

0038 63617

10 February 1977

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
No. 284

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A
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Indexes to this report (by keyword, author, personal names, title and series) are available through Bell & Howell, Old Mansfield Road, Wooster, Ohio, 44691.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA SHEET	1. Report No. JPRS 68617	2.	3. Recipient's Accession No.
4. Title and Subtitle TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS No. 284		5. Report Date 10 February 1977	
7. Author(s)		6.	
9. Performing Organization Name and Address Joint Publications Research Service 1000 North Glebe Road Arlington, Virginia 22201		8. Performing Organization Rept. No.	
		10. Project/Task/Work Unit No.	
		11. Contract/Grant No.	
12. Sponsoring Organization Name and Address As above		13. Type of Report & Period Covered	
		14.	
15. Supplementary Notes			
16. Abstracts The serial report consists of translations from the world press and radio relating to law, law enforcement, illicit traffic and personalities concerned with narcotics and dangerous drugs.			
17. Key Words and Document Analysis. 17a. Descriptors Narcotics Drug Addiction Law (Jurisprudence) Law Enforcement			
17b. Identifiers/Open-Ended Terms Dangerous Drugs Drug Control Drug Traffic			
17c. COSATI Field/Group 5K, 60, 6T			
18. Availability Statement Unlimited Availability Sold by NTIS Springfield, Virginia 22151		19. Security Class (This Report) UNCLASSIFIED	21. No. of Pages 58
		20. Security Class (This Page) UNCLASSIFIED	22. Price APR

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BURMA

DETERRENT SENTENCES RECOMMENDED IN NARCOTIC DRUG CASES

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 21 Jan 77, front page

[Text] Mandalay, 16 Jan--Drug abuse cases were discussed at the co-ordination meeting held in the Divisional Judicial Department attended by Chairman and members of Division Committee of Judges, law officers, heads of Division and Township Departments and chairmen of Committee of Judges from 29 townships.

In opening the meeting, Chairman of Division Committee of Judges U Than Myint explained the principles to be followed in the dispensation of justice and the Narcotic Drugs Law. He then placed Judicial Officers under training (Grade IV) at the disposal of Township Courts.

Chairmen of Township Committee of Judges and heads of Township Judicial Departments from 29 townships then discussed the problems experienced in their work.

The meeting also discussed the passing of sentences in Narcotic Drug cases and prevention of the Narcotic Drugs danger. The meeting recommended deterrent sentences from five to 10 years in Narcotic Drugs cases.

CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

REGIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUGS--The vice chairman of the Indonesian coordinating body for the execution of presidential instructions, Maj Gen Rustamadji Supopo, will hold talks in Kuala Lumpur today with the head of Malaysia's narcotics bureau on drug problems. Major General Supopo arrived in the federal capital yesterday with two other officials. He said Indonesia was prepared to invite Malaysia to join with other ASEAN countries to fight drug abuse and trafficking in this region. The Philippines and Thailand had agreed to the idea. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Jan 77 BK]

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

PAPER URGES CASH REWARDS FOR DRUG ARRESTS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Jan 77 p 10 BK

[Editorial: "Anti-Drug Vigil"]

[Text] Even as drug abuse has grown at home, Malaysia's reputation abroad has deteriorated with each Malaysian detained or convicted on drug charges. At the same time Kuala Lumpur has been identified as one of the region's main drug trading centers. Faced as we are on two fronts by the drug problem, it is heartening to note that new measures have been legislated or are being planned to curb trafficking and possession, to publicize the dangers of drug abuse and to "ground" Malaysians guilty of drug offences abroad. But the confiscation of passports, the grounding of known traffickers within Malaysia, the heavier penalties for possession and the facilities for rehabilitation are essentially reaction measures. These can only contain the problem, not fully eradicate it. Fortunately the need for preventive measures that will strike at the sources of the problem has been recognized. The identification of centers of drug operation is only one such step and even in this field a lot more needs to be done, especially in Perak and Penang. The basis of successful preventive work must be an improved intelligence network but this will mean a greater public role in providing information, especially since drug operators are resorting to more and more sophisticated methods of trafficking. Cash rewards for information leading to arrests are obviously a powerful incentive but here there is need for a sustained publicity campaign to ensure a better flow of vital information. This could well be one of the main tasks of PEMADAM [Association Against Drug Abuse] as it sets out to increase its membership and establish itself in every state in Malaysia.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

POLICE SEIZE HEROIN 'GOLF BALLS'

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Jan 77 p 12 BK

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sat.--Police detained two foreigners, a German and an Austrian, at a hotel yesterday and seized 250 gm of heroin.

The heroin, in the shape of golf balls, could be used for 53,000 "shots," a police statement said.

A syringe and a couple of needles were also seized.

The 27-year-old German and 28-year-old Austrian were held at 12:40 a.m. yesterday.

The Austrian had arrived on Wednesday and his friend the next day. The two men were from Bangkok on transit to Sydney.

The heroin "golf balls" were found in a bag and in the sleeves of their shirts.

The two men are helping police in further investigations.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

TWO GERMANS CHARGED WITH HEROIN TRAFFICKING IN KUALA LUMPUR

Hong Kong AFP in English 0531 GMT 20 Jan 77 BK

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 20 (AFP)--Two German nationals were charged in a Kuala Lumpur magistrate's court yesterday with trafficking in more than 100 grammes of heroin.

Karl Weissenback, 18, and his friend Klaus Dieter Gunther, 26, were charged with trafficking heroin last Friday at a hotel in the city.

Karl and Klaus were both ordered to be remanded in police custody pending mention of the case on February 21, when sanction to prosecute them will be tendered.

CSO: 5300

SOUTH KOREA

BRIEFS

DRUG RING SMASHED--Pusan, 13 Jan--The prosecution here Wednesday smashed a large-scale stimulant drug manufacturing ring and arrested 12 of 22 ring members for breaking the habit-forming drug control law. The District Prosecutor's Office here said the ring is suspected of illegally manufacturing philopon at its secret plants in Seoul, Pusan and Taegu since early last year and smuggling some 200 million won (around 400,000 U.S. dollars) worth of the stimulant drug to Japan a month. It said Kim Chae-hyong, 43, leader of the 22-member ring, and Kim Hun-bu, 46, underworld figure, were among the arrested. Also arrested were two former government officials including a former policeman, the office added. The prosecution also confiscated from them 6 kg of philopon worth some 500 million won in street value and more than 45 philopon manufacturing tools as evidence. The remaining 10 ring members were put on the wanted list. [Text] [Seoul HAPTONG in English 0110 GMT 13 Jan 77 SK]

CSO: 5300

SRI LANKA

POLICE DISCOVER BIG MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS

Colombo CEYLON DAILY NEWS in English 20 Jan 77 p 1 BK

[Article by Kenneth Hall]

[Text] One of the biggest ganja plantations was discovered by the police 18 miles in the heart of the Bibile jungles.

An armed police team led by subinspector Uduwelagedera of the Bibile police trekked into the deep forest where they found over 10 acres of jungle land cleared and ganja planted methodically in rows.

Police sources said yesterday that the quantity of ganja was so vast that it would require a full army to clear the plantation and about 50 lorries to transport the much sought after leaves from the point of entry into the jungle to the court.

The police are to seek a court order today to have the entire 10-acre plantation destroyed by fire under the supervision of a court official.

According to official sources, ganja plantations thrive this season and many ganja cultivations carry out cultivation in the heart of forests.

The estimated value of the plantation discovered at Kahadiyauwela, Talawa is reported to be a couple of million rupees--the present market value varies from 80 to 100 rupees a pound.

The police, who were assisted by villagers in the operation, had to spend 3 full days trying to get to the vast plantation.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

SUSPECTED DRUG PUSHERS CHARGED UNDER ANTISOCIAL DECREE

No Drugs in Possession

Bangkok MORNING EXPRESS in English 19 Jan 77 p 1 BK

[Text] The recent arrest of three suspected members of a drug trafficking gang in Bangkok on charges of being persons detrimental to the society has caused great concern in drug trafficking circles, a high ranking antinarcotic officer told the EXPRESS yesterday.

As police found no drug in possession of the persons arrested Thursday January 13, the best method is to keep the three in custody on the charge of being persons dangerous to the society according to the Announcement No 22 of the former National Administrative Reform Council (NARC).

The officer said the Special Branch Police who conducted the arrests of the three persons namely Sawat Nanawichit (50), Bun Thaptimkuna (30) and Bunlong Sae Chan (25), had many records about these persons.

However, since the law allows the police to arrest drug trafficking suspects only when the materials are in their possession special branch police had to charge the three persons on grounds that they are detrimental to the society. Police have the right to hold them captive for 90 days.

Police identified Sawat as a leading figure in the drug trafficking world.

Police said Sawat's brother, Arun Nanawichit (53) was arrested in Chiang Mai last year and found in his house 286 kilograms of opium and morphine worth about 140 million baht. [figures as published]

Police then connected the case of Arun to that of Sawat. It was reported that Arun was later released.

The same officer urged that if the Special Branch Police or the Antinarcotics Police tried to make the best use of the Announcement No 22 of the NARC by charging the drug traffickers of being persons detrimental to the society.

"This will give some time for the police to collect more evidence against the drug traffic suspects," the same officer added.

Arrested Three on Drug Charges

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jan 77 p 5 BK

[Text] Three members of a gang, described by police as leading drug traffickers, were arrested by Special Branch Police in a Wednesday raid in the metropolis.

According to the Special Branch Police Commander Pol Maj Gen Satcha Chanthanaseri, the raiding team were unable to find any drugs or equipment so the trio were charged with being a danger to society and detained for further questioning.

The three suspects were identified as Sawat Nanawichit (50), Bun Thapimkuna (30) and Bunlong (alias Ti-noi) Sae Chan (25).

Gen Satcha said the Special Branch team, acting on a tip-off, raided three houses just before noon on Wednesday. The first was in Soi Aphichat 3, Samrong Nua and the others in Soi Sai Namphung 22 off Sukhumwit Road and Rama 4 Road in the Phra Khanong area.

According to Gen Satcha, the trio were arrested in front of the house in Soi Sai Namphung.

He said when Sawat, Bun and Bunlong arrived at the house in a Mercedes Benz they were arrested by police lying in wait for them.

No incriminating evidence was found in their possession or in the house which belonged to Sawat.

Another team searched the Samrong Nua house, which also belonged to Sawat. A high voltage electrified fence was found installed around the house, while a five-by-six-metre underground room was found with the entrance concealed by a bed.

A third police team searched the Phra Khanong house but uncovered nothing. Police said a fourth suspect escaped before the raid began in Soi Sai Namphung.



SAWATI

CSO: 5300



BUN



BUNLONG

THAILAND

'BANGKOK POST' REPORTS 26 JANUARY HEROIN BUST

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Jan 77 p 3 BK

[Text] Bangkok South police, led by investigating commander, Col Thanu Homhuan yesterday arrested seven heroin traffickers and seized 2.4 kilogrammes of No 4 heroin at Si Rung Ruang Hotel in Rong Muang area.

Acting on a tip off that seven people would come there to buy and sell heroin, police sent an undercover agent to reserve a room in the hotel.

At about 4:30 pm a woman identified as Mrs Songsi Silamai (28) arrived in a car with two men, identified as Chudet Surasak (35) and Sgt Saenguthai Ditsatchatham (50).

Shortly afterwards four others arrived at the hotel in a Land Rover and allegedly received the heroin from Mrs Songsi and her accomplices.

The police group who were waiting for them immediately arrested all seven and seized the heroin plus the two cars.

The buyers were later identified as Wattana Prasoetsin (30), Pricha Saengarun (35), Mrs Siriwan Saengsawangphiphat (48), and Mrs Lamun Phanthasiri (33).

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BANGKOK NARCOTICS POLICE MAKE 10 MILLION BAHT DRUG BUST

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 22 Jan 77 p 16 BK

[Text] Police Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, secretary general of the Police Department Suppression Center, learned that Plum Plengsiang, a first-grade official of the Telephone Organization of Thailand, and party had been dealing in narcotics for a long time. He therefore instructed his deputy, Pol Maj Gen Chawalit Yotmani, to conduct an investigation. Pol Maj Gen Chawalit in turn instructed Narcotics Suppression Center officials to investigate. The officials learned that Plum and his party would on 21 January at 1700 hand over heroin to a merchant who would take it abroad. Policemen were waiting in front of the AUA Language Center at the mentioned time as a Datsun pick-up truck with license plate Bangkok Pho Samphao 9431 with the Telephone Organization emblems on the side doors and driven by Plum arrived. Plum was accompanied by three other persons: Nopphadon Phosuk, Mrs Bunson Phosuk and Sgt Prasong Nimdi, chief security guard of the Bangkok Bank head office.

In searching these persons, policemen found three bags of No 4 heroin, each containing 350 grams with a total local value of nearly 100,000 baht or about 10 million baht [\$500,000] abroad. The four persons were then taken to the Narcotic Suppression Center for interrogation and the heroin and truck confiscated. They admitted engaging in the heroin trade for a long time by picking up heroin from a friend living in Suthisan, but refused to identify the friend.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

THAI PAPER STRESSES NEED FOR DRUG ENFORCEMENT

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 25 Jan 77 p 4 BK

[Editorial: "Heroin from Thailand"]

[Text] A spokesman for the Canadian Drug Enforcement Coordination Center states after Interpol recently raided a giant drug trafficking gang and seized one and a half tons of heroin, valued at \$3 billion, that a Thai police officer admitted that there was a gang of drug traffickers dealing in smuggling heroin from Thailand and Hong Kong to foreign markets.

This is an admission that there is heroin trafficking in Thailand that runs its illegal business under the aegis of an international gang. We wonder why the Thai police still allow it to continue operations, and why Thai authorities did not launch suppression actions before such a report was spread to the world, since it had been fully known to our police officers.

Regarding news reports on suppression of heroin producing sources and drug trafficking in our country, it is always reported locally that the Thai police, particularly those in the north, are able to do the job and that they have arrested some principal heroin producers, while foreign reports still state that international heroin gangs continue smuggling narcotics from Thailand and are arrested abroad. This means that heroin traffickers in Thailand are running their illegal trade, even though some of them who have been arrested are reported to be ringleaders, but in fact they might be merely minor ones.

It is generally known that the intention of heroin traffickers these days is not only to make profit from trafficking, but their main objective concentrates on debilitating the world's people, depriving them of the capability of preserving their own nations. This is very dangerous to the world.

Similar to gangs of heroin traffickers in other countries, it is believed that these criminals in Thailand intend to weaken the capability of the Thai people as well. We, therefore, propose that the Thai police take severe action against drug traffickers and not allow them to continue join with foreign traffickers at the international level. We believe that our officials will be able to deal with them, and the heroin issue will not be too great a problem for them to solve.

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Buenos Aires, 18 Jan--The national police carried out operations in border areas arresting drug traffickers and seizing drugs. The police seized 280 kg of coca on the Argentine-Bolivian border and Serapio Eugenio Solis, Maria Elena Gomez, Filomena Rosa Willis and Alejandro Azad were arrested for illegal possession of drugs. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2145 GMT 18 Jan 77 PY] Salta, 25 Jan--National gendarmerie officials in La Quiaca have confiscated 280 kg of coca leaves in the past 2 weeks during various operations against smuggling. The patrol operations include the Agua Blanca, Los Sauces, Rinconada, Abrapampa, Pocitoa and La Cortada areas. Alejandro Azad, Serapio Eugenio Solis, Filomena Rosa Willis and Maria Elena Gomez were detained for smuggling coca leaves from Bolivia. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0010 GMT 26 Jan 77 PY]

COCA SMUGGLING--Salta, 13 Jan--National border officials have confiscated 1,380 kg of coca leaves smuggled in from Bolivia. They are worth 5 million pesos. The coca leaves were stored in a warehouse located in San Antonio de los Cobres. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1850 GMT 13 Jan 77 PY]

BAHAMAS

BRIEFS

HASHISH HAUL--Marine police yesterday returned to Nassau with 2-1/2 tons of hashish (pure marijuana) valued at about \$20 million. It is believed to be the biggest hashish haul ever made by Bahamian police. However, no arrests were made. The hashish, stored in 81 brown crocus bags, was uncovered about 4 pm Wednesday afternoon on Bonds Cay, in the Berry Islands. A CID spokesman said today that the hashish will "probably" be burnt, but he refused to say how much the hashish was worth or where it had been taken. "We have secured it as best we can. I can't say where we've taken it for obvious reasons," he added. [Excerpts] [Nassau TRIBUNE in English 8 Jan 77 p 1 FL]

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

INSTITUTE USES RELIGION IN COMBATING DRUGS

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Dec 76 p 45

[Text] Substituting the Bible for drugs, as a way of curing drug addiction, is being used by Brazilian, American and European specialists. More than 400 young addicts have already gone through the three recovery houses of Youth Challenge of Brasilia, a spiritualist movement providing this type of treatment. Of these, 70 percent are considered cured after 9 months of treatment.

There are 10 Youth Challenge houses in Brazil, in 9 cities. The first was set up in Goiania in 1970 and the most recent in Santos, last week. The idea and methods adopted originated in New York, where Youth Challenge has existed since 1958.

Method

In a leaky old house, where the door is always open, in an exclusive residential section of Brasilia, there is a constant movement of young people, but the neighbors have never made a complaint. Among them, however, were youths who were social outcasts and many who are still sought by the police as dope addicts, dealers in all kinds of drugs, thieves, tramps, and even murderers.

In that house, the past does not exist. No type of addiction is allowed there, even cigarettes or beer. Pictures of girlfriends are destroyed, and letters are received only from parents. The young men who live there know nothing about the Corinthian campaign. No newspaper, radio or television enters the recuperation center.

Among the youths, from 16 to 26 years of age, are the poor, the rich, workers, college students, and even sons of influential persons in the state and federal governments. But, in the old house, all are received with equal treatment. They all eat the same food, cooked by Ruy, a former addict, and their days are regulated by rigid schedules, discipline, housework, Bible readings and discussions, and by the conviction that now "Christ is the way out, the only solution, the road to follow."

Psychologists and psychiatrists of Brasilia confirm the results, but criticize the methods. Seventy percent of the youths who took the 9-month treatment--brainwashing to some, Christian conversion to others--rejoined society.

"What is gained by freeing a person from the domination and alienation caused by drugs, only to put him into a world of mysticism, where he is just as much alienated from reality?" asks physician Humberto de Souza Mello, psychoanalyst and former University of Brasilia professor.

Everyone acknowledges, however, that society does not persecute these "converted" youths, nor would the police arrest anyone for carrying a Bible under his arm or for preaching the way of Christ and giving testimony of his "cure" in public.

"Religion, sex, and cigarettes are some of the 'vices' tacitly accepted by society," states Humberto de Souza Mello.

In the United States, there are Youth Challenge recovery houses in almost every state. Their originator, David Wilkerson--author of the book "The Cross and the Switchblade," in which he describes his experiences as a juvenile addict in New York--was in Brazil 4 years ago. At that time, Youth Challenge already existed in Goiania and Belo Horizonte. In Brasilia, Wilkerson met anthropology professor Gaudino Moreira Filho, who had been converted to Christianity after the miraculous cure of his wife, on whom physicians had given up. Later, Gaudino began to claim that God had told him in dreams to work with juvenile drug addicts, founding the first of three recovery houses in Brasilia, based upon methods already used in other Youth Challenge centers in the United States and Europe.

"Cold Turkey"

The young drug addict arriving at Youth Challenge is brought by his parents, by legal authorities, or even by his own free will, after learning of the experience of some former fellow-addict. As soon as he arrives, the "workers"--Youth Challenge staff members, mostly converted ex-addicts--begin trying to convince the newcomer, also called a "cold turkey."

As the youth's aggressive resistance is gradually broken down, it is explained to him what his life in the recovery house will be like. The first 45 days will be spent in isolation, as in the Instructions of the Catholic Church. And, for instance, only sacred music is permitted to be played on the guitar.

"I like pop music, but here I can see that it doesn't do. It reminds me of the other life, and besides it is not constructive," explains a guitarist "in treatment."

When he first passes through the always-open door of the old house, the "cold turkey" feels quite different from these other young men who can't complete a sentence without mentioning Jesus or quoting Scripture. The only thing that

seems to him to have anything in common with the life he led before is that the young people say they are there to seek the same thing he sought in drugs: "peace and love." They speak of Christ with the same expression and feeling with which he spoke of his "trips." "Here it looks like everyone is freaked out on Christ," comments a "cold turkey."

The "workers" pay no attention to this frivolity, but show their concern with helping the novice get through the first days, the most difficult ones, in which the addict will have to overcome his craving without the aid of any medicine, psychiatric treatment or psychological assistance. All they have to offer there are solidarity and Bible verses.

"Believe me, it's more effective than any sanitarium. I've already been confined in five of the best clinics in Rio de Janeiro. The people there smoke and take the needle in secret, and even get to know new drugs. Where have you ever seen drugs cured by drugs?" says Thales, a young man who left the beaches and surf of Cabo Frio for the Youth Challenge cure in Brasilia.

Many can't stand the treatment, and leave. But Youth Challenge takes them back if they show a real interest in replacing drugs with Christ. When they discovered that Thales carried his girlfriend's photograph in his wallet, they took the picture away from him. He was desperate, and at nightfall ran away downtown, where he managed to smoke a marijuana cigarette, but he later changed his mind and came back. Today makes it a month that Thales has been at Youth Challenge, and he no longer bothers about the photograph episode. He wrote to his parents, the only persons with whom he is permitted to correspond, and asked them to console his girlfriend. He intends to remain the 9 months needed for a complete cure, and only later go back to his girlfriend, get married, go to work, and return to school.

After the first 3 months, in which the "cold turkey" is transformed into a devout Christian, the young men are transferred to a small farm, where, besides Bible study, discipline and a daily routine, they also cultivate the land, so as to find in nature, through work therapy, the release and sublimation they sought in drugs.

"These 6 months of work are necessary for the boys to build greater strength for facing worldly temptations," explains Carlos Alberto, a former addict "worker," who eventually married the daughter of Professor Gaudino, founder of Youth Challenge in Brasilia.

The converted youths tend to continue working as volunteers. The administration approves of this work, and even advises the youths to continue prayers, hymns, and Bible studies so as to strengthen themselves in their work. They are also called upon to convert and to give testimony of finding Christ to their former companions in addiction. But this is not always easy. A former addict, who was involved in the death of an adolescent and who enticed primary-school students into addiction, admits he is disappointed that so far he has not yet managed to bring to Youth Challenge any of the youngsters he led to drugs.

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

ARREST OF TRAFFICKERS--Jose Jorge de Melo Rebelo, 32, principal of Alan Kardec Municipal School, was arrested yesterday near the school in Irajá, with 6 grams of marihuana, by police of the 38th precinct. On Estrada do Quitungo in Bras de Pina, three burglars and drug peddlers were arrested, one of them as he held up a nearby bar. Jose Edson Rodrigues was detained with 2.3 kilograms of marihuana ready for sale. The second trafficker, Jorge Luis de Oliveira, held up a bar and fired six shots at police before being captured. The third, Celso de Sousa Waddindon, was responsible for distribution of marihuana and cocaine in the region. The school principal, who said he is an addict, posted bail and was freed. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 17 Dec 76 p 16] 8834

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

PUBLIC HEALTH MINISTRY: MARIHUANA IS VERY HARMFUL

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 6 Dec 76 p 4-A

/Text/ Bogota, Colombia, 5 Dec (AP). Marihuana causes sexual impotence in the male, is conducive to cancer, heart attacks and spells of dementia, according to a study by the Ministry of Public Health on drug addiction and its affects in Colombia.

Male virility declines among marihuana smokers because this drug eliminates sex hormones called testosterones.

As for the heart, marihuana is three times more harmful than tobacco. What is more, a concentration in the blood of 7 milligrams of marihuana produces cerebral atrophy, a lesion identical to senile dementia. Marihuana smokers also have attacks of schizophrenia, with paranoia and delusions of grandeur.

According to the same study, it has also been discovered that marihuana contains agents conducive to the development of cancer. However, despite these affects, the popularity of marihuana is increasing by leaps and bounds.

Colombia is the principal producer and exporter of high quality marihuana in Latin America. Last year, the authorities confiscated 164 tons, and this year that amount will undoubtedly be doubled.

The study, made by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with other official organizations, states that domestic consumption has spread notably, while exports have given rise to the creation of a criminal ring which has resources in the multimillions and has thwarted the authorities.

The use of marihuana in Colombia is most widespread among young men, whereas women prefer tranquilizer drugs.

Nevertheless, it has been established that in the coed educational institutions, the female students are smoking marihuana to keep pace with their male companions.

8143

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

DRUG SMUGGLER ARRESTED--Cali, Colombia--The Interpol in Ecuador has confirmed the arrest of Vicente Guzman Zuniga, who is wanted in Colombia on charges of drug smuggling. Guzman Zuniga was involved in three killings committed in July 1973, including a navy petty officer. Interpol notified the Colombian authorities that Guzman Zuniga had 200,000 pesos in his possession, which was apparently destined for the purchase of more drugs. [Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Jan 77 PA]

TRAFFICKER KILLED--Cali, 15 Jan--Jaime Caicedo Caicedo, known in the underworld as "el Grillo," was shot to death today in a nightclub he owned in southern Cali by a plainclothes policeman who had been assigned to track him down. Caicedo had been involved in narcotics activities since the beginning of the 1960's and had been arrested several times. [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Jan 77 p 3-A PA]

CSO: 5300

COSTA RICA

JAIL TERM FOR DRUG TRAFFICKER

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 11 Dec 76 p 10A PA

[Summary] Omar Solano Salas, otherwise known as "Oso" or "Boleta," has been sentenced to 6 years in jail. Solano is considered by the narcotics bureau as one of the country's leading drug traffickers.



CSO: 5300

MEXICO

OAXACA MILLIONAIRESS TRAFFICKED IN MARIHUANA

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 9 Dec 76 p 26-A

/Article by M. Campos Diaz Y S./

/Text/ The Federal Judicial Police intercepted a shipment of five suitcases of marihuana in this city which had been sent from Oaxaca to Nuevo Laredo and arrested Graciela Garcia de Leon, age 25. The police also discovered that Oaxaca millionairess Margarita Mendoza, the owner of large fields of marihuana, was the person who had sent the suitcases of dried marihuana to the northern border aboard passenger buses.

Graciela Garcia de Leon, the carrier of the suitcases which contained 25 kilos of dried marihuana, was arrested on 6 December 1976 aboard an Estrella Blanca bus which had departed from this capital for Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas where the shipment was to have been picked up personally by Margarita Mendoza.

Before the 1st District Judge, the prisoner stated that she lives at 624 Rayon Street in Oaxaca and that she had made the acquaintance of Margarita Mendoza in that city 5 months ago. The Mendoza woman, who is a land and cattle owner, who proposed that she make trips from Oaxaca to Nuevo Laredo with suitcases of dried marihuana. The accused added that she had agreed and had made several trips by bus, the most recent at the end of last November, during which she reached the northern border. Margarita rewarded her by giving her 5,000 pesos.

Graciela said that Margarita Mendoza is a 36-year-old woman, white, with black eyes, wavy hair, 1.7 meters in height, that she customarily stays at the Hotel Calderon in Nuevo Laredo and that she always travels in a chauffeur-driven 1976 Ford Galaxie.

8143

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

GALVAN: MILITARY DRUG ENFORCERS TO BE DOUBLED

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 10 Dec 76 p 3

/Article by Paz Munoz/

/Excerpt/ The national anti-drug campaign will be intensified 100 percent. To this end, the number of agents assigned to the bases of operation of the anti-drug campaign will be doubled, according to information released yesterday by the secretary of national defense /SDN/, Gen Felix Galvan Lopez, after his meeting with President Jose Lopez Portillo.

Interviewed at the corner of Corregidora and Pino Suarez Streets, along with other officials who met yesterday with the president of the republic, Gen Galvan Lopez amiably reported on the most important points discussed at this meeting.

He said, "I discussed with President Lopez Portillo appointments made of first and second level SDN officials, directors of the arms and services of the Secretariat itself. I also asked him for the authority to rotate the territorial commands so that commanders and officers who have been in charge of a unit for more than 3 years will be removed."

During the impromptu press conference on the so-called "golden corner for news," he explained that the command changes have two objectives: personnel will get to know the national territory, not only one state; and they will participate in all of the problems of the territorial commands.

In accordance with this plan, the following personnel were appointed and have assumed their posts: the undersecretary of SDN; the commander and directors of the Military College of the Military University; the commander of the presidential guard; the commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade which has its headquarters in military camp number 1; the commander of the Chiapas Military Region. Still to be filled are the positions of commander of the 1st Military Region and other commands which will be made known as warranted by circumstances and when considered appropriate by the president of the republic.

Increase in Personnel

Another important subject covered with President Lopez Portillo related to orders to increase the number of personnel who will take action against drug traffickers through more effective surveillance over the planting, cultivating and transporting of drugs in the traditionally critical regions of: Sinaloa, Chihuahua, Guerrero, Michoacan and Durango.

"That is, we are going to initiate a combined action to have the opportunity of more effectively carrying out the permanent campaign being waged against drug traffickers."

He said that the increase will be the subject of a study to be made by the Military Staff which will then be presented to the president of the republic for approval. "There will be an immediate increase of 100 percent."

8143

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

SURVEY OF LOCAL 1976 DRUG ACTIVITIES PUBLISHED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 1 Jan 77 p 4-B

/Text/ The arrest of 50 drug dealers and the seizure of several tons of marihuana, heroin, cocaine, opium, high-powered automatic weapons and vehicles used for the illicit distribution of drugs at the international level is in short the outcome of the broad efforts made in 1976 by agents assigned by the Mexican Attorney General's Office along the border to pursue the rigorous and effective fight against the drug traffic.

The results are quite apparent and without a doubt worthy of much praise. The Federal Judicial Police agents exerted themselves, showed perserverance and great responsibility. They were able to evaluate the trust placed in them by Mexican Attorney General Pedro Ojeda Paullada as the public representatives of that agency.

At the start of the year, Federal Judicial Police agents dealt the drug traffic a serious blow with the seizure of 334 kilos of marihuana that was ready for sale by dealers Cecilio Rodriguez Llanas and Rolando Rodriguez Llanas who are in jail in the custody of a district judge.

In the same month, well-known drug dealer and smuggler Marco Antonio "El Caterpillar" Salazar Zapata, Rogelio Pena Rubio, Enrique Martinez Vargas and Eleuterio Martinez Uruzua were arrested at a roadblock manned by Federal Judicial Police agents and soldiers near Vallecillo, Nuevo Leon. The four were returning here and had a moderate amount of marihuana and other drugs in their possession. The men were arraigned before judicial authorities in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon.

"Small-time" traffickers engaged in the distribution of small amounts of drugs cannot be left out. Among them are Raul Hinojosa Gonzalez, Jose Concepcion Quiroz Lopez and Rene Villarreal Garcia who were arrested on 28 February. A short time later several of them were released on technicalities.

In Reynosa, Tamaulipas, on 24 February inveterate drug dealer Ruben Pina Lopez wanted for health crimes was arrested. Well-known drug dealer Manuel Valdez Martinez and Moises Angel "La Paisana" Garcia were arrested

by Monterrey Federal Judicial Police agents. Valdez Martinez was wanted by the judge of the 2nd District Court here and a few days after he was arrested he was released for lack of sufficient evidence to prosecute. Garcia was turned over to federal authorities in Monterrey.

In early March agents under Chief Heliodoro Valencia Gama dealt a serious blow to the drug traffic with the arrest of Hector Chavarria Moreno and his sons Ramiro and Hector Chavarria Marquez. Chavarria Moreno, after he was interrogated by the brutal methods used by the federal agents, died of massive internal bleeding. The three men were engaged in exporting heroin which they exchanged for large shipments of weapons that were sold in the interior of the country to people engaged in guerrilla activities.

On 11 March Joaquin "La Manzana" Martinez Silva, who a few days earlier had delivered 16 ounces of heroin to Martin Cruz Herrera who was arrested in San Antonio, Texas, was arrested.

A Cessna crashed near San Fernando, Tamaulipas, on 7 April. The pilots, John Morris Epperson and Kenneth Leo Simpson, were transporting a large shipment of marihuana to the United States. They were forced to make a landing near San Fernando due to serious mechanical failure.

An incident which aroused much interest in both Laredos was the arrest of Pepe Tamez Garcia. Tamez Garcia was about to sell 25 ounces of heroin in a Laredo, Texas, hotel when he was arrested by narcotics agents. Also taken into custody were his wife Elvira Negrete de Tamez and well-known baseball player Rafael Merla de Leon.

Also in April federal agents arrested Ruben Tijerina Lopez and Pedro Resendez Hernandez with 325 grams of heroin in their possession. The two men were transferred from Reynosa.

A fateful day for drug dealer Javier Fernandez Perez was 25 June when he was arrested along with his cousin Luis Pena Garcia and U.S. nationals Federico Becker Hewort and Roberto Kibler Jr. At the intersection of the roads leading to Colombia and Ciudad Anahuac, the men had eight wooden boxes with half a ton of marihuana which they were planning to fly out. A few days later, Luis Pena Garcia was released after it was proved that he was not involved in the case.

Maria del Carmen Abrego de Rodriguez is also behind bars after she was found to have 340 grams of heroin in her closet in her home. The heroin had been left in her closet by Genaro Casas who is still at large.

An important operation was the seizure of 2,884 kilograms of marihuana belonging to Javier Hinojosa Canales, a fugitive from justice. The marihuana was seized by the Federal Judicial Police 12 kilometers southeast of Ciudad Mier from a ranch owned by Hinojosa Canales.

In early September drug dealers Modesto Luna Trevino, Adolfo Jesus Montemayor Cipres and Santiago Herrera Jimenez were arrested in connection with their involvement in the illicit sale of drugs. Some 18 days later Homero Flores Lopez, Pablo "El Coreano" Vazquez Flores, Nicolas Juarez Rodriguez and Jose Luis Mata Pedroza were arrested. A few days before their arrest they shipped a ton of marihuana to Gilberto Rodriguez Vazquez, Oscar Martinez Monsivais, Mariano Enrique Gonzalez and Jorge Luis "El Pulpo" Jimenez Moreno. The marihuana was seized by U.S. authorities.

On the same day well-known novillero Raul Salinas Capetillo was arrested in Laredo, Texas. Under questioning he provided the police with information that led to the arrest of bull fighter Lorenzo "El Canario" Serratos Jara, Juan Manuel "El Cole" Cepeda and Herbert Villagran. These arrests also led to the arrest of Antonio and Arturo Cepeda Cabrera, better known as "Los Coles," against whom there were several outstanding arrest warrants.

September was also an important month for the drug traffic since the Mexican Attorney General's representative who was leading the fight against them, Heliodoro Valencia Gama, was transferred to another state along with Luis Soto Silva and Jose Luis Ayoub. They were replaced by Jose Rodolfo Sanchez Galan and several anti-narcotics agents who are currently working out of Monterrey, Nuevo Leon.

On 9 October Lorenzo "El Pajaro" Torres Solis was arrested along with his accomplices Jose Luis Castillo Lara and Jose Maria "El Chema" Guerrero. Guerrero had in his home 1 kilo 50 grams of heroin belonging to Torres Solis. Fifteen days later Braulio Castulo Pavon Martinez, Jose Olivares Hernandez, Julian Garica Ruiz, Juan Torres Cortez, Manuel Sosa Nieto and Reyes Gonzalez Araujo were arrested. Around the same time Jorge Valente del Fierro Gomez and Mario Segovia Mendez appeared before federal authorities on drug trafficking charges.

Federal agents under Sanchez Galan broke up a ring composed of Gualberto Urtuzuastegui Acosta, Juan Quiroz "La Chumacera" Lopez, Lorenzo "El Pajaro" Torres Solis, Jesus Chavarria, Jesus Rivera and Roberto Lara Martinez that was engaged in the distribution of drugs from inside La Loma Prison. Dealers Lorenzo "El Pajaro" Torres Solis and Jose Luis Castillo Quintero continued conducting drug operations from inside the prison with the help of their wives Elidia Alcorta de Torres and Maria de la Luz Quiroz Carrillo. The women acquired heroin from Virginia Mora Alejos. All the women are behind bars and Lorenzo Torres and Castillo Quintero will be tried again on drug trafficking charges.



Estaban Quiroga Rosales, arrested several times by the Federal Judicial Police in connection with drug traffic activities, is shown as he is being released again.



Although he worked for many years inside the law, Jorge Valente del Fierro thought he saw a better future in the distribution of drugs. It was a fateful decision which led to his imprisonment.



One of the accomplishments of the Federal Judicial Police relentless fight against the drug traffic was the arrest of Lorenzo "El Pajaro" Torres Solis who admitted that he had been involved in the drug traffic for several years.



Doses of heroin wrapped in tin foil appear insignificant and harmless but in practice they have led to the destruction and death of thousands of young heroin addicts.



Several drug dealers, inmates at the local prison, were using their wives to obtain narcotic drugs. The women were identified as Elidia Alcorta de Torres and Maria de la Luz Quiroz Carrillo. Their supplier was Virginia Mora Alejos who obtained the heroin in Sinaloa. The fourth woman is Dora Gomez Garcia who was also arrested during the investigation but she could not be tied to the illicit activities.



A sample. Thousands of kilograms of narcotics that were seized and burned as a result of the rigorous efforts by the Mexican Attorney General's Office to combat these illicit activities.



Small and large amounts of heroin, marihuana, psychotropic substances and other types of drugs were destroyed after they were taken from drug dealers.

MEXICO

WOMEN DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 9 Dec 76 p 4-I

/Text/ A gang of drug traffickers made up primarily of women, four of whom have been arrested so far, was smashed by Federal Judicial Police who have been watching them closely for some time. Six ounces of heroin were seized. Two of the women were being directed by their husbands from prison, where the men are serving sentences for federal crimes. One of them is Lorenzo Torres Soliz, alias "El Pajaro," who used his wife to receive regular shipments of the drug.

Under arrest are Virginia Mora Alejos, alias "La Vicky," 18; Maria de la Luz Quiroz (wife of federal prisoner Jose Luis Castillo Quintero); Lidia Alcorta de Torres (wife of "El Pajaro"); and Dora Laura Gomez. The latter is still being investigated, as it has not yet been fully established whether or not she was involved in drug traffic, according to Ricardo de Hoyos Arzipe.

It was reported that the arrest of Virginia Mora, with packets containing the 6 ounces of heroin, led to the arrest of the other women involved. Upon being questioned by Federal Judicial Police, "La Vicky" confessed that she received 50,000 pesos from Maria de la Luz Quiroz to go to Costa Rica, Sinaloa, to get 6 ounces of heroin, and on her return, she gave 3 ounces to Lidia Alcorta de Torres to give it in turn to Lorenzo Torres Solis (a) "El Pajaro," who paid 14,000 pesos in advance to Virginia Mora.

The other 3 ounces were given to a person with the last name Lozano, from Laredo, Texas, who paid \$2,200 for the drug.

Virginia Mora later returned to Costa Rica, Sinaloa, to buy more drugs with 42,000 pesos given to her by Maria de la Luz Quiroz, wife of Jose Luis Castillo Quintero. This time, however, the operation did not work, as when "La Vicky" went to deliver the drug she was arrested by Federal Judicial Police, and the other women were later arrested.

8587

CSO: 5330

CULIACAN: 'THE DRUG KINGDOM'

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 22 Dec 76 pp 1, 14-A

[Article by special correspondent Ricardo Urioste]

[Text] Culiacan, Sinaloa, 21 Dec 76--"The narcotics traffic lavishes 10 billion pesos upon the city every year, and this brings ominous economic consequences, such as unbridled inflation and speculation," said the head of the municipality of Culiacan, Fortunato Alvarez Castro, to EL SOL DE MEXICO. Eighty percent of this figure comes from the United States market and is equivalent to the exports of any Central American country and some countries of South America. It amounts to almost one-seventh of the country's exports. That immense economic wealth is produced in 80,000 square kilometers of poor and sparsely populated hill country.

The production of marihuana and poppies, with the latter secreting the "goma" (opium) that is refined until it becomes heroin, is carried on in the sierras of Sinaloa and of a part of Durango and Chihuahua. Working there are peasants who cultivate small parcels, of almost always less than a hectare, under contract to the "gomeros" [heroin dealers]. The capitalists engaged in the business provide all the resources, pay them wages that are often more than 250 pesos a day, and give them an additional bonus when the crop has been abundant.

Approximately half a million persons connected in one way or another to this lucrative business live in the sierra of Sinaloa, originally inhabited by "Acaxe" and "Jijime" Indians.

The place is practically inaccessible by land, and the cultivable areas consist of small strips of poor and rocky earth. The sierra of Sinaloa produces, nevertheless, an amount of money three times greater than the fertile valley of Culiacan, where horticulture has become the most prosperous of the state's legitimate businesses.

Coming also from the sierra is the human material that populates the cell blocks for narcotics traffickers in the Culiacan jail. The hand of justice has become an integral part of the life of the peasants, for whom the cultivation of the poppy is nothing more than a means of keeping from perishing

of hunger. Growing beans or corn, they would barely manage to earn a wage of 40 pesos a day. When they go down to the valley in search of more fertile lands they encounter the hostility of the big landowners. Hemmed in by the sterility of the sierra and poverty, the only means of a livelihood remaining to them is to become peons in this lucrative business.

Those enjoying a position of privilege in the narcotics traffic live in Culiacan, where the drug produced in the zone and cocaine coming from South America form an excellent springboard for leaping toward the North American market. "They are everywhere. They have multiplied like a true plague," said the head of the municipality while he was showing this correspondent the opulent residences of the "gomeros." In a section similar to any other in the gardens of Chapultepec, an elegant suburb of the city, he counted, from a total of 12 in the block, four houses belonging to narcotics traffickers.

The immense distribution of money that the narcotics business represents has created a real, speculative race for urban land in the city. In the brand-new real-estate development "Lomas del Bulevar," bought up in large part by narcotics dealers, a square meter of land costs more than 600 pesos. A country music group charges, in Culiacan, more than 200 pesos for each piece played, because the "gomeros" vie among themselves in order to secure for their parties the few musical groups in the city. Everything in Culiacan has become wildly expensive as a result of the excess of money.

One of each six automobiles circulating in the city is being driven illegally -- in other words, with North American or border license plates, despite the fact that the border is 1,000 kilometers from Culiacan -- and as many more simply circulate without plates, just as if purchased legitimately. Sales agencies for 8-cylinder cars cannot keep up with the demand and often, in contrast with conditions in the rest of the country, impose delays of 1 or 2 months in their delivery. The "gomeros" prefer big automobiles or "pickup" trucks, on which they place windshields and windows of tinted glass and remove or change the plates in order to make any recognition difficult. The municipal traffic police look the other way when they come across such irregularities. Found several weeks ago were the bodies of three judicial police who attempted to "confiscate" automobiles that were circulating irregularly and then charge the "gomeros" a personal bonus for their "ransom."

According to the amount of money that these illegal "exports" leave behind, Culiacan and the entire region benefiting from the narcotics traffic should be exuding prosperity. Nevertheless, the economic life of the city has suffered appreciably due to the spiral of violence. Over the last year 25 important enterprises have held back or been inhibited from establishing themselves in Culiacan, as admitted by Pedro Gutierrez, manager of the Employers Association.

Eight BANAMEX [Bank of Mexico] officials who came in the middle of the year to expand the institution's financial activities left the city a few days later, declaring that they found no security.

11532

CSO: 5300

CEMEF PUBLISHES YOUTH VIEWS ON DRUGS

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 21 Dec 76 p 8

[Text] Although the television, radio, periodicals, and books are the public's principal source of information on drugs, these communications media must fulfill their obligation to explain to young people the harmful effects caused by narcotics. These are the conclusions drawn from a study-survey carried out among students of the School of Health Sciences of the University of Carabobo, Venezuela.

The study is being reproduced by the Mexican Center for Studies on Drug Addiction (CEMEF) in its monthly publication.

The data utilized were based on questions given 200 students enrolled in the first and second half year of basic studies at the School.

The majority of students were opposed to the circumstance that society only condemns the consumption of drugs among young people and appears indifferent to the consumption of alcoholic beverages and tobacco by adults, as they considered that this is also drug addiction.

They termed judicial action exercised on young people who use drugs but do not traffic in them as arbitrary and unfair and declared themselves in favor of judicial repression directed against persons responsible for the production and clandestine distribution of narcotics.

The majority of those surveyed agreed that governmental authorities should make it obligatory for drug addicts to follow treatment.

Among other points of these conclusions, the study reproduced by CEMEF points out that:

Young people as well as adults addicted to drugs, whether legal (alcohol and tobacco) or illegal, must be considered sick persons and treated as such.

The notion persists that the use and abuse of substances such as marihuana, lysergic acid (LSD), and others constitute a problem that is primarily psychological and social, medical, legal, and even political.

Drug addicts are characterized as being insecure, irresponsible, and impressionable.

Drug addicts generally come from homes in which the parents are socially progressive or domineering.

Cited among the reasons young people give for using drugs are escaping from reality, experiencing pleasant sensations, and experimenting due to curiosity.

The lack of affection of parents towards young people is the principal reason they begin the use of drugs.

11,532
CSO: 5300

DRUG ADDICTION SERIOUS IN CUERNAVACA

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 19 Dec 76 p 25-A

[Article by EXCELSIOR correspondent Pablo Castaneda Molina]

[Text] Cuernavaca, Morelos, 18 December--Dr H. Pilar Hernandez, director of the "A" Health Center, stated that drug addiction in this city has become a serious social problem, making it urgent to establish a rehabilitation center and fight against drug addiction.

He explained when interviewed that a series of investigations had made it possible to show that the problem is to be found among children of 10 in much the same way as among adults.

He said, "Drug addiction in Morelos is under attack by the Secretariats of Public Education [SEP], Health, Social Welfare, and the different police organizations.

"The campaign is directed against the gangs of drug dealers who sell narcotics to young people and has been carried out with the imprisonment and prosecution of those arrested.

"The Secretariat of Health is providing medical care to addicts. It should be understood, however, that we have no budget to allow us to engage in the treatment of drug addicts, since the only specialized center is the one established in Mexico City.

"We attend to patients of this type with the few means available to us, because it is a social necessity and we must confront the problem urgently."

Dr H. Pilar Hernandez added that the number of drug addicts increases daily and although the campaigns of the SEP and coordination of activities with the police proceed on a continuing basis, it is not possible to eradicate the evil without sufficient means to do so.

Drs Humberto Hernandez, chief of the technical department for coordinated Public Health services in Morelos, and Cosme Marin Lopez, chief of the department of epidemiological prevention, pointed out:

"The two biggest problems in Cuernavaca are venereal diseases and drug addiction.

"For several years drug addiction has been one of the most serious preoccupations for heads of families and physicians, as there is no rehabilitation center for drug addicts here," they said in conclusion.

11532

CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

URGENCY OF DRUG LEGISLATION--Deputies and specialists agreed yesterday on the urgency of passing legislation concerning the prevention and rehabilitation of drug addicts and control of narcotics. Specialists from the Mexican Center for Studies on Drug Addiction explained to the legislators that the increase that has taken place in Mexico in the consumption of narcotics is a consequence of the rise in population and the interrelationship between internal and international traffic in narcotics. This brings up the possibility of amending the criminal codes related to the consumption of and traffic in narcotics and psychotropic drugs. The physicians Guido Belssaso, Ernesto H. Lamoglia, and Luis Antonio Gamiochipi Carbajal said that the increase in the consumption of drugs is due to Mexico's position as a producer country, "a fact that, though circumstantial, has encouraged a great illegal business, important and well organized." In bringing the meeting to a close, the specialists said that it has been practically impossible up to now to prevent recidivism in the rehabilitation and readaptation centers and that the group most vulnerable to drug addiction is to be found in the 50 percent of the population of minors 18 years old. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 19 Dec 76 p 10-A] 11532

SPEED VIOLATION NETS TRAFFICKER--Tijuana, Baja California, 18 December--A motorist who was speeding on the road between Tijuana and Playa Villar was arrested by men of the Federal Highway Police, who discovered that the Ford LTD he was driving was carrying seven jute sacks containing 107 packages of marihuana. Estrella Mendez told the officers at the time of his arrest that he was going to Agua Prieta, and on being asked what was being carried in the sacks said, "Some packages of marihuana." Marihuana amounting to 1,521 kilos has recently been seized in the vicinity of that town. Estrella Mendez had shown signs of nervousness when facing the members of the highway police. The trafficker was sent to the city of Nogales, Sonora, and placed in the custody of the agent of the Federal Public Ministry. The events took place at kilometer 55 of the highway mentioned. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 19 Dec 76 p 25-A] 11532

NUEVO LEON AMMUNITION SEIZURE--Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, 18 December (by EXCELSIOR correspondent Alejandro Trevino)--A shipment of 16,300 rifle bullets and percussion caps to be delivered to narcotics traffickers in the municipality of China, Nuevo Leon, was intercepted by men of the Frontier Customs Guard. The projectiles were packed in compartments built under the trunk and doors

of a pickup bearing Tamaulipas state license plates VV-5520, whose driver, Gonzalez Barbosa, was arrested. He said at the headquarters of the First Zone of the Frontier Customs Guard that he drove through the border city of Reynosa, Tamaulipas, with the assignment to deliver the shipment of projectiles to narcotics traffickers in the municipality of China in exchange for drugs. The arrested man was following a route through the states of Sonora and Sinaloa in the direction of Reynosa. He was captured shortly before making contact with narcotics traffickers in Nuevo Leon. /Text/ /Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 19 Dec 76 p 25-A/ 11532

LONG SOUGHT TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, 6 Dec. Drug trafficker Jesse Luna was arrested by Federal Judicial Police agents in his "picadero" /shooting gallery/ located on Oregon Streets /sic/ in the heart of El Paso, Texas. The gallery had been in operation for some time, but the authorities had been unable to find it until today. Nicolas Gonzalez Visconti was arrested with Luna. They had large amounts of heroin, marihuana and \$1,200 in their possession. The money most assuredly was the result of sales made during the day. Four other persons were arrested in the same place and are being questioned by police agents. They are: Ronaldo Gomez, Guillermo Tovar Acosta, Ernesto Dimas and Guillermo Garcia. Police sergeant Antonio Franco told the press that Jesse Luna had been uncovered thanks to an anonymous call from a person who gave the address of the "picadero." Jesse Luna was on the most wanted list of drug traffickers of the United States and Mexico. /Text/ /Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 7 Dec 76 p 26-A/ 8143

TRAFFICKER FLEES GUATEMALAN JAIL--Guatemala, 7 Dec. Mexican Maria Patrocinia del Villar Bances, charged and sentenced for possession of and trafficking in cocaine, escaped from the women's prison in this capital yesterday afternoon. Prison authorities notified the police that the prisoner was missing when a head count was taken of the jail population. After the initial investigations had been completed, it was established that the prisoner escaped by taking advantage of the damage caused by the 4 February earthquake to one of the prison walls which abuts the Santa Teresa temple. /Text/ /Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 8 Dec 76 p 26-A/ 8143

COCAINE SEIZURES--Mexico City, 20 Jan--Nearly 10 kg of cocaine with a street value of 10 million pesos (\$500,000) has been seized by the police at the local airport so far this year. However, it has been reported that narcotics trafficking has dropped almost 40 percent and that an average of three persons are arrested per month. The first person to be arrested this year at the airport was Colombian Avelina del Rosario Santelles, who was arrested on 1 January while carrying 5 kg of cocaine. Colombian Chisquirá Quiroz de Montollo was arrested on 3 January while attempting to smuggle in 1.5 grams of cocaine. [Parsi AFP in Spanish 0135 GMT 21 Jan 77 PA]

POPPY, MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS--Mexico City--It was reported today that the authorities have located 3,184 poppy marihuana plantations with more than 145 million plants in three different parts of the nation. The authorities also seized 3,617 kg of marihuana and over 500 grams of heroin worth over \$15 million on the black market. Twelve persons were arrested. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jan 77 PA]

JAILBREAK BY DRUG DEALER--Pablo Vazquez Flores, alias "El Coreano," a member of the gang headed by Homero Flores Lopez, escaped from jail on Wednesday afternoon with the alleged aid of Filiberto Serna. Vazquez Flores was arrested on 18 September 1976, together with Nicolas Juarez Rodriguez, and charged with transporting heroin and marihuana across the Mexico-U.S. border. /Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 3 Dec 76 p 3-B/ 8587

CSO: 5330

PANAMA

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKER'S ARREST--Narcotics agents at Tocumen International Airport have arrested 19-year-old U.S. citizen Timothy Lile Peck after finding 78 grams of cocaine hidden in his boots. He was arrested on 14 January when he arrived on a flight from Bogota. [Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 18 Jan 77 p 24 PA]

INTERNATIONAL COCAINE RING--Members of the Narcotics Division of the National Department of Investigation have arrested the members of an international drug ring. They seized 1 kg of cocaine worth more than 250,000 balboas and raided a service station in which special compartments were built into cars to transport drugs from Panama to the United States. Colombians Favio Tavares Alvarez, his brother Arturo Tavares Alvarez and Luis Gonzaga Buitrago Girardo, as well as Panamanian Aurora Jaen de Arango have been arrested. The authorities seized the cocaine at Mrs De Arango's home in La Chorrera. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2314 GMT 25 Jan 77 PA]

CSO: 5300

PERU

COCA MOST PROFITABLE FOR CUSCO FARMERS

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 28 Dec 76 p 3

[Article by Ernesto Sanchez Sarmiento: "Coca Is the Most Profitable Product of Convencio Valley, Cusco"]

[Text] "If they provide us with a substitute for coca, we will be happy to cultivate it and we will give up coca." That is the invariable response of a Convencio peasant whether he is a member of a cooperative or an independent producer and one which exposes the serious social and economic problem which the cultivation of this age-old shrub represents.

Ninety-five percent of the peasants of the rich Convencio Valley cultivate coca. It is a product which requires little effort, that is, it does not need care and grows in the most unlikely places. In addition it can be harvested up to 3 times a year. Finally, it is a highly profitable crop.

The bulk of the producers want the province to be declared a coca producer; but the agricultural authorities are bent on getting rid of this crop because of the known harmful consequences that its use causes.

"It is the only plant here which has good yields and at the present time an arroba (25 pounds) brings in 1,000 to 1,500 soles," Mario Bocangel, a coca dealer since 1950, told us.

As we have already said, the entire Convencio Valley is a coca producing center. One can see at a glance the hillsides planted with coca.

It is an extremely hardy shrub. There are 70-year old shrubs that are still producing.

Coca planting has been forbidden in the lower areas so as to increase the cultivation of garden produce. Nor can the existing areas be expanded. An effort is being made to see that this is carried out insofar as possible.

Experts say that shore coca (near rivers) is bad. The best is that grown on the incredible mountain slopes.

Production and Markets

According to the statistics and statements of the authorities in the field, the area where coca is grown is almost comparable to that of coffee, a product which because of its excellent yields is also becoming exceptionally popular in Convencion Valley.

The markets, however, are rather restricted and mainly limited to Huancayo, Sicuani, Ayaviri, Puno, and Lima; even though the Huancayo state coca monopoly has been closed, it remains one of the principal markets.

It is to be noted that all of the valley's agricultural production cooperatives handle coca commercially. This crop is so deeply ingrained that it makes it very difficult to succeed in finding a substitute for it or at least not on a short or medium term basis.

With respect to production and in view of the restricted market, the authorities are wondering where all of the production is going.

It must also be said that the police authorities have found a number of factories where the coca is steeped in order to extract the cocaine.

This is a negative aspect which they are trying to combat to the utmost. In Quillabamba and Cusco in particular there are many traffickers in this product (cocaine) who have been paying the penalty for the crime they committed.

The experts believe that a somewhat drastic law is necessary to correct this negative course taken in cultivating coca.

At first they wanted to substitute growing pineapples instead of coca but this did not work; others say that the annatto tree might be used as a substitute.

As for exports, according to the rough statistics obtained, they say that in 1962 for example more than 4 million kilos were produced; in 1972 about 6½ million kilos were obtained only to drop perceptibly in 1975 (July) to barely more than 3 million kilos.

In conformity with Supreme Resolution 11046 of a number of years back, a tax of 40 centavos a kilo was imposed. The most recent tax is that under Law 16424 (1967) which imposed 4.80 soles on each kilo exported.

As a result, in 1976 (up to July) over 16 million soles were paid out in taxes on coca exports.

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PERU

BRIEFS

COCAINE IN FOOTBALLS--The police seized cocaine hidden in footballs worth about \$15,000, it was reported here [in Lima] today. The substance was taken when six raids were carried out in various places in this capital. The cocaine was in the possession of Andres Flores Rivera, Bertha Jara, Natividad Gonzalez, Javier Mejia Castillo, Javier Nunez Davalos, and Amancio Malpartida. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Dec 76 p 10-A] 8094

CSO: 5300

KENYA

BRIEFS

BAN LIFTED ON QAT--The president, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, has decreed the suspension of the MIRAA [Qat--catha edults--a narcotic stimulant plant] Prohibition Act with immediate effect. President Kenyatta announced the lifting of the act when he received a delegation from Eastern Province at state house, Nakuru, today. [Excerpt] [Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Jan 77 LD/EA]

CSO: 5300

DENMARK

DANE ARRESTED FOR SMUGGLING HEROIN

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 18 Dec 76 p 5

[Text] The narcotics police in Copenhagen have stopped a smuggling route from Amsterdam to Copenhagen and Sweden. Thus far smuggling of about a million kroner's worth of heroin by a single courier, who was arrested yesterday, has been revealed.

Details of the story are being withheld until the men behind the courier have been identified and seized.

Last night it could be learned that some time Thursday the narcotics police and customs authorities had detained a Dane, Jørgen Gregersen, who landed at Kastrup on a plane from Amsterdam. A tip had been received beforehand that Gregersen was on the way as a courier with a big batch of heroin. In the search 250 grams of heroin was found on Gregersen.

He admitted the attempted smuggling to the police. He also confessed that he had previously smuggled heroin three or four times. On those occasions he took the stuff to Sweden. If he always had the same amount with him, the total runs to something like a kilogram of heroin, which can be sold for at least a million kroner to narcotics addicts in Denmark and Sweden.

The aforementioned was taken before municipal judge Dr Finn Taksøe-Jensen yesterday for a closed preliminary hearing. The hearing was behind closed doors because the narcotics police in Copenhagen are investigating a foreign drug ring that has paid Gregersen 8,000 kroner for carrying each shipment of heroin.

In view of the investigation, the police want details of the evidence kept secret. The heroin courier was sentenced to 3 weeks in prison.

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CSO: 5300

DENMARK

NARCOTICS POLICE INTENSIFY SEARCH FOR HEROIN

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 5 Jan 77 p 12

[Article by Poul Hørdum]

[Text] Torn and forcibly opened luggage shows that the Copenhagen narcotics police have adopted new methods of uncovering suspected heroin smugglers at the airport in Kastrup.

The police action has resulted in a number of demands for compensation and in a definitive finding that the airport building is not an extraterritorial area, but is subject to Danish jurisdiction.

Luggage Cut Open

The chief of the criminal investigation division in Copenhagen, Deputy Police Chief Ole Nørgaard, has told BERLINGSKE TIDENDE that the narcotics police were forced to deal roughly with luggage during the action, which took place in November. The background was an alarming report from Brussels that big shipments of heroin were on the way from the Far East. The luggage was broken open and ripped with knives in the baggage rooms. The police officers, who were under the direction of Detective Inspector H.P. Sørensen, did not try to look up the owners and have them open the luggage.

The service division of SAS [Scandinavian Airlines System], which was responsible for the luggage, was informed by the police but did not participate in the opening of bags and trunks.

"The alarm indicated that 20 heroin couriers were on the way to several European destinations, and we had to take strong measures to prevent the lethal drug from being smuggled in. Therefore, we broke the luggage open by force, as a large number of Chinese were coming in by SAS from the Far East. They were supposed to go on to Hamburg, but we could not let their baggage go through unexamined," Deputy Police Chief Ole Nørgaard explains.

"We found no heroin in the examinations in question, but there is no doubt that we shall take similar measures in the future as well. Heroin is such a dangerous substance that we must act first to prevent its being smuggled

in and pay the damages afterwards. It has been shown that we had reasonable grounds for breaking the luggage open. Around the date in question, 13 of 20 couriers were arrested with a total of 75 kilograms of heroin in Helsinki, Oslo, Amsterdam, Luxembourg, and in Germany. It was partly as a result of our investigations that a Chinese married couple were arrested in Helsinki with 8 kg of heroin," says Deputy Chief of Police Ole Nørgaard.

"I am quite willing to listen to demands for compensation," says the head of the narcotics police, Detective Superintendent P.M. Gauguin. "There were 20 Chinese on the SAS plane in question. They could have been on their way in 45 minutes, so we had to work fast. The Chinese complained to the SAS stationmaster in Hamburg later, and we shall have to deal with that. I have told SAS that the Chinese would undoubtedly have gotten the same treatment in other airports."

He does not think that the police have violated travelers' conception of the law. The action was taken without a court order, but the police got that later.

The police arguments are accepted with certain reservations by the stationmaster at the Copenhagen airport, Helge Skjoldager. The form of the action is deplored, but it is admitted that it was legal by virtue of the court order.

"The police went about the matter in somewhat the wrong way, for it was SAS that was responsible for the luggage. In principle the police cannot allow themselves that sort of examination in transit, and it was the first incident of the kind ever. Baggage in transit is in the custody of the service division, and we virtually have a contract with the owner of the luggage to deliver his property in undamaged condition," says stationmaster Helge Skjoldager.

By far the majority of passengers consider an airport as extraterritorial area. That is true as far as customs matters are concerned, but in the baggage affair the Copenhagen police got a court opinion that the transit hall in the airport is subject to Danish jurisdiction in matters of criminal law. Neither the traveler nor his baggage is protected against the local police authority, if there is even a suspicion that a violation of Danish criminal law is occurring.

In principle the police can take action without a court order in order not to lose the opportunity. This may be compared to the police breaking down a door in a situation where it is suspected that a criminal is in hiding or the like. In that case, too, it is the practice that the police get the necessary court order afterwards -- and within 24 hours.

SCANDINAVIA

SEVERAL DRUG ARRESTS IN SCANDINAVIAN PRESS

[Editorial Report LD] Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 11 January 1977 publishes on page 9 a PRESS WIRE SERVICE, INC, report that a 31-year-old man was sentenced by a Helsingborg court to 8 years' imprisonment for attempting to smuggle 10 kg of amphetamine. Another PRESS WIRE SERVICE, INC, report in Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 13 January 1977 on page 28 states that two men, aged approximately 25, were charged in Helsingborg with smuggling 150 grams of cocaine from Denmark. Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 15 January 1977 publishes in part 1 on page 3 a Poul Hordum report that Joseph Fortier--U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent in Denmark--assisted Copenhagen narcotics police in uncovering the drug-trafficking activities of a Dane and two Pakistanis, who were then arrested in possession of 6,400 Pakistani morphine tablets. Poul Hordum also reports on page 5 of the same newspaper that Copenhagen narcotics police arrested a man and woman for possessing 190 Pakistani morphine tablets. The woman later confessed that 7,000 Danish kroner, found in their apartment, were the proceeds from the sale of methadone.

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END