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6 June 1977

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
No. 303

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AUSTRALIANS TRAPPED IN FOREIGN JAILS

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 11 May 77 p 7

[Text]

RICHARD MACKENZIE
investigates the
plight of many young
Australians serving
sentences in foreign jails.

TOILETS are often no more than holes in the ground; there is no toilet paper; no water in which to wash. The heat brings flies; the food brings disease.

The days pass like years and in many cases the idea of justice seems centuries away. Corruption replaces basic philosophies such as "defence" and "due process."

This is the life for many young Australians imprisoned in foreign jails — where the conditions and daily existence can rival the notorious hell-holes of history.

Research shows that on May 5 there were 89 Australians in foreign jails, 72 of whom were serving sentences and 17 awaiting trial. Sixty of those were being held on narcotics charges.

In 1976, 143 Australians were arrested on drug charges overseas. So far this year there have been 34 arrests.

The problem, according to Federal officials, is serious. Yet there is little, if anything, those officials can do. "Our hands are tied," one said.

It is specifically the drug problem which has disturbed Australian officials.

As countries crack down on the international narcotics market, enforcement and penalties become increasingly severe.

In Thailand, the Prime Minister can order execution without trial after consulting with his Cabinet. The death penalty also applies in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, Iran and Turkey.

Indonesian statutes allow the death penalty for simply transporting certain narcotics, buying, selling, delivering or receiving.

Mr Bob Hincksman, head of Consular Services at the Department of Foreign Affairs, said his people could offer limited help only.

"It has nothing to do with the guilt or innocence," he said. "We can only make sure that the person has adequate legal representation — if he wants it and can pay for it. But there's no way we can get anyone released from jail. They are subject to the laws of that country."

The country holding most Australians is Spain, where 10 are serving sentences for narcotics offences.

Mr Hincksman admits that not all the statistics are necessarily known. In countries such as the United States, Britain and New Zealand, it is doubtful that many Australians would contact their em-

bassies. In some other countries, officials suspect they are not told of all cases.

Mr Hincksman admits that simply carrying a package across a border can be tempting to a travelling Australian out for a quick dollar. But the rewards can be bitter.

Pamphlets and posters are produced as warnings by agencies such as the Federal Narcotics Bureau—but still the numbers of those arrested continues to grow.

Last October, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Peacock, told Parliament: "It can only be hoped that increasing publicity will alert young Australians to the grim consequences of carrying drugs of any sort and in any quantity."

The consequences for 26-year-old Elizabeth Lane are feared to have been grim indeed.

Her mother, Mrs Mary Lane, told the Herald that it had been her daughter's idea "since she left school" to travel the world.

Elizabeth worked hard and saved. She left for the first time before she was 21. She returned home twice, working again and saving more money.

She left for the last time on May 12, 1975.

In the following year, her parents received 25 letters, all of them happy, carefree descriptions of travel through exotic places.

In Colombia, she became friends with another Australian girl and a young American man. The three planned to leave South America — but Miss Lane's companions left first.

Investigation since has shown that Colombian police arrested the woman on November 12. It seems she was held for several days, but there are no records of charges.

On November 17, she sent her last trouble-free letter home. But a post-script was added, scrawled across the bottom unlike her usual, near-perfect script:

"Sorry I haven't posted this but things have taken a dramatic turn lately. My life has been threatened. I have to leave quickly. Don't worry, I will write within a week — hopefully safe and sound in England."

The same day as the letter was mailed, airline tickets sent to her by her sister were collected from a Colombian post office. They were registered and inquiries indicate that Elizabeth signed for them.

She has not been heard from since. Consular officials have requested Colombian authorities to investigate her disappearance and allegations that she may have been murdered by police.

They have received no reaction.

Interpol also is looking into the case.

But while an Australian consular officer reportedly sighted an arrest report on her earlier this year in Colombia, inquiries by the Herald indicate there is now no record of her being held.

Reliable sources have told the Herald that in South American countries records of arrests are often destroyed, most often to cover illegal acts on the part of authorities.

A month after Elizabeth's last letter was sent, her parents contacted the Department of Foreign Affairs. "She's not free or she would write," Mrs Lane said. "There is no way she would just disappear."

Finding the answer in Colombia could be an impossible task. The country is notorious as a major source of cocaine for the United States.

Federal narcotics agents from the US Drug Enforcement Administration have been stationed in the capital, Bogota, in an attempt to stop the flow.

Nearer home, Australian Federal narcotics agents do tours of duty in South-East Asia, joining the teams of narcotic officers from around the world who have been posted in Bangkok.

Acting as liaison officers, they are there to give advice and foster a greater awareness of the need to combat narcotics.

Much of the world's heroin is produced in the so-called Golden Triangle, a tropical area at the intersection of Burma, Laos and Northern Thailand.

Experts say that to understand the crackdown and its dangers for travelling Australians, it is also necessary to understand the problems in the area caused by narcotics.

Westernisation has increased the abuse of drugs by South-East Asians.

In Thailand alone, there are more than 300,000 drug users. "Their youth is being destroyed," one expert said. "Those countries have been kicked in the teeth for supplying the drugs, but they're suffering too."

One Federal official familiar with South-East Asia said the three biggest problems faced by Australians in prison there were the climate, environment and diet.

"Those jails are built for their own nationals, not for Australians," he said. "They have to be judged by the standards of living of the various countries."

"For example, we're susceptible to a lot of diseases which they're immune to."

"An Australian couldn't drink the water in many areas — let alone eat the food."

But, he said, foreign countries could not be expected to treat Australian or Western prisoners differently from their own. "It would create havoc if they did."

While many Western countries now consider prisons should be places of rehabilita-

tion—"corrective services"—other less-developed countries still operate them as "places for punishment."

"To say that you'll get kicked to death in an Asian jail is a lot of rubbish — but you will have to put up with the toilet being a hole in the floor."

Making contact with Australians held under these conditions is often difficult. Consular officials can only react to a request for help. In many countries, Australian embassies are not advised when Australians are arrested. Messages must be relayed through friendly officials.

Mr Hincksman cited Thailand and Indonesia as examples.

"We do get co-operation from those authorities once we know of a case," he said. "But of course we don't know how many we have not been informed about."

Apart from directing an imprisoned Australian to a lawyer, consular officials can do little more than keep in contact.

"We certainly keep in contact through the trial stage and there are some jails where conditions are so grim we visit the prisoner every week."

He said one of the worst prison systems would be Thailand's, where two Australians were serving sentences and five more were awaiting trial — all for alleged narcotics offences.

Earlier this year, the head of Thailand's Narcotics Suppression Centre, General Chavalit Yodmani, warned of the consequences:

"We don't want drug pedlars in our country. Australians could be executed."

ONE MAN SUSPECT IN HEROIN DEATHS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 5 May 77 p 3

[Text]

Caulfield detectives believe the same dealer sold drugs to two men who died from heroin overdoses in the past five days.

"There are several aspects in both cases that are identical, "one of the detectives investigating the deaths said yesterday.

"We are now after someone who is selling the stuff locally."

The most recent death was of a 22-year-old man.

He died after he and three others injected the drug while at a house in Clarence Street, Elsternwick.

Another man, 21, was taken to the Alfred Hospital in a critical condition and a girl, 19, was also treated for an overdose of heroin.

Last Sunday, a 26-year-old man died at another house in the area after injecting a heroin overdose into his veins.

Police believe the heroin which killed the 22-year-old was bought for \$45 a capsule from a seller at about 10 p.m. on Tuesday.

They believe impure heroin could have caused both deaths.

The latest shipment of heroin capsules, believed to be of high quality, was selling for up to \$65 a capsule, they said.

Police were called to the Elsternwick house at 7.55 a.m. yesterday when another girl who lived in the house woke to go to work and discovered the dead man and the other three who were unconscious.

Police searched the house later and took a small quantity of drugs.

They described the dead man as a hardened user of heroin.

AUSTRALIA

DRUGS IN HIGHLY ORGANIZED GROUP

Melbourne THE AGE in English 13 May 77 p 3

[Text]

The distribution of heroin in Melbourne and Sydney was "highly organised, highly cohesive and in very big hands," Federal MP Mr. Don Chipp said last night.

He said Australia's heroin problem was assuming frightening proportions.

He said he had warned that syndicates would get into Melbourne and Sydney and nobody took any notice.

"But now they are here," he said.

One of the fascinating things about the problem was that few young people from the working class become heroin addicts.

"In fact they've got too much sense to do it," he said. "It's the educated kid, the kid from the so-called good family, who seems to be the one to get onto heroin."

"He knows it is a death drug . . . that the habit is self-perpetuating."

"But they take it once because they think they're smart and can handle it."

Mr. Chipp said this usually happened because a young person's problems — religion, education or sex — could not be discussed with parents "far too busy at their cocktail parties . . . or whatever."

Mr. Chipp was speaking at a meeting at the North-eastern Jewish War Memorial Centre in Doncaster.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

PUSHERS JAILED--Perth--Two drug addicts who teamed up to sell heroin which one of them brought into WA from Bangkok, were jailed yesterday. Soenke Ralph John Schleicher, 26, was sentenced to 5 years and David Anthony Masters, 23, to 4 years. Schleicher had previous drug offences in Melbourne, Judge Kay said in the District Court yesterday. [Text] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 11 May 77 p 3]

CSO: 5300

BURMA

POLICE CAPTURE DRUG PEDDLERS IN MONASTERY

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 13 May 77 p 1

[Text]

RANGOON, 12 May—A police party headed by Deputy Superintendent of police U Tha U acting on information searched Pwezagyi monastery in Bahan and found some heroin in the possession of two persons yesterday evening.

The police searched Ko Thein Kywe and Ko Kyaw Myint of Shwebontha Street, Lashio, who were putting up for a few days at Pwezagyi monastery. The police seized ten five-gram bottles of heroin, valued at more than K 5,000, from them.

Ko Thein Kywe and Ko Kyaw Myint were handed over to the Bahan police and on interrogation, confessed that they had bought the heroin in Lashio to be distributed in Rangoon.

They are facing a charge under Sections 6 (b) and 10 (b) of the Narcotic Drugs Law.—(300)

CSO: 5300

BURMA

PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL COURSE FOR TREATING DRUG ADDICTS

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 13 May 77 p 1

[Text]

RANGOON, 12 May—A two-week course for treatment of drug addicts will be opened at the Psychiatric Hospital in Rangoon on 6 June for doctors and nurses.

The course is to be attended by a doctor and a nurse each from Katha, Bhamo, Homalin, Hkamti, Namkham, Kyaukse, Taunggyi (Sao Sam Htun Hospital), and Loikaw Hospitals and two Secondary Health Centres from Rangoon Division and two Secondary Health Centres from Mandalay Division, a doctor each from Monywa, Pinlebu, Indaw Township Hospitals and Mandalay General Hospital, and a nurse each from Lashio and Kengtung Hospitals totalling 16 doctors and 14 nurses.

The Health Department has requested the doctors and nurses who will be attending the course to bring township population records, the list of registered addicts from 1974 onwards, the activities carried out by the local narcotic control bodies and the list of narcotic drugs used by addicts.—NAB

MACAO

ANTI-NARCOTIC AGENTS ARREST SUSPECTED HEROIN COURIERS

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 May 77 p 9

[Text]

Macau anti-narcotics agents last night leapt from a lorry on to a speeding motorcycle to arrest two suspected heroin couriers.

The two men, a 26-year-old taxi driver and a 21-year-old unemployed man, have been charged with trafficking in dangerous drugs.

The Hollywood-style ambush was set up after Special Branch agents learned that two men would be

delivering suspected heroin on a motorcycle.

Agents waited in cars and motorcycles parked near Rua do Coutinho while two hefty officers hid in a lorry parked at a bend in the road.

They swung into action when they received a radio message about 10 pm saying "the subjects are coming."

Two men on a motorcycle roared by at high speed and agents on motorcycles and in cars gave chase.

As the motorcycle sped

past the lorry at the bend, the two burly agents leapt at the two men and brought them down.

The motorcyclist was immediately arrested but the pillion rider got to his feet and tried to run away.

He was stopped when one of the agents fired a warning shot.

The officers seized about two ounces of suspected heroin contained in plastic bags on the motorcycle.

CSO: 5300

POLICE CLAIM 'BIGGEST SEIZURE' OF GANJA THIS YEAR

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 May 77 p 13 BK

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sunday--Police have crippled a syndicate supplying ganja from Selayang Baru to the city's drug addicts. Four men have been detained and 735 rolls of ganja seized.

Deputy CID [Central Investigation Division] Chief Acting Supt. S. Kulasingam said today that this was the biggest seizure of ganja in the city and Selangor this year.

He said the success came after inquiries by the city flying squad and Selangor police.

"The first suspect was picked up at Jalan Haji Hussein at 3 p.m. on Friday. He had nine rolls of ganja and is believed to have been selling drugs in the Chow Kit area.

"The suspect led police to a house in Kampung Maxwell at midnight where another man with 20 rolls of ganja was detained. The man, aged 55, is believed to be the distributor for the syndicate," Mr. Kulaisingam [sic] said.

Yesterday, following this, police laid an ambush outside a house in Selayang Baru for another distributor. After 3 hours, they stopped a man riding a scooter. He had 700 rolls of ganja neatly packed into two plastic packets. The drug was worth \$1,750. Police found another 50 rolls of ganja hidden in a secret cache behind some planks at his house.

Another man with six rolls of ganja was picked up in Jalan Malacca at 8.30 p.m. yesterday.

Four youths with 12 tubes of heroin were also detained in a separate raid in Jalan Raja Laut yesterday.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

USERS HAVE JOBS--Drug traffickers are finding good market among the employed, Deputy Law Minister Rais Yatim said today. Of the 5,128 people arrested in connection with drugs last year, 3,300 were employed, he said at the launching of the Negri Sembilan Pemadam branch here [Seremban] by Mentri Besar Datuk Mansor Othman. Encik Rais, who is also the national president of Pemadam, called for an all-out war against drug abuse with religious elders, teachers, and parents playing an active role. He said there were 696 drug cases in Negri Sembilan including 57 students. Twelve of them have been sent to Pulau Jerejak. Datuk Mansor also set fire to an effigy of a drug addict at a rally in conjunction with the launching ceremony. [Excerpts] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 1 Apr 77 p 17]

DRUGS IN MAIL--Police are investigating 13 cases of drug trafficking by post detected by the authorities since 1972, Law Minister and Attorney General Tan Sri Abdul Kadir Yusof said. Tan Sri Kadir said the Postal Services Department, the Central Narcotics Bureau, the Customs Department and the police were keeping a close watch on the mail. The authorities, he added, were considering using dogs for detection work. [Excerpts] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 7 Apr 77 p 5]

DETOXICATION CENTER--The buildings of the former dental and polyclinics at the General Hospital here [Penang] are to be converted into a detoxication centre for drug addicts. "The plans for the proposed centre had been submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval," the Penang Director of Medical Aid and Health Services, Dr Ahmad Shah, said today. The centre, if approved, could provide accommodation for at least 20 beds to ease the "congestion" and improve existing facilities for addicts who are now housed in the psychiatric ward. Dr Ahmad Shah said an allocation of \$64,000 was needed to convert the buildings. He was commenting on allegations by the Consumer Association of Penang that many drug addicts seeking treatment at the hospital had to be turned away because of lack of facilities. At present, he said, there were only nine beds -- six in the psychiatric ward and three in the first class wards -- for drug addicts. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 7 Apr 77 p 7]

DRUG ARRESTS--Police seized 321.88 kg of drugs and detained more than 4,700 people for suspected drug offences in the country last year. The seizures included 46.94 kg of heroin (enough for nearly 10 million shots), 6.77 kg of morphine (enough for half a million shots), 211.41 kg of opium, 50.76 kg of ganja and six kg of MX pills. Of the 4,700 people detained, 3,308 were found in possession of heroin. This was disclosed by Director of CID, Deputy Commissioner Abdul Rahman Ismail, recently. [Excerpt] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 8 Apr 77 p 8]

CSO: 5300

NEPAL

PHOTO DEPICTS DRUGS SEIZED BY KATHMANDU POLICE

Kathmandu GORKHAPATRA in Nepali 21 Apr 77 p 10

[Text]



Photo shows contraband including 473 kilograms of charas (hashish) plus musk oil, rifle rounds, and oil containers which Kathmandu police recently seized from the home of Devi Dutt Sharma in Baneshwor and the Hotel Eden.

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

SURVEY SHOWS HIGH DRUG USE IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 10 May 77 p 4

[Text] PA. Dunedin. A survey of Auckland secondary school pupils shows that 79 percent use alcohol, most of them once a week or more, and many of them smoke cannabis.

The survey, of 17 coeducational and single-sex state and private schools, was done by Drs Sally Casswell and Marie Hood, of the department of psychiatry at the Auckland Medical School. The results appear in the NEW ZEALAND MEDICAL JOURNAL.

The survey shows that cannabis has been tried by 23 percent of the students. Sixteen percent of the students said they were still using it at the time of the survey. Of those smoking cannabis, almost half use it less than once a month, and 24 percent use it once a week or more.

A survey of tertiary students by the same researchers shows similar results. Although cannabis smoking is at least as common as tobacco smoking among students, alcohol is the most frequently used drug.

"Alcohol use, unlike tobacco smoking, is the norm for the vast majority of young New Zealanders, 15 years and older," say the researchers.

About 20 percent of the students smoked tobacco at the time of the survey but few were heavy smokers (10 or more cigarettes a day).

Regular tobacco and alcohol users were more likely to dislike school and say it was not relevant. Tobacco users were also more likely to achieve poor academic results. The same applied to cannabis smokers.

"The present results suggest that, while illicit drug use remains a minority occupation, the reported availability and use of certain illegal drugs imply the need to reevaluate the current attempts to 'protect' our high school students," say the researchers.

NEW ZEALAND

MAN CHARGED WITH POSSESSING CANNABIS AND LSD WORTH \$36,000

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 4 May 77 p 3

[Text] Christchurch, 3 May (PA). American currency amounting to \$US2,800, as well as LSD of a type made in the United States in recent months which had a New Zealand street value of \$36,000, was found in a Christchurch businessman's flat in Straven Road, the Magistrate's Court was told today.

Kevin John Miles, 32, a fashion retailer, pleaded not guilty to a charge of possessing cannabis and LSD for the purpose of supply after the taking of depositions today.

He was committed to the Supreme Court for trial on 13 June by Messrs R. M. Naysmith and M. Smith, Justices of the Peace, who declined an application for bail and remanded the defendant in custody to that date.

Sergeant R. H. Prouting appeared for the prosecution and Mr M. A. Bungay, of Wellington, represented Miles.

Detective Sergeant Allan Leonard Harris, said that at 0800, on 29 March he was one of a party of detectives to visit Miles' flat at 54 Straven Road, Christchurch, with a narcotics search warrant.

In the laundry, he found a plastic container. Underneath a tea towel in the container he found a brown paper bag containing a brown substance, which appeared to be hashish, or cannabis resin, wrapped in tinfoil. Underneath that, there were three amber pill bottles, each of which was full of tablets that appeared to be LSD.

At no stage during the search did the accused touch the bottles, the tinfoil or the container, he said.

On the floor of the laundry was a brown cardboard box, containing numerous empty amber pill bottles.

Later that same day, Sergeant Harris said, he went to 21 Buchanans Road, another address occupied by the defendant, and found his passport, which he produced to the court in evidence.

Detective Murray Albert Le Fevre said that during the police search on 29 March he found a bundle of American bank notes totalling \$(US)2,800 in a man's leather bag in the main bedroom of the flat.

When asked about the money, the defendant said he knew the amount and that it was the balance of money he had taken with him on a recent overseas trip and had not used.

Detective John Clark, of Wellington, said he had identified fingerprints on the pill bottles and the container as that of the defendant.

Mr Guy Alexander Brown, a scientist with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, said that the hashish given to him for analysis was cannabis resin weighing 399g.

There were 9,012 tablets of LSD, as well as dust and fragments equivalent to a further 83 tablets, he said.

Detective Sergeant Norman George Cook, the coordinator of the National Drug Intelligence Bureau in Wellington, said the hashish produced to the court today was of a second-quality Moroccan type, which sold in New Zealand for about \$10 a gram.

"The LSD before the court is a variety attributed to manufacture in the United States in recent months which has recently started to appear on the New Zealand market, and significant seizures of this type have been made by the police," he said. "The tablets sell in New Zealand at present for \$4 or \$5 each."

Cross-examined by Mr Bungay, Sergeant Cook agreed that the LSD could have been manufactured in any country, except New Zealand.

"I am satisfied that there is no illicit manufacture of LSD in New Zealand," Sergeant Cook said. "I personally haven't heard of its manufacture here, and I am certain, because of my contacts who are part of the illicit drug scene in New Zealand, that if it were made here in the quantity before the court now I would know about it."

CSO: 5300

MAN CHARGED ON IMPORTING CANNABIS

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 3 May 77 p 3

[Text] Auckland, 2 May (PA). A man already serving a prison sentence refused to take the oath as a witness in a trial today in the Supreme Court. He was called by the Crown Prosecutor to give evidence in the trial of a 26-year-old contractor, Robert John Dobbs, who has denied a charge of importing cannabis into Auckland on 30 October last year.

The trial is being held before Mr Justice Moller and a jury of three women and nine men.

Mr L. L. Stevens, the Crown Prosecutor, in his opening address said the cannabis was actually imported by two couriers. The two were arrested on 30 October at Auckland international airport after the cannabis was found in the false bottoms of two suitcases.

He said Dobbs and the two men arranged to put up \$3,000 each. The accused made arrangements for the two to pick up his share of money in Sydney from a contact there.

Phone Calls

The contact gave only \$1,700 and numerous telephone calls were made by Dobbs from Sydney and he made calls to there.

On 15 October, the couriers arrived in Bangkok and made contact with a person there whose name was on a handwritten note Dobbs had given them.

One courier gave the contact a photo of Dobbs to identify themselves.

The couriers returned to Auckland via Noumea on 30 October. The accused was arrested the following day.

The police found Dobbs' passport, which showed that on 30 August he had entered Singapore and then gone to Bangkok. From Singapore he telephoned one of the couriers in Auckland.

A witness, whose name was suppressed, told Mr Justice Moller he did not wish to say anything. The Judge told him he had protected him as far as possible as he could and it was not a matter of not wanting to give evidence, but it was a duty..

The Judge had discussed the suppression with counsel in chambers.

The witness said he had appeared in the Magistrate's Court in November last year and had admitted a charge of importing cannabis. He said he was dealt with by that court.

He said he had gone to Bangkok in October 1976, with another man. The Judge said he would suppress the name of the other man.

The witness said he had known Dobbs for about 17 years.

He shook his head and said he was not going to answer when Mr Stevens asked him if he had discussions with the accused about the proposed trip to Bangkok.

Declaration

Mr Stevens asked his Honour to declare him a hostile witness. The witness was declared hostile on the basis of his refusing to answer the kinds of questions put to him.

He said that meant the witness could be cross-examined by the Crown Prosecutor and the prosecutor could ask him if he had said certain things in the Lower Court hearing.

If he says he did not say them or will not answer, his signed depositions are produced.

The witness refused to answer most questions, except one relating to him only or to him and the other witness.

After the refusal to answer, Mr Stevens asked him if he had given evidence in the Lower Court along the lines of the questions and the witness each time gave no answer. He still gave no answer when the depositions were shown to him.

In cross-examination, Mr J. Haigh, for Dobbs, asked the witness if he had received threats of any kind from the accused.

After a pause he answered: "No."

The Judge reminded him he was on oath to tell the truth.

He said that he was approached by police at the time he was buying airline tickets and was asked about the purpose of the visit overseas. He could not remember if he had discussed that with Dobbs or not.

At the end of the evidence, his Honour told the jury that the attitude of the witness was something personal and he advised the jury not to use it in any way against the accused.

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

ANTIDRUG OFFICERS AMBUSH HEROIN SUPPLIERS

Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English 8 May 77 p 7 BK

[Article by Paul Jansen]

[Text] Central Narcotics Bureau [CNB] officers, posing as patrons of the Holiday Inn's Treetops Bar, ambushed two major drug suppliers and two small-time pedlars just as the four were about to complete a transaction there on Friday afternoon.

The suppliers, an 18-year-old glamorous bar waitress and her lover, a young salesman, allegedly had 10 packets containing 140 grams of No. 3 heroin with them in the girl's handbag when they were picked up at 5:30 p.m.

Antinarcotics officers, who had the couple under surveillance for more than 2 weeks, believe they were about to hand over the packets, which had a street value of \$5,000, to the pedlars when all four were arrested.

Following the ambush, CNB officers raided a number of drug haunts, and at about 3 a.m. yesterday morning, the officers discovered the couple's packaging factory--a rented room in Jalan Kembangan, off Changi Road.

There were two scales, an electric iron to heatseal the plastic straws filled with heroin and plastic bags and straws.

A blender used to pulverise chunky heroin was also recovered.

A search of the room also led to the recovery of five more packets containing 70 grams of heroin and 159 straws filled with a total of 30 grams of the drug.

Each straw, about 76 mm in length, costs \$7 on the street and the total value of the heroin-filled straws and packets was about \$3,500.

The CNB believes the couple were only part of a syndicate, headed by the arrested salesman.

Other syndicate members are now being sought.

Investigations have shown that the couple, both married but separated from their respective partners and living together in the Jalan Kembangan room, had been working with others in the syndicate for about 3 months, a CNB spokesman said yesterday.

This syndicate is believed to have been supplying heroin to pedlars, never directly to individual abusers, in the Geylang, Jalan Kembangan, Bukit Ho Swee and Tanglin Halt areas.

The syndicate, in turn, is believed to have been supplied with heroin smuggled into Singapore through the causeway by private cars.

The fate of the two pedlars, both in their early 20s, has not been decided yet, but the couple is expected to be charged in court tomorrow.

Conviction note: Anyone found guilty of trafficking in more than 15 grams of heroin faces the death penalty.

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

NATIONAL SERVICEMEN SUPERVISE ADDICTS--Another 120 special constabulary national servicemen, SCNs, are to be trained to supplement the work of professional, probational after-care officers to supervise drug addicts released from the drug rehabilitation center. With this recruitment, the probation and after-care service department will increase its present strength to 362 SCNs. On completion of the 6-month course they will work with addicts undergoing treatment in the drug rehabilitation center. [Text] [Singapore Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 17 May 77 BK]

HEROIN TRAFFICKER GIVEN JAIL TERM--An unemployed man, (Tu Sik An), was jailed 5 years today and ordered to be given 10 strokes of the cane for trafficking 1.58 grams of heroin. The offense was committed in Toa Payoh last month. [Text] [Singapore Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 17 May 77 BK]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

EDUCATION MINISTRY STARTS NEW 'ANTI-DRUG' CAMPAIGN

Bangkok BANGKOK NATION REVIEW in English 24 May 77 p 3 BK

[Text] The Education Ministry has embarked on a massive campaign to instill an "anti-drug" attitude among the country's youth.

An official release said yesterday that it had yet to specifically determine the actual number of students addicted to drugs.

"Some sources say the number could be as high as 300,000, but others say the number could be lower," the report said.

It added that despite the difference on the estimates of the extent of drug addiction among the young population, there are two large categories, namely the real addicts and those who, out of social urge, wanted simply to "experiment with something new."

The report said a seminar during March 8-12 in Chiang Mai of senior educational experts, in cooperation with the police department's antinarcotics centre and the UN, resulted in conclusions of "new attitudes and trends" in tackling the problem.

The Education Ministry has sought wide-ranging cooperation on the provincial level and at all educational institutes in its determined attempt to weed out the drug problem in schools.

CSO: 5300

COMMENTS ON LESTER WOLFF'S LIST OF DRUG BOSSES

U.S. Congressman Names Drug Dealers

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 May 77 p 8 BK

[Editorial: "Wolff's Motives Are Not Clear"]

[Text] United States Representative Lester Wolff has been busy "naming some names," as he put it, of those whom he says are the big men in the drugs trade in Thailand. Mr Wolff, of course, was protected by congressional immunity when he made his statement, and though that immunity permits the names to be published in America, such immunity does not extend to Thailand where the list cannot be published.

Just why Mr Wolff should have chosen to make his announcement is not entirely clear from this distance. He has said that he did so in order that "the American people can identify their enemy," which is a nice politician's phrase, but surely it is not all that important to Americans that they should merely know that a Mr...., who lives in Bangkok, is a drug trafficker, or, to be precise, is a drug trafficker so far as Mr Wolff and his sources are concerned.

One must assume, therefore, that Mr Wolff may have had some other motive in making his announcement. Did he believe that by making his statement he would assist the efforts of our own local drug enforcement people? Genuinely dedicated as he is to the war against drug traffickers, one would have expected, however, that he would have passed on his list of names to drug enforcement officers here in Thailand even before he revealed that list to the American people.

And in any case it seems reasonable to think that whatever names he might have received from "foreign intelligence sources" would already have been known to the men on the spot. International cooperation in the fight against trafficking is already at a commendably high level and information is passed freely between all the agencies concerned.

It is, of course, one thing to "name names." It is quite another to gather sufficient evidence to bring those named to justice, particularly

when, as Mr Wolff has admitted, the men on his list are the shadowy figures behind the rackets, the "big bosses" who "normally don't get directly involved in the trade."

These are the people whom everyone wants to see behind bars or, more appropriately perhaps in their case, on the receiving end of the more extreme form which Article 21 can take, but these also are the men who cover their every track and (like some of America's own better-publicised rackets leaders) take an awful lot of catching indeed. The job of catching them--whomever they may be--is one to which our own drug enforcement officers are dedicated.

If Mr Wolff's Washington statement has served to spur them on to even greater efforts, then we must be thankful to him. A shadow of a doubt remains, however, as to whether he has achieved any real advantage by his name-naming. It could just be that instead of assisting the work of people here he might just have hindered it, and as a result, allowed some men to escape the fate which any drug trafficker deserves.

Thai Drug Official Replies to Wolff's Remarks

Bangkok MORNING EXPRESS in English 21 May 77 p 1 BK

[Text] A Thai drug official denied that the Narcotics Suppression Unit took no action on the 12 Thai-Chinese narcotics traffickers and claimed that an American congressman's speech on narcotics distribution ring in Thailand was an irresponsibility.

One of the leading Thai narcotics suppression officers said yesterday that his unit could not take any action towards the narcotics traffickers in Thailand as named by American Congressman Lester Wolff. It was because it lacked concrete evidence.

He claimed that Mr Lester Wolff is a politician and not responsible for what he said. He reasoned that the speech and the release of the list of 12 names of the narcotics traffickers in Thailand only drove them to the place where no police could trace them any longer, "if what Mr Lester [Wolff] said... is true," he said.

He recalled that American Congressman Lester Wolff also presented [words missing] in the latest conference on narcotics in Bangkok lately and Mr Wolff did not mention anything about the narcotics ring in Thailand.

The Thai narcotics suppression officer also released an American copy of the first two paragraphs of the speech made by Lester [Wolff] on the cooperation given by Thai authorities, such as Prime Minister Thanin Kraiwichian, Gen Kriangsak Chammanan, Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin and Pol Maj Gen Chawalit Yotmani.

Congressman Lester Wolff, also chairman of the narcotics committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, named the 12 Chinese drug traffickers last Tuesday (17 May) on the House floor where statements are privileged and exempt from libel laws.

Wolff also said that the Chinese business is "the head of the largest heroin distribution ring in Thailand" who owned a number of businesses including a hotel, a tea distribution company, along with a trucking company. [graf as published]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

THREE SENTENCED BY COURT ON HEROIN POSSESSION CHARGE

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 May 77 p 3 BK

[Text] The Criminal Court yesterday sentenced a police lieutenant and two accomplices to long prison terms after they were found guilty of possessing heroin for sale.

Pol Lt Chop Rakpradit was sentenced to 18 years, Suthat Khanasuk to 12 years and Surin Ananchaiphattana to 24 years' imprisonment respectively for their participation in the crime.

Chop and Suthat were arrested on June 15 of last year as they handed 1.5 kilogrammes of No 4 heroin to buyers in front of the prosecution department building on Na Hapua Road here in the city.

Acting on a tip-off, narcotics policemen staked out at the rendezvous spotted Chop and Suthat arriving by taxi at mid-day.

Suthat was the first to step out of the car and realising something was wrong tried to make his escape through the building. Police caught him 10 minutes later in the Criminal Court parking lot after a brief chase.

Chop was handcuffed immediately by police as he stepped out of the taxi. A search revealed two packages of heroin weighing 355 grammes each in their possession.

Surin, the third man, was arrested later at a house in Soi Sangkhawatthana when Chop took police there. Another 760 grammes of heroin was found packed in two plastic bags.

The court reduced Chop's sentence from 24 years to 8 [sic] years and Suthat's from 24 years to 12 years for giving useful evidence and cooperation. Surin, however, received the full sentence.



Suthat (right) and Pol Lt Chop after their arrest.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

POLICE MAKE HEROIN ARREST IN CHIANG MAI PROVINCE

Bangkok MORNING EXPRESS in English 24 May 77 p 3 BK

[Text] Northern Narcotics Suppression Unit (NNSU) in co-operation with police led by Chiang Mai police deputy superintendent Colonel Niran Witthayawut, searched a house belonging to Mr Bunchua Theprat and seized 27.02 pure heroin, [as published] a police source said.

The police, acting on a tip-off [by] NNSU officials, made a search of Mr Bunchua at Namtharam Road, Soi 3, Tambon Haya, Muang District of Chiang Mai Province and found heroin hidden under Mr Bunchua's bed.

The price of 27.02 kilogrammes of pure No 4 heroin in Thailand would cost about 100,000 baht, but street prices in the United States would be about \$20 million or 400 million baht.

Mr Bunchua confessed to police that the heroin belonged to him, but he refused to tell police the whereabouts of the refinery.

Mr Bunchua is being detained at Muang District police station, the source said.

CSO: 5300

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

ARREST OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS--Cordoba, 13 May--The police have reported that 700 grams of cocaine and 15 kg of marihuana were seized and that 36 persons involved in drug trafficking have been arrested. A laboratory was discovered and good quality coca seeds, to be planted in this province, were seized. The drug traffickers had connections in Chile and Bolivia. The cocaine and marihuana seized are worth more than 15 million pesos. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1732 GMT 13 May 77 PY]

LSD, MARIHUANA SEIZED--Buenos Aires, 19 May--The federal police reported that 4,000 doses of LSD-25 worth 20 million pesos and 5 tons of marihuana were seized during two separate police operations. Enrique Marcella, Argentine, 19 years of age, was arrested for distribution of LSD and Jorge Carlos Infusino, Argentine, 23 years of age, for distributing the drug. Infusino said that the LSD was sent to him from West Germany through the mail as printed matter. In another operation in Lima, Buenos Aires Province, two persons were arrested for planting 20 hectares of marihuana and 5 tons of the plant were seized in a nearby warehouse. Reinaldo Oscar Barbieri, who provided the storage facilities, and Hector Zaffanon and Jose Fernandez, who planted the marihuana, were arrested. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 May 77 PY]

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The national police have reported that 268 kg of coca leaves which were going to be smuggled into the country from Bolivia were seized during various operations. The following persons were arrested: Andres Churquina Azua, Manuel A. Quimuiz, Walter Cijo Mamani, Inocencio Lino Burgos, Teresa Gutierrez, Rosa A. Chumacero, Francisco E. Flores Acosta and Deterlino Flores Choque. [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 May 77 p 9 PY]

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

LARGE DRUG RING BROKEN UP, COCAINE SEIZED

La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 12 May 77 PY

[Text] As a result of the greatest antinarcotics operation in Bolivian history, the police have destroyed a large drug ring and seized 37 kg of cocaine.

Police sources reported that the operation took place in Cochabamba, 450 km southeast of La Paz, where the police arrested 3 Bolivians who not only marketed the drug, but also manufactured it by means of two factories hidden in rural villages.

At one of the factories the police found $\frac{1}{2}$ kg of cocaine sulphate, and at the other they seized 37 kg of this drug, the largest amount seized in this kind of operations to date.

Maj (Jaime Roca), chief of the Dangerous Drugs Control Bureau of Cochabamba stated that 4 trucks, approximately \$40,000 in Bolivian currency, and several firearms were also seized during the operation.

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

U.S. DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--A new drug traffic network has been discovered in this city [La Paz], where six U.S. citizens and several Bolivians have been detained for drug trafficking and consumption. The National Board for Control of Dangerous Drugs has been able to establish that the detained persons were directly linked with a recently discovered gang which had connections in schools, where it peddled drugs directly to the students. In this operation U.S. citizen (Ronald Roque Van Gornik) has been arrested together with (Ruben Camacho) in whose home nearly 2 kg of cocaine was found. [Text] [La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 May 77 PY]

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

JUDGE CITES PROBLEMS OF ENFORCING DRUG LAW

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 9 Apr 77 p 18

[Text] Judge Sergio Cavalieri, Jr., of the 23rd Criminal District, temporarily freed an offender accused of trafficking in drugs whom police had not brought before him because of a lack of transportation. The judge remarked that the law provided limited periods of time and set priorities for government departments to present cases involving drugs, but that the order is ignored.

He emphasized in his ruling that "in the end, it is the judiciary that takes all the blame for the oversights and laxity of third parties. This is why there is so much talk about reform, yet they are oblivious that the most necessary reform must be made in the subordinate agencies, without which the judiciary cannot function. Justice is discredited as a result of oversights by those responsible for the custody of prisoners, who do not at least take the trouble to report whether or not they plan to present the case."

Time Periods

The new law for combatting the use of, and trafficking in drugs, which became effective on 22 November 1976, provides time periods for going through the procedures of presenting a case. Meantime, the police as well as justice are not equipped to conclude cases.

In commenting upon this situation, Mr Artur Lavigne, attorney and professor of penal law, points out that "criminal justice and the police cannot be made responsible for such delays; the government has not yet taken the necessary steps for the law to be complied with."

In practice, the Legal Medical Institute is not competent to make the finding of toxological dependence and to send a finding to the Justice within the time period. Nor is the Felix Pacheco Institute equipped to handle requests by police to forward defendants' police records.

Changes

Attorney Artur Lavigne believes the new law has many improvements over the old one. The most important ones are fixing bond in some cases and establishing the social importance of a novice drug user. The former law penalized addict and trafficker equally. Thus, severe punishment was meted out to the drug carrier using it for himself, without any intent to sell it, or even to anyone who merely out of curiosity chose to use the drug and was caught in flagrante.

The attorney emphasized that "according to the present law, the novice is penalized by detention, which allows him to remain free on bond. In the event he is found guilty, he has the benefit of sursis and serves his time while free. However, in order to have such an advantage, it must be his first offense."

According to the attorney, "in a general way, the new law is a response to modern criminological studies which have prompted the change made in penal legislation. However, it has provided very severe penalties for those who are neither addicts nor novices by increasing considerably the term to be served from 3 to a maximum of 15 years. The serious defect in this law is the radical way in which it deals with one who purchases drugs and gratuitously gives any part of it to another person."

Calamity

"Drug use in Brazil is on a small scale and does not mean a public calamity, as one might think at first blush," Mr Artur Dervigne assures us. "The problem is essentially a sociological one and cannot be solved by the police or criminal justice. An erroneous view of the problem is that it has led to the promulgation of this law, by which it appears that the government wishes to cope with drug use through an extremely harsh law."

A study depicting the drug user in society is much more important than filling prisons with persons who have violated the law. The drug addict has been viewed as a case for the police, even though not every one who uses drugs can be considered depraved in nature or a menace to society. A large majority of drug users are not indiscriminate or compulsive users.

6244

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

COCAINE SEIZED IN HILTON HOTEL

Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Apr 77 p 16

/Text/ The news that the Hilton Hotel had been turned into another place for cocaine trafficking in Sao Paulo spread quickly through capital newspaper offices yesterday. Early Saturday afternoon, agents from the Narcotics Division of the DEIC /Criminal Investigations Department/ seized 1,600 grams of cocaine inside the hotel from a relapsed trafficker. The news revealed on Sunday indicated that the drug was intended for Hilton Hotel guests.

One of the persons responsible for the hotel's security assured us that it was all nothing more than a mix-up, and stated that "it was merely the operation which took place inside the Hilton, but the management and guests have no involvement in the matter." This statement was confirmed yesterday afternoon by Luis Apollonio, an associate agent from the Narcotics Division of DEIC, in an interview.

"I categorically deny that the Hilton Hotel was in any way involved in the case; it was all a misunderstanding."

Confusion

The misunderstanding over the incident started with the publication of an article in a morning paper stating, among other things, that persons from other states were staying at the Hilton Hotel solely to consume cocaine and that there was a real network for traffic involving hotel employees, who knew the signal by which the actual dosage desired by a guest-consumer was known.

Hotel security employees who were worried about the unfavorable publicity over the incident but chose not to be identified, gave assurances that no serious incident with the police had occurred in the establishment for more than 2 years and saw behind the whole affair questionable interests which were attempting to slander the hotel's good name."

This argument is based on a similar occurrence on 25 October, also inside the Hilton Hotel, when a woman attempting to sell 2 kilos of cocaine was arrested.

At that time, the same as on Saturday, the receiver of the cocaine was not found, which, according to the security guards, leads to the belief that preparation were being made and the place used for police operations was the Hilton Hotel. This possibility was promptly discounted by Luis Apollonio in an interview yesterday afternoon:

"If we had been readying any illegal actions, we ourselves would have had to buy the drugs and complete the whole transaction. This is ridiculous."

From Bolivia

The 1,600 grams of cocaine seized on Saturday (which would have had an approximate market value of 500,000 cruzeiros) were from Bolivia. They were purchased by two as yet unidentified individuals who were to take it to Sao Paulo, where the drug would be delivered to a redistributor. This part of the operation was the responsibility of the arrested trafficker, who had joined a companion in Bauru and come to Sao Paulo. Police had learned about this through an informer, a former trafficker from Matto Grosso who had become a "stool pigeon" and who moreover had given the name of the person who would bring the drug and where the meeting with the redistributor would take place: the Hilton Hotel.

Police obtained a photo of the trafficker, who already had passes for the Narcotics Division, and they had set up a plan for keeping a watch inside the hotel from Tuesday, with the management's permission. At 1100 hours on Saturday, the trafficker appeared at the hotel with a companion. Tired of waiting for the receiver of the drugs, at noon he was getting ready to leave when he was intercepted by agent Luis Apollonio, passing himself off as a "partner of the receiver." He asked whether the drug had been brought, and this was confirmed by the trafficker. The agent then said that the money for his services was being kept inside the hotel safe deposit box. When the two of them went there, the trafficker was served with an order for his arrest.

6244

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

'TINO' CASE SUSPECT ESCAPES ARREST IN PARAGUAY

Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Apr 77 p 17

/Text/ Asuncion, Paraguay (from the special envoy)--A warning about the presence in Paraguay of detective Sergio Fernandes Paranhos Fleury resulted in another escape by Jose Luis da Silva, a smuggler implicated in the death of Eurico Dias Pinheiro, or "Tino." Mr da Silva was to have been arrested last Saturday and flown the same day to Sao Paulo, where Colonel Erasmo Dias, secretary for security, and Romeu Tumma, Director of DEOPS /State Department of Political and Social Order/ were awaiting him.

According to the same detective Fleury, who had gone to Paraguay for this specific purpose, "everything was in order and completely ready as early as Friday. Meantime, there was a 30-minute delay by me in arriving at Asuncion and Jose Luis had learned of my presence here and again managed to escape." This fact was telephoned to Colonel Erasmo day before yesterday in the afternoon, at which time the secretary "very much regretted the incident," and emphasized that "it was very strange that this should have occurred almost simultaneously with the publication by Sao Paulo newspapers of Fleury's stay in Paraguay. Incidentally, this information was a secret matter and I do not understand how it came to the attention of the press."

It is known that Fleury left Paraguay soon after the arrest miscarried, but is making another attempt, this time from the Brazilian side.

6244

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

ACCUSED TRAFFICKER TO BRING CHARGES--Castor de Andrade goes to Sao Paulo today to engage an attorney and to sue the newspaper O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, which accused him last Sunday of drug trafficking. According to the accusation, he uses the Porto Seguro fishing company in Ilheus, Bahia, which he owns, to cover up his illegal activities. Narcotics are transported in his refrigerator cars. Mr Castor de Andrade denied that the company capital is 20 million cruzeiros; that there are many false entries in his books, and that he has gunmen working in Ilheus. He declared that everything in Porto Seguro was legal and under the strict supervision of the Department of [illegible] Animal Production of the State of Bahia. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro] JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 19 Apr 77 p 40/ 6244

CSO: 5300

CHILE

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The Narcotics Department of the Valparaiso Police Department has arrested seven persons involved in cocaine smuggling. The group, which had been working since January 1976, had sent more than 1,000 kg of pure cocaine to the United States. Investigations, after an arrest at a Rio de Janeiro Airport for cocaine trafficking, led to the discovery of the Chilean drug trafficking group which was lead by (Raul Arancilla), who was able to escape. During the raid police confiscated 10.5 kg of cocaine and a car and also dismantled a laboratory used to process the drug. Those arrested will be put at the disposal of the court this afternoon. [Santiago Radio Agricultura Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 May 77 PY]

CSO: 5300

MASS GRAVE DISCOVERED-- TRAFFICKERS AND GUERRILLAS

Mass Grave Discovered in Guaviare

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 27 Apr 77 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Text] San Jose del Guaviare, Vaupes (from special correspondent Hugo Montes)--The macabre discovery of a burial ground holding the bodies of seven persons murdered several months ago, confiscation of 14 kilos of cocaine, and arrest of a man suspected of being a member of the National Liberation Army were the outcome of an operation carried out by units of the intelligence service of the National Police on a farm located between the magistracies of El Retorno and Calamar, in the jurisdiction of the municipality of San Jose del Guaviare.

The case had its origin in the investigation of a minor who had killed his stepfather with a shotgun blast. Questioned on the reasons that had led him to do so, he said, "I killed him because he had threatened me with death several times."

He denounced his stepfather for having raped his three sisters and the killing of 14 persons who were buried at different places on the farm.

The minor was placed under arrest on the orders of the judicial authorities of San Jose del Guaviare, who are initially carrying on the investigation into this patricide, which is the object of intensive examination for the purpose of obtaining additional clues to an alleged ring of narcotics traffickers who have chosen San Jose del Guaviare as their center of operations.

Macabre Discovery

Officials of the public prosecutor's office, guided by Inspector Jaime Corredor Matus and in coordination with men from the F-2, cooperated in the work of digging up the sites pointed out by the minor where the 14 persons killed by his godfather were buried. The minor said that they had been killed in cold blood by shotgun blasts and the machete, although he was unable to explain why. He stated that three Antioqueños lost in that region last year are among the victims.

Drug Traffic

The judicial authorities found 14 kilos of cocaine, 85-percent pure, while engaged in the search of the dwelling where the minor lived with his step-father and others. The alkaloid was appraised at 28 million pesos.

The chief of the judicial police in Meta and the National Territories, Gabriel Velasquez Rojas, told EL ESPECTADOR that during the operation the seizure had been made of plans written in code and documents reflecting large orders for first-aid drugs, apparently for the men up in arms who have been active in the regions of Caqueta, Huila, and the Macarena region of Meta.

According to the chief of the judicial police, it is possible that there is a laboratory for the manufacture of cocaine on the farm, bearing in mind that 14 kilos of cocaine of considerable purity were confiscated.

Go-between for Guerrillas

The person captured by the F-2 units is apparently a member or go-between of the guerrilla groups that have made their way into the Macarena Sierra.

The digging up of extensive areas of the farm where the slaughter was committed will be undertaken by the judicial police officials of Villavicencio and other investigative organizations responsible for investigative proceedings. Up to this afternoon the remains of only seven persons had been disinterred.

The trip of the investigative officials announced for 1300 hours yesterday was postponed because the airplane intended for the flight was found to have mechanical deficiencies that could not be repaired yesterday.

Traffickers and/or Guerrillas

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Apr 77 pp 1-A, 3-A

[Text] San Jose del Guaviare, 27 April (by special correspondent Ricardo Canon)--A sinister man who in the eyes of the people of Vaupes was an "unselfish servant" of the community was transformed after his death into a monster when it was found that he had murdered more than 14 persons, all of them men, whom he had forced to dig their own graves.

The man, identified as Javier de Jesus Bedoya Tamayo, 34, a native of Pereira, a former police officer and member of the pacification "pickets" of the period of violence, set himself up as a lover of the land and settled in the Vaupes rain forest as a colonist and outstanding member of the community.

As a founder of one of the largest settlements in this district, Bedoya Tamayo was able to win the friendship of peaceful settlers arriving from different regions of the country.

He was a man who could be counted on for anything that came up that was shown to him to be of benefit to the community. Nevertheless, his property, where he lived with his wife and three daughters, was turned into a place of death in the middle of the jungle.

He carried out his evil plans jointly with his family, who, under threats, abetted the criminal instincts of this man.

His victims, traffickers in narcotics, fell into the traps set out for them by this personage, attracted by the easy wealth that the purchase of cocaine could provide them.

Bedoya Tamayo, owner of the La Rosita farm situated in the settlement of La Union, in the jurisdiction of the municipality of San Jose del Guaviare, always carried, in a manner as dark as his own base feelings, a sampling of cocaine in slips of paper, which he used as bait to attract his victims, offering them a product of the best quality at low prices.

He developed his contacts in the cocaine traffic in various cities in the interior of the country, where unsuspecting dealers traveled hundreds of kilometers to meet with their own deaths.

Most of them, persons with pockets full of money, arrived at the farm of this sinister personage to begin their respective negotiations for the product he was offering them.

After treating them pleasantly in his home, he deceitfully took them to the purported laboratory where the drug was processed, which, he said, was located in the middle of the forest.

The dealers, greedy for the fortune that the transaction was to give them, accompanied Bedoya Tamayo and his helper, Mario Castrillon, to the secret location.

After entering the dense jungle of the region for hundreds of meters, the dealers would be caught by surprise by their enigmatic companions, who, threatening them with firearms and blows, forced them to dig a hole that would later become their grave.

The criminal instincts of the two men were not long in appearing. They would exterminate their unprepared cocaine buyers in cold blood, inflicting wounds that quickly caused death. Then they would proceed to remove their money, identification papers, and objects of value and leave their bodies in the graves opened up by their victims themselves.

For 7 years, Bedoya's tactics were similar in all cases. His stepson Jaime Jaramillo, a youth only 18 years old when he first began to act as a gravedigger, was unable to understand the real reasons for his stepfather's behavior.

Early in April the youth, propelled by the psychological impact of the crime taking place near his home, decided to relieve his feelings and relate what was happening at his house to some friends in the settlement of El Retorno.

While Jaime Jaramillo was trying to describe what was going on in his home, Bedoya's helper, Mario Castrillon, who had become aware of what the youth was saying, threatened him with telling his employer about the accusation he -- Jaime -- was making. Castrillon then went to San Jose del Guaviare, where he met his employer and told him what he had heard of Jaime Jaramillo's conversation with others in the settlement.

The bloodthirsty man went to his farm with the intention of punishing, in his own way, the youth for his behavior. The youth, who by now had been warned of what might happen and was waiting, stood up to him, holding a shotgun.

Bedoya, armed with a machete, was determined to punish his stepson. However, the youth, who refused to allow himself to be intimidated by the enraged man seeking to kill him, fired his weapon, causing his death almost instantaneously.

The authorities were able to corroborate what the youth had said. In fact, in seven places pointed out, the remains were found of seven persons who had met a violent death. The news of the macabre discovery caused a great stir among the inhabitants of the region who had envisioned Bedoya Tamayo as a bulwark of society.

Investigation of Events

The authorities of the administrative center of the municipality of San Jose del Guaviare, police, F-2, and DAS [Administrative Department of Security] began an investigation into the facts and sent information to the police squad headquartered in Villavicencio, from where a commission arrived yesterday to undertake the respective inquiries and at the same time establish the approximate dates on which those persons were killed.

Meanwhile, the investigation being made by the authorities of this region in cooperation with the police squad is being directed toward determining the whereabouts of Mario Castrillon, the helper and direct accomplice in the crimes perpetrated by the sinister personage of Vaupes.

11532
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

SCORE IN TRAFFICKERS WAR: 21 DEAD

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 May 77 p 32-A

[Text] Bogota, 1 May (AFP)--It was learned here today that the number of victims attributed to an international drug ring operating in an extensive area in Vaupes, western Colombia, is increasing.

Up to the present, 21 bodies have been found in a common grave on the "La Rosita" property in the settlement of "El Retorno," almost on the verge of the jungle.

Together with the discovery of the first bodies at the beginning of this week, several kilos of cocaine were found on this property, all a part of what is considered a war to the death between members of rival drug rings.

The authorities are disconcerted by this series of events, whose originator was the owner of "La Rosita," Jesus Bedoya.

Bedoya's body figures among those found circumstantially by the peasants of the region.

Some of the victims that Bedoya executed after utilizing them for the transportation of narcotics, both abroad and in the country, are apparently foreigners, and others may be natives.

It has been verified that the property was used for the processing of large amounts of cocaine that were supposedly shipped out from secret airports in the region.

There are stories concerning the existence of true "private" armies to protect the lives of the ringleaders in the narcotics traffic.

The authorities, however, have neither confirmed nor denied those stories.

A group of investigators traveled to Vaupes last Thursday and witnessed the disinterment of the first 15 bodies at "La Rosita." The investigators fear that the discovery of bodies in the common grave where they were buried will continue to increase.

According to official sources, some of the largest marihuana plantations in the country are in Vaupes, as is true of other regions in the west.

Some of those plantations cover hundreds of hectares, and the marihuana is distributed almost daily to black markets in Colombia and other nations.

BRIEFS

WOMEN COCAINE TRAFFICKERS BUSTED IN LA PAZ--La Paz, 25 April--The narcotics police announced the arrest of two Colombian women who, according to the official report, were trying to leave Bolivia with 4 kilos of cocaine hidden in their underclothing. The director of the narcotics police, Col Aparicio Coca, said that Beatriz Amparo Haya Salinas de Arroyave and Luz Marina Velez de Uribe, both aged 40, were arrested following careful investigations that led the police to the conviction that the two women were trafficking in cocaine. "When we searched their suitcases, we found no evidence," he added. After a first search of the suitcases failed to reveal any trace of cocaine, the agents called in the policewomen. "The drug was skillfully distributed in the linings of the brassieres they were wearing," Colonel Coca said. The two women are now undergoing police interrogation to determine who their contacts in Bolivia are, the colonel added. "The case has made it possible for us to uncover another network of traffickers," he said, on announcing that a third woman, whom he identified as Angela Orroga, also Colombian, had succeeded in leaving Bolivia, "presumably with about the same amount of the drug as the two arrested women were attempting to take out of the country." [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Apr 77 p 3-A] 11532

MARIHUANA PLANTATION DISCOVERED IN SANTANDER--Official sources in Bogota announced that rural police patrols in the Department of Santander discovered a large field of marihuana and arrested a man implicated in the traffic in narcotics. The marihuana crop was found on the "Los Pinos" farm, located in the settlement of San Vicente, in the jurisdiction of the municipality of Sardinata (northern Santander). The authorities estimated that there were 5,000 marihuana plants. They also found several kilos of seed ready for planting. The police arrested the owner of the farm, identified as Emilio Serrano Caceres, 26, during the operation. The marihuana and arrested man were placed in the custody of the competent authorities. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 29 Apr 77 p 13] 11532

COFFEE OR MARIHUANA?--The peasants of the Sierra Nevada region, on being interviewed by reporters, comment on their inclination to abandon traditional crops, such as coffee, in order to devote themselves to the cultivation and production of marihuana. Although it may seem an exaggeration,

these peasants, subjected to constant pressure by the international drug traffic, have decided that the "best" thing to do and easiest way to obtain lucrative earnings is to concentrate on marihuana. This astonishing and no less unbalanced attitude that has been put in the heads of hundreds of inhabitants of the Sierra Nevada and various regions of the Atlantic Coast is the result of the unchecked activities of the native underworld in the service of foreign and domestic "godfathers." The attraction of getting rich quickly, added to the lack of incentives for the production of food and coffee in places distant from centers with marketing facilities and infrastructure, strengthens this decision. And the serious thing about it is that the country, if it fails to deal with the phenomenon, will find its traditional crops diminishing daily, supplanted by plants for evil and corrupt purposes, with the result that the social and economic cost will become a true public calamity. [Text]
[Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 29 Apr 77 p 13] 11532

CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

COCAINE TRAFFICKER ARRESTED BY INTERPOL

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 22 Apr 77 p 16

[Text] A woman has been arrested by Interpol agents when, with a belt around her body, she tried to transport more than 350,000 sucres worth of cocaine paste to Quito.

She was identified as Francisca Correa Cumbicus. She was traveling in one of the buses of the Loja interprovincial transportation cooperative and was arrested in Tambillo.

During the initial investigations after being arrested, the woman said that the drug had been given to her by a Colombian man whose identity was unknown to her as she only knew him by sight. According to her statement, he promised to pay her 10,000 sucres to take the drug to Quito. Since she was poor, she accepted the proposal, with the desire to lift her home out of poverty, the woman said.

The unidentified Colombian man had thought up the method of camouflaging the drug. He had had an abdominal belt made which could hold more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ kilos of cocaine. The woman would look as if she were pregnant when she had the belt on. The belt was covered with a bandage, and cologne had been sprayed on the entire surface. In addition, the woman was wearing a square poncho that the Colombian had bought for her in Loja as well as an overcoat that fully covered the abdominal region.

Despite all this she was discovered and arrested. The police are now looking for the rest of the gang, especially the Colombian man, who, like other elements, utilizes seemingly naive individuals as carriers of the drugs, offering them good pay and economic benefits and deluding them with many promises.

Interpol has stated that it will continue the raids and the daily struggle against the drug traffickers in order to eradicate these elements from our environment, which endanger mostly our youth.

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CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

INTERPOL SEIZES SEVEN DRUG TRAFFICKERS

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 20 Apr 77 p 24

[Text] Guayaquil, 19 April--Interpol agents have arrested seven individuals involved in cocaine, base and marihuana trafficking. The agents seized 8 pounds of marihuana, 6 "lids" of the same drug and 3 envelopes of "base," and are continuing investigations to establish the connections that the arrested traffickers have with elements tied to international gangs.

Arrests

The individuals who were arrested include Dionisio Potes Salvador and Humberto Carlos Brambilla Bravo, from whom were seized the 8 pounds of marihuana that were brought in from the Republic of Colombia. They were preparing to sell the drug at 4,000 sucres a pound to drug addicts and pot smokers in this city.

Also arrested were Luis Hinojosa Alava, who was trying to sell three lids of marihuana in the Milagro district; Galo Fernando Arguello Vinueza, who was carrying three lids of marihuana and trying to get to Duran to sell the drug.

Connections

The other people arrested were Eduardo Alfredo Ramirez Moran, Rodolfo Donoso, who had the envelopes of base, and Marcos Chiriboga Fajardo, who has connections with well-known traffickers in the port whose arrest is being sought.

They will be put into the custody of criminal court justices, and the confiscated drugs will be delivered to the Guayas Provincial Health Headquarters to be incinerated, in accordance with the law on the control and supervision of narcotic drugs.

Another Half Kilo

Meanwhile, a report came in from Huaquillas that a young Ecuadorean man, Galo Noblecilla Almeida, was arrested in Aguas Verdes as he was

attempting to cross the international bridge with a half kilogram of cocaine paste that he had obtained in Peru.

The young trafficker had managed to elude republican police and Peruvian international police but was discovered by members of the customs police in Peru.

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CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

AUTHORITIES BURN LARGE QUANTITY OF DRUGS

Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 7 May 77 p 13

[Text] Last night health authorities incinerated a large quantity of marihuana, cocaine and base in the presence of the criminal court judges that were called upon by the provincial health director, Dr Virgilio Macias Murillo, to legally attest the act.

Dr Macias called together the criminal court judges in this province yesterday evening in order to weigh the various drugs that had been confiscated in different places and that, pursuant to the law, had been deposited for quantitative and qualitative analysis. The results of these tests were reported in the criminal courts, which have begun the legal prosecutions against the traffickers of these drugs.

According to reports, the marihuana, cocaine and base have been duly kept at an appropriate place and hermetically sealed, with the signatures of the various authorities who at different times in compliance with the law were given custody of the drugs. They had been deposited by Interpol at the Provincial Health Headquarters.

After examining and weighing the packages of drugs, the health and criminal court authorities traveled to the southern part of the city, near the lands of the HG [expansion unknown], where they proceeded to burn the drugs.

Authorities Present

Present were: Dr Froilan Avila, first criminal court judge; Dr Manuel Aguinaga, eighth criminal court judge; Miguel Salame, representative of the fifth court district; Martha Freire Roca, delegate from the seventh court district; Azucena Camaton, delegate from the third court district; Vicente Morocho, delegate from the fourth court district; police Maj Camilo Gomez, the provincial head of Interpol; Jose Paez, delegate of the health minister; German Aragon and Capt Eduardo Tabango, Interpol officials.

Worth 13 Million Sucres

It was learned that the incinerated drugs would have commanded 13 million sucres on the black market. This arsenal of drugs included pure cocaine paste, base, marihuana and other types of narcotics.

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ECUADOR

DRUG TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 6 May 77 p 32

[Text] Second Criminal Court Judge in Pichincha Dr Fabian Flores has ordered 8 years regular imprisonment for electrician Carlos Alfredo Espinoza Perez, 28, and 6 years of lesser imprisonment for Jose Rodolfo Cordero Mino, a mechanic, both Ecuadoreans, for drug trafficking.

They will serve their sentences in the Garcia Moreno National Penitentiary. The sentence also stipulates that Espinoza will have to pay a 10,000 sucre fine and Cordero Mino a 5,000 sucre fine. Their time under arrest during the trial will be taken off their sentences.

Once the sentence is officially handed down, the court will ask the national Interpol office for the drug that prompted the trial in order to destroy it in accordance with Decree 1139 of 16 February of this year. The sentence, in turn, will come before the Superior Court for review, and the parties involved will be summoned to exercise their rights once a caution as to default is issued.

Drug Traffickers

The men were accused of the illegal traffic of drugs, specifically cocaine paste weighing 670 grams gross and 695 grams net, which Jose Rodolfo Cordero Mino brought from the border city of Huaquillas to Quito on 4 May 1976 to be delivered to Carlos Alfredo Espinoza. The latter was arrested by Interpol agents as he was trying to sell the drug.

From the testimony, investigatory statements and other proceedings the court determined clearly and overwhelmingly that Arturo Pereira Correa, a fugitive from justice, had in fact persuaded Jose Rodolfo Mino to take part in the illicit drug traffic and that on 4 May 1976 he arrived in Quito with the drug in his possession.

The court took into consideration for the sentence the extenuating circumstances of Jose Rodolfo Cordero Mino's good behavior before and after the trial; in the case of defendant Carlos Espinoza Perez there was no extenuating circumstance that could have been considered.

ECUADOR

COCAINE TRAFFICKER ARRESTED IN GUAYAQUIL

Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Apr 77 p 24

[Text] Guayaquil, 26 April (AEP)--After several months of eluding the police, Wilson Benito Dieb Chedraui, an accused cocaine trafficker, has been captured.

Interpol seized him a week ago, but this became known only recently when Dieb Chedraui was placed in the custody of the fifth criminal court judge, German Libch Requena. It is in this district that he is under indictment for drug trafficking. Also accused of being involved in the traffic are Carmen Elvira Figre (Mosquera); Mario Santiago Gomez Aspiazu, who is a fugitive; Jose Vicente Landivar Viteri; Luis Gonzalez and Pepe Ormaza, who were meeting at a home on Portete Street between Chile and Chimborazo to plan the illegal business.

Two indictments are out against Dieb Chedraui in the first criminal court district, which is presently being run by the sixth district court judge, Dr Carlos Romo Moron, temporarily. Dieb Chedraui has to appear before the judge to make investigatory statements, which will streamline the proceedings that were practically at a standstill.

In order to avoid remaining in the Civil Police Station or in the Coastal Penitentiary, Dieb Chedraui has submitted a medical certificate attesting to his weakening health and asking that he be put into a clinic in the city. It is now known that he is interned in the Vargas Ortega Clinic under police guard.

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CSO: 5300

MEXICO

DEL TORO'S SUCCESSOR NAMED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 29 Mar 77 p 3-A

[Text] Due to the importance of Nuevo Laredo in continuing the permanent campaign against drug traffic, the prosecutor general of the republic has ordered that the Coordinating Office of the Federal Public Ministry [MPF] agencies in the states of Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas and Coahuila remain at this order point, and has named Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez to head the office, succeeding Salvador del Toro Rosales, known as "the Iron Prosecutor."

On 25 Mar 77 the prosecutor general of the republic, Oscar Flores Sanchez, named Aaron Juarez Jimenez coordinator of the campaign against drugs in the northeastern part of the country, which includes the states of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas. Juarez Jimenez arrived here last night.

"By instructions of the prosecutor general of the republic, the coordinating office of the campaign against drugs will be located in this city, since Nuevo Laredo is considered to be of major importance in the region," said Juarez Jimenez, who joined the prosecutor general's office in 1971.

PJF Chief To Have Headquarters Here

The commander of the Federal Judicial Police [PJF] and coordinator in the three states already mentioned, Rafael Diaz Albores, will also have his headquarters here, according to an announcement by Alfredo Aaron Juarez.

Commander Diaz Albores will be heading the PJF in the three states, and as the need arises he will travel to the city or state where he is needed.

Strong Desire to Combat Drug Traffic

Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, 40, told EL MANANA that his greatest interest is to be worthy of the trust placed in him by the prosecutor general of

the republic, Oscar Flores Sanchez, and at the same time to carry on to the finish the permanent campaign against drug traffic.

A few months ago, Aaron Juarez Jimenez was sent here by the former prosecutor general of the republic, Pedro Ojeda Paullada, to make a routine visit to the two agencies of the MPF.

"In 1971 I was named an agent of the MPF assigned to the Office of Preliminary Inquiries in Mexico; later I assumed the post of MPF agent, assistant to the prosecutor general of the federal republic," stated Aaron Juarez.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

SINALOA GOVERNOR: DRUGS OUTVALUE ALL OTHER CROPS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 30 Apr 77 p 36-A

[Article by EXCELSIOR correspondent Alfredo Jimenez]

[Text] Culiacan, Sinaloa, 29 April--While agricultural production in the Culiacan Valley brought in earnings amounting to 5 billion pesos in 1976, the traffic in narcotics exceeded those earnings by 100 percent. This means that the illegal activities of narcotics dealers produced more than 10 billion pesos during the same period.

This is the joint conclusion of Governor Alfonso G. Calderon Velarde and the municipal president of this city, Fortunato Alvarez Castro.

They pointed out, however, that "Operation Condor," under the auspices of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, finally succeeded in eradicating the fields of marihuana and poppies and, in turn, the crime wave that for many years deformed the image of Sinaloa in the areas of tourism and hospitality.

At the present time Sinaloa, and particularly its capital, are going through a period of change that in respect to the agricultural sector alone will bring about an increase of 2 billion pesos on production.

Alvarez Castro explained that the fact that those fields no longer exist does not mean there are no large quantities of narcotics hidden away and that their owners, due to this concealment, are raising prices and obtaining larger profits.

And he added:

"Operation Condor ended, but a second operation began, one of specific actions that will prevent, through strict vigilance, the activities connected with the traffic in narcotics in the city."

Ignorant Narcotics Dealers

Alvarez Castro also said that the native narcotics dealers are particularly ignorant and wasteful. He added that all of them can easily be recognized due to their peculiar manner of dressing and acting.

The abundance of their illegal earnings had the result, in Culiacan, that "even meals at fixed prices disappeared from restaurants and that musical groups for private parties came to charge 6,000 pesos an hour, which only people of that type could pay," he said.

He considered it reasonable to expect that the narcotics dealers would come to the city, since, "no longer having their fields, they will try to establish their centers of operation in the city. That situation, however, has already been foreseen, and the vigilance to prevent it has been stepped up."

He blamed businessmen and merchants for provoking the wave of holdups committed at the expense of their businesses due to paying insufficient attention to their cashiers or tellers.

They are the ones to blame if their employees, by exhibiting "a thick roll of bills, awaken feelings of cupidity in criminals, who unfortunately can be found everywhere in the country."

Not Real Tourists

In referring to the holdups experienced by tourists traveling by road, principally Americans, he said, "Anyone who avoids paying for lodging to save a few pesos is exposed to being robbed by the hundreds of unemployed who overrun the country's highways.

"Persons of that class," he emphasized, "are not tourists; they are braceros or people who have saved a few pesos or dollars during a lifetime and come to Mexico with great pretensions, but without being capable of spending money on lodgings."

11532

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

GEN GALVAN: CRACKDOWN ON DRUGS AND 'SEPTEMBER LEAGUE'

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 2 May 77 p 16-A

[Text] The secretary of defense, General Felix Galvan Lopez, announced that 98 percent of the poppy crop in the northern part of the country, representing perhaps a billion pesos to drug dealers, had been totally destroyed.

The third phase of operation "Condor" is underway, involving 500 army troops and agents of the Attorney General's Office. It is estimated that when this action is completed--in a space of no more than 2 months--the supply base of the Mexican drug market will have been destroyed.

Galvan Lopez was questioned on these matters as he made a symbolic presentation of 61 horses to the Guatemalan Government, represented by Ambassador Felipe Doroteo Monterroso.

The animals, whose total cost was estimated at more than a million pesos, were offered to the Guatemalan Government by President Lopez-Portillo, according to the defense secretary, speaking last Saturday at the army cavalry quarters.

As far as the actions of the 23rd of September Communist League in this country are concerned, Galvan Lopez said they were "not worth worrying about," and that they should be investigated by civil authorities since it was civil law of which they were in violation.

He indicated that they cannot properly be called guerrillas as they attack only the weakest segments of the population, such as the policemen who have been victimized. Should it become guerrilla activity, he said, "we have army personnel trained in such matters."

He reiterated, however, that the intervention of the army to guarantee public safety or to combat delinquency could only be made at the request of the federal government. Such is the case in Oaxaca, where order is being maintained, but where the university has not been occupied.

He went on to say that as far as arms are concerned, the 23rd of September League could never match those of the army, since "we possess the FAL rifle and the CAL carbine, which are results of the latest technology."

As far as army participation in the alliance for production is concerned, the secretary said that the army is co-operating through the SEDENA farms, where they have cattle and are planting vegetables. Their objective, not yet attained, is self-sufficiency, so that production from another sector need not be utilized by army personnel.

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CS0: 5300

MEXICO

DURAZO PUFFERY CONTINUES, IS REBUKED, DEFENDED

Weapons, Electronics Against Terrorists

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 17 Apr 77 p 13-A

[Text] In order to carry out attacks against various sectors, the self-styled "Communist League of 23rd September" and "Red Brigade of 11th February" have obtained information about a number of factories including the schedules of workers' shifts, their working conditions, contributions, allowances, the names of dissatisfied or dismissed workers as well as details on how the trade union leaders operate.

Gen Arturo Durazo Moreno, director of the Federal District Police and Traffic, gave the above information when he released the contents of the studies, plans of action, resumes and other documents seized by Judicial [Police] agents from the three extremist members who were arrested last Monday.

The police chief said that "as of next week the force under his command will have modern patrol cars, helicopters and weapons in addition to electronic equipment which will be used to counteract attacks from the extremists."

He said that President Jose Lopez-Portillo and the city chief Carlos Hank Gonzales issued instructions for the procurement of this equipment and that the first deliveries will arrive next week.

Referring to the "Communist League of 23rd September," Durazo Moreno said that the members of that group know exactly who are the persons in charge of security inside the factories and they also know the vehicles and personnel watching outside the factories and trying to prevent them from distributing their propaganda among workers.

On 11 August the arrested men took part in an attack on Mrs Margarita Lopez-Portillo. According to the documents, the attack failed as a result of planning errors, of having overestimated their forces and underestimated the combat capability of her escort and "because the car which was the target of their attack made a sudden stop," the police official added.

Gen Durazo said that Aurora Castillo Mata, "Belem" or "Jocabel Jimenez de Gonzalez," Jose Luis Esparza Flores "Carlos" or "El Padrino" and Antonio Orozco Michel "Rene" or "Manuel" also gave additional information and he added that "all the police forces are on the alert against any wave of violence that the activists may try to instigate."

On the other hand, Francisco Sahagun Baca, deputy chief of the Investigation Division for Crime Prevention, DIPD, reports that the three individuals have already been handed over to the District Attorney's Office and will probably be handed over to the Mexico State Attorney's Office either today or tomorrow.

He went on to say that the extremists have a "military commission" responsible for planning and executing all violent operations.

"However, they show great shortcomings in their military activity, errors in their investigation, "tips" and knowledge of the ground," the general said on this subject.

He stressed that in the documents the extremists acknowledge the fact that they lack a wide education and they deplore the fact that at their meetings there is little participation in political discussions "due to a narrow-mindedness and lack of initiative which hinders the development of every member of the brigade."

He reported that the ranks of the "Red Brigade of 11th February" comprise "Carlos" and "Rene" as established members; "Adriana," "Daniel" and "Lalo" as contingent members while "Paty" and "Belem" are temporary members.

According to Durazo Moreno parts of the documents seized from the extremists indicate that there is disagreement among the brigade members "due to the private interests of some of them."

Furthermore, after acknowledging that "there may be provocations from the armed groups because they are resentful over the failures they have experienced and because many of their ringleaders are either dead or in prison." The titular head of the DGPYT [General Directorate for Police and Traffic] pointed out that they have found very interesting information which can be useful in continuing investigation.

On the other hand, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic has announced that the arrested persons had been charged with federal crimes.

Bishop Rebukes Durazo's Threats

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 18 Apr 77 pp 1-A, 14-A

[Article by Alfredo Ibarra B., EXCELSIOR reporter]

[Text] Cuernavaca, Morelos, 17 Apr--Bishop Sergio Mendez Arceo said today that the statements made by the Federal District Police authorities "will generate violence, more hatred and greater reaction on the part of those against whom they were made."

In his Sunday sermon, the bishop mentioned the statements made by Gen Arturo Durazo Moreno, chief of the police force in the capital city, who speaking about the "League of 23rd September" said that "we shall track them down like dogs, we shall eliminate them, not a single one will be left."

"The director's remarks," Mendez Arceo said, "cover illegal entering, destruction, arbitrary arrests and a series of violations of individual safeguards committed during the confrontation which took place in the Avante Colony of Mexico City on Thursday, the 14th."

"I am only asking the authorities," he added, "to refrain from abusing the weak and oppressed with unjust arrests, tortures and terrifying punishments as is usually the case."

The church dignitary referred to what he said on 25 February 1976 when he spoke about the kidnaping of Eliego Coronel in Puente de Ixtla expressing solidarity with his relatives and friends and with the people in general, "although I am also in solidarity with those who mistakenly, and driven by a multitude of reasons leading to unconformity, turn to a basically very unpopular struggle. This is why, with the authority of a man dedicated to the Christian process of liberation, I have the right to demand that when investigating a crime the authorities do not abuse the weak or the oppressed with illegal arrests, tortures and terrifying punishments as it is usually done."

Mendez Arceo also mentioned "a case of repression in Morelos." He meant a letter sent by Fulgencio Mendez Moran, a student, who was unjustifiably arrested by the Cuernavaca police on charges of having contacts with subversive groups.

Replies to Bishop

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 19 Apr 77 p 8-A

[Text] "I am not instigating violence; I am eliminating the members of the Communist League of 23rd September and applying the law with an iron fist because they are criminals," Gen Arturo Durazo Moreno said yesterday replying to Bishop Sergio Mendez Arceo's remarks last Sunday in a comment on the action against recently arrested terrorists.

During his Sunday sermon, the prelate said that the attitude of Gen Durazo Moreno "instigates violence, hatred and increased reaction from the people concerned--the activists--who, according to what he said, would be persecuted like dogs until they are eliminated."

Interviewed in his office at the General Directorate of Police and Traffic, the police chief was also asked about complaints from the residents of Retorno 24 in the Avante Colony claiming that on the previous Thursday the police engaged in looting and destruction during the clash with activists.

"I am prepared to pay for any broken windows," he replied, urging the petitioners to come forward and report the facts to him and "when the damage is determined there will be repatriation."

There were also reports of many people being arrested who were not involved in that incident and Gen Durazo said that none of the persons taken to be investigated were still under arrest.

He stressed that the police cannot be soft in their investigations; particularly, he said, when dealing with "professional criminals who also take reprisals against defenseless people."

Then Gen Durazo spoke about the weapons which the police will receive by decision of chief Hank Gonzalez and he announced that the force will be equipped with 175 motorcycles and 500 patrol cars.

We will also have, he added, an electronic panel giving us greater control over every patrol car and showing its location, three helicopters and more machine guns.

Finally, he stressed that as regards the complaints of illegal entering and searching in houses located in the area that was the scene of recent armed clashes, the agents involved will be investigated to determine their responsibility and disciplinary action will be taken on the basis of the findings.

He also denied that police agents had been shot at and attacked or that any of them was suffering from psychosis. But he confirmed that the search for and fight against activists will continue.

Meanwhile, Salvador Martinez Rojas, president of the Higher Court of Justice in the Federal District, said yesterday that individual safeguards were violated last Thursday during the confrontation between activists and police in the Avante Colony.

Martinez Rojas told a press conference that the entire set of laws involved in the trial system are under revision to make some reforms and to adapt them to the reality. "The changes in them are expected to be positive," he added.

He admitted that many delays occur in many trials, that many people are under arrest and he restated that judges who do not pass sentence within a year, as often happens, are officially answerable.

However, he explained that every trial must be studied separately to see if it is humanly possible to pass a verdict within a year. "There is much goodwill on the part of the Federal Government to end all irregularities in trials," he explained.

8796

CSO: 3010

MEXICO

NARCOTICS CZAR BEFORE JUDGE

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 26 Mar 77 p 3-B

[Text] Celerino Pena Garza, considered to be one of the czars of the narcotics traffic in Ciudad Mier, Tamaulipas, and other cities along the river, yesterday made his preliminary statement in the 2d District Court, and during the proceedings he boasted childishly that he was unaware that the charge made against him by his cousin, Artemio Gonzalez Pena, alias "The Artist," concerned marihuana.

As will be recalled, Pena Garza was arrested last Thursday at "Las Moritas" ranch in the vicinity of Ciudad Mier, Tamaulipas, when Federal Judicial Police [PJF] agents under the command of Rodolfo Lopez Herrera, were carrying out some investigations in the area.

The PJF arrived there unexpectedly, and imagine their surprise at finding a large quantity of marihuana, weighing more than 7 tons, in a huge warehouse.

They immediately proceeded to locate and arrest Celerino Pena Gonzalez, who confessed that the marihuana had been given to him by his guardian, his cousin Artemio Gonzalez Pena, alias "The Artist."

Later he was placed in custody of the federal judge, who formulated the charge against him and turned him over to the 2d District judge, where he made his preliminary statement yesterday. He confirmed in part the statements made before the Federal Social representative, but at the same time, Celerino Pena Gonzalez alleged he had been pressured by the Federal Police.

8735

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

DRUG ADDICT DENIES CHARGE OF TRAFFICKING

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 12 Apr 77 p 2-A

[Text] Adolfo Torres Calderon, charged with a crime against public health under the category of heroin trafficking, yesterday morning made his preparatory statement to Xavier Luevano Mesta, the head of the penal hearing board of the Coahuila District Court.

The defendant said that he is a drug addict but denied the charges that he was a drug trafficker. He said he has been a heroin addict for about a year and that he uses 1.5 grams of heroin daily to satisfy his craving.

Several grams of heroin in packets ready for sale and 4 grams of heroin found inside a ["presnativo"] were seized from Adolfo Torres Calderon.

The defendant told the federal prosecuting attorney among other things that he recently bought for \$700 a shipment of heroin from Julio Espino who lives at 310 calle 34, Guadalajara, Jalisco, with whom he had made other drug transactions.

He also said that in Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, he sells and distributes heroin in packets ready for use at \$10 each.

However, in his preparatory statement, he denied completely all the charges against him. He said that the drug seized from him was for his personal use.

The federal prosecuting attorney did not question the defendant and Pedro Polendo Rios, the defense lawyer, asked only three questions. The judge will rule if there is enough evidence to continue penal proceedings against him.

Also, official sources informed EL DIARIO that Julio Espino, who is said to supply the heroin, escaped although he had been discovered and was about to be arrested.

Publication of reports on the arrest of Adolfo Torres Calderon in Acuna, Coahuila is said to have been a determining factor contributing to Espino's escape.



Adolfo Torres Calderon. He denied the charges of possession and traffic of heroin. He said he is a drug addict. He had told the federal prosecuting attorney the contrary, that he had obtained the drug from Julio Espino for \$700 in Guadalajara.

8923

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

INNOCENT PLEA TO HEROIN EXPORT CHARGE

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 13 Apr 77 p 3-A

[Text] Alfredo Rivera Lara, against whom penal proceedings No 182/976 were prepared for a crime against public health under the category of exporting heroin, yesterday elaborated on his statements to Xavier Luevano Mesta, the head of the Penal Hearing Board of the Coahuila District Court.

Alfredo Rivera Lara said that he is entirely innocent of the charges against him, that he is not addicted to any drug or alcohol.

In reply to questions by Pedro Polendo Rios, the defense attorney, he said that he has no knowledge of drugs and that he never had had in his possession the drug that he is accused of owning.

Federal Judicial Police agents arrested Rivera Lara at the Hotel Santos of this city after receiving a complaint from narcotics agents of the neighboring city after another person was captured at Eagle Pass, Texas, with 20 grams of heroin.

The hearing ended a few minutes after the defendant denied that the confiscated drug was his property.



Alfredo Rivera Lara. He is charged with a crime against public health under the category of exporting heroin. He testified to the Federal Court that he does not own the drug and that he has no knowledge of drugs.

8923

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

CHARGES OF OWNERSHIP OF HEROIN

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 13 Apr 77 p 3-A

[Text] Javier Ortiz Garza, the owner of Motel Venecia, testified at a hearing by Xavier Luevano Mesta, head of the Penal Hearing Board of the Coahuila District Court, in the proceedings against Inocente Rodriguez for a crime against public health under the category of possession and transportation of heroin.

EL DIARIO was informed that Ortiz Garza said that in September 1975 several persons who alleged they were Federal Judicial Police agents stayed at his hotel.

He added that they occupied room 19. Their names are Daniel Angulo Castro, Rogelio Felix and Marco Antonio Gastelum.

He mentioned that sometimes Rafael Chavez Baldazo stayed at Hotel Venecia during the previously mentioned period of September and the end of 1975.

Official spokesmen told EL DIARIO that during an assignment involving Inocente Rodriguez Rodriguez, he said that the heroin seized from a truck in his possession was supplied to him by a person he named.

Rafael Chavez Baldazo is the name of the person given by Inocente Rodriguez Rodriguez. In a photo he wears a beard.[sic]. It does not show the ravages of the drug on him which is now evident.



Rafael Chavez Baldazo. He is constantly linked with drug trafficking. Inocente Rodriguez said he owned heroin.

8923

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA, HEROIN BUSTS--Federal police agents arrested nine drug traffickers yesterday, and seized 3,974 kilos of marihuana and 420 grams of heroin. Elpidio Hernandez was apprehended near the "Placido Villapudua" ranch in the Hidalgo district of San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora. The arrested man had 4,052 packets of marihuana, weighing 3,891 kilos, hidden there. Also in San Luis Rio Colorado, federal police arrested Martin Lopez Ponce, Marco Antonio Fuentes Baena, Javier, Humberto and Alejandro Fuentes Medina, Gilberto Fuentes Esteves, Maria Dolores Medina and Virgilio Rodriguez, who had a marihuana distribution center in Madero Alley, between First and Second Streets. At that place, police found 83 kilos of marihuana hidden in a diesel fuel tank. In Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, police apprehended a drug trafficker who was carrying 420 grams of heroin. The arrested man said that the drug had come from the "San Antonio ejido," in the municipality of Mapimi, Durango, where an underground laboratory was also found. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 27 Apr 77 p 32-A] 8926

MARIHUANA SEIZED IN MEXICALI--Mexicali, B.C.N., 26 April--Four tons of packaged marihuana ready to be sent to the United States was seized by federal police. During the police action two people were arrested, various sized arms were confiscated, and a great number of cartridges for these arms were seized as well. The arrest took place on the Hidalgo ranch in the municipality of San Luis, in the state of Sonora. The ranch belongs to the Villapudua brothers. Liboria Hernandez Lizarraga and Francisco Javier Meraz, arrested on the ranch for possessing drugs and confiscated arms, were presented to the agent of the Federal Public Ministry, Miguel Conde Camacho. In another action, federal police agents patrolling the highway leading to San Luis arrested Martin Ponce Lopez and his assistant, Marco Antonio Fuentes, who were riding in a truck carrying 900 packets of marihuana. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 27 Apr 77 p 32-A] 8926

CHIHUAHUA, SONORA, MICHOACAN BUSTS--The attorney general's office reported that 3,718 kilos of marihuana and 10 vehicles were confiscated in four different actions during the last 48 hours. Eighteen alleged drug traffickers were arrested during these actions. Gildardo Garcia Garcia and Alejandro Garcia Ochoa were arrested by federal police agents in Chihuahua

for possessing 154 burlap bags containing 1,972 kilos of marihuana which they had prepared in a pick-up truck. In the city of Nogales, Sonora, nine men and a woman who were members of a band were apprehended, and 790 kilos of marihuana and eight vehicles used for the transportation of the drug were seized. Jose Hernandez Picazo and Julia Picazo Penalosa were surprised with 256 kilos of marihuana which they had prepared for sale, on the San Jeronimo ranch in the municipality of Huetamo, Michoacan; in addition, two guns were confiscated from them. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 26 Apr 77 p 8-A] 8926

DRUG ABUSE INCREASES--Chihuahua, Chih., 25 April--The Center for Youth Integration warned a group of teachers in the federal and state school systems about the problem of drug addiction which is more and more alarming every day, and urged the cooperation of these teachers as well as parents, in order to solve the problem. The director of the center, Dr Raul Antonio Flores Salas, said that it is now difficult to determine the degree to which the youths are addicted to drugs. He said that hundreds of youths who attend local preparatory schools and university schools, ranging in age from 14 to 16, are trapped in the vice of drugs in the most common form, marihuana. Furthermore, outside the schools, in the neighborhoods, the problem of the use of inhaled drugs among minors is increasing, and should be confronted. The use of marihuana and other drugs, including inhaled drugs, which begins for the most part out of curiosity and eventually becomes a habit, ends up destroying the individual both physically and mentally. "Drug use is a reality, and we should take it for what it is in order to combat the problem," said directors and teachers of secondary schools in the city. They added that a few months ago surveys were taken in secondary and preparatory schools to determine more accurately the seriousness of the problem. Although the results were not released, they said that they were alarming, and that immediate action was of vital importance. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 26 Apr 77 p 9-A] 8926

A DRUG PUSHER'S PROCEEDINGS--Xavier Luevano Mesta, head of the penal hearing board of the Coahuila District Court, informed EL DIARIO that Dr Raul Trevino Martinez and Dr Maria Ernestina del Bosque Morales confirmed yesterday at 1000 hours the expert findings made at the time of the arrest of Ricardo Gonzalez Zamora against whom proceedings are being made for a crime against public health under the categories of possession of marihuana and opium paste. The aforementioned doctors stated in their expert opinion that they have no knowledge of the process for taking opium paste which Ricardo Gonzalez Zamora alleged he used. The municipal investigators, under the chief of the State Police and Traffic Directorate, seized the opium paste in his possession. Ricardo Gonzalez Zamora had stated officially to the judicial authorities that to take the opium paste seized from him, he dissolved it in alcohol and then inhaled it. However, this method is not among the known systems used by drug addicts "to satisfy their cravings". All indications confirm Ricardo Gonzalez Zamora's original statement that he had the opium paste to show as a sample. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 12 Apr 77 p 2-A] 8923

AMERICAN GIVEN PRISON SENTENCE--Ray Mariol Milton, an American, was found guilty of a crime against public health under several categories. He was sentenced to 6 years 6 months imprisonment and fined 15,000 pesos or 2 additional months imprisonment. The Federal Judicial Police captured him on 7 April 1975. Alejo Sierra Gomez, the Third District Court judge, found him guilty and decreed the sentence. Ray Mariol Milton had been arrested and turned over to

the District Court for processing for a crime against public health under the category of attempted illegal exportation of marihuana. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 17 Apr 77 p 3-B] 8923

DRUG TRAFFICKER IMPRISONED--Jose Maria de Leon, the Third District Court secretary, announced yesterday the order of imprisonment against Jose de Jesus Lopez Rodriguez, a drug trafficker being processed by that court for a crime against public health under the category of possession and supplying marihuana. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 17 Apr 77 p 3-B] 8923

AMERICAN SET FREE--Alejo Sierra Gomez, Third District Court judge, issued an order for the release of Kennet[sic] Eugene Rainey, an American, for lack of sufficient evidence to process him. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 17 Apr 77 p 3-B] 8923

AMERICAN GIVEN PRISON SENTENCE--Alejo Sierra Gomez, the Third District Court judge of Nuevo Laredo, sentenced James Rulf [sic] Norman and Raul Pena Garza, respectively to 6 years and to 5 years 3 months imprisonment in this municipality's jail and fined them between 15,000 and 5,000 pesos for crimes against public health. The American was arrested here on 20 December 1975 by municipal preventative and rural police. They captured him at General Lauro Villar Beach in a light truck loaded with a ton of marihuana in brick form inside jute sacks. The police at the beach also found sunk in the mouth of Rio Bravo a similar light truck loaded with marihuana. The driver had escaped by swimming across the river to the United States. Raul Pena was arrested on 26 February last year with almost 10 grams of marihuana seeds in his possession. Roberto Ruiz, the director of the Matamoros Rehabilitation Center, Municipal Jail, notified the criminals of their sentences. [Text] [Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 12 Apr 77 p 8-A] 8923

MARIHUANA SEIZED ON BUS--Federal Police intercepted 300 kilograms of marihuana on board a bus; the campaign against narcotics traffic is now being extended to bus lines and railways, where suspicious luggage is being inspected. This was reported by the federal public minister Antonio Quezada Fornelli. The name of the person in whose luggage the marihuana was found was not released. Quezada Fornelli called on bus drivers and railway conductors not to accept suspicious personal shipments. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 May 77 p 32-A] 9077

COCAINE SHIPMENT FROM PANAMA--Federal Police agents, working out of the International Airport, yesterday intercepted 5 kilograms of pure cocaine which a Panamanian youth was trying to smuggle through in a false-bottomed suitcase. Detectives Raul Torres Cruz and Edmundo Juarez did not reveal the smuggler's name in order "not to impede the investigation which will be carried out." They said that the tall, fair-skinned youth probably belongs to an international organization maintaining contacts in Mexico, and that for this reason an intense investigation into the case will be made. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 2 May 77 p 8-A] 9077

MARIHUANA BUST IN CIUDAD JUAREZ--Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua--Early this morning Federal Judicial Police agents arrested two persons who were found to have 138 kilos of marihuana in the trunk of their car. One managed to get away, and the other, who was taken prisoner, escaped from jail by breaking through its bars. The authorities reported that the police, noticing the suspicious behavior of the two men, ordered them to halt, but the latter, finding themselves surrounded, got out of their 1975 Rambler (with Chihuahua license plates DRA-823), and the police only managed to arrest Jorge Ramos Barbosa, alias El Junior de Chihuahua. The headquarters of the police command ordered that the arrested man, together with the marihuana, be taken to the agency of the Public Ministry, headed by Norberto Salinas Navarrete. Ramos Barbosa was placed in a Judicial Police cell for the time necessary to make his statement. He escaped from it early this morning by using a portion of his bunk to bend back the cell bars. Ramos Barbosa was guarded by two agents who did not realize he had escaped until he was summoned to make his statement this morning. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 May 77 p 28-A] 11532

MARIHUANA IN PILLS--Cancun, Q.R., 25 Mar. Judicial Police at dawn this morning arrested two brothers, Luis and Gustavo de Hoyos, nephews of the secretary of government of the state of Yucatan, who were attempting to supply marihuana to the rest of the country from the city of Merida, in the form of pills, "curiously" manufactured with a dough of "Indian cannabis." After their arrest, the brothers, 23 and 24 years old and employees of the Rural Peninsular Credit Bank, confessed that Juan Rosado had given them the drug. Rosado was arrested a few hours later by federal agents. In all, the agents seized eight pills which were 10 centimeters in diameter and weighed about 300 grams. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 26 Mar 77 p 4] 8735

MARIHUANA SEIZURE IN NACO--Federal Judicial Police [PJF] headed by Cdr Hector Arturo Rojas Diaz dealt another blow to the narcotics traffic yesterday when they seized a ton of marihuana and arrested three alleged drug traffickers. Pedro Mireles Malpica, Federal Public Ministry [MPF] agent in Nogales, informed EL DIARIO DE NOGALES that the aforementioned police department, after a long investigation, located a large shipment of "grass," which several narcotics dealers had hidden in their house in Naco. When the agents entered the home, property of Julia Serrano Cardenas, 29, of this city, they found 996 1-kilo packages of marihuana. A short time later the same agents arrested Francisco Torres Lopez, 34, husband of Julia Serrano, and Ezequiel Martinez Lopez, 24, of Bisbee, Arizona. The three, along with the marihuana, were brought here yesterday by federal agents and placed in custody of the MPF. [Text] [Nogales EL DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 25 Mar 77 p 4] 8735

MARIHUANA SHIPPED BY RAIL--Mazatlan, Sin., 24 Mar. A Pacific Railway car here was found to contain 10 tons of marihuana, and Federal Judicial Police [PJF] agents have arrested two persons they believe might have

some information leading to the arrest of the person or persons responsible. Unofficially it is known that Francisco Lyn, dispatcher for the Pacific Railway, and a woman named Refugio are being questioned. PJF agents also learned that the car was loaded at an industrial loading platform in the Urias settlement, south of Mazatlan. Finally, it was learned that the persons who rented the railway car from Pacific Railway will soon be identified, and that those being questioned are being held at the Loma Atravesada Military Camp. [Text] [Nogales EL DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 25 Mar 77 p 4] 8735

MARIHUANA BUSTS IN BC AND MICHOACAN--Uruapan, Michoacan, 1 May--Six narcotics dealers from whom 311 kilograms of marihuana were confiscated were captured by the police and army in two operations carried out early this morning in Huetamo and Apatzingan, according to a report issued by Marco Antonio Ramirez, agent of the Federal Public Ministry. He specified that in the first operation, which took place on the San Jeronimo farm in the municipality of Huetamo, they seized 196 kilograms of marihuana in "grena" [raw] condition--in other words, not "espulgada" [winnowed or separated]--and 68 in packages, ready for sale. The marihuana, a super 38-caliber pistol, and a rifle of United States manufacture were seized from the narcotics dealers Julio Picaso Penalosa and Jose Hernandez Picase. In the second raid, which took place on the Las Anonas farm in the municipality of Apatzingan, the arrests were made of Alberto Valencia Guerrero, Agustin Martinez Garcia, Antonio Martinez Chavez, and Pedro Montejano Cervantes when they were preparing to transport 47 kilograms of marihuana. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 May 77 p 28-A] 11532

TRAFFICKERS AND VEHICLES SEIZED IN BAJA CALIFORNIA--Mexicali, BC, 29 April--Agents of the Federal Judicial Police dealt a blow to the narcotics traffic in this city and the port of Ensenada today when they seized 283 kilos of marihuana destined for "distributors" in San Francisco, in the southern part of the peninsula, and arrested three narcotics dealers. During the operation they also seized a motor launch in which a narcotics dealer was waiting with two pickups. The men arrested are Salvador Cosio Ramirez and two Americans, Marck Graner and Daniel Peters. One of the pickups, driven by Marck Graner, was loaded with five sacks of marihuana. Donald [sic] Peters was captured when he was waiting on board the motor launch for the arrival of the shipment of marihuana he was going to take to San Francisco. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 May 77 p 28-A] 11532

CSO: 5300

URUGUAY

POLICE ROUND UP OPIUM TRAFFICKERS, SMUGGLERS

Five Opium Traffickers, Smugglers Arrested

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 16 Apr 77 p 8

[Excerpt] The Second Court of Proceedings had to do 33 straight hours of arduous and tiring work to investigate and indict those implicated in drug traffic and possession.

Several days ago personnel from the Dangerous Drugs and Narcotics Brigade under commissioner Hugo Campos Hermida worked on the case that reached the police in an unexpected manner.

The exhausting investigation began when police arrested a man who was desperately trying to place a certain quantity of drugs on the market.

He was arrested and interrogated and he said that an accomplice had a certain quantity of opium buried on a farm in Colonia Department. The source of this alkaloid is still being debated. It could be payment of a debt between smugglers. Other versions indicate that the drug in its primitive state could be the result of theft from a well-known smuggler. At any rate, the fact is that the man arrested in the capital gave certain confidential data that permitted the police to arrest a second person.

His residence was raided and a large quantity of drugs was confiscated. He named a third accomplice. Although he had little to do with drug possession, there was an important connection with the individuals already arrested--the illegal sale of certain merchandise.

This third person manufactured special packaging to simulate imported merchandise.

Along with the third person, a fourth individual who had smuggled merchandise from Argentina and England into the country was arrested.

As inevitable consequence of this police work, a fifth person involved in irregularities was arrested.

Several others were interrogated about this new case of drug traffic and possession. They were slowly being released after it was proven that they were totally unconnected with the matter.

Five Indicted

When the acting officials finished their investigation, the proceedings judge took charge last night. After long hours of testimony and interrogation, he indicted five people. Meanwhile proceedings concerning several bakers are being continued.

Those indicted were Victor Minam Frechou, Uruguayan, married and 50 years old. He resides in Palonia. He was the man who had the drug and tried to place it on the capital market. He was connected with the others implicated. He was indicted for violation of Article 31 of Law 14.294 on importing, exporting or possessing hallucinogenic elements. Luis Alberto Antonio Corradi Penzado, Uruguayan, married and 53 years old lives at Apartment 2, 2095 Calle Caragutatay. He was indicted for "swindling" and for violation of Article 31 of Law 14.294. Exploiting his connections with the others, he adulterated saffron and packed it in boxes manufactured by an accomplice. The substance which he called Spanish saffron was a mixture of pepper and dye which could be toxic especially to children.

The third man indicted was Ignacio Osvaldo Carbone Saettone, Uruguayan, married, 57 years old, residing at 3554 Calle Napoles. He owned a printing press where he manufactured boxes for the adulterated saffron. He also printed labels, seals and special decorations to perfect the fraud. He has a record for similar crimes; in the past he counterfeited different tax stamps and seals.

Luis Ignacio Froz, Uruguayan, married, 33 years old, residing at Apartment 202, 1347 Perez Castellano, also went to jail. Through his relationship with the others, he had smuggled a large amount of contraband including a large quantity of raisins from Argentina, almost 100 bottles of a very expensive brand of perfume and 17,700 razor blades from Great Britain. The judge called it the crime of "concealment of contraband."

The last of those indicted was Alvaro Luis Pla Viera alias "El Polaco" who resides at Laguna de los Patos in Chuy (Rocha Department). He was indicted for violation of Article 31 of Law 14.294 (drug traffic).

Sixth Member of Opium Gang Taken Into Custody

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 23 Apr 77 p 8

[Text] The public prosecutor of a rich businessman who lives near the border and was indicted in Montevideo last night for drug possession could ask between 3 to 10 years in jail.



Wilfredo Washington Gonzalez Da Costa, businessman indicted yesterday in the opium case.

The indicted man, sixth of a gang discovered by the Dangerous Drugs and Narcotics Brigade, was the person who delivered the opium smuggled into Uruguay from Brazil to a druggist on Avenida Artigas de Chuy for analysis.

He is Wilfredo Washington Gonzalez Da Costa alias "Farina", Uruguayan, married and 41 years old. The proceedings judge, Dr Juan Carlos Larrieux, found him guilty of violation of Article 31 of Law 14.294 of 11 January 1975.

With this sixth indictment--the pharmacist was released because he alleged ignorance of the facts and his connection with the gang could not be proven--the police felt the case concerning the entrance of a considerable quantity of opium into our country was closed. This led the authorities to plan to discuss the existence of that drug in Uruguay as soon as possible.

As reported before, the specialized services of the National Information and Intelligence Office (Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs) knew of the entrance of almost 2 kilos of opium into national territory and also knew that its possessors would not be able to sell it. They arrested one of the principals--with a record for drug trafficking--and then arrested more than 20 people during the investigation.

After the usual investigations, some people were released while five were sent to jail by Judge Larrieux.

Those indicted were Victor Minam Frechou, possessor of opium who tried to "pass it" on the market; he was connected with the others. The judge indicted him and Alvaro Luis Pla Viera for "drug traffic."

Luis Alberto Antonio Corradi Penzado went behind bars for "swindling." He exploited his connections with the drug traffickers by adulterating saffron and labeling it as imported. The printer who made the packaging labels

for this mixture of saffron and dye--Ignacio Osvaldo Carbone Saettone-- was also jailed.

Luis Ignacio Froz was indicted for "concealment of contraband." (He smuggled raisins, perfume and razor blades, exploiting his connections with the drug traffickers.)

With the indictment of Gonzalez Da Costa the "opium" case is closed although the ramifications that this can have on the sale of the "additive" to different local bakers are unknown. At present it has not been decided what to do about the three bakers summoned by the court because they used the additive, ignoring its toxicity.

A technical determination of the quality of the drug confiscated by the Narcotics Brigade was made. It is pure opium according to an official report sent to the judge.

7717

CSO: 5300

COUNCIL AGAINST LESSENING PENALTIES FOR MARIHUANA

Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 3 May 77 p 3

[Text] Smiths Falls (Special)--With less than five minutes of discussion Monday night, town council endorsed a resolution opposing the decriminalization of the use of marijuana and reduction of penalties under the Narcotics Control Act.

Seven of nine councillors voted in favor of the resolution requested in a letter from the townships of Shackleton and Machin in the district of Cochrane. Copies of the resolution will be forwarded to the federal minister of justice, the solicitor-general of Canada, the attorney-general of Ontario, Leeds MP Tom Cossitt and Lanark MLA Doug Wiseman.

No negative vote was taken, but two councillors, Alfred Crate and Forrest Davidson, refused to vote in favor.

Crate said he did not believe in jail sentences for the use of marijuana. "According to what I have read, the use of marijuana is no worse than alcohol or tobacco," he said.

Davidson felt he and the remainder of council were taking action without sufficient information.

CSO: 5320

ROWBOTHAM TRIAL TESTIMONY; GUILTY VERDICT

Dope Smuggler's Guide Described

Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 27 Apr 77 p 46

[Text] Brampton (CP)--"Between Friends," a book the federal government commissioned as a pictorial tribute to Canada-United States ties on the event of the U.S. Bicentennial, was described by a self-confessed dope dealer Tuesday as an aid to drug smugglers.

Robert Rowbotham, 26, said at his county court trial that "Between Friends" is "a handy book for drug importers" since it provides photos of common borders between Canada and the U.S.--making unguarded crossings easier to find.

Rowbotham, formerly of Beeton, Ont., has confessed in court to being a marijuana dealer in Ontario but he has pleaded not guilty to trafficking in hashish. He was charged after hashish was seized by RCMP more than three years ago.

RCMP officers have testified that about one ton of hashish was first detected at Toronto International Airport where it arrived in 16 crates on December 18, 1973.

Rowbotham said he advanced money to David Cripps, 30, of Mississauga, in 1973 to rent a Mississauga house and use it as "a stash house" for three large marijuana shipments he was arranging.

Part of the one ton of hashish was seized from the same house January 8, 1974, by RCMP officers who arrested Cripps and three others there.

The four pleaded guilty last October to conspiracy to traffic and were sentenced to various jail terms, Cripps getting seven years in prison.

Rowbotham's defence is that he was a marijuana dealer and he had nothing to do with importing the ton of hashish into Canada.

Cripps has testified that Rowbotham was a brain behind the hashish smuggling.

Annual Marihuana Earnings \$250,000

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 3 May 77 p 12

[Text] Brampton--A self-confessed marijuana dealer, being tried on a charge of conspiracy to smuggle a ton of hashish into Canada testified yesterday that in 1971-72 he and a partner would gross \$75,000 in a week.

Robert Rowbotham, 26, formerly of Beeton, told a Peel County Court jury that his net profit from marijuana deals averaged \$5,000 a week. He agreed with federal prosecutor Patrick Duffy that his net share came to about a quarter of a million dollars a year.

He said to gross \$75,000, he and his partner would bring in 500 pounds of marijuana and sell it for \$150 a pound.

Testifying under the protection of the Canada Evidence Act, he said that his income tax forms showed earnings of between \$20,000 and \$35,000 through some "straight" businesses.

Mr. Rowbotham and four others were charged in January, 1974, after the RCMP seized part of the hashish shipment from a Mississauga home. The others pleaded guilty last October to conspiracy to traffic and are serving jail terms.

Mr. Rowbotham's defence is that he dealt in marijuana but never in hashish. He testified he invested all his drug earnings in more drug deals and lost everything. Now, he said, his wife supports him and their children through welfare payments.

Mr. Rowbotham said he never put his drug earnings in any of the "straight" businesses that he ran with Michael Thornton of Toronto, owner of a jewelry store on Yorkville Avenue.

He said he made \$20,000 from a vegetarian restaurant he and others ran in Rochdale College and invested this money in the import-export of jewelry and clothes, music concerts and even a nursing home in Brampton.

He denied depositing any of his drug earnings into a Swiss bank account that he and Mr. Thornton had opened jointly in 1971, when Mr. Rowbotham was only 20. He said he never took any interest in the "straight" businesses and let Mr. Thornton and a Toronto lawyer handle them.

"You're crazy," Mr. Rowbotham told Mr. Duffy when the prosecutor suggested that in 1972 alone about half a million dollars passed through the Swiss account.

Mr. Rowbotham spends his seventh day in the witness box tomorrow. He will be cross-examined further by Mr. Duffy.

Guilty of Conspiracy To Smuggle Hashish

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 12 May 77 pp 1, 2

[Text] Brampton--Robert Rowbotham, a self-confessed big-time marijuana dealer with humble drug beginnings in Toronto's Rochdale College in 1969, was convicted yesterday of conspiracy to smuggle a ton of hashish into Canada.

An 11-member Peel County Court jury took nearly 14 hours spread over two days to reach the verdict. However, it acquitted Rowbotham of conspiracy to traffic and conspiracy to possess for the purpose of trafficking.

Rowbotham, 26, formerly of Beeton, maintained that he was the area's biggest marijuana dealer, importing as much as half a ton a week in 1971-72, but that he never dealt in hashish.

Rowbotham, who sat next to his lawyer throughout the trial rather than in the prisoner's dock, turned and smiled at his sobbing wife, Paula, after the verdict. He said a few words to her, then walked away with two court constables waving the peace sign.

Rowbotham, the father of three, will be sentenced today by Judge Stephen Borins. He faces a minimum seven-year penitentiary term. The judge remanded Rowbotham in custody, revoking his \$50,000 bail.

It was learned from court sources that Rowbotham's preliminary hearing and his trial may have cost taxpayers a total of \$500,000 to \$1-million. The trial began last November, but the jury did not hear evidence until February.

Rowbotham's defence lawyer said later that he has recommended to his client that he appeal the case on the basis that the judge asked the jury to consider laws on aiding and abetting in the three conspiracy charges.

Defence counsel Moishe Reiter charged in his address to the jury that part of the prosecution evidence was slanted by the RCMP to set up Rowbotham.

He also alleged that the prosecution had introduced irrelevant evidence, such as innuendoes, to defame Rowbotham and connect him to the hashish.

At one point, in the absence of the jury, after Mr. Reiter kept on about Rowbotham's being an RCMP target and the police "stretching beyond limits to assign culpability," Judge Borins replied quickly about the accusations.

"Forgive me for saying so, Mr. Reiter," the judge said, "but it doesn't surprise me in the least from the evidence I've heard in this trial."

Federal prosecutor Patrick Duffy termed the whole defence "simply an attack on the RCMP."

Rowbotham was also defended by Toronto lawyers Joseph Kappy and David Cheifetz. Paul Kennedy assisted in the prosecution.

The hashish, in 16 crates, arrived at Toronto International Airport on December 18, 1973. On January 8, 1974, RCMP raided a Mississauga home and arrested David Cripps, 30, and three others and seized part of the ton of hashish. Rowbotham was arrested the same day at his Beeton farm.

Cripps and the others pleaded guilty last October to conspiracy to traffic in hashish and were given jail terms, with Cripps' getting seven years in penitentiary.

In the Rowbotham trial, the prosecution relied mainly on wiretapped telephone conversations between Rowbotham and Cripps and evidence given by Cripps that Rowbotham and a Toronto boutique owner were the brains behind the hashish smuggling.

In one telephone call, made by Rowbotham to Cripps, Rowbotham asks whether all 16 came to the party and whether somebody could bring him a taste of the wine right away.

In the same conversation Rowbotham refers to another party and expresses relief at the end of the conversation. Under cross-examination about why he was relieved, Rowbotham said "because my hashish trip was secure."

He quickly explained that the statement was a slip of the tongue and he had meant marijuana because Cripps, who smuggled marijuana for him and distributed it in Ontario, was finishing the final phase of a large marijuana shipment distribution for Rowbotham at that time.

Cripps also admitted that he was testifying in the hope of early parole.

In his address, Mr. Reiter referred to this admission and said Cripps was "a desperate liar."

He said the fact that Cripps was no longer in Warkworth Penitentiary showed that the police had already fulfilled their promise to get him early parole.

Mr. Reiter also referred to a Hydro bill allegedly found at Rowbotham's farm. The bill was for the Mississauga home where part of the hashish was found and which Rowbotham admitted was a stash house that Cripps had rented for his marijuana only.

The defence lawyer said the bill was obviously planted because it was not fingerprinted. He said the police also planted 6 1/2 pounds of hashish found at the farm because nobody at the farm had ever seen this hashish.

Mr. Reiter also referred to testimony by the RCMP's wiretap expert that he dressed up as a Bell Canada employee and broke into a terminal box to wiretap Cripps' telephone and also bugged the phone of an innocent Toronto man by mistake.

He also referred to testimony from a police officer that Rowbotham was the RCMP's target nine months before his arrest and said "do you want a society which lives by these rules? You cannot trust a group of people that would go to this length."

Mr. Duffy said he was not a defence lawyer for the police, but investigative techniques varied, depending on the persons being investigated.

"Sometimes you have to fight fire with fire," he said.

He asked the jurors to see if they could reconcile Rowbotham's being described as a "peace-loving, non-violent vegetarian" with another defence witness's description of Rowbotham's "hurling insults at a policeman" outside Toronto's Rochdale College.

He also pointed to the \$73,000 seized from a crib at Rowbotham's farm. Rowbotham and other witnesses testified that the money was for a Stevie Wonder concert at Toronto's Varsity Stadium in June, 1974, which was scrapped after the money was seized.

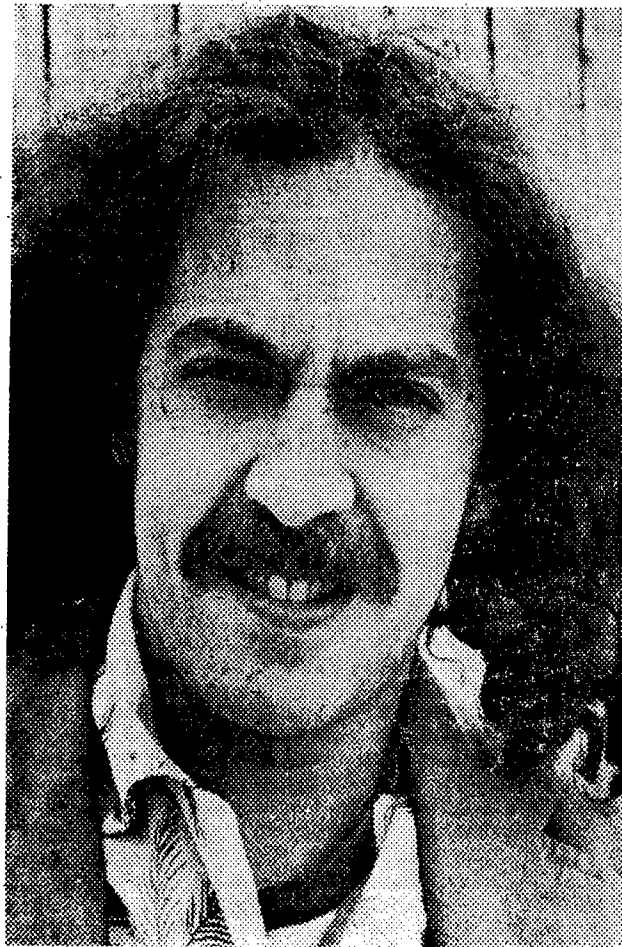
Mr. Duffy pointed to conflicting evidence given by Reginald Young, one of the main promoters of the concert, who testified that the concert was scrapped after Mr. Wonder dropped out of the show.

He found it improbable that Rowbotham should know about the hashish, where it was stored and when it was to be picked up and then maintained that he knew about these things only because Cripps had told him.

Rowbotham had testified that in one telephone conversation he was simply advising Cripps to pick up the hashish because he did not want to be blamed for any failure in a deal with which he was not connected.

Mr. Duffy, referring to Cripps' not being in penitentiary, cited testimony given by Anthony Greystone, a convicted armed robber serving time in Warkworth Penitentiary who said that Rowbotham asked him to look after Cripps in jail. After Cripps testified for the prosecution, Greystone wrote Cripps a letter saying that he had "better sleep with one eye open."

Mr. Duffy asked the jury to convict Rowbotham not only of conspiracy to smuggle the hashish but also of conspiracy to traffic and possess the ton of hashish.



—Globe and Mail

Robert Rowbotham found guilty on drug charges.

Sentenced to 14 Years

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 13 May 77 p 10

[Excerpt] Brampton--Robert Rowbotham was sentenced to 14 years in penitentiary yesterday minutes after he made an extemporaneous 40-minute speech before the judge, bitterly criticizing Canada's marijuana and hashish laws and saying he would break them again and again until they are changed.

The self-confessed marijuana dealer, who is 26 and a Grade 12 dropout, was convicted on Wednesday of conspiracy to import a ton of hashish, valued at about \$1.3-million, into Canada.

Rowbotham, who said yesterday that he was innocent, told the judge: "I didn't break God's law and you people spend millions of dollars on trials over a plant that grows out of the ground."

Rowbotham's defence, which Judge Stephen Borins took into account along with his discourse to give him the lengthy term, was that he smuggled tons and tons of marijuana into Canada to support "the freak culture," but never dealt in hashish because of its inconsistent supply.

"I stepped beyond the law and I'll do it again," Rowbotham said.

In pronouncing sentence, the judge said: "I would be remiss if I didn't make it clear that laws are to be upheld."

The judge agreed with defence counsel Moishe Reiter that since the jury found Rowbotham not guilty of conspiracy to traffic and conspiracy to possess for the purpose of trafficking, it couldn't have considered him the boss of the hashish operation.

He said it was in his discretion to draw this inference from the jury's verdict on the three charges and this "lowered the degree of responsibility."

He added, though, that the jury obviously accepted his instructions about considering the aiding and abetting section of the Criminal Code.

He said the jury appeared to have felt that Rowbotham encouraged and urged David Cripps, 30, of Mississauga, now serving a seven-year term for conspiracy to traffic in a narcotic.

The judge rejected federal prosecutor Patrick Duffy's submission that Rowbotham was the ringleader of an "international drug smuggling operation" which brought in the ton of hashish.

Mr. Reiter made it clear in court that he would be appealing the case, and Rowbotham told a reporter while walking away: "See you at a new trial."

Meanwhile, it was learned from RCMP sources that they would probably not proceed with a charge of conspiracy to traffic in marijuana laid against Rowbotham in Vancouver and another of trafficking laid in Barrie.

"Bear with me, Your Honor. I'm scared," Rowbotham told Judge Borins at the beginning of his address. He started by pointing out that more and more lenient sentences are being handed down in marijuana and hashish cases as the two soft drugs become more and more socially acceptable.

"They used to burn witches at one time. Today we laugh at them. Today we jail people for marijuana. Tomorrow they'll laugh at us.

"Why isn't Parliament changing marijuana laws? Why can't they (MPs) change the law even if they smoke it themselves? This has been admitted to. I am proud of what I have done and I'll do it again. I cannot be remorseful for anything that I have done in the freak culture from what I understand of the laws.

"Through my culture I tried to make the new world. Remember the Beatles' song. Maybe we're dreamers, maybe we're idealists...

"I believe I am the hope, although I am not Marx, Jesus or the Buddha. I still strongly support marijuana and hashish to change man and to keep evil in check because Mother Earth is dying. Am I going to be rehabilitated? What are they going to teach me in jail? That marijuana is bad? That I should work from 9 to 5? Don't care about my neighbor? Because that's what society is all about. I believe in love, that all are equal....

"I feel like an artist, a writer, who won't be appreciated until after he's dead. I know police officers that smoke pot. (to the judge) How many of your friends, people you know, smoke pot?

"I supported the culture. I made lots of money from it. (\$250,000 annually in 1971-72 and \$25,000 a week when arrested on January 8, 1974. His wife is now on welfare.) But I put all the money back into the freak culture."

Midway through the address, Judge Borins asked Rowbotham: "Do you feel that the proper way to change the law is to break it?"

Rowbotham replied: "That is right. If I was the only man in Canada to break the law, then Your Honor would be right."

CSO: 5320

DRUG TRAFFICKING RESULTS IN 10-YEAR PRISON TERM

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 21 Apr 77 p 20

[Text] A 45-year-old former insurance salesman who was a victim of loan sharking was sentenced in North Vancouver provincial court Wednesday to a 10-year prison term for trafficking in heroin.

Graham Ashley Grainger, 505 Ballantyne, West Vancouver, was also sentenced to a concurrent 10-year term by Judge Nancy Morrison for possession of a narcotic.

Grainger told the court he was involved in the drug trade for a six-month period as a result of debts to loan sharks, whom he did not name. He said his debts had risen from \$5,000 to \$60,000 but "at the end" he had reduced his debt to \$30,000.

He testified he had once been "beaten about the face and suffered bruised ribs" at the hands of loan sharks. He said he witnessed the brutal beating of a woman also involved in the drug world and under pressure from the "sharks."

Defence lawyer George Angelomatis told Judge Morrison his client got into financial difficulties three years ago.

He was involved with a store called Ultra Love which lost money, the lawyer said. "In the fall of 1976 he became involved with loan sharks," Angelomatis said, a development which caused problems with his wife.

He said at one time a proposal was made to Grainger "that he could pay up the loans by carrying and delivering heroin." He said his client "simply passed the heroin to other persons" and did not seek buyers "or cap up."

Charges were laid against Grainger after he was arrested February 13 at the Avalon Hotel in North Vancouver by a squad of North Vancouver RCMP and West Vancouver police.

Grainger was found in possession of seven ounces of heroin which justice department prosecutor Dwight Harbottle told the court had a street value of \$240,000.

Harbottle said Grainger was carrying \$24,600 in cash, most of it in \$1,000 bills.

Grainger, who pleaded guilty to both charges March 3, received the sentence stoically, after making a statement about his involvement with loan sharks. Stating he had not received any remuneration for drug trafficking, Grainger said he had hoped to "get off the hook" by means of it.

Harbottle said Grainger was the middleman in the trafficking situation and was making a profit and also "advising others on how to traffic in narcotics."

At one point Harbottle asked the accused how he managed to drive a Mercedes-Benz automobile on bank loans during his financial troubles.

"I needed some kind of transportation," Grainger replied.

Before passing sentence, Judge Morrison said Grainger had "disgraced himself and his family" and had an "incredible involvement with loan sharks."

"It is incredible there is this world of loan sharks in our community and it seems they rarely come before us in the courts," she said.

In stressing that deterrence was a factor in her sentence of Grainger, whom she described as a "follower and not a leader," Judge Morrison said: "I detect little remorse in Mr. Grainger for the trafficking and just remorse for his bad luck."

CSO: 5320

RCMP SEIZES 2.5 TONS OF MARIHUANA

Ottawa THE SATURDAY CITIZEN in English 14 May 77 p 12

[Text] Chilliwack, B.C. (CP)--RCMP said Friday they have seized 2.5 tons of marijuana Thai sticks from a large septic tank buried on unused farmland 40 miles south of this Fraser Valley community.

Police said the marijuana is estimated to have a street value of more than \$30 million and is believed the largest cache of marijuana ever found in Canada.

Thai stick marijuana is formed from the flowering part of the marijuana plant and contains a greater narcotic content than the more common forms the plant takes when it is sold in illicit drug trade. It also sells at a higher price.

Ring Broken

A police spokesman said it is believed an international drug smuggling operation has been broken as a result of the drug find.

He said the co-ordinated investigation by Vancouver, Chilliwack and Calgary RCMP has resulted in warrants being issued for the arrest of several people in Vancouver and Calgary.

The spokesman said the Thai sticks were found Wednesday buried in a glass fibre septic tank, 10 feet below the ground, that measured about six feet wide and 14 feet long. He said the shipment originated in Thailand but its method of importation was not known.

CSO: 5320

WRONG MAN IDENTIFIED BY POLICE IN DRUG CASE

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 5 May 77 p 18

[Text] Cranbrook (CP)--Crown counsel in a drug trafficking case are considering their next move after an RCMP undercover officer who gave evidence said he made an error in identification.

As a result of the error, a stay of proceedings was entered against Robert Hunter, 21, of Cranbrook. Three other men were convicted.

RCMP Superintendent T. M. Gardiner said in a telephone interview from Victoria Tuesday that an RCMP officer who was giving evidence in the case on Monday saw a man who resembled Hunter sit down in the courtroom.

The officer immediately told the prosecutor of his error and said it was the other man who had sold him drugs and not Hunter.

Supt. Gardiner said no action has been taken yet as a result of the change in evidence.

He also said the force plans to investigate how the identification error occurred. Hunter and the other three were arrested January 18 after a year-long undercover investigation.

Robert Kapshaw, 20, and Terry Cogland, 31, both of Cranbrook were convicted of trafficking in marijuana. Richard Fabro, 22, of Kimberley, was convicted of trafficking in hashish.

Kapshaw and Fabro were remanded to June 15 for sentence and Cogland was released pending a pre-sentence report.

CSO: 5320

BRIEFS

JUDGE BLASTS POLICE TACTIC--Montreal (CP)--A 22-year-old American woman was acquitted on a drug charge Tuesday after the judge severely criticized Montreal police officers for holding her in cells for 38 hours before her arraignment. Jacqueline Motsinger of Pontiac, Mich., had been charged with possession of 30 lbs. of hashish for the purpose of trafficking. "The police in this case have acted in a flagrantly illegal and completely unjustified manner," sessions court Judge Redmond Roche said in his judgment. He ruled as inadmissible what he referred to as an unsigned "supposed police declaration" which Motsinger disavowed. It was the prosecution's only evidence. [Text] [Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 27 Apr 77 p 12]

63 CHARGED IN DRUG PROBE--Brampton--An undercover police investigation into the trafficking of methamphetamine or speed ended yesterday morning with police swearing out charges against 63 people, arresting more than 35 of them and seizing speed valued at about half a million dollars. The operation, carried out by the RCMP, provincial police and Peel regional police, involved two undercover operators and 80 other policemen. The arrests came after a six-month investigation. Police said that besides speed, small quantities of other drugs such as heroin, cocaine, PCP (a horse tranquilizer), hashish and marijuana also were seized. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 10 May 77 p 11]

GUILTY OF TRAFFICKING--Andrew Pillon, 19, South Pacific Street, was found guilty and sentenced to three months in reformatory for trafficking in marijuana. Pillon was also sentenced to three months in reformatory to run concurrently on a second conviction of trafficking in marijuana. [Text] [Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 12 May 77 p 9]

TRAFFICKERS JAILED--A Columbia Court man and his son were both given jail terms for selling 13 pounds of marijuana to an undercover RCMP officer. Donald Willson, 54, and his son, Mark, were charged with trafficking in marijuana after the undercover officer purchased four pounds of the restricted drug on December 8 last year, and another nine pounds on December 10. While sentencing Willson senior to five months with day parole and fining him \$750, Judge Saul Nosanchuk said, "I'm driven to the

conclusion that the son, Mark, adversely affected the father and tempted him into the prospect of making money easily." The younger Willson, whom Judge Nosanchuk deemed "partially responsible for the father's predicament," was sentenced to seven months. [Text] [Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 16 May 77 p 47]

DRUGS SEIZED--Ottawa police arrested two West end persons Tuesday following a raid at a Carling Avenue apartment in which three suitcases and a cardboard box of marijuana were seized. Charged with possession of marijuana and hashish for the purpose of trafficking is Hillaire Armand Villeneuve, of 1311 Carling Ave., Apt. 2002. Judith Lamoureux, 27, of the same address, was charged with possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking. [Text] [Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 18 May 77 p 3]

CSO: 5320

GREECE

LEBANESE ARRESTED TRANSPORTING HASHISH OIL

Athens TO VIMA in Greek 13 Apr 77 p 8

[Text] Two Lebanese citizens were arrested by police in the transit area of the Ellinikon West Airport as they were transporting drugs from their country to Italy by way of Greece; they had arrived from Larnaca in Cyprus and were awaiting a flight to Rome.

The two smugglers were carrying 1,600 grams of hashish oil in two plastic bags taped to their legs and hidden by high boots.

The two Lebanese are Elia Nour Abdoul, 33, and Michel Elia Moawan, 35. The smugglers were interrogated at the office of General Security and will be remanded to an investigator today.

In answer to Superintendent of Police Andoniou's questions, they contended that the hashish oil was bought in their own country and that they had traveled to Cyprus by boat. They continued from Larnaca to Athens via Olympic Airlines, with the intention of proceeding to Rome. However, during their stay in the airport transit area, they awakened the suspicion of policewoman Golfi and constable Giannoulis. The former, noticing that their legs looked swollen and presuming they were carrying arms, decided to investigate further.

Elia Nour was led to a special search area, where it was determined that he was carrying a plastic bag containing 1,000 grams of hashish oil. The second suspect was immediately searched. He was not carrying any drugs, but tape marks were found on his right leg. As it was determined a little later, Michel Elia Moawan had been carrying 600 grams of hashish oil, which he flushed down a toilet at the airport when he saw his friend being led to the search area.

The two Lebanese came to Athens by way of Cyprus because they knew that control of Cypriots and other passengers in general is not too strict at the Ellinikon Airport.

Greek authorities are trying to determine whether the Lebanese are members of ring of drug traffickers, given the fact that information had been received in the past regarding transportation of hashish from Lebanon to Italy by way of Cyprus and Athens.

At any rate, Elia Nour's face is familiar to airport police. It seems that he has made the same trip a number of times.

The 1,600 grams of hashish oil carried by the two smugglers is the largest haul of this drug confiscated by Greek authorities so far. Thirty-three kg of hashish and 90 liters of pure alcohol are needed to obtain 1 kg of hashish oil. The price of hashish oil reaches 800,000 drachmas, while each drop retails for 300 drachmas.

8980

CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

'GLORIA' HASHISH CASE--Nafplion, 31 Mar--The case of the 11 tons of hashish aboard the Cypriot M.S. Gloria came to trial this morning at the five-member Nafplion Court of Appeals. The accused are Lebanese shipping agent Tony Srour, 47, and Turkish citizens Aris Polak, 44, and Rezia Polak, 23, father and son. The above had been arrested at the Isthmus last January, when the 11 tons of hashish aboard the Gloria were confiscated. The first witness for the prosecution, Commodore Nik. Kleiosis of the Port Corps, recounted the seizure of the Gloria and its passengers and the locating of the hashish. The second witness for the prosecution was the captain of the Gloria, Nik. Xanthopoulos, who testified that during a chance meeting with Srour in Larnaca on 20 December 1966, the latter told him he knew of a shipment of Chinese embroideries from Beirut to Europe. Following a telephone call to the offices of the shipping company, an agreement was reached for \$1,500 a day. Asked by the presiding judge about the value of each bag, Xanthopoulos replied that it amounted to 1 million drachmas. In his self-defense, Srour said (through an interpreter) that he did not bear any responsibility for the case, being only a travel agent, and that the guilty party is a Lebanese by name of Kismet Monah, a phalanx leader and owner of a chain of stores in Beirut. Aslan Srour was sentenced to 18 years in prison and a 3 million drachma fine, and the two Turkish citizens each to 14 years and 1 million drachma fine. [Text] [Athens TO VIMA in Greek 1 Apr 77 p 8] 8980

'GLORIA' CAPTAIN TRIED FOR PIRACY--The piracy trial of Captain Nik. Xanthopoulos --who was involved a few months ago in the case of the 11 tons of hashish found aboard the M.S. Gloria--will begin on Monday at the five-member Athens Court of Appeals. The incident took place on 7 August 1973 outside the territorial waters of southern Italy near the port of Bari. Xanthopoulos, captain of the small cargo vessel Pussycat, approached the Alexandros, another cargo vessel flying the Panamanian flag under Captain Dion. Maroulis and carrying 1,500 cases of cigarettes valued at \$105,000--loaded at a Yugoslavian port and destined for Bastia in Corsica. Xanthopoulos, aboard the Pussycat and with two small speedboats carrying armed crewmen, approached the Alexandros and signaled it to stop. He immediately boarded the ship and, armed with a submachine gun, made Captain Maroulis surrender the entire cargo of cigarettes,

which was transferred to the Pussycat and the two speedboats; he then sailed for an unknown destination. Xanthopoulos maintains he did not commit an act of piracy, but that he took possession of the Alexandros cargo of cigarettes on instructions from the company to which the cargo was to be consigned. Xanthopoulos was taken into preliminary custody after the issuance of a summons to this effect and was released on 3 March after posting bail for 25,000 drachmas. [Text] [Athens TO VIMA in Greek 14 Apr 77 p 10] 8980

HEROIN PUSHER ARREST--Suburban Security last night arrested a gang of drug smugglers and confiscated an undisclosed amount of heroin in their possession. INTERPOL has already been notified about the arrest by Greek police because the first part of the preliminary investigation has shown that the Greek smugglers are members of a European ring of drug traffickers. [Text] [Athens ELEVTHEROS KOSMOS in Greek 22 Apr 77 p 8] 8980

CSO: 5300

NETHERLANDS

POLICE BREAK UP INTERNATIONAL DRUG RING

Amsterdam DE TELEGRAAF in Dutch 23 Apr 77 p 5

[Text] On Monday the Apeldoorn police, working in cooperation with colleagues from Utrecht, Harderwijk, Schiphol and Hamburg, arrested an international ring of drug smugglers. Ten arrests were made in the Netherlands, five in West Germany, four in Scandinavia. According to the police, heroin and cocaine worth a hundred thousand guilders have been brought from Bolivia to West Europe in just the last couple of years. The drug trade was organized by the 29-year-old J. C. Wolzak of Harderwijk and his family.

Grandma Wolzak is now the only one out of jail. She ought to be locked up too, of course, for even if she is 82 years old, she had a lot to do with the extensive transporting of drugs from Apeldoorn to Amsterdam or Hamburg. When a road check was made, such as the police nowadays conduct unexpectedly, going over the whole car with a fine-toothed comb, she would just smile, full of gratitude, and in her piping voice would say "nice fellow" to the agent, so that she would not have to get out of the car for the inspection.

But she just happened to be sitting on a couple of kilos of cocaine, it turned out later. That was equivalent to about a ton of marketable product, but would an old person like her know that? So they didn't lock her up, after all. Nevertheless, this was the grandma of the most notorious drug smuggling family in the Netherlands, the Wolzaks. This week, they were again making the headlines in the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark and Sweden, and also in other West-European lands the newspapers carried stories, even though not of the front-page type, of the Interpol arrests of nineteen persons for intercontinental smuggling of hashish, cocaine and heroin.

"Drugs in the Lion's Cage" was the headline in most cases. This was in reference to an attempt by Harry Wolzak, 29, and his German companion of the same age, Lenz Laaser, to smuggle a consignment of cocaine from the El Alto Airport in Bolivia to Frankfurt beneath the false floor of a cage in which sat an imposing mountain lion. It was a clever idea, for what customs inspector would want to run the animal out of the cage in order to search it. Figure it out for yourself.

But the trick didn't work, since the animal had not been provided with the proper board-of-health papers, and the cat, cage and all, was returned on the next flight. It was no big problem, really; the clandestine merchandise was concealed in wooden dolls or was delivered by South American couriers.

That is how about 100 kilos of the stuff got to Europe. For Harry Wolzak, who as a successful importer commuted between Harderwijk (his home town), Apeldoorn (his official residence), his hideout at Deventer, and his place of business in La Paz, South America, didn't do any more smuggling himself. He kept himself busy with the sales end of the trade.

He tells his friends: "I am not anxious to do another turn behind bars in some foreign country. I was locked up for 14 months in Spain and for 17 months in France, where I had to cut my wrists in order to escape. My brother Jacques spent 5 years in a French prison and has now been sentenced to jail in Spain, my father died while being arrested on the Spanish-French border. Do you see why I leave the dirty work to someone else?"

In collaboration with his 21-year-old girl-friend Patricia Heemskerk, he has been in charge of the Wolzak enterprise begun by his father in 1970, and which was operated by the two brothers until Jacques' arrest on July 1, last year. Other members of the family have provided regular assistance. And Mother always came to the legal rescue when he got in trouble.

A nice woman, this Mrs Wolzak. She could cry a lot so as to persuade the world of her boy's innocence, and she paid 10,000 guilders in fines and bail to get him back home. But now she herself is in trouble because of her collaboration with him. There is still a nephew and a couple of friends of the family, although Antje Straatman and their South American ally, Ignazio Ortiz, are still fugitives. So Grandma is the only one who is really free.

As we have said, Isaac Wolzak was the one who established the family business. After committing several crimes, he was put on the "available list" by the government, but in 1969 they released him from the Kruisberg, the federal psychiatric center at Doetinchem; on good behavior, and he became a payroll administrator. This didn't work out so well, so then he teamed up with a member of the previously mentioned Ortiz family, and with the help of his sons Jacques and Harry he began "importing leather" from Morocco. You can well imagine what was delivered underneath the animal hides but, unfortunately for the family, Spanish customs also figured it out, and Harry was caught with 50 kilos of Moroccan hashish in Algeciras.

Fourteen months later, Mother bought his freedom with 43,000 guilders cash plus a statement from Ortiz that he was the main offender. Meanwhile, however, the father was caught with 29 kilos on the Spanish-French border and died there of a heart attack. His son Jacques was also arrested and given 5 years. The French let him out a year earlier on good behavior and payment of a 30,000 guilder bond. That was in December 1974.

But Harry was then caught again in France with 50 kilos and was sentenced to 5 years. But in prison he calmly proceeded to cut his wrists, was taken to the hospital, and there escaped with the help of his family.

In June 1975, the brothers were again working together. In December of that same year, however, the Utrecht police staged another raid, in which Jacques and Harry were arrested as "organizers of a far-reaching trade in narcotics, with connections in France, Morocco and the Middle East, young American girls being used as couriers and private airplanes being employed to fly the merchandise out of Morocco to the Netherlands and dropping it here."

Just 3 days later, they were once more at large. In the opinion of the court, the evidence presented was too weak. But Chief Inspector Peter Vogelzang helpless in the face of the Court's decision, stated grimly: "We will not take back one word of our story concerning the doings of the Wolzak brothers."

Even more perplexing are the experiences of the South American member of the Wolzak family, the teacher Ignazio Ortiz, who is related by marriage. For this, we have to go back to 2 January 1975, when the Amsterdam police report stated that an overwrought Colombian had shot an American on New Year's Eve and killed him. This happened in front of the De Branderij cafe, which was a place where drugs were pushed in those days. Ortiz was allegedly drunk at the time and trying to get in, his path being obstructed by the American, who was then shot through the head.

On 2 April 1975, the police reported that an army of detectives were looking for Ortiz. He had deliberately slashed his wrists at the place where he was being kept in custody, was taken to the Wilhelmina Hospital, and since he was not under guard he made his escape. Nothing more was heard of him until October 1976.

Then a Renault 16 was involved in an auto accident at Harderwijk. The driver left the scene, but checking the auto registration led to recovery of the car. The car, owned by Harry Wolzak, contained radio equipment that could be used to make ground contact with private planes. Two days later, Mother Wolzak and her prospective daughter-in-law, Patricia Heemskerk reported that they had ridden in the car but had driven off "because they were scared." The police pretended that they swallowed this story, but began keeping the Wolzak family under 24-hour surveillance. The first consequence of this was that Ignazio Ortiz was arrested at Mother Wolzak's home.

The trial was held on 21 January 1977. The suspect stated: "I was celebrating New Year's and was drunk. When I had used up my fire crackers, I still wanted to make some noise, and used my pistol. That was when I accidentally shot my best friend through the head."

The prosecution has asked for 10 years. This would seem like a very heavy penalty for such an "accident." But word came from abroad that this whole matter was a "settling of accounts" in the drug world. Ortiz has allegedly delivered a consignment of cocaine to an American who answered to the name of Gary, but except for a down payment he had not received any money for it.

Gary was the target of the "account settling" that evening in the Branderij, but when the moment for the event arrived, 32-year-old Bruce Watson, the secret informant of the American Drugs Enforcement Administration, intervened. He tried to disarm the South American and met death for his pains.

The court gave Ortiz 6 years in prison. That was on 4 February. By mid-March, he was out on the streets. He had been put in an observation clinic, escaped from there, picked up Antje Straatman, a cousin of the Wolzaks, and disappeared. All of this was very distressing to the 15 detectives who had worked on the cocaine case for months and had discovered that Ortiz was one of the principal figures in this, along with Harry Wolzak and his German companion Lenz Laaser.

The Wolzak family was the first to engage in the large-scale marketing of cocaine in Europe. On the surface, they were a really nice family, good businessmen, well dressed, proper in speech, with good credit. Nothing really striking about them, with the exception of Harry's predilection for first-class transportation. Besides his Renault 16, he kept an exclusive Range Rover, an imposing Harley Davison, and an American Ford in his garage.

The beginning of the end of his international cocaine business, in which heroin was a "sideline," came when Patricia Heemskerk was arrested in Hamburg. This was in late January, an indication that the months-long search for Wolzak was coming to an end. But the death of his father, the arrest of his brother, and his own jail experiences had left him undaunted, and he had no intention of backing down after his fiancée was arrested.

With passports that he had bought up in quantity in Amsterdam and had cleverly falsified, he was on his way to Bolivia to buy some new consignments. "This fellow gets to La Paz more often than I get to Amsterdam," commented A. Willems, spokesman for the Apeldoorn police, with a tinge of jealousy. "But the big problem is that he is addicted to the trade. He can't help himself."

And that was what finally caught up with him.

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SWEDEN

SWEDISH REPORT ON GOLDEN TRIANGLE IN WESTERN EUROPE

Hashish Prices Quoted

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 9 Apr 77 p 1

[Article by Omar Magnergaard: Minister's Son Reads Daily Hashish Quotations on Radio"]

[Text] The Far East has its golden narcotics triangle; Western Europe has it own.

Today, Omar Magnergaard of SVENSKA DAGBLADET begins a series of articles from Holland, Belgium, and West Germany. There the heroin cargoes from Bangkok and Hong Kong are repacked; there, amphetamine is produced in secret laboratories. Only the yellow smoke, rank with ammonia, reveals the criminals. Amounts in the million are turned over.

Heroin is new, but has already claimed the lives of several Swedish youths. Amphetamine is still most current among Swedish drug addicts. Origin of the two drugs is often hashish or marihuana, regarded with lenience in Holland.

The Hague. Every Saturday the Dutch radio in Hilversum broadcasts a kind of exchange program--with daily prices and qualities of hashish in various parts of the country. Koos Zwart is responsible for the program.

He is the son of Minister of Health Irene Vorrink, the only woman member in the Netherlands of the government crisis.

"Radio Hilversum and its hashish exchange is the price we must pay for democracy," sighs Kees Sietsma, chief of the narcotics police in Amsterdam. "A fine program. Koos Zwart is fantastic and really helps us fight hard, dangerous narcotics," says Peter den Haring. He works at the Trojan Horse in the Hague, a meeting place for youth.

The government has investigated the radio program. According to Wim van Leeuwen, spokesman for the Ministry of Justice, it violates no laws. The hashish exchange is therefore permitted to exist.

"But most Dutchmen oppose it," Van Leeuwen thinks.

He is of the opinion that Holland has now seriously taken up the struggle against hard drugs, everything except hashish and other cannabis products.

The maximum penalty for narcotics crimes was on 1 November increased from 4 to 12 years. The narcotics syndicates, the pushers, and the home producers are being hunted. Confiscations are done every week.

"This is good, but it is only a delaying tactic. If nothing radical is done through the UN or a similar organization, we shall never win the war," says Interpol's Dutch chief Jan van Straten.

The Far East has its Golden Triangle; Western Europe has its own. The difference is that the poor peasants in Burma, Laos, and Thailand do not often know what misery they are causing humanity. They grow their opium poppies as they have done for generations.

Here in the West, however, it is altogether too well known what is involved. Here it is a matter of big money, to get the stuff onto the market, and unscrupulously luring as many as possible into taking the first injection so that sales will increase.

There is no consideration for the young people who die in doorways or are forced to steal their way to the debased end.

Hashish smoking is not regarded as a crime in Holland. Thousands smoke it. Most of those of the younger generation have tried hashish at one time or another.

New laws sanction 30 grams of hashish or marihuana for personal use. But dealing in them is not permitted. If the 30 grams are discovered they are confiscated (last year a total of 10 tons of hashish was confiscated!) The consequence is as a rule a note in police records--if even that.

"The nasty thing about hashish and other cannabis products is that they easily lead to contact with heavier, habit-forming narcotics," van Leeuwen went on. Many agree with this.

Examples are innumerable of youths who have been offered or bought a pipeful that has given them a kick they never before have experienced. They have gone back to the pusher and bought one or two more intoxications at the usual hashish price.

Then the truth comes out. What they bought was not hashish but something much stronger. The real price is hundreds of times higher.

The pusher demands. The young people pay. They are already caught.

Then comes the constant struggle to steal enough to pay the 100 dollars a day they need to support the habit. This is the price they must pay, even to the end of their lives.

"We hunt the heroin pushers," says Peter den Haring. "One whole night we were out in the city, tailing one of them. Wherever he went we called out to people: 'Watch out. He is crazy, he is peddling horse!'"

They try at places where youth gathers, but they don't have a chance, according to Peter den Haring.

"They are sellers of small quantities. Become one of us, I have asked them. We live in a hopeless world, okay, but there is still something to believe in between heaven and hell."

He has a large head of bushy hair. He wears bluejeans and is unbelievably voluble. Sure, he has smoked hashish, "to be one of the crowd."

With a policeman's memory, he asserts that he has also arranged hashish sales at the Trojan Horse. There, there was quality in the hashish pipe. Genuine good stuff from Amsterdam and Rotterdam, at a fair price, 2.35 gulden per gram as compared to 3.5 in the street.

"The young people were not to be fleeced, and at the same time they were to get good goods. But then an accident happened. The man who handled the sale was arrested on the street, with a great deal of the hashish in his pockets."

Peter den Haring had kept the books. He was sentenced to a month in jail. The Trojan Horse was closed. Two thousand youths demonstrated for a week. Later, the Trojan Horse was permitted to gallop once more.

Once more, Peter den Haring was put away. The cause was a provocative advertisement; a new hashish experiment.

He is challenging in what he does and says. Therefore he is little liked and almost detested by a considerable part of the citizens of the Hague. He knows this.

Now he says to SVENSKA DAGBLADET: "I believe we can solve the drug problem in 6 or 7 years, provided we begin fighting the commercial interests. Let us sell heroin and amphetamine at reasonable prices in state-controlled stores. Approximately the way you in Sweden and Norway sell alcohol."

Ruud de Vringer and Gerard van Mengen, both employed in ministries with youth and narcotics as their special area of responsibility, do not agree with Peter's ideas, and are not as optimistic as he is.

"We are tackling the problem, but it takes time. We do not yet see a solution."

They tell of a fine-meshed net being spread over the entire country to catch the users and help them.

"Their problem is that they use narcotics to get away from other problems," Ruud de Vringer points out.

"Food, medicine, and a place to live is the first, and often the best help," Gerard van Mengen adds.

While the search for addicts goes on at night in the streets and the fight goes on in psychiatric clinics and in group conversations, new shipments of heroin, morphine, cocaine, and amphetamine arrive along various illegal routes, either to be repackaged and shipped on to Sweden, among other places, or to be sold directly.

The Traffic in Aachen

Stockholm SVENSK DAGBLADET in Swedish 10 Apr 77 p 7

[Article by Omar Magnergaard: "Here Data Processing Is Used Against Drug Smugglers"]

[Text] The 200 customs officers in Aachen, reinforced by NATO soldiers, carry on a persistent struggle against the narcotics traffic. Several illegal laboratories and home processors have been discovered. The ingenuity of the smugglers to ship the poison along knows no limit. In this second article on Europe's Golden Triangle, SVENSKA DAGBLADET's special correspondent Omar Magnergaard reports on the customs work in Aachen.

A motoring family is stopped in customs. Beside the children in the back seat there is a picnic basket containing a bottle of wine, some soft drinks, napkins and mugs, and many sandwiches.

"The picnic excursion was camouflage," says customs inspector Viktor Esser. "Between the butter and the slices of cheese and sausage we found thin layers of heroin, wrapped in plastic."

The customs station in Aachen. Two motor roads come together on the plain. The border between Holland and West Germany twists through the level landscape, past farms and the few clumps of trees. Belgium and Luxembourg are next door.

Here we are in the middle of Western Europe's Golden Triangle. Transit land. Smuggling land.

"We know it," says Viktor Esser, "and we watch closely."

German customs authorities have now resorted to data processing in the war against narcotics smuggling. The name of every traveler is put into the computer. Information is immediately returned as to whether the person in question has even been involved with narcotics.

"And then we check very thoroughly."

Traffic is heavy. Through the customs station in Aachen 8.5 million people pass annually, and every day over 1,200 long distance truck carriers and trucks. Those which come from countries such as Morroco, Turkey, Iran, and Afghanistan are particularly closely checked. For the rest, random examinations are undertaken, throughout day and night.

"Mostly longhairs or persons who in one way or another look shabby," admits customs inspector Egon Benke. "Perhaps this is an error."

But smugglers never carry signs identifying themselves as such.

Several recent studies show that the big syndicates in the Far East rely more and more upon well dressed proper Europeans as couriers. The Hong Kong Chinese rely more upon their own, to be sure, and they are cheaper, but they have been burned by the suspicion of the customs men of Asiatics.

Another countermove--against the drug hunters--is to perfume the drugs. The perfume fools the dogs, who pass them by.

"Intuition and small details of behavior often decide whether we do a more thorough search," Egon Benke went on.

If, for example, there is a spoon in the baggage it may be a hint that the traveler may have pills or a white powder hidden away. The spoon is a tool of the drug addict. Dealers in small quantities are often themselves users. Dealing in drugs is a way for them to finance their own dream trips.

In the German customs in Aachen there is never any doubt about a substance. The border police has its own testing laboratory.

The customs officers mostly come into contact with dealers in small quantities. Egon Benke tells of a young man whose car was being searched. Apparently unaffected, he stood by, chewing his gum. The customs officer asked him to take it out. He refused, for in the gum he had a small ball of morphine.

Toothpaste tubes do not always contain toothpaste; heels of shoes may be hollow. Small quantities of drugs have been found under the sweatbands of hats and in braziers. Hashish has been shaped into pearls in a necklace or painted vases. In an ordinary package of cigarettes the tobacco has been replaced by marihuana.

There are no limits to the tricks used. The larger the quantity the more refined the methods. It is a matter of enormous amounts of money, dizzying profits.

In Bangkok, 1 kilogram of pure heroin is priced at about 25,000 kronor. Yesterday the price in Amsterdam was 1,680 kronor per gram! This is the highest price the narcotics police in Amsterdam has heard about. Thus, something worth 25,000 kronor in one part of the world is worth 1.7 million in another part only a day later.

Illegal heroin laboratories are found in countries such as Iran, Thailand, and Burma. On the other hand, stimulants such as amphetamine and phendimetrazine are produced in secret laboratories in Holland, Belgium, and Germany, and perhaps also in Luxembourg and France. Phenylacetone is the raw material.

The criminals need 3 or 4 days to produce the poison, and a secluded place where people do not react to the yellow smoke, redolent of ammonia.

Recently, several illegal laboratories have been discovered at farms on the Dutch side of the border where there are many immigrants and much unemployment since the coal mines in Heerlen shut down. Social misery is growing rapidly. In other words, the soil is perfect for the drug sharks.

Karl Paucksch lived in the southern panhandle of Holland before in 1972 he was in a court of justice in Sweden. The bar in which he was arrested this March is only a few miles from Aachen.

The 200 West German customs officers in Aachen are assisted by American soldiers. The interest of NATO forces in drugs is well known. Four years ago an agreement was reached between NATO and the Bonn government on assistance at certain customs stations.

"We do all we can to fight the drug traffic," Viktor Esser stresses.

Customs control between other countries is mostly on paper. One can if one wishes drive from northern Holland to Italy without the authorities taking interest. The drug syndicates take advantage of this. They know that Schipol, Amsterdam's airport, is now closely watched, and they ship their sensitive cargoes to other airports and from them by road to the distributors.

This morning when we drove from Belgium to Holland we found no customs officers or passport police at the border. Nobody asked who we were or if we had the car filled with drugs.

"This is regrettable, but a political sacrifice to the European Community," said Leon F. M. Francois, chief of the police narcotics brigade in Belgium.

Chinatown in Amsterdam

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 12 Apr 77 p 4

[Article by Omar Magnergaard: "Here, Europe's Drug Sharks Hide"]

[Text] "This is a wonderful city," says Kees Sietsma, chief of the narcotics police, speaking to the Scandinavians about their being welcome to look the city over in the daytime but to avoid the Chinese quarter and the prostitution section. They are rotten.

The police station resembles a fortress, with a riot fence and an entrance guarded by policemen with machineguns behind stacks of sandbags.

The reason for this is a controversy between South Moluccans and Surinamese.

Seven South Moluccans were arrested. The police now fear that an attempt will be made to free them.

"It was an internal fight. It had nothing to do with the drug trade."

In the back yard I discovered a Mercedes, registered in Sweden. It has been there since 9 January.

"The Swede is in prison now. He came here to fetch 10 kilograms of amphetamine."

Amsterdam and its Chinese quarter is considered Europe's narcotics center. Here hide the sharks who take aim at Swedish youth. Here come the shipments, to be replaced and sent on. The couriers meet in bars. Swedish buyers come here one day with 50,000 or 100,000 kronor and leave the next day with the coveted merchandise.

Amphetamine still dominates the Swedish market. Automobiles are mostly used for the transport. Recently, a Dutch international trucker found two extra pieces of pipe taped to the drive shaft of his truck. The pieces of pipe contained amphetamine. The police still does not know who put them there.

"The amphetamine couriers who travel to Sweden receive 7,500 to 15,000 kronor per trip," says Jan van Straten of Interpol. "The heroin couriers from the Far East probably earn more."

The streets in the Chinese quarter are narrow and dirty. Dog droppings must be avoided. From windows above garbage is dropped directly into the polluted canals. One is approached by barefooted girls on street corners. The red light district is next door. Prostitution and the narcotics trade have little to do with each other, however.

A common denominator of the latter is scattered remnants of the tens of thousands of colored immigrants from Surinam (Dutch Guiana), the former Dutch colony.

For some of them the mother country was not the paradise they had been led to believe. They now support themselves as pimps or small dealers in drugs. They wear sun glasses even after dark and have offers to make.

But the Chinese are said to handle the big tough business. Mostly they are Chinese from Hong Kong, but from Malaysia and Singapore as well. Their secret organizations--such as "14 K" and "WO" are at war for the European heroin market, with methods that end up in brutal murders. Many of them carry a gun or knife inside their belts to defend themselves against competing gangs.

Nobody knows for certain how many Chinese there are in Holland. In responsible circles it is believed that 10,000 are here legally, and perhaps double that number illegally. This year, about 400 have been escorted back to the Far East. They have quickly returned to Western Europe, to Sweden, among other places.

There are now 1,500 Chinese restaurants in Holland, 300 in Amsterdam alone.

They increase at a suspicious rate. The police has proof that some of them serve only as camouflage for the drug traffic.

"We should not for that reason put all Chinese in one category," says Kees Sietsma. "We have many friendly, peaceful older Chinese who operate their small shops as they have for decades."

In the evening they retire to their poor hovels and smoke their opium pipes, as they have always done. And they disturb nobody. The younger ones have turned to heroin. They sniff or smoke, but refuse to take injections. A Chinese does not stick himself with a needle.

Heroin came to Amsterdam 5 years ago. A wave of robberies and serious crimes has followed in its tracks.

Who are the users and who are the sellers? Dusk descends upon Chinatown and everybody looks wan and looks at passersby with suspicion. Many of them have expensive automobiles, which they park carelessly half way up on the sidewalk before they disappear quickly around a corner.

Dealing in drugs in the street is forbidden, as announced by a sign pasted to a wall. On another wall I see a portrait of a middle-aged man. Who knows anything about him? He was found murdered, with a knife wound. The third such murder within a short time.

At the police station I saw pictures of a young American woman. She had been in Amsterdam for only 4 hours when she was found dead in a doorway. The dose has been stronger than the one to which she was accustomed at home.

Kees Sietsma: "We must be helped by the whole world to attack the heroin peril around us. This is a social and humanitarian problem of the utmost importance."

Joop van Hoidonk, narcotics detective: "Today we have at least 10 narcotics kings of Karl Paucksch's caliber here in Amsterdam."

Drugs in Rotterdam's Harbor

Stockholm SVENSK DAGBLADET in Swedish 15 Apr 77 p 1

[Article by Omar Magnergaard: "The Silent Traffic in Rotterdam's Harbor"]

[Text] The world's largest port receives 35,000 ocean-going vessels per year, close to 100 per day. Here are mile upon mile of quays and goods and noisy traffic. But also a silent traffic known to only a few--narcotics smuggling.

Until very recently the police and customs authorities believed that narcotics were too hot a commodity to stand time-consuming transport across oceans. It was imagined that it required quick delivery, quick sales. Now they know better.

Four tons of hashish from Morocco has at various times been confiscated along the coast. And several weeks ago 126.9 kg of heroin and 5.6 kg of opium in a container were found here in the harbor of Rotterdam.

Jacobus Teints, chief of the Rotterdam police narcotics section:

"Three Chinese are in jail. This may indirectly lead to others."

The Chinese had coaxed a Dutchman into opening a bogus firm, to which the container was addressed. The return address: Bangkok. Contents: Rubber bands and other small goods.

A bird in Thailand whispered about just this container, one of 700,000 that annually arrive in the port of Rotterdam. When the vessel arrived the police and customs men were at the dock. The heroin was inserted among the other goods in the container, packed half-kilogram double

plastic bags. The owner of the firm was arrested when he came to collect the container. One of the Chinese were arrested in a warehouse, the other two in Amsterdam.

Jacobus Reints says he is convinced that nobody aboard the vessel nor the owner of the firm knew of the real content of the container.

"The man who operated the firm was only a stupid Dutchman who let himself be lured by the possibility of easily earned money. He was promised a percentage of the goods. All he had to do was to register a firm. The Chinese, on the other hand, have probably been in such business before."

Reints also says that he thinks it likely that most of the heroin import to the Golden Triangle of Western Europe takes place via the port of Rotterdam. But why, then, is nothing done?

"What can we do?" Reints asks. "Take a ride out into the harbor and you will understand."

We went there and traveled around for 3 hours with three customs men. Containers, everywhere containers, stacked atop one another, spread over immense areas of concrete. The famous needle in a haystack seemed easily found compared with finding the small bags of white powder.

Our guides tell us that it has happened that they have found drugs. But not in large amounts. We photograph them in their environment and produce notebooks to get their last names right.

"No, No. No names in the newspaper. We have families. Our names are in the telephone book. We do not wish to be exposed to reprisals."

"But your pictures will be in the paper."

"That does not matter so much. We are several hundred customs men here, and so many others work in the harbor that it would be difficult to trace us in that way."

Thus the narcotics syndicates have put fear into some customs men. How, then, are they to be gotten at?

One of the police methods is infiltration. Civilian spies insinuate themselves *into* the syndicates and play along as long as possible in the hope of being able finally to strike at the top. Those are the men who make the big profits and in the Chicago manner rule without being seen. And it is they who are responsible for the robberies, the thefts, and the hell that follows the first injections.

But to produce proof...Suspicion alone does not go far.

Interpol's Jan van Straten: "We know about a Chinese boss here, his background, and where he lives. Still we can't get at him, for he never himself has anything to do with the couriers or the goods."

Narcotics Detective in Brussels

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 16 Apr 77 p 5

[Article by Omar Magnergaard: "Narcotics Detective in Brussels. The Pushers Know All About Us"]

[Text] "The bit sharks know all about us. They know almost as much about us as we do about them," says Marc, a young narcotics detective.

After working on them for almost a year, he gained the confidence of two Asiatic brothers. Through them he gained insight into how the gangs work. "If a meeting is to take place they send in an advance guard. Exactly as we do. No turnover takes place before the green light is shown. They know the police radio frequencies and keep track of our civilian scout cars, although we change them often."

Marc is one of 120 members of the narcotics brigade of the Belgian police. He wears jeans and a jacket and carries a small black handbag containing paper, pen, and a pistol. He has not had to use the pistol. Once he had a revolver against his temple in the back seat of a car. He fought clear. In an apartment in Antwerp he and his partner--they always work in pairs--were threatened by a Belgian, a Colombian, and a Spaniard, but police reinforcements came at the right time.

"The Spaniard was a member of some kind of revolutionary movement. He was selling cocaine to get money to buy weapons."

When Marc tells of his experiences he could easily be taken for a kind of agent 007. But his job is not like that, he says. It is mostly a question of tedious investigations: hanging out at street corners, sitting in a car pretending to read a newspaper hour after hour. The purpose is that of making them point the way to the "guns," the spreaders of poison. Marc sees his efforts as a complement to what is done on the social and medical levels--through contact centers, counseling services, information dissemination, and searches to get the addicts to realize their own situation and to give them the incentive to quit.

Last week, Marc was on an unsuccessful mission to England. Tomorrow he will be in Antwerp with a camera equipped with a telephoto lens to photograph travelers arriving from Amsterdam.

"We believe that a rather important smuggling link has been established between the port of Antwerp and Amsterdam. The trip takes only a couple of hours," says Marc's chief, Captain Leon F. M. Francois.

The headquarters of the narcotics police is housed in an ordinary apartment house in Brussels. Outwardly nothing indicates that it is one of the staff quarters of the war against the aggressive marketing of drugs among the youth of Western Europe.

Leon F. M. Francois has no statistics on deaths. But he shows us curves of confiscations and arrests, all of them rising rapidly. They do not show that the police has been clever. Instead they show that the stream of drugs has increased greatly. Heroin is brought here by Europeans and Asiatics, cocaine mostly by Colombians and Spaniards, and hashish to a great extent by Lebanese, Pakistanis, and Moroccans.

"The police and customs cooperate well now, but it could be considerably better," says Francois.

While we talk, an alarm comes in from Zaventem, Brussel's airport. A Chilean who had escaped from Dutch prison has dashed past the passport and customs controls. He arrived from Amsterdam with a counterfeit passport. All Zaventem is searched, but he is not found.

"We shall no doubt catch him. We know approximately where he usually hangs out," says Francois. Marc and his partner are ordered to drive to a certain address and "make themselves known." Arrests are not up to them, other than in exceptional cases. They were to expose them, thereby branding them in the struggle against the drug gangs.

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SWEDEN

HEROIN TRAFFIC IN STOCKHOLM TRACED TO LARGE GANG

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 16 Apr 77 pp 1, 5

[Article by Claes von Hofsten: "Gang Sold Heroin to Youths"]

[Text] The Stockholm police has uncovered perhaps the largest heroin gang ever discovered in Sweden. About 30 persons have already been arrested and more are sought. The gang has sold heroin at a youth home, among other places. The investigation has been under way for a long time. The disclosure began with the police succeeding in arresting two youths, 20 and 22 years of age, who had, among other places, used the youth home Fyran in Lastmark Street as an outlet, where in January they sold 10 heroin capsules each evening.

Subsequently, this arrest enabled the police for once to trace the heroin back to the man who had organized and financed the purchases in Amsterdam and smuggled the heroin to Sweden. He himself never had anything to do with the heroin, nor was he a user. To him it was purely a business matter, for which he prepared the foundation when he lived in Amsterdam.

At first, only one prosecutor dealt with the case, but as it grew he had to assign parts of it to other prosecutors.

Because the police still do not see the end of the case the investigation has been going forward with great discretion. Recently, the first sentence was passed in the Stockholm assize court. The gang's wholesaler in Stockholm, Jose Pittaluga-Phillip, 23, a cook, who admitted his guilt, was sentenced to 6 years in prison and banishment from Sweden for all time. At the same time, three of his assistants, among them the two who had sold heroine at the youth home, were given prison sentences of 4 and one half years.

Pittaluga-Phillip has protested the banishment. He comes from Uruguay and says he has been a member of the Tupamaros guerrilla band, and thinks that if the banishment sentence is carried out he will suffer persecution.

In all, he has handled and distributed over 1 kilogram of heroin, valued at at least 1.5 million kronor. Some of the heroin he kept for his own account.

With the exception of the head man and his closest helpers, most of the members of the gang used heroin, which caused most of them to be unable to hold regular jobs.

Within a couple of weeks the head of the gang will be prosecuted for a very serious narcotics crime, involving a couple of kilograms of heroin. Before then, sentence will be pronounced upon the two men upon whom the head of the gang relied for smuggling the narcotics to Sweden.

Each time, they took the train from Amsterdam via Copenhagen to Stockholm. They were never caught. At times, they hid the heroin in a paper bag, but most often in an umbrella cover which they pressed down in the seat in the train compartment, where they sat calmly when the train crossed borders.

At Segels Square, Snetorget, drug dealing goes on as before, but it has changed character. It is now concentrated on hard drugs. And even though the total number of users has not increased, the heroin users are constantly increasing and becoming younger.

Social workers Bert-Ola Carlsson and Anders Upperud are engaged in the search activities of the Jour Bureau. Each weekday evening four assistants are out in the city, walking around, talking to users, and attempting to create contacts and trust.

It is a wearisome job, without status, but a necessary job. Few people are as fearful and suspicious as drug addicts, and the "searchers" are often the only normal contact they have aside from their own circle.

"We must work for the long range, collect people. Motivate them. They must trust us implicitly. If we went to the police with what we hear, we might as well quit," says Bert-Ola.

The contact center of the RFHL engages in similar search activities.

There is rush hour traffic at Segels Square, usually called Snetorget. Hurrying people with timeclocks in their eyes and briefcases in hand hurry past on their way home for dinner and TV.

When the ordinary drudges have passed, the scene is taken over by the actors of the evening; the down-and-outers, the users and the pushers, those thoroughly caught and those who are still mostly curious, believing they can quit whenever they wish. A girl with a puffed face stumbles into the ladies' toilet to take a shot. All the time, people come up to Bert-Ola and Anders. To talk, to ask for advice, to ask about chances of getting into a treatment home.

The police make their rounds, take action at times. But they rarely bother about the small pushers. They never lead to the big fish.

Kalle Pusher is a medium large fish. A neatly dressed man wearing a checkered hat and coat making his evening round, genially conversing with the various groups. Kalle Pusher would never be stupid enough to carry drugs with him. He sells addresses and keys to storage boxes. The police has no proof. Kalle Pusher thinks the field patrol interferes with his work. When Bert-Ola and Anders succeed in motivating someone to quit, Kalle Pusher's circle of customers is reduced, as are his sales.

It is difficult to say how many drug addicts there are in Stockholm. Between 2,000 and 7,000 is a figure often mentioned. Bert-Ola Karlsson thinks there are 2 or 3,000 opiate users, i.e., users of morphine or heroin, in the Stockholm area.

The number of users is the same as about a year ago, but there is an increasing number of younger and younger heroin addicts, as the police, social workers, and doctors agree. Hard drugs are taking over to an increasing extent.

Drug dealing at Snetorget continues, but the drug assortment has changed. Hashish, cannabis are almost no longer sold, and LSD, which was fashionable for some years, is completely gone. Being sold now are the central nervous system stimulants of the amphetamine type, the so-called uppers, and opiates: heroin and morphine, so-called downers. "It is immediately noticeable how the supply of drugs is," says Bert-Ola. "If good quality, i.e., pure, stuff is sold, things are usually quiet. People stay home and light up."

Recently, the supply of nerve stimulants has been poor, and what is being sold is adulterated with all kinds of things. The drug addicts have fared poorly and become disorderly.

"God knows what garbage is being taken now," says an addict.

There are several reasons for the increase of heroin addicts. The poor quality of nerve stimulants has made many change drugs. Many hashish smokers have tried stronger things, and since heroin is a poison that can be smoked, sniffed, or taken intravenously, the transition is easy. Nor is it difficult to obtain heroin in Stockholm today.

Heroin is the narcotic that most rapidly breaks down a human being. It creates more rapid dependence and more rapid social deterioration.

The supply of heroin is good, but the price is high. Today, the price of a capsule of heroin is 350 kronor. A user must pay about 900 kronor or more for his daily ration, and this he cannot manage without taking to crime.

It is necessary to steal to obtain four or five times that amount to cover the daily need. Prostitution and dealing in small amounts is often resorted to.

But it is not only the variety of drugs offered that has changed at Snetorget. Dealings have become harder, more brutal.

"In the early 1970s the addicts most often kept together in gangs and helped each other. There was honor within the group. Now they could kill their mother to get money for a fix," says Bert-Ola.

"It is like the old so-called honor among prisoners; it disappeared when drugs entered the scene."

It is known that the big deals in drugs are handled in the prisons.

When drugs were in short supply at Snetorget, new supplies came from the Hall. There is no false romanticism in the drug trade of today. It is a tough, criminal trade, where the addicts draw the shortest straw.

It is no accident that most addicts are armed. Ulla, an addict and dealer in small quantities, shows us the knife she always carries in her handbag.

"It is not the police we fear but our own friends."

11,256

CSO: 5300

TURKEY

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS SMUGGLING PREVENTION TALKS--The Turkish-Greek bilateral talks being held in Izmir in connection with the measures to be taken against narcotics smuggling have ended. According to the information received by our correspondent, the second round of talks between the Turkish and Greek delegations will be held in Athens. The Izmir talks lasted 2 days. The Turkish delegation was headed by the chairman of the international organizations and issues department of the Foreign Ministry, Yuksel Soylemez, and the Greek delegation by the chairman of the Finance Ministry customs information department, (Nikolas Viakis). [Text] [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2000 GMT 24 May 77 TA]

CSO: 5300

HIGH DRUGS RATE IN CAMBRIDGE REPORTED

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 18 May 77 p 7

[Text] The rate of drug addiction in and around Cambridge is about seven times the national average, a serious problem of which the public should be made aware, health authorities in the city said yesterday.

Dr David Muller, consultant psychiatrist and chairman of the Cambridge-shire committee for co-ordination of drug dependency services, said drug addiction clinics in Cambridge and Peterborough attracted addicts from outside the county.

Other factors were the closeness of East Coast ports, prime arrival points on the European smuggling route, proximity to London with its large illicit drugs market, and Peterborough's position on a major road and railway between London and the North.

Dr Muller said that the Home Office gave the national rate of new addiction cases last year as 3.6 per 100,000 population. In and around Cambridge the figure was 23.9 per 100,000 while in Peterborough, where two addicts died, it was 33.3.

Cannabis Common

Drugs used were mainly dexedrine and barbiturates. But cannabis was common and "hard" drugs like heroin and LSD were also taken.

The statement coincided with growing local evidence in East Anglia of mounting drug addiction.

According to one source, 1,000 pounds' worth of "pot" (cannabis) is sold in Colchester, Essex, every week. Addicts have admitted that they openly buy mandrax and other addictive substances over chemists' counters without prescription.

Also circulating among them are copies of "Child's Garden of Grass," a book published in Morocco which gives advice on how and where to obtain drugs. Among its many suggestions is that addicts bake banana skins to obtain hallucinatory smoking material.

UNITED KINGDOM

UNDERCOVER OPERATION LEADS TO SEIZURE OF CHINESE HEROIN

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 20 May 77 p 19

[Text] A disguised drugs squad officer who became known as "Happy-Hippie Tony" infiltrated the secret Chinese society, the Triads, and led to the recovery of two pounds of Chinese heroin worth 250,000 pounds, an Old Bailey court heard yesterday.

What helped him win the confidence of the gang was the 13,000 pounds he carried in a paper bag--ready cash supplied by Scotland Yard.

Mr David Tudor Price, prosecuting said that the amount of heroin seized was the largest single amount of "high quality" Chinese heroin to fall into the hands of the Yard.

Peter Lim, 24, a mechanic from Malaya, living at Canfield Gardens, Hampstead, was jailed for six years; and David Anthony Lodde, 24, a clerk, of Northdown Street, Kings Cross, to four years.

Both men pleaded guilty to possessing the drug and Lim further admitted smuggling it into Britain. His wife, Mrs Mui Hiang Lim, 23, typist, pleaded not guilty to charges involving the drug and she was discharged.

Death Threats

The court was told that the identity of undercover man "Happy-Hippy Tony" could not be revealed. He had received death threats.

In his undercover role he wore casual clothes of jeans and leather jackets, expensive rings and bracelets to give an air of affluence.

His ability to show wads of thousands of pounds impressed the drug dealers and gave him entree to the seamy world of drug dealing.

Lim the judge was told, was hard up when he travelled to Amsterdam from the Far East and met members of an international drugs ring. To make money he agreed to smuggle the heroin into England in the boot of his car.

Lim met up with Lodde, a former mini-cab colleague, described as a "swashbuckling rascal," who was well in the drugs racket. Lim offered Lodde 600 pounds to help him dispose of the heroin. Lodde contacted someone who he thought was a drug addict at a strip club in King's Cross. The junkie was in fact a police informer.

CSO: 5320

UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEFS

DRUG FIND BY CUSTOMS--A 23-year-old East African Asian is due to appear in court today after a Heathrow customs officer found heroin-based drugs, worth more than 1 million pounds, in a false bottom of a suitcase. Amjad Fayyaz, of Bath Street, Rugby, is understood to have arrived on a flight from Bangkok. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 10 May 77 p 1]

CSO: 5320

END