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TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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No. 275

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BURMA

PEOPLE'S COUNCILLORS SEIZE HEROIN IN RANGOON

Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 27 Nov 76 p 2 BK

[Text] Rangoon, 26 November--At the corner of Kyongyi and Latha Streets the members of the Ward People's Council yesterday searched police Pvt Kyin Maung alias Pauksa residing on the upper floor of the Latha Police Station and seized 198 packages of marihuana worth 1 kyat each. He was arrested. The councillors also searched and arrested in front of No 66 Latha Street, Maung Kauk of No 154 22nd Street, and Ko Win Kyi, of Shan Road, Sanchaung, after discovering a package of heroin worth 100 kyat.

Similarly, Hla Win of Hledan, Kamayut, and Maung Maung Lwin of Weluwun, Sanchaung, were searched at Myenu Road, Sanchaung, and arrested after discovering some white powder believed to be heroin. Action has been taken by the police stations concerned under Section 6 (B) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law].

CSO: 5300

BURMA

RANGOON POLICE ARREST HEROIN USERS

Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 21 Nov 76 p 8 BK

[Text] Rangoon, 19 Nov--Police from the Crime Prevention Squad, Rangoon division yesterday morning seized a bottle containing 200 kyats worth of heroin and two packets of heroin each valued at 30 kyats from Soe Aung Naing of 117, 15th Street and Thaung Aye, alias Shweyoe, of 129, 15th Street. The two, found on 5th Street of 7th Ward in Lanmadaw Township, were charged under Section 6 (B) [of the Narcotic Drugs Law].

Continuing their raid, the police also searched Mya Maung of Room No 17, Building No 1, and Singh of Room No 10, Building No 5, U Wisara Ward in Dagon Township. Seized from Mya Maung were three packets of heroin each valued at 25 kyats. Singh fled while Mya Maung was searched, but he was apprehended the following day by Dagon police together with seven packets of heroin each worth 25 kyats.

Both Singh and Mya Maung have been charged under Sections 6 (B), 10 (B) and 11 [of the Narcotic Drugs Law].

CSO: 5300

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

INDONESIAN, MALAYSIAN COOPERATION--Talks on increasing cooperation between Indonesian police and the Royal Malaysian police in Medan today. Indonesian police chief Police Lt Gen Widodo Budidarmo and Royal Malaysian Police Chief Tan Sri Mohamed Haniff Bin Omar, in their 3-day talks in Medan, will discuss measures to combat drug smuggling, abuse and trafficking between Indonesia and Malaysia. The Malaysian police chief will also visit Karo, Simalungun, Toba Lake region and Prapat before returning to Kuala Lumpur. [Text] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 24 Nov 76 BK]

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

LAW MINISTER SAYS DRUG TRAFFICKING IS INCREASING

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 9 Nov 76 p 2

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 8 Nov--Drug trafficking through Malaysia appears to be on the increase.

Law Minister Tan Sri Abdul Kadir Yusof is especially concerned over recent large seizures of drugs and arrests of traffickers with international connections. He said the seizure of 31.5 pounds (14.3 kilos) of pure heroin, worth 11 million ringgit (2.7 million sterling), indicated that trafficking is on the increase.

Tan Sri Kadir said this also showed Malaysia continued to be an international drug distributing centre.

Another cause for the minister's concern is the delay in bringing arrested traffickers, including ringleaders, to trial under new security and drug laws which prescribe the death sentence or life imprisonment.

"There are now about 20 cases which carry such penalties but not one of them has gone on trial in the high courts yet, although preliminary inquiries in some cases have been completed," he said.

The minister fears that delay in bringing arrested drug runners to justice may demoralize the officials who have worked hard to arrest them.

Painstaking Work

The chief of criminal investigation in Perak State on the Thai border, Assistant Police Commissioner Akil Adam, spoke about the painstaking police work involved in the capture of 12 pounds (5.4 kilos) of heroin in the state capital of Ipoh last September and the arrest of two men with international links.

"We have been working on the case of drug trafficking in the northern states of peninsular (West) Malaysia for some time," he said.

"In the long process, we have in one way or another succeeded in making it difficult for the drug addicts to get their supply," Akil added.

Tan Sri Kadir said delays in high court trials on drug cases were due to preliminary inquiries in lower courts.

He said the government would discuss with the Lord President and Chief Justice of the Federal Court appointing more judges or forming more courts to deal with pending drug cases.

According to officials, hard drugs such as opium, morphine and heroin come to Malaysia mainly from Thailand and cannabis from Indonesia's Sumatran islands opposite Penang.

Malaysian drug merchants, who usually operate a legitimate business as a front, have direct connections with traffickers in Thailand and the so-called Golden Triangle--the no-man's land where Burma, Laos and Thailand converge--where about 800 tons of opium are produced annually.

CSO: 5300

NEPAL

BRIEFS

DRUG SQUAD--Katmandu (UPI)--Nepal will set up a narcotics control office to oversee an official ban on the sale and use of drugs. [Text]
[Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 10 Nov 76 p 19]

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES EMBASSY INVOLVEMENT IN NARCOTICS

Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 13 Nov 76 BK

[Text] The Foreign Affairs Ministry branded as groundless an AP news report in certain newspapers to the effect that a package said to have contained heroin addressed to a person called "Pa" or "Auntie" had been sent to Mr Suwanwat Thongthaem in the mailbag of the Royal Thai Embassy in Washington. Refuting this, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said practically all the mail service of the ministry is carefully checked, so the possibility of sending such a package in the mailbag was brewed up. Apart from this, the ministry also denied any knowledge of a person named Suwanwat Thongthaem.

CSO: 5300

EDITORIAL ON EFFORTS TO HALT POPPY CULTIVATION

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 16 Nov 76 p 3 BK

[Editorial: "Black Gold of the North"]

[Text] The secretary general of the police department's Narcotic Suppression and Prevention Center disclosed after the conclusion of the International Police Conference that the conference widely discussed narcotic suppression and prevention measures. There were representatives from over 70 countries at the conference. The production of opium, from which heroin is derived, in the Golden Triangle was also discussed at the conference. The Golden Triangle is the area along the borders of Thailand, Laos and Burma.

Reference is made to Thailand practically every time the subject of the source of narcotics is discussed. The UN [as published] Narcotics Suppression Committee, with three U.S. senators among them, and led by Senator Lester Wolff, recently met with French and Canadian representatives and expressed its concern over the source of narcotics production in the "Golden Triangle," saying U.S. and European black markets are fed by the narcotics produced from the "Golden Triangle."

Such a statement is probably true. However, from the evidence, the world's largest opium producer is Turkey. In the first opium harvesting season last September, Turkish officials boasted that they were able to prevent the harvested opium from being smuggled out to the black markets. About 17,000 officials were used to control that harvest, plus a number of UN narcotics suppression officials.

Four years ago the Turkish Government prohibited opium cultivation. At that time the United States paid Turkey 700 million baht for purchase of replacement crops to be given to opium growers. The amount was mostly however, "diverted" and caused the project to fail. After the cabinet change, Turkey's new prime minister, Bulent Ecevit, lifted the ban on opium cultivation, and Turkey produced 5,800 tons of opium. Turkish authorities however, boasted that an annual production of 20,000 tons was possible.

As for Thailand, the king initiated a project to persuade hill tribesmen to refrain from opium growing. He has donated a large amount of money and time to this project, in which crops like coffee and soybeans were introduced to replace opium. This project is gaining gradual success.

The Public Welfare Department also has a project to encourage hill tribesmen to discontinue opium cultivation and cultivate other crops instead. The department's director general recently stated that, out of the 60,000 rais which are currently used by hill tribesmen for opium cultivation, 50,000 rais are expected to be successfully replaced with other crops within a few years. If this project accomplishes what the director general expects, the allegations against Thailand as a main source of opium should diminish. Moreover, this will serve to make the government policy on narcotic suppression reach its goal sooner than expected.

CSO: 5300

GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION COMMISSION

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Nov 76 p 1 BK

[Text] Sweeping powers will be given to a new Narcotics Suppression Commission, headed by Prime Minister Thanin Kraiwichian, which will act decisively in stamping out narcotics trafficking and drug addiction.

The commission, which will be attached to the Prime Minister's Office, will have a status equivalent to that of a department. The premier will appoint a number of cabinet ministers as members of the new commission.

The new powerful anti-narcotics body will be set up in accordance with a bill which was passed in secret session by the Prime Minister's Advisory Council acting in its legislative capacity last Friday.

The passage of the bill has resulted in all the existing narcotics suppression agencies coming under the new office.

Premier Thanin said earlier that the idea to establish the new office for narcotics suppression was to provide "teeth and nails" for authorities.

In the new legislation, morphine and heroin are designated as dangerous drugs, making the possession of them unlawful unless used by medical authorities for treatment.

The existing laws had failed to designate such processed drugs as "narcotics," which made it very difficult for narcotics suppression authorities to find the culprits.

Among the functions of the new office are the outlining of blueprints for drug suppression operations; supervision of investigations; and coordination of the programme with other government agencies.

The office can also recommend revision of suppression projects to the cabinet for approval.

The new commission will have the right to set up working groups or subcommittees to work on special missions.

It also has the authority to search homes, seize, or confiscate drugs as well as the power of arrest.

Under the new law, householders or anyone uncooperative with the suppression authorities in searching their premises are liable to a one-month jail term or a fine.

Prime Minister Thanin explained that the interpretation of the term "co-operation" would be at the discretion of the judges.

Penalties for possession of, or trafficking in drugs will be according to the penal code.

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THAILAND

BANGKOK POLICE COMMANDER ON DRUG SUPPRESSION WORK

Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 14 Nov 76 BK

[Excerpt] Metropolitan Police Commander Pol Lt Gen Wichian Saengkaeo spoke to newsmen on efforts of the Metropolitan Police to tackle the narcotic problem. [begin recording]

[Wichian] We have been carrying on narcotic suppression work seriously. The statistics will prove this; I will give such statistics afterward. Besides using local policemen in narcotic suppression, the Metropolitan Police established a special unit--the Metropolitan Police Narcotic Suppression Unit--whose task is specifically to suppress only traffickers; addicts and persons who have narcotics in their possession will be sent to the local police station. This is because, for successful suppression work, investigation of traffickers must be carried out continuously until such traffickers are arrested.

As for statistics, we compare statistics on arrests every 7 days so as to learn, for analytical purposes, of the rising or falling number of arrests in each of the Metropolitan Police zones--North, South and Thon Buri. Such analysis will be used to improve suppression activities.

From 16 April to 9 November 1976--about 6.5 months--there were 758 cases of narcotic trafficking involving 852 suspects. There were 246 cases of narcotic use in which 566 suspects were arrested. As for narcotic suppression, there were 5,959 cases in which 6,059 suspects were arrested. For all three categories, there were 6,963 cases involving 7,477 suspects arrested. [end recording]

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THAILAND

POLICE OFFICIAL ON DRUG SUPPRESSION WORK

Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 14 Nov 76 BK

[Excerpts] Acting Deputy Police Director General Pol Lt Gen Narong Mahanon spoke to newsmen about police cooperation with the new departmental-level agency being set up by the government to eradicate the narcotic problem. [begin recording]

[Narong] We have considered the narcotic problem a grave danger to the country ever since I have been with the Metropolitan Police. I also know that the Police Department gives the narcotic problem high priority. As for myself, since I was just promoted to this new position, I have not been assigned areas of responsibility. Therefore I do not know if I will be given responsibility regarding the narcotic suppression problem. Thus, I cannot tell you in detail what future steps will be taken in narcotic suppression.

[Question] Will work concentrate on arresting addicts or traffickers?

[Answer] Anyone involved in narcotics. We realize the significant role of the traffickers but we have to attack the problem from all angles.

[Question] Will punishment be dealt to certain police stations in whose areas there is a great deal of narcotic trading activities?

[Answer] If the local policemen have a part in such activities drastic measures will be taken to deal with them. Policemen who are remiss in their duty and who are uncooperative in narcotic suppression work will also be dealt with. [end recording]

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THAILAND

JAPANESE NATIONALS GIVEN LONG TERMS FOR HEROIN SMUGGLING

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Nov 76 p 5 BK

[Text] Two Japanese businessmen were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment after they were found guilty of attempting to smuggle one kilogramme of No 4 heroin out of the country.

The criminal court jailed Hichamu Yashino (39) for 12 years and Fujio Tsuji (59) for 10 years and eight months.

Both had earlier been given 16-year terms but the sentence was reduced because of their guilty pleas.

Narcotics agents and customs officials arrested Yashino and two Japanese women, Miss Kumiko Hamada (34) and Mrs Miyoko Nakagama (33) at Don Muang Airport as they were about to board a JAL flight to Tokyo last April 18.

One kilogramme of heroin was found hidden in cigarette packages and their personal belongings.

Tsuji, reputed to be the financier of the gang, was arrested later in the day at the Amarin Hotel as he was about to leave for the airport.

The two women were released after police investigators at the Crime Suppression Division found they had insufficient evidence to prove their guilt.

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THAILAND

BRIEFS

HELICOPTER RAID ON MULE TRAIN--Bangkok, Nov 18 (AFP)--Combat police riding in a fleet of helicopters swooped on a mule train in northern Thailand Thursday and seized 50 kilograms of No. 4 heroin. It was one of the largest heroin hauls in Thai history and would have been worth at least two million U.S. dollars on the U.S. wholesale market. Police sources said the swoop was made in early afternoon after intelligence sources reported that the 50-mule caravan had crossed the Burmese border into Mae Hong Son Province, a jungled mountainous region 1,100 kilometers northwest of Bangkok. Taking off from the provincial capital of Chiang Mao to the east, the seven helicopters loaded with border patrol police finally spotted the mule train moving along a jungle path not far from the border. The choppers landed in a circle around the caravan and apparently seized it without a shot being fired. Police said 20 Chinese haw trail guards, armed with machineguns, put up no resistance and slipped through the police cordon undetected. The raiders later pounced on (?4 or 5) heroin laboratories located on a nearby mountain-top, but found them to be deserted. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 2228 GMT 18 Nov 76 DW]

SINGAPOREANS' SENTENCE--A Singaporean ship engineer was yesterday sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment after being found guilty by the Criminal Court for trafficking half a kilo of heroin and 1.3 kilos of morphine. In Chin (alias Yu Kim Cheng), 33, was originally given a life imprisonment jail term but the sentence was reduced to 25 years in view of his confession and useful testimonies to the court. The court was told that on July 2 this year in Chin, an engineer aboard the Singaporean Ship Gota Kajar, was arrested by police in the engine room while in possession of 453 grammes of heroin and 1,361 grammes of morphine when the ship docked in the Bang Pakok area. A number of his accomplices were believed to have escaped. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Nov 76 p 5 BK]

AUSTRALIAN DRUG DEALERS--On 22 November, Pol Maj Gen Samoe Damaphong, commander of Metropolitan Police South Zone; Pol Lt Col Khamnung Thammakasem, chief inspector of Phra Khanong station and Pol Maj Chawalit Ketanon, the station's investigation inspector; Pol Capt Pranom Pramuanasuk and Pol Lt Chawalit Churat searched house number 43, Naphasap Lane, Sukhumwit Road, leased to Mrs Chatchani Sangkha, a bar hostess. (Steven Frederick Sullivan)

and (Fleming), both Australians, were found in the house. Upon searching the house, heroin in white powder form weighing one-half kilogram and 7 bags of marihuana sticks totalling about 100 sticks, were discovered hidden inside a canvas bag. Both Australians and Mrs Chatchani were taken for interrogation to the Phra Khanong police station. To the Phra Khanong police station's duty officer the suspects confessed that they entered Thailand as tourists on 31 October 1976 and had bought the narcotics to be resold in Penang, Malaysia. [Excerpt] [Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 23 Nov 76 p 16]

CHIANG MAI RAID--Chiang Mai--Narcotics police arrested a Chinese haw and seized 4.2 kilograms of No. 4 heroin, valued at 3 million [baht], on Tuesday afternoon. The man was identified as Ten Ten (56), of Muang District. After a tip-off, a 10-man narcotics unit led by Pol Col Kuson Naksichum lay in wait on a road near Nalao village in Chiang Dao and saw Ten Ten and his two young sons carrying a sack and heading towards their direction. When the police made a search they found the heroin inside the sack wrapped in 11 plastic bags. Ten Ten is being held for further questioning. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Nov 76 p 1 BK]

CSO: 5300

ARGENTINA

ARRESTS REVEAL 'VAST' DRUG NETWORK

Buenos Aires HERALD in English 25 Nov 76 p 9 PY

[Excerpt] The capture of two alleged cocaine dealers on Tuesday night in Palermo has given drug investigators new details about a vast organization of drug suppliers who distributed drugs brought in from abroad, the drug squad reported yesterday.

Juan Jusot Briano, 35, and Enrique Jose Suar, 45, had in their possession 400 grammes of pure cocaine, worth an estimated 10 million new pesos, a large quantity of small "bags" of the same drug and equipment for weighing, cutting and preparing it for sale in Briano's sumptuous, full floor apartment at 5080 Libertador Avenue.

For the past several weeks, the police drug squad had been observing the clandestine activities of a network of "pushers" who sold the little packets of cocaine among young people in night clubs and discotheques in San Isidro and other areas north of greater Buenos Aires. However, they did not close in on the group until they had discovered Briano's (who operated mostly in San Isidro) real residence in the capital.

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CHILE

MARIHUANA GROWER, TRAFFICKER ARRESTED

Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 10 Nov 76 p 27

[Text] Between 250,000 and 300,000 "joints" every 6 months was the regular sales volume of the "little marihuana industrialist," Alfonso del Carmen Madrid Alcantara, 18, who managed to run a marihuana operation out of his own home, successfully selling the drug in Conchali. Madrid Alcantara was arrested at his Villa Wolf home at 711 Pasaje Los Perales. When questioned by officials from the Drug and Narcotics Control Section of the General Directorate of Carabineros, Madrid said that the marihuana he grew and harvested was for his personal use and marketing. He sold the joints for money or exchanged them for clothing. He had been in business for over 3 years. Madrid Alcantara was jailed and the confiscated drug was turned over to the Pharmacy Section of the National Health Service for proper analysis.



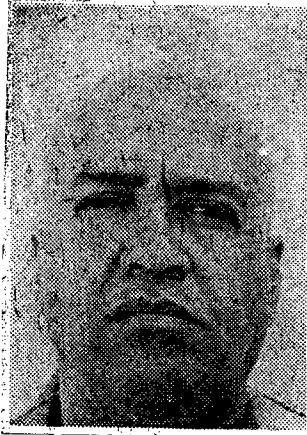
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COLOMBIA

VENEZUELAN TRAFFICKER ESCAPEES SOUGHT

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Sep 76 p 8-C

[Photo Caption] Popayan--Hercules Perez Gomez and Gustavo Zuluaga, Venezuelan narcotics traffickers who escaped last week from the local jail, are being intensively sought by secret service organizations throughout the country. (Photograph for EL TIEMPO)



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COLOMBIA

PRECAUTIONARY TRANSFER OF PRISONERS

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 19 Oct 76 p 7-A

[Article by Emilio Fernandez]

[Text] Cali, 18 Oct. The well-known narcotics trafficker Benjamin Herrera Zuleta, alias "El Papa Negro de la Coca," was sent to Popayan today with 27 other prisoners due to two escapes that took place during recent weeks at the Villanueva District Jail. Herrera Zuleta had been in that penitentiary for several weeks prior to his arrest in Medellin. Two North Americans, also accused of trafficking in coca, were among the group of prison inmates sent to the "San Isidro" penitentiary. The director of the Villanueva jail, Hugo Cardona, reported additionally that other prisoners will also be taken to the Gorgona island-prison, although the date has not yet been determined. Cardona noted that the transfers had been decided on as a preventive measure as the jail in his charge does not have sufficient guard personnel and this could result in additional attempts to escape, such as the one that occurred last week in which a North American managed to get away.



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CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

COCAINE LAB DESTRUCTION--A cocaine laboratory installed in a home in El Refugio sector of southern Cali was destroyed by a violent explosion. The home belonged to a couple with two children who managed to escape, presumably injured. The authorities found several kilos of cocaine and chemical substances in the debris. F-2 police agents are investigating the incident. [Bogota CIRCUITO TODELAR in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Nov 76 PA]

ARREST OF TRAFFICKERS, COUNTERFEITERS--Cali, 27 Sep (By Manuel Guevara)--The police have just dealt a severe blow to gangs of narcotics traffickers and counterfeiters of currency (dollars) in this city. Four persons (two men and two women) were captured by the F-2 in an operation carried out in the south of the city during which the seizure was made of several plastic bags of cocaine estimated as having considerable value. Additionally, in the Popular Sector of the southeastern part of the city, the police broke up a ring of counterfeiters (of dollars) and in doing so seized dozens of dollar bills and captured several persons involved in their falsification. For reasons related to the investigations, it was not possible to immediately learn the identity of the narcotics traffickers or counterfeiters. [Text] [Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 28 Sep 76 p 12-A] 11532

RAID ON COCAINE RING--Cali, 30 Sep (By Marcos E. Montalvo)--Cocaine valued at 10 million pesos was seized here today by the local authorities from a go-between for international networks of narcotics traffickers. The operation began in the locality of La Union in the Department of Narino where a shipment of 7,000 grams of the alkaloid had been delivered to be sent to Cali and subsequently to the United States or Venezuela. EL SIGLO learned that the narcotics ring sent the shipment to the businessman Humberto Mejia for delivery by him to persons who are now being sought in the department. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 1 Oct 76 p 1] Secret agents of the F-2 yesterday arrested in the city of Cali a man from whom they seized 5,437 grams of cocaine. The arrested man, who answers to the name of Humberto de Jesus Mejia Jaramillo, has no identification papers and is a native of the capital of Valle, to whose authorities he must answer for the crime of trafficking in narcotics. The authorities of that department began an investigation in an attempt to capture other individuals who were possibly acting in association with Mejia Jaramillo. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 5 Oct 76 p 2] 11532

ESCAPEES SOUGHT IN BARRANQUILLA--Barranquilla, 27 Sep (By Jose Cervantes)-- Acting on the request of the Villavicencio authorities, the secret services of Barranquilla are making an intense effort to locate three drug traffickers who escaped from the jail of that city last week. According to the police, the fugitives are Edgar Arango Betancourt, Fabio Maron Jaramillo and Octavio Trejos Rios, who were serving 17-year sentences in the national prison in Villavicencio. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Sep 76 p 8-C] 11532

DISCOVERY OF MARIHUANA PLANTATION--A large field of marihuana was discovered by experienced F-2 agents during a skilful operation carried out in the Department of Bolivar. As indicated by police sources, the plantation is composed of about 5,000 marihuana plants valued at several thousand pesos that was discovered on a property belonging to the farmer Juan Bautista, who was arrested. Bautista was placed in the custody of the competent authorities, who are undertaking an extensive investigation of the facts. The marihuana plantation was destroyed by the secret agents, who are continuing to carry forward a rigorous inspection throughout a vast area in a frontal battle against narcotics traffickers. [Text] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 9 Oct 76 p 2] 11532

SEARCH FOR COCAINE SHIPMENT--Neiva, 10 Oct (By Fermin Segura)--Members of the Administrative Department of Security [DAS] are hard at work in the search for a valuable shipment of pure cocaine, brought out from the mountainous region of Solano in the Intendency of Caqueta, where the discovery was made of the first cultivations of the narcotic in this country. According to information gathered in Florencia by EL ESPECTADOR, DAS agents detected some modern installations for the processing of cocaine in the mountainous Aguas Negras region in the jurisdiction of Solano, where seven persons were arrested and a very complete laboratory was seized, together with three fields for the large-scale production of the raw material for cocaine in the adjacent region. [Text] [Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 11 Oct 76 p 9-A] 11532

SUICIDE OF CUBAN TRAFFICKER--Cucuta, 15 Oct (By Angel Romero)--The police have reported that a narcotics trafficker of Cuban origin today beat his wife, a young woman from Antioquia, to death here and then committed suicide by cutting his veins. The affair took place in room 218 of the Hotel Florida, situated in the center of Cucuta, and its protagonists were Porfirio Hernandez and Maria Luisa Hernandez de Hernandez. The narcotics trafficker, 45, suddenly went mad and began beating his wife (20, a native of Medellin) with an iron wheel, according to the authorities. He then broke a glass and cut his aorta and veins. The bodies were found on the floor of the room in the middle of a great pool of blood by a hotel employee. Horrified, she informed the management and then the police. A police spokesman stated that Porfirio Hernandez, nicknamed "La Arana," was a member of an international narcotics ring and a few days ago had expressed his fear of being murdered. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Oct 76 p 15-A] 11532

ARREST OF GERMAN TRAFFICKER--A German citizen was caught Wednesday with a total of 811 grams of cocaine he was planning to take out of the country on an Air France flight. The amount was hidden in some packs of Marlboro cigarettes. Showing visible signs of being under the influence of drugs, the little trafficker was an obvious object of suspicion because, moreover, he asked at the airport health station that he be administered morphine because "his kidneys hurt." The German was exposed for what he was thanks to a judicial police agent who noticed that the packages he was transferring from one bag to another were unsealed. This case illustrates the necessity for the Bogota airport to exercise vigilance in order to be able to curb the "bacidos" [probably traffickers or couriers] of all kinds who operate there. The civil aeronautics authorities can hardly consider, as they have done, eliminating that service. We realize that it is not a question of doing away with it but of reducing it by a large degree. Whom are we to believe, then? To leave the way open for anomalies would not be a satisfactory solution. [Text] [Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 16 Oct 76 p 3-B] 11532

CSO: 5300

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

STUDENT WITH COCAINE--A 25-year old Dominican student who returned from New York last night was arrested at Las Americas International Airport by national police agents who found pure cocaine in his possession. He is Freddy Alberto Reyes de la Rosa, a resident of this capital. [Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish to listeners abroad 1956 GMT 12 Nov 76 FL]

CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Raids conducted by Interpol agents in Santo Domingo de los Colorados led to the arrest of Jose Agustin Zambrano, who had 1 kilo of cocaine in his possession. Statements made by the criminal revealed that he had engaged in this illicit activity for a long time and that the sphere of his activities was not limited solely to Santo Domingo de los Colorados district. He also had made trips to the Tumbes region of Peru and to several Colombian cities, places to or from which he transported drugs. [Text] [Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Oct 76 p 24] 8143

COCAINE TRAFFICKER IN TULCAN--Tulcan, 14 Oct (AEP)--Valiente Carrion, a native of Machala, was arrested in this city upon his arrival here with 2 kilos of cocaine which he intended to have transported to Colombia by persons connected with the censurable and illegal business, according to information supplied by Tulcan Interpol agents. Carrion had come from the province of El Oro accompanied by his friends, Aquiles, Catalina and Juliana Romero, all of whom are connected with the drug business. They obtained drugs in the Alejito Salon in Tumbes which is owned by Maria Delgado Reyes who was also arrested in that southern city and has been turned over to the Peruvian authorities. Various accounts indicate the fair certainty that these persons involved in drug trafficking are members of an extensive drug trafficking network whose connections El Oro Interpol is attempting to uncover. In the light of the upsurge of drug trafficking, the public feels that the investigations should be continued until the enormous network of persons engaged in this business is revealed so that they can be punished in the name of society's well-being. [Text] [Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Oct 76 p 24] 8143

CAPTURE OF FIVE TRAFFICKERS--It has been announced by the local INTERPOL headquarters that agents have arrested two individuals in possession of a number of envelopes containing cocaine base and marihuana cigarettes, ready to be sold to users. It was also reported that initial investigations revealed that the two belong to an organized ring of traffickers, due to which their names are being withheld until the remaining members of the ring, which operates at the port with foreign connections, can be arrested. INTERPOL also announced the arrest of Luis Ernesto Lopez Fuentes, who was caught on Quito and Ayacucho streets while in possession of six marihuana cigarettes and cocaine base. On Manabi and Guaranda, Jose Beltran was arrested for the repeat offense of selling marihuana, and Pedro Cervantes Navarrete was arrested on Pancho Segura and 11th for possession of marihuana cigarettes. Finally, it was announced that the prisoners have been turned over to the penal courts for arraignment on the charge of drug trafficking. [Text] [Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 30 Oct 76 p 12] 11,464

CSO: 3010

GUATEMALA

BRIEFS

COCAINE ARRESTS--Mexico City, [as received] 17 Nov--The Guatemalan police arrested two U. S. citizens, John Douglas and Mark Williams, and one Australian, Demond John Lees, with 13.553 kg of refined cocaine worth \$2.5 million which they obtained in El Salvador. The cocaine was hidden in surfboards that they were planning to bring into the United States. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0218 GMT 18 Nov 76 PA]

CSO: 5300

DRUGS AND THE MIDDLE CLASS DISCUSSED

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 9 Oct 76 p 3

[Text] The Zona Rosa which aspired to be the "in" place, with atmosphere and strong United States influences, is now the place where the dreams and frustrations of the middle class rise to the surface, and the unorthodox, who wish to escape from the ordinary and seek solace in emotional experiences, gather. It is, in the last instance, the stronghold of homosexuals and drug addicts.

In the opinion of Dr Mario Campuzano, assistant director general of the Juvenile Integration Centers of the Mexican Center for Studies on Drug Addiction, the Zona Rosa merits thorough study for the purpose of understanding its problems in depth.

Speaking of the problem of drug addiction in Mexico City and its metropolitan area, Dr Campuzano stated:

"In the heart of the metropolis, the Zona Rosa, which is neither white nor red and was therefore left as 'rosa,' is the gathering place for 'frustrated' people who are trying to fulfill themselves, to feel they are 'in.' It is there that the nonconformists concentrate, who wish to escape from the ordinary and seek solace there in the search for certain emotional experiences through contacts with homosexuals and drug addicts. It is, in sum, a place for 'leaguings together,' for finding someone in whose company they can have a pleasant time," he asserted.

After pointing out that the problem of drug addiction is a serious one in the capital of the republic and its extensive zone of influence--Naucalpan, Tlalnepan, Ecatepec, Nezahualcoyotl--Dr Campuzano said that at the present time, of the 30 juvenile integration centers in operation in the country as a whole, 8 are concentrated in the D.F. [Federal District] and its metropolitan area. They are located in the Napoles, Caracol, Federal, Tepito, La Villa, Coyoacan, Nezahualcoyotl and Naucalpan districts.

"The problem is to be found throughout the city, irrespective of social conditions," he stated. And in regard to the specter of drug addiction, he said,

"It appears according to the socioeconomic conditions. Among the lower classes or the economically disadvantaged, volatile compounds are used. The middle class -- in other words, the young people who live in the suburbs of Del Valle, Napoles, Narvarte or Polanco -- uses marihuana and sedatives of the barbiturate type with alcohol. On the other hand, the well-to-do classes -- in other words, the children of families that live in the Lomas, Pedregal, San Angel and Coyoacan -- use more expensive drugs such as cocaine, imported synthetic hallucinogens, LSD and mescaline, in addition to marihuana and other drugs more difficult to obtain."

In the Zona Rosa, for example, everything is available: from barbiturates to marihuana, cocaine, LSD and so on.

The young investigator stated that it is among the middle class that the problems are most serious. He cited the case of Tepito, where the most accentuated form of drug addition is related to the inhalants, and beginning there the entire range of drugs: marihuana and pills that are used to an alarming extent. "The most tragic thing about this is that we have found children from 8 years of age and up among whom a good number are already addicts."

The age of initiation into drugs is usually between 10 and 15, among boys especially, since the proportion of boys to girls is 50 to 1. "The truth is, however, that in the girl the problem is always hidden."

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CSO: 5300

CARBALLO: NO DRUG PROBLEM AMONG MEXICAN YOUTHS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 10 Oct 76 p 4-A

[Text] "Although drug addiction has not assumed alarming proportions among our youths, they are permanently exposed to the insidious criminal activities of drug traffickers," according to a statement made yesterday by senator, Gen Mario Carballo Pazos. He noted that although it seems paradoxical, the magnificent ecological conditions of the Pacific slope are also favorable for the growing of drug-yielding plants.

Many regions of Chihuahua, Sonora, Sinaloa, Guerrero and Durango, he said, have fields of these plants "because there is a great demand abroad; and so long as there is demand, the trafficker will find ways to obtain such products."

The Chihuahuan senator, former director of the Superior War School, said that the Army and the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic are successfully collaborating to reduce drug trafficking. To this end, they locate and destroy vast expanses of drug fields and engage in surveillance to insure that they will not be used again for the same purposes.

Drugs in Tarahumara Mountains

Part of the Tarahumara sierra, in Yuachochic, is one of the regions where there are fields of drug-yielding plants.

He explained that the traffickers first arouse the curiosity of youths and convince them that marihuana is not habit forming. Once they are induced to use marihuana, the traffickers withhold this kind of drug from them and offer them others which are indeed habit forming, such as cocaine and morphine, and create irreversible and harmful effects from which they cannot later escape.

This leads to the conclusion that it is more important to undertake a campaign of indoctrination and prevention against the use of drugs rather than to attempt to "cure" youths who have become addicted to drugs. Such a campaign would have to include parents.

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CSO: 5300

NUMEROUS DRUG ARRESTS, SEIZURES OVER THREE-DAY PERIOD

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 14 Oct 76 p 24-A

[Article by Victor Payan]

[Text] In the last 72 hours, Federal Judicial Police agents arrested 70 drug traffickers in the states of Guerrero, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, Durango and Sinaloa and confiscated 66.5 tons of marihuana, 10.5 kilos of cocaine, 3.5 kilos of heroin, eight high-powered weapons and 15 vehicles, including automobiles and pickup trucks.

Dr Alejandro Gerts [sic] Manero, top official of the Office of the Attorney General and general coordinator of the anti-drug trafficking campaign, released this information and stated that all of the confiscated drugs would have been worth 108.5 million pesos had they reached the narcotics and drug black market.

Gerts Manero said that the police actions were headed by 1st Commander Ismael Diaz Laredo and that the heaviest blow against the drug traffickers had been delivered in Culiacan, Sinaloa where the federal police arrested 40 persons and dismantled a ring that had connections in Colombia from which they transported drugs in light planes.

The prisoners included Martin Cazares Rocha and Jacinto Montoya Lopez, the chiefs of the group, from whom the police seized 10.5 kilos of cocaine worth 31.5 million pesos.

Cazares Rocha and Montoya Lopez admitted that they had dealings with a Colombian named Conrado Espinoza, the owner of a fleet of light planes, in which he brought drugs into our country by landing the planes at clandestine airstrips.

The police also destroyed the group's laboratory in which opium had been processed.

The federal agents delivered another strike in the Guerrero sierra where, supported by army troops and helicopters, they confiscated 40 tons of marihuana and arrested 10 persons.

Ten more drug traffickers were arrested in Ciudad Juarez, and the police seized a trailer carrying 13 tons of wood. The trailer had a false bottom which contained 2 tons of marihuana. The police also confiscated .5 kilo of heroin from Maria Guadalupe Salas de Chavez, wife of the ringleader.

One of the Federal Judicial Police helicopters was nearly downed in the Durango sierra when the drug traffickers opened fire upon the aircraft. Two persons were arrested and 6 tons of marihuana were confiscated from them.

In Monterrey, the federal agents found 2.5 tons of marihuana in a trailer loaded with bananas which had originated in Chiapas. Ricardo Serratos Sanchez was arrested.

In Saltillo, the police seized a ton of marihuana from an American in a pickup truck with a false bottom.

In the Sierra de Galeana, Nuevo Leon, the police found a light plane with an American registration number containing the bodies of Edward Hommer and Marlowe Kenneth. They were transporting 250 kilos of marihuana.

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CSO: 5300

COCAINE TRAFFICKING RINGS BROKEN

Cocaine Seizure in Hotel Lisboa

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 19 Oct 76 p 24-A

[Text] Four persons were arrested by Federal Judicial Police agents as they were preparing to sell 3.2 kilograms of cocaine estimated to be worth more than 9 million pesos.

Jesus Echegoyen Barrauto, Luciano Garabito Hernandez, Manuel Navarrete Hernandez and Hugo Reinada Barrauto were arrested in the Hotel Lisboa where they apparently were awaiting drug purchasers.

The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic indicated that the drug trafficking prisoners had been under surveillance since last August.

In that month, the Federal Judicial Police arrested two women and one man at the international airport who allegedly were carrying cocaine. When questioned, they confessed that they had transported the drug from Colombia to Guatemala where they had delivered it to Echegoyen Barrauto who took it into Mexico over the highway.

Later, the father of Echegoyen Barrauto and one of the latter's brothers were arrested in this city.

Finally, the federal police located Echegoyen Barrauto here and arrested him along with the other three men. The police also confiscated a 1976 Chevrolet Caprice from the prisoners.

The Attorney General's office also reported the arrest of six other persons in the city of Durango on whom they found 2 kilograms of cocaine which they confessed they were going to transport to the city of Chicago, Illinois, as well as 800,000 pesos from the sale of narcotics.

The prisoners are Maria del Carmen Orozco Miranda, Emeterio Velazquez Martinez, Leonides Acosta Rodriguez, Jose Hector Acosta Rodriguez, Socorro Nevarez [sic] Gonzalez and Guadalupe Sanchez Esparza, some of whom are Colombian nationals.

Marihuana Burned in Guerrero; Traffickers Arrested

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 20 Oct 76 p 26-A

[Text] Some 80 tons of marihuana were burned yesterday in Ciudad Altamirano, Guerrero, by order of the attorney general of the republic, Pedro Ojeda Paullada.

The drug was burned at the military camp in that town by Maj Munoz Leiva of the Federal Judicial Police in the presence of civilian and military authorities.

The 80 tons of marihuana had been confiscated by federal agents from five fields discovered in the sierra and were already prepared for shipment to the drug trafficking market where they would have been worth 80 million pesos.

Top official of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, Dr Alejandro Gertz Manero, revealed yesterday that during the past 48 hours the Federal Judicial Police had dismantled two large international drug trafficking rings. Several of the members were arrested.

The prisoners include: Jesus Echegoyen Barrauto, who was arrested 5 days ago in the Hotel Lisboa, Mexico City, from whom the federal police confiscated a little over 3 kilos of pure cocaine worth 9 million pesos. Also arrested were Luciano Garabito Hernandez, Manuel Navarrete Hernandez and Hugo Reinada Barrauto.

Another ring was destroyed and some of its members were arrested in the city of Durango, also by Federal Judicial Police agents. The prisoners are Maria del Carmen Orozco Miranda, Emeterio Velazquez Martinez, Leonides Acosta Rodriguez, Jose Hector Acosta, Guadalupe Sanchez Esparza and Socorro Nevares Gonzalez, who had 2 kilos of cocaine in their possession.

The federal agents struck two more blows in Durango, the first at La Mesa ranch where six persons were arrested, and the second in the town of El Palmero, in the sierra, where four other individuals were apprehended.

Finally, Maj Ismael Diaz Laredo reported the arrest of Colombian Luis Alfonso Torrez Tamayo with 2 kilos of cocaine at the Mexico City international airport.

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CSO: 5300

COCAINE SEIZURE, ARRESTS IN CULIACAN

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 17 Oct 76 p 29-A

[Article by Roberto Martinez Montenegro]

[Text] Culiacan, Sinaloa, 16 Oct--Carlos Aguilar, Federal Public Ministry agent, reported yesterday that after an investigation in several cities of the country, five drug traffickers had been arrested. They were members of a well-organized ring. The police confiscated heroin and cocaine worth 50 million pesos and also destroyed a clandestine laboratory.

Aguilar added that the investigation had been started in Tapachula, Chiapas, where Saturnino Millan and Martin Cazares Rocha, the ringleader, were arrested. They confessed that on 28 September 1976 they had purchased 22 kilograms of pure cocaine in Bogota, Colombia, and had taken the drug to Cazares' house in this city.

When the Federal Judicial Police searched Martin's house, they found 3.5 kilos of heroin in two bags, as well as a box containing 8 kilograms of cocaine, 1.15 grams of cut cocaine and a precision scale.

Aguilar went on to say that the investigations continued and in the city of Choapa, Veracruz, the police arrested Jose Gastelum and Jacinto Martinez Lopez. The police determined that Martinez Lopez had for over a year bought cocaine in Bogota which he transported to Culiacan in a light plane, having constructed a landing field in the town of Gabriel Leyva Solano, city of Guasave.

The federal prosecutor stated that the investigation continued in the city of Guasave and resulted in the arrest of Manuel Hugo Carrillo Puerto who ran a clandestine cocaine processing laboratory in that town. The lab had been supplied by Cazares Rocha and his ring.

Aguilar concluded by saying that the five prisoners will be brought before the district judge tomorrow, along with the confiscated drugs.

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CSO: 5300

OJEDA: TRAFFICKERS TO BE KEPT OUT OF QUINTANA ROO

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 Oct 76 p 17-A

[Article by EXCELSIOR correspondent Francisco Bautista Perez]

[Text] Chetumal, Q.R., 1 Oct--The attorney general of the republic, Pedro Ojeda Paullada, stated here today that preventive measures are being taken to ensure that Quintana Roo, with its three international airports, not become an open bridge for the narcotics traffic between South America and the United States.

He added that Chetumal, Cancun and Cozumel have become operation centers for narcotics traffickers, but the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic is now making investigations for the purpose of preventing them from doing so.

Asked by the correspondent about the proliferation in the southeast of the clandestine lottery, known as the "bolita," the official replied, "I don't know anything; you know more about it than I do."

Frequent reports have appeared in the regional and national press that the "bolita" uses the results of the drawings of the national and Panama lotteries for its raffles and that it operates in the high figures, calculated at 30 million pesos a month.

Mention is made of Armando Xacur as the visible head of this illicit lottery in the state, who oversees the bank and more than a hundred "boliteros" [ticket sellers], including children, adults and the elderly, who earn 20 percent of the sales.

To the question as to why, if it was such a well-known problem, no action was being taken, the attorney general answered, "If you consider it a crime detrimental to the population of Quintana Roo, send us your formal report, and I, for my part, am ready to act."

The attorney general, in the company of the governor of the state, Martinez Ross, visited the buildings that will house the offices of the Federal Public Ministry, state attorney's office and Social Readaptation Center.

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CSO: 5300

TRAFFICKERS, MARIHUANA SEIZED IN MICHOACAN

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 Oct 76 p 24-A

[Text] A shipment of 1.5 tons of marihuana was intercepted yesterday in the municipality of Nueva Italia, Michoacan, by the Federal Judicial Police.

The grass, destined for Chihuahua, was transported in 1,424 packages by a truck bearing license plates C-1347. The driver of the vehicle, Salvador Gonzalez Belmontes, was arrested. Up to yesterday no other persons connected with the case had been detained. Investigations have been begun by the Public Ministry in Uruapan.

In Guadalajara, Manuel Gonzalez Tolentino, Armando Juarez Gutierrez and an individual known as "El Cuervo," who were engaged in selling marihuana to addicts in the capital of Jalisco, were arrested.

Three-fourths of a kilo of marihuana, 50 grams of seed and 7 joints of marihuana were found in their possession at the time they were arrested.

Apprehended in the same city were marihuana distributors Jesus Flores Aguilar, Virginia Valdivia de Flores, Francisco Guevara Ruiz and Maria de Jesus Flores Valdez, from whom 127 joints and 500 grams of grass were seized.

In Tijuana, the arrest was also made of Ruben Moreno Alcala, whose principal activity was dealing in heroin and toxic pills.

He sold the drug to addicts in night spots in that border city. At the time he was apprehended he was found in possession of 150 grams of heroin, ready for sale in small dosages, as well as 1,000 mini-Benzedrene tablets.

Finally, in the same city, the narcotics traffickers Agustin Corona Navarro and Heliodoro Dominguez Rubio were arrested.

Corona Navarro was making illegal sales of psychotropics at the Corona Pharmacy, Inc., located at 38 Avenida Cuauhtemoc in the Doctores district. The Federal Judicial Police found him in possession of 1,496 pills that he offered to selected clients.

Dominguez Rubio, who was also arrested with 1,330 pills and 907 milligrams of psychotropic drugs in his possession, sold them at the branch of the same Corona Pharmacy located at 182 Avenida Doctor Rio de la Loza, in the same district.

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GSO: 5300

MEXICO

ARRESTS AND DRUG SEIZURE BY JUDICIAL POLICE REPORTED

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 16 Oct 76 p 4

[Text] Mexico 15 Oct--In the last 72 hours, Federal Judicial Police have arrested 70 drug traffickers in the states of Guerrero, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, Durango and Sinaloa and they confiscated 66.5 tons of marihuana, 10.5 kilos of cocaine, 3.5 kilos of heroin, eight high-powered weapons and 15 vehicles, namely cars and vans.

Dr Alejandro Gerts Manero, top official of the Attorney General's Office and anti-drug campaign coordinator, released the above information and said that the confiscated drugs would have brought 108.5 million pesos on the black market of drugs and narcotics.

Gerts Manero explained that the police actions were directed by First Commander Ismael Diaz Laredo and that the biggest operation against drug traffickers took place in Culiacan, Sinaloa, where federal agents captured 40 people and dismantled a ring with connections in Colombia, from where the drug was brought in light planes.

Among those arrested were the ringleaders, Martin Cazares Rocha and Jacinto Montoya Lopez, from whom they seized 10.5 kilos of cocaine worth 31.5 million pesos.

Cazares Rocha and Montoya Lopez admitted that they had links with Conrado Espinoza, a Colombian who owns a fleet of light planes used to bring the drug into our country by landing on clandestine airfields.

A laboratory, where the group used to process opium, was also dismantled.

Another operation was carried out by federal agents in the Sierra Guerrero where, with the support of troops and eight helicopters, they seized 40 tons of marihuana and arrested 10 people.

Ten other drug traffickers were captured in Ciudad Juarez. A trailer loaded with 13 tons of lumber, which had a double bottom containing 2 tons of marihuana, was seized from them and 1/2 kilo of heroin was confiscated from Maria Guadalupe Salas de Chavez, the ringleader's wife.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

POLICE ARREST FOUR, SEIZE TONS OF MARIHUANA

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 21 Oct 76 p 2-A

[Text] According to official information--released by Gonzalo Ochoa Franco and his assistant, Ricardo Tapia--officials of the Federal Public Ministry continue their investigation in connection with the seizure of 2 1/2 tons of marihuana in the ranch "El Papalote" and with the capture of four persons implicated in the case.

On instructions from the Federal Public Ministry, Dr Jose Isable Flores Pena, a municipal doctor, gave medical attention yesterday to Maria Magdalena Rodriguez Galindo, owner of the ranch "El Papalote," to her nephew Armando Rodriguez Rios and to the farmhands Perfecto Montelongo and Berulo Huerta.

Although this is still unconfirmed, it was learned that agents of the Narcotics Department with headquarters in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, were still conducting intensive investigations at the ranch located several kilometers from Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, where the drug "gang" was operating.

Chale Escamilla, Ariel Adan and Antonio Rivera have been identified as members of the powerful ring of drug traffickers dealing with large shipments of marihuana. The lucky blow dealt to their illegal operations ruined their fantastic business.

The authorities hope to arrest several persons in Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, who are presumably implicated in these illegal activities. It is reported that the DEA authorities in Del Rio, Texas, have also initiated an investigation in an attempt to catch the drug traffickers in the neighboring country.

Berulo Huerta, the shepherd who found what he thought to be broomcorn stalks, said that the drug was probably abandoned on Saturday and that he saw a car and a pickup truck coming and going from the location. He even saw people on horseback approaching the area.

The owner of the ranch "El Papalote" is in a very serious predicament since she has admitted that she knew it was marihuana and that she was to be paid \$3,000 for hiding the shipment according to a deal which she made with Chale Escamilla and Ariel Adan.

Yesterday, Vicente Lafuente Huereca made a series of moves in defense of Maria Magdalena Rodriguez Galindo. He said he knew about the defendant's statements admitting her assumed guilt.

However, he noted that the reason for her predicament could be her deep state of depression and emotion due to the fact that she is a woman, due to her age and due to the fact that this is the first time that she has faced this kind of situation.

This paper was told that the detained persons will be consigned to the District Court today and that the 2 1/2 tons of marihuana will probably be burnt.



Perfecto Montelongo: he admitted his guilt when he said that he was to receive an undetermined amount of money for watching over the 2 1/2 tons of marihuana left on the ranch "El Papalote" by Chale Escamilla, Ariel Adan and Antonio Rivera.



Berulo Huerta is the shepherd who found the drug--which he thought to be nothing but broomcorn stalks--when the animals under his care started to eat the stalks covering the 2 1/2 tons of marihuana in the "El Papalote" ranch owned by Maria Magdalena Rodriguez.



Maria Magdalena Rodriguez Galindo will probably be arraigned today before the District Court of Coahuila on charges of marihuana possession. She is the owner of the "El Papalote" ranch where 2 1/2 tons of that drug were found hidden.



Armando Rodriguez Rios, nephew of the owner of the "El Papalote" ranch in Zaragoza, Coahuila, who--according to information given to this paper--could be released today for lack of sufficient evidence to arraign him before the District Court.

8796
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

ARREST OF TWO HEROIN TRAFFICKERS REPORTED

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 17 Oct 76 p 3-B

[Text] The former convict Esteban Quiroga Rosales is again in the hands of the law.

Agents of the Narcotics Department, which is headed by Commander Jose Javier Sanchez Galan, have arrested Quiroga Rosales who turned out to be the owner of 10 ounces of heroin confiscated at the beginning of last week from the mechanic Braulio Castulo Pavon Martinez.

At a press conference held yesterday at noon, Federal Prosecutor Ricardo de Hoyos Arizpe announced the arrest of Esteban Quiroga, who has already served time for drug trafficking.

According to De Hoyos Arizpe, Quiroga was arrested at his home.

The federal prosecutor reported that after his arrest, Quiroga Rosales confessed that some 3 months ago he gave 4 ounces of pure heroin to Braulio Castulo Pavon Martinez, who cut the drug into 10 ounces.

Quiroga Rosales will be handed over to the acting District Court judge tomorrow.



Esteban Quiroga Rosales turned out to be the owner of 10 ounces of heroin confiscated from Braulio Castulo Pavon Martinez. The latter was arrested by the Federal Judicial Police and, according to Ricardo de Hoyos Arizpe, he has made a full confession.

8796
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

HEROIN, COCAINE SEIZURE--Tijuana, B.C.N. [Northern Baja California], 13 Oct. Today, the Federal Judicial Police captured five drug traffickers who were attempting to take 3 1/2 kilos of pure heroin and 106 grams of cocaine into the United States. Jesus Ignacio Cabillas, Martin Perez Ochoa, Othon Castro Roman and Salvador Torres were arrested and from them was confiscated the drug, which was kept in a house at the "El Mirador" development. The Federal Judicial Police also captured Fernando Valenzuela Verdugo, a drug trafficker who has been for some time on the wanted list of the Mexican authorities and of the United States Narcotics Police. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 11 Oct 76 p 4] 8796

MARIHUANA PLANE CRASH--Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, 12 Oct. A light aircraft which took off from a clandestine airfield carrying sacks of marihuana crashed on a hill 23 kilometers from Galeana, and its two occupants, who are still unidentified, were killed instantly. Residents of the "Los Puentes" ranch which is in that same municipality, report that four people were traveling in the aircraft. Two of them obviously escaped although they seem to have been injured. The Federal Judicial Police found documents in English, a machine gun and several pictures of women among the wreckage of the aircraft with registration number M 8525 E. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 13 Oct 76 p 4] 8796

DRUG SENTENCES--Yesterday, Second District Court Judge Luis Garcia Romero passed sentence on seven men convicted of health crimes. They were members of a "mafia-type" ring of drug traffickers operating in Matamoros, Tamaulipas, who were arrested on 13 February 1975 as a result of an efficient investigation carried out by Federal Judicial Police agents assigned to that town. The men are: Juan Ramirez Conde, a 33-year-old bricklayer sentenced to a prison term of 7 years and 2 months and a 6,722 pesos fine for possession and traffic of marihuana; Ramon Almanza Martinez, a 25-year-old soldier, sentenced to 5 years in prison and a fine of 5,152 pesos for possession of marihuana; Enrique Silguero Benavides, a 26-year-old mechanic, who will have to serve a prison term of 6 years and 2 months and pay a fine of 6,279 pesos for transporting and supplying marihuana; Alfredo Hernandez Ramirez, alias "El Cantinflas," an ice seller who will serve 6 years and pay a fine of 5,957 pesos for health crimes in the form of supplying marihuana; Juan Javier Parra Enriquez,

a 20-year-old carpenter, who will spend 5 years and 9 months in prison and pay a fine of 5,635 pesos for possession of the drug; Arturo Hernandez B, alias "El Tigre," a 20-year-old employee, who was given a prison sentence of 6 years and 3 months and a fine of 6,118 pesos; and finally, Andres B Lugo, an employee, who was sentenced to 5 years and 3 months in prison and to pay a fine of 5,070.50 pesos. All of them were members of a well-organized ring of drug traffickers engaged in selling marihuana and morphine until they were captured by the Federal Judicial Police. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 19 Oct 76 p 7-A] 8796

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARREST--Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico, 17 Nov--Mexican police sources today reported the seizure of 1,650 kg of marihuana and a U. S.-registered Piper Cub plane in a region called el Alizal, municipality of Topia, near this capital. One of the men arrested said that for the past 2 months they had been smuggling marihuana and other drugs from Baja California state into the United States. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0120 GMT 18 Nov 76 PA]

MARIHUANA BURNED IN DURANGO--Durango, Durango, 13 Oct--Some 4 tons of marihuana were burned today at the "5 de Mayo" military camp located about 5 kilometers from this city. The drug was seized during the last 5 weeks by Federal Judicial Police agents in that military unit. The secretary general of government, Carlos Galindo Martinez, presided over the burning. Other officials present were the Federal Public Ministry agent, Maclovio Nevarez Herrera; the chief of the Federal Judicial Police, Arturo Petrelini; representatives of the Secretariat of Health and Social Welfare; and several agents. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 14 Oct 76 p 26-A] 8143

POPPY FIELDS DESTROYED--The fumigation team of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic destroyed a total of 3,000 poppy fields in the Guerrero mountains during the past 15 days, as the final part of "Operacion Relampago" [Operation Lightning] that was conducted by Federal Judicial Police agents to destroy fields of "opium poppies" from which raw opium is extracted and converted into heroin in the laboratory. Dr Alejandro Gertz Manero, who coordinated all of the actions of "Operacion Relampago," said that this was the harshest blow delivered against national and international drug trafficking up until now. Gertz Manero reported that the drug traffickers and growers of "opium poppies" expected to harvest 5,000 tons of raw opium which if processed would have produced around 500 tons of heroin, enough to poison 1 million addicts. It was stated that had the heroin reached the market it would have been worth 150 million pesos. The police action was directed by 1st Federal Judicial Police Commander Ismael Diaz Laredo. Six helicopters and eight light planes, as well as 20 Federal Judicial Police agents, were used in the poppy spraying operation. Some 30 persons were arrested, all peasants, to whom drug traffickers had given seed and a small advance to grow poppies. According to Gertz Manero, the solution would be the maintenance of a permanent campaign in that part of the sierra to prevent the growing of opium poppies. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 12 Oct 76 p 22-A] 8143

HEROIN BURNED--Hard drugs worth more than 10 million pesos will be burned in Ciudad Juarez at the end of this week or the beginning of next week by federal authorities at the orders of the Office of the Attorney General

of Justice of the Republic. Approximately 10 kilos of a combination of heroin, cocaine, morphine, opium gum etc. will be burned. This information was supplied by the coordinator general of the state anti-drug campaign. This very valuable supply of drugs is the product of the work done by the Federal Judicial Police and other police organizations over the last 2 years. This is the first time that such a large amount of drugs will be burned in this city. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 17 Oct 76 p 10-A] 8143

COCAINE CONFISCATION--A shipment of cocaine worth more than 8 million pesos was confiscated yesterday at the Benito Juarez International Airport by Federal Judicial Police agents assigned there. The investigators arrested Luis Alfonso Torres Tamayo who was attempting to bring the drug into the country in a suitcase with a false bottom for delivery to an alleged contact named Amalia who subsequently was to take the merchandise to the United States. The prisoner told the Federal Police that he is a Colombian and that he had obtained the shipment in his native country. However, he did not reveal the names of those who had sold him the drug. He would only say that he had expected to be met in the loading area of the local air terminal by a woman who was to identify herself as Amalia. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 19 Oct 76 p 10-A] 8143

MARIHUANA, WEAPONS SEIZED--Acapulco, Guerrero, 17 Oct--A group of peasants that engaged in the growing of marihuana was captured today by Federal Judicial Police agents. From them, the police confiscated 50 tons of the drug, more than 15 pistols of various calibers, plastic bags, rope and other objects. Several of the prisoners are older persons. They offered no resistance when the agents arrived. The peasants are from several Arcelia cities. The agents arrested: Cipriano Abarca Alba, Martin Martinez, Hermenegildo Garcia Macedonio, Arcadio Ascensio Garcia, Alejandro de la Luz Castanon, Francisco Marcelino, Cristino Vargas Hernandez, Miguel Angel Arciniega, Antonio Lopez Hernandez, Juan Perez Delgado, the brothers Arcadio and Dimas Cidronio Garcia, Juan Hernandez Nava, Cirilio Gracia, J. Isabel Perez, Antonio A. Silva and Nicolas de la Luz Castanon, all of whom were turned over to the Federal Public Ministry agent. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 18 Oct 76 p 22-A] 8143

ARREST OF HEROIN COURIER--The Federal Judicial Police [P/JF], stationed at the capital's International Airport seized 400 grams of heroin from a woman they arrested as she was about to leave the Federal District for the city of Culiacan yesterday. Herlinda Sandoval Cortes, 18, was arrested by the authorities in air terminal waiting room "B" when the unusual way she was acting aroused the suspicion of the Federal Judicial Police. In searching her suitcases as well as her person, the P/JF found two polyethylene bags containing the drug. Herlinda Sandoval said that she planned to transport the drug to Culiacan in exchange for 2,000 pesos in cash offered her by an individual named Joaquin Cortes, a native of Chilpancingo, Guerrero. The original plan was to pick up the heroin in Chilpancingo, bring it by bus to Mexico City, there board an airplane bound for Culiacan, and deliver the drug to a person in the central part of that city or at a house in the streets of Alvaro Obregon. The Federal Judicial Police are investigating the whereabouts of the persons involved in this case of trafficking in narcotics. [Text] [Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 3 Oct 76 p 2] 11532

MARIHUANA SEIZED ON U.S. YACHT--Mazatlan, Sinaloa, 15 Oct--Approximately 440 kilos of packaged marihuana were seized Thursday by Federal Judicial Police agents, with the collaboration of the Jose Maria Mata Coast Guard of the 8th Naval Region. The marihuana was found aboard the American yacht "Elsa." In addition to the confiscation of the marihuana, two drug traffickers were arrested. They are Jorge Gutierrez Moreno and Steven Gary. The latter is the owner of the yacht. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 16 Oct 76 p 10-A] 8143

DRUG DEPENDENCY SYMPOSIUM OPENS--The 1st National Drug Dependency Symposium opened yesterday in the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic with the goal of analyzing, commenting upon and disseminating health legislation relating to the control of narcotic drugs and psychotropics. Dr Alejandro Gertz Manero, representing Attorney General Ojeda Paullada, made the opening address. Personnel of the Secretariat of Health and Social Welfare were also in attendance. The following subjects will be covered during the conference which will end 22 October: "General Aspects of Orientation on the Application of Health Regulations Dealing with the Control of Medicines which Contain Narcotics or Psychotropics," "Control of Psychotropics in the National Anti-Drug Dependency Campaign," "Mexico and the Anti-Drug Production and Traffic Campaign," "Drug Dependency in Mexico," "Psychotropics in Mexican Laws," "Responsibilities of Health Professionals in the Fight Against Drug Dependency," "International Legislation on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropics." [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 20 Oct 76 p 21-A] 8143

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Tijuana, Baja California Norte, 11 Oct--Today the Federal Judicial Police arrested five drug traffickers who were attempting to transport 3.5 kilos of pure heroin and 106 grams of cocaine into the United States. The prisoners are: Jesus Ignacio Cabanillas, Martin Perez Ochoa, Othon Castro Roman and Salvador Torres, from whom the police confiscated the drugs which were being kept in a house in "El Mirador" barrio. The Federal Police also apprehended drug trafficker Fernando Valenzuela Verdugo who had been sought for some time by Mexican authorities and narcotics agents of the United States. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 12 Oct 76 p 22-A] 8143

CSO: 5300

NEED FOR DRUG TREATMENT CENTERS DISCUSSED

Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Oct 76 p 1

[Article by Oscar Cabrera Luces]

[Text] Yesterday, Dr Manuel Ponce, psychiatrist at the Victor Larco Herrera Hospital, suggested that a psychiatric program for the specific treatment of drug addiction be set up in every hospital center in the country, particularly in Lima.

At present, he said, there is not one suitable rehabilitation site in the country. Drug addicts are treated by the general psychiatric services, but these are not yet organized nor trained to take care of this kind of patient, he added.

Dr Ponce stated that drug use is increasing basically because of publicity in all of its forms: the distribution of films, publications which magnify the problem and other harmful factors. Too much publicity is given to drug confiscations, the discovery of international rings, clandestine laboratories, etc., he said.

To solve the problem, Ponce recommended the rigorous repression of drug trafficking and the timely detection of youths with personality problems who are really most likely to become drug users.

Dr Ponce told the 6th Peruvian Congress on Psychiatry, Neurology and Neurosurgery that the Peruvian people now have ample opportunity to drug themselves with marihuana, alcohol, cocaine and even gasoline, although only a small percentage of them become addicted.

In the case of youths, he said that young people use drugs because it is the thing to do, "to get high" and because most of them have personality problems; e.g., groups chieftains, gang leaders, etc.

In the case of these young people, parents and teachers are the ones called upon to uncover their emotional maladjustments and then to understand them and become acquainted with them and, in the final analysis, lead them to psychiatry, he concluded.

8143

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIANS ARRESTED, COCAINE SEIZED IN LIMA

Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 12 Nov 76 p 13 PA

[Summary] According to official reports, joint efforts by Interpol agents in Ecuador and Lima led to the arrest last Thursday in Lima of four drug traffickers, Colombians Jaime Vega Naranjo, Luis Garcia Obregon, Guillermo Araujo and Peruvian Baltazar Chinga. The authorities seized 65 kilos of cocaine paste found in their possession. Later questioning gave clues to the discovery of a well organized band, which includes Jaime Acosta, the mastermind, Alejandro Parra and Fernando Vega who landed at Simon Bolivar Airport in Ecuador and disappeared mysteriously. Meanwhile, police have arrested Colombians Juan de la Cruz Quinceno, Bayardo Alvarez Aleorta, Alejandro Marcusis Jaramillo and Ecuadorean Miguel Tejada as suspects.



Alejandro Jaramillo



Juan de la Cruz Quinceno



Bayardo Alvarez

CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

ATTORNEY, 2 REPUBLICAN GUARDS ARRESTED--Yesterday, the 6th Examining Magistrate ordered the arrest of an attorney and a lieutenant and a soldier in the Republican Guard for investigation in connection with the escape of the Colombian drug trafficker, Rafael Alberto Cruzate, chief of a large drug trafficking organization recently dismantled by the police. Examining Magistrate Dr German Marzal issued this order after instituting a charge of violation of the administration of justice against the three persons mentioned above who appear to be responsible for the escape of the Colombian drug trafficker. This man escaped early in June 1976 after having been arraigned in the 1st Criminal Court. At the end of that judicial proceeding, Cruzate was taken to a building in the first block of Paseo de la Republica so that he could "consult" with an attorney. However, after the discussion, as he was descending in an elevator, he escaped after a fierce shootout with his guards. [Text] [Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Oct 76 p 7] 8143

MANDATORY PENALTIES SOUGHT--Mandatory penalties with the full force of the Criminal Code for persons who, without regard for the age or sex of children and youths, promote drug usage were demanded yesterday by Minister of Education Brig Gen Ramon Miranda Ampuero. The minister made this statement to a group of officials from the Central Headquarters whose cooperation he solicited as well as the redoubling of their efforts in the campaign being waged to eradicate a degenerative habit which is assuming endemic proportions. Miranda Ampuero charged the police authorities, teachers and parents respectively to zealously guard the moral health of our youths, the conduct of pupils and the behavior of their children. The meeting was held in the office of the minister where he energetically condemned those who facilitate the purchase of various drugs by student bodies at all levels, to the detriment of their personalities because of the psychophysical lesions caused by these drugs. [Text] [Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 20 Oct 76 p 1] 8143

ILLEGAL CONSUMPTION OF COCAINE--Some 14.5 million kilograms of coca leaves are consumed illegally in Peru, mainly as a raw material to be used in the making of cocaine hydrochloride and its derivatives. Current production totals 20 million kilograms, 5 million of which are used by peasants for chewing, while only 10,000 kilograms are exported for industrial purposes. These figures were released to LA PRENSA by Edgardo Machado Cazorla, professor at the National Agricultural University and an expert on narcotic plants who has conducted studies on coca in various departments in the country. Machado Cazorla said that according to the figures cited, the illegal use of coca leaves totals 72.5 percent, a surplus improperly used and trafficked. [Text] [Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 Nov 76 p 4] 11,464

CSO: 3010

ISRAEL

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKING IN JERUSALEM--Police arrested ten persons in Jerusalem suspected of trafficking in dangerous drugs in the eastern and western parts of the city. They were arrested last night while distributing various drugs, including heroin and opium. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 23 Nov 76 TA]

CSO: 5300

AUSTRIA

VIENNA PAPER REVIEWS AUSTRIAN DRUG SCENE

Vienna KURIER in German 25 Nov 76 p 1 AU

[Text] The struggle against drug delinquency in Austria marked a new record in 1975. Within one year, about 1.5 tons of dangerous drugs were seized, and at the same time the drug death toll reach 20, a new record mark. A favorable aspect of the offensive against drug abuse: Not a single compulsory secondary school student was involved in a drug affair.

In preceding years it was unfortunately quite a common occurrence that early teenagers--mostly out of curiosity--became victims of unscrupulous marihuana and opium dealers. In 1975 the Drug Abuse Prevention Bureau of the Interior Ministry for the first time noted a turn of the trend at schools. Adolescents, too, were no longer involved as frequently in drug affairs as before. This development has obviously continued this year, too. On the other hand, the hard-core customers of the drug dealers are going more and more over the edge. They change from the lighter, non-lethal marihuana to more dangerous drugs such as opium, heroin and eventually to cocaine.

In 1975 18.4 kilos of heroin were seized in Austria, a quantity which is enough to kill tens of thousands of people. This quantity is of more consequence than the 1,486 kilos of marihuana preparations that were seized in the same year. For comparison: between 1971 and 1974, a total of "only" 1,880 kilos of drugs were seized in Austria.

CSO: 5300

ITALY

DRUG PROBLEM BECOMING MORE ACUTE

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 12 Nov 76 p 4

[Text] Thirty persons have been killed by drugs in 10 months. The victims are among the youth of the suburbs, immigrants and lower middle class.

There were only a few more than a dozen in 1973. In 1975 the number had already risen to 26. In 1976--and the year is not yet over--30 have already been killed by drugs and this number is expected to increase. It will increase proportionally with the expansion of the market, which is expanding in a frightening manner. If we do not intervene quickly and drastically--if the present trend toward irresponsible disengagement from the battle against the large centers of the heroin distributors is not reversed--the number of addicts and, consequently, the number of deaths will rise further, and frighteningly so.

This horrible "scourge" which is afflicting especially the youth--and, today more than ever, the youth of the suburbs, the immigrants, the lower middle classes and the young factory workers--is mushrooming in an "American" fashion. Estimates which are probably on the low side indicate that there are 10-20 thousand addicts in Milan and its "hinterland" alone. How many are there in Italy? Who is behind this traffic? To what first and last names do they answer, these leaders of the mafia organizations who are in close collusion with the national and international centers of subversion and large scale organized crime and with centers of power--even political--both hidden and manifest, which distribute "hard" drugs both in Italy and in Europe, especially heroine, which is not by accident termed the "fascist" drug?

These are some of the questions which one must ask after listening the other night to the confessions made on TV by two young drug-addicts to Antonello Branca in his program "Scatola aperta" [Open box]. No one is discovering the drug problem today; however, we believe this to be the first time that the victims of the "drug strategy" have succeeded in telling us on television, with their faces exposed and without any imposed inhibitions, of their dramatic experience.

It is customary for all printed and spoken news media to concoct emotional and superficial "campaigns" against drugs whenever a young victim falls on the heroin front. It has been computed that, at a particularly "hot" time, something like 10 thousand articles on drugs have appeared in the press over a period of 6 months.

Nevertheless,--despite the fact that this undoubtedly contributed to the passage of the new law 685 of 30 December 1975--little is changed, and only for the worse, since the list of heroin deaths has lengthened.

Meanwhile, the law--which certainly contains gaps in some parts--has not even been applied to that small extent which might have served to affect this phenomenon. And now, according to the disclosures of a large Milan daily paper on Tuesday, the sole 25 policemen, carabinieri [Italian army police service] and fiscal agents assigned to the battle against the distribution centers in Milan, have received the order "from higher up" "not to concern themselves any longer with drugs."

Our astonishment is not so much at such an "order" (Is it really true? And if not true, why is it that those in charge do not issue a denial, providing at the same time a picture of the quality and quantity of their intervention in this sector?), but at the news that in the major Italian center of transit, traffic and consumption of heroin and other hard drugs only 25 men are assigned with confronting (how?) some of the most powerful, hardened and "protected" drug traffic organizations in the world. Milan is well known as one of the major channels for transit of drugs coming from Southeast Asia and directed to the markets of Western Europe and of the United States, just as Genoa is the transit center for traffic from the Middle East directed to northern Europe. However, in the last few years, these are no longer only transit centers but profitable consumption centers as well, extending to the entire Italian territory: Turin, Venice, Florence, Rome and the south.

Who can say what the exact amount of sales on the Italian market are? There are no exact data and no one is concerned about providing any. Let us attempt a quick computation: A heroin addict, according to Antonio, one of the two young people, with Filomena, interviewed in "Scatola aperta", spends an average of approximately 400,000 lire per week (which he obtains either by stealing, and this is a reason for the sharp increase in the number of thefts, or pushing six doses of heroin to get one free, and this is the reason for the continuous, unstoppable expansion of the market.) If we assume only 10 thousand addicts in Milan, we have 4 billion lire per week, or more than 200 billion per year. If we extend these computation to the entire nation, the order of magnitude of the "business" becomes incredible.

The tragedy does not end here. It is a known fact that one of the causes of death after the "shot" is due to the poor quality of the "stuff" which is often mixed, up to 50 percent, with strychnine, talcum powder, chalk, plaster, etc. This "prerogative" is reserved for those who, under the pressure of their drug habit, turn to the first pusher they find, taking anything at any price they can arrange.

The extra profit of the pusher is at times equivalent to a human life.

We are now living at the mass level, an experience which is already and tragically known in the United States and in other capitalistic countries. In addition to the individualization of responsibilities, the social and political causes of this phenomenon have already been widely illustrated, for example, by Luigi Cancrini: Among other things, maladjustment of youth, exploitation, child labor, poverty, sometimes even the "treatment" and "cure" programs. We will not elaborate here on these causes.

That which is urgent is to face this problem quickly, without wasting more time. This is a political problem which concerns us all. Without wishing to spread useless alarm, it is worth recalling that the sinister pressure of pushers in front of schools, recreation centers for young people and bars is becoming increasingly common in the suburbs.

It is necessary to intervene, applying the law as it stands and, in the meantime, to try to improve it further. Heroin is not the only drug; there are psychologically addicting drugs as well. The Ministry of Health must issue specific tables listing hallucogens, including psychologically addicting drugs. Pushers must be punished harshly, distinguishing them clearly from addicts, for whom the regional administrations must create adequate rehabilitation centers as soon as possible.

The democratic, political and trade union forces, cultural organizations, youth and parents organizations must become moving forces behind a massive fight aimed at defeating the drug strategy, a plan for social transformation. "It is now fashionable to speak of 'salvage' of the addicts," Filomena, the girl, said on television.

"If salvage means fighting together for social transformation so that those forces which drive young people like me to 'shots' no longer exist, then I want to be salvaged."

7940
CSO: 5300

NORWAY

BRIEFS

HASHISH ARREST IN OSLO--Oslo (TT, NTB)--Oslo police have seized 2 kilograms of amphetamines and 11 kilograms of hashish in the largest confiscation of drugs ever made in Norway. Six people have been arrested. The principal is a 32-year-old West German whom the police have been watching for a long time. This time he came to Norway last Monday. Earlier in the day he had been searched by customs officials in Gothenburg, but they had not found any narcotics in his automobile. When he arrived in Oslo, he was followed, and in the evening the police moved in. In an apartment the police seized three Norwegian men and two Norwegian women, all of them in their twenties. [Text] [Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 22 Oct 76 p 23] 11798

CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN TENERIFE--Tenerife--The Santa Cruz de Tenerife BIC [Criminal Investigation Brigade] captured three men occupying a Citroen tourist vehicle registered in Valencia. BIC seized 25 kilos of hashish in tablet form, worth about 2 million pesetas, hidden between the chassis and the floor inside the vehicle. The prisoners are Jose Manuel Cedillo Noguera, 22-years-old, of Valencia, Ignacio Femenia Lecha, 26-years-old, of Valladolid and Javier Gomez-Pantoja Noguera, 21-years-old, born in Madrid and a resident of Valencia. According to the traffickers' confessions, they intended to embark from this port for Cadiz with the European market as the destination of the drugs. With the capture of this contraband, the Tenerife BIC has seized 70 kilos of narcotics, all of which were brought from Morocco within less than 40 days. Due to the strict Spanish customs controls at the Strait of Gibraltar, the traffickers are now attempting to bring drugs to the continent by way of the Canary Islands. [Text] [Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 13 Oct 76 p 17] 8923

HASHISH TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN BARCELONA--Europa Press--Specialized police inspectors of Barcelona arrested three men as drug traffickers. At the end of September, action began after very pure hashish was detected in some Ciudad Condal circles. This gave rise to the suspicion that it had just been brought into the country. On the basis of a description of a suspect drug courier, the police arrested Luis Hilario Diez, alias "El Vivillo," 66-years-old, a sailor. He had in his possession a large amount of money and 500 grams of a variety of hashish. Also arrested were Alejandro Virumbrales Garcia and Alberto Gonzalez Martinez who have long police records as drug smugglers. They also had in their possession a certain amount of hashish. It has the same characteristics as the hashish taken from "El Vivillo." The prisoners have been placed at the disposal of the courts. [Text] [Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 15 Oct 76 p 11] 8923

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN BILBAO--Bilbao, 9 Oct--The Fiscal Group of the 541st Command of the Bilbao Rural Police arrested two men trying to sell marihuana. Jesus Duenas Miranda and Fernando Delgado Diaz, both residents of Malaga, were arrested on the street selling 10-gram packets of marihuana. The police seized 3,840 grams of marihuana the men had in their possession. They carried the merchandise camouflaged among the tools in a

wood box used by masons. A portable balance for weighing the drugs in front of the buyers was also seized. They bought the merchandise in Malaga at 10,000 pesetas a kilo and were selling it at 70,000 pesetas a kilo; that is, 700 pesetas for a 10-gram packet. The men said that this is the first time they brought marihuana to Bilbao. This is questionable since they knew perfectly the contacts and the suitable places for selling drugs. They were planning to leave this capital on the day of their arrest. They were imprisoned and placed at the disposal of the courts. [Text] [Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 10 Oct 76 p 13] 8923

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN MADRID--The police arrested nine persons for possessing and trafficking drugs, forging passports and robbing business establishments. The prisoners are P. Jose Timoteo Sazatornil Aisa of Huesca, 26-years-old, with a police record including among other things drug trafficking; Cesar Evaristo Yague Suarez, 28-years-old, of Orense with a police record of drug trafficking and many other legal complaints; Ernesto Ramirez Mora, 30-years-old, of Villanueva de la Reina (Jaen); Jose Antonio Blanco Duran, 34-years-old, of Madrid; Jose Peral Romero, 24-years-old, of Madrid; Vicente Mira Gavilla, 26-years-old, of Alicante; Jose Antonio Villa, 26-years-old, of Madrid; Juan Azores Garcia, of Jerez de la Frontera (Cadiz) and Maria del Carmen Tome Cantero, 27-years-old, of Moras Verdes, Salamanca. These persons had in their possession 2.5 kilos of narcotics consisting of marihuana, hashish and hashish oil [aceite indico] worth more than 800,000 pesetas, and the following forged documents: 11 Spanish passports, 4 identity cards and 3 drivers' permits. Besides the aforementioned goods, the police seized a great deal of equipment for forging documents, 18 TV sets (15 color TV's), radio-cassettes and other objects. At the time of their arrest, these delinquents had in their possession two pistols, jimmies and two tourist vehicles. [Text] [Madrid YA in Spanish 31 Oct 76 p 19] 8923

CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

OPERATIONS OF GOTHENBURG NARCOTICS GANG EXAMINED

Stockholm EXPRESSEN in Swedish 11 Oct 76 p 12

[Article by Ronny Balheden]

[Text] Gothenburg--How many hikers and joggers in the woods around Ka Lake in Partille, outside Gothenburg, last summer were really disguised narcotics traffickers?

The bulk dealers in the giant narcotics gang that has now been broken up in Gothenburg had a new way of delivering drugs to their underlings.

They hid the drugs in vacuum bottles which they buried in the forest, then sold detailed maps to their traffickers.

The narcotics gang in Gothenburg--the largest ever broken up in Sweden--was genuine big business with a number of mutually independent operations: purchasing, transportation, sales, and so on.

So far about 30 people have been seized, but a good month has passed since the first arrest, and new arrests are still taking place almost every day.

Two brothers were the leaders of the organization. Under them worked importers and traffickers who, without knowing each other, brought the narcotics from Holland to Sweden and then sold them.

So far, 9.5 kilograms of amphetamines have been seized, and this, incidentally, is all that the two brothers admit to having dealt with. Police believe, however, that the total must be at least 10 times that. The goods had been bought for 20,000 kronor in Amsterdam and then sold in Gothenburg and Stockholm for about 100,000 kronor per kilogram.

The result for the two gang leaders was a gross profit of 80,000 kronor for each kilogram of amphetamines smuggled in.

The first step in the smuggling operation was probably the work of a restaurant owner and a businessman--both in their forties and both from Gothenburg.

The link between the two Gothenburg smugglers and the two brothers who headed the gang was a 31-year-old man from Skane.

The restaurant owner and the businessman began smuggling narcotics when their businesses in Sweden began to do badly--incidentally, their past records are impeccable.

They made their contact with the gang in Amsterdam when they met a middle-aged Dutchman who was a known drug trafficker and pimp.

The businessman and the restaurant owner would go to Holland in an Opel or a German Ford. They would park the car at a predetermined spot in Amsterdam and then return to it the following day, pick it up, drive it to Gothenburg, and turn it over to the 31-year-old man from Skane.

When the two had handed over the narcotics in Gothenburg, the 31-year-old man and his helper would take over. They would pack the narcotics into plastic bags--either 1 or 5 hectograms to a bag--and then stuff the bag into a vacuum bottle, which they then hid in the woods. They would mark the exact hiding place on a map.

The maps would then be sold to traffickers--and in that way the wholesalers did not have to carry the drugs on themselves.

Police were able to seize 2 kilograms of amphetamines by shadowing hikers and joggers who were on their way to pick up the vacuum bottles.

It was through the businessman and the restaurant owner that police got wind of the existence of the big gang. Instead of getting rid of all the money they earned by smuggling narcotics, the two men began to boast to their acquaintances. The restaurant owner, for example, went around flashing a bundle containing 200,000 kronor in front of his friends.

11798
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SWEDEN

PROCEDURE OF INTERNATIONAL HEROIN SMUGGLERS REPORTED

Stockholm EXPRESSEN in Swedish 13 Oct 76 p 16

[Article by Ola Sigvardsson]

[Text] The heroin smugglers mixed with the tourists on charter flights and in that way were able to pass unnoticed as they brought millions of kronor worth of narcotics into Sweden.

Police in Huddinge have broken up the largest Swedish heroin ring ever discovered.

In 1976 alone the gang has smuggled in 5 kilograms of heroin and 10 kilograms of amphetamines. The black market value comes to more than 5 million kronor.

The couriers who brought in the narcotics are themselves members of the gang. They are heroin abusers. To begin with, the trips were made to Amsterdam. Holland today is the center for narcotics distribution in Europe.

The courier would usually fly to Amsterdam and take the train home. In Holland the transaction would be completed quickly. A bag would be standing in a prearranged spot. The courier would take it to a hotel room, where he would place the narcotics on his body.

A common method is to fasten the package to one's leg with a bandage. With the wide jeans being worn nowadays, such a bandage does not show.

That is how the gang smuggled in 10 kilograms of amphetamines and several kilograms of heroin.

With the money earned from those transactions, the gang was able to expand its operations.

Couriers to Thailand

The next move was to go on buying trips to the source of heroin production: the Orient. On several occasions, therefore, the gang sent its couriers to Bangkok, Thailand.



When police arrested the narcotics courier at Stockholm's Central Station, he had the narcotics in a bandage on his leg. The bandage was concealed under his wide trousers.

They did not fly on regularly scheduled flights, since they might make themselves conspicuous by making too many expensive trips. Instead, they chose to mingle with ordinary tourists on charter flights.

Among the tourists, the smugglers could disappear unnoticed in the crowd. Nobody suspected what they were.

During their week in Bangkok, the narcotics couriers enjoyed themselves just like everyone else. But at some point during the week they would slip away from the rest of the party.

They would go to a prearranged meeting place, where they would pick up the heroin. The "business transaction" was well planned, and delivery would be made quickly.

The goods were prepacked for the smugglers. When they received the heroin, it had already been placed in a sturdy suitcase. The suitcase was specially made in Thailand and had a secret compartment in the bottom where the narcotics were hidden.

Secret compartments of this kind are almost never discovered during routine customs checks.

Cooperation With Holland

On every trip there would be a full kilogram of pure heroin in the compartment, and that amount is sold to heroin abusers for more than a million [kronor].

It was cooperation between the Dutch police and police in Huddinge that made the discovery of the gang possible.

On 7 October the police were waiting for a courier who was arriving on a direct train from Amsterdam. He was seized as soon as he stepped off the train. One of the gang's leaders was also arrested at the same time.

Since then the police have picked up eight more persons involved in the ring. Several have already been charged.

Five acted as couriers. The others were in charge of the operations and also sold the narcotics to traffickers further down the line.

The gang leaders are in their thirties and are students at Stockholm University. Most of them are not themselves dependent on the poison they sell.

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SWEDEN

DUTCH-SWEDISH NARCOTICS CONNECTION REVEALED

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 22 Oct 76 p 23

[Article by Leif Dahlin]

[Text] A gang has admitted having distributed 80 kilograms of amphetamines worth 16 million kronor on the narcotics market to big traffickers all over the country. The gang's members were arraigned on Thursday in Stockholm District Court. There is proof that one of the accused, a long-distance trucker, paid 978,000 kronor to a seller living in Amsterdam. The gang was discovered on 11 August as it was engaged in moving a shipment of 52 kilograms of amphetamines from a garage in Varberg in southwest Stockholm.

Public Prosecutor Torsten Wolf is claiming that the gang's activities continued from September 1973 until August of this year and that most of the total of 133 kilograms of amphetamines and phenmetralin [as published] was smuggled into Sweden from Holland by long-distance truck. The shipments usually amounted to 6 or 7 kilograms and were hidden in boxes that had been packed with cut flowers.

When a truck was unloaded, one of the gang members would "help" his fiancée take the boxes to her flower shops. At the bottom of the boxes lay plastic bags containing the white amphetamine powder. It is not clear how the long-distance trucker managed the many smuggling trips he made. The lead seals were never broken, and Customs never became suspicious.

Millions Involved

One of the principals, a 25-year-old bulk trafficker in narcotics, has been charged in absentia. He was able to slip through the police net when the gang was discovered last August. It was he who was responsible for storing the drug in his garage and supplying reliable traffickers up and down the country. He bought up shipments from the smugglers at 30,000 kronor per kilogram and then sold the product at a profit of 10,000 kronor per kilogram. By the time the amphetamine reached the user level, the price was up to between 200 and 250 kronor per gram.

The driver, who himself paid almost 1 million kronor to the seller in Amsterdam, has indicated that he and his accomplices must have paid out millions of kronor.

Antique Dealer

The prosecutor will seek to have a boat, a number of cars, and cash totaling 180,000 kronor impounded.

Before the big confiscation in Varberg, police arrested three other individuals at an address on Sickla Canal Road in Stockholm. In that operation the police seized 3 kilograms of amphetamines, the remainder of a shipment totaling 30 kilograms that had come from the stock in Varberg.

In addition to the three principals being arraigned in connection with this gang, three others were also arraigned in the big cannabis case that will soon be heard in Stockholm District Court. In addition, two more big narcotics traffickers (a father and son) are also awaiting arraignment, and in Gothenburg investigation is continuing in a case involving a restaurant owner and an antique dealer who have smuggled in large amounts of central nervous system stimulants. The prosecutors in all these cases will probably demand the stiffest penalties allowed by law--10 years in prison for the principals.

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SWEDEN

BRIEFS

FIVE YEARS FOR TRAFFICKER--Helsingborg (TT)--A 5-year prison sentence in a narcotics case was handed down by the Helsingborg District Court on Thursday. The convicted prisoner, a 43-year-old man, was caught on 6 September by the Helsingborg Customs on board a train ferry arriving from Elsinore. There were 2,300 grams of amphetamines hidden under the lower berth in his sleeping compartment. He was convicted on a felony charge of attempting to smuggle goods as well as for using false papers. The man had a false passport when he was arrested. He insisted that that was his identity until an investigation involving help by Interpol, among others, showed who he was. The man also denied having anything to do with the narcotics, but one of the things shown by the technical investigation was that he was carrying adhesive tape with which to fasten the amphetamine bags, which he had taped to his body during part of the trip. After serving his sentence, the man is to be deported. [Text] [Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 22 Oct 76 p 23] 11798

JAIL SENTENCES--The severest sentences so far for narcotics were handed down by the Stockholm District Court today. Two men belonging to the gang in Vaarberg in southern Stockholm in August were sentenced to 10 and 9 years' imprisonment respectively. Together with the other members of the gang they had smuggled in 130 kg of amphetamines. The four others in the gang were sent to prison for 1 to 8 years. [Text] [Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1130 GMT 25 Nov 76 LD]

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SWITZERLAND

BRIEFS

POLICE CONFISCATE RAW OPIUM--Drug officials in Hong Kong confiscated 10 million Swiss francs worth of raw opium Tuesday morning on a sampan in Hong Kong harbor. At 590 kilograms, the drug is one of the largest single amounts which has ever been seized. According to police information it is assumed that the opium was part of a larger delivery from Thailand. The opium was packed in small plastic bags which were in turn packed in 16 bags, and it was discovered in a half-sunken sampan. No arrests were made in connection with the discovery. [Text] [Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 16 Sep 76 p 7] 8186

SWISS POLICE CONFISCATE OPIUM--According to a report issued Monday by the Basel Municipal Narcotics Department, a young Italian was arrested in the Alsace train station in possession of 91 grams of heroin worth 56,000 Swiss francs. The arrest was the result of the alertness of a customs officer. According to investigations conducted so far, he acquired the drugs in Amsterdam to be sold in Italy. It appears that the man, who is not a drug addict himself, was trying to transport the drugs for a customer, who has not yet been traced. [Text] [Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 29 Sep 76 p 7] 8186

HEROIN CONFISCATED ON INTERNATIONAL TRAIN--Nine kilograms of heroin worth about 2.7 million Swiss francs was reportedly seized last Friday on an international Paris-Milan train in Brig. According to first reports it is the largest amount of drugs which has ever been discovered in Switzerland. The heroin is said to have been brought to Europe by a notorious ring of Malaysian dealers. In connection with the discovery a Malaysian has reportedly been arrested. His name was given as Chen, and he reportedly traveled from Bangkok to Switzerland on a plane. A spokesman for the Federal Justice and Police Department essentially confirmed these reports late Monday morning without giving further details. For the moment there was no information available from the Valais authorities in charge. [Text] [Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 10 Nov 76 p 7] 8186

HEROIN PEDDLER JAILED--The Basel criminal court today sentenced a 28-year-old man to 4 years in prison and to forfeiture to the state of 7,520 Swiss francs profit derived from traffic in drugs because of a qualified violation

of the narcotics law--traffic with heroin. The accused had previously been convicted on a similar charge. The prosecuting attorney had asked for a 5-year sentence. The accused comes from the upper levels of society, but apparently because he could not fulfill the high expectations of his father, he wound up with psychological problems. After a trip to the Orient in the 1960's, he constructed a unique philosophy of life, according to which hashish was not dangerous and since then he used it more and more. He began to live a life of pleasure and earned his living with part-time jobs. When he married and became a father, the family lived in Allschwil and in Basel in communes with other young people. He tried to help young addicts get away from hard drugs by using hashish. For this he received his only previous conviction, 1 month in jail, which occurred in the middle of 1973 in the Canton of Basel. In early fall 1975, the accused turned to heroin himself, among other reasons because he was unemployed and therefore depressed and because there was no hashish being sold in the city, only heroin. He quickly became addicted and finally he began to traffic in it himself. [Text] [Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 13 Nov 76 p 7] 8186

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