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21 October 1976

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

No. 268



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BURMA

NARCOTICS PROGRAMS STEPPED UP, HEROIN USE STILL WIDESPREAD

Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 4 Oct 76 p 4 BK

[Editorial: "Toward Eradication of Narcotics"]

[Excerpts] Thanks to the effort of the squad from the Rangoon Division Crime Prevention Department, 5,500 kyats worth of 11 packets of a new variety of drug--heroin No. 6--which were smuggled in from Mergui, Tenasserim Division, was seized and the culprits arrested. The Heroin No. 6, which was seized for the first time in Burma, has a deep pink color. Although this drug is not as potent as the No. 4 variety, the threat it poses to users is the same. This was revealed by authorities concerned.

Burma is combatting drugs, including heroin, as a national movement--such as the formation of the Central Narcotics Control Board chaired by the minister for home affairs, and the formation of narcotic suppression teams in divisions, states and townships. These are in accordance with the resolution of the People's Assembly. Because of such action, a total of 1,500 viss [1 viss equals 3.60 pounds] of opium and 15 viss of heroin were seized in 1973. Similarly in 1974, over 2,700 viss of opium and 37 viss of heroin were seized. In 1975, also, almost the same amount of opium and heroin were seized in large quantities. Other efforts to curb narcotics are programs to substitute soporific plants, including opium, with other crops; blocking routes through which narcotics are smuggled into various regions; and systematic registration of addicts to give treatment and education, with assistance from the United Nations. Such efforts are succeeding year by year and the successes are recognized by the United Nations as well as other international organizations.

However, heroin and other drugs are still widespread in small as well as big cities. Such a situation must be taken as a national threat. It is important not to lose sight of the People's Assembly resolution and to continue to collectively suppress the threat as a national movement. We have to urge everyone to take the seizure of heroin No. 6 as an example, and to immediately inform the People's Police Force or regional organs of power whenever news of narcotics is received. In this way every region should strive to eradicate narcotic drugs.

BURMA

ARMY RAIDS TWO JUNGLE OPIUM FACTORIES, BATTLES INSURGENTS

Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 2 Oct 76 BK

[Text] Acting on information that insurgents secretly operate drug factories in the jungles of Shan State and transport opium and jade on mule and horseback for sale, the army has launched operations against these drug manufacturers and traffickers.

Acting on a tip-off that about 100 Palaung and Kia [Kachin Independence Army] insurgents manufactured drugs in (Namgin) and (Techin) villages in Namkham Township in the Northeast Burma Military Command Region, a company of the 22nd infantry regiment raided the villages on 18 September. The enemy lost five dead in the clashes, and the army captured one carbine and one M-16. One government soldier was killed. The army seized and destroyed near (Techin) village 16 barrels of liquid opium, some equipment and an opium factory.

On 20 September, after receiving information that about 300 armed Sua [Shan United Army] Lwemwe insurgents were moving in a caravan of over 150 mules and horses carrying opium and jade, the troops of the 77th Light Infantry Division surrounded and mopped up the insurgents, clashing near (Wansing) village east of (?Laikha) in the East Burma Military Command region. The enemy lost 15 dead. Three were captured along with eight weapons, 680 viss [1 viss equals 3.6 lbs] of raw opium, about 10 kilograms of heroin powder, 11 mules and horses and two radios. Five soldiers were killed and four wounded. The air force supported the army troops during the battle. Government troops are pursuing the Lwemwe insurgents.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

SHAN STATE OFFICIALS CRACK DOWN ON HEROIN DEALERS

Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 4 Oct 76 p 5 BK

[Text] Lashio, 29 September--In order to suppress narcotics in Lashio Township, an operation against opium and heroin was launched by the deputy commander of police for northern Shan State, under the leadership of the Township People's Council. Under the operation, in which 45 persons were arrested and charged under 26 cases, a total of 250,000 kyats worth of narcotics--Lashio market price--were seized in September. The seizures were over 2.5 kilograms of heroin, 1 kilogram of brown opium, 49.60 viss [one viss equals 3.60 pounds] of raw opium and 0.76 viss of dry-cooked opium and opium oil.

Similarly, members of heroin gangs were exposed and arrested in Tangyan Township. The arrests resulted in breaking up these gangs and action was taken to round up the rest of the gang members.

Under the operation against opium and heroin, launched in Lashio, Hsibaw, Tangyan and Kutkai, 70 persons connected with 42 cases were charged and the value of drugs has thus far totalled about 600,000 kyats.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

RANGOON POLICE ARREST FOUR FOR HEROIN POSSESSION

Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 18 Sep 76 p 7 BK

[Text] Rangoon, 17 Sep--Inspector U Tha U of Police Crime Prevention Branch and ward councillors, at noon yesterday searched Min Kyaw, 28, of No 16, Thukha Street, Kyaukmayung, on the sidewalk in front of 107 Lanmadaw Street, and seized a penicillin bottle containing heroin.

Acting on Min Kyaw's disclosure, the team raided the residence of U Pi Hong Chan--107 Lanmadaw Street--and found heroin worth about 4,000 kyats hidden among sarongs below the stairway. Min Kyaw and U Pi Hong Chan were charged under Sections 6 (B) and 10 (B) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.

Inspector U Tha U and his party also searched the house at 24 530 Street, Ward No 2 in Pazundaung and found heroin--20 packets, each worth 25 kyats, and five penicillin ampoules containing heroin placed in a "Duya" cigarette tin--hidden in the cupboard of houseowner Daw Yee Yee and her son, Maung Maung. The heroin was worth over 3,500 kyats. Daw Yee Yee and Maung Maung have been charged under Sections 6 (B) and 10 (B) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.



Shown here are U Pi Hong Chan, Min Kyaw and Daw Yee who were arrested with heroin on 16 September.

CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

FIVE YEARS IMPRISONMENT--Rangoon, 22 Sep--The Latha township court under the chairmanship of U Thaung yesterday sentenced 25-year-old Kyaw Min of No 260 Thenni Road, Lashio, to 5 years imprisonment. He was found guilty under Section 6 (B) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law]. He was remanded for trial by Latha township police who seized a package of heroin worth 50 kyats from him during a raid at the corner of Kyonegyi Street on 20 March 1975. [Text] [Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 23 Sep 76 p 7 BK]

SEIZE HEROIN AND CASH--Pyinmana, 22 Sep--Acting on information, a party led by Subinspector of Police U Aung Myint of the Pyinmana people's police station searched the house of Ko Maung Maung Khin, alias Maung Win, in Masoyein ward yesterday and seized a package of heroin powder worth 180 kyats, and 182 kyats in cash, the proceeds of the sale of heroin. Ko Maung Maung Khin was arrested and action has been taken against him. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 27 Sep 76 p 2 BK]

JEEP TAXI CARRIES HEROIN--Hsipaw, 18 Sep--At 1600 on 22 August township customs officer U Sit Than and other customs officers at the Hsipaw customs gate searched taxi jeep No GA/9055 from Tangyan driven by Saing San and seized 13 ounces of No 4 heroin powder in six packages worth 100,000 kyats hidden in a false drawer of a wooden box in the trunk. The box belonged to Law Sai of Tangyan. They also seized 12.5 ounces of No 4 heroin powder in two packages worth 96,000 kyats hidden in the suitcase of Ma Khin Nan Myint of Amerapura, Mandalay Division, and 2.5 ounces of No 4 heroin powder in three packages worth 19,200 kyats hidden in a toy plastic ball covered with woolen yarn belonging to Kyan May Lian of Tangyan. The customs officer and his team have handed the traffickers and the heroin over to police for further investigation and legal action. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 24 Sep 76 p 4 BK]

HEROIN DEALER IN MYITKYINA--Myitkyina, 25 September--A police intelligence squad and ward councillors yesterday morning searched Tin Aung's room below the sermon hall at the center of Northern Shansu Ward, Myitkyina, and found six packets of heroin--each valued at 25 kyats--and 70 kyats obtained from heroin sales. Aik Lu, who was there to peddle the drug, was also arrested. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 29 Sep 76 p 6 BK]

HEROIN RAID IN MOULMEIN--Mein, 3 October--On receiving information that drugs were sold in downtown Moulmein, Moulmein Township Police Commander U Han Shwe and his party at 1200 today searched the residence of Daw Aye Thin--No. 15D of Mingyi Bridge Street in Moulmein--and found three packets of heroin, each valued at 30 kyats, and a penicillin bottle filled with heroin. Daw Aye Thin, 48, and her son Maung Thein Zan, 22, were arrested and charged under section 6 (B) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law]. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 4 Oct 76 p 7 BK]

HEROIN ON PASSENGER BUS--Aungban, 3 October--A surprise check conducted by party and council functionaries on the road from Aungban at 0700 today resulted in a seizure of about 2.5 pounds of heroin, valued at over 300,000 kyats, from Mann-Thanlwin Bus No. SA/7866 driven by Ko Thein Pe. The total seizure of illicit goods, including 200,000 kyats of smuggled goods, was valued at 500,000 kyats. Since the owner of the heroin, Ma Lin of Taunggyi, absconded, action was taken against the driver of the Mann-Thanlwin bus, Ko Thein Pe. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 4 Oct 76 p 8 BK]

CSO: 5300

JAPAN

TWO U.S. SERVICEMEN ARRESTED FOR SELLING DRUGS, OTHERS SOUGHT

Moscow TASS in English 0717 GMT 7 Oct 76 LD

[Text] Tokyo, 7 October TASS--The Hiroshima authorities have forwarded to judicial bodies material evidence against two U.S. servicemen involved in illegal narcotics traffic. They are Sgt Frank Molver and Cpl Charles Bright, both from the American air base in Iwakuni. They were selling narcotic drugs which had been brought in by other U.S. servicemen from Southeast Asian countries. Narcotic drugs, valued at 28 million yen in the Japanese black market, were confiscated from them during the arrest. Crimes committed by American servicemen have become a common thing in Japan. Japanese police specifically are now searching for two American servicemen, registered with the American air base at Yokota (the area of Tokyo), who robbed the apartment of a local resident in daytime yesterday.

CSO: 5300

CUSTOMS OFFICER JAILED FOR HEROIN POSSESSION

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 2 Jul 76 p 10

[Text] Johore Baru, Thursday--Customs officer Mohamed Hashim Wok, 25, was jailed for three years today and ordered to be given six strokes of the rotan for having over six grammes of heroin in his Jalan Larkin house.

The Sessions Court here found Mohamed Hashim of the Marine Customs guilty of committing the offence on April 22 at 11.50 a.m.

Two others jointly charged with him--Customs officer Abdul Malik Mahdi, 23, and labourer Mohamed Salleh bin Abdul Rahman, 23--were acquitted.

In acquitting the two, senior president Ahmad Fairuz bin Halim held that the prosecution had not proved that the heroin was in their custody.

Inspector Ibrahim Hashim, testifying, told the court that he led a police party to the house and saw the three accused.

He also found 134 small tubes containing a brownish substance which he suspected to be heroin. Mohamed Hashim dashed out of the house but was arrested, he said.

Mohamed Hashim, making his defence, said he went home from work that day at about 11 a.m. as he was not feeling well. He was at the toilet when the other two accused returned home.

When he came out, he noticed that there were several men inside the house. Thinking they were NBI officers out to get him for being at home and not at the hospital as he had reported to his superior, he ran out of the house.

The court president said that he could not accept the word of the accused because it would mean Inspector Ibrahim was a liar.

"Why would a police inspector want to commit perjury against a man he does not even know?" he asked.

CSO: 5300

COMPULSORY TREATMENT FOR DRUG ADDICTS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 31 Jul 76 p 11

[Excerpts] Ipoh, Friday--Drug addicts will not be allowed to roam freely in society but will have to undergo compulsory rehabilitation, Deputy Law Minister Encik Rais Yatim said today.

For this purpose, the Dangerous Drug Ordinance, 1952, will be amended to help contain the problem which has reached a "level of great concern."

The Deputy Minister said provisions in the present Ordinance did not provide for compulsory rehabilitation of addicts and punishment for those who absconded from such centres.

He was addressing a gathering in the Town Hall here at the launching of the Perak branch of the National Association against Drug Abuse (Pemadam).

Encik Rais Yatim, who is also the national chairman of Pemadam, said that the number of addicts and drug traffickers had increased three-fold in the past three years.

"Within a short span of time the drug problem has penetrated the youth population in all areas and even in schools where a recent survey by University Sains Malaysia showed that 10 per cent of the student population in Selangor are involved in drug activities.

"The present facilities are insufficient for the rehabilitation of all addicts. However efforts are being made by the Government to set up more rehabilitation centres," added the Deputy Minister.

About \$4.5 million has been allocated under the Third Malaysia Plan for the setting up of three such centres at Besut in Trengganu, Bukit Mertajam in Penang, and at Johore Baru.

Encik Rais Yatim said there were 15 cases pending in the High Court involving drug traffickers and these people would face the death penalty if convicted.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

MALAYSIANS HELD IN MOSCOW FOR HEROIN SMUGGLING

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Jul 76 p 20

[Text] Moscow, Tues.--A Moscow court has jailed a young Singapore businessman and his Malaysian girl companion for smuggling heroin, spokesmen for their embassies here said today.

Lee Kim Tek of Singapore and Teah Moy Eng of Penang, were sentenced to five and four years respectively on July 16, they said.

Lee, aged about 22, and Miss Teoh [sic], 20, were arrested on April 15 at Moscow international airport with over eight kilos (20 lb) of heroin sown into the lining of their suitcases.

Another Malaysian, Lim Guat Beng, who was arrested at the same airport on May 18 on suspicion of trying to smuggle heroin from Thailand to Copenhagen, was still awaiting trial, a Malaysian spokesman said.

Diplomatic sources said a young Swiss citizen was also being held on separate drug smuggling charges after being arrested at Moscow airport four weeks ago. But no further details were known.

Four Dutchmen and two West Germans who were jailed here last year for smuggling a total of 63 kilos (139 lb) of hashish and were later pardoned, have returned home, a Dutch Embassy spokesman said today.

Soviet immigration authorities appear to have stepped up their surveillance of transit passengers on their way to Western Europe from South-East Asia.

The Soviet Government paper, IZVESTIYA, alleged last month that there is an established drug trafficking route from Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore which channels narcotics via Moscow to the West.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

GIRL APPEALS SENTENCE FOR POSSESSING HEROIN

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 17 Sep 76 p 7

[Text] Kuala Lumpur (Special). Blonde West Australian typist Sandra Birch was in Penang Jail yesterday awaiting her appeal against a 6-year sentence for possessing heroin.

Miss Birch, 25, of Bunbury, pleaded not guilty to charges of possession of about 93 grams of heroin under Malaysia's Dangerous Drug Act. She was arrested at the Penang beach resort on 15 April.

She wept when Court President Christopher Fernandez delivered judgment and sentence.

The judge ruled that a statement made by Miss Birch that the heroin was her property was admissible as evidence.

Defence lawyer Kirpal Singh argued against admission of the statement on the grounds that it was forced out of Miss Birch by a narcotics official under threat.

Miss Birch in her defence testimony last Friday told the court that she had admitted possession of the heroin in her statement to protect her boy friend, Mohamed Desa, who really owned the drug. Desa was jailed for 3 years on drug charges in a separate trial.

The prosecutor asked the court to take a serious view of the offence. He said the quantity of heroin seized was large and Penang faced a serious drug problem.

The defence lawyer told the court that a letter received from Miss Birch's mother showed that she came from a broken home.

Mr Singh pleaded with the court to take a lenient view because, he said, Miss Birch was not a drug pusher or an addict and had never been treated for a drug ailment.

Another of Miss Birch's lawyers said yesterday he did not know how long it would be before her appeal could be heard. If it were refused, she probably would serve between 3 and 4 years, taking into account remissions for good behaviour.

HABIT-FORMING DRUG CONTROL LAW TO BE REVISED

Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 3 Oct 76 p 5

[Article by Park Moo-jong]

[Text] Scenes of marijuana smoking in Korea have much changed with the authorities' continued control since nearly a year ago.

Cultivated hemp is extremely difficult to get and addicts are turning to wild hemp growing on hills and riversides. Entertainment people and college students are said to be getting away from the prohibited grass, which is finding new clients among young high school students instead.

The prosecution's intensive control since last November smashed most illegal hemp dealers' organizations throughout the country. The intensity of the probe is still maintained with more than 100 people arrested in the month of September alone.

They were mostly people who smoked wild hemp they picked from hills and riverside wastelands.

Prosecution statistics show that a total of 863 people, including 93 American nationals, have been picked up for smoking or trading in marijuana since last November.

Of them 451 have been indicted and put under arrest and 88 booked without physical detention.

Legislative steps accompanied the prosecution control.

The Habit-forming Drug Control Law is expected to be revised during the current session of the National Assembly to include marijuana on the list of items in which illegal dealing will bring possible death penalties.

The Hemp Control Law was enacted to ban cultivation of and trade in hemp by unauthorized people. The law will take effect January 1, 1977.

When the supply of cultivated hemp is completely blocked with the enforcement of the new law, wild hemp is feared to take its place. For the addicts, it has two merits, stronger hallucinatory effects and no cost.

At this juncture, many people concerned call on the authorities to shift their efforts from the outright control of smokers and traders to social education about the harm of the grass.

Prosecutor Cho Chan-hyong at the Seoul District Prosecution, who directs the marijuana investigation, also acknowledges the need for a social campaign to make young people aware of the mental and physical damage caused by marijuana smoking.

The prosecutor said the tougher the control becomes, the more sophisticated marijuana smoking is.

When the intensive probe started last year, tearooms, taverns and other entertainment places were the most favored places for hemp smokers. These days, young people go to remote hills, temples and suburban fields to smoke the grass.

Prosecution investigators say that the public announcement of the names of people involved in marijuana smoking had good preventive effects. In the case of "marijuana singers," they were expelled from stages as soon as their names were printed in newspapers.

"Marijuana students" were also ousted from campuses. American soldiers who were picked up by Korean investigators and were referred to the U.S. military authorities were also known to have received adequate punishment.

The most troubled area is now youngsters who failed in college entrance examinations. Their frustration and lack of a sense of belonging make them resort to the illegal smoking, investigators say.

CSO: 5300

SOUTH KOREA

FOUR ARRESTED FOR DRUG MANUFACTURE, SALE

Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 6 Oct 76 p 8

[Text] The Seoul District Prosecution yesterday arrested four men on suspicion of having produced and sold 60 million won worth of hiroppon to Japan.

Those arrested for violation of the Habit-Forming Drug Control Law are Ho Nam-kyu, 29, of Myongil-dong, southern Seoul; Kim Yong-bong, 55, of Nonhyon-dong, southern Seoul; Han Yong-son, 53, of Nokbon-dong, western Seoul; and Kim Chong-dae, 35, of Ungam-dong, western Seoul.

The prosecution is also seeking a woman and another man who got away in the investigators' raid.

According to the prosecution, they produced six kilograms of the drug, which is valued at 60 million won, at Ho's house during the past two months.

They sold five kilograms of their product to Japan through the crews of ocean-going vessels in Pusan, the prosecution said.

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SOUTH KOREA

U.S. SOLDIER, OTHERS HELD FOR DRUG SALES

Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 1 Oct 76 p 8

[Text] Taegu (OP)--The district prosecution here yesterday arrested seven Koreans and referred an American soldier to military investigation authorities for having produced and sold marijuana and stimulant drug hiroppon.

The prosecution is also seeking three other members of the 11-man marijuana and hiroppon production and sales ring for violating the Habit-Forming Drug Control Law.

According to the prosecution, Kim Hyo-il, 38, of Pusan, now on the loose, produced marijuana and hiroppon at his home and sold the outlawed products to villages near U.S. military installations.

Sgt Arthur King, 26, who was referred to U.S. military investigation authorities, and his Korean wife, Mrs. Lee Chin-suk, now under arrest, were responsible for sales of the drugs, prosecution sources said.

The prosecution confiscated two million won worth of hiroppon and marijuana from the arrested persons.

CSO: 5300

SOUTH KOREA

MAN TRYING TO SMUGGLE HIROPPON ARRESTED

Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 3 Oct 76 p 8

[Text] Pusan (HAPDONG)--Tongbu (eastern) Police here arrested a 26-year-old man who tried to smuggle out 20 kilograms of hiroppon, approximately 4,000 million yen worth in Japanese black market, yesterday.

The police are also seeking three other men who were in charge of production and sales of the outlawed stimulant drug.

The arrested person is Kim In-dae of Taeyon-dong, southern Pusan. He was known to have financed the clandestine production of the drug.

According to the police, they produced 30 kilograms of hiroppon in Seoul last March and brought the drug down to Pusan early last month to smuggle it to Japan.

They have already smuggled out 10 kilograms, worth two billion yen in Japan, and were keeping the rest at Kim's house.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

THAILAND REPLACES HONG KONG IN EUROPEAN DRUG SUPPLY

Bangkok THE NATION in English 5 Oct 76 p 2 BK

[By Withun Amon]

[Text] Thailand has replaced Hong Kong as the main distribution center for heroin to Western Europe, according to narcotics experts here in Bangkok.

The traffic has become so great in the last 18 months that there are fears that the Asian-American drug pipeline, which has been comparatively quiet lately, could be reactivated.

And Thailand itself is facing a serious addiction problem. As one psychiatrist at an army hospital put it, "you can get heroin easier in Bangkok than a good lipstick."

Arrests are being made, but authorities find it an uphill fight.

A typical example occurred last month when customs officials at Bangkok Airport found 140 kilograms (310 pounds) of heroin in two aviation grease drums destined for Belgium. They took two Dutch suspects into custody.

Police say almost all the estimated 2,250 kilograms (5,000 pounds) of heroin entering Europe last year came from Southeast Asia. Only about 10 percent of that amount was intercepted by the authorities.

Records show that illicit drug imports are on the increase and 200 kilograms (440 pounds) of heroin were seized in Europe in the first half of this year alone.

The surging flow of Asian narcotics to Europe has been due to a decline in availability of morphine there after the Turkish government's 1971 ban on opium growing.

Turkey has recently resumed opium production, but its exports remain negligible.

By contrast the withdrawal of American forces from most of Southeast Asia has led to a drop in amounts of Asian drugs going to the United States. American officials believe only about 10 percent of heroin consumed in their country last year originated from here.

The situation could change now, according to narcotics experts in Bangkok. Mexico, which in the last few years has supplied 90 percent of total American heroin intake, has introduced a herbicide program aimed at destroying opium crops. Success of the scheme would reduce the supply from Mexico and raise fears that the Asian-American connection would become more active.

The Thai statistics are alarming. In the first 6 months of this year Thai police intercepted 7.7 tons of drugs, well above the total of 4.6 tons seized during 1975.

Lack of coordination among authorities sometimes renders law enforcement ineffective. Narcotics Police, for instance, are angry because of recent cases in which known drug traffickers have been released by public prosecutors on grounds of lack of evidence while the police are still piecing together evidence for court action against them.

In a 75,000-square-mile (194,000 sq kilometers) area called the Golden Triangle, where the Thai, Burmese and Laotian borders converge, more than 500 tons of opium are produced each year by hilltribers.

After harvest, raw opium and refined heroin are sent, first by mule caravans and later by all types of vehicles, down through Thailand where half is consumed locally and the rest smuggled abroad.

A recent official study estimates that Thailand, a country of 42 million people, has 400,000 drug addicts. The number represents roughly 1 percent of the entire population, and a tremendous jump from the 1959 figure of 70,000, when opium smoking was outlawed in the country.

The report says youths between the ages of 14 and 25 make up the majority of the addicts.

Dr Arun Showanasai, head of psychiatry of the hospital, said heroin is responsible for at least one death in the country every day.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BORDER PATROL POLICE RAID SUSPECTED HEROIN 'FACTORY'

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Oct 76 p 3 BK

[Text] Chiang Mai--Thirty Border Patrol Policemen were yesterday air lifted by two helicopters from the 3d BPP command here to a mountainous area in Wiang Pa Pao District, Chiang Rai, where a heroin factory was reported to be located.

Intelligence reports said the factory, belonging to Chinese [word indistinct], employed about 15 workers including some chemists to process heroin.

The report added that another unit of ground troops was closing in on the factory.

In Bangkok on Wednesday afternoon Narcotics Suppression Police arrested four men with 1.4 kilograms of No 4 heroin and 3 kilograms of "Red Rock" No 3 heroin.

Acting on a tip-off, police laid in waiting at the rendezvous after being informed that the four would hand over the heroin being brought from Nakhon Pathom.

Two men, Pol L/Cpl Suradet Kamphon and Saeng Charuthammarat, later arrived in a pick-up van with Nakhon Pathom license plates. Two other men, Nirandon Laosuwanariron and Prasong Khaomanit, arrived in another car not long afterwards.

The four men were arrested as the heroin was being handed over.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

COURTS GIVE STIFF PENALTIES IN THREE DRUG CASES

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 Oct 76 p 3 BK

[Text] The Criminal Court yesterday handed down stiff penalties to three alleged drug traffickers--a Thai and two foreigners.

Chaiyut Thondusadi, alias Songhai Sae Heng, (38) was sentenced to life imprisonment after being found guilty of smuggling 6.4 kilograms of No 3 heroin (Brown Sugar) from Malaysia into Thailand.

Chaiyut was arrested on 18 September last year at the Empire Hotel in Yaowarat when police uncovered heroin hidden in two false-bottomed cases containing Chinese sausages.

He reportedly smuggled the heroin from Malaysia and brought it to Bangkok for shipment to Paris via Don Muang Airport due to tight security checks at Malaysia's airport.

Australian Brian William Ward (26), who was arrested at Don Muang Airport's departure lounge with 950 grams of No 4 first grade heroin on 31 May this year, got 33 years and 4 months' jail.

However, the court reduced his jail term by half to 16 years and 8 months after Ward confessed.

He was caught as he was about to board a Singapore-bound flight when customs officials suspected his bulky appearance.

A body search revealed 10 plastic bags of heroin in secret pockets sewn onto his waistcoat.

A young Hong Kong Chinese, Wong Choi-mung, who was arrested at Don Muang Airport on the morning of 2 July this year with 3 kilograms of No 3 (Brown Sugar) heroin stuffed in his underwear and around his ankles, faced 30 years' imprisonment.

However, the court reduced the sentence by half to 15 years after Wong pleaded guilty to the charge.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

SIX HEROIN TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN TWO RAIDS

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Oct 76 p 1 BK

[Text] Narcotics Suppression Police yesterday afternoon arrested six heroin traffickers, two of whom are wanted in a number of European countries and the United States, and confiscated a total of 9.8 kilograms of No 4 heroin in two separate raids at the Dusit Thani Hotel and the Victory Monument.

At about 1300 hours yesterday a team of Narcotics Suppression Police and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) officers arrested two Thai heroin dealers and a Hong Kong Chinese buyer, while 8.4 kilograms of No 4 heroin, packed in a purple suitcase, was being handed over in the Dusit Thani car park.

The two Thais were identified as Siri Sirikun and Prasan Riangphanitkun. The Hong Kong man was identified as William Yan Wo Chan (31).

Siri and Prasan were earlier placed under close surveillance after police discovered they had allegedly financed and supplied 43 kilograms of No 3 heroin seized in Bremen, Germany on 1 September.

When Bremen police arrested two Malaysians, identified as Tan Bian Hoe (alias Tan Steven) and Lau Hong Chek they discovered the heroin neatly packed in small parcels and hidden under the seats of their car.

The two Malaysians reportedly confessed to West German police that the heroin had come from Thailand in a freighter which arrived in Bremen earlier, hidden in two containers filled with charcoal. They had allegedly planned to smuggle the drug into Amsterdam.

The heroin, worth U.S. \$14 million in European markets, was reportedly the largest seizure of the drug ever in West Germany.

A statement made by the two Malaysians to Bremen police implicated Siri and Prasan as major suppliers, and the police here were immediately contacted.

Siri and Prasan had been under close observation since Prasan was reported to be traveling off and on between Hong Kong and Bangkok and had just returned from Hong Kong prior to the arrests.

Police said they caught the two red-handed yesterday as they were passing the 8.4 kilograms of heroin--worth an estimated 400,000 baht on the local market but 100 times more on the U.S. market, to Chan.

Chan reportedly arrived in Bangkok last month and checked into the Victory Hotel, before contacting Siri and Prasan.

Meanwhile, another Narcotics Suppression Police team arrested three Thais with 1.4 kilograms of No 4 heroin after being tipped off that they would hand over the drug to a buyer in the Victory Monument area.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

POLICE ARREST COUPLE, SEIZE DRUGS IN HOUSE RAID

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Oct 76 p 3 BK

[Text] Crime Suppression Division [CSD] police yesterday arrested a couple and seized 3 kilograms of No 4 heroin and 10 kilograms of morphine estimated at about 400,000 baht during a raid on a house on Phra Athit Road.

The couple, Miss Waraphon Suriya (34) and Somchai Man (26), later told CSD Inspector Maj Phairot Thongin they bought the heroin and morphine from a trafficker in the north for sale in Bangkok.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

HONG KONG-BOUND DRUGS

Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Oct 76 p 1 BK

[Text] Nearly 100 kgs of cooked opium and low-grade heroin worth about four million baht on the local market were confiscated last night at Don Muang Airport by customs officials before it was loaded on a plane bound for Hong Kong.

Drug suppression police said later that the narcotics were sealed in three wooden crates consigned to be shipped by Cathay Pacific Airways to the Crown Colony.

The drugs, which include 74 kgs of cooked opium and 23.2 kgs of No. 3 heroin, were addressed to Thi Lee Hong of 233 Winglok St.

According to police, the cargo was sent by Mr Santi Sae Su of 1391/9 Trok Chan, Yanawa. The cargo was declared as buffalo horn carvings.



CSO: 5300

THAILAND

AIRMAN DRUG TRAFFICKER

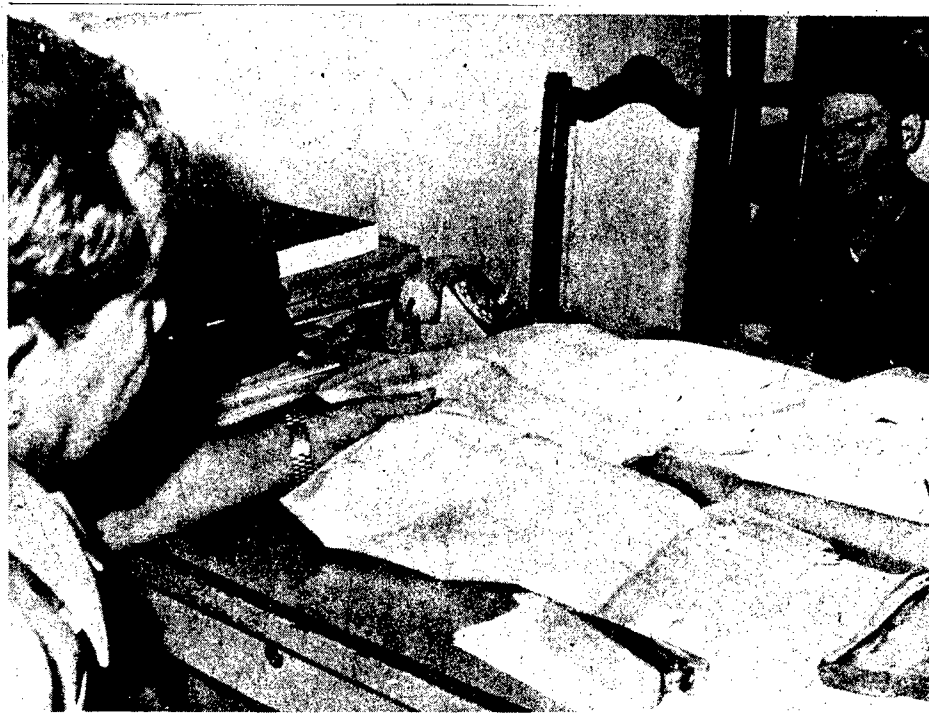
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Oct 76 p 3 BK

[Text] Bangkok North Police yesterday arrested a man with No 4 heroin worth about 155,000 baht on the local market.

Acting on a tip-off Pol Col Chan Rattanatham led a police team to Sukhontha gas station on Rama Vi Road in Phya Thai district where police learned that a drug trafficker would deliver a large amount of heroin.

Air Force Corporal Nippon Phongpakit (26) was arrested after driving a Datsun Bluebird into the station, allegedly to sell the heroin in his car.

Nippon told the police he got the heroin from his friend, Staff Sergeant Sak (surname unknown) who asked him to deliver it to the station.



THAILAND

FRENCH DRUG TRAFFICKERS

Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 2 Oct 76 p 1 BK

[Text] Police last night arrested two Frenchmen and seized 150 grams of No. 4 heroin with two marihuana sticks and a syringe found in their possession.

Police first arrested Dusastre Gerrard Andre Gilbert at the rail crossing near Soi Ruam Rudee and found 80 grams of No. 4 heroin neatly packed in two condoms.

After searching his room at the Atlanta Hotel on Soi 2, Sukhumwit Road, police arrested his roommate identified as Lemaire Nonbent Regies. Police also seized more heroin found packed in three condoms, two marihuana sticks, a syringe and two bamboo pipes.



Regies (left) and Gilbert (right)
after their arrest.

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

U.S. COCAINE PEDDLERS--The EL Dorado Airport police yesterday arrested two U.S. citizens, Jimmy Fay Blevins and Bruce Gerard Simmons, as they were about to board an Aerocondor flight to Miami with 137 grams of cocaine in their possession. They arrived in Colombia on 22 September from Michigan. The cocaine was found in plastic bags hidden in their boots. [Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 30 Sep 76 p 14-A PA]

HELD FOR COCAINE POSSESSION--Cali--Businessman Humberto Mejia Jaramillo was arrested here this afternoon by Colombian authorities and charged with possession of 7 kilos of cocaine valued at 5 million pesos. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Sep 76 PA]

INTERNATIONAL COCAINE RING--Bogota, 30 Sep--Colombian Secret Police (F-2) agents arrested six members of an international band of drug traffickers and seized 5 pounds of cocaine destined for the United States. During the raid in La Floresta, northern Bogota, the agents arrested Alejandro Sierra Jerez, Nohora Perez, Julian Martinez, German Diaz, Manuel Torres and Alvaro Gonzalez. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0008 GMT 1 Oct 76 PA]

COCAINE TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Bogota--The authorities seized a boat carrying more than 1 million pesos worth of cocaine. Drug trafficker Argemiro Quinones was captured as he was trying to escape. According to reports, several such cargos were seized in recent operations, and other members of the drug ring operating in this area are expected to be captured shortly. [Bogota Circuito Todelar in Spanish 0000 23 Sep 76 PA]

MORE COCAINE ARRESTS--Bogota--The secret police captured drug traffickers Jesus Rosales Ortega, Marco Tulio Ortega Rosales, Marcelino Sertiche, Jose Arroyave and Madeiro Cifuentes. They were found in possession of several kg of cocaine with an estimated value of 5 million pesos. The drug traffickers were arrested in a hotel in Manizales. [Bogota Circuito Todelar in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Sep 76 PA]

CSO: 5300

COSTA RICA

INDICTMENT OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS

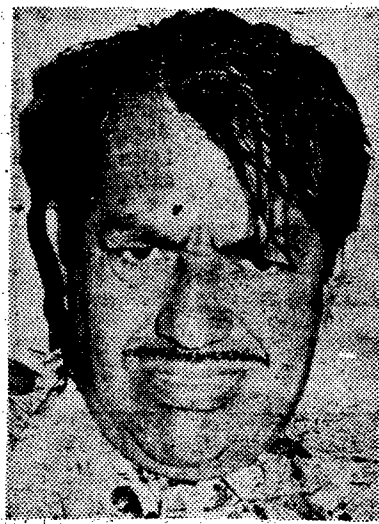
San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 24 Aug 76 pp 10a, 11a PA

[Text] Third Arraigning Judge Maria Luisa Castillo has ruled that Colombian citizens Jacobo Nunez Amaya, Jose Ignacio Moreno Guzman and Guillermo Juan Valencia Urquijo must stand trial on charges of drug trafficking.

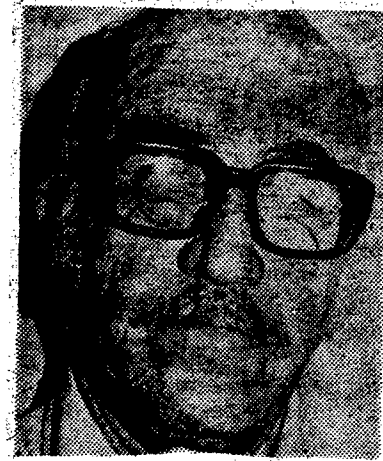
According to official sources, the defendants tried to smuggle 985 grams of pure cocaine into the country on 17 July.



Guillermo Juan Valencia



Jacobo Nunez



Jose Ignacio Moreno

CSO: 5300

COSTA RICA

DRUG PEDDLER'S ARREST

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 28 Aug 76 p 13-A PA

[Text] Uruguayan Washington Laino Amaral, 32, was arrested yesterday by Narcotics Office agents in San Jose, Costa Rica. He had been arrested carrying marihuana last year but he escaped under unspecified circumstances and left for Guatemala and then for Uruguay.



CSO: 5300

MEXICO

MATAMOROS CUSTOM STAFF IMPLICATED IN DRUG TRADE

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 Sep 76 p 29-A

[Report by Enrique Morquecho]

[Text] Matamoros, Tamaulipas, 11 Sep--Ignacio Davila Carpio, secretary-general of the Union of Treasury Workers, Customs Section, obtained an injunction for 203 customs employees, including commanders, corporals, watchmen, custom-house inspectors, auditors and trusted personnel, who feared arrest by Federal Police inspectors.

Humberto Salazar Cardenas, a judge of the Second Criminal Court serving on the Nuevo Laredo District Court, granted the injunction.

The customs employees requested the injunction after federal agents suddenly arrested five watchmen suspected of belonging to a powerful gang of smugglers headed by Jorge Humerto Rodriquez Ortega, the former head of customs in this city.

Among those arrested, along with other employees, were Fernando Trevino Trevino, a millionaire poultry merchant; Joaquin Cadena Zapian, a customs auditor; Fernando Mendoza Mazuquiel who is said to be a smuggler; Jorge Luis Valdes Gomez; Manuel Garcia Collado; Ricardo Ramos, a customs warehouseman; and customs house inspectors Angel Mayo Perez, Carlos Morales and Francisco Gabriel Ortiz Alvarado.

They are accused of collaborating with Rodriguez Ortega in operations in which American pilots were charged \$5,000 for each trip on which they crossed the frontier and landed their light planes on clandestine airstrips.

Arbitrary Arrests

This became known in Mexico because a pilot, whose name is unknown, was dissatisfied with the price charged and complained to the United States State Department. The State Department informed the Mexican Government. Then the Mexican Attorney General's Office opened an investigation and made the sudden arrests.

Yesterday afternoon numerous groups of federal agents arrested five watchmen of the customs frontier guard. They were taken to the offices of the Military Naval Sector where they were interrogated by Jose Franco Villa, an agent of the Federal Government Attorney's Office and a special investigator of the Attorney General's Office.

The arrested persons were taken from their homes, some wearing only underwear. Ignacio Davila Carpio protested against this action to the federal and state authorities.

One of the arguments Davila Carpio made in defense of the 203 customs employees was that "the arrests were made by the Federal Judicial Police without court orders in violation of Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution."

He told the press, "we do not oppose investigations by the authorities but we demand that these be conducted legally."

The procedure of the Federal Judicial Police frightened the customs employees and their relatives.

He stressed that the number of his fellow workers arrested is not known since all the government agencies refused to provide him this information.

He also reported that several customs employees took temporary refuge in Brownsville, Texas because they feared being unjustly arrested by the police inspectors.

8923

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

GUADALAJARA TRAFFICKERS FREED IN SHOOTOUT

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 13 Sep 76 p 26-A

[Article by Eduardo Chimely]

[Text] Guadalajara, Jalisco, 12 Sep--Two men freed a woman drug trafficker during a shootout. One policeman received four bullet wounds in the thorax and another policeman was subdued, tied and gagged.

The incident happened in the Holiday Inn Hotel where two uniformed policemen had taken a woman convict by order of woman Mayor Arceli Louza Duenas.

Rural policeman Rafael Torres Gutierrez, badge number 193, died as a result of the attack. Before dying, he wounded one of the criminals.

The other policeman, Pedro Rivera Felix, badge number 26, was beaten, tied and gagged.

The woman drug trafficker Ema Quintana Molina was in Holiday Inn room 135.

According to the first investigations, Ema Quintana was taken to del Carmen Hospital for an operation.

However, after a telephone call from the director of the jail, the policemen took her to the aforementioned hotel.

Ema Quintana was put in room 135. The two uniformed policemen remained as guards.

Opportunely, two young men appeared stating, "We are federal agents," and attempted to subdue the policemen.

Rafael Torres shot and wounded one of the attackers in the shoulder. The other young man shot and killed Torres.

The other policeman was subdued by blows and gagged. The young woman was freed at once.

Commander Ignacio Vadillo Trueba, chief of the Judicial Police, ordered the arrest of the woman mayor to answer for her actions.

A report states that room 135 in Holiday Inn was rented to a federal government employee, Antonio Gomez Rivera who the investigators say is a "straw man".

8923.

CSO: 5300..

MEXICO

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Reynosa, Tamaulipas, 5 Sep. Federal Judicial Police agents arrested Jesus Valdes Espinosa, Gregorio Estrada and Alberto Mireles Sanchez near the Rio Bravo and confiscated 1/2 ton of marihuana from them. Mireles Sanchez was named by the other prisoners as the chief of the ring of drug traffickers. He said that the marihuana was to have been sent to the United States. The marihuana, which is worth more than .5 million pesos, was found by the Federal Judicial Police in the trunk of a 1967 Ford Mustang with no license plates. The marihuana was packaged in plastic bags. The prisoners were sent to the preventive prison in this city and will be turned over to a federal judge tomorrow. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 6 Sep 76 p 30-A] 8143

MARIHUANA-CORN FIELDS--Guadalajara, Jalisco, 6 Sep. Marihuana interspersed in large corn fields was discovered yesterday in the southern region of Jalisco. This method of planting demonstrates new techniques employed by criminal growers. This field covers more than 18,000 meters in the Tamazula de Gordiano area. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 7 Sep 76 p 12] 8143

DRUG DEALERS APPREHENDED--Federal Judicial Police agents arrested several distributors of cocaine, marihuana and toxic pills who were operating in a number of nightspots and restaurants in the Zona Rosa. The prisoners include Fernando Suinaga, proprietor of the "El Aduanero" restaurant; Jose Aguilar, a member of the "Los Aguilar" trio; and Carmen Morales Estevez, daughter of "Lola la Chata." The other prisoners are Fernando G. Gonzalez, Jose Moreno, Armando Moreno and Fernando Ferral. They were distributing drugs in nightspots such as "Papa's Bill," "Passe Partu" and "Pago-Pago." The police also arrested Raul Rocha Alanis, Norma Pino, Alejandro Cruz and Rosa Maria Cruz, who admitted that they had been distributing drugs in Las Lomas de Chapultepec. The prisoners will today be turned over to the Directorate General of Pre-Trial Investigations of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 7 Sep 76 p 28-A] 8143

TRAFFICKING OFFICIALS ARRESTED--Guadalajara, Jalisco, 2 Sep. The former chief of the Judicial Police of Tijuana, Baja California, Emilio Cabrera Gonzalez, and customs official Ramon Fermin Cardenas Diaz were arrested by Federal

Judicial Police agents and charged with drug trafficking. The arrests were made at 1295 Andres Teran Street, in the Hidalgo sector as the accused were about to close a deal with Eleazar Quintana. The Federal Judicial Police indicated that the prisoners were going to buy 1/2 kilo of cocaine worth more than 400,000 pesos. The accused alleged that they had been beaten by the Federal Judicial Police. Ramon Fermin Cardenas is hospitalized. In the latter's house, the police found 735 milligrams of heroin and cocaine. They also found credentials issued by the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit which accredit him as a customs agent. This morning the prisoners made a preliminary statement before the 4th District Judge and were charged. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 3 Sep 76 p 29-A] 8143

URUAPAN DRUG RING SMASHED--Uruapan, Michoacan, 14 Sep--Today the Federal Judicial Police and members of the army captured 12 drug traffickers and seized 2,100 kg of marihuana which were to be sent to the north of the country. Americo Espinosa del Angel, the commander of the Judicial Police, reported that the capture was made at the "Guahua" Ranch in the municipality of Augila where, besides the already packed drugs, there were two planted hectares. The prisoners are Isaias Perez Jaimes, Jose Guadalupe Valencia, Adela Betancourt Blanco, Domingo Sanchez Cabrera, Manuel and Jose Calvillo Cruz, Emilia Toscano Beltran and Josefina Barajas Carrillo. High powered arms were found in the houses on the property. Commander Espinosa del Angel also said that preliminary investigations indicate that light American planes landed on the ranch to pick up "cargoes of drugs". A metal press with four hydraulic jacks used for packing marihuana was found among the belongings of Dominga Sanchez and Olivia Tascano. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 Sep 76 p 33-A] 8923

TREASURY OFFICIALS IMPLICATED IN DRUG TRADE--Attorney General Pedro Ojeda Paullada said yesterday that if the Treasury Department inspectors whom the Federal Judicial Police captured in Sinaloa with a cargo of hashish valued at 50 million pesos are convicted, they may be sentenced up to 15 years imprisonment. He said that the Secretariat of the Treasury found out about the crimes through its Mazatlan customs officials and at once made the complaint to the Attorney General's Office. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 Sep 76 p 33-A] 8923

CSO: 5300

PARAGUAY

BRIEFS

STUDY ON DRUGS--The Colorado Party Commission for Secondary and University Student Affairs is circulating a study by J. Eugenio Jaquet entitled: "Drugs: A Communist Psychochemical Weapon." The publication is a complete study of drugs. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 21 Sep 76 p 54 PY]

NARCOTICS OFFICE CREATED--The National Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Department has been created by official decree. The department will be under the direct jurisdiction of the Interior Ministry. The department will carry out investigations to prevent and repress the illegal traffic and consumption of drugs, and to accomplish this mission the department will cover the entire country. Local officials, police and private institutions are obliged to assist and cooperate with the department. [Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 22 Sep 76 p 1 PY]

CSO: 5300

PERU

EIGHT-MONTH REVIEW OF PIP ACTIONS AGAINST TRAFFICKERS

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 8 Sep 76 p 17

[Text] During the first 8 months of 1976, personnel of the Directorate of Illicit Drug Trafficking Investigation [DINTID], following the guidelines of the new institutional policy, established by PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police] Command, wiped out powerful international organizations engaged in drug trafficking.

One result of the patient work and efficient preparation of detectives assigned to DINTID was their greatest discovery, a basic paste manufacturing plant that was installed in the Infantas area. It is estimated that nearly 400 kilos of basic cocaine paste was manufactured there.

PIP Superior Inspector Augurio Saldivar Campos, who is serving as Acting Director of DINTID, told a press conference that drugs and implements confiscated between 11 July and 9 October 1976 are worth the fabulous sum of 204,532,885 soles.

The drugs and implements were burned, in accordance with existing regulations, on the outskirts of the capital city in the presence of the minister of interior, Brig Gen Luis Cisneros Visquerra, and numerous newsmen.

At another point in his briefing, he announced that due to the coordinated action of the various PIP organizations, marihuana trafficking has diminished considerably in our country. Such traffic had for some time been a "terrible fever."

He also said that PIP action is planned to protect the student population through talks and conferences, during which expert personnel in this field will clearly and explicitly explain the harmful effects upon young persons of drug usage.

8143

CSO: 5300

COCAINE PROCESSING LAB DISMANTLED

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 3 Sep 76 p 40

[Text] Huancayo has recently been converted into a basic cocaine producing area. The cocaine paste is manufactured by irresponsible parties who sell it, principally to foreigners.

In August, the police discovered four rings of traffickers, most of whom were arrested.

Yesterday, the investigative police of Huancaya dismantled a fifth ring. The members of this ring had their clandestine laboratory in the home of Guillermo Davila Matos, which is located in Barrio La Libertad, district of Huayucachi.

The prisoners--Nicolas Diaz Ferrer, 39; Wenceslao Palacios Romero, 30; and Guillermo Davila--told the police that the ring manufactured basic cocaine paste on five occasions. In the same residence, the traffickers had a pit measuring 8 square meters by 1 meter in which the police found a large amount of coca leaves in the maceration stage. The prisoners confessed to the police that during a 1-year period they manufactured 35 kilos of basic cocaine paste that they sold to foreigners who came in search of it.

The investigations leading to the discovery of this new ring were conducted by personnel of the Illicit Drug Traffic Investigations Section of the Huancayo PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police].



A fifth ring of traffickers in basic cocaine paste was discovered by the PIP of Huancaya. In one of the clandestine laboratories of the traffickers, the police found a large pit containing thousands of coca leaves in the maceration stage.

8143

CSO: 5300

PERU

INTERNATIONAL COCAINE RING CAPTURED

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 15 Sep 76 p 1

[Text] The PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police] arrested a powerful organization of drug traffickers made up of Peruvians and Colombians who used light planes for their operations. This is the same ring that in the space of only 1-1/2 years sold 2,500 kilos of basic washed cocaine paste abroad for a total of approximately 300 million soles.

This ring reportedly owned the light plane that was burned last Friday in the vicinity of Viru (Trujillo). The aircraft was carrying 200 kilos of basic cocaine paste destined for Colombia.

It was determined that the light plane made a clandestine landing in Huanuco where it took on the drug shipment. Then, it proceeded to the Puerto Mori area for refueling. However, at takeoff, it was involved in a serious accident that forced those implicated to burn it to make identification more difficult.

Organized Ring

The organization had a modern laboratory for the manufacture of basic cocaine paste which was installed in a luxury residence in Chosica. The ring also had several clandestine landing fields for Colombian light planes, located between Casma and Trujillo.

The fugitive chieftans include Alfonso Rivera Llorente, the ringleader; Manuel Lopez Paredes, a car runner; and Carlos Jordan Silva, who was married 15 days ago and is at present on his honeymoon in the center of the country.

The arrested traffickers are Colombians Hugo Renato Silva Prada, Jose Manuel Ruiz Hernandez, Luis Eduardo Gonzales Cardenas and Julio Cesar Garcia, as well as Peruvians Jorge Lopez Paredes (brother of the car runner); Hector Sarria Sanchez; and Luis Quiroz Pastor. The last named had a job as a mechanic with an aviation company.

The prisoners stated that they operated out of different residences paid for in cash. They remained in these houses for a few months and then transferred to others, to continue their activities without arousing suspicions.

One of the landing fields was located at kilometer marker 459 on the Pan-American Norte, well camouflaged to hide the gasoline with which the light planes were refueled. The captured criminals said that 12 drug-filled suitcases were carried on each trip made by the Colombian twin-engine planes.



The PIP found 36 kilos of basic washed cocaine paste in the trunk of a luxury automobile.

8143

CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

DRUG RING DISMANTLED--The criminal organization that engaged in the sale of cocaine hydrochloride and illegal foreign liquor, especially adulterated whisky, was dismantled by personnel of the Investigative Police. Part of the drug was found in the house of one of the drug traffickers. The drug was wrapped in small packets of the product called "King-Size" to facilitate its transport to the international "black market." The police operation was initiated in a dwelling owned by Jesus Maria in which a woman was arrested with 40 small packets of cocaine hydrochloride and 37 bottles of liquor. Some 27 bottles of whisky and 9 of cognac had a questionable appearance. Questioned as to the origin of the drug, the woman supplied valuable information that led detectives of the Directorate of Illicit Drug Trafficking to the discovery of members of the Mafia, confiscation of cocaine and implements for its manufacture and the capture of most of the traffickers. The arrests were made in Chorrillos, Maranga, Punta Negra and Chosica. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 17 Sep 76 p 35] 8143

COCA MERCHANTS COMPLAINT--Cusco, 16 Sep. Fieldworkers who sell coca leaves are demanding that authorities of the Judicial Police impose heavy penalties upon drug traffickers. The Departmental Association of Peasant Coca Merchants issued a communique signed by its president, Hilario Villanueva Jauregui, and its secretary, Erasmo Paz Zegarra, to denounce those who use coca for illicit purposes. They explained that they sell coca leaves for the picchaco (consumption) of the peasants. However, there are unscrupulous persons who are using them for other purposes, i.e., they are using this product for processing in clandestine laboratories, several of which have been discovered in the department of Cusco. Stating that they are in danger of losing their employment if this state of affairs continues, they demanded the severest penalties for those guilty of such a serious crime. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 17 Sep 76 p 38] 8143

COCAINE SMOKERS ARRESTED--The Civil Guard of the 27th Command arrested 17 persons whom they apprehended smoking cocaine cigarettes in various sections of Callao. The police confiscated nearly 100 "pitos" [cigarettes] from them. As part of an operation organized by the 2d Civil Guard Region to combat cocaine and marihuana consumption and trafficking, the Callao Civil Guard conducted a rigorous sweep. The police operation took place uninterrupted over a 24-hour period. Several places and dwellings, in which

drug consumers and dealers were detected, were raided. The prisoners apprehended smoking cocaine include Juan Carlos Serrano Corrales; Luis Andrade Epiriafico Merino; Raul Tapia Vidal; Armando and Eduardo Zarzo Cancho; Luis Navarro Bustamante; Victor Vilchez Garcia; Julio Cruz Herrera; Segismundo Andrade Ranzaez; Moreno Fernandez Davila; Isaac Garcia Machado; Julio Cruz Fiscunich; Miguel Alvarado Ramirez; Jose Alvarado Ramirez, a minor, J.V.A.; and two women, Isabel Mendoza and Lidia Vargas Polo. All of the prisoners and their statements will be turned over to the PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police] Narcotics Division, along with the 100 confiscated "pitos." [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 9 Sep 76 p 16] 8143

CLANDESTINE AIRPORTS DISCOVERED--In the past 20 days, the police have been able to locate three of the many clandestine airports located along the Peruvian coast which serve as bases from which narcotics are flown out of Peru to Colombia. Two were found close to the sea between Paramonga and Chimbote and another in Viru, Trujillo. The first two were used by the gang led by Alfonso Rivera L. Guillermo Slee, Jose Lavado Bermudez and Teodulo Gomez Yabar were arrested in connection with the discovery of the Viru airport and a burned plane. Teodulo Gomez was arrested in Huanuco with 4.7 million soles in his possession derived from selling 198 kilos of cocaine paste to the owners of the burned plane. [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 Sep 76 p 18 PA]

U. S. DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Peruvian narcotics agents have arrested two U. S. citizens who attempted to leave the country with 500 grams of cocaine valued at \$50,000 concealed in false bottoms of spray deodorant cans. Their names have been withheld pending an investigation. [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 Sep 76 p 18 PA]

CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

ARMY DESTROYS 40 HECTARES OF MARIHUANA

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 8 Sep 76 p 7

[Article by Carlos Villegas]

[Text] Some 40 or more hectares of marihuana which were planted in Venezuelan territory near La Guajira by Colombians were seized and destroyed by personnel of the Venezuelan Army. Infantry and other military personnel used two helicopters to arrest two of these "peasants"; however, the others took flight.

The Colombian newspaper EL ESPECTADOR stated that members of the Army and the National Guard of Venezuela took armed action against peaceful Colombian peasants in the border area of La Guajira, indicating that the site of the encounter is known as "La Meseta" which is in the jurisdiction of Villanueva. The journalist of that Colombian daily added that Venezuelan military personnel arrived there in three helicopters and provoked a fight which turned out badly for the Colombian peasants. To this end, the troops made use of the butts of their rifles as well as rakes to dislodge these peasants from Colombian lands and to cause three of them to "disappear" when they invaded the farms where these peasants were living.

The Colombian newsman adds that the Ministry of Defense of Columbia said that "it was not aware of this encounter." The Venezuelan military attache in that country gave the same answer.

National Guard

On this subject, ULTIMAS NOTICIAS consulted yesterday with Maj Gen Damaso de Jesus Perez Maduro, commander general of the Armed Forces of Cooperation, who said, "The story as reported from Colombia is untrue. We took no action there. The Army was in charge of the operation."

Army

Then Maj Gen Victor Molina Vargas, commander general of the Army, clarified the question as reported by the Colombian newspaper: "We were the ones who took action on the border. It was clearly in Venezuelan rather than

Colombian territory. I must state that two helicopters and not three were used to destroy a marihuana field which covered an area of 40 hectares and which had been installed in Venezuelan territory, some 500 meters from the Colombian border. The incident occurred near Villanueva in an area known as "Cano Escondido." As for the persons who "disappeared," he indicated that there were none, as the Army had merely arrested two of those implicated in the planting of marihuana in Venezuelan territory.

Other Details

ULTIMAS NOTICIAS was later able to establish that the Army personnel who took part in the destruction of the marihuana field which Colombians were cultivating in Venezuelan territory, contiguous to both borders, are attached to the 3d Infantry Division and that the marihuana plants destroyed by the Army were around 80 centimeters high. As for the military operation on the part of the Army, everything was under the command of Brig Gen Antonio Rigores, Commander of Infantry Division H of the Army, with headquarters in Maracaibo, state of Zulia.

The entire area which was sown with marihuana, some 40 or more hectares, is in the hands of the Venezuelan Army, inasmuch as the Colombians in charge of that field took flight into their country's mountains, which are contiguous with Venezuela.

8143

CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN HOTEL

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 17 Sep 76 p 71

[Article by Freddy Urbina]

[Text] A pair of large-scale drug traffickers was arrested by agents of the Intelligence and Anti-Vice Division of the Metropolitan Police Department in a hotel on Baralt Avenue and confiscated from them marihuana, cocaine, counterfeit paper money and an automobile which they utilized to travel to Colombia and to sell drugs in the eastern part of the city.

It was learned from information provided by the Press Office of the Metropolitan Police Department that agents of that organization had arrested Jose Luis Hernandez, age 22, and Maria Felicia Chirinos, age 26, who were staying in a hotel on Baralt Avenue, upon their return from Colombia with a shipment of marihuana which they kept in plastic bags; marihuana cigarettes; 13 bottles of cocaine; 108 counterfeit 20-bolivar bills and three counterfeit 50-bolivar bills.

Our informants added that Maria Felicia Chirinos, the woman arrested by the Metropolitan Police, is charged with drug trafficking and bringing counterfeit money into the country from Colombia. Jose Luis Hernandez, the other prisoner arrested by the police, is charged with trafficking in drugs and counterfeit money. The police confiscated the contraband drugs and a part of the counterfeit money which the couple had brought from Colombia.

The pair of prisoners is charged with trafficking in the drugs which they had brought from Colombia and which they were selling in the eastern part of the city where they had a large clientele. The police confiscated from them a Chevy Nova, license plate number 51-0257, which they used to travel to Colombia and to make drug sales.

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VENEZUELA

DRUG TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 7 Aug 76 p 57 PA

[Text] Drug traffickers Emilio Bernal, Guillermo Contreras Best, Yuviry del Valle Rodriguez Guerra, Mary Iraidia Rengifo Castillo, Zaida Maria Porras de Marcano and Mercedes Teodora Perez Zambrano were arrested on 5 August.

Ten jars containing cocaine were found inside their car, and another 76 jars containing cocaine, some marihuana and 9,000 bolivares were found in Del Valle Rodriguez' house.

The police got on the group's trail after arresting Eduardo Alvarez Ayala, who was found in possession of 300 grams of cocaine and some marihuana.



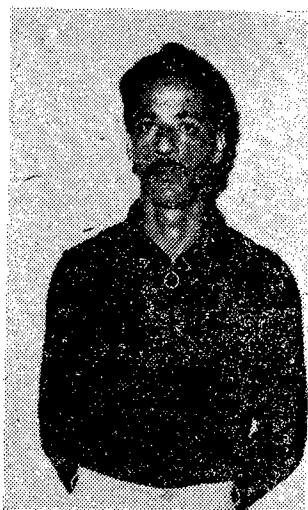
Yuviry del Valle Rodriguez Guerra



Mercedes Teodora Perez Zambrano



Guillermo Contreras Best



Emilio Bernal



Car used by traffickers

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VENEZUELA

DRUG TRAFFICKER CAPTURED

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 3 Aug 76 p 47 PA

[Text] A Colombian citizen was arrested by the vice squad under the charge of drug trafficking.

He is Eduardo Alvarez Ayala, 36, and has a police record for sodomy in public and for impersonating a lawyer.



Eduardo Alvarez Ayala



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VENEZUELA

BRIEFS

THREE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--A father and his two sons were arrested by agents of the Intelligence and Anti-Vice Division of the Metropolitan Police when they raided an auto repair shop in La Florida where they seized a stash of cocaine, marihuana, etc. It was learned from the report supplied by Lt Col Becerra Lopez, who is in charge of this police division, that agents attached to his organization had arrested citizens Anibal Fernando Lopez Diaz, father of Anibal Lopez Flores and Luis Felipe Lopez when they raided the auto body and paint shop which was operating in Los Samanes District, in La Florida, and seized the contraband cocaine, tubes, plastic bags and a quantity of marihuana. Our informant added that some 200 grams of cocaine and a number of plastic bags containing marihuana, as well as more than 2,000 bolivares cash, were taken during the raid. These materials will be sent to the courts with the prisoners, who are charged with being drug trafficking suspects operating under the cover of a sheetmetal and paint workshop. Their clients came to the shop in search of the drugs they were distributing. The police also seized documents belonging to a woman named Argenida Lopez de Barrios who had entered the country with a tourist visa valid for a few days. She has been in the country for several years. [Text] [Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 21 Sep 76 p 10] 8143

CSO: 5300

NORWAY

OSLO POLICE SEIZE HEROIN TRAFFICKING GANG

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 25 Sep 76 evening edition pp 1, 10 LD

[Summary] In connection with arrests already made in Copenhagen, Hamburg and Frankfurt, Oslo police have arrested a 10-man gang suspected of smuggling and trafficking approximately 1 million Norwegian kroner's worth of heroin. The gang is made up of Turks and Pakistanis. Norwegian police are also cooperating with Swedish police in their investigations into the Stockholm branch of the gang.

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END

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