous for the cultivation of Indian hemp. These areas have a unique natural character in that they are surrounded by Eastern Desert mountain ranges on one side and the Nile on the other. It used to be difficult to reach these areas and the security forces suffered a certain percentage of losses during their raids on the drug growing sites. But the roads have been developed and it is now easy to reach these areas. River transportation, however, is still not up to the standard necessary to fight a problem such as this."

The chief of criminal investigations added: "There is a strong connection between drug growing, weapons, and crime. These three constitute the "terrible triangle" in the governorate."

#### Why Are Drugs Grown?

This is a strange question which arises at this point. According to Col Husni al-Dab': "The spread of vengeance feuds in Upper Egypt generates an urgent and continual need for funds and weapons. They are seeking money to buy the latest types of weapons so that they can deal with a dispute. On the other hand, they need huge amounts of money to pay court costs and employ defense lawyers because of crimes."

#### Shades of Night and Day

Despite the fact that drug cultivation is like any other type of cultivation in some ways, it has certain principles and rules which make it different from any other type of cultivation. In the village of East al-Ma'abidah in the vicinity of Abnub al-Hamam, which is ringed by mountains on three sides and by the Nile on the fourth, I spoke to Shaykh 'Umar al-Khattab, the village newsmonger--about the way in which drugs are grown. Shaykh 'Umar said:

"The poppy seeds are very similar to onion seeds. They are black in color and are no more than 1 millimeter in diameter. The cultivation begins in September and ends at the end of June. There are two ways of growing drugs:

1. Together in holes. This consists of putting the seeds in a hole and covering them with soil.
2. In rows. In this method, the patch of ground is divided into several small patches and these are divided in turn into long rows. The seeds are sown in each row also in lengthwise fashion. Both methods of drug cultivation use the "separation" method. In other words, they are separated from other plants.

"In some cases, they grow the drug plants among other crops such as beans, wheat, Egyptian clover, coriander, caraway, anise, safflower plants, Hyacinth beans, and sunflowers. These plants provide a degree of camouflage. The crops are fertilized 7 days after the seeds are planted. Each feddan requires six bags of chemicals. The plants are irrigated every 10 days beginning when the seeds are planted. After 60 days, the plants begin producing fruits. At this time they need six additional bags of fertilizer.

"Indian hemp plants are grown in the same way. The only difference is in the color and size of the seeds. The hemp seed is 3 millimeters in size and is greenish-white in color, similar to the coriander seeds. The poppy seed is predominantly black like that of the onion, for which reason it is called the 'black seed.'

"After completion of the 60-day period of growth, the poppy plants begin putting out fruit. At this time, the harvesting operation, which they call "surgery," begins in order to obtain the crude opium. Shaving razors are used for this operation. The razor is divided into two sections and each section is divided again into two halves. The pointed part is put in a palm-leaf stalk and this is used as an instrument for the surgery. The operation on the leaves or the fruits begins at sunset so that the sun's rays will not affect the milky liquid and make it run out onto the ground. During this operation, the milky liquid flows out and is thick in consistency. During the night hours, the white color turns to the color of tea with milk, then becomes light brown and then dark brown. In the first hours of morning, it becomes a thick, predominantly black substance, and this is crude opium--or the 'pure,' as it is called."

Shaykh 'Umar Khattab continued: "Most of the time, they perform the surgery on the leaves after 60 days to obtain the greatest possible amount of crude opium for personal use and also for sale so that money obtained from sale of the substance will help pay the cost of collecting the remaining yield from the fruits. By the end of the ripening stage, the plant is 75 centimeters tall. There are different varieties of poppy plants including native, (Izmali), Turkish, and Pakistani. The (Izmali) type is the largest and safest. Its stem is short and its leaves grow broad like tomato leaves and therefore it is difficult to detect. However, it also produces the least crude opium of all the varieties. The native variety is the most productive but it has a long stem like that of a cotton plant and is easy to detect. Therefore, this variety is not safe.

"The crude opium is also collected with razors and is put in china bowls. The substance resulting from the cutting of the leaves of the poppy plant is called 'leaf opium.'

"Indian hemp is collected exactly like mallow. Then it is dried in the heat of the sun until it resembles dry mallow. It is then mixed with sugar and boiled in clay containers. Next it is cut into small shapes resembling beans. These are called 'green beans.' There is another method in which dried Indian hemp is mixed with a certain quantity of sugar and some other ingredients such as frankincense and nutmeg. This is called 'tahbishah.' The industry of extracting hashish in various grades from Indian hemp does not exist in Egypt.

"However, this industry is widespread in Lebanon, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, and Thailand. The dried Indian hemp is placed in special devices to produce various grades of crude hashish. The first process is called 'hubu' in Egypt. It is the best grade of hashish. The second is called 'zaytah [oil] hashish' and it is lower in quality. The third is 'ghubarah' [powder]. The fourth

consists of the by products from the processing of the Indian hemp plants and is called 'khaltah' [blend] because they add certain other ingredients to it for commercial deception, including henna and nutmeg. This form is the worst grade of hashish."

#### Four Hundred Equals a Quarter Million

While the police are able to seize certain areas, these areas are just the visible part of hashish cultivation. The people of Abnub al-Hamam assert that there are vast areas that are not visible and are thus out of reach of the police. These areas are steadily growing so that they will ultimately surpass the areas held by the police.

One citizen of East al-Ma'abidah said: "The dealers come from Alexandria, Qina, Sawhaj, and even Cairo and al-Fayyum to buy crude opium from East and West al-Ma'abidah and other cultivation areas. It is sometimes shipped by certain growers who have great influence and the investigations people never suspect them at all."

Scattered comments by citizens here and there assert that some individuals use their "immunities" to transport huge quantities of drugs to other governorates.

The price of a feddan of poppies approaches as high as 250,000 pounds while the cost of growing this crop is no more than 400 pounds! An ounce of crude opium costs 1,000 pounds, and one twenty-fourth of a feddan produces 10 ounces!

Lt Col 'Abd-al-Mun'im 'Abd-al-'Al, head of the Anti-Narcotics Department, said: "The cost of drugs has risen in recent months following the seizure of scores of tons of hashish and crude opium by border guard forces in cooperation with police forces. The price of a qirsh of 'hubu' hashish has risen to 40 pounds as opposed to only 15 pounds a year ago."

First Lt Mahir Khalifah, chief of the al-Ma'abidah police station, said: "I came 3 months ago and I knew that al-Ma'abidah was one of the citadels of drug growing. I tried diligently to look around to identify the cultivation areas and their owners so I would be able to inform the criminal investigation department in the province. I was startled on one occasion when a citizen whispered in my ear: 'We are really tired of your pursuit and we are planning to move the cultivation to Alexandria and al-Fayyum where there are more sites and virgin areas in this field!'"

But how do the campaigns to seize these dangerous and destructive crops begin?

The campaign begins several hours before the men move out when the security forces obtain a warrant from the authorized public prosecutor. At 0600, the men begin to move out for the drug strongholds specified in the investigations department's investigations. The forces secure the area so that there will be no resistance by the growers. After this, some members of the public prosecutor's office arrive and the routine examination is carried out in which the personnel characterize the plants, their size, the method of cultivation, and

the stage of growth--with fruit, flowering, or not flowering. Next come the measuring operations carried out by the accompanying agent along with a determination of the owner of the seized ground by either the accompanying administrative personnel, the operator of the machine that irrigates the agricultural plot, or one of the neighbors. Then three plants or three fruits are collected and sent to the chemical laboratory of the forensic medicine office in the area. The remaining plants are collected to be sent to the agriculture department's warehouses pending prosecution of the case.

The Penalty: Only 1 Pound

Despite the threat that drugs pose to the public health and the national economy, the punishment began with a fine of only 1 pound in 1810. In 1926, the crime became a misdemeanor with a penalty of imprisonment or a fine or both. The punishment was optional. When the danger of drugs was confirmed, the legislators stiffened the punishment in the early 1940's to make the crime a felony. Paragraph B, Article 34 of Law 182 of 1960 and its amendments, which ended with Law 61 of 1977, stipulated: "Anyone who plants, exports, imports, possesses, harvests, buys, sells, delivers, or transports narcotic plants at any stage of growth or the seeds of such plants with the intent to sell or deals in such plants in any form under any circumstances not permitted by the law shall be punished by temporary or permanent hard labor." Here the penalty ranges from 3 to 25 years and all the way to execution in instances of importation.

However, possession of some portions of the narcotic plants is exempt from punishment. In Schedule 6 attached to Law 182 of 1960, the law exempts three parts of narcotic plants from the punishment: fibers and stems of Indian hemp because they contain a very small percentage of the narcotic substance and it is impossible to separate it; seeds of the Indian hemp or poppy plants which have been well roasted to guarantee that they cannot be sprouted; collected poppy pods that are devoid of seeds.

Despite the fact that the penalty has been increased from a fine of 1 pound to life in prison, there are certain prominent personalities, known by name, who are involved in the cultivation of narcotics. Many people in Abnub al-Hamam point to these individuals:

--Mustafa Gharur from East al-Kullabat in the district of al-Fatah who grows no less than 15 feddans.

--Nadi 'Abbas Marsa from East al-Ma'abidah who specializes in the cultivation of poppies. His father is a well-known drug dealer.

--Qatab al-Qaliyubi from al-Sawalim al-Bahriyah, whose reputation is for crimes of murder and the cultivation of drugs.

--Ahmad Khalifah Muhammad from East al-Kullabat in the district of al-Fatah, who has been arrested previously in connection with several cases. He has brazenly cultivated a tract of land on more than one occasion.

However, loopholes in the law have allowed many individuals to escape with a not guilty verdict or reduced sentences.

In 1980, not guilty verdicts were rendered in more than 90 percent of the cases in criminal court.

According to Hilmi al-Sharif, a lawyer in the Court of Cassation, there are several factors that contribute to verdicts of not guilty or lightening of sentences:

--Natural factors, such as the growing of the plants on tracts of land adjacent to the eastern or western desert which are not held by the agricultural cooperatives and are not recorded in the land survey registers or the growing of plants on islands located in the middle of the Nile or near the banks. All of these lands are owned by the state. For example, there is the island of al-Harifah located across from East al-Ma'abidah which has an area of 100 feddans. This is supposed to be state-owned land but it is cultivated entirely in poppies and Indian hemp.

--Social factors: The multiplicity of farms in neighboring areas makes each individual both witness and accused. Thus the people refuse to testify against one another because this will lead to the murder of the witness on account of the intermeshed social relations and the high return from the product.

--Arrest measures: The records generally specify the names of juvenile defendants without looking into the identity of the real offender. In one case, the defendant confessed to owning the land and stated that his son had grown the narcotics. It came to light that the son was a juvenile and therefore the defendant escaped investigation and benefited from the penalties and measures stipulated in Law 31 of 1974 concerning juveniles.

--Defects in the legislation: The legislators made the crime of selling or growing a procedural crime more than an objective crime. This applies to such acts as "picking and weighing out" and the method of obtaining information from witnesses in these cases, such as through the newsmonger and the head of the village. In addition, the legislators stipulated in Article 42, Paragraph A of law 182 of 1960 that the seized crops should be confiscated but did not call for confiscation of the land as the basic means of carrying out the crime.

#### Who Is Responsible?

It is certain that so long as these details are known, someone bears the responsibility for the spread of such deadly crops as these. The accusing finger points to some definite culprits:

--The local administration sectors in the governorate of Asyut. They have failed to register the lands bordering the mountain chains as well as the islands scattered about in the Nile. This naturally makes these areas common spoils for everyone who lets himself be enticed into growing these prohibited plants.

--Closing the loopholes in the law and emphasizing confiscation of seized land on which narcotics are grown.



--The Department of Agriculture. The agricultural specialists in the cooperatives are not carrying out their responsibilities by touring and monitoring the farms.

--As the citizens keep saying, the authorities must search for the real criminal who remains under cover and out of reach--removed from any responsibility.

The figures point to some strange facts:

--In 1973, the security forces seized 150 feddans in East al-Ma'abidah. In 1978 the seized area rose to 400 feddans!

--In the governorate of Asyut as a whole, the police forces seized 54.5 feddans in 1976 with an estimated 1.25 million Indian hemp plants and around 500,000 poppy plants.

--In 1980, the area increased to 230 feddans with an estimated 85,000 Indian hemp plants and 5 million poppy plants.

--In 1981, the seized area reached 250 feddans with an estimated 38,000 Indian hemp plants and 6 million poppy plants.

Who knows how many plants will fall into the hands of the police forces this year.

There is one final comment about this kingdom that kills citizens and sows death in the land of Egypt at a time when we are looking for every possible inch to add to our agricultural land.

The comment:

Will the kingdom of destruction continue to exist in the governorates of Upper Egypt? Will it continue to retain all control? Will those who remain far removed from responsibility continue to deal death and reap wealth without any human or national conscience?

Another comment:

With all the many details available, what else is needed to eliminate the growing of drugs in the land of Egypt?

How an Opium Stronghold Was Stormed

At dawn, central security forces moved out in more than 12 trucks carrying 350 troops heavily armed with automatic weapons and with ammunition boxes at their feet. They were led by 20 officers from the criminal investigations department commanded by Col Husni al-Dab'.

The detachment left the city of Asyut.

The road was winding, squeezed between the Nile and the Eastern Desert mountain ranges. The aspect was frightening, particularly in the terrible dawn hours.

After 20 kilometers, the detachment arrives at the narcotics stronghold.

Al-Ma'abidah in Abnub al-Hamam!

The forces spread out toward the sites of the poppy and Indian hemp plantings.

Each group of troops is led by a special officer.

Near the al-Ma'abidah police station, Col Husni al-Dab' stood receiving radio messages from the groups raiding the most dangerous drug stronghold.

The reports came in one after another. "Half a feddan of poppies, sir!"

Another voice said, "Three feddans of Indian hemp, sir!"

This continued until 1000 by which time the security forces had seized 28 pieces of land cultivated in narcotics!

Nor was this the last raid. The campaign against the growing of poppies here in Asyut will continue through the end of June when the narcotics harvest will end.

On the other hand, deep in the mountains, groups of people stand completely ready to enter into fierce combat with the police forces when necessary!

**Smuggling Across the Border: From Drugs to Video Recorders to Grenades**

Two soldiers of the border guard, Privates Sami Nasif and Sa'd Basyuni, received a substantial financial award because on 16 September 1981 they seized 9 tons of drugs on the northern coast. First Sgt Muhammad 'Abd-al-Hamid also received a financial award because he seized 12 tons of drugs in the area of al-Kalakh east of Abu Qir.

A secret report to the commander of the border forces revealed that his forces seized 60,527 kilograms of hashish and 145 kilograms of opium during 1981. This represents a total of 61 tons during a single year.

The report stated that the forces seized 235 diamonds, 176 emeralds, 15.2 kilograms of gold, 5 kilograms of silver, 1,907 bottles of Whiskey, 9,585 cartons of cigarettes, 249 cylinders of butane gas, 15,000 ball-point pens, 185 video tape players, 259 televisions, 3,423 gazelle horn pocket knives, 152 kilograms of ostrich feathers, 48 hand grenades, over 225,000 Egyptian pounds, \$38,000, and many other contraband items of various types.

Maj Gen A. H. Faruq al-Sahn, commander of the border guard forces, said that helicopter units work regularly with his forces to combat smuggling and infiltration and that the border guard has established an advanced formation for search and rescue operations employing internationally used methods to rescue lost individuals and accident victims in Egypt's deserts and along its coastal borders.

8591  
CSO: 5300/5013

LESOTHO

MOVE TO LEGALIZE DAGGA FAILS

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 2 May 82 p 21

[Article by Mike Waddacor]

[Text]

A LESOTHO politician's hopes of seeing the mountain kingdom's dagga legislation being scrapped have gone up in smoke.

Earlier this month, Chief S H Mapheleba, a member of Lesotho's national assembly, issued a notice of motion calling for a repeal of the country's dagga laws. But the motion was withdrawn this week after a warning that Lesotho would face international pressure from countries affiliated to the International Narcotics Control Board.

The notice stated: "... in the considered opinion of this honourable House, time is now ripe for the proper cultivation of dagga and for such cultivators to be free to sell it and that the law that prohibits the cultivation and sale of this weed should be repealed

forthwith and that after the adoption of this motion all persons in possession of this weed must be under no harassment whatsoever from any quarter."

### Not discussed

According to Lesotho's Leader of the House and the Minister to the Prime Minister, Chief Evaristus Sekhonyana, the motion was not discussed by the House in any manner.

Before the motion was withdrawn, Chief Sekhonyana had commented: "We (Lesotho Parliament) cannot accept it. It is against the international convention of which we are a member."

Chief Mapheleba was not prepared to comment on the withdrawal of his motion.

CSO: 5300/5747

SENEGAL

BRIEFS

ARREST OF FOUR TRAFFICKERS--Units of the police brigade of Thiaroye recently arrested and referred to the court four individuals who were engaged in drug trafficking. After an investigation, the police were able to trace the network. So it was that during an initial patrol carried out in Thiaroye, they conducted a seizure of the drug and apprehended a man called Ibra Gueye for possession of 5 kg on Indian hemp. When interrogated, the possessor indicated that this drug was sold to him by his usual supplier Antoine Diatta. At the home of the latter in Diamagueune, a pistol of Italian manufacture was discovered. When interrogated in his turn, Antoine Diatta revealed having had convoyed 15 bags of Indian hemp with a total weight of 500 kilograms on board a canoe from Casamance to Mbao where the undloading was to take place. He stated that at the moment of convoying this product on board a clandestine taxi, they were surprised by three customs officials and they abandoned the product on the spot. The police were informed of the progress of this operation by their associates in the customs department who handed over to them the 15 bags of drugs. The police then conducted another ambush at Thiaroye station at the same place which made it possible to apprehend other associates of the traffickers: Mohamadou Diouf and Salif Lo. [Text] [Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 12 May 82 p 4]

CSO: 5300/5755

SOUTH AFRICA

## BRIEFS

OPIUM HAUL--Yesterday's opium haul uncovered by police in the Cape was the second in South Africa this year. On March 22 a Hillbrow resident, Save Levkou (36) was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for illegally dealing in opium worth R 110 000. In passing sentence Johannesburg magistrate, Mr M P Prinsloo, said that "many lives could have been destroyed by this drug." Mr Levkou, a father of three has been in the Republic since 1977. He had returned from a visit to his family in Yugoslavia when he brought the opium in. In court police testified that opium sold for about R200 a gram. He was arrested in Hillbrow and detectives searched his car and found the opium. The magistrate told Levkou the crime was very serious--the minimum prescribed sentence being five years. Taking into account the large amount, 450.5 g involved and the devastating effect it could have had if not found by the police, Mr Prinsloo sentenced him to seven years. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 14 May 82 p 3]

DRUGS SEIZED IN 1981--The value and mass of drugs seized by the police increased sharply in 1981, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange said yesterday. Replying in writing to a question by Mr Pat Rogers (NRP, King William's Town), Mr Le Grange said the value of drugs confiscated last year totalled R257,8-million. This included R245,4-million worth of dagga, nearly a million tablets worth R11,9-million, 1 kg of opium worth R400 000, 3 111 units of LSD worth R31 000, 156g of cocaine worth R31 200 and 5,5g of heroin valued at R1 375. The drugs represented a sharp increase in both mass and value, Mr Le Grange said. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 15 May 82 p 4]

OPIUM DEALER GETS BAIL--Cape Town--A Heideveld man who allegedly dealt in opium and morphine valued at R70 000 was granted R2 000 bail yesterday by a Cape Town magistrate. Mr Alban Ellie (28), appeared with four others, Miss Doreen Armstrong (31), also of Heideveld, Mr David Julius (42), of Elsie's River, Mr Samuel Makoena (21), of Soweto and Mr Leslie Raymond Abrahams (29) of Eldorado Park, Johannesburg. They were not asked to plead to allegations that in Cape Town on May 6 they dealt in opium and morphine and no evidence was led. Their arrest and court appearance followed intensive investigations by members of the Narcotics Squad. Asked by the magistrate if he could afford the bail, Mr Ellie said he could not. The prosecutor, Mr S. Shrock, told the court that the State would not agree to the lowering of bail as the charges Mr Ellie faced were "very serious." He said the estimated value of the drugs seized was R70 000. The hearing was adjourned to June 4 and Mr Ellie was remanded. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 15 May 82 p 2]

GREECE

BRIEFS

MULTINATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The Athens General Security has arrested the members of a narcotics ring; two of them are British, the other is Austrian and the fourth is a Greek. They are Helmut Heider /phonetic/, 31, restaurant worker (Austrian), Alan Price, 22 (British), Charles Sines /phonetic/, 24, (British), and Konstandinos Atahn. Tsolakis, 23. Helmut Heider had traveled twice to Turkey and once to India within the last 6 months and had brought back hashish and heroin. Assisted by the two British men, he was selling the narcotics on the street. The Britishers had hired Tsolakis, who had been assigned the location of Fokionos Negri Avenue and Amerikis Square, as well as Stergios G. Vardakas, 24, and Pan. Evang. Lambatos, 27, who were working in the Plaka district. The last two have been in jail for the last month on another narcotics charge. One hundred grams of hashish and 5 grams of heroin were seized, as well as 100,000 drachmas and 300 dollars. [Text] [Athens TA NEA in Greek 4 May 82 p 14]

LARGE HEROIN SEIZURE--Ankara, 4 May--Turkish police have uncovered a large network of narcotics traffickers engaged in moving huge quantities of heroin to Greece. Specifically, police arrested Mehmet Ali, a 26-year old fisherman when he was carrying 10 kilos of heroin to Kos. He admitted that he had made the trip quite often in the past. Mehmet Ali helped police arrest 8 members of the gang and seize 48 kilos of heroin in Istanbul and 69 in Sagarju [as published]. Finally, police also followed a bus on the Adana line and seized another 68 kilos of heroin. The network of drug traffickers was moving the heroin to Greece and thence to Europe. [Text] [Athens TO VIMA in Greek 5 May 82 p 8]

CSO: 5300/5403

TURKEY

OVERVIEW OF NARCOTICS DIRECTORATE OPERATIONS PROVIDED

Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 28 Mar 82 p 13

[Text] In 1969, the Narcotics Division of the Istanbul Directorate of Security was converted into a directorate. In the course of the intervening 13 years, detectives from this directorate have conducted operations that have uncovered 1375 cases of narcotics smuggling and have resulted in the capture of 2358 smugglers. The operations have resulted in the capture of 15,461 kilograms of narcotics with a total value reaching 20 billion Liras.

At first, narcotics operations had been attached as a section to the Division of Security. In 1963, these operations were affiliated with the Fiscal Police. In the 1960's the section fell into inadequacy when hashish smuggling became to be measured in terms of kilograms instead of individual bricks. As a result, the Narcotics Directorate was created in 1969 within the structure of the Directorate of Security. Despite limited resources, Turkish detectives have worked more effectively than narcotics experts from other countries belonging to INTERPOL and until today have captured narcotic substances worth 20 billion Liras.

Stating that the number of heroin addicts in Istanbul between the years 1953 and 1958 was small enough to be counted on fingers, officials have described as follows the information obtained in connection with past and present narcotics smuggling:

"Prior to 1974, narcotics smuggling involved hashish and opium. Between 1953 and 1958 a decline in smuggling took place because the laws were changed and the penalties were increased. For this reason, this period is known in the literature of narcotics as the period of stagnancy. A few heroin addicts existed in Tophane during this period. Istanbul's first heroin smuggling took place in 1974. There are no heroin production facilities in Istanbul or

in other provinces of Turkey. This substance is produced in the Middle East and is sent to Europe and America through Turkey. Hashish smuggling is the oldest form of narcotics trafficking. Later, heroin which is an expensive and valuable substance brought about a decline in hashish smuggling. The trafficking of narcotics intensified following 1958 and the heroin period began in 1974. Four smugglers were captured with 1.5 kilograms of heroin in connection with the first capture of heroin in Istanbul."

According to the available data, in the course of operations conducted over 13 years, detectives from the Istanbul Narcotics Directorate have seized 125 packets of heroin from 414 smugglers as the result of 143 operations. During this period, 1179 cases of hashish smuggling were uncovered and 1824 smugglers were captured with 13,381 kilograms of hashish. Thirty other operations have resulted in the capture of 67 smugglers and 1723 kilograms of opium while 53 smugglers and 230 kilograms of base morphine were captured in 21 additional operations.

The 43 kilograms of heroin captured during 1981 represented the largest amount of such captures for any year while the 1.5 kilograms captured during 1974 represented the smallest amount. Narcotic substances amounting to a total of 15,461 kilograms have been transferred by the Office of the Prosecutor to the General Directorate of Medicinal Preparations which is attached to the Ministry of Health and Social Assistance. The narcotic substances are brought to Ankara where the hashish and the heroin are destroyed by incineration in special kilns. The captured opium, morphine, base morphine and cocaine are sent to the narcotic substances factory at Bolvadin to be utilized in the pharmaceutical industry.

In operations conducted until now, the first capture of cocaine took place in Istanbul in 1978 when 35 grams of the substance were captured from three addicts.

It is expected that the narcotics directorate which has been operating as a separate section since 1969 will receive modern equipment in the days to come.

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END