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TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
No. 307

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DRUGS SEEN AS SECURITY THREAT

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 1 Jun 77 p 10

[Text] Sydney--The NSW president of the RSL, Sir Colin Hines, has called for the penalty for drug trafficking to be made as severe as that for murder.

Speaking at the opening of the State congress of the RSL yesterday, Sir Colin described drug addiction as a threat of the greatest magnitude to Australia.

"I believe the main fault lies in the fact that we have a sick society," he said. "It must be sick when people will not legislate for a law that will treat drug trafficking with as much severity as murder.

"This must be so, particularly when we realise that it is the policy of international communism to try to break and destroy our youth by this means."

Sir Colin called on members of the RSL to help by recognising what he called the diabolical and evil threats of internal subversion actively supported by international communism.

He said they should consider the introduction of youth leadership schools, fight harder for a system of national service for young men and women and do more to impress on the Commonwealth Government the need for adequate defence forces and security.

Since the previous congress he had travelled to a number of countries including the Soviet Union, England, Israel and South Africa to seek the truth of what was happening in the world today.

"As a result, I am more than ever convinced that we are too often the victims of deceitful propaganda through some of the news media, which leave many individuals living in a world of fantasy," he said.

He said that in the USSR and other Soviet-bloc countries he had seen a people "subservient to and manipulated by the bosses in the Kremlin."

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

LIBERALS VOTE ON EUTHANASIA--The West Australian Young Liberal Movement wants the introduction of voluntary euthanasia. It also wants personal use of marihuana to be classified as a minor offence. About 40 of the 60 delegates at the State division's annual conference at Yanchep during the weekend voted for euthanasia. Other resolutions the conference agreed to included: The personal use and possession of small amounts of marihuana should be a minor noncriminal offence. [Excerpts] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 6 Jun 77 p 6]

CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

HEROIN DEALERS IN MONYWA--Monywa, 6 Jun--Monywa township authorities yesterday raided the residence of notorious heroin dealer Ma Tin Ohn in Monywa Taung ward and seized a packet of heroin, weighing about 2.3 ticals [1 tical equals 0.036 pounds] and worth 5,000 kyats, brought from Mandalay. Maung Net and Maung Thaung, opium den owners, of Aung Zeya ward were also arrested together with opium smoking equipment and 0.5 tical of liquid opium. Chit Swe and Maung Maung, who are notorious for their activities around Nagayon Pagoda of Phayagyi ward, were also arrested after a search of their house revealed eight packets of heroin and a pint bottle containing liquid heroin. [Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 11 Jun 77 pp 4, 5 BK]

HEROIN SEIZED FROM TEACHER--Rangoon, 9 Jun--Subinspector U Tin Tun and a party from the Crime Prevention Branch of the Rangoon Division Police Force, together with councillors, this afternoon searched room No 72 A in 34th Street belonging to Daw Thida Aung, a high school teacher of Pabedan Government High School No 1, and found a penicillin bottle filled with heroin, valued at 500 kyats. Kyauktada Police Station has taken action under sections 6 (B) and 14 (A) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law]. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 10 Jun 77 p 2 BK]

RANGOON POLICE ARREST DEALERS--The Sanchaung police, acting on a tip-off, arrested three drug traffickers on Wednesday and charged them under sections 6 (B) and 10 (B) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. The police raided the house of U Ba Shin (75) at No 2 Shin Saw Bu Lane, Wednesday night and seized 120 kyats worth of heroin. U Ba Shin disclosed on interrogation that he bought the drug from Tun Myint--alias Hkun Paung, of U-Zana 5th Street, Zagwe ward, north Okkalapa--who also was taken into custody. On searching Tun Myint's house, police found two large and two small packets of heroin valued at more than 1,000 kyats. Tun Myint in his turn disclosed to the police another trafficker Maung Way Lwin from whom two more packets of heroin were seized. The three men have been booked under sections 6 (B) and 10 (B) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 10 Jun 77 p 1 BK]

ADDICTS ARRESTED IN RANGOON--Rangoon, 10 Jun--A young man with two packets of heroin, a hypodermic syringe and a dagger was nabbed at the corner of 14th and Canal streets in Rangoon this afternoon. He was preparing to inject himself with heroin when a pedestrian noticed him and reported what he saw to Lanmadaw police. He is Ko Aung Kyi, alias Tut Tut (28) of No 68 Bawga Street, Kemmendine. He holds a diploma from the Government Technical Institute and is at present working as a recording engineer with a film company. Ten imitation tetracyclin eye-ointment tubes and 10 ampoules of morphine sulphate injection were seized from a man at Theingyizay today. The man, Ko Than Myint (41) of No 49 Sandwith Road, Rangoon, has been booked under section 6 (B) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. The police seized a penicillin bottlefull of heroin from room No 216, 32d Street, Rangoon, last evening, and San Maung (33) from the room was nabbed under the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Excerpts] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 11 Jun 77 p 1 BK]

CSO: 5300

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

DRUG RING AT SUBIC--Manila--Philippine narcotics detectives are investigating reports that a drug syndicate is operating outside the Subic U.S. naval base following the arrest last Wednesday of a Canadian and an Australian alleged to have sold a gram of heroin to a police undercover agent. The investigation was triggered by the arrest of Raymond Douglas Gallop, 28, of Matsqui, B.C. and Joseph Francis Murphy of Brisbane, Australia, in Olongapo City for illegal possession of heroin worth \$60 U.S., police sources said. Sources at the Canadian and Australian Embassies confirmed the men' arrest and detention at a military camp near Manila. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 2 Jun 77 p 12]

CSO: 5320

CITY COUNCIL SEEKS EXPERT ADVICE ON MARIHUANA BEFORE DECISION

Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 15 Jun 77 p 3

[Article by Paul Jankowski]

[Excerpt]

PEMBROKE — City council will ask an expert from the Addiction Research Foundation to lecture about marijuana before making a decision about supporting the current laws regarding the drug.

The decision was made at a finance and administration committee meeting Tuesday following discussion of a resolution by the townships of Shakleton and Machin.

The resolution, expressing concern about the adverse affects of the non-medical use of drugs, opposed any amendments in relation to the possession, trafficking, importation or cultivation of marijuana.

The tabling of the resolution was actually a compromise between those immediately supporting the resolution and those with some opposition.

Mayor Henry Brown, who last week used a city council meeting to express his concerns about increasing drug use, originally moved for endorsation of the resolution.

He was supported by Alderman Brian Adam, a social worker, who said in his experience all drug problems have come with initiation to soft drugs such as marijuana and hashish.

“There is no question in my mind at all that marijuana continues to be associated and is associated with all other drugs in the spectrum” of the drug culture, he said.

George McGill, Stu Donaldson, Tony Garretto and Margaret Steinberg said they were concerned about non-medical drug usage but questioned present penalties and enforcement, the direction from senior levels of governments and the changing social attitudes as reflected by the courts.

Donaldson said if council, with its limited knowledge of marijuana, was in favor of the resolution it should be in a position to ban nicotine also.

MARIHUANA LAWS POUR PROFITS INTO CRIMINAL POCKETS

Toronto THE SATURDAY GLOBE AND MAIL in English 18 Jun 77 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text]

It's a toss-up whether society has more to fear from those who would debauch it than those who would reform it. At least when dealing with evil men, their threat is often obvious and it is a relatively simple matter to mobilize opinion and resources against them. But what about the menace with the halo of righteousness?

History is scorched with the fury of their activities; it resounds with the thunder of Crusader hoofbeats and the crack of inquisitorial lashes—followed usually by the sad sound of the self-defeated.

Prohibition gave North America a taste of rampaging virtue, and the extraordinary range of appalling consequences that followed the noble effort to liberate people from the demons of gin, rum, beer and whisky. It did not seem to occur to prohibition advocates that the tensions created by separating people from their desires would be exploited for vast profit by men who would let nothing stand in their way.

Gangsters flourished, even as they tried to eliminate each other for a bigger share of the spoils, and it was a time of terror, bullets and lawlessness in some of the major cities of the United States.

We don't visualize an imminent return of Prohibition era corruption but, at a time when a good deal of attention is being given to the activities of organized

crime in Canada, there may be some lessons to be applied from experience. There may be ways in which we can deprive organized crime of some of the conditions in which it flourishes.

Estimates of the number of Canadians who have sampled marijuana, multiplied by the cost of obtaining a modest supply of the stuff, indicate that the present illegal status of the drug generates huge profits. And these huge profits go to enrich criminals, to help them engage in much more nefarious, harmful activities.

There are now a number of compelling reasons why it makes little sense to hunt down marijuana users as though they were the sworn enemies of society. The apprehensions and misapprehensions that gave rise to the early savagery of long jail sentences for possession of marijuana have yielded to more enlightened views; a more honest comparison of the relative health threats of marijuana and alcohol, for example. Still we hesitate before that logical next step of giving the smoked drug at least an equal footing with the drug we take by the glass.

And the price we pay for this hesitancy adds up to quite a bill: the distribution of criminal records among the young, the cultivation of contempt for the law, a helping hand for organized crime, and quite possibly the indirect creation of alcoholics among those who

might be quite happy to stay with marijuana if it were easily accessible.

Politicians, both provincial and federal, evince extreme nervousness in the presence of the topic; that of the federal Government being more reprehensible since its authority to take decisive action is greater. Even the most modest advance of placing marijuana legislatively with the laws governing food and drugs, has produced nothing but unkept promises.

The world of organized crime is, we feel sure, deeply grateful.

CSO: 5320

DEPORTATION SET FOR HEROIN TRIAL

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 8 Jun 77 p 13

[Text]

A Chinese couple have been ordered deported from Hong Kong to face charges in Canada in connection with what police say was the smashing of a massive heroin ring earlier this year.

Police spokesman Stan Shillington said Tuesday that Lui Au Shun-Ha, 45, and Lui King, 46, are expected here later this month for trial on charges of conspiring to import heroin into Canada and conspiring to traffic in heroin.

"Provided they don't win an appeal or something, we would hope to have them back by the end of the month," Shillington said.

Also facing trial on the two conspiracy counts are Chan Joe Wai, 46, of 843 East Georgia, arrested after police seized 10.7 ounces of heroin, and Wong Kwok Hang, 37, a Hong Kong resident who was a seaman on the MV Pacific Rainbow when it docked in Vancouver on two occasions.

Four others were named as unindicted co-conspirators in the case but were not

charged because they are serving time in prisons in other countries. Two others were suspected of complicity in the ring and a further four were not named.

Shillington said at the time the 10 "were actually involved or associated with the Hong Kong syndicate."

The smashing of the ring, which police believe had shipped more than 3,300 pounds of heroin to North America, Europe, Japan and Australia, ended more than 17 months of world-wide detective work by RCMP S.-Sgt. George Foulon and Vancouver city police Sgt. Ron Foyle.

The pair, working closely with police in the U.S., Hong Kong, Bangkok, Singapore, Holland and Denmark, travelled to both Europe and Southeast Asia in their investigation that began in August, 1975.

Foulon and Foyle eventually followed a trail back to the rugged, mountainous area at the junction of Burma, Laos and northern Thailand, known as the "golden triangle."

CSO: 5320

THREE IN DRUG PLOT GET 9 YEARS EACH

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 16 Jun 77 p 5

[Text]

Three of six men convicted on a drug conspiracy charge were each sentenced yesterday to nine years in prison, one year less than the maximum penalty.

Three other men convicted of the same offence — conspiracy to traffic in methamphetamines — received lesser sentences.

After day-long submissions by defence lawyers and testimony by character witnesses, York County Court Judge Hugh O'Connell sentenced Murray Scheinman, 59, of Montclair Avenue, Brian King, 26, of Yonge Street in Richmond Hill, and James Hertrich, 34, of Greenwood Avenue, to nine-year jail terms.

Alex Spiroff, 54, of Regal Road, and Garnet Babcock, 37, of Hamilton Street, were sentenced to five and three years respectively while Robert Sourais, 41, of Pembroke, was sentenced to two years less a day.

The courtroom, packed with family and friends of the men, was quiet except for sighs of disbelief as the judge handed down his decisions for Mr. Scheinman, Mr. King and Mr. Hertrich.

The three men are eligible for parole after a third of their sentence is completed.

All six men remained tight-lipped and expressionless as they were led away from the courtroom.

The sentencing marked the end of a trial, known as the Barry's Bay case, that began May 4, 1976, and is estimated to have cost taxpayers about \$2-million.

Ten people had been charged with the drug conspiracy after Metro Toronto police and RCMP officers made what they called a \$13.6-million drug raid in September, 1975. They had surrounded an isolated farmhouse and barn that, they said, was set up as a drug factory at Barry's Bay, 40 miles southwest of Pembroke.

The RCMP had seized enough chemicals to make 100 pounds of amphetamines.

The trial ended with six of the 10 charged being convicted.

In his sentencing, Judge O'Connell told Mr. Scheinman, whom he referred to as "the director of the (drug) project," that the "only motive for such a criminal activity is profit."

Judge O'Connell said that it doesn't take much imagination to estimate the number of "hits" that could have been derived from the drug. Noting that Mr. Scheinman had no previous criminal record and had a good reputation in the business and social communities, the judge said: "One wonders why you would be involved" in such an activity.

BRIEFS

HEROIN IMPORTER SENTENCED--A man convicted of conspiracy to import four pounds of heroin into Canada was sentenced Friday to 12 years in prison. County court Judge Ray Paris told Leung Sing Cheung, 26, that if he were not involved in "this stupid affair" he probably would have been a productive citizen of Canada. He said Cheung was a member of a good and respected family in Hong Kong and a hard worker. Cheung, who first came to Canada in 1972 as a landed immigrant, was arrested in Hong Kong after police seized four pounds of the drug from another man who became nervous when customs officials at the airport were going through his luggage. The charge covered the period between August and October, 1975. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 30 May 77 p 58]

GUILTY PLEAS IN DRUG CASE--Toronto (CP)--Three persons connected with an illegal drug operation involving 1,100 pounds of hashish with an estimated street value of \$2.1 million pleaded guilty to trafficking Wednesday. Robert Bruce Matheson, 33, and John Morrison, 26, both of England, and Diane Seguin, 24, of Hull, Que., will be sentenced June 20. Crown Attorney Ari Coomaraawamy told the court the drugs arrived at the Toronto International Airport last August hidden inside bolts of cotton cloth. [Text] [Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 9 Jun 77 p 15]

DRUG SUSPECTS GRANTED BAIL--Halifax (CP)--Aram Zakarian, 46, and Sharon Murray, 36, both of New York City, were granted \$50,000 bail each Wednesday in Nova Scotia Supreme Court on a charge of illegally importing narcotics into Canada. They were charged after seizure of 830 pounds of cannabis resin, with a street value of \$3.7-million, on the Halifax waterfront by RCMP last month. Mr. Justice Malachi Jones, in setting bail, also granted the pair permission to return to the United States but on the condition they report to RCMP by telephone once a month pending outcome of the charges against them. RCMP also will hold their passports, not required for crossing the Canada-U.S. border by citizens of either country, the court ruled. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 10 Jun 77 p 8]

HEARING DATES SET--Lindsay, Ont. (CP)--Provincial Judge George Inrig announced dates Thursday for preliminary hearings for a number of persons involved in an alleged drug trafficking conspiracy. Judge Inrig ordered

15 persons charged with conspiracy to traffic in amphetamines to appear for a preliminary hearing December 5. Five persons charged with conspiracy to traffic in cocaine were ordered to appear for a preliminary hearing November 14. Continuation of the preliminary hearing of John Buchanan, 32, of Lindsay, Ont., on three charges of trafficking in cocaine, possession of marijuana and conspiracy to traffic in a controlled drug was set for October 31. [Text] [Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 10 Jun 77 p 13]

DRUG AGENTS MEET--Montreal (CP)--Police narcotics agents from three countries met here this week amid mounting speculation that the "French Connection," an underground network for smuggling heroin from France to the United States, may be revived. A terse statement issued Thursday at the close of the two-day conference recalled that the U.S., Canada and France had co-operated to break the original connection, which channeled Turkish poppies to Marseille for refining into heroin to be shipped to New York. Despite continued police vigilance, the statement said, the problem remains severe "especially on account of the increase of heroin quantities originating in Southeast Asia and offered to drug addicts essentially in Europe, but also reaching now Canada and the United States." The statement was issued after news of the closed-door meeting leaked to reporters, sparking reports that Montreal might once again become a pivotal point in heroin traffic. [Text] [Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 10 Jun 77 p 13]

CSO: 5320

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

BODIES OF TRAFFICKERS EATEN BY CANNIBALS--Bogota, 3 May (ANPE-AFP)--Reports received here today state that several drug traffickers who were killed in a mass murder on a plantation in Vaupes, eastern Colombia, were devoured by a tribe of cannibals. The cannibals dug up the bodies from a common grave in Hacienda La Rosita, near the town of El Retorno which is almost in the jungle. After carving them up, the indians had a real feast. Unofficial reports state that up to now 21 bodies with bullet wounds were found in a giant grave at La Rosita. The murders were evidently revenge among drug traffickers, Colombians and foreigners. At this plantation, a modern laboratory was found for processing cocaine and also 40 kgs of the drug ready to be taken abroad. [Text]
[Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 4 May 77 p 3-A] 8923

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

PJF AGENTS UNDER ARREST AND INVESTIGATION FOR EXTORTION

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 19 May 77 p 2-A

[Text] Hector Villagra Caletti, chief of the Nuevo Leon Judicial Police, reported that corruption within the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] was discovered after two complaints of extortion were proved by Filiberto de la Garza, Nuevo Leon attorney general. Two PJF agents had demanded bribes of 250,000 and 60,000 pesos respectively from a farmer and a merchant of Sabinas Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon.

The police chief was interviewed by our correspondent in Monterrey. He said that a few days ago Filiberto de la Garza, the state attorney general, received a complaint that State Judicial Police agents had extorted money from a merchant and a farmer of Sabinas Hidalgo.

Merchant Ramon Mireles of Sabinas Hidalgo said that two men who said they were judicial police agents threatened to arrest him for his involvement in drug trafficking and extorted 60,000 pesos from him.

A similar case was that of Manuel Valdes, a Sabinas Hidalgo farmer, who gave 250,000 pesos to judicial police agents to remain free. Several months ago, in compliance with an order for his arrest, PJF arrested the latter on drug trafficking charges.

When Villagra Caletti investigated the complaint, he found that both the merchant and the farmer had been extorted by PJF agents assigned to Nuevo Laredo.

Villagra Calètti reported officially that several PJF agents whose names were not given, are under arrest and being investigated.

8923

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

TAMPICO PJF OFFICERS CHARGED WITH ARMS SMUGGLING

Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 18 May 77 p 8-A

[Text] Yesterday, customs remanded to the federal prosecuting attorney for the alleged crime of smuggling Jorge Villalobo, the Tampico, Tamaulipas PJF [Federal Judicial Police] group chief and Arnulfo Gomez, Villalobo's personal assistant. According to the detainees' declarations, they are not guilty. For the present, this depends on confirmation by the Office of the Attorney General as to the accuracy of their declarations.

Villalobos said that what they picked up was not contraband arms and materials but equipment acquired by the Tampico PJF for target practice and for use in their work. They said that the Office of the Attorney General authorized them to acquire the arms and equipment.

The Tampico chief of the PJF group and his assistant were arrested Monday at the airport by customs officers guarding the airport when they tried to take off in a light plane loaded with arms and equipment.

On the basis of the detainees' statements, it was said unofficially that this is not a case of smuggling as reported at first but that it was equipment for the Tampico PJF, as authorized by the Office of the Attorney General.

The determination of the judicial status of the detainees by the authorities investigating this case depends on the official report from the Office of the Attorney General in Mexico City. For the present, Villalobos and Arnulfo Gomez will continue detained in the municipal jail at the disposal of the federal prosecuting attorney.

An American whose name was not given officially and who evidently is the pilot of the light plane, was also arrested in this case. Customs and the PJF believe the foreigner is likewise innocent since he is a pilot hired and paid a fee to fly the cargo to Tampico. He is a known commercial pilot.

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

AN FBI AGENT'S INQUIRY IN MEXICO

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 18 Apr 77 p 2-A

[Text] Yesterday, official sources informed EL DIARIO that during last weekend an FBI agent obtained information on Adolfo Torres Calderon, a resident of San Antonio, Texas who was captured by the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] agents in Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, with more than 4 grams of heroin.

The informants said that the FBI agent interviewed Adolfo Torres Calderon's defense attorney, Pedro Polendo Rios. The lawyer reported officially to this newspaper during an interview, that this was the case.

Polendo Rios said that an FBI agent had been to his office, had identified himself and requested information on the proceedings here against Adolfo Torres Calderon for crimes against public health under the category of possession of heroin.

He added that he did not remember the name of the FBI agent but that the latter had been given the information requested. He added that the FBI agent said that Adolfo Torres Calderon is wanted by American justice, presumably for drug trafficking, although this was [not] definitely established.

The previous week, Adolfo Torres Calderon had been arrested in Ciudad Acuna and turned over to the Coahuila District Court as presumed guilty of a crime against public health under the categories of possession, traffic, purchase and sale of heroin.

However, at the end of the 72-hour constitutional limit, Jose Becerra Santiago, the district court judge, ordered his imprisonment only for possession of heroin. He was acquitted of the other charges against him.

The judge's decision was to be appealed to the Torreon, Coahuila, Unitary Tribunal.

8923

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FEDERAL PROSECUTOR RESIGNS, ASSIGNED TO IMMIGRATION

Resignation Accepted

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 Apr 77 p 3-B

/Text/ Ricardo de Hoyos Arizpe yesterday presented his resignation to the Mexican Attorney General's Office. De Hoyos Arizpe is regarded as one of the federal prosecutors who since the beginning of the drug fight along the border (1972-1975) punished those engaged in the drug traffic with an iron hand. He ended his career as federal prosecutor yesterday after resigning for personal reasons.

De Hoyos Arizpe worked alongside the "Man of Iron," Salvador del Toro Rosales, and he was honored by many officials for his successful prosecution of many poison merchants. He was attached to the 2d District Court and he has been replaced temporarily by Luis Esteban Garcia Villalon who is also known for his exceptional work in handling drug cases.

Attorney General's Office Accepts Resignation

The Federal Coordinator for the Northeast Zone, Aaron Juarez Jimenez, announced during a press conference that Hoyos Arizpe had resigned but he offered no explanation, saying only that whatever post a man like Hoyos Arizpe is assigned to he will be of great service to the public.

In this city Hoyos Arizpe won the affection of many people and in particular of the news media which labeled him the Second Iron-Fisted Prosecutor after seeing his determination to fight the drug traffic.

New Assignment

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 Apr 77 p 6-A

/Excerpts/ It was revealed yesterday in official circles that a change had been made in the top post of the Immigration Office here in this city. The office will now be headed by Ricardo Arizpe de Hoyos /sic/.

As a result of the change Victor Gandarilla, head of the Government Ministry's Department of Demography, arrived in this city to swear in the new head of the Office of Immigration and Population.

Likewise, the departing immigrations chief, Jose I. Salinas, told our reporter that he would turn over his post to his successor today at 1100 hours.

At the same time, the background of the new chief Ricardo Arizpe de Hoyos is known to all of the public and in particular to the authorities because he has been one of the most determined public defenders in the fight against the drug traffic.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BONDSMEN TO HELP DRUG ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 Apr 77 p 1-B

[Text] From now on bail bondsmen will not provide bail or bonds to those arrested on drug charges. This agreement was accepted by all bondsmen in the nation as a means of assisting the fight against drugs.

For this reason the government is cashing in all guarantee deposits forfeited by those "who jumped bail," or in other words did not return for trial within the specified time.

Now whenever someone is charged with committing health crimes and is eligible to be released on bond, the defendant must deposit the amount of his bail in cash in a banking institution.

The most recent case that comes to mind is that of Pablo Cordero who was arraigned on health crimes charges. He was released on 50,000 peso bond. He was later notified to appear before the 2d District Court within a specified time. Since he did not appear the Treasury cashed in the bond.

Jeronimo Banda Leija, who was tried for health crimes, yesterday was sentenced to 5 years in prison and the Superior Court ruled that he could be released on 50,000 peso bond. When Banda Leija went to a bondsman he was notified of the recent decision that he would have to deposit the amount set for his bail in cash in a banking institution.

The defendant said that he would obtain the money soon and that he considered himself to have been notified.

8599

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FRUSTRATED ATTEMPT TO SMUGGLE DRUG INTO POLICE CELLS

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 15 May 77 p 3-B

[Text] Yesterday morning, the hardened drug addict Juan Martinez Saldana, alias "La Pirrucha", was captured attempting to smuggle several toxic tablets into cells at the Police Inspector's Building. He was turned over to the PJJ [Federal Judicial Police].

The known criminal and drug addict Juan Martinez Saldana, alias "La Pirrucha", age 25, a resident of Avenida Cuauhtemoc and the river plains, was carrying 13 rose colored tablets considered toxic.

When he acted suspiciously, members of the Municipal Police on duty at the Police Inspector's Building searched him. He handed them the psychotropic drug which he was to smuggle into the cells. He was going to sell them to the detainees.

After hearing the causes for the arrest of drug addict Martinez Saldana, Judge Martin Velasco Alejo ordered his immediate arraignment before the PJJ where he will be exhaustively investigated as to the acquisition and supply of the psychotropic drug.

MEXICO

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Juan Martinez Saldana, alias "La Pirrucha". This hardened drug addict was captured attempting to smuggle 13 psychotropic tablets into the cells at the Police Inspector's Building. Yesterday he was remanded to the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office. (Foto Gutierrez)

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

JUDGE HANDS DEALERS STIFF DRUG SENTENCES

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 Apr 77 p 3-B

/Text/ The judge of the 3d District Court handed down another stiff sentence against drug dealer Reginaldo Puente Herrera who is at present serving two concurrent sentences. The judge also sentenced Maria del Carmen Francisca Veli Kuri also known as Carmen Francisca Veliz Al Kuriz, alias "La Jarocha" or "La Borrada Kuri."

After the Federal Public Ministry furnished sufficient evidence to prove the guilt of the defendants, the judge felt that it was fair to sentence "La Jarocha" to 6 years in prison and fine her 7,000 pesos on health crime charges for possession of heroin and marihuana.

As for Puente Huerta who is also known as Reginaldo "El Regis" Fuentes Huerta, the judge sentenced him to 7 years 4 months and fined him 15,000 pesos also on health crime charges for possession of heroin and marihuana.

Information supplied by the court indicates that on 18 February 1976, the Federal Judicial Police arrested "La Jarocha" and Jose Luis Saldivar Martinez. The woman had in her possession eight decks of heroin, some tin foil with another moderate amount of heroin and three rolls of marihuana. Saldivar had a deck of heroin in his wallet which he said he had bought from "La Jarocha."

As the investigation continued, the police learned that the woman had obtained the drugs from the local prison from Reginaldo Puente Huerta.

8599

CSO: 5330

INJUSTICES AMENDED: RELEASE OF DRUG ADDICTS

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 27 May 77 p 4-A

[Article by Alfonso Trueba Olivares]

[Text] The attorney general ordered the dismissal of penal action in more than 1,300 proceedings drawn up for crimes against public health under the category of possession of drugs.

Since the cases are abandoned, they will be stayed and many persons will be set free. Most of them are youths who were charged with merely possessing small amounts of marihuana or other drugs for their personal use.

We know the attorney general's order is being followed and that drug addicts under the threat of long prison terms are being released from the prisons.

The attorney general's step is praiseworthy because it amends an unjust situation created by a severe law which frequently was applied badly. All of those versed in this agree that penal repression is not only useless but also counterproductive as a method of correcting or readapting those misusing drugs. In Mexico, we entered the wrong road when we passed laws imposing a minimum sentence of 5 years and 3 months imprisonment on any one whom the police found with a handful of marihuana in his possession.

We must recognize the so-called "psychodelic revolution", the increasing daily use of substances affecting the mental state. It is a phenomenon which will not disappear by putting users behind bars.

It has been observed that in every age in which there are many causes for insecurity and sorrow, when people cannot reach their ideals, when traditional values have fallen while confusion and despair prevail as to the meaning of existence, the number of persons who seek the magic solution to their problems by turning to drugs increases.

The phenomenon that each day drug addiction spreads more is less natural than appears at first glance. Corruption of customs may be deliberate, directed and carried out to weaken the people so that they may be easily dominated. Our aphrodisiac societies which seek artificial paradises fall one day without great violence under tyranic powers whose agents offer to build a paradise

but end up making them into other islands of the Gulag archipelago.

It is not by inflicting corporal punishment on the drug addict that this evil must be combatted but by eliminating its causes which, contrary to the opinion of many, are of a moral nature.

Our laws recognize this when they declare that for habitual users or persons needing to consume them to possess narcotics or psychotropic drugs, provided that the amount is that which is strictly necessary for their own use, is not a crime. (Art. 198-IV of the Federal Penal Code).

The fact is there is no defined criteria on the amount of toxic substances consumers may licitly possess. Many persons have been tried and condemned for having in their possession an amount which in the opinion of judges and experts exceeds that which is necessary for personal use. I will explain some cases:

A youth, age 24, belonging to the marihuana culture was arrested in Oaxaca by the police while high on marihuana. He had in his possession 20 grams of a substance analyzed by public health experts as hashish. According to their determination this is a product derived from the resin of hemp which contains more active principle (tetrahydrocannabinol) than the leaves of the plant. The same experts determined that because it is a resin concentrate, the 20 grams of hashish is too much for the use of its possessor.

The youth alleges that the drug was for his own use. He had acquired it with no other purpose than to use it because he needed it. The doctors declared he is a drug addict. However, the youth was imprisoned, charged with a crime against public health and threatened with a minimum sentence of 5 years 3 months imprisonment.

Another case is that of a fisherman from Veracruz whom the police arrested with 1/2 kg of marihuana in dry leaves. Fishermen who habitually go to sea in small boats, take a supply of marihuana which they use as a stimulant so as to be able to do their hard work.

The law was applied severely. One kg of grass is too much for his own use. The judge thus sentenced him to 5 years 3 months imprisonment.

There are thousands of cases like these. Generally, the spirit of the law is not complied with. It does not punish the drug addict or plain user who has the drug for his own use. The letter of the law is followed. This resulted in many persons going to jail who should have been in sanitariums.

In 1974, an unfortunate amendment of the law was passed. It increased the minimum sentence to more than 5 years and added that in no case may the detainees be released on bail while appealing their convictions so as to then withdraw themselves from judicial action. This did not take into account the

cases of possessors of small amounts of drugs for personal use whom it is unjust to punish so severely.

The attorney general's order to dismiss the penal action in all these cases seems to us very good because of the social benefits it will produce. Now, many foreign drug addicts who are causing us problems may return to their countries and the poor Mexican fishermen who are addicts may return to their homes.

What remains to be done is for the law to be revised again and the use of drugs be dealt with in a reasonable and practical manner. The state must also take all preventative steps advisable to combat traffic of substances which as the constitution says, poison the individual and degenerate the human race. If this duty is not performed soon, we will see ourselves changed into a race of idiots.

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CSO: 5330

PENAL ACTION AGAINST 78 DRUG ADDICTS WILL BE DISMISSED

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 21 May 77 p 7-A

[Text] For the first time in the history of Mexican justice, the attorney general ordered the dismissal of penal action against persons against whom proceedings were opened for crimes against public health or who are serving sentences for committing these crimes.

Oscar Flores Sanchez, the attorney general, is putting into effect a practice which will open the jail doors for between 2,300 and 2,400 federal convicts now in jails throughout the country.

Here in Nuevo Laredo, about 78 convicts will be freed due to the dismissal of penal action ordered by Oscar Flores Sanchez, the attorney general.

Favorable Action for Addicts

Yesterday, Arturo Galindo Ochoa, deputy director of preliminary investigations of the Office of the Attorney General, arrived at Nuevo Laredo.

This official has the assignment of turning over to this port's federal prosecuting attorneys all the records on penal cases against 78 persons charged with crimes against public health.

During a conference with the local press, Galindo Ochoa told the reporters that this is the first and only time in which the Office of the Attorney General will order the dismissal of penal action.

This dismissal of action favors drug addicts and persons who, when arrested, had in their possession very small amounts of drugs and against whom proceedings were drawn up for crimes against public health. Some of these drug addicts are serving sentences but they will be set free under the attorney general's order.

Galindo Ochoa turned over to Luis Esteban Garcia Villon 64 files on proceedings drawn up in the Second District Court and 14 files on cases drawn up in the Third District Court.

According to instructions issued from above, the public health authorities will have a very important role in the measure put into effect by the Office of the Attorney General. The Public Health Department will examine the convicts and if they are confirmed to be drug addicts, they will be set free because the drugs seized in their possession will be considered as being for their personal use.

In reply to a question by the reporters, Galindo Ochoa said that up to now 800 convicts have been set free by the dismissal of the penal action. Many foreign convicts will be benefitted. Galindo reported that from Monterrey, American John Flanagan will be taken to the frontier and deported after he is turned over to American authorities who want him in connection with six or seven cases.

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CSO: 5330

CRIMINALS CAPTURED WITH HEROIN AND OPIUM SET FREE

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 25 May 77 p 3-B

[Text] After the Second District Court denied an injunction against the orders of imprisonment of Agapito Garcia Hernandez, Guadalupe Garza Chavez and Gumersindo Garza Chavez, their defense attorney made an appeal for a review of the case. The Fourth Circuit Court at Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, reversed the verdict of guilty against the three defendants decreed by the Third District Court judge. The defense attorney reported this and added that the three men were set free Monday night.

In spite of the impressive evidence presented by the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office agent, the three defendants are already at liberty.

The Third District Court reported that Agapito Garcia, Guadalupe Garza and Gumersindo Garza had each been sentenced some days ago to 6 years 6 months imprisonment and fined 7,000 pesos when found guilty of a crime against public health under the categories of opium and heroin trafficking.

On 19 July 1975, they were taken by the Federal Judicial Police to La Loma jail and Proceedings No 125-975 was opened against them.

They had been captured after the PJF proved that they were involved in drug traffic. When they were arrested, they had in their possession a fair amount of opium and heroin ready for sale.

Other Gangsters Set Free

Yesterday morning, Jose Regulo Flores Chapa and Andres Rodriguez Gamez were set free, the former by acquittal in Proceedings No 214-975 and the latter because he had served the sentence imposed on him for a crime against public health.

Originally, Roadriguez Gamez was sentenced to 13 years 6 months imprisonment. This sentence was reduced to 6 years 6 months which he finished serving yesterday.

MEXICO

IMPRISONMENT FOR POSSESSION OF HEROIN

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 25 May 77 p 3-A

[Text] Yesterday, Jose Becerra Santiago, the Coahuila District Court judge, denied the request by Pedro Polendo Rios, Adolfo Torres Calderon's defense attorney, for the return of more than \$1,100 and about 900 pesos seized along with 4 grams of heroin at Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila by PJF [Federal Judicial Police] agents.

The federal prosecuting attorney charged him with possession and traffic of heroin. The State District Court judge determined his legal status ordering him imprisoned for possession of heroin. He was acquitted of the heroin trafficking charge.

Adolfo Torres Calderon declared to the judicial authorities that the drug seized from him was to satisfy his personal cravings. The judicial authorities determined that the amount of the drug seized was too much for a single person. The judge issued an order for his imprisonment for possession of heroin. Two packets of the drug were seized from Torres Calderon. Each contained a fix which he was going to sell to drug addicts in the neighboring frontier port, Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, where this and other common and federal illicit activities are commonplace.

The defense endeavored to prove by any means that the drug was "cut" and that the amount of pure heroin is barely 2 grams, an adequate amount to satisfy one person.

However, an expert opinion is required. For this reason, the return of the seized money was requested.

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DRUG TRAFFICKERS TO BE SENTENCED

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 May 77 p 3-A

[Text] Perhaps this month, the Coahuila District Court will decree sentences against Alejandro Cenicerros, alias "Alex", for a crime against public health under the category of possession of marihuana and also against his codefendants Gilberto Chavez Buenrostro, Armando Cisneros, Juan Antonio de la O and a girl from Guadalajara, Jalisco, who was set free after she was remanded to the juvenile court of the state capital.

Alejandro Cenicerros and Gilberto Chavez Buenrostro, together with the others mentioned, were arrested by the municipal police last year with a large load of marihuana. Armando Cisneros and Juan Antonio de la O escaped from the preventative police jail during the attack at dawn by American commandos who are on trial in Del Rio, Texas.

Jose Antonio Garcia Garcia, alias "El Tony", from whom more than 1/2 kg of pure heroin was seized in his home in Colonia San Joaquin, Villa de Fuente, Coahuila, and his wife Rosalinda Adame de Garcia escaped during the attack. Up to now, they have not been recaptured.

Alejandro Cenicerros and Gilberto Chavez Buenrostro will be sentenced this month by Jose Becerra Santiago, Coahuila District Court judge.

Chavez Buenrostro was the person transporting the drug. Alex Cenicerros was expected to take it to the United States where its sale had been arranged.



[left] Armando Cisneros. He is still a fugitive from justice. Last year, he was arrested here along with four other persons and a load of marihuana. (Foto Barboza)

[center] Alejandro Cenicerros, alias "Alex", will be sentenced soon. He is accused of a crime against public health under the category of possession of marihuana. (Foto Barboza)

Juan Antonio de la O Rivera. He escaped during the attack on police headquarters in May 76. (Foto Barboza)

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CSO: 5330

A CONVICTED DRUG TRAFFICKER KILLED DURING A JAILBREAK

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 3 May 77 p 3-B

[Text] Sunday night during a tragic and fatal attempted jailbreak from the municipal jail, Gualberto Urtuzuastegui Acosta died of a 30 cal. M 1 rifle wound. During the attempted jailbreak, federal convicts Gualberto Urtuzuastegui Acosta and Jorge Valente del Fierro Gomez, the former with a 38 cal. super automatic pistol which had been smuggled into the jail to him, had a shoot-out with the jail guards. The body of the deceased fell on the eastern sidewalk of Avenida Monterrey, one block from the jail. The other escapee was recaptured a few meters from that spot.

The tragic episode took place at about 2020 hours Sunday. The bullet entered Urtuzuastegui's body in the left kidney region and lodged near his right nipple.

The prison guards said that at the aforementioned time, Antonio Ramirez Hernandez and Jesus Natividad Martinez became aware that Gualberto Urtuzuastegui had climbed on to the roof of the shops at the southern part of the jail. Antonio Ramirez Hernandez said he heard Gualberto shout to them, "Drop your guns or you will die."

Ramirez Hernandez noticed that Natividad attempted to fire the shotgun he was carrying but it did not go off. At the same time, Gualberto, who was carrying a squadron pistol in his right hand, made a stand behind a sentry box and again ordered Antonio Ramirez to drop his weapons while repeatedly shooting at him.

The prison guard returned the fire with a 30-cal. M 1 rifle. Evidently he wounded the deceased since he shot, the latter fell to the ground but immediately afterwards got up and jumped over the roof to the street.

Other prison guards who were on the outside pursued Gualberto who ran south along Avenida Monterrey. Shots by the guards were heard.

Santos Mendoza Ordonez said he fired the shot which killed Urtuzuastegui a block from the jail.

By then, other prison guards became aware that Jorge Valente del Fierro Gomez had jumped from the roof and also ran south. He was lost at the corner of Artega and Monterrey since he hid on the roof of a house.

Secret Service and uniformed policemen arrived where Del Fierro was hidden and they surrounded the block. The escapee surrendered minutes later.

Urtuzuastegui Was Serving an 8-Year 6 Months Prison Term

Gualberto Urtuzuastegui Acosta entered the municipal jail on 13 January 1975 and proceedings No. 3-975 were opened against him. He was sentenced to serve a term of 8 years 6 month imprisonment for a crime against public health.

Later, in November 1976, the Third District Court opened against him proceedings No. 229-976, also for drug trafficking.

Del Fierro Said He Was Forced To Join the Jailbreak

During an interview with EL MANANA, Jorge Valente del Fierro Gomez alleged that while he was in his cell, the deceased Gualberto Urtuzuastegui Acosta arrived and forced him to join the jailbreak by threatening him with a pistol.

Valente del Fierro, who is being processed for a crime against public health, said, "From the beginning, Gualberto insisted that I go with him and if I did not do so, he would have killed me on the spot..."

The Pistol Which Gualberto Carried Belonged to "Nano" Vazquez

During an interview with EL MANANA, Emeterio Zapata Iruegas said that prison guard Benito Ramos stated that the pistol which Gualberto Urtuzuastegui Acosta used during the shoot-out with the prison guards and his attempted jailbreak, belonged to Roberto Arnaldo Vazquez.

The state prosecuting attorney added that Benito Ramos told him that about 3 months ago, "Nano" bought from him the pistol and then ordered that it be delivered to a woman who is known to be Jorge Valente del Fierro Gomez' mistress.

Yesterday, the Federal Judicial Police were ordered to locate and arrest the woman whom Benito Ramos said was the person to whom he delivered the pistol which finally turned up in Urtuzuastegui Acosta's hands.

They want her to say how and by whom the pistol was smuggled into the prison.

The Prison Guards' Statements

All the prison guards who were on duty at the time of the attempted jailbreak and who were involved in the shoot-out at the prison to prevent the escape of the deceased were summoned yesterday to the State Public Prosecutor's Office to make depositions.

The Fight Between Rene Tanguma and Del Fierro

Jorge Valente del Fierro said that a few days ago he had a problem with another federal convict, Rene Tanguma Guerra on the possession of a knife.

When Valente del Fierro demanded the return of the weapon which had been taken from his bunk, Tanguma attacked and inflicted several blows on various parts of his body. The prison guards had to intervene to stop the fight.

PHOTO CAPTION

Gualberto Urtuzuastegui Acosta. He was shot to death. He paid a high price for his freedom which lasted just a few minutes. His body fell one block from the prison where he was to serve 8 years 6 months imprisonment. He also had pending another case which was also for drug trafficking. (Foto Gutierrez)

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

TRAFFICKERS AND 3 TONS OF MARIHUANA CAPTURED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 29 Apr 77 p 3-B

[Text] At km 144 on the Carretera Reynosa-Matamoros, last Wednesday night, PJF [Federal Judicial Police] agents and drug traffickers had a terrible shoot-out when the former intercepted a 1976 Ford truck, disguised as being loaded with crates of fruit, but which was in reality carrying 3 tons of marihuana. Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, the coordinator of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Agencies, reported that two of the traffickers escaped and two others were arrested.

He said that at approximately 2100 hours Wednesday, PJF agents became aware that the Ford truck with license plates J-7578-SPF disguised as being loaded with fruit but which they knew was transporting drugs, was on the Carretera Reynosa-Matamoros.

They immediately signaled the driver to halt. When the latter saw that they were police agents, he increased the truck's speed and then struck a road drain with the heavy truck.

While getting out of the vehicle, the two persons in the driver's seat opened fire on the PJF agents and a terrible shoot-out began.

The two traffickers ran swiftly into the underbrush where they easily hid and escaped.

Only Gabriel Sarabia Rojas and Cesar Villarreal Delgado, who were riding on the "merchandise" were arrested.

When the vehicle's cargo was checked, the 3 tons of marihuana were found.

The prisoners gave the names of their accomplices and also said that the drugs were brought from Guerrero and their destination was the port of Matamoros from where they would be exported to the United States.

The operation was blocked and now the PJF agents are making thorough investigations to capture the drug traffickers.

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CSO: 5330

HEROIN TRAFFICKER SUSPECT ARRESTED

Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 28 Apr 77 p 10-A

[Text] Carlos Barrera, alias "El Negro", who not long ago almost killed with a car policeman Valeriano Garza Garza, was involved again in a red-light district scandal. This time, it was with "night owl" Juan Torres Alanis over the possession of a .22 cal. rifle. Valeriano Garza Garza was the preventative police agent involved in the case of the kidnapped American in which First Commander Oscar Villarreal collected \$14,000 ransom.

Evidently because he was also involved in the struggle for the possession of the weapon between "El Negro" and his enemy, foreigner Edgar Lawrents was imprisoned along with Barrera and Torres Alanis.

All the vigilant police agents assigned to the red-light district were mobilized by the outrageous scandal. It happened at La Rata Muerta, a red-light district cabaret where on other occasions "El Negro" engaged in depravity.

The police report states that the fight began at 0600 hours. Torres Alanis had brought the arm and evidently threatened Carlos with it. Carlos, who is more agile, disarmed his enemy and struck him with the rifle. It is not known on whose side Lawrents intervened. He was struck repeatedly with the rifle.

The police remanded the three detainees. Carlos Barrera will be subjected to further investigation. Today, the other two are sure to be brought before Raul Garza Trevino, the prosecuting attorney.

It was said at the police inspector's office that Barrera will later be turned over to the same prosecuting attorney when the preventative police complete the investigation of the prisoner in relation to other complaints, including the attempted homicide of former policeman Valeriano Garza Garza and other ones.

Carlos Barrera may also be turned over to the federal prosecuting attorney since he is presumed to have engaged in drug trafficking.

A Mexican-Texan, at present in the local jail, stated that Barrera is the same person who was wanted last year by the federal agents in a heroin case in Matamoros. This case caused a wave of protests because federal agents raided

Centro Cultural Patria y Hogar [Fatherland and Home Cultural Center] which belonged to one of Barrera's aunts. They believed that in that educational institution Barrera was hiding or that drugs were hidden there.

At the time, Barrera was said to be a drug trafficker but the Federal Judicial Police stopped looking for him and did not arrest him. Since "El Negro" has been arrested by the preventative police, it is believed that the federal prosecuting attorney will summon him today or tomorrow at the latest.



Carlos Barrera Barrera, alias "El Negro", was turned over to the Public Prosecutor's Office agent because he was involved in a fight in the red-light district. (Fotografia Juan)

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MEXICO

CLANDESTINE LABORATORY DISMANTLED, MARIHUANA SEIZED

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 28 Apr 77 p 3-B

/Text/ With the information supplied by two persons who were arrested in this border town, the Federal Judicial Police were able to destroy a clandestine laboratory in which narcotics were being processed. The laboratory was located on a ranch located 115 kilometers from Torreon, Coahuila, along the Torreon-Ciudad Juarez highway.

Inside the laboratory Federal Judicial Police agents found all the equipment necessary to process the drugs. Although the federal agents conducted their operation in secret, no drug dealers were at the clandestine laboratory when the agents arrived. The agents dismantled the laboratory and seized the paraphernalia used to process the drugs.

At a press conference held by Coordinator General of the Northeast Zone Alfredo Aaron Jimenez Juarez, Jimenez said that the Federal Judicial Police initially arrested addict Abraham Avila Castilla who had in his possession a packet of heroin and a hypodermic syringe which he undoubtedly used to take the drug.

Avila Castillo told the federal agents that he had purchased the heroin from Manuel Mercado Berrones. Following his arrest Mercado Berrones confessed that he had acquired the heroin from a ranch located 115 kilometers from Torreon. He also told the police that a clandestine laboratory for processing drugs was located at the ranch.

The Federal Judicial Police also arrested Jesus Cadena Santos after Mercado informed them that he had more drugs in his possession. However, no drugs were found on Cadena at the time of his arrest.

Over a Ton of Marihuana Seized

A person transporting over a ton of marihuana was arrested by federal agents on the Tampico-Mante highway. The person taken into custody was identified as Eduardo Espinoza Sanchez who was transporting the shipment on board an unlicensed 1971 Dina truck

The truck was allegedly carrying alfalfa. However, after a careful search by federal agents who removed the alfalfa, 77 sacks containing 1,600 kilos of marihuana bricks were found. Espinoza told the police that he was transporting the marihuana from Michoacan where he was hired to bring the marihuana to the Tamaulipas border.



Local Federal Judicial Police agents arrested Abraham Avila Castilla, Manuel Mercado Berrones and Jesus Cadena Santos. Information supplied by Mercado Berrones led federal agents to a clandestine laboratory that was operating 115 kilometers from Torreon and processing narcotic drugs. (DIARIO photograph by Segura)



Paraphernalia used to process drugs in a clandestine laboratory that was found 115 kilometers from Torreon along the highway leading to Ciudad Jimenez /sic/, Coahuila, was seized by the Federal Judicial Police as evidence against the drug dealers that are being sought. Manuel Mercado Berrones supplied the information that led to the discovery of the laboratory. (DIARIO photograph by Segura)

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CSO: 3010

MEXICO

DESPITE EVIDENCE, DRUG DEALER'S SENTENCE REVOKED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 22 Apr 77 p 3-B

[Text] Despite the considerable evidence against him presented by federal authorities, drug dealer Arturo Cepeda Cabrera, alias "El Cole" or "La Morsa," was released by the Superior Court of the 4th Circuit in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon. In reviewing Law Suit No. 127-975 the Superior Court overturned the sentence imposed by the 3d District Court.

On 24 February 1977 Cepeda Cabrera was sentenced to 8 years 6 months in jail and fined 20,000 pesos or spend an additional 3 months in jail in case of nonpayment after he was found guilty on several counts of health crimes. The sentence was overturned yesterday by the Superior Court, according to the defendants attorneys.

After he was notified of the sentence imposed by the 3d District Court, the defendant through his lawyers appealed the decision and obtained the result mentioned earlier.

As you may recall, Arturo "El Cole" Cepeda and his brother Antonio were prosecuted after they were identified by Aurelio Perez Jimenez, Julian Garcia Arredondo and Pedro Perez Jimenez as having hired them in July 1975 to transport marihuana to the river's edge and smuggle it into the United States.

Following his arrest Aurelio Perez said that Arturo Cepeda hired him on several occasions to smuggle marihuana into the United States and paid him large amounts for his "services." He split his fee with his brother Pedro Perez and with Julian Garcia who helped him transport the marihuana.

"El Cole" currently must serve another sentence, Case No. 100-973, imposed by the 3d District Court of 7 years 6 months and pay a 10,000 peso fine. He is also waiting to be sentenced for Case No. 198-976.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

CIUDAD ACUNA OFFICIALS SAID TO PROTECT TRAFFICKERS

Open Drug Distribution

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 21 Apr 77 p 5-B

/Text/ Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, 20 April--Drug distributors continue to operate in the bars located in the red-light district and it would appear that they are being protected by police officials since they are openly selling drugs primarily to U.S. citizens and to known drug addicts.

These drug distribution operations again came to light yesterday following the arrest of Deane Dennise Anderson [as published] of Santana, Arizona, who entered Mexico illegally. Under questioning by the head of the Government Office the woman admitted that she was an addict and that she had been in this city for 2 weeks. She said she went to the red-light district to buy marihuana and was able to do so without any problem.

Dennise Anderson also said that she had two marihuana suppliers who worked in different bars in the red-light district.

Federal Police Investigation

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 22 Apr 77 p 6-B

/Text/ Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, 21 April 1977--Federal Judicial Police agents arrived in this city to begin an investigation in the red-light district in search of the marihuana distributors in the hope of finding their supplier.

The agents arrived in this city after receiving information supplied by Denise Diane Anderson who was being held by the Government Office. The woman confessed that she was an addict and she identified her suppliers in the red-light district only as Luis and Fernando.

Thus the Federal Judicial Police after receiving a few good leads spent the entire night conducting an exhaustive investigation in this sector of the city.

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CSO: 3010

MEXICO

INCINERATION OF 1.5 TONS OF MARIHUANA

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 27 May 77 p 3-B

[Text] With authorization from higher authorities, yesterday afternoon, federal authorities destroyed 1.5 tons of marihuana.

The incineration took place at General Macario Zamora Military Barracks. It was presided over by Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, Federal Public Prosecutor's Office coordinator.

Juarez Jimenez himself set fire to the evil grass which in a few minutes burned to ashes.

The activity was also attended by Nicolas Martinez, the federal prosecuting attorney; Raul Suarez Hurtado, who represented Dr Eduardo Takasita Elizondo, the director of the Public Health Center and Col Raul Humberto Buitron Torres, who represented Gen Salvador Lopez Matamoros, the military garrison commander.

Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez said that the marihuana incinerated was part of the latest loads seized by the organization headed by Commander Rodolfo Lopez Herrera.

The marihuana which was destroyed had been seized during two actions at the beginning of this week at Guardados de Abajo. The police also arrested four persons during the two actions.

Another Incineration Will Be Held

After the activity held at 1500 hours yesterday at the General Macario Zamora Military Barracks, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, Federal Public Prosecutor's Office coordinator, said that within a few days more marihuana which is guarded by the army at the city military garrison will be destroyed.

Juarez Jimenez said, "We are just waiting for the judge's authorization to destroy it."

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In a few minutes a fierce fire consumed 1.5 tons of marihuana which was destroyed after higher authorities authorized this. (Diariofoto de Coronado)

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

SURPRISE RAID NETS 5 TONS OF MARIHUANA

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 Apr 77 p 3-B

/Text/ In a surprise raid of a ranch in General Trevino by Nuevo Leon federal agents last night, the authorities broke up part of a drug ring composed of a family and seized 5 tons of unprocessed marihuana which was ready to be transported to the border.

The police officers also seized weapons and two trucks which were in the village. The weapons and trucks belonged to Antonio Arrambide who escaped arrest after he learned that the police had found the warehouse where the marihuana was being stored.

The police took into custody Jaime Arrambide Zavala, his son Jaime Arrambide Salinas and Alejo Lopez Martinez. The men had in their possession a 12-gauge shotgun, a .22 caliber pistol and an M-16 rifle. The police also seized two late-model trucks and a Pontiac which were probably to be used to transport the marihuana.

A Devastating Blow

According to information released by Juarez Jimenez, who heads the drug fight in this city, the blow dealt by the Nuevo Laredo federal agents was devastating because it kept the drug worth several million from falling into the hands of young people and causing harm to other innocent victims.

Preparations for the raid were carefully made after the police learned that a shipment of a large amount of marihuana was about to be made to the border.

The work was exhaustive and last night after the 5 tons of marihuana were located the police conducted a surprise raid and did not allow the leaders of the ring to escape.

Therefore, once Antonio Arrambide, the owner of the farm, is arrested this ring will have been dismembered and an investigation will be launched to determine who was to receive the shipment in the United States so that narcotics /enforcement officials/ can make the arrests.

Marihuana to be Burned Today

In a late bulletin the federal police announced that Jaime Eugenio Torres Espinoza, Luis Esteban Garcia Villalon and the group chiefs would meet here today to witness the burning of the 5 tons of seized marihuana.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

AIRPLANE GIVES DRUG TRAFFIC FIGHT A BOOST

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 19 Apr 77 p 4-B

/Text/ At the latest within 15 days, the Federal Judicial Police which are part of the Federal Public Ministry will receive an airplane to help them in their search for clandestine airports that are operating in different parts of the Sierra in the state.

Any reports on the subject must be investigated in depth and we were told that the investigation must be conducted on the basis of a program that is now being prepared and which will be used to find marihuana fields in the mountains.

The situation is difficult at the moment because searches can be conducted only by land and not by air as should be the case in order to find the trouble spots that have been reported to the police.

Important operations are being conducted to meet this problem and they, of course, must become a part of the program they are to receive some time this month.

The location is very important because with the proper techniques, equipment and other tools the problem can be attacked systematically. This is a problem which has existed for some time, EL DIARIO was told unofficially.

Some activity has been noticed but because of a lack of equipment the police have been unable to completely verify its existence. Aside from this, the problem is being approached in a special manner at different levels.

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BRIEFS

SEIZURE OF 20 TONS OF MARIHUANA--Mexico, 23 May--EMSA--The PJF [Federal Judicial Police] dealt another blow to drug trafficking when they captured 13 drug traffickers and confiscated 20.3 tons of marihuana worth 40 million pesos on the black market. They were going to send it to the United States to make a profit. Today's most important action was at Vacubirito de la Majada in Sinaloa where the PJF agents took by surprise 10 drug traffickers while they were packing 14 tons of marihuana and preparing to transport it to the nation's northern frontier. Another action was in Caballo Loco, Sonora, where a trailer with 5.5 tons of marihuana packed and covered by 10 tons of sorghum was captured. As part of the anti-drug campaign in Oaxaca, PJF agents located on the banks of Rio Jaltepec [river], near Tierra Negra, 800 kgs of marihuana. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 24 May 77 p 1-A] 8923

SEIZURE OF 5 TONS OF MARIHUANA--Monterrey, Nuevo Leon--from our correspondent--Today, PJF [Federal Judicial Police] agents, under Group Chief Juan Ramon Ramirez, seized 5 tons of marihuana on a trailer and a truck by which it was to be taken to the United States by way of a place near Miguel Aleman, Tamaulipas. The police intercepted the grass covered with sheets and sacks of lime in the trailer with Tamaulipas license plates BX-3272 marked with the firm name Tomas Esquivel Sotero and in a truck with license plates BX-1527. [Text] [Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 27 May 77 p 8-A] 8923

DRUG TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED--Yesterday, Alejo Sierra Gomez, the Third District Court judge, found three drug traffickers guilty. Guillermo Delgado, a tailor, age 43, was found guilty of a crime against public health under the categories of possession and trafficking of marihuana. He was sentenced to 7 years imprisonment and fined 8,000 pesos. Each of his codefendants, Calixto Delgado Fuentes, age 32, and Lucas Ramirez Cervantes, was sentenced to 6 years imprisonment and fined 1,500 pesos. The three drug traffickers had been working in Ciudad Reynosa, Tamaulipas. They used to bring from Jocutla, Morelos, on public passenger autos from Oriente boxes declared as baggage but which contained bricks of marihuana. On 18 March 1976, a PJF agent at a checkpoint on the Reynosa-Tampico highway searched the baggage and found 60 packages of marihuana in five boxes which were proved to belong to the three drug traffickers. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 May 77 p 8-A] 8923

BIGWIGS INVESTIGATED AS TRAFFICKERS--Yesterday, reports indicated that PJF [Federal Judicial Police] agents had under surveillance two homes in the Kennedy section where two bigwig drug traffickers are thought to live. This is part of the PJF investigations in certain sections of this city following the arrests of five drug traffickers led by Jose Dolores Gonzalez, alias "El Lolo", who had in their possession 4 million pesos worth of heroin. All indications are that the bigwigs are involved in the sale of drugs here and in drug shipments to the United States. American Narcotics Bureau authorities requested Mexican federal authorities' collaboration in the pursuit of two drug traffickers living in Nogales under deep cover [tapados]. They own several businesses described as "fronts" ["fantasmas" o "paros"], the true activities of which are very different. For more than 5 years, they have shipped large quantities of drugs on which they have made enormous fortunes. Almost 1 kg of high quality heroin was seized. The spokesman also said that complaints have been made against two residents, both with the surname Aguirre, who continue to ship large quantities of drugs. Their place of operation is on Calle Reforma. The authorities of the two nations have them under surveillance. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 19 May 77 p 4-A] 8923

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS SOUGHT--Yesterday, the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] were following leads on known drug traffickers suspected of abandoning almost 1 ton of marihuana in a light truck which the police seized Saturday night at the corner of Calles Neptuno and Justo Sierra in Ciudad Alianza. The federal investigators have a long list of names of suspected owners of the grass and the 1968 Chrysler light truck. We cannot publish the names because the PJF believe this would obstruct the investigations which are "on the track". In a preliminary report they said that the light truck is presumed to belong to a well-known woman in this city. She has previously been involved in judicial and police problems. Perhaps today during the investigations, they will disclose her name. It is common knowledge that Saturday night, while preventative police were patrolling to prevent immoral couples from carrying on at the Junta Federal de Mejoras Materiales Park, they found the abandoned light truck with five sacks and three packages of loose marihuana hidden in the vehicle. The motor of the light truck was still hot, indicating that it had just been parked there by the driver. The police suspect that it belonged to an inhabitant of the neighborhood where the vehicle was found or that the drug traffickers escaped when they became aware of the presence of the police patrol. Since then, police investigations have been based on the assumption that the owners of the marihuana are drug traffickers living in the vicinity of Ciudad Alianza. Up to yesterday, they had not had any success. [Text] [Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 25 May 77 p 8-A] 8923

SEIZURE OF MARIHUANA, ARMS--South of Hermosillo on the Carretera Internacional [highway] in the city of Tijuana, Baja California, during the early hours of Monday, the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] captured another tentacle of a gang of marihuana traffickers and 5.5 tons of marihuana. Commander Margarito Mendez Rico and several of his men arrested Narciso Gonzalez Rios who had in his possession 2 tons of marihuana, 100 kgs of marihuana seeds and five

R-15 rifles. He was arrested in Tijuana where he distributed marihuana which was periodically supplied to him by his brother Genaro Gonzalez Rios. The latter was arrested at El Caballo checkpoint when he was transporting a large load of the accursed grass. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 26 May 77 p 4-A] 8923

PUBLIC SUPPORT AGAINST TRAFFICKERS--Ciudad Victoria--6 May--Alfredo

Aaron Juarez Jimenez, the agencies' coordinator of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office in the northeast, requested the collaboration of civil and military authorities and of parents, teachers and of all persons who have information on drug traffic in the struggle against this social cancer. He said that the traffic and use of drugs are a social cancer which have greatly harmed other nations and are beginning to cause serious damage in Mexico. He requested help from civil and military authorities. He said that the ones most interested in helping the authorities in the struggle against the traffic and use of drugs must be parents and teachers. All persons who have information on drug traffic or fields planted with drugs should also help. The ones dealing with this problem should not be just the authorities. The public should cooperate to put an end to it. It would be pitiful to know that a friend is poisoning himself with a drug and even more so if this happened to a very close relative. He called on parents to make their children realize the physical and moral damage caused by the use or traffic of drugs. He added, "All of us are affected by this problem." Juarez Jimenez has considerable experience in the struggle against drugs. Before he was appointed coordinator for the northeast of Mexico, he was an inspector for the Office of the Attorney General. He replaced in this position Salvador del Toro Rosales, "El Fiscal de Hierro" [The Iron Prosecuting Attorney]. [Text] [Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 7 May 77 p 10-A] 8923

MARIHUANA SEIZED; TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The Federal Judicial Police seized more than 5 tons of marihuana which was being taken to Tijuana and they captured the owner of the illicit cargo. The events took place at about 0300 hours at the checkpoint "El Caballo" north of Puerto de Guaymas on the Carretera Internacional. The men under Commander Margarito Mendez Rico, first stopped Genaro Gonzalez Rios and his companion in a pickup truck. The former was later found to own the marihuana. Moments later, they stopped a 1976 Weat trailer without license plates driven by Roberto Bencamo Rodriguez. The heavy vehicle appeared to be carrying to Tijuana several tons of sorghum but the driver who was very nervous finally confessed that the grain was there only to conceal 5,360 packages of marihuana. When taken to Commander Margarito Mendez Rico, Bencamo Rodriguez pointed out Genaro Gonzalez Rios as the person who hired him to transport the illicit load from Culiacan to Tijuana. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 25 May 77 p 4-A] 8923

MARIHUANA SEIZED; DRIVER ARRESTED--Yesterday PJF [Federal Judicial Police] agents assigned to the Sultana del Norte dealt a crushing blow to drug trafficking. The men of the Attorney General's Office seized 4 tons of marihuana and arrested driver Mario Tellez Garfias who is being interrogated. Aaron Juarez

Jimenez, coordinator of the Federal Prosecutor's Office Agencies in the north-east announced the latest blow by the PJF. He reported that at the Sultana del Norte two trucks carried an illicit load. One Man Escaped. Juarez Jimenez also said that the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, informed him that PJF agents were only able to arrest one of the vehicles drivers. "The driver of one of the trucks escaped by abandoning his truck and its cargo." Although he escaped, he has been identified and the PJF agents have been looking for him since yesterday. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 27 May 77 p 3-B] 8923

MARIHUANA SEIZED; 3 TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Tijuana, B. C. N., 19 May--Today PJF [Federal Judicial Police] agents seized at a mechanic's shop in the basement of a house on Calle Bucareli of the Obrera section, 2 tons of marihuana which was to be shipped to the United States. Three drug traffickers were arrested. They are members of a gang who used to take the drug to the United States in gasoline tank trucks having double bottoms with special compartments. The marihuana was hidden in the basement of the house at 123 Calle Bucareli, Obrera section, which PJF agents raided. Some of the drug traffickers escaped. In the shop, special tools were found that are used to change gasoline tanks to adapt them to the vehicles used to transport marihuana to the United States. The grass was packed and ready to be loaded in 10 gasoline tanks. Miguel Angel Bazan, the owner of the house in which the drug traffickers carried out their maneuvers, was arrested and interrogated by the police. He gave the names of the people involved. The PJF confirmed that Francisco Samaniego Rubio, a known trafficker of Sinaloa who was captured yesterday by the PJF in Culiacan, supplied the marihuana. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 20 May 77 p 4-A] 8923

TRAFFICKERS' JAILBREAK FRUSTRATED--by A. Lamas, a DIARIO reporter--Last night, a mass jailbreak at the Centro de Readaptacion Social of this city was frustrated when federal, state and municipal police forces arrived there by order of Ernesto Avila Triana, Federal Public Prosecutor's Office agent. DIARIO reporters were told that Avila Triana was told that four known drug traffickers planned to escape at 2400 hours from the prison. Francisco Javier Chavira Peraza, Jesus Barnet Valenzuela, alias "El Macho Prieto"; Ramon Hernandez, alias "El Negro Llantero" and Gustavo Ortiz Moffet are the federal prisoners who planned to escape last night from the Centro de Readaptacion Social. DIARIO DE NOGALES reporters obtained this information at the prison. They learned that the convicts planned to escape at 2400 hours from the prison and that in the periphery on the outside an auto was to be waiting for them. In this car, they were to be taken to Cananea where a light plane would be waiting for them. Federal authorities had been informed in advance yesterday that the escape was to take place but this was opportunely frustrated. After a long talk with Avila Triana and Garcia Jimenez, the director of the prison, the convicts were placed in special cells with special guards. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 20 May 77 p 4-A] 8923

ARRESTS AND SEIZURE OF MARIHUANA--by Antonio Lamas--According to unofficial reports, yesterday, the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] of this city dealt a severe blow to drug trafficking by the seizure of a ton of marihuana and the arrest of several persons on Calle Heroes. The PJF agents arrested a man in a 1973 LTD Ford who attempted to cross the frontier line with 24 packages of marihuana. The name of the man has not been disclosed so as not to obstruct the investigation. He confessed that in his home, evidently on Calle Heroes, there was a large cache of marihuana. The agents went immediately to the house where they found 1 ton of grass guarded by two men. The police arrested them. At the PJF offices, the press was given no information because they expected to arrest more people linked with this load of confiscated marihuana. The drug was placed in PJF cells under police custody along with the prisoners who were thoroughly interrogated to obtain from them the names of the other persons believed to make up a powerful drug traffickers gang operating in this city and in the state of Arizona. Tomorrow more information will be given. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 25 May 77 p 4] 8923

SEARCH FOR A HEROIN LAB--Yesterday, the police searched for a clandestine lab for processing heroin. This was reported at police headquarters. They have strong suspicions and factual reports on the matter. Francisco Moreno, the chief of the SIM [Municipal Investigation Service] group, is making the investigation. The lab may be in the northern zone of Coahuila or in Piedras Negras. During a search, the chemicals necessary to reveal the existence of a clandestine lab were found. The investigation will go to great depth to obtain necessary information for the discovery of the lab. Very interesting information has been found and investigations will follow as more facts are gathered. All leads and evidence will be fully exploited. The primary search is for the intellectual directors of what up to now is an imaginary clandestine heroin lab. Yesterday, Francisco Moreno said he had clues, that the investigations will go into greater depth next week. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 16 May 77 p 4-A] 8923

MARIHUANA SEIZED--Ciudad Miguel Aleman, Tam.--23 May--by Manuel Mercado Escutia, correspondent--Tonight, in a joint operation of the State and Federal Judicial Police, PJF, about a ton of marihuana was seized in the village of Guardados de Abajo. Four men who were transporting the drug in two vehicles were arrested. The State Judicial Police agents under Group Chief Porfirio Trevino Olivares raided the village at 1900 hours following a lead given by a man arrested here with a "joint". Tonight, the PJF took to Nuevo Laredo the following drug traffickers: Manuel Diaz Caballero and Cornelio Guzman Preciado, both from Tecoman, Colima. They brought the drug from there in a 1970 Ford light truck, California, USA, license plates IB-09319; Jose Garza Trevino, from Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, who was the liaison for the illicit operation, and Adolfo Rios Moreno of Alice, Texas. He had bought the marihuana and was taking part of it in a 1977 Ford light truck, Texas license plates KU-7970. The police reported that the marihuana was packed in kidney bean sacks with Conasupo [Government Basic Commodities Corporation] markings. Today, Tuesday, the four men and the two vehicles will be turned over to the Federal Public Pro-

secutor's Office agent on duty. He will remand them to the judge for this case. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 24 May 77 p 2-A] 8923

MARIHUANA SEIZED--Rafael Diaz Albores, coordinator in the states of Coahuila, Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office Agencies, and a large group of federal agents, seized 4 tons of marihuana, striking a forceful blow against organized drug traffic. The drug was transported in two trucks going to Nuevo Laredo. Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez reported that when he was notified that a load of marihuana was expected to arrive at this frontier, checkpoints were set up along the Monterrey-Laredo highway. During the early hours of yesterday, Commanders Diaz Albores and Rodolfo Lopez Herrera intercepted the two trucks. One of them carried 2 tons of marihuana covered with gravel and the other, the same amount of drug camouflaged with lime. One of the truck drivers was captured but the other escaped. Yesterday thorough investigations were being made to find out from where the drug came. Evidently, it came from Guerrero or Oaxaca. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 27 May 77 p 3-B] 8923

DRUG TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--Ramon Obregon Montoya was sentenced by the Third District Court to 5 years 3 months imprisonment and fined 5,000 pesos. He began to serve his sentence on 14 December 1975 when he was arrested by the PJF [Federal Judicial Police]. In proceedings No 23-976, he was found guilty of a crime against public health under the category of transporting marihuana. He had 73 bricks of marihuana in his possession when he was arrested. The PJF's report on Obregon Montoya says that on 14 December 1975, they were informed that a light truck loaded with marihuana had set out from Matehuala, San Luis Potosi for Reynosa. Checkpoints were set up on the Reynosa-Monterrey highway. A few kilometers before Reynosa, the 1976 Volkswagen light truck, license plates TC-7672, driven by Ramon Obregon Montoya was intercepted. During a careful search, 73 packages of marihuana were found in concealed compartments. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 20 May 77 p 3-B] 8923

UNRESTRAINED TRAFFICKING IN ACUNA--Ciudad Acuna, Coah., 20 May--from the correspondent--Up to now, distributors of marihuana and of toxic tablets operate in Ciudad Acuna without interference by any authority to their illicit activities which they engage in freely due to lack of police enforcement. In this respect, we give cases which have taken place among persons who were arrested while crossing the international bridge. They were arrested by American authorities who check the people who cross the bridge. They had drugs in their possession which they had acquired in this frontier port. On the 19th of this month, two women with 11.5 grams of marihuana in their possession were arrested by the American authorities. The women, who did not give their names, acknowledged that they had obtained the drugs here in Ciudad Acuna. Hector Burciaga, chief of investigations, told a local newspaper that there are no distributors in Acuna. In spite of his statement, we have the arrests of foreigners when they cross the international bridge after obtaining drugs from the distributors in Acuna. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 21 May 77 p 5-A] 8923

OPIUM TRAFFICKER IMPRISONED--The Eighth Circuit Unitary Tribunal at Torreon, Coahuila, confirmed the imprisonment ordered by the State District Court judge against Rolando Gonzalez for a crime against public health under the category of possessing opium. It determined the existence of enough evidence to continue penal action against the person in custody. The tribunal ratified the order for the release of Ramiro Reyes and Victor Sepulveda. Investigation agents of the Municipal Police of this city had detained them along with Ricardo Gonzalez. The drug was found in the possession of Ricardo. Later, to obtain his release, he said that he inhaled the opium dissolved in alcohol. However, official experts determined that this means of taking the drug by Ricardo Gonzalez is unknown. Originally, Ricardo Gonzalez had said that the opium had been left with him as a sample by a resident of Guanajuato for him to find customers. Ricardo evidently was arrested before he made any operations. After he appealed to the Eighth Circuit Unitary Tribunal, the federal judge confirmed the order for his imprisonment. Possession by a Drug Trafficker Confirmed. The Eighth Circuit Unitary Tribunal revised the order of imprisonment against Raul Villa Castanos for possession and transportation of marihuana. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 25 May 77 p 3-A] 8923

CHEMICAL SNIFFERS ARRESTED--Yesterday, at the corner of Galeana and Libertad streets, a man and his woman companion who were sniffing "poliz fuerte" a chemical dye used to shine shoes, were arrested and taken to the Preventative Police Headquarters. The woman is Yolanda Martinez, alias "La Chanfles". The couple were getting high by sniffing the dye. The man is Jose Luis Sanchez Torres. "La Chanfles" is notorious for her use of all kinds of drugs and narcotics. They were going up to the clouds, not in a jet plane but with the dye. "La Chanfles" is notorious in the drug underworld because since she was a minor, she has been linked with illicit drugs and several cases of drug addiction. In one case, her companion died when he took an overdose of drugs while drinking alcohol. Instead of seeking the company of a decent young lady to take to the movies or for a walk on the plaza, Sanchez Torres took the wrong road and chose a drug addict having a record with the underworld and the police. She has been tried for several crimes against public health. He chose her, not to go on a walk on the plaza but to take a trip to the clouds with the evil chemical dye used to shine shoes. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 26 May 77 p 4-A] 8923

APPOINTMENTS OF JUDGES AND ATTORNEYS--The State Supreme Court appointed Lamberto Rocha Gomez to the post of penal trial court judge in Reynosa. He left the post of State Public Prosecutor's Office agent assigned to the penal court in this city. Juan Miguel Perez Barquiarena, who will be the acting agent, made this report. Rocha Gomez has served as state prosecuting attorney attached to the penal trial court in this city. The Supreme Court of Justice decided that due to his capabilities and efficiency he deserved a position of higher rank and greater responsibilities such as that of a Reynosa court judge. Marcos Trejo Rodriguez was appointed second judge of the civil trial court. These changes follow the division of the mixed trial court into penal trial courts and civil trial courts. In Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Toribio Her-

nandez Ochoa was appointed Second judge of the civil trial court. Barquiarena to Hold Two Prosecuting Attorney Posts. When Emeterio Zapata Iruegas, State Public Prosecutor's Office agent, goes on vacation next Monday, Juan Miguel Perez Barquiarena will take over his post. He will be the prosecuting attorney on duty from 1 to 15 June. Barquiarena will also be assigned to the penal trial court prosecuting attorney because Lamberto Rocha Gomez left that post. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 22 May 77 p 3-B] 8923

ARMS SMUGGLER SENTENCED--Yesterday, official spokesmen for this federal court reported that the Third District Court judge found guilty and sentenced a small gang of arms and equipment smugglers. Jesus Perez Gaytan was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment and fined 10,000 pesos. Santos Serrato Almanza was sentenced to 1 year and 8 months imprisonment and fined 5,000 pesos. Simona Soto de Serrato was set free because she already had been imprisoned for a period equal to the prison term to which she was sentenced. The terms of imprisonment of her codefendants will be counted beginning 2 December 1975 when they were captured by the Federal Judicial Police. Reports on the matter state that when the federal authorities learned that large amounts of arms and equipment were being smuggled into the country, they found out that Jesus Perez Gayton was one of the smugglers. After Perez Gayton was arrested, he confessed that he had repeatedly acquired in the United States pistols, rifles, sub-machine guns, ammunition and other objects and that together with Santos Serrato and Simona Soto, he smuggled them into Mexico at the Nuevo Laredo frontier. For this, the latter two were also arrested. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish p 3-B] 8923

MARIHUANA SEIZED--Yesterday, the Federal Judicial Police agents intercepted 3 tons of marihuana which was covered with pineapples in a truck which had brought it from the south. The seriously injured driver escaped when the truck crashed into a house in Linares, Nuevo Laredo. The driver has not been captured. Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, the coordinator of the Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas agencies of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office made this report. He said that the federal agents in Monterrey learned of the transporting of the drug and so they set out to find it. In Linares, Nuevo Laredo, they located the model 600 Ford truck. When the agents ordered the driver to stop, the latter accelerated and sped through several streets of the city. Finally, the vehicle got out of control and crashed into a house. From the blood inside of the vehicle, it was apparent that the driver had been injured when he escaped, leaving behind his valuable cargo. About 3 tons of marihuana covered with pineapples were being transported in the truck. Juarez Jimenez explained that the investigations continue. The owner of the truck has been fully identified and they are trying to locate him. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 24 May 77 p 3-B] 8923

DESTRUCTION OF MARIHUANA--Yesterday Pedro Mireles Malpica, head of the Federal Public Ministry in Nogales, told EL DIARIO DE NOGALES that on Monday 4 April at 1400 hours 3 tons 545 kilos of marihuana will be destroyed at the grounds of the military garrison. The marihuana was seized by the Federal Judicial Police in several different operations. [Excerpts] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 1 Apr 77 p 4/ 8599

DRUG SENTENCE--Miguel Quintanilla Martinez was sentenced to a 5 year 3 month prison term and fined 5,000 pesos or serve an additional 63 days in jail by default after he was found guilty of health crime charges for possession and purchase with intent to sell heroin. Quintanilla Martinez was sentenced by the judge of the 2nd District Court. The defendant was arrested on 16 July 1976 along with two addicts, Mario Pena Gonzalez and Julio Paz Vargas. They were arrested because the police suspected the two addicts of selling heroin. After their arrest Pena and Paz confessed that they were addicts and identified Quintanilla as their supplier. Quintanilla was found and arrested by federal authorities who took from him 53 doses of brown heroin wrapped in tin foil and a condom with 10 grams of heroin. Under questioning, Quintanilla identified his supplier as Reginaldo "El Huerta" Fuentes Huerta who was serving a jail term in La Loma Prison. [Excerpts] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 21 Apr 77 p 8-A/ 8599

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED--Yesterday, Alejo Sierra Gomez, the Second District Court judge, gave stiff sentences to the members of a dangerous gang of drug traffickers. Roy Sned Sandoval was sentenced to 6 years imprisonment and fined 8,000 pesos. Roman Sanchez Lavega was sentenced to 7 years imprisonment and fined 7,000 pesos. Vidal Estrada Beltran was sentenced to 6 years imprisonment and fined 6,000 pesos. Francisco Yanez Lopez was sentenced to 6 years imprisonment and fined 6,000 pesos. Ramon Sanchez Lavega, alias "El Tamboro", one of the chiefs of the gang, impersonated a major of the Sinaloa Servicio de Vigilancia de Transito y Policia [Traffic Direction and Police Service], is a friend of the chief and "brains" of the drug traffickers gang, Jose Lizarraga Martinez, a fugitive from justice. Lizarraga Martinez sold fruit. He sent on a truck a large load of pineapples but half the load was marihuana hidden under the pineapples. On 12 August 1976 at km 4 of the Carretera San Fernando-Reynosa, the Federal Judicial Police intercepted the truck driven by Vidal Estrada Beltran. They found under the pineapples several sacks of marihuana weighing 2 tons. Later, they captured Francisco Yanez who was driving a Volkswagen and, in Reynosa, they captured Ramon Sanchez and Roy Sned Sandoval. Jose Lizarraga Martinez was in Mazatlan, Sinaloa, where he learned of his accomplices arrests and he succeeded in escaping. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 1 May 77 p 2-B] 8923

DRUG TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--Leonel Cardenas Alvarez was sentenced to 4 years imprisonment and fined 6,000 pesos for a crime against public health under the category of marihuana trafficking. The Third District Court reported that he began serving his sentence on 4 November 1975 when he was captured by the Federal Judicial Police. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 29 Apr 77 p 2-A] 8923

TRAFFICKERS PLEAD INNOCENCE--Presumptive drug trafficker Manuel Mercado Berrones and Abraham Avila Castillo were taken yesterday to the Third District Court Offices to make depositions on the charges made against them by the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office agent. Mercado Berrones categorically denied giving heroin found in the possession of Abraham Avila Castillo. Mercado Berrones said he was improperly arrested by the PJF [Federal Judicial Police] because when he was deprived of his freedom no order of arrest nor warrant for the search of his residence had been issued. The PJF arrested Manuel Mercado Berrones because Abraham Avila Castillo stated that he had sold him for his

personal use a fair amount of heroin to which he is addicted. When Mercado Berrones declared before the federal judge, he categorically denied this and added that he is not involved in drug trafficking. Avila Castillo repeated part of his deposition to the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office agent but modified it, exonerating his codefendant. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 4 May 77 p 2-A] 8923

REPLACEMENT OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CUSTOMS--"Desde La Capital" column by Lupe Diaz Jr--Certain circles insist on the nomination of our good friend Juan Jose Comene, director of the Banco de Pequeno Comercio, to the post of director general of customs to replace Leopoldo Ramirez Limon, who continues a heated argument with Deputy Secretary Oscar Reyes Retana. [Excerpt] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 4 May 77 p 5-A] 8923

NEW FEDERAL PROSECUTING ATTORNEY--Nicolas Martinez Cerda took office yesterday as the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office agent. He replaces Ricardo de Hoyos Arizpe and was sent here by the attorney general. Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, coordinator of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Agencies in the states of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas, said that early yesterday Martinez Cerda arrived and immediately took over the post. Martinez Cerda was sent by the attorney general to this frontier to replace de Hoyos Arizpe who served in this post for several years. For personal reasons, the latter resigned when he was appointed chief of population. Yesterday reports said that the new official was attached to the Second State District Court. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 3 May 77 p 2-A] 8923

HEROIN SEIZURE--Matamoros, Tamaulipas, 29 March--A "flock" of agents from the Mexican Attorney General's Office under the command of Noe Luis Macias made several arrests in this city where they seized slightly over 2 kilos of heroin. It was learned that among those arrested were known "underworld" figures such as Julio Quintero, Alfonso Garza Reina, Jose Luis Saenz and Jesus Gonzalez. The drug was taken from a storage shed in a car junk yard located approximately a kilometer from this city along the road to Ciudad Victoria. The owner of the junk yard, Jesus Gonzalez, was also arrested. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 30 Mar 77 p 4] 8599

MARIHUANA SEIZURE--A surprise raid by Federal Judicial Police agents of the Santa Herminia Farm near Ciudad Reynosa, Tamaulipas, netted 1,024 kilos of marihuana, according to the Federal Public Ministry Agency. An investigation by the Federal Judicial Police led to the seizure of the marihuana that had been pressed into bricks. The marihuana was being guarded by Matias Mata Vazquez who was taken into custody. The investigation was a success because of the combined efforts of the Federal Judicial Police stationed in Ciudad Reynosa, it was reported. At the same time it was reported that under questioning Matias Mata Vazquez implicated others whom the police expect to arrest soon. /Text/ /Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 21 Apr 77 p 3-B/ 8599

CONTRABAND WEAPONS SENTENCE--Ramiro Gonzalez Barbosa was sentenced to 2 years in jail and fined 805 pesos after he was found guilty of bringing ammunition, gun powder and a pistol, controlled and used by the Army, illegally into the country. The official report submitted to the 2nd District Court where the case against Gonzalez Barbosa is being heard states that the defendant was arrested on 16 December 1976 in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, while he was riding in a 1971 Chevrolet truck, license No. VV-5520. The police became suspicious and searched the truck where they found 16,300 rounds of ammunition of different calibers, a 22 caliber pistol, 4,000 percussion caps and a pound of gun powder. /Text/ /Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 21 Apr 77 p 3-B/ 8599

CSO: 5330

SWITZERLAND

HEALTH DIRECTORATE TO ESTABLISH DRUG COMMISSION

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 25 May 77 p 25

[Text] As is evident from the reply of the government to a minor interpellation by Cantonal Councilor M. Della Putta (cvp., Zurich), the Health Directorate intends to create a Drug Commission of experts to support through advice and coordination all participants in the practical combating of drugs. The government council reply is in detail as follows:

Drug delinquents have for a long time been recruited mostly from among youths. Of the 1,132 culprits seized in 1976, 21 were of school age. These were entirely consumers of soft drugs. It is nevertheless a matter for reflection that the efforts of the police are increasingly concentrated on the detection and prosecution of the dealers and smugglers. This is a result of the revised narcotics law, according to which dealing in them is subject to very heavy penalties, whereas consumption is punished only as a misdemeanor.

Indications that drug dealers would increasingly try to sell narcotics to school-age children are not available.

On the Zurich drug scene recently a definite shift from foreign to Swiss dealers has been noted. Swiss who have become subject to penalty as dealers are mostly themselves narcotics users.

The number of drug addicts in the Zurich Canton is estimated at 1,100-2,200 persons. In order to prevent the drift of youths into misuse of drugs early detention and preventive treatment must be expanded.

There are already various places devoted to the early detention and preventive treatment. Among them the Psychiatric Consultation Center for Youth and Drug Problems in Zurich (formerly drop-in) and the Youth Consultation Center in Winterthur especially should be mentioned. Further help is rendered by the Zurich city installations for ambulant youth aid, church consultation centers (mainly in the framework of the Zurich Industrial Association for Youth Problems), psychiatric polyclinics, social and welfare offices of the villages, and volunteer organizations. The Pro Juventute provides literature to parents explaining drugs. The Youth and Family Aid supported by the youth secretariats

combats the development of conflict situations, which may result in drug dependency.

No information program for schoolchildren has been put into operation on a large scale along with all these treatment, consultation, and information centers, since this might provoke curiosity leading to use. On the other hand, teachers are to be introduced increasingly into the problems of addiction risks. For this reason 4 drug courses with a total of 241 participants have been given by the Directorate of Education in cooperation with the Pestalozzianum since 1972. With a decree dated 4 March 1976 the Education Council has ordered one to two introductory courses annually for teachers concerning drugs. Continuation courses are also to be given at the same time. Teachers who have completed such a continuation course are to be engaged as advisers to teachers and the authorities. On the other hand, the Education Council resolved for the time being not to distribute any informational materials for schoolchildren. Nevertheless a brochure for teachers, "Information on Drugs," has been available since 1971 from the Lehrmittelverlag Zuerich [Zurich Educational Materials Press]. It was expanded and improved in a 2d edition in 1973.

There are no plans to include a subject entitled "Survey of Addictive Substances" in the school curriculum. On the one hand, explanation of drugs lies within the sphere of health education; on the other hand, it is envisaged as an item of instruction in the primary school subject "Life Knowledge." At the upper level and in the middle school information on drugs can be integrated into other subjects. It is furthermore impossible to create a new subject out of every individual problem. In addition no classroom "drug instruction" is in prospect.

In order to support with advice and coordination all participants in the practical combatting of drugs, the Health Directorate intends to create a drug commission of experts. The composition and the individual tasks of the commission are to be established soon. With all the appreciation of the problems of drugs and despite all the effort in explanation and cure, one should not lose sight of the other addictive substances such as alcohol, nicotine, and medicines. Even with everyday drugs, the problem in most cases lies in the parental home, so that enlightenment of parents must be intensified.

6108
CSO: 5300

SWITZERLAND

DRUG SMUGGLERS ARRESTED

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 12 May 77 p 22

[Text] Police investigations of a 23-year-old roofer showed that the prisoner traveled six times from Zurich to Amsterdam from December 1975 to October 1976 to buy 133 grams of heroin. He needed the hard drug mainly for his own consumption and sold some only to finance a particular trip to Holland. In October he was arrested in Amsterdam, sentenced to 8 months' imprisonment, and released on parole after serving half the sentence. He returned to Zurich, was checked routinely by the police a few days later, and was already again carrying six heroin doses packed for sale.

Police officers discovered 14 kilos of hashish in a baggage locker in the Main Zurich Railroad Station. The locker key was found in the effects of two British subjects, aged 22 and 26, who were picked up up a police check. One of the Englishmen was carrying 3,000 francs on his person. After stubborn denials they admitted having obtained the drug from a Swiss for sale in order to get between 3,000 and 4,000 francs per kilo. Two Swiss, aged 23 and 24, had to be included in the proceedings.

6108

CSO: 5300

NEW WAVE OF COCAINE ALSO ENDANGERS CHILDREN

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 26 May 77 pp 7-8

[Article by Michael Fritzen]

[Text] Frankfurt, 25 May--The tightly organized international drug market is oriented completely toward making as many people as possible, as irretrievably as possible, dependent on narcotics. The choice of method is wholly dominated by this objective. This means lack of compromise, lack of feeling, lack of scruples. It means innovative "creativity," acumen--the kind of action that has no use for even an inkling of moral consideration. Second thoughts, such as even hard-boiled "normal scoundrels" may still harbor before a particularly serious crime, second thoughts concerning the victim, do not exist in the drug market. Its victims are regarded perversely as potential consumers and--in case of success--as customers, customers who are sold socially and individually destructive, often lethal, goods.

The market and its target groups are researched minutely, and any shifts are reacted to carefully and astutely. One is constantly on the lookout for the existence of new groups that are "suffering," that need a quick chemical route to getting to feel well and "coping with their problems." Where do there exist new consumer motivations which might need to be followed up? Perhaps stress in school or unemployment? In which metropolitan areas (market research asks, for example) is unemployment particularly widespread? Where can existing addictions, for instance on the legal drug of alcohol, be "switched" or combined with one's own merchandise? One works with international business methods, lowering of prices, price increases, reducing supply, creating demand, exercising influence, creating fads and trends--in other words, there is an unscrupulous exploitation of market principles and market techniques.

The earlier a person is subjected to a drug, the greater--for psychological and/or physical reasons--is the danger that he becomes addicted, and the more permanent his addiction becomes. The rules of the drug market are therefore bent on increasingly lowering the "age of initiation." Everywhere in Germany, there are increasing indications of success in getting

hold of young people as early as when they are 11 or 12 years old--for instance, by combining their (often still small) consumption of alcohol with soft drugs, which are offered at prices that even these groups of people can afford. Of course, there is more than this at stake: it is a cleverly contrived first phase. Through this, at first apparently harmless, initiation, the children are prepared for hard drugs. The rope is hanging loose around the neck, but already its circumference is smaller than that of the head. The new victims not only are younger; they are also generally less intelligent than the members of the group who were the target just a few years ago. Very often, they come from disrupted families, and these adolescents have failed to complete their schooling. "Rightly," the drug market believes that persons with such characteristics are comparatively easy victims--particularly because ideologically motivated consumption is at an end.

The drug market has proceeded and is proceeding in two kinds of ways. It creates a demand and satisfies it. The first way, we experienced in drastic form at the end of the sixties. Hashish and the more dangerous LSD were systematically advertised and introduced among young people, as fashionable and ideological and politically quasi-necessary drugs, by the international drug business by taking advantage of student unrest. This was done in such a way as to make the young people feel and believe that they themselves had discovered and created the need or that the need had been caused exclusively by "social conditions."

Hardly anyone noticed or knew at that time that the drug wave had actually been put in motion by people out to make a profit, that (according to various reliable sources) the LSD propagandist Timothy Leary and other top specialists exercising a key influence on youth had been bought by the drug market. By the time that many people noticed with horror that the "soft drugs" had merely been used to prepare the ground so that heroin might flourish the more, it was too late. Heroin had already attained its firm place, its firm dependent core of customers.

At present, it appears, the drug market is based rather on a second marketing technique--adaptation to existing needs. "Ideological consumption," which at least in part was created artificially, has long since run its course, as I have mentioned earlier. The circle of experimenters has become small. And the core of heroin-addicted customers has consolidated--i.e., it is growing more slowly than previously. The drug market, ever bent on expanding, is thus faced with the question of how to heat up the market again. "Fixed" heroin consumers are more difficult to come by because there is now a great fear of the poison. Enlightenment about this particularly dangerous drug has taken hold here and there; the fact that it is dangerous has come to be known. And whoever thinks that he must use drugs, or is compelled to do so, in his fright rather grabs the drug of alcohol, which is legal and seemingly harmless. Alcohol, however, is no money-making proposition for the drug market. What is needed, therefore, is not only new customers but new methods.

It is here, for example, that the rulers of the drug market (which can consist only of few competing groups) start their train of thought. The realization has been reached that young and very young potential and actual alcoholics constitute a new "target group" which has not yet been fully tapped. They are a large group of people whose sickly needs are to be satisfied. They are called overtaxed, disturbed, bored, disoriented--people educated to pursue only pleasure, overly protected people, people spoiled by permissive upbringing. If in addition such persons become unemployed, for example, if in school they cannot cope with "expected-level conflicts" (or, put plainly and correctly, cannot keep step with the rest of the class), they represent virtually ideal customers. The first resort to the bottle is already behind them. Now euphoria pills are added. They help to anchor a beginning dependence and, at the same time, to expose the new "users" to harder drugs. The drug market has an easy time with such young people. The endangered children have not learned that tensions and anxieties can also be endured; time and again, when their father came home grumpy and exhausted after a hard day on the job, they heard him say: "The first thing I need is a drink." This "ideal" target group of people--very young people who already drink or are about to do so--are to become the customers of a new narcotic which, judging by a number of ominous signs, will come on the market in large quantities--cocaine.

The amounts of confiscated narcotics are a rough indicator of what is taking place on the drug market. Not long ago the almost incredible amount of 5 kilograms of cocaine (which, because it is particularly seductive is a particularly dangerous narcotic), to the black market value of DM 4-5 million, was confiscated in Stuttgart. Several South American dealers were arrested in a luxury hotel. The amount is incredible because there has been virtually no cocaine in Europe recently, cocaine having been the fashionable drug of the twenties. This, among other things, shows that the drug market wants to introduce this ominous narcotic. Cocaine causes no physical but "only" psychological addiction (it lacks the excruciating physical withdrawal symptoms of heroin) therefore, contrary to the facts, an attempt will be made to promote it as harmless--harmless compared with heroin. In doing so, those addicts are also kept in mind who are afraid of heroin, want to get rid of it, but cannot manage to be "clean." In conversations with people close to the "scene" one can already make out the effect of the propaganda which is trying to make cocaine appear harmless: people are saying with conviction that it is okay, that "coke" does no harm but only enlivens. What is remarkable here is that cocaine has already become a routine subject of conversation.

The police in Duesseldorf report that recently the price of heroin has more than doubled. Now DM 500-1,000 is paid for a gram of the poison which cost DM 200 in normal times. The cause of the rise in price, it is being said, is the fact that in the past few months it has been possible to arrest numerous narcotic dealers. Thus, last year alone, 184

dealers were placed in custody in Duesseldorf. Questioning of consumers reportedly has also shown that there is an increased "switch" to cocaine--which, if one listens to the "switchers" is not only cheap but above all "harmless."

It is not unlikely, however, that the drug market has had a hand in this trend--for the very purpose of launching cocaine. Heroin dealers are being allowed to be exposed, there is no particular objection perhaps to heroin being confiscated, and at the same time delivery of heroin is being curtailed. The price rises, and cocaine is offered at favorable starting prices--in order to establish it on the market. There may be an additional motive: heroin may have become too expensive to buy at some place or other, with the profit being reduced. In any case, the various factors described above bode well for optimal acceptance of the new poison of cocaine by the consumers. It will be possible to "reprogram" many a person addicted to the "traditional" hard drugs.

And this is "desirable" with a view to the new customers, made ready with alcohol and pills--the children--who are still to make the switch. By the time they are ready, there will have to be "coke" addicts. Even if they do not want to, some heroin addicts are resorting to cocaine because the customary merchandise has become too scarce and too expensive. The objective of the dealers in the background has thus been reached, the prerequisites have been created; for hardly any student, for example (from alcohol to pills) would switch to cocaine if he did not already know some cocaine addicts--"fantastic types"--who had told him about the effect of the harmless drug. Thus, for a start, a fashion is being created.

The following observations have been reported from German big cities. More and more students from the seventh grade on are combining alcohol with soft drugs. In order to overcome the often still existing taste barrier of alcohol, these children often start with liqueurs. On the way to school, students who have only just had some malt coffee for breakfast at home grab a flask, take a deep swallow and swallow a pill. The pills, actually subject to prescription, are available at prices ranging from 80 pfennigs to DM 1.50. Many teachers often do not recognize the effect of this consumption or even, out of ignorance, take a positive view of it: students who have never before participated in what goes in class now are lively and alert.

These effects result, among other things, from an overestimate of one's strength caused by the two drugs. In the opinion of experts, with a corresponding supply of narcotics the euphoric effect lasts 10-12 weeks. This is followed by a period of isolation and despair over the fact that the method used does not work any longer.

And thus the "ideal" time for switching to harder drugs has arrived, and today already this means switching to cocaine. The starting cost of a "dose" is about DM 10--a come-on price. It is meant primarily for students

at trade schools, particularly in districts of cities where there is a great deal of unemployment. According to experts, the chain reaction of alcohol plus pills followed by cocaine is also proving particularly effective today for the reason that there used to be such an effective taboo against the previous starting drug of hashish and the dangerous followup drug of heroin. The same thing certainly could not be said about alcohol and pills as starting drugs.

It follows, incidentally, that there exist important--heretofore neglected--tasks for health education. If they are to be successful, educational efforts must begin during the first school year; otherwise it is not possible to render effective aid in time to children from endangered parental homes. According to reports by experts, incidentally (and this point of view has not received sufficient attention so far), particularly those children get into the danger zone whose desire for experimentation has been blocked at an early stage and whose creativity has been replaced completely by trappings of the consumer society. Often TV craze and greed for food are precursors of later drug addiction. Of course, a dependence on alcohol developing for the same reasons, without a switch to illegal drugs or without a combination with them, is not by any means less dangerous than the types of addictions which have been described in this context.

Cocaine--the "snow" which soon is to cover all of Western Europe and whose consequences are assessed, for example, by police drug specialists as far more serious than those of the heroin wave--is a special kind of substance. The leaves of the coca shrub are chewed by natives in South America, Java, Sumatra and Madura because it increases their performance and eliminates tiredness. The processed substance, under the cover names of snow, coke, Charley, white stuff and "C," is snuffed or injected. The danger of a lethal overdose is considerable. Cocaine increases the desire to talk and make contact with people, raises self-confidence, speeds the thinking process--in other words, has a similar effect as has been aimed at by the alcohol-pill combination. When schnapps and pill are no longer of any use, cocaine creates the desired effect anew to an increased extent. Viewed this way, the preparations for the new substance described above appear almost devilishly appropriate. In their book "Die Abhaengigkeit von Drogen" [Dependence on Drugs], Kielholz and Ladewig, psychiatrists and drug experts, not by coincidence describe amphetamines, amines and cocaine in one and the same chapter. They have a central stimulating effect in common. The effect of alcohol on children is similar: even after a small intake, they become more restive and lively, act more quickly and read faster. At the same time, there occurs an overestimation of their own abilities. This is followed by listlessness and, in extreme cases, unconsciousness.

An extensive use of cocaine leads to phases of depression, confusion, mortal fear, aggressive actions (which may also be directed against oneself). Because of the appetite-inhibiting effect of the drug, chronic use leads to severe loss of weight, which can end in death. Chronic

cocaine addicts stand out by the corpse-like facial color and the rigid corners of their mouths.

No doubt, we will witness in the future further frightening phenomena, previously unknown, in connection with "cocainism." The new trend shows that the drug problem in our society has not been overcome by any means.

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END