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16 March 1977

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Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 18 Feb 77 p 2 BK

[Editorial: "Relentless Destruction of Opium Sources"]

[Text] Recent reports indicate increasing successes in the destruction of primary drug sources--illicit opium plantations, wherever and whenever they may be found. Within 1976-77 the Central Narcotic Drugs Control Board destroyed about 1,550 acres, the bulk of it in the Shan State. The fact that opium plantations were destroyed in 25 townships in 1975-76 and in 38 townships in 1976-77 gives a rough idea of the widening sphere of effective action being taken. Even those plantations which are situated in places of difficult access can no longer consider themselves safe as joint operations by the Tatmadaw. The Police and the working people have introduced frequent and numerous search and destroy campaigns in all parts of the country. Where necessary, police forces have also been beefed up for the purpose.

Now further reports have come in to show that the destruction of illicit opium crops is even more than what has been previously known. In the Eastern command area alone, some 2,533 acres of illicit opium were destroyed within just 2 months, from 15 December 1976 to 15 February 1977.

The fact that more than 20,000 workers including Lanzin youth, party and council functionaries, the police and the armed forces participated in this is sufficient evidence of the mass effort which is being increasingly devoted towards the relentless destruction of the main sources of opium and other narcotic drugs. Besides what has been destroyed in the Eastern command area, there are also more acres destroyed in other states and divisions --bringing to the total acreage destroyed to not less than 2,699 acres.

Of course, destruction alone is not the final answer to the problem. Persuading the local people of the regions to refrain from the cultivation of poppy or other narcotic drug plants is an integral part of any comprehensive campaign against the drug threat which menaces not only Burma but all nations of the world.

It is true, of course, that there are few other cash crops which can be as lucrative as the cultivation of drug plants. The very nature of narcotic drugs, the way in which they are consumed and the irresistible addiction which results give them a distinct advantage, in terms of earning power over ordinary crops which are not habit-forming.

However, the cultivators themselves, we are sure, cannot remain insensitive if they are made to fully appreciate the nature of the human misery which ultimately results from their crops. The cultivators who are so self-satisfied with the good income brought in by narcotic drug crops are also bound to feel more indignant still when they understand that in addition to the human misery which they are instrumental in bringing to the people, the so-called "good income" which they receive for their crops is nothing when compared to the huge profits gained by traffickers.

Hence, the search and destroy operations are accompanied by education campaigns which inform the local people of the evils which they ultimately help to perpetuate if they grow such crops. In some areas, it is not uncommon for local peoples to come forward and volunteer information about the existence of opium plantations at the end of an education talk.

Burma has so far earned favourable comments in international circles for its efforts in trying to stamp out narcotic drugs production. During the 1975-76 cultivation season, a total of approximately 18,000 acres were destroyed and some 17 heroin refineries and laboratories were put to torch. This year we intend to push the campaign even more vigorously. With an increasing number of working people participating actively, this year's results should be even better.

CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

HEROIN IN MANDALAY--Mandalay, 15 Feb, by phone--Policemen of Mandalay Police Station No 5 and personnel of the People's Security Force searched the residence of U Net Gyi on the eastern side of Baungdawkya Pagoda in Palengweyaung Ward last night and seized 6 kilograms of heroin worth 600,000 kyat from the roof of a mosquito net. U Net Gyi was arrested and action has been taken against him under section 6 (B) [of the narcotic drugs law]. [Text] [Rangoon BOTATAUNG in Burmese 16 Feb 77 p 2 BK]

POPPY PLANTATIONS IN NORTH--Tanai, 11 Feb--Under the direction of the Hukawng Tanai Township Party unit, the 86th Infantry Regiment and the Township People's Council, a poppy plant eradication team composed of party unit committee member U Swanlut Gan, Column Commander Capt Kyan Daing Aung and people's militiamen combed the areas along the upper reach in Mataw Village tract from 3 to 6 February and destroyed 90 acres of poppy plantations in the vicinity of ruined village Htumbaung, marked on the map as NS 3884. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 17 Feb 77 p 7 BK]

CSO: 5300

UN DRUG OFFICIAL REPORTS PROGRESS IN ASIAN COUNTRIES

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 8 Jan 77 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Poppies Are No Longer Grown in the Golden Triangle"]

[Excerpts] Jakarta, KOMPAS--"We explored the Golden Triangle area in helicopters and jeeps together with Burmese officials. Farmers who for generations had cultivated poppies were growing coffee, vegetables, legumes, fruits as well as medicinal plants in the highlands," Dr de Beus recounted to KOMPAS on 7 January.

"And no one shot at us," interrupted his wife.

Dr J.G. de Beus is assistant secretary general of the United Nations concurrently executive director of the UN Fund for Control of Drug Abuse (UNFDAC) headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

In his travels around East Asia, Dr de Beus visited Burma, Thailand, Laos, Malaysia and Singapore. While in Jakarta Dr de Beus will hold discussions with concerned agencies and will also observe rehabilitation centers for drug addicts.

UNFDAC has organized long-and short-term programs aimed at facilitating coordinated and joint action against drug abuse. The fund's targets are the underground drug supply and the demand and requirements for it as well as the illegal drug trade as related to producers and consumers.

Principal sectors receiving mobilization funds and services are production and the underground drug trade. The production sector is attacked mainly through efforts to replace the poppy crop and production of opium with other crops which will not cause farmers involved to lose their income and which involve little risk of crop failure. The difficulty lies in the fact that poppy fields are the traditional form of agriculture for farmers widely dispersed in the most poverty-stricken parts of the world. So these farmers must be gently but persistently persuaded and convinced that replacing this type of cultivation will not result in losses [to them]. Since early times

the opium farmer's income has only been a drop in the bucket compared with the value of retail sales to opium addicts. As a result these farmers remain dispersed and underdeveloped while the merchants are flooded with fantastic profits. The primary targets in the production sector are the mountainous region of Anatolia in Turkey and the Golden Triangle which takes in the border areas of Burma, Thailand and Laos.

UNFDAC has expended $6.4 million or one-fifth of the money it has received to control production and these underground drug supplies.

The field in which efforts have been made against the underground trade is the improvement of the control system by maintaining the law to control smuggling, the amount and cunning methods of which are increasing. Funds already expended total more than $14 million or about half the available funds.

To reduce the underground requirements for narcotics, UNFDAC initiates and finances a medical program along with WHO and an education program along with UNESCO and other national agencies which are handling the narcotics problem. For the above goals $3 million or 10 percent of the funds have already been expended.

Since it was established, UNFDAC has succeeded in collecting funds of $23 million from voluntary contributions.

"I will be happy if Indonesia will participate and also contribute as have almost all Asian nations," de Beus said hopefully.

He mentioned that UNFDAC's annual income is $4 or 5 million while its expenditures are more than $9 million.

De Beus stated that he came to Jakarta to study and discuss the latest developments as well as to study thoroughly the possibility of increasing cooperation.

Further he told of the successes and efforts of UNFDAC in several nations, mainly in Asia.

In Turkey, which produces 60 to 70 percent of the supply for the market on the American continent, the government now limits poppy fields to only 20,000 hectares in seven provinces. The harvest also must be turned over to legitimate drug factories and the farmer is prohibited from cutting open pods to remove the juice which is the opium raw material. The poppy pod must be turned over in a dry and intact state. The legal penalties are very heavy. Even "air patrols" have been formed now for surveillance of opium areas.

In Afghanistan efficient narcotics police units have been formed which put a great deal of pressure on smuggling. In 1975 only 8 1/2 tons of opium were seized; this increased to 15 tons last year.

After conferring with Burma, the government agreed to cooperate. The Golden Triangle which was a horrible place earlier and which had become a despicable source, has now been controlled by the government and poppy crops are gradually being replaced with other crops.

For work in this area, which earlier produced 50 percent of the underground drug supply on the Asian market, UNFDAC allocated aid of $6.5 million for a 5-year program beginning in 1977. "Earlier Burma cooperated with the United States but it is very different with the UN!" said de Beus.

Thailand, which borders Burma, has made a good success of a pilot project in 25 villages which produce opium. This 4-year project began in 1972 with $4 million in aid.

The Laotian Government has also proposed to end opium production within 5 years through cooperation with UNFDAC, although the amount of aid has not yet been decided upon.

Malaysia is critical. This national region is a smuggling route with centers at Penang and Kuala Lumpur. The figures for opium addiction among young people are also very high. UNFDAC will send experts to assume responsibility for the underground traffic and to provide training in prevention [of drug abuse] among youth groups and in the research sector as well as the rehabilitation of opium addicts.

Singapore continues to be the underground drug exchange, however, only for negotiations and transfer arrangements. Its own drugs do not enter [the traffic]. Purchasers receive their goods in Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok or even South Korea.

"Indonesia is not as critical as Malaysia but its pattern is the same: drugs are imported by the newly-rich group, principally the youth," said de Beus. "So it is almost assured that the drug use problem will also arrive!"

6804
CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

STIMULANT TRAFFICKERS--Seoul, 28 Feb--Five persons were arrested today on charges of manufacturing and trafficking philopon worth 60 million won (120,000 U.S. dollars) in violation of the habit-forming drug control law. Anti-narcotics agents under the direction of prosecutor Kim Hyong-Kyun of the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office said that they also confiscated from the five, all of them based in Pusan, some 1,000 grams of the stimulant and philopon processing tools. [Text] [Seoul HAPTONG in English 0238 GMT 28 Feb 77 SK]

CSO: 5300

BTA REPORTS BULGARIAN NARCOTICS EFFORT

Sofia BTA Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1550 GMT 1 Mar 77 AU

["A Barrier to Foreign 'Narcotics Smugglers'"--BTA heading]

[Text] During 1976, Bulgarian customs organs confiscated 3,120 kilograms of narcotics, a responsible official of the customs administration told BTA reporter Vasil Vasilev.

Since 1969, Bulgarian custom officials have uncovered 16,698 kilograms of various narcotics transported by the producer-countries for West Europe or the United States. Not one case has been registered so far in which the smugglers transported narcotics destined for Bulgaria.

The largest amount of narcotics the custom officials confiscated was on 10 August 1976 when they uncovered a truck driven by two Austrians transporting 1,500 kilograms of hashish and 7 kilograms of opium. Five years ago, two Englishwomen were arrested at the Bulgarian border transporting 927 kilograms of hashish in a trailer pulled by a jeep. Such sensational cases, however, are rare. Usually packages containing 10 to 100 kilograms of narcotics have been uncovered.

The most frequently transported narcotic is hashish. However, opium, morphine, marihuana and heroin have also been confiscated.

The illegal narcotics traffic has no direct effect on Bulgaria's interest; however, Bulgarian custom officials have devoted much effort to the noble struggle with this effort to smuggle which threatens the health and life of many people in the countries where the narcomania is quite spread.

Bulgaria participates energetically in the struggle by the specialized UN organs on problems of narcotics and is cooperating with the interested national organs and other state and international organizations. Many Bulgarian custom inspectors have passed specialized courses for the struggle against smuggling narcotics.

The efficient activity of the Bulgarian organs against the illegal traffic of narcotics was highly appraised by a number of national and international offices and organizations. The prestige of the Bulgarian customs office increased. The leadership of the council of customs cooperation in Brussels has recently expressed gratitude to the customs administration at the Ministry of Finances for its effective work.

CSO: 5300

INCREASING DRUG CONSUMPTION WORRIES AUTHORITIES

Call for Control of Cocaine Production

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 17 Feb 77 p 2 PY

[Editorial by Jose Carrasco: "Drug Traffic and Consumption"]

[Text] Bolivia is a country that exports raw materials, mainly intended for industrial use. Recently it has become a center for the production of drugs, damaging the health of a large number of people.

The problem of processing, trafficking and consumption of drugs is growing serious in this country, since production has led to a most critical situation for the interests of the nation. As long as the traffickers limited themselves to [foreign] sales of dangerous drugs the situation did not entail great dangers to public health, but officials are now very much alarmed at the proportions which consumption has reached.

The drugs are now in the hands of minors, according to official reports. Because of the carelessness of parents and teachers, consumption is spreading. It is forgotten that "drug addiction is the cause of unspeakable human suffering which affects both poor and rich. We are particularly concerned, however, over the dramatic increase of drug addiction and its destructive effects on the limited economic and human resources of many of the less prosperous nations of the world."

This statement was made by the present U.S. President when he addressed the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which during its latest meeting emphasized the urgent need to solve the difficult problem of controlling the production of coca leaves.

According to UN statistics, Bolivia and Peru are the main production centers of raw material for cocaine. In this country the quantity of 2.5 tons of cocaine was confiscated in 1975, but a larger volume was available on the market. New "factories" are constantly discovered; it might be said that they appear like mushrooms after a rain. Many peasants have

become skillful chemists who easily process coca leaves with very cheap equipment and earn money fast.

U.S. officials, alarmed at the growing trafficking of drugs--particularly cocaine--are making an effort together with the Latin American governments to mount an active control campaign. Bolivia and Peru can count on and will continue counting on "financial aid to study the methods of controlling coca leaf production, to find other crops as substitutes, and to struggle against the illegal drug traffic."

The battle is thus fought on various fronts, but greatest concern is related to our youth. In this aspect a more determined attitude is required from parents, teachers and professors, from all organizations linked with youth activities. It is urgent to save our children from the very serious effects of drug addiction. The campaign must be intensive and constant. Otherwise we will have regrettable and undesirable consequences in the near future.

The traffickers do not limit themselves to earning huge profits; they contribute to the destruction of valuable human resources.

Santa Cruz Local 'Mafia'

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 18 Feb 77 p 5 PY

[Text] Santa Cruz--Maj Alberto Saavedra, chief of narcotics, has stated that "we are trying to stop rumors circulating in Santa Cruz that we arrest only small drug traffickers while the big ones laugh at us."

He indicated that there is a mafia with international connections and that, when officials are about to arrest an important drug trafficker, it resorts to so-called "paid men" who accept money to go to jail and save the powerful.

CSO: 5300

ATTORNEY GENERAL ISSUES CRITICISM OF NEW DRUG LAW

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Feb 77 p 26

[Article by Jorge Medeiros da Silva, attorney general of the republic: "The New Drug Law: a Blank Penal Code"]

[Text] Law No 6368, which was published on 22 October 1976, provided for all the penalties related to the problem of drugs and narcotics in Brazil. In many respects, it unquestionably represents an improvement over the previous law. Hence, it is odd that, in the penal section of the legal charter, we have regressed to the abandoned system of regarding as narcotics or substances causing dependence only those listed in a law or an administrative directive of the National Service for Control of Medicine and Pharmacy [SNFMF], as prescribed by Article 36 of the law, under General Provisions.

At the outset, we noted an impropriety in the wording of the text of the single paragraph contained in the article. The "heading" states that the lists of narcotics are to be stipulated by a law or an act of the SNFMF. Now the single paragraph grants the SNFMF authority to change these lists. It is unfeasible for a sector of the administration to change the terms of a law through a mere directive. Thus, the provision in the single paragraph concerning the possibility of a change in the law by the SNFMF appears unconstitutional to us.

In a recent report, Joao de Deus Lacerda Menna Barreto, in commenting on the drug law, defends the criterion that was adopted as a blank penal code likewise justifying his position; because he was a member of the commission which prepared the bill in the Ministry of Justice. He claims that doubts have arisen concerning the effects of many substances, and that in many areas the investigations have not been made by government specialists. Now poorly conducted investigations may be repeated, and the process might even be invalidated, which does not reflect the ideal of justice; but this is likewise insufficient to serve as the grounds for such a disastrous criterion for recognizing narcotics. A substance is a narcotic or causes dependence by its very nature, and not by virtue of an official act. Moreover, we know of countless instances wherein addicts in household laboratories

and even in the kitchens of their own homes have made drug mixtures that enable them to produce narcotics, hallucinogenic substances, etc. All these combinations cannot be anticipated by administrative directives issued by the SNFMF. The former criterion of trusting in the experts to ascertain the nature of the drugs was more effective and more in keeping with the very nature of the substances being subjected to examination.

Finally, it is an amazing fact that, to date, all the drug traffickers, users, growers and producers in Brazil have acted with impunity. This is because the old lists of drugs have not had any penal significance, as the findings of the Federal Supreme Court have constantly demonstrated.

When the new drug law went into effect, no new list of drugs was prepared. So, it is a blank penal code and it has remained blank. Any criminal suit related to an incident subsequent to the enactment of the law to date is void; an illegal constraint has become established because of the lack of classification of the incident. There is no list of drugs which are narcotic or which cause dependence in effect. The situation is extremely serious, because it allows incidents of this kind to go unpunished.

The regulation contained in the law established a period of 180 days wherein the Ministry of Health was to promote the codification of the laws relating to the control, curbing and prevention of drugs. This means that, until that codification goes into effect, one that will surely be accompanied by the lists of banned drugs, we shall remain subjected to penal impunity for the production, trading and improper use of drugs. For the sake of public health and social security, we hope that this shortcoming will be promptly corrected.

2909
CSO: 5300

DETAILS ON DRUG-RELATED MURDER CASE INVOLVING POLICE

Agents Fearing Arrest File for Habeas Corpus

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Feb 77 p 19

[Text] Almost simultaneously with the announcement by the secretary of public security, Col Erasmo Dias, of the names of the four federal agents implicated in the death of private detective Eurico Dias Pinheiro, likewise accompanied by a denial that there is friction between the Sao Paulo DEOPS [State Department of Political and Social Order] and the Federal Police Department, 34 other agents from that organization entered a petition for preventive habeas corpus claiming that they were threatened with "arbitrary arrest by Commissioner Sergio Fleury."

The four agents under arrest are associated with a ring of smugglers and drug traffickers with whom,according to Col Erasmo Dias, certain members of the civilian police force are also connected. In a deposition made to the authorities yesterday, the murdered private detective's companion, Maria del Carmen Monterde, stated that she did not know why he was killed, and was unfamiliar with the individuals who broke into her home on the night of the crime. The agents in custody are Jorge Antonio Goncalves (alias "Formigao" [Ant]), Jose Edmilson de Oliveira, Antonio Pizza and Maria Lucia Nigro Paladino (alias "Maria Bang-Bang"). They are all in the DEOPS at the disposal of the Federal Police.

Plea for Justice

An unusual petition for preventive habeas corpus was entered yesterday in the Third District of Federal Justice: Thirty-four agents claimed that they had "grounds for suspecting that they would be arrested and kept incommunicado by the DEOPS commissioner, Dr Sergio Fleury, who has been indiscriminately pursuing federal agents stationed in Sao Paulo, without any known reason or motive advanced for this serious and unusual procedure."

The 34 federal agents are shocked at the attitude of the DEOPS commissioner who, "lacking the necessary credentials for this purpose, invaded the homes of several federal agents and arrested them without giving any reason for this procedure, except to explain that it was a general order."

The petition subsequently states: "Because they are agents and, consequently, included under the aforementioned indiscriminate general order, they are fearful and certain that they will be imprisoned as soon as they are apprehended, something which could happen at any moment."

After describing the DEOPS' procedure as "obviously illegal, because it is in gross violation of the law," the agents claim that they have "no alternative but to seek the assistance of the judicial branch, so that they may enjoy the constitutional rights that are guaranteed them by the supreme law."

Following are the federal agents seeking preventive habeas corpus: Hotelo Teles de Andrade, Joaquim Vicente Cardoso Netto, Moacir Moliterno Dias, Wagner Andozia, Francisco Jose Vargas, Jose Clovis de Souza, Eugenio Roberto Maia, Walmir Flor da Silva, Paulo Cilon Melo de Rosa, Francisco Carlos Garisto, Eduardo Berger Neto, Pedro Mosa Siqueira, Benedito Honorio da Silva, Claudio Jose Pamio, Mario Kwotaka Ikeda, Amaro Lucena de Castro, Claudio Botejara Junior, Danilo Marne de Melo, Paulo Miranda Pinto Junior, Roberval Fernandes, Henrique Damiano, Ney Fereira Soares, Francisco Chagas Thomaz, Luis Alberto Calvoso, Edson Martins Ribeiro, Pedro Marques do Nascimento, Admir Alves, Sergio Cavassakai, Jose Maria de Souza, Roque Herminio D'Avola, Antonio Jose de Almeida, Claudio Ferreira de Azevedo, Antonio Carlos Rocha and Abel Rodrigues Mocho.

Erasmo Stresses Sadism in the Crime

In a group interview held in his office yesterday, Col Erasmo Dias appeared to be chiefly concerned with underscoring the sadistic aspects of the murder of the alienated individuals, "Tino" and Cesar. The secretary of security showed several photographs of the corpses: "Tino," killed with 27 stab wounds; and Cesar, burned to death. He remarked: "Underlying these crimes there is obviously a message from cowards who are attempting to intimidate the police. But there is no place in Brazil for that kind of 'Mafia,' and we shall pursue it to the end." Then he read a message which he had sent to the top-ranking police authorities, declaring: "It is incumbent upon our police to promptly accept this challenge by exposing those fabrications from beginning to end, so that there will be no reason to doubt either their ability and integrity or the fact that there can be no sanctuary in our society for this kind of Mafia or Mafiosos."

In announcing the names of the four Federal Police agents who were arrested on charges of being implicated in the murder of the informant, Eurico Dias Pinheiro ("Tino"), the secretary said that it was ridiculous to assume that the arrests made by DEOPS agents could create an atmosphere of dissension between the Federal and State Police.

Erasmo then explained that Col Moacyr Coelho, the director of the Federal Police Department (DPF), and his former classmate at the academy, was well-informed on all investigations and arrests, and that the DPF only acted in

the case because it involved a common crime which came under the jurisdiction of the State Police. Ton confirm the existence of an understanding, the secretary read a telegram from the DPF director in which the latter stated that the Federal Police "are extremely concerned with solving the murder of which private detective Eurico Dias Pinheiro was a victim;" adding: "There is every reason to believe that the crime was connected with the probe of corruption that is being made by the DPF's regional entity in this state, through a summary investigation ordered by the minister of justice. Confirming a telephone call, he said that the Federal Police agents must continue to make arrests."

Colonel Erasmo stated that other federal agents may be involved in the crime, admitting that even members of the Sao Paulo civilian police force itself were under suspicion. He concluded by saying: "I think that there are even many white-collar people (riding around in Mercedes cars, and consuming whiskey and cocaine) involved in this affair."

Erasmo Sees Death As 'Warning' of Organized Crime's Existence

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Feb 77 p 21

[Text] The secretary of public security, Antonio Erasmo Dias, admitted the possibility of further fatalities during the investigation of cases of croruption and extortion on the part of agents of the Federal Police of Sao Paulo. He remarked: "The death of Eurico Dias Pinheiro, "Tino," is only a 'warning' that organized crime is operating in the country; and, if anyone has any doubt as to the existence of a 'kind of Mafia' in Brazil, this informant's death attests to it."

With respect to the possibility of a Chinese woman's being the next victim of this "white-collar Mafia," the secretary had no comment, claiming that he had no knowledge of such an individual's participation in the cases of smuggling, drug trafficking, extortion and murder committed by federal agents.

According to Federal Police sources, the Chinese woman was arrested at the beginning of the year by another Federal Police regional headquarters. When questioned, she said that she was "shocked by such severity in the investigations, something that did not exist among the Sao Paulo agents, who were her friends."

Although the Secretariat of Security and the Superintendancy of Federal Police have made no official announcement, it has been rumored that more arrests have been made, including those of 20 State Police officers involved in the corruption of the Federal Police of Sao Paulo.

Federal Police

The Federal Police agents of Sao Paulo are indignant at the recent incidents that have occurred since the death of private detective Eurico Dias Pinheiro,

"Tino," and dissatisfied with the attitude that has been assumed by the regional superintendent of the Federal Police, Col Benedito Felix de Souza. The agents claim that the colonel made no attempt to protect them from the State Police's action, and would have allowed agent Antonio Pizza (one of the four individuals arrested by the DEOPS on 15 February) to be kept in custody in his own office.

The Federal Police had a meeting with Colonel Felix and, they maintain, the superintendent admitted that the four arrests were illegal, but said that he would not take any stand with respect to the heads of the entity in Brasilia. The atmosphere of indignation increased and, following the meeting, many of the police corps members decided to embark upon a tortoise-type operation, by refusing to concern themselves with the cases in progress.

In the realm of the State Police, investigator Jose Martins Silva, assigned to the 35th Police District, when notified by his superiors that he must appear before the DEOPS to make a statement regarding his affiliations with "Tino," filed for preventive habeas corpus with the judge of the 24th criminal district and disappeared.

However, most of the Federal Police are shocked that the arrests were not made until after "Tino's" death. Confessing that there are instances of corruption among Federal Police agents, they criticize the work done for over 2 months by the investigating commission from Brasilia consisting of three inspectors and 15 agents. They claim that the investigations were brief and that the accused did not have the slightest opportunity to be defended. The commission reportedly obtained the names of five persons involved in corruption (including that of Antonio Pizza), and was dissolved just after the death of the private detective. But the list of those to be penalized totalled about 20 additional names, all of which had been suggested by the superintendent, Felix de Souza.

Another fact which has evoked surprise is that Pizza, Jorge Antonio Goncalves, Jose Edmilson de Oliveira and Maria Lucia Nigro Paladino were arrested on suspicion of having participated in "Tino's" death, but their preventive arrests were made on charges of corruption. Thus, according to the Federal Police, there is no reason for them to be kept incommunicado.

Meanwhile, the Federal Police's greatest complaint is that they cannot work: "Everything has to be done with a written order from the top (the Regional Superintendency). Consider how ridiculous it is: We are prohibited from conducting investigations in the Page Gallery. Colonel Felix says that this is a means of preventing the Federal Police from becoming corrupted."

Female Companion

None of the activities associated with smuggling and the protection of sellers of smuggled items in which Eurico Dias Pinheiro, "Tino," engaged, were known to his female companion, Maria del Carmen da Badia Monterde. She stated yesterday that she had "found out everything after the newspapers began to report the facts."

To justify this lack of awareness, Maria del Carmen remarked yesterday that "Tino" was "from one class, and I from another." And she claimed that they both led a life that was "very independent from that of the other," and that "I never knew anything about what was going on." She explained: "I do not get involved with the police, and I did not know about 'Tino's' involvement with members of the Federal Police."

After the death of the private detective, which took place in the couple's residence in Tremenbe, Maria del Carmen moved to her parents' home in the Sao Paulo Brooklin area, with her three children. Although she had been present at the scene of the crime on the morning of 10 February, she guarantees: "I had never before seen the individuals who killed my husband." She also claims that she does not know "even the names" of the four Federal Police agents who were arrested by the DEOPS on charges of liability for "Tino's" death. Despite the fact that she "does not get involved with the police," Maria del Carmen stated that her residence in Tremenbe had occasionally been visited by two civilian police commissioners whose names she declined to mention.

2909
CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

OFFICIAL'S MURDER DRUG-RELATED--Belo Horizonte (O GLOBO)--The preliminary investigations by police indicate that Sandoval Marinho, of Arena-2, the deputy mayor of Campo do Meio, was killed because he discovered extensive corruption in the mayor's office and reported the situation to the state authorities. Police also state that his death was associated with the drug traffic in Campo de Meio, and that Sandoval had threatened to expose the traffickers. As of yesterday, the murderer, Agostinho Cabral, had not appeared before the police. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 15 Jan 77 p 10] 2909

CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

MEXICAN TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--San Jose, Costa Rica, 12 Feb (AFP)--Two Mexicans--Benito Gutierrez Mejia, 35 years old, and Pedro Gomez Colin, 47 years old--might be sentenced to up to 25 years in prison after being caught with 6 pounds of cocaine in 72 small bags. The Ministry of Public Security reported that both are being held in the San Jose Central Penitentiary. They were arrested at the Juan Santamaria International Airport. The cocaine was carefully stuck to their legs with court plaster. Both came from San Andres, Colombia. They left Mexico last Sunday for Guatemala and the following day went to Bogota where they made "contact" in a hotel. Then they left with the cocaine for San Andres and flew yesterday, Friday, to Costa Rica. Interpol authorities followed them and when they reached the Costa Rican airport, they were arrested. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 13 Feb 77 p 10-A] 7717

CSO: 5300

1976 ANTI-DRUGS CAMPAIGN SUMMARIZED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 8 Feb 77 pp 27-A, 28-A

[Article by Julian Carlos y Jimenez: "More Poppy Fields Than Marihuana Fields Destroyed in 1976"]

[Text] Summarizing the campaign against drugs carried out by the Mexican Army last year, Senator Gen Mario Carballo Pazos emphasized that "the terrible seriousness of the drug problem in the country has been exacerbated" in the present decade. He reported that 15,037 fields of poppies and 8,484 of marihuana covering 2,040 and 634 hectares respectively were destroyed.

He explained that 236 million poppy plants and 101 million marihuana plants were razed.

Confiscated goods included 126 kilograms of gum, 101 tons of marihuana, 26 kilograms of processed drugs and 20 airplanes. Also 693 national drug traffickers were apprehended and indicted as well as 209 foreigners.

The senator from Chihuahua said that "the sowing, cultivation, production, sales and use of drugs of every type are a constant threat to the youth. In this decade, that danger has emphasized the terrible seriousness of the consequences.

"It seems as if the increase in actions and means used against those involved in the immoral sale of mind-altering substances stimulates the drug traffickers to seek new methods to maintain and increase their clientele who provide them with large profits," he stated.

There is a constant campaign against drug traffickers, there is legislation to combat the illegal traffic and it punishes the criminal producers and poisoners with the harshness they deserve.

He added that it is necessary to decrease consumption through a constant education campaign about what drugs really are and the harm they cause.

General Carballo also warned: "It is a deep, latent threat because it is aimed at the perversion of the life style of children and youths. Anything that harms or tries to harm unformed minds directly affects the future of the country. This forces adults, especially heads of families, to assume responsibility.

"The heads of families must be warned and make their children aware of the terrible threats that drugs and drug addiction represent."

Causes of Increased Usage

The senator said that some of the possible causes of increased drug usage are: the false notion that medicine can solve physical as well as mental problems; increase in upper socioeconomic groups which makes the acquisition of drugs easier; enjoyment of the euphoria and excitation that some drugs produce; social pressures that induce the youth to imitate exotic foreign customs; elimination of alcoholic drinks and replacement with marihuana and other drugs; and a need for alternatives that is significant in rebellious youth.

He felt that Mexico has demonstrated to the rest of the world its constant interest in actively participating in the fight against drugs.

He said that the problems of drug addiction, drug traffic and drug smuggling will be discussed at the next Mexican-U.S. Interparliamentary Council which will be held in this capital.

7717
CSO: 5300

REORGANIZATION IN CAPITAL POLICE CONTINUES

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 3 Feb 77 p 19

[Text] Assistant director of police and traffic, Gen Rodrigo W. Montelongo, yesterday appointed Lt Col Francisco Sahagun Vaca to replace Lt Col Manuel Baena Camargo as assistant chief of the Division of Investigation for the Prevention of Delinquency (DIPD).

This appointment, along with others, was made in the DIPD headquarters. Sahagun Vaca was formerly chief of General Inspection of the DGPT [Mexico City Police Department] and his previous positions included: Federal Judicial Police (PJF) agent, second chief commander commissioned in the cities of Hermosillo and Guadalajara, and authorized commander of foreign personnel for the PJF in Mexico City.

The following promotions were also made:

Maj Roberto Cuevas Antolin, formerly Robbery Squad commander, will replace Maj Jorge Udave Gonzalez as commander of the Auto Theft Squad, with the same rank. Udave Gonzalez in turn was promoted to another position in the DGPT.

Maj Felipe Sosomayor Olvera, who was chief of surveillance in the Trucking Headquarters of the North, leaves his post to apply for retirement.

Capt Sergio Bermudez Dabila was promoted to major and occupies as of yesterday the office of commander of the 4th Robbery Squad vacated by Maj Roberto Cuevas Antolin.

Authorized captains Raul Martinez Inclan and Angel Ortiz Avila, who were functioning as commanders of the 6th and 2nd groups of the DIPD, were restored to their rank of lieutenant, leaving their positions vacant. In this respect, General Montelongo told them that with this measure, Gen Arturo Durazo was sending them a letter urging them to improve their professional police skills to demonstrate that they deserved their positions of leadership.

8631
CSO: 3010

DURAZO 'REORGANIZES' MORE POLICE UNITS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 17 Feb 77 p 26-A

/Article by EXCELSIOR reporter Jorge Reyes Estrada/

/Text/ Sixteen commanding officers of the Division of Investigations assigned to political subdivisions in the Federal District have been removed from their positions and transferred from the group on the instructions of the director of police and traffic, Gen Arturo Durazo Moreno.

The reasons were not disclosed at the Directorate of Police and Traffic. The director of the organization did not wish to make any comment; he refused to receive the reporter because "he was very busy and did not want to make any statements."

With this general order, two have now been issued in less than a month. Both of them have given rise to uncertainty and misgivings among personnel.

In the first, as it will be recalled, three police chiefs were retired and others were demoted without receiving any explanation.

It was also reported that preventive police officers assigned among certain groups of the Division of Investigations will be sent back to their battalions of origin.

The inexplicable "reorganization" undergone by the top levels of the staff of the former Secret Service has led to a loss of confidence among the personnel, according to comments made by some of those affected.

The new commanding officers of the 16 political subdivisions took over their posts yesterday. They were informed of their designations at the time for roll call, at 0800 hours.

The names of the replacements were also not announced. The majority, according to reports, are friends of General Durazo, whom he came to know when he was in the Federal Judicial Police as its first commander.

It was still very early when Durazo Moreno began his meetings with the commanding officer and second in command of the Division of Investigations, as well as with certain high level officers and commanders.

Some of those affected by the "reorganization" remarked that it does not seem possible that Manuel Baena Camargo, who was very well acquainted with the problems of the Division of Investigations, has been retired and his position taken by a person unfamiliar with the operations of the former Secret Service. They were referring to the second in command, Lt Col Francisco Sahagun Vaca, who, they asserted, left the Federal Judicial Police as the result of difficulties having to do with the narcotics traffic.

They added, in conclusion, that the former Secret Service is the only body of police that does not change with the 6-year presidential administrations but is, rather, a career service, and it is to this that it owes its prestige.

11532
CSO: 5300

CORRUPTION IN NUEVO LAREDO DISTRICT COURTS

Third District Court Judge

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 8 Feb 77 p 8-B

[Text] Alejo Sierra Gomez took office yesterday morning as Third District Court judge. He replaced Juan Munoz Sanchez who has been transferred to another post.

Will Enforce the Law

Sierra Gomez is a friendly person. The first thing he did after taking office was to visit his colleague Luis Garcia Romero, Second District Court judge, with whom he discussed a wide range of subjects.

During a brief interview with EL DIARIO, he said that he will work to make the application of the law flexible and to follow it strictly for the protection of the people of Nuevo Laredo.

He is a very modest person although he has 26 years of service in the judicial branch. He is a native of San Luis Potosi and graduated from its university. He served as president of the Conciliation and Arbitration Board in his native state. Later, he was transferred to Mexico City as the Toluca District Court judge. After that, he was assigned to other posts. Recently, he served in Tapachula, Chiapas from where he was transferred to this city the same type of post as the one he was holding. He said he will continue to serve with the same loyalty and will modestly use his capabilities to provide rapid and expeditious justice.

Manipulation of Justice in Nuevo Laredo

Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 9 Feb 77 p 3-B

[Noticiero column by Hector Miguel Chavez]

[Excerpt] In Nuevo Laredo, the interests headed by Luis Garcia Romero, Second District Court judge, succeeded in having the Supreme Court of Justice remove Juan Munoz Sanchez from the post of Third District Court judge. He was a hindrance to the group of litigants and officials of the Second District Court who for 15 years have manipulated as they pleased the application of justice

and the transactions derived from this. Juan Munoz Sanchez served as the Third District Court judge in Nuevo Laredo for 7 months. During this period, he brought up to date almost all proceedings and displayed his great capabilities and honesty in the application of the law. Since he did not allow anyone to manipulate him, Munoz Sanchez brought upon himself the antipathy of the group of litigants and officials whom Judge Luis Garcia Romero has controlled during the 15 years he has been the Second District Court judge. Juan Munoz Sanchez did not make deals with the group and strictly applied the law. Thus, as was the case with seven other judges who passed through the [Third] District Court, Munoz Sanchez was scourged by slander and brought before the Supreme Court of Justice. He was not attacked head-on since his work has no blemish but links were fabricated between him and underworld figures so as to dishonor him. A magistrate joined the farce and arranged for Juan Munoz Sanchez' removal. His case is under examination at the highest judicial level and will be heard in the near future. Due to the purity of his conduct and honesty, Juan Munoz Sanchez has great faith in the outcome. Those who are thoroughly knowledgeable and have current information on his conduct are sure that the Supreme Court will exonerate him and perhaps will then order an investigation to reveal the disguise of those who slandered him.

8923
CSO: 5330

SINALOA GOVERNOR: INVESTIGATE TRAFFICKERS' BANK ACCOUNTS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 23 Feb 77 p 4-A

[Text] The governor of Sinaloa, Alfonso G. Calderon Velarde, said yesterday that "it would be advisable" within the framework of Operation Condor (antidrugs) to investigate and to make public the names of owners of large bank accounts in the northern part of the country which were derived from profits from drug trafficking, with a view to combating drug trafficking at its roots.

At the end of a meeting with President Lopez-Portillo at the Palacio Nacional, Calderon Velarde stated that it is up to the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic to establish the channels needed to identify the owners of these accounts.

He added that Operation Condor has destroyed fifty percent of the drug plants in the states of Durango, Sinaloa and Chihuahua.

In addition, marihuana, heroin, cocaine, morphine and hashish worth 680 million pesos have been destroyed.

Calderon Velarde also made reference to the construction of the Mazatlan Penitentiary which will cost 40 million pesos.

He also cited other construction in the state, especially Social Security clinics, installations at the Culiacan Airport, the Civilian Hospital in the same city and the Center for Agricultural Research in Mazatlan.

Calderon Velarde said that there is tranquility in the state despite the agrarian problem which existed last year and that the difficulties which arose in the organization of small landowners, who offered their land to meet existing requests, will not affect turnovers to the peasant farmers concerned.

He added that this is an internal dispute and will not be an obstacle to giving the peasant farmers 3,500 hectares in the rain sectors and 10,000 hectares in the irrigated districts.

8143
CSO: 5300

COCAINE, HEROIN BOUND FOR U.S. MARKET SEIZED

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 22 Feb 77 p 10-A

[Text] The major blow delivered to international drug trafficking by the Federal Judicial Police, during which 136 kilograms of cocaine and 5 kilos of heroin were confiscated, was reported yesterday by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, 10 days after the action. According to the bulletin, the drugs would have been worth 440,250,000 pesos on the international market.

An AP cable reported that a spokesman of the customs office in Miami, Jim Dingfelder, estimates 1/2 kilo of cocaine to be worth $290,000 (6,554,000 pesos).

In this case, since the drugs were bound for the U.S. market, if all had been sold in that country, they would have brought in 1,782,688,000 pesos. This estimate was made by the prisoners (14 members of the same ring).

In a bulletin dated 14 February, it was also reported that the ring which was apprehended on 11 February was operating in Sinaloa and Baja California.

The police confiscated the following from them: high powered guns, hand grenades, flares (used for clandestine landings) and around 250,000 pesos cash.

The pilot, Marsio Enrique Alvarez Velazquez, Jesus Alfredo Aguilar Medina and Oscar Cazares Rocha arrived at the Tijuana, Baja California airport in a twin-engine Cessna 310, registration XB-EAD.

When the plane landed, the men were arrested by agents under the command of Maj. Americo Espinoza del Angel. This Saturday morning (12 February), 136 kilograms of cocaine and 5 of heroin were confiscated from them. The drugs were in polyethylene bags.

According to the prisoners' statements, the drugs were destined for the neighboring country to the north. Investigations of the ring of drug traffickers were initiated there.

On 17 February, after the prisoners made statements to the police, it was learned that at 346 Popotla Street, in La Sierra subdivision, Tijuana, the police arrested Roberto Jacinto Silva Leo, who said that he was the ring-leader and his lieutenants were Jose Beltran Felix and Manuel Martinez Terminal.

The drug traffickers were taken by surprise, and there was no shootout. The police confiscated a Thompson .45 caliber semi-automatic rifle; one M-16 .556 caliber rifle; one Colt .45 caliber pistol; one .38 caliber special revolver; hand grenades and flares, $10,471 and 13,105 pesos.

Federal Public Ministry agents Jose Franco Villa and Alfredo Aaron Juarez prepared the required reports.

Finally, on Saturday, 19 February, the Federal Judicial Police arrested eight additional members of the ring: Anunilla Ceronia Aguilar Sanchez, Remigio Torres Canas, Cecilia Martinez, Alfredo Aguilar Gonzalez, Manuel Trejo Cedillo, Beatriz Sanchez Garcia, Olga Garcia Rodriguez and Silvia Guadalupe Gonzalez Rodriguez.

Federal Judicial Police director Gen Raul Mendiolea Cerecero personally took charge of directing the investigation.

Elsewhere, Luis Reyes Villa and Manuel Hernandez Hernandez were arrested yesterday in Madera, Chihuahua in possession of 57 sacks containing 560 kilograms of marihuana.

The Federal Police, supported by State Judicial Police personnel, took the traffickers to the city of Chihuahua where they were turned over to the Federal Public Ministry.

Operation Condor: Good Results, Says Calderon

One month after its start, "Operation Condor" which involves the burning of marihuana and poppy fields has produced positive results, in the opinion of the governor of Sinaloa, Alfonso G. Calderon.

The burning of drug fields, the governor added, has resulted in a 50 percent reduction in the production of drugs. He reported that drugs worth millions of pesos have been destroyed and weapons, vehicles and equipment have been confiscated.

The governor was interviewed in the CTM [expansion unknown] where he had gone to talk with Fidel Velazquez (the subject of their conversation was not disclosed). He also said that this operation is being conducted by several police organizations, supported by the Army, in an area of 80,000 hectares.

8143
CSO: 5300

SINALOA: DRUG STORAGE FACILITIES OVERTAXED BY 'CONDOR'

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 23 Feb 77 p 7

[Text] Although Sinaloa has entered a normal stage in its productive life and has seen the illegal activities of drug traffickers cut in half, thanks to a military operation called "Condor," the state is now faced with the problem of saturation of the local prisons, according to a statement made yesterday by Governor Alfonso G. Calderon.

During a press conference at the Palacio Nacional at the end of his accord with the president of the republic, the governor of Sinaloa stated "two problems" deriving from this operation: an excess number of inmates tried for federal crimes in state prisons and the scarcity of warehouses for storing confiscated drugs until they are burned.

Operation Condor, instituted in Sinaloa, Chihuahua and Durango to stop the production and smuggling of drugs in an area of approximately 80,000 hectares has produced extraordinary results. "Violence has entirely ceased and there is normalcy in the productive life of Sinaloa," Calderon said.

He added that although there are weekly burnings of confiscated drugs, the existing stored drugs have not been destroyed. He cited as an example the amount of marihuana, heroin, cocaine, morphine and hashish burned by the army as a result of implementation of the operation: the drugs were worth in excess of 500 million pesos.

Recently, the governor added, in a place called Huaracha, the army confiscated 45 tons of marihuana which, had they been made into "cigarettes" would have represented profits of 180 million pesos for the traffickers.

However, the success of the operation has overcrowded the state prisons, in that the prisoners had committed federal crimes. Even though construction on the Mazatlan Prison is very advanced "we don't now have any place to put the criminals."

Before operation Condor, the state penitentiary accommodated "90 percent of inmates jailed for federal crimes; and now for good reason it is overcrowded. Now we are observing overpopulation, but of the jails."

The new penitentiary in Mazatlan will be financed totally by the republic and will cost 40 million pesos.

In response to a reporter's question, the governor made reference to the enormous bank accounts of the drug traffickers. He said that the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic is already working on this. Although he gave no assurances that it would be done, he discussed the possibility of these accounts being confiscated and used for the common good.

Summing up the press conference, Calderon stated that the two principal problems of Sinaloa had been solved "or are on the way to being solved": land ownership in 1976 and drug trafficking. This will permit the northern state once again to become the "country's granary."

Calderon gave assurances that the 1976 agrarian problem did not affect the export of products. To the contrary, "exports did not suffer any drop off whatever."

"At this time, the farmers are in an extraordinary profit situation because of the freezes which took place in Florida and which ruined the vegetable crops."

8143
CSO: 5300

COLUMNIST: FIRMER STEPS AGAINST TRAFFICKERS DEMANDED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 11 Feb 77 pp 6-A, 8-A

/Commentary by Eduardo Borrell Navarro/

/Text/ The importance and magnitude of narcotics and the extremely serious problems they can cause a people over the long term have been brought into new focus by the tough and sustained campaign undertaken since the beginning of the present presidential term. The daily national and foreign press have reported on the manner in which the Mexican authorities are resolutely directing their efforts to eliminate the illegal cultivation of opium and marihuana and harmful traffic in narcotics.

There has been an abundance of information in this respect over the past few weeks. Agents of the Federal Judicial Police in Culiacan seized 14 kilograms of heroin and 9,684 kilograms of marihuana. Last January, agents of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic on duty in zone 6 of Sinaloa destroyed 4,564 fields of poppies found in an area of 9,093,510 square meters, and a total of 1,799 fields of marihuana found in an area of 3,993,650 square meters was also razed to the ground. Federal agents destroyed 66 combined cultivations (marihuana and poppies) located in the Sierra Madre Oriental -- somewhat further away -- in an area of 124,300 square meters. Army forces confiscated 45 tons of packaged and sacked marihuana in the village of Huaracha, in the south of the municipality of Mazatlan. Six narcotics traffickers, from whom 1,425 kilos of pure cocaine and 2,640 kilos of heroin were seized, were arrested in the city of Nogales. In Tijuana, Baja California, the Federal Judicial Police seized 136 kilograms of cocaine and 5 kilograms of heroin packaged in polyethylene that three narcotics dealers, who had arrived by airplane from Culiacan, were trying to bring in.

All these successful actions were accompanied by the arrest of hundreds of persons connected with the narcotics traffic as well as by the employment of thousands of high powered weapons such as rifles and machine guns. Dozens of private landing fields for small planes, laboratories for processing narcotics, and late-model automobiles and trucks were tracked down.

Drug addiction and the traffic in narcotics are problems that have preoccupied society since remote times prior to the Christian era, when man discovered the effects of the poppy. Attempts have often been made since then

to eliminate the problem by resorting to rigid laws to try to prevent the traffic in and illegal sale of narcotics. All these endeavors have had partial success, but in no way have provided an answer to the intricate network of collateral businesses derived from the illegal manufacture and sale of these drugs. And the problem becomes so much the more abstruse when we learn that some world powers with a certain political ideology make use of the drug traffic for obtaining foreign exchange and valuable assistance for corrupting and disrupting the university youth of the democratic countries.

The traffic in narcotic drugs is an extremely serious problem that promotes corruption, encourages crime, and destroys the concept of respect for the laws of the republic that citizens should have. The illegal commerce in drugs and its ensuing evils is engaged in by the criminal networks and gangster organizations that operate in the northern part of Mexican territory in the attempt to profit by the proximity of the United States in order to introduce this dangerous merchandise across the border. And as the persons to be dealt with are "nationals" without a country, whose only loyalty is to money, the authorities of President Lopez-Portillo's administration have put into effect "Operation Condor" in order to destroy this formidable network of promoters of the narcotics traffic, with express instructions to maintain special surveillance over officials and customs employees who fail to demonstrate honest conduct in everything connected with preventing the marketing and smuggling of narcotics.

The measures recently taken by the Office of the Attorney General, the various police forces of the nation, and the Secretariat of Defense, under Div Gen Felix Galvan Lopez, bring out what really can be achieved when a government has sufficient determination and resolution to carry out an action of positive benefit for society. It is desirable, therefore, that this enthusiasm not falter and that this policy for a campaign of moral and hygienic cleansing, which does so much to preserve the health of the people, be maintained in a spirit of vigilance and watchfulness so that, with action on a continuing basis, the pernicious and murderous practice of the illegal traffic in drugs may be brought to an end within Mexican territory.

11532
CSO: 5300

KIDNAP VICTIM RESCUED FROM TRAFFICKERS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 23 Feb 77 p 28-A

[Article by Consuelo L. de Avalos]

[Text] Tijuana, Baja California Norte, 22 Feb. Five drug traffickers who were holding an elderly American hostage were arrested today by Federal Judicial Police agents. Roy McKinley Ferguson was rescued, and the criminals are now in prison.

The police action took place in a room of the Padre Kino Hotel in this city where the drug traffickers were holding the senior McKinley to exert pressure on his son, Bob, who owes them $140,500 for cocaine and heroin purchases.

The police reported that the Department of Violent Crimes of the Sheriff's office of Tulare, California requested the collaboration of the Mexican federal agents to rescue the old man and to capture the criminals.

A group of agents, under the command of Maj Carlos Mondragon, investigated the disappearance and in only 3 hours arrested the five drug traffickers: Carlos Escarcega Perez, Luis Nunez Aispuro, Maximiliano Diaz Zavala, Juan Lomas Quintero and Jorge Alberto Garcia.

The five criminals were interrogated and stated that the son of the American whom they had in their power, named Bobby Ferguson, who resides in the United States, owed them $140,500 for drug purchases. They kidnapped his father to exert pressure on him.

Roy McKinley Ferguson, who was convalescing from an operation, was brought to this city by a trick.

When the kidnappers were discovered by the Mexican federal police, they offered no resistance.

The police confiscated from them several pistols of different calibers, a shotgun, cash and two automobiles.

The five drug traffickers were turned over to the Attorney General's office.

8143
CSO: 5300

INTERNATIONAL COCAINE RING SEIZED IN TIJUANA

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 14 Feb 77 p 28-A

[Text] The Federal Judicial Police reported yesterday that a powerful international ring of drug traffickers had been destroyed with the capture of a small airplane loaded with drugs and its three crewmen last Saturday in Tijuana. This was done with names and codes that were obtained and passed on immediately to the police in several countries including the United States.

The names and methods of operation were given immediately to Interpol, the U.S. Drug Bureau, the Colombian Guard and the Peruvian Police. This led to the capture of the other members of the international drug traffic ring.

It was said that at least 50 traffickers had been arrested. This can be considered one of the strongest blows by authorities against the international drug traffic organization.

The small plane was intercepted at the international airport in Tijuana, Baja California, by agents of the Federal Judicial Police under the command of Commander Americo Espinoza del Angel and the group chief, Juan Ramon Estudillo Cerecero.

The Federal Judicial Police found 136 kilos of pure cocaine and 5 kilos of heroin in polyethylene bags in the airplane. These would have had a street value of about 423 million pesos.

The pilot of the small airplane, Marsio Enrique Alvarez Velazquez, and his accomplices, Alfredo Aguilar Medina and Oscar Cazares Rocha, were arrested immediately. Notebooks with codes and methods of operation as well as names, telephone numbers and addresses of some of their associates, suppliers and purchasers in several countries were confiscated.

The Federal Judicial Police said that several members of the same ring who were denounced by the pilot and his accomplices are being sought here in Mexico.

7717
CSO: 5300

THREE DRUG TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 22 Dec 76 p 3

/Text/ The second district judge imposed heavy sentences on the Colombian Rafael Jaller Chamat and lawyers Carlos Amador Ricardo and Jose Manuel Bravo Ramirez after finding them guilty of a crime against health. According to the evidence presented by federal authorities, the men were engaged in illegal drug traffic. When they were arrested they had approximately 1 kilo of cocaine in their possession.

Jaller Chamat was found guilty of a crime against health, specifically, the possession and trafficking (transportation) of cocaine, and of the illegal importation of the drug. For these crimes he was sentenced to 12 years and 3 months in jail and a fine of 18,000 pesos or, in the absence of the fine, 120 more days in prison.

The lawyers, Carlos Amador Ricardo and Jose Manuel Bravo Ramirez, will have to serve a sentence of 8 years in jail and pay a fine of 13,500 pesos, or serve 90 more days in prison if they fail to pay the fine. They were found guilty of the possession of cocaine.

They were all captured by the Federal Police on the border near Reynosa, since the police had been on their trail for several days upon learning that they were going to carry out an important drug transaction.

Rafael Jaller Chamat and Carlos Amador Ricardo were arrested first, when they were found staying in the San Carlos Hotel 29 August 1975. It was there that a valise containing the cocaine was confiscated.

When the police were there, Rafael Jaller received a telephone call from Jose Manuel Bravo, who told him that he was in McAllen, Texas, and that in a few minutes he would meet the two men.

The police simply waited for Jose Manuel Bravo to arrive and arrested him as well.

Upon interrogation, Jaller Chamat confessed that he had met the two lawyers during a wedding in Bogota, Colombia, where they got acquainted and arranged for a drug transaction.

Later, Rafael Jaller moved to Mexico, taking the cocaine with him. He met Amador Ricardo and Bravo Ramirez there, and together they went to Reynosa where they were captured by federal authorities and eventually sentenced by the district judge.

8926

CSO: 5330

WEAPONS, DRUGS, TRAFFICKERS SEIZED IN SONORA

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 5 Feb 77 p 24-A

[Article by Francisco Santa Cruz: "Weapons, Drugs Worth More Than 30 Million Pesos Seized in Sonora"]

[Text] Hermosillo, Son., 4 Feb--High-power weapons and drugs valued at more than 30 million pesos were seized in several places in the state, culminating an unprecedented action by the Federal Judicial Police. In addition, 60 people involved in drugs and arms traffic were arrested.

The commander of the Federal Judicial Police, Margarito Mendez Rico, reported the above and added that the arrests were made after 20 days of painstaking investigation. It was proved that most of the drugs seized came from the state of Sinaloa.

The police commander said that more than 20 tons of marihuana, 9 kilos of heroin, 320 grams of cocaine, a large quantity of pills and 70 counterfeit $20 and $50 bills were seized.

He added that the arrests were made possible through army intervention and surveillance of the access highways to the state, principally those from Sinaloa.

Mendez Rico said that one of those arrested, Celerino Cortes Gil, was captured when he and four others were transporting 4 tons of marihuana in two vehicles. They were going to distribute it on the border.

Another of the drug traffickers who came from the United States was intercepted near Nogales as he was carrying a cargo of weapons in six automobiles. He was going to trade them for drugs.

Gonzalo Meza Castelum, Sotero Ayala Tirado and seven other people involved more in drug cultivation and distribution were also arrested.

The police confiscated 1 ton of marihuana, 320 grams of cocaine and 9 kilos of heroin from them.

Mendez Rico reported that intensive surveillance will continue over the sierra and state highways in order to fight the drugs and arms traffic in the northern part of the country.

7717
CSO: 5300

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 5 Feb 77 p 4

[Text] The Federal Judicial Police dealt another strong blow to drug trafficking when they arrested a well-known drug trafficker of Santa Ana and the buyer of 290 grams of cocaine which were seized when being taken for sale in Agua Prieta.

Hector Arturo Rojas Diaz, commander of the Federal Judicial Police in this zone, informed DIARIO DE NOGALES that his agents had under arrest at a jail located between Naco and Agua Prieta Edgardo Osuna Lugo, 32-years old, who was captured on a Transporte Norte bus of Sonora. He carried 290 grams of drugs in a suitcase.

During his interrogation, he confessed that he was taking the cocaine to Agua Prieta to sell it to the drug dealer Gustavo Ortiz Moffet.

The police took Osuna Lugo to Agua Prieta and made him take them to Ortiz Moffet's home to attempt to sell him the drug. At the moment when Ortiz Moffet handed Osuna Lugo $10,000, the police arrested them.

Now they are imprisoned in the jail of this city and they and the drugs are at the disposal of Pedro Mireles Malpica, the federal public prosecutor agent.

These are photos of the drug traffickers of Agua Prieta, Gustavo Ortiz Moffet and his accomplice Edgardo Osuna Lugo. They were captured by the Federal Judicial Police when they had in their possession a load of cocaine. On the right, is a photo of a bag which contained the drug, more tha 1/4 kilo, which was seized by the police in another blow to drug traffic. (Foto Hernandez)

8923
CSO: 5330

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED WITH MARIHUANA, HEROIN

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 4 Feb 77 p 4-A

[Text] These are four drug traffickers captured yesterday by the Federal Judicial Police. Marihuana and heroin in their possession was seized. Jose Luis Jauregui Juarez, the main leader, had heroin in his home. Ramon Macias Casas, his main distributor, confessed all the criminal activities of the group; Martin Coleman Dean is suspected of being the contact in the United States, and Antonio Juarez.

8923
CSO: 5330

DRUGS AND TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 4 Feb 77 pp 4, 3

[Text] Federal Judicial Police commanded by Hector Arturo Rojas Diaz arrested the main leader of a gang of drug traffickers, Jose Luis Jauregui Juarez, co-owner of the "El Encino" cabaret located on the International Highway, 10 kilometers south of this city. A blow dealt to drug traffickers in this city resulted in seizure of 12 ounces of heroin, 163 packages of marihuana, 48 packages of alfalfa and the arrest of four men.

Commander Rojas Diaz informed DIARIO DE NOGALES that they first arrested Ramon Macias Casas at the corner of Torres and Ingenieros streets. He was taken to police headquarters for interrogation. He confessed that he was a drug trafficker, that he "worked for Jose Luis Jauregui Juarez and that in the cabaret 'El Encino' there was a load of marihuana."

A group of Federal Judicial Police, with the help of members of the National Army, immediately went to "El Encino" where they found 163 packages of marihuana, 48 of alfalfa and 98.5 grams of heroin which Jauregui Juarez planned to sell to some Americans.

Then Macias Casas took them to Jauregui Juarez' home at 85 Los Sauces Street where Antonio Juarez was in the company of Martin Coleman Dean. All of them were arrested.

Finally, Macias Casas took them to his own home at 22 Camino de Portugal Street where he turned over 279 grams of heroin.

The Federal Judicial Police also confiscated a 1971 Plymouth auto and a 1956 Ford truck which belonged to the drug traffickers. All the men have records of crimes against public health.

Yesterday, they were placed at the disposal of Pedro Mireles Malpica, federal prosecutor's office agent. It was said that today more arrests will be made of persons who did business with Jauregui Juarez since the prisoners are said to have been trading drugs in Nogales for years, and that a complaint was made that the improperly called "drive inn" El Encino is nothing more than a shelter for hiding drugs.

8923
CSO: 5330

BRIEFS

DISMISSAL OF CORRUPT SECRET SERVICE AGENT--Homero Galindo Leal, chief of the Secret Service, issued a sudden order of dismissal of Raul Ramon Lira, who had been serving as an agent of that organization, for violation of Secret Service regulations. Galindo Leal pointed out to EL MANANA that he has imposed severe disciplinary measures to control the personnel of the organization which he heads. Previously, when this was not done, the majority of the policemen frequently were absent, neglecting their duties. He said that for 3 days Ramon Lira did not report for duty, without any justification. It was learned, that Lira was drunk and frequenting several dives in the city. Galindo Leal added, "Any agent who is found getting drunk in vice centers during working hours will be given a severe warning and if he repeats the offense he will immediately be dismissed from the service." He said that the same will be the case with bad people who commit crimes such as extortion, assault against laborers or setting quotas for individuals involved in crimes. [Text] Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 10 Feb 77 p 3-B] 8923

DISCOVERY OF A LARGE ARMS SMUGGLING OPERATION--Agents of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, at the instructions of Oscar Flores, are investigating wealthy merchants in several states to whom smuggled high-powered arms and cartridges were being shipped when they were seized by customs inspectors. The following persons, among others, were involved in the smuggling: Francisco Riva Otero, a public accountant of the capital of Puebla; Benigno Castelan Contreras, manager of the Banco de Commercio of Zacatlan, Puebla; Leonel Olivera Charolet, director general of a watchmakers store in Tamazunchale, San Luis Potosi; Mario Martinez, the Chrysler distributor in Acapulco, Guerrero; Elohim Vazquez Cervantes, of the Secretariat of Public Works with residence in Tamazunchale, San Luis Potosi. William Duncan Roberts, an American with a criminal record for robbery in Tennessee, United States, was arrested when customs inspectors searched the pick-up truck with Tennessee license plates No 7J395-6 with which he was towing a trailer where, in special compartments, he concealed the arms which he brought into the country illegally. According to the first investigations made by federal agents, William was helped by customs agents in Brownsville, among whom was Sam Martinez, who allowed the arms to be passed into our country. Three checks made out to cash for 30,000, 33,000 and 40,000 pesos against the Banco de Credito Rural del Noroeste and which were signed by Carlos Godinez Meza were in the glove compartment of the truck. Besides, several papers written in English were

found. They were orders by Carlos Godinez for arms and cartridges of different calibers. The following arms were seized: 14 Marlin Glenfield 22-caliber rifles, 5 Springfield 20-gauge shotguns, 5 two-piece Stevens 12-gauge shotguns, 1 super Single 12-gauge shotgun, 2 Winchester 12-gauge shotguns, 1 Stevens 22-caliber long rifle, 12 telescopic sights and 1,500 cartridges. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 3 Feb 77 p 4] 8923

HEROIN TRAFFICKER RELEASED--On 22 September 1976, Cepeda Cabrera, alias "El Cole" was ordered imprisoned by the Third District Court judge. The Second District Court judge exonerated him of crimes against public health in two cases and granted him an injunction and protection from federal justice. Proceedings No 198-976 were opened against "El Cole" for the crime against public health and his preventative imprisonment was decreed under the categories of possession and traffic of heroin. In the same proceedings, his brothers Arturo and Juan Manuel Cepeda Cabrera and former apprentice bull fighter Raul Capetillo Salinas, Lorenzo Serratos, alias "El Canario" and Herbert Villagran are also officially imprisoned. According to Cepeda Cabrera's defense attorney, the Second District Court granted him an injunction due to lack of evidence to confirm his imprisonment since in the entire investigation and in the proceedings, only Arturo Cepeda is mentioned as the person who interviewed Herbert Villagran for the delivery of the heroin shipment. Cepeda Cabrera also had against him Proceedings No 73-973 in which his imprisonment was ordered for possession of marihuana but in this case he also obtained an injunction and protection from federal justice. In these proceedings, Antonio and his brother Arturo were named by Jose Santos Gonzalez as the persons who employed him to guard vehicles loaded with marihuana. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 10 Feb 77 p 3-B] 8923

CAPTURE OF MEMBER OF INTERNATIONAL DRUG RING--The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic requested collaboration by the police of Lima, Peru, and of Los Angeles, California for breaking up of an international gang operating in several nations of the world and with an infinite number of resources for trafficking cocaine. Moments after his arrival in Mexico, federal agents assigned to the Mexico City airport learned about the gang by the capture of the American, Miguel Ricardo Flores who was attempting to bring into the country more than 3 million pesos worth of cocaine hidden in a movie projector. During the interrogation of the prisoner, the federal agents learned that the alcaloide was bought in Lima Peru, from Jose Castro, alias "El Flaco", who had instructions to deliver it to him to take to Mexico by air. From Mexico, it was to be taken by land to Los Angeles, California, in a special auto with secret compartments for hiding the drug. Flores also denounced as the head of the organization a black man nicknamed "El Negro Jim" the main stockholder of bars and nightclubs. He named the Escandia and Brea Inn as sites at which meetings took place with other traffickers of world renown. They made deals with cocaine brought from Lima Peru. When he referred to "El Negro Jim," Flores said,"He is a very powerful man who has as accomplices police authorities who, for large sums of money, remain silent and cover up his illicit activities."[Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 4 Feb 77 pp 4,3] 8923

TRANSFER OF CUSTOMS OFFICERS--After taking the oath of office from Edgardo Garcia, first commander in chief of the Customs Guards, Administrator Fernando Montemayor announced that this week two more commanders will begin to serve here. At 1000 hours, before corporals and commanders, Administrator Fernando Montemayor made known the appointment of Edgardo Garcia by Leopoldo Ramirez Limon, director general of customs. Heliodoro Rodriguez was relieved as head of the Customs Guards and was assigned to the commanders' unit. Juan Avila Gonzalez, who was transferred to this city from Mexicali, and another commander with the surname Sarquis, who will arrive this week from Tijuana, were added to this unit. The Customs Guards will be directed by the following commanders: Heliodoro Rodriguez, Gaston Jimenez, Manuel Arguello, Andres Garcia Cuellar, Luis Esteban Garcia Cantu, Juan Vila y Sarquis,under the new Commander in Chief Edgardo Garcia. Since the beginning of Fernando Montemayor's administration, supervision was established "to reorganize the situation". It will be continued during the next weeks with the collaboration of the commanders and other persons. Both Montemayor and Garcia repeated that only what is authorized by law will be allowed to cross the bridge and that everything considered contraband will continue to be restricted. Frontier residents and travelers will be given the same facilities and a complete list of merchandise which may pass freely will be published. [Text] [Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 1 Feb 77 p 3-B] 8923

TRANSFER OF ARMY GARRISON COMMANDERS--On 25 February, Brig Gen Jaime Reyes Sanchez, the new commander of the Nogales Army Garrison, will arrive here to take over the command assigned to him by the secretary of national defense. Reyes Sanchez is serving at present at San Andres Tuxtla, Veracruz. He will replace Brig Gen Angel Luna Camberos who was transferred to the city of Puebla as part of the nationwide rotation carried out by the Secretariat of National Defense by order of Gen Felix Galvan Lopez. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 4 Feb 77 p 4] 8923

NEW ADMINISTRATOR OF NOGALES CUSTOMS TAKES OFFICE--Sergio Leopoldo Ramirez Limon, the director general of customs, was at this frontier yesterday with a party of several officials for the taking of the oath of office of Maj Victor Manuel Ortiz R., the new administrator of the Nogales customs. Maj Ortiz replaced Dr Enrique Arce Caballero who for 6 months held the post and who now, at the orders by his superiors, was transferred to the customs of Guadalajara or Vera Cruz. Maj Ortiz Rodriguez, the new administrator, was appointed by Oscar Reyes Retana, deputy secretary of investigations and fiscal execution. Maj Ortiz Rodriguez arrived yesterday from Puebla where he was the head of the Federal Auto Registry. In addition to the director general of customs, the ceremony was attended by Luis Gutierrez y Gonzalez, a distinguished newspaperman now the administrator of customs of Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua; by Alfonso Amezcua, chief of investigations of the general directorate of customs, and by members of several departments of the local customs. Next Monday the new administrator will hold talks with the personnel and begin his duties in

Nogales. Ramirez Limon told the local employees that the main request he brought from deputy Secretary Reyes Retana was for them to support and make greater efforts in the performance of their duties to help the new administrator. Next Tuesday, DIARIO DE NOGALES will publish an interview with Ramirez Leon, the national director general of customs. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 5 Feb 77 pp 1, 3] 8923

TRANSFERS OF CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATORS--Today at 1030 hours, Jesus Valentin Castro Carrillo will turn over the post of administrator of the frontier customs of this city to Mario Vergara. Castro Carrillo gave out this information. He also announced that Ramirez Limones, director general of customs, will be present at this ceremony. Yesterday, sources in the Customs Guard of this city said that the new administrator knows the work, has much experience in the customs field and will doubtlessly work in the same way as Castro Carrillo. As to the outgoing administrator, they said he is one of the most valuable men who have served customs and has set an example worthy of following. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 9 Feb 77 p 1-B] 8923

CRITICISM OF JUDICIAL POLICE OFFICERS--The work done here by the State Judicial police under the command of Tomas Garcia de Hoyos, the group chief, has been to carry out just two orders for arrests issued by the Lower Criminal Court judge. One of these was accomplished with the help of members of the Municipal Traffic Police. According to information provided to EL DIARIO, during the short time that he has been in office, Garcia de Hoyos has been characterized as a bureaucratic employee who spends most of the time behind his desk, in a cafe or gossiping with friends about town while neglecting the mission assigned to him. The work he has done speaks for itself. Little can be said about agent Hector Castellon since he is unskilled in police work. His qualifications are managing a crane service and trading refraction equipment. Francisco Tovar, the other Federal Judicial Police agent remains in the barracks and is seen only when he is sent to pick up an order for an arrest such as the recent one of Martin Guajardo against whom proceedings for fraud were made. Perhaps these are concrete examples of the technocracy of our state. The salaries paid Tomas Garcia de Hoyos, Hector Castillon and Francisco Tovar, the group chief and agents of the State Judicial Police, are in no way justified by the work they do in this city. Informed sources said that a considerable number of orders for arrests were issued but have not been carried out either by these or by the previous State Judicial Police agents. Murderer Jose Puente Ovalle, tired of hiding from justice, gave himself up to the police. This could be evidence of the inefficiency of the State Judicial Police here. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 9 Feb 77 p 4-B] 8923

COCAINE, HEROIN SEIZED--Tijuana, BCN, 12 Feb--The Federal Judicial Police today arrested three drug traffickers who arrived here in a twin-engine airplane from Culiacan, Sinaloa. They had a cargo of 136 kilograms of cocaine and 5 kilograms of heroin. These arrests were considered in local circles to be a "tremendous blow against international drug traffic." The police investigation was carried out in Tijuana as well as in the state of Sinaloa. The police waited until the Cessna 310 twin-engine airplane, registration XB-EAD, arrived at the Tijuana International Airport. The police surrounded the airplane and arrested the pilot, Marsio Enrique Alvarez Velazquez, and his accomplices, Jesus Alfredo Aguilar and Oscar Cazares Rocha. When they searched the airplane, they found the drugs. [Text] [Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 13 Feb 77 p 2] 7717

GUERRERO POLICE FIRED--Chilpancingo, Gro., 4 Feb--By instructions of the governor of the state, engineer Ruben Figueroa, 21 policemen in different towns were fired for being involved in drug sales, extortion and other illegal activities. The governor's representative, Carlos Ulises Acosta, fired those policemen immediately and reported that this campaign will continue until the police have been purged. He added that there will be more dismissals soon since all the records of the judicial police are being investigated. He indicated that those fired had been assigned to the 16 district headquarters in the state. Their illegal actions as policemen could be verified since they were involved in drug traffic and extortion. The representative said that all policemen with clean records will be decorated and, in some cases, will be given promotions. He pointed out that their wages will be increased so that they do not resort to extortion. New policemen will be investigated carefully to avoid these painful dismissals. They will also be given intensive training. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 5 Feb 77 p 24-A] 7717

PILLS SEIZED--Guadalajara, Jal., 4 Feb--Federal agents seized 12,000 pills which were being sold to addicts at 10 pesos each. Commander Jesus Mixhueiro indicated that the drugs were purchased from the Frank-Amex and Ultra pharmacies in Villa Tonala. Their owner, Francisco Amezquita Ornelas, was arrested. He stated that the drugs were sold to anyone who requested them, without requiring any prescription. The pharmacist was handed over to state authorities. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 5 Feb 77 p 24-A] 7717

TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED--Hermosillo, Son., 7 Feb--Two drug traffickers --Jose Luis Sesteaga Mendivil alias "Juan Perez" and Salvador Garcia alias "Pedro Infante"--were arrested yesterday after a shootout with the police when they went to Kino Bay to pick up drugs in order to take them to the United States. Mendivil and Garcia were intercepted at 1800 hours yesterday when they arrived at a police hut

where they tried to bribe agent Ramon Monzon Arredondo. They offered him $1,000 to let them through. The agent refused so they threatened him with pistols. They went through without Monzon Arredondo's authorization; he followed them on a motorcycle. Several other policemen joined him. They shot at the drug traffickers and captured them. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 8 Feb 77 p 28-A] 7717

COCAINE, HEROIN CONFISCATED--Hermosillo, Son., 10 Feb--Drugs with a street value of more than 5.5 million pesos were confiscated from seven drug traffickers who were arrested early this morning by federal agents in Nogales. Those arrested were Gustavo Soto Medina, Sergio Tanary Valdes, Jesus Talamante Islas, Guillermo Guerra Amado, Francisco Jimenez Martinez, Elvia Contreras Valenzuela and Tomas Jesus Valenzuela Martinez. The drug traffickers supplied people who sold the drugs in the United States. The police confiscated 1.425 kilos of pure cocaine and 2.64 kilos of heroin. Tomas Jesus Valenzuela also supplied late model cars to drug traffickers in Nogales. The above was made public today by the commander of the Federal Judicial Police in Sonora, Margarito Mendez Rico. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 11 Feb 77 p 24-A] 7717

WEAPONS, DRUGS SEIZED--The national attorney general's office reported yesterday that during the last 25 days, 65 drug traffickers were arrested and 23 cars, one small airplane, seven high-power weapons and almost 500,000 pesos in cash were seized in Tijuana. Julio Camelo, secretary to the attorney general, Oscar Flores, announced the above and indicated that that is merely one segment of the campaign against drug traffic throughout the country. He announced that the agents of the Federal Judicial Police assigned to that border city had also confiscated 6.5 kilos of pure cocaine, 1 ton of marihuana, 2.8 million pills, 683 grams of heroin and 87 grams of opium. He also indicated that the street value of those drugs would have been more than 30 million pesos. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 11 Feb 77 p 24-A] 7717

PLANE CRASH KILLS TRAFFICKERS--Tijuana, Baja California, 22 Feb. A light plane loaded with marihuana crashed yesterday in a wooded area south of Ensenada, and its two occupants were burned to death. The authorities have not been able to determine the aircraft's registration number nor the identity of the passengers. The accident occurred in the vicinity of "La Lagunilla" ranch, 200 kilometers south of Ensenada. According to information supplied by the control tower at El Cipres airport, the light plane had a mechanical malfunction in the air and circled the area for a long time after which it plunged to earth and exploded. The aircraft was a twin-engine Cessna. When police experts arrived on the scene of the accident, they enountered traces of marihuana leading them to believe that the plane had been loaded with drugs. It was said that the malfunction occurred as the aircraft was preparing to land. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 23 Feb 77 p 27-A] 8143

AMERICAN FOUND DEAD--A 29-year old American, Joseph F. Vansach was found dead, apparently from heroin or from strangulation. He was found lying at the corner of Vazquez and Cabeco streets. The police are closely pursuing a lead to clear up the crime. FLASH. According to the coroner's report, Joseph F. Vansach died of poisoning resulting from an overdose of heroin. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 4 Feb 77 p 4] 8923

GUADALAJARA: PSYCHOTROPICS AND MEDICINE SAMPLES SOLD--Guadalajara, Jalisco, 14 February--Rebeca Soto Velazquez and Luis Gonzalez Castellanos were arrested by officers of the Judicial Police for the clandestine sale of psychotropic pills and superannuated medicinal samples, through which it is estimated they had obtained 2 million pesos. Found in Rebeca Soto's domicile at 116 Francisco de Ayza were 3,230 pills and 1,056 kilograms of such samples. She confessed that she sold the psychotropics at her house and the samples of medicines in various towns in the state. A search of Luis Gonzalez Castellanos's domicile at 1128 Mexicaltzingo yielded 2,000 psychotropic pills and 137 kilograms of nonsalable medicinal samples. The arrested persons said that the pills were sold at 10 pesos each and the superannuated medicines at half the official price established for pharmacies. /Text/ /Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 Feb 77 p 24-A/ 11532

CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

SABZEVAR OPIUM HAUL--771 kg of opium were confiscated by local police officials 80 km west of Sabzevar. Smugglers were transporting the opium from Shahrud to Neyshabur. The owners of the opium escaped, but the driver of the pickup truck was arrested and jailed. /Text/ /Teheran ETTELA'AT in Persian 24 Feb 77 p 4/

CSO: 5300

INTERNATIONAL TRAIN PRESENTS DRUG CONTROL PROBLEMS

Paris LE POINT in French 21 Feb 77 pp 72-74

[Article by Antoine Silber]

[Text] Amsterdam, Saturday, 1920 hours. Three young persons leave a rail car and are swallowed up in the station, a large red brick building topped by bell towers: two young men wearing blue jeans and parkas and a blonde girl dressed in a gypsy outfit. They are wearing boots and are carrying worn backpacks. With their long hair, they could be from anywhere. They are French and are simply returning to Nancy after spending 5 days in Amsterdam in a student quarter near Anne Frank's house where they gorged themselves on pop music, while enjoying the pleasures of soft drugs.

They are running so as not to miss the 1926 hours train, the express which travels between Amsterdam and Basel, then moves on to Milan via Belgium and France. This train is what customs men from all countries, and police charged with the repression of drug trafficking have dubbed "the drug train." The train is used yearly by ever increasing numbers of "fourmis" [mules], small scale traffickers, often drug addicts themselves, who come to this large Dutch port to pick up supplies of hashish and heroin.

"Hashish, LSD, coaine...." With his back against a restaurant window, a young fellow with mixed blood offers passersby all sorts of forbidden fruits in a loud voice. Here, in the Chinese quarter, not very far from the railway station, bordering the canals, adjacent to the prostitutes' quarter, the new Asian drug trafficking connection ends. In the back rooms of stores, in the back restaurants, there are resales of small quantities of brown heroin (brown sugar)--between 100 and 200 francs a gram--which arrived here principally from the Golden Triangle, that part of Thailand and Burma which produces 50 percent of the world opium production.

The French are not the least numerous of those who come to get their drug supplies. However, in this city where tolerance has become a matter of policy, they are found principally among the hashish smokers, in the Melkweg, a former dairy which has been transformed into a restaurant-bookstore-meeting place and meditation site, in the sleep-ins (student dormitories), and in the Paradiso which is their Mecca.

This former church which has been repainted with bright colors has become the in place for "defonce" [drug addiction]: "We get 80,000 young people every year from all over the world," explains Ole Lyster, age 31, the director of the establishment, "and about 5,000 of them are French." One only has to climb a stairway to discover an array of drugs. One of the sellers is Asian. An angular face, round eye glasses, small black tie. He offers two varieties of hashish shaped into chestnut-colored sticks from tin boxes. One variety comes from Afghanistan and sells for 5 florins (10 francs) per gram. The other variety comes from Lebanon and sells for 4 florins. At his side, a skinny Netherlander whose first name is "Joe" sells marihuana at 50 francs for an 8.5-gram bag. Near them, a French group is seated in a circle. As does everyone here, they are smoking and passing a shilom, a clay pipe, to one another. They move their heads to the rhythm of the "decadent" music of a British pop group. The former will be leaving by train soon with a few grams of hashish in their pockets "for their pals." "On the train," one of them says, "it's a real gas. You move into a compartment after rolling yourself a joint. And you're in France before you know it."

To tell the truth, when it leaves the Amsterdam station, the drug train resembles a suburban commuter train more than an international express. The first border is crossed as in a dream: no customs.

Here is Belgium and then Brussels. The crowd. Englishmen who have crossed the Channel to Ostend, businessmen, students from a winter school traveling to Switzerland for the snow sports, families of Italians, large in number spanning several generations and coming back to the country with a lot of baggage.

It is in Luxembourg that the first customs men pop up. The Luxembourg officials in khaki uniforms only control travelers in the Rome-Amsterdam direction. Often with success, of course. On 29 November, they arrested three Malaysians who were arriving from Bangkok and were carrying nearly 10 kilograms of brown sugar. But in the north-south direction, it is the French customs personnel who, in the middle of the night, shake up this little world. Many French carriers know this and get off at the capital of the Grand Duchy from which point they travel to France over the highway: two of the border posts are not manned at night.

The customs officials have less than a half hour to do their checking, between the departure from Luxembourg at 0135 hours and the arrival at Thionville at 0201 hours. They dig into everything. Into the toilets, back of the wiring. They open all of the doors with a special key. They run their hands down into paper shopping bags in search of any suspicious looking package. Thanks to these methods on 15 December they seized 5 kilograms of hashish in tablet form in the bottom of restroom waste paper baskets where they had been thrown. But how are they going to inspect the chestnut colored Skai seats in the crammed second class compartments and the luxury coaches with their green velvet in such a short time? "What's more, it's a little touchy

to rummage around in the coaches," one customs man explains. "We don't do it unless we are told to." They have a simple checklist, perhaps too simple, and only concern themselves with three kinds of passengers:

First, the dark complexioned passengers. In a second class compartment, three Iranians pass themselves off as businessmen. They are searched. Southern Italians carrying nothing but a handbag are questioned. But families are not bothered. Those who travel frequently are interrogated. Those wearing perfume. The application of a known principle: "Every smell that is a little strong can conceal another that is weaker." This causes the customs men to question every traveler who has a strong smell. "On 8 November," a customs check recalls, "I was alerted by a smell. In the compartment there is one Italian. A jacket is hanging from the coat rack. I feel around: 370 grams of hashish."

Finally, all long-haired persons. Every young person with long hair is checked. Young Englishmen who play the pipes are questioned. Then the Belgians. But they seem to be very "decorous." The customs officials search the French. There is one who has just come from Amsterdam and is heading for Strasbourg. Long hair, boots, pendant around the neck, age 22. At the sight of a plastic bag which assuredly contained hashish, the customs men make him get off at Thionville and conduct a complete search, called body search. No luck. He is questioned. He is the son of a professor, at present unemployed, and dreams of becoming a shepherd in the Pyrenees. The customs officials will hold him for part of the night, will send his identity information to the police and then will release him. Somewhat disappointed.

The drug train, however, has not lost its reputation. Since 1973, the "fourmis" traffic has increased. In 1975, the Thionville customs officials made 22 confiscations and seized 9 kilograms of hashish. In 1976, they found 10 kilograms in 26 seizures. Not counting the eight confiscations of hard drugs, including 201 grams of heroin and 390 greenish LSD pills. In January, six traffickers (four Italians and two Greeks) were questioned in 1 week. They were transporting 3 kilos of hashish.

"But let's not kid ourselves," remarks customs checker Raber. "We are pulling out the weeds but we are not touching the roots. We never see the large-scale traffickers traveling on the express train with a simple attache case in their hand."

Swiss customs personnel, who upon the arrival of the train from Basel, conduct their own searches and inspections, are just as tough. On 6 December, they seized 5 kilograms of cocaine which arrived from Brussels. They estimate that the traffic increased 20 percent between 1975 and 1976. And, above all, they are concerned over the sight of greater amounts of hard drugs (heroin, LSD) than soft drugs (hashish) being transported.

Among its 250,000 inhabitants, Basel has some 400 "fixeurs" [heroin addicts] (1,200 according to certain Swiss doctors) who consume 6 kilograms of heroin

per month. And several thousand marihuana smokers meet there. In the heart of town, the Balances Restaurant welcomes them into a world of noisy music. To the great displeasure of the French police who see students from Mulhouse and Montbeliard making their special deals in complete tranquility. "What do you want us to do? Do you want us to put them in Jail?" remarks Max Imhof, chief of the Basel drug brigade, a big man with a crew cut. "Our lack of resources forces us to give priority to the repression of large-scale trafficking."

An old problem aggravated by the administrative difficulties of collaboration between police organizations. In order to set up an operation with their Mulhouse colleagues, a few kilometers from Basel, the Swiss police must notify the Interpol services in Bern which in turn alerts Paris. It is up to the police of Paris to take action in Mulhouse. The large-scale drug traffickers operating the Amsterdam-Basel-Milan connection have all the time in the world to take diversionary action.

8143
CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

DRUG STUDY COMMITTEE--The renewed increase in the consumption of drugs is benefiting certain parties who are taking charge of young drug addicts and claiming to cure them without any medical supervision. The Socialist Party has established a committee to study the problem, the committee being headed by Alain Vivier, the National Assembly deputy for Seine-et-Marne Department, who has requested that the government take steps to look into the activities of these organizations. [Text] [Paris LE POINT in French 28 Feb 77 p 39]

CSO: 5300

HASHISH CARGO CAPTAIN CHARGED WITH PIRACY

Athens TA NEA in Greek 15 Jan 77 p 1

/Text/ Nik. Xanthopoulos, the captain of the motor ship "Gloria" on which the 11-ton hashish cargo was discovered, was arrested yesterday afternoon by Piraeus port police and this afternoon will be referred to Athens Prosecutor Lambiris. His trial for piracy before the Athens five-member Court of Appeals will take place soon.

Xanthopoulos was arrested at 1600 hours yesterday in the luxurious apartment he maintains on the fifth floor of the apartment house at 7 Naiadon St., Palaion Faliron. He was taken to the Piraeus Coast Guard headquarters and placed in strict isolation. He is being guarded constantly by port guards outside his jail.

His arrest was made on the basis of a document issued by the Criminal Services Directorate which stated that the No. 2,109 indictment by the Athens Misdemeanor Court judges against Xanthopoulos for a crime and specifically for piracy was still pending.

The Raid

According to the indictment the piracy took place on 7 August 1973. With his yacht "Pussycat" and other small speedboats, he raided the small Greek freighter "Alexandros" off the coast of Bari in the Adriatic, which carried a cargo of cigarettes. Armed with a heavy machine gun he and his collaborators boarded the ship and under threat of arms they hijacked its load which consisted of 1,500 boxes of American cigarettes worth 4.4 million drachmas. The cigarettes were loaded in Yugoslavia and were destined for Bastia, Sicily.

In the meantime, the Panhellenic Union of Merchant Marine Masters pointed out in an announcement it issued that /Xanthopoulos/ "is not a member of the union and that according to official information he does not possess even a Greek captain's diploma of any category." He did not even possess a seaman's booklet and was hired only on the basis of his passport.

7520
CSO: 5300

ROME HEROIN SHORTAGE CAUSES PANIC

Rome L'ESPRESSO in Italian 6 Feb 77 pp 29-30

[Article by Serena Rossetti: "Help! There's No More Heroin in Rome"; (See JPRS 68720, 3 March 1977, No. 287 of this series, pp 127-129)]

[Text] There has been no heroin in Rome since early January and the reason is unknown. Questions are being asked by the police antidrug officials, customs officers, the Rome social service center, and above all the thousands of addicts in the city. Is the lack caused by massive confiscations carried out by customs officers in recent weeks? Or is it caused by the fact that the distributors are maneuvering to squeeze the market and raise prices?

"Honestly, I can't say that our efforts are responsible for the lack of heroin in Rome," said Chief Bonaventura Provenza of the Central Antidrug Office (an office that coordinates the operations of the police, customs and Carabinieri in this sector). "We confiscated large quantities in November and December but not such as to dry up the market, at least as fast as this."

But Dr Provenza, how did you suddenly become so expert? What did you do before this?

"Before that this office did not exist and each antidrug unit operated separately. Coordination of operations certainly contributed to these successes. However, I would not want them to be over-estimated. There have always been confiscations. Certainly, they are now on the increase, but there has been a great increase in traffic and consumption. Everything grows proportionately. I would add that for some time even the political class has finally made its contribution, launching a more effective law and increasing our operational possibilities."

Dr. Provenza what happens in a city like Rome when there are no drugs?

Provenza shrugs. "As far as the police are concerned, nothing should happen, at least in the early phase. The addicts often become petty criminals in order to get the money needed for the drug. A large part of the petty crimes that occur daily in Rome are carried out by them. If there is a lack of the drug, logically, the heroin addict who cannot buy it does not have to steal. Naturally, the matter is a lot more complicated than that."

Why more complicated?

"Because the sudden lack of heroin, as I have already said, is not caused only by confiscation. It arises from a maneuver carried out by the dealers. Probably they are maneuvering to raise prices. Until a month ago heroin cost from 100,000 to 140,000 lire per gram. In a few days of 'shortage' it already has reached more than 200,000. This certainly can create big problems for public order because it means that within the space of a few days the addicts must procure twice as much money to buy their 'ration' of the drug."

Then, the heroin addicts are not well-off? What is their social background? We asked Commissioner Mazzarita, head of the Rome Police Narcotics Office this question.

"It has been known for some time that addiction is not a vice of the elite. The consumers are the young and very young students and above all members of the proletariat and teenagers in the populous quarters. Some are not even 15 years old. Until some time ago we would find them gathered in certain central locations: Campo dei Fiori, Piazza di Spagna, Piazza Navona, Santa Maria in Trastevere. But now the phenomenon is spreading to the more densely-populated quarters; the Boccea area is most affected, but so are Centocelle, Balduina, Tuscolana, Monte Sacro; every quarter has at least one bar that trafficks in heroin."

Where do they get the money to buy it?

"Selling drugs, petty theft, prostitution."

And have these thefts increased or diminished during these days of scarcity? Has anything new happened in connection with the market situation?

"I do not have data but I would not say that anything new has happened. It is still too early. There is only one episode worth noting: a group of addicts stopped a police vehicle and asked for help. But what can we do? The help that they ask us for is not our job. The city administration should take the responsibility for this problem and it does not do so."

At the city's social service center, Dr Rubino does not hide his difficulties. He has a task force of three psychiatrists, four physicians, two psychologists, five social workers and two visiting nurses. Their appropriation totals 15 million lire per year. How many addicts do you treat, Dr Rubino?

"In 1975 the total was 400, the largest number. Then, with the 1976 law, that figure decreased because they were also able to go to hospitals. Presently the average is around 200 to 250, but we cannot treat new persons because a regional law is about to be implemented that decentralizes this office into four new offices, one in Via dei Riari, another in San Basilio, another in Torre Spaccata and another at Villa Pamphili. Until the new centers open and begin to function, we can do nothing but help those addicts we are already treating."

But the Regional Law was approved on 11 September; why are the new centers not yet functioning?

"You would have to ask the provincial administration that question and they are the persons who should issue the required instructions, but everything is stopped."

Then you can't do anything about the present situation?

"Unfortunately, no. We are completely powerless."

Dr Rubino, do you keep records of the persons you helped? Do you know who they are?

"No, we can't ask them that information, but I can tell you that they are young persons between the ages of 18 and 22 years; 65 percent are males. Naturally, there is much talk about 'chemical' help but in reality that is the least important aspect. I don't underestimate it but I believe that that is not the heart of the problem. Methadone, which we use to try to break the heroin addict of his habit, is available and we will be even better able to deal with this aspect of the matter when the new centers begin to function, but then what? To disintoxicate them is pretty simple but then they return to it; the real problem is to be able to restore them to society. This is the point."

Giancarlo Arnao agrees that "That is the point." He is the author of "Drug Report." He is a member of the Radical Party and is the person in his party responsible for these matters. "You asked me whether the crisis of forced withdrawal, which is presently going on in Rome, could provoke serious damage to the addicts and to public order.

How does public order come into it? Let's get this straight. It is not a matter of criminals, nor of 'monsters.' It is a matter of alienation, and in fact it is not by chance that the majority of drug addicts come from the populous quarters and the young proletariat. As far as the question of the effects of withdrawal on addicts are concerned, they are certainly painful, but no more than any other illness lasting over several days. They suffer, but the suffering passes. No one ever died or went out of his mind because of it. The problem is not to make them stop, an experience that every addict has gone through more than once, but to prevent them from starting again. But in order to achieve this result, to make them forget the mirage of an injection through which they can achieve happiness, a profoundly different society would be needed.

At the Minimarket: Prices

According to Interpol there are about 30,000 heroin addicts in Italy, 10,000 in Milan, 7,000 in Rome and the rest in other major cities. Their consumption is estimated, according to Interpol, at 15 kilograms per day, representing a traffic totalling--at prices of a month ago, 100,000 lire per gram--an estimated 1.5 billion lire per day, 45 billion lire per month, 540 billion lire per year. The Rome Health Office gives different figures; there are slightly more than 2,000 heroin addicts in Rome. Commissioner Marazzita, of the Rome Police Narcotics Office, speaks of several thousand."

A tragic figure unequivocally confirms the enormously increased use of drugs in the past 3 years and that is the number of its victims: no death in 1972, one in 1973, eight in 1974, 25 in 1975, and the first months of 1976 the number had risen to 30.

The Antidrug Central Office supplies the information on confiscations between November and December 1976: 20 kilograms on 6 November; 5.7 kilograms on 10 December; 3.6 kilograms on 13 December; 8.8 kilograms on 26 December; 2.7 kilograms on 28 December; 2.7 kilograms on 29 December and 3 kilograms on the last day of the year. In all, about 47 kilograms of heroin, almost all of it confiscated at the Fiumicino Airport. The number charged in 1976 was 2,271. Of these 1,622 were dealers and traffickers who were arrested. Where does the drug come from, we asked. Col Farne, at the operational center of the Customs Office Third Command, the group most committed to repressive action of frontier contraband said: "Light drugs arrive largely from Turkey and the Middle East, but at least 70 percent of the heroin comes from Singapore, Macao, Hong Kong, Bangkok. It is carried by couriers who transport about 10 to 12 kilograms each and this provides an estimate of increasing consumption because until a short time ago each courier carried no more than 2 to 3 kilograms. Interpol tells us that in 1976 they confiscated more than 400 kilograms while the year before, confiscation did not go above 300 kilograms. On the other hand, even our information indicates an impressive increase. These are the confiscations carried out, in grams, by the customs guards: 64 grams in 1973; 431 in 1974; 469 in 1975; and 26,000 this year. Maybe we are more expert at this, but the truth is that the traffic is increasing at a dizzying rate." We asked how the "couriers" transport the drug and the answer is, "In false bottoms of suitcases, but now even with much more sophisticated means: anal and vaginal orifices and even by dissolving heroin in a solvent, impregnating clothing with it so that the heroin remains deposited invisibly and then on arrival the procedure is reversed."

How do you discover the heroin?

"To a large degree with dogs. We have 16 of them perfectly trained to find it. In a short time we will have about 60."

6034
CSO: 5300

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED--Genoa--About 5 kilos of pure heroin, valued at 1,000 million lira, ($1.1 million), were confiscated by the customs police at the international airport of this city. The police reported that the drugs confiscated yesterday were hidden in the suitcases of a Malayan passenger who had just arrived from Bangkok by way of Paris. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 5 Feb 77 p 4] 8923

CSO: 5330

POLICE ARREST HEROIN SMUGGLERS

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 29 Jan 77 p 2

[Text] The Amsterdam police arrested two Amsterdam residents and two Chinese persons, all under suspicion for large-scale heroin smuggling. This arrest is a result of the seizure of 138 kilos of heroin on 30 August of last year at Don Muan Airport in Bangkok. As a result, a team of investigators of the Amsterdam narcotics squad was sent to the Thai capital.

The arrested persons are: Johnny T., Chinese, 30 years old, president of Katai Travel Service on Ouderzydsachterburgwal, his business partner Pieter W., 25 years old, the economist Pim B., 40 years old, and Frits R., 39 years old, merchant in tropical fish.

With their cooperation a total of 140 kilos of heroin was reportedly brought to Amsterdam. They have all confessed. According to Chief Inspector Sietsma the police has arrested the "Tailo," the big boss of an important group of heroin smugglers, by apprehending Johnny T., who financed the operation.

Some time ago two Dutchmen were arrested in Bangkok: 37-year-old A. H. C. from Sneek, and 26-year-old A. H. M. from Amsterdam. Very little could be learned from them initially.

Until yesterday evening the police were not inclined to reveal much about the results of their interrogation. The news media were even misled by Bangkok police detectives who mentioned a certain Mr Lie, supposedly the big boss behind the smuggling operation.

It had been their intention to export heroin from Thailand inside two barrels of airplane lubricant. They planned to ship the heroin to Amsterdam, from there by NLM [Netherlands Aviation Company] to Antwerp, and further by car to Wevelgem in Belgium. Before the police investigators left they learned that M. had a reputation as a heroin dealer and gambler, and that he had many contacts in Chinese circles. Via the Indra Regent Hotel where C. was arrested, the police were put on the track of Johnny T. He had often been seen in M.'s company by the hotel staff.

Confronted by these facts M. confessed. He also said that Johnny had been responsible for the shipment and that he had more or less been forced by Johnny to participate because he had taken 20 kilos of heroin to a wrong address.

In June M. and T. had made a reconnaissance flight over Bangkok. He had been assigned the task of taking a sum of 600,000 guilders, the purchase price of 138 kilos of heroin, to an address in Bangkok.

The investigation revealed that T.'s partner had stayed at about the same time in the same hotel. M.'s passport shows that he had been in Singapore. There he had stayed in the Holiday Inn with Johnny and a third person: the economist Wim E.

M. confessed that, following T.'s instructions, he and Wim had taken 20 kilos of heroin from Singapore to Amsterdam. Frits R., the fish dealer was listed among M.'s telephone contacts. He had apparently received 125,000 guilders as his share in four shipments. He also claimed that he had participated under some pressure.

The police could not arrest T. till Wednesday since he stayed in Sweden and could not be extradited by that country. As soon as he showed up at his Amstelveen address the police were tipped off by neighbors.

His partner was arrested on Thursday. On the basis of their confessions the police arrested that same day the two men from Amsterdam.

10319
CSO: 5300

TOP FIGURE IN HEROIN SYNDICATE ARRESTED

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 24 Jan 77 p 1

[Text] The Amsterdam narcotics squad enabled the Hong Kong police to nab the top figure of a Chinese heroin syndicate. The Hong Kong police believe that this has been a major contribution to the elimination of a gang of heroin smugglers.

It has been said that this gang which also had branches in The Netherlands and Australia made profits of $3 billion in 17 months. On 13 January Lui King, 46 years of age, was expelled by the Dutch Government and put on a plane to Hong Kong. On arrival he was immediately arrested, together with his 44-year-old wife Lui Shun Ha who had remained in Hong Kong.

Wong Kwok Hang, a 37-year-old sailor and a Hong Kong resident, who was staying in Pakistan, was also arrested. A fourth suspect was arrested by the Canadian police.

Four more residents of Hong Kong are suspected of involvement in that large scale heroin smuggling ring. The gang shipped large quantities of heroin by ocean shipment to Vancouver in Canada, or by air to Sydney, Copenhagen, and Amsterdam. The Canadian police accuse the gang of distributing 1,500 kg heroin. The police forces of the countries involved are closely cooperating in this affair.

Superintendent G. J. Toorenaar, chief of the Amsterdam narcotics squad, and Superintendent Van Straaten of the national drug team will leave next Wednesday for Vancouver to contact the local police. That Canadian city is an important center for the heroin trade in North America. The Chinese community of Vancouver, numbering many tens of thousands and the largest in the West, is responsible for the supply of heroin. The American-Corsican mafia takes care of distribution.

10319
CSO: 5300

NARCOTICS SQUAD ACTIONS SUCCESSFUL

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 14 Jan 77 p 2

[Text] "We are doing very well. For the first time there is more hope in combating the heroin trade," says superintendent of the Amsterdam criminal investigation department G. Toorenaar, about the results achieved by the detachment of 16 federal policemen in apprehending illegal Chinese.

The detachment which was assigned to the police in November arrested more than 200 Chinese persons. The arrested persons are immediately expelled from the country and put on planes to Hong Kong and Singapore. According to Toorenaar heroin has become scarce in Amsterdam. The high price of 400 guilders per gram supports this view. According to the superintendent illegal drug dealers are scared and remain in hiding.

Some Chinese persons were recently arrested with more than 100,000 guilders on them. Toorenaar says: "Some of them had only been one day in Amsterdam. We were then already too late in arresting them because they had obviously already delivered their heroin. Toorenaar and his colleague Van Straaten of the national narcotics squad are leaving Saturday for North America, "to see how Americans and Canadians are dealing with heroin traffic."

10319
CSO: 5300

AUSTRALIAN TRIED IN BERGEN FOR SMUGGLING NARCOTICS

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 8 Feb 77 p 4

[Text] (NTB)--"I realized that heroin is dangerous, but I thought I had to try it myself," said a 25-year-old Australian when he was up for Gulating Circuit Court in Bergen on Monday accused of, for one thing, smuggling and selling heroin. This is the first time a heroin case comes up in court in Norway, and the accused theoretically risks imprisonment for up to 15 years if he is found guilty in all points. In addition to illegal import, use, and sale of heroin, he is also accused of having smuggled in approximately 1/2 kilogram of hashish.

However, he denies being guilty of having acted as a professional narcotics swindler. At the same time he admitted openly that he had bought 30 grams of heroin in Amsterdam, smuggled the stuff with him to Stord via Oslo and later sold 9 grams of it in Haugesund with considerable profit.

An 18-year-old girl from Stord is also standing trial accused of having helped the Australian to find customers for the heroin. She is also accused of having used the material; she was in possession of 2 grams of heroin when she was arrested on Stord one week before Christmas.

The Australian explained in the court that he had traveled to Amsterdam primarily to try to obtain an inexpensive airplane ticket to the United States. However, the intention was to come back to Stord, where he was a guest worker, if he managed to get hold of opium in the Netherlands. It turned out to be difficult to get hold of opium, and instead he bought some 30 grams of heroin.

The material was paid for with some 6,000 Norwegian kroner. Nine grams of it were resold to a man in Haugesund for 6,750 Norwegian kroner. One gram was also sold to a guest worker on Stord, and both the 18-year-old girl and an American friend of the 25-year-old man have received some of the material.

A package was also shipped from England to the Australian with 430 grams of hashish in it. The material was smuggled in a cut-up book, which was sent to his place of work on Stord. He is also accused of having smuggled in 45 grams of hashish.

Several Arrested

The 18-year-old girl was arrested on Stord, while the Australian was arrested on the railroad station in Bergen the day after while he was trying to get out of the country.

His American friend has been taken into custody in Bergen in connection with the heroin case, and his case will be taken up in the magistrate's court next Monday. Three young men from Stord and Haugesund have also been imprisoned in connection with the investigation of the case. One of them was imprisoned because he had bought 1 gram of heroin.

8958
CSO: 5300

SEVEN MEN WITH HASHISH DENIED ENTRY INTO NORWAY

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 8 Feb 77 p 4

[Text] Kristiansand, 7 Feb--Police in Kristiansand this weekend turned away seven men in two cars who came on the ferry from Hirtshals, Denmark. They had with them small amounts of hash, and the police maintained there was no reason to believe that it was brought along for sale here in this country.

The foreigners said it was for personal use during a winter vacation in Norway.

In such cases it is common practice to turn away foreigners before they enter Norway rather than to initiate a criminal case.

The seven foreigners and both cars were sent back to Hirtshals on the ferry.

During control of the travelers, five revolvers and pistols were found in the baggage of a Norwegian. The weapons were seized.

8958
CSO: 5300

ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON ARREST OF 2 CHINESE REPORTED

Possessed 14.5 Kilograms of Heroin

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 13 Jan 77 p 4

[Text] The two Chinese who were arrested on Saturday, 4 December, at Fornebu with four suitcases containing heroin, are still denying that they knew the suitcases contained heroin. One of the charged admits that "he understood that something was wrong when he was delivered the suitcase in Bangkok." He admits that he deserves punishment for this. The other Chinese does not admit being punishable for anything. He maintains, "I was on a vacation trip to Norway when I was arrested." The amount of heroin found in the suitcases was exactly 14.5 kg and not 16 kg as reported previously. The plastic packaging weighed 1.5 kg. 14.5 kg heroin in Class 3 with a heroin content of approximately 35 percent will give approximately 80,000 doses for injection directly in the blood vessels.

The Chinese are being brought before the magistrate's court on Monday with a request that the time they will be kept in jail be extended.

The investigation in the criminal case against them is now almost completed. Some checking remains, and Assistant Chief of Police John Leland at the Asker and Baerum police station will then write the recommendation in the case and forward it to the district attorneys in Eidsivating. The criminal case against the Chinese cannot be expected to be brought before the circuit court before sometime this spring. The Supreme Court attorneys Arvid Fossum, Asker, and Alf Nordhus, Oslo, have been appointed to defend the Chinese.

Route of Travel Described

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 13 Jan 77 p 4

[Report by Odd Bergfald: "The Heroin Case: The Two Arrested Persons Were Often Traveling on Assignments in the Far East"]

[Text] The heroin agents have declared that the material they had with them, and which they did not know anything more about, was not intended for

Norway, but was to be delivered to somebody who was to meet them at Fornebu. If they were not met there, they were to take the train to Copenhagen. The receivers of the suitcases would then be standing at the railroad station and accept them there. The Chinese definitely deny knowing a Chinese married couple who appeared at Fornebu immediately after they themselves had been arrested. This couple lived at Globetrotter Hotel. Somewhat later the couple was arrested in the Netherlands, and at the time of arrest they were in possession of heroin.

Both Norwegian and Dutch policemen working with heroin cases and other narcotics cases definitely maintain that this Chinese couple was the "reception committee" for the Chinese who were arrested in Oslo.

The two Chinese have told police about their background: they come from Singapore. They met each other in military service in the Navy. They had been without steady work for a long time when they met some men in Singapore who asked them if they wanted to go on trips for them. Both of them were of course willing to travel. The trips consisted of small trips in the Far East, and they got to live in the best hotels well supplied with money. They knew that other young Chinese received similar offers to travel. When they were finally offered a trip to Europe with final destination Oslo, they did not say no.

They first went to Bangkok. Here they lived in a more precisely specified hotel. After some time they were sent on a trip to Thailand. They also traveled far north in the country to areas not far from the "Golden Triangle," the area where the opium poppy is cultivated.

Finally, the trip to Europe came. They were picked up at their hotel in Bangkok by the men who gave them their assignment. The Chinese have said about these men that "they were well dressed, gave the impression of having a great deal of money, and were very friendly." When the two were picked up, their bosses told them that their own suitcases were so old and worn that they could not be used on a trip to Europe. From the old suitcases the bosses had taken out those clothes they believed the Europe travelers ought to take along and packed these clothes in the fine new suitcases they were given. The bosses had followed both of them to the airplane.

The two young Chinese, born in 1951 and 1953, respectively, were given $1,000 each at the airport in Bangkok. The money was to be "travel money" for a short trip to Oslo and elsewhere in Europe. They felt very rich. In Copenhagen the suitcases were brought from the airplane from the Far East to the Oslo airplane without any customs agent looking at them at all. No customs authorities checked the suitcases between Bangkok and Oslo.

The difficulties did not start until the airplane landed in Oslo. The heroin was found and the Chinese were arrested thanks to alert Norwegian customs authorities. There is every reason to believe that the "reception committee," the married Chinese couple living in "Globetrotter" saw the men being arrested and made sure they themselves and the amount of heroin they had were brought to a safe place.

At first the Chinese pretended they did not understand English. At the Asker and Baerum police station there was nobody who could speak Chinese. The police had to find interpreters, and it was not easy.

It has gradually become known that the Chinese gangs which stand behind the heroin smuggling to Europe have not refrained from murdering European interpreters who helped police in these cases. In the Netherlands we now have examples that the Chinese gangs have issued liquidation orders on these interpreters. Cases are known where the order has been carried out. The Asker and Baerum police station has stamped secret the names of the interpreters used. It is not willing to risk that a "liquidation group" will be sent to Oslo from the Chinese quarter in Amsterdam.

Questioning of the Chinese went slowly to start with. When one of the Chinese after awhile declared that he understood English, it went somewhat faster. The other Chinese only shook his head when the interpreter asked him if he understood English. Finally, last Monday he too declared that he could speak the language. When he was asked why he had not said so earlier, he said that he believed his English was so poor that misunderstandings might occur which may have been true.

The Chinese started crying several times during the hearings. They explained that they were afraid of a prison sentence and of the long separation from their wives. They both claim to be married and that their wives are pregnant. They have been questioned thoroughly about whether they belong to any definite Chinese gang operating in Europe. They claim that they do not. They have been asked if they belong to a Chinese gang called the RIAD gang, but they deny this very definitely.

The Chinese interrupted the hearings several times by asking the investigators if they believed that they could expect long prison sentences. The policemen have explained to them that our penal code has a regulation in paragraph 162 which sets the penalty at up to 10 years for narcotics smuggling. Every time the police approach them to find out what they have actually known and understood, they always come with counter questions about how long penalties they are risking. Each time they get answers to this, they burst out crying.

The two Chinese have not been able to give reliable information about their bosses, but the police believe that the fact that they admit having made several trips for their bosses in the Far East means that they have been recruited as heroin agents for a longer period of time.

Of course, it is not known whether these two Chinese were recruited by the Chinese gangs while they were still in school. However, from interrogations of heroin agents in the Netherlands it is known that some of the Chinese gangs recruit their members in groups of boys in the schools in Singapore.

Arrested members of the gangs have explained how their leaders took them on while they still were children and taught them to "mob" their smaller friends in school. In order to avoid mobbing, the victim had to pay protection money to the mobber. The mobber thus had the victim in his power. In this way the bosses also had the little rascal, the mobber, in their power. As the boy gradually grew up, he was given bigger and more difficult tasks.

It is not known whether this is the development the two arrested Chinese went through; it is only known that the two have had assignments as runners on several trips in the Far East. They have explained that they never knew what the purpose of the trips was, but they thrived on it. They lived in luxury in comparison to their penniless countrymen. They have both explained that they of course know the narcotic heroin. They themselves have never used the material, but they have friends who have used it. They also know the fate these friends met with. When they were asked what they thought about themselves as heroin runners to Norway, they replied that they had no idea that they were traveling with heroin, and that the assignment might have been to provide a real heroin market in Norway.

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BRIEFS

CONFISCATION OF HASHISH--Malaga, 15 Feb--Two young British citizens were arrested by the Malaga police when 100 kg of hashish was discovered hidden in their station wagon. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1508 GMT 15 Feb 77 PA]

AMERICAN ARRESTED WITH HASHISH--The civil guard in Malaga have discovered an attempt to smuggle 15 kilograms of oil of hashish, hidden in a false tank in a car driven by a U.S. citizen coming in from Tangiers. The value of the haul is some 40 million pesetas. The American has been arrested and referred to the contraband court. [Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Mar 77 LD]

RECORD HASHISH SEIZURE--Palma, Majorca, 2 Mar (AFP)--Spanish police today seized the largest haul of drugs ever on Spanish territory when they uncovered nearly $6 million dollars' worth of hashish on board a British-registered yacht here. Three tonnes of the drug were found in the hold of the Southhampton-registered vessel, the Cynosure, which arrived here from North Africa, police said. Two Frenchmen on board the Cynosure were (?arrested). [Text] [Paris AFP in English 2131 GMT 2 Mar 77 PA]

LSD, HASHISH TRAFFICKERS--Two presumed drug traffickers and consumers have been arrested: Arsenio Flores Castilla and Antonio Torres de la Fuente, both 23 years of age. Eighty-five grams of hashish from Kashmir and 60 tablets of LSD-25 were confiscated from them. [Text] [Madrid YA in Spanish 2 Mar 77 p 32]

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BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZURE IN ISTANBUL--Istanbul, 2 Mar (A.A.)--Istanbul police announced yesterday that their narcotics teams had seized 5 kilos of pure heroin and arrested two traffickers at Beykoz on the Bosporus on 25 February. The heroin is believed to have been smuggled in at an eastern border gate and to be destined for Europe and the U.S. The sales value of the heroin abroad is estimated at 7 million Turkish lira. Narcotics teams kept the house where the drug was stored under observation for 2 months before they closed in on the suspects. /Text/ /Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1444 GMT 2 Mar 77 LD/

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DARMSTADT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TO ASSIST IN DRUG CONTROL

Frankfurt FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 15 Feb 77 p 13

[Text] In recent months the drug scene around the lecture halls of Darmstadt Advanced Technical School has greatly expanded. Dealing and consuming hard drugs are so much to the fore that college principal Helmut Boehme has asked members of the college to "help in combating the drug scene."

Addicts and dealers arrive from such places as Frankfurt, Mannheim, Karlsruhe, Stuttgart and Wiesbaden, because Darmstadt is fast becoming one of the major transshipment points for hard drugs. It is intimated that prices here are not quite so high as in the neighboring large cities. In recent months three deaths from overdoses occurred in the vicinity of the college's lecture halls, and ambulances were frequently called also.

From now on the criminal investigation police will send daily frequent patrols to the college grounds in order to (as reported by the college) trace the drug dealers and keep addicts away from the area. College principal Boehme said that "much as he was pleased to note that students at the college were neither among the dealers nor the purchasers, the harassment of students and college servants by the drug scene had become well-nigh intolerable."

The police plans to make a major effort to free the vicinity of the lecture halls. Previous campaigns of this nature have resulted in the shift of the drug scene to other areas in Darmstadt's inner city.

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17 DRUG DEATHS REGISTERED IN MUNICH FOR 1976

Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 15 Feb 77 p 17

[Text] On 20 January last 21-year old Austrian Friedrich W. died of an overdose in Munich. Already two young people have lost their lives this year to heroin or other hard drugs; the total for last year was 17. The municipal drug counseling agency and the private organization "Con Drops" both report a distinct worsening of the drug problem. The agencies have great difficulties in approaching the "hard core" of the--usually--older heroin addicts. It is very rare for an addict to break out of the--fatal--vicious circle which always returns them to the needle, even after treatment.

"The dead victims of heroin are our greatest problem," said Alexander Eberth, chairman and manager of "Con Drops," a parent initiative set up 5 years ago to combat drug abuse from a building in Konradstrasse. "I know some of these addicts," the attorney continued, "one of them had just finished a course of treatment and told me he was unable to get away from heroin. Next day he was dead. He had injected more than his body was able to cope with."

Another case involving a young girl who ran afoul of the law exemplifies many cases of a similar complexion. Elisabeth M, 24, got involved in the drug scene by way of a friend who used narcotics. She was caught by the police and jailed. The girl escaped but was quickly rearrested. Shortly before Christmas the judge sent her back to prison. "She could not bear the thought of being separated from her 6-year old son and spending the holidays behind bars. She also died of an overdose of heroin," Eberth explained.

"Accidents" Due to Poor Quality Drugs

Desperation, withdrawal symptoms and serious depression are the main reasons why the addict takes to the so-called "golden shot." In addition there are the "accidents," such as wrong admixtures of the drug or overdosing after treatment. Dealers quite often sell poor quality drugs. That is one way of getting rid of bothersome "business associates," especially if there is any suggestion that they might become informers.

Addicts are usually unable to maintain contacts with the "normal" world around them. An inescapable mechanism leads the drug user to the margins of society: In certain bars one meets "one's companions," buys drugs and reinforces one another. Breaking out of the vicious circle by a visit to a drug counseling agency, let alone a normal job, is virtually impossible.

Missing the Last Chance

The story of 20-year old Heinz T. may serve to illustrate this mechanism. Heinz grew up in Marburg, attended school there and tried in vain to get his middle school diploma. He had no father, his mother was hard on him. Heinz did not take long to become familiar with the drug scene, feel comfortable there and try his first narcotics. Due to lack of concentration he dropped out of night school where he had intended to get his middle school diploma. He moved to Munich because he was told that he could find a school there to develop his artistic talent. In fact he enjoyed the school very much, or so he said to some of his fellow students. He described it as his "last chance" for "reintegration." Still, he continued to talke about his friends in Marburg and frequently traveled there because he could not make proper contacts in Munich.

His absences from school grew longer and longer. Once, when he returned to school, he said that he had been in hospital with a liver ailment. In reality, as one of his fellow students revealed, a drug counselor had sent him to a clinic. He only stayed there 5 days. Heinz T. came to the school a few times more. He told some of his friends at school that the few days of withdrawal had been very bad indeed. He said that he wanted to go back to Marburg for a little while. A few weeks later the school principal was informed that Heinz T. had died of circulatory collapse.

"Understanding the Best Help"

Dr Dirk Felke is a neurologist and about to conclude his training in psychotherapy. He is in contact with many drug addicts who attend the municipal drug counseling service center at Goethestrasse 53. "The drug problem is a social problem," said Dr Felke. "It should not be left mainly to the experts to help drug addicts; every single member of society can help the addict by showing understanding for his problems. Addiction occurs if the individual can no longer cope with his problems, is unable to deal with the demands of our achievement-oriented society."

First Aid by Talks

The counseling offices are the first point of contact for the addict who cannot perceive a way out. The constant flight from the police, failed attempts at therapy or clinical withdrawal, the periods spent in prison and psychiatric hospitals represent problems for the addicts with which they cannot cope. The counseling agencies offer first aid also for parents who do not know what to do when they learn that their son or daughter takes drugs. They find treatment facilities, get in touch with an attorney and, most of all, let people talk. For many addicts this is the very last chance of escape from the--fatal--vicious circle.

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THREAT OF EXTENSIVE COCAINE SALES DISCUSSED

Frankfurt FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 15 Feb 77 p 18

[Text] Four narcotics distributors of "top international rank" were caught last Sunday afternoon by officials of the Baden-Wuerttemberg Land criminal police. They had attempted to sell 5 kg of pure cocaine in one of Stuttgart's top hotels.

As told last Monday morning by Klaus Mellenthin, chief of the narcotics squad at the Land criminal police, at an urgently summoned press conference, the story was as exciting as a good detective novel. Two suitcases with torn linings stood on a table in the conference room, next to them a plastic bag filled with a strong smelling white powdery substance. The two suitcases and the plastic bag represented a value of some DM4 million--DM10-15 million calculated at black market prices. The powder was 5 kg of pure cocaine, of higher quality than had until then been seen in the Land criminal police laboratory.

The drug traders were a 40-year old manufacturer and a 24-year old businessman from Boston (United States), a 27-year old manager from Carrera (Colombia), and a 27-year old Peruvian film student from Paris. They represented themselves as ordinary businessmen. "The criminals demeanor gave the impression that they were involved in worldwide legitimate deals. They always operated from luxury hotels in various Continents, were discreet and professional," reported the young chief of the narcotics squad who was present at the arrests in Stuttgart. Two middlemen, assumed to be U.S.citizens, were able to get away. They and other members of the network are currently sought at international level.

Far from being a lucky accident the arrests were the product of long and intensive investigations. For months before the Baden-Wuerttemberg Land criminal police had received indications that the Federal German market was to be tested for cocaine. This drug, so far little used here, has been the No 1 problem in the United States for some years past. As Mellethin put it, it is not "a drug for poor people," because 1 gr costs about DM800. In the United States it is "enjoyed" mainly by high society, artists and intellectuals. Just one sniff of .5 grs may be addictive. Injecting 80 mg means

instant death. Addiction results in paranoid behavior, aggression and, consequently, violent crime; it ends in death. Especially middle aged people tend to fall victim to cocaine addiction because "snow" initially acts as a mental and physical stimulant.

Mellenthin fears that here also cocaine could become "the classy drug on the scene." There are signs that the market has already been tested and dealers ready to go full steam ahead. As recently as 1975 only .8 kg of cocaine were seized in the entire Federal Republic; in 1976 seizures increased to 2.4 kg. The 5 kg "at one stroke" therefore represent not only a great success for police, customs and CID Heidelberg [criminal investigation department--British secret service], they also serve as evidence that large-scale trading has begun. The market has been cleverly teased. In Baden-Wuerttemberg, for example, cocaine was sold at dumping prices for many months; in fact it was cheaper than heroin.

Last Monday morning the police officers issued an urgent warning, advising against experimenting with the stuff. The unlucky ones may well become addicted on the first try.

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WEST BERLIN DRUG DEATHS, FRG NARCOTICS PROBLEMS REVIEWED

Bonn DIE WELT in German 16 Feb 77 p 3

[Text] Drug Campaign Cost to Bonn More Than DM20 Million Annually

Is the Federal Republic of Germany doing too little in the fight against drug addiction? In Geneva American Congressman James Scheuer criticized the Federal Republic. He said that Bonn's promise of DM500,000 to be paid this year to the U.N. fund for combating drug abuse was far too little for a leading industrial power.

In fact Bonn pays a lot more than DM20 million annually for this fight within the country, not including the expense of police and customs operations. Costs are rising because police statistics for 1975 (the 1976 figures are not yet available) record 189 drug related deaths in the Federal Republic. According to data provided by the Federal Ministry of Health 305 people died in 1976. The Federal Criminal Police Agency emphasizes that to this figure of obvious cases must be added those of drug addicts dying of, for example, cirrhosis of the liver. The last available statistics (1975) report 29,805 drug cases and 27,106 suspects (1963: 820 and 1970: 16,104 cases).

However, in the opinion of experts at the Bonn ministries involved in the fight against drug abuse (Ministry of the Interior, Ministry for Youth, Family and Health), the police statistics must be considered unsatisfactory for any sober appraisal of the overall situation. The statistics are inflated by the fact that the Federal Republic has increasingly become a transit country for international drug smugglers. Nowadays drugs no longer originate in the Middle East but largely in the "Golden Triangle"--Thailand, Burma and China--and usually arrive via the Scandinavian countries and the coastal cities of Northern Germany. The quantities leaving the Netherlands and seized here are not usually intended for sale in the Federal Republic.

Another circumstance affecting police statistics is the fact that the drug scene has changed insofar as it has become more "private." Smuggling is no longer done on behalf of ideological group consumers. Now individuals are at the receiving end, and the quantities involved are correspondingly smaller. It is possible that this is also due to the new opium law of 25 December 1953,

which raised the maximum sentence from 3 years to 10 years imprisonment. Transactions were subsequently cut down to be less risky. Now more people participate at more meeting places of the trade--and that meant an increase in the arrests of small-time dealers. Despite these statistical defects Bonn does consider the situation "continuing serious and in part made more acute by the increased imports of heroin."

Nowadays heroin is available to interested parties at formerly unknown purity and relatively low prices--1 gr for DM200-300. That is half the price normal in the United States. The consumer is unable to ascertain the degree of purity. It is difficult to prepare .1 gr for one shot. A frequent result is fatal overdosing. If a heroin addict discontinues withdrawal treatment and becomes readdicted, the quantity of heroin he was used to before treatment may be fatal at the first shot, because tolerance to the drug is lost.

The "Permanent Study Group of Narcotics Officials of the Federation and the Laender" is currently preparing a differentiated overall balance until the end of the first half of 1977. The aim is to facilitate a reappraisal of the catalog of countermeasures.

Alarm Stage No 1--"We Must Again Be Fully Awake"

> DIE WELT discussed the menacing development of the drug scene with Dr Walter Baersch, 62, senior counselor at the Hamburg school board. Baersch is a psychologist and, since 1968, has specialized in the Hamburg drug scene.

[Question] Is there in fact a new drug wave?

[Answer] The answer, unfortunately, is yes. More hashish is on the market, more LSD and, especially, cocaine is insistently offered now in addition to heroin. The average consumer is younger than during the first wave.

[Question] A few years ago we believed that we had gotten a grip on the problem. What, in your opinion, are the reasons for this error?

[Answer] From the aspect of the experience here in Hamburg one point can be indicated with some assurance: The effects of the great liberalization in Amsterdam. As a consequence various drugs are flooding into Hamburg. Occasionally our so-called clients send us picture postcards, of course from Amsterdam, and we are then quite aware that they will bring home a substantial quantity of drugs.

The other reason goes something like this: This generation knows that the previous generation tried drugs. Unfortunately there is no communication between the generation of the first drug scene and that of the second. As a result the bad experiences are not passed on; all that is left is the drug theory which persists with the slogan "helps us understand ourselves, improves our personal situation," and so on. These are the arguments which are retained. I believe that they have revived drug consumption.

[Question] Is there still a political claim for drug consumption?

[Answer] No, the political motivation has not resurfaced. Instead we have another motivation: the positive concept that drugs help toward greater awareness, toward leading a more balanced and happier life. The other aim is for drugs to help hide certain personality problems.

[Question] Should some responsibility be attributed to juvenile unemployment and stress at school?

[Answer] I cannot deny that there are such connections. They are not, however, of prime importance. Of course the relation school-family and the condition of society as a whole may have negative and adverse effects on children. While we may be sure that they are not the first motivation, they are certainly a reinforcing element.

[Question] As to the large number of deaths: The intensity of drug consumption seems to have risen. What is the likely cause?

[Answer] A certain group risk, so to speak, the end zone of the possible, and that very quickly results in death. You must not forget that they tend to incite one another.

[Question] So, as far as you are concerned, we are at alarm stage No 1?

[Answer] Certainly at alarm stage No 1, but I do not want to overdramatize the situation. We must be fully awake to the danger, because developments are likely to speed up and, just as in the period 1968/1969, we will be compelled to emphasize our warnings.

[Question] Is this development limited to the large cities?

[Answer] No. Although the large cities are still the major centers of the problem, kreis cities in rural areas may be in a worse situation yet.

Berlin--Seven Dead in Seven Days

The narcotics squad is powerless. The work of the social agencies records at best some success with a few individuals: The numbers of heroin addicts in Berlin are climbing relentlessly. Last week alone seven people in our city died of the hard drug, including a 15-year old boy. Since early January Berlin police registered 17 deaths from drugs--more than for the entire year of 1974 which counted 13 victims of drug overdoses.

This fearful development is largely due to the fact that the drug scene has undergone a complete change: "Soft drugs are hardly sold on the banks of the Spree, because dealers fear the sensitive noses of dogs and have stopped bringing hashish into the city. Nor can one any longer find the notorious "Berlin gravy"--a narcotics extract dripped on blotting paper--or LSD tablets.

The demand for narcotics is currently met by an excessive supply of heroin. The drop in price encourages the trend toward hard drugs: A year ago 1 gr of heroin still cost more than DM280; this same quantity (which meets the daily requirement of most addicts) is now available in Berlin for DM140.

Buyers are recruited primarily from unemployed juveniles who cannot even glimpse the prospect of a job and seek to escape the monotony of an aimless day by using drugs.

According to experts the serious increase in juvenile delinquency in Berlin is largely due to heroin use. Especially the high incidence of muggings is ascribed to addiction: To obtain the money for drugs juveniles rob pedestrians of purses and briefcases. Girls take to prostitution. Many who become addicted to drugs at a young age and fear the painful withdrawal treatment, resign from life and commit suicide by overdose. These dead are found in restrooms at railroad terminals and bars, on park benches or in derelict buildings.

Drug addicts no longer find their dealers in bars and cafes; dealers have moved to subway stations and parks in the suburbs. Usually on offer there is the brand "Hongkong rocks" which is brought to Berlin hidden in hub caps. This drug is composed of 70 percent pure heroin. Berlin juveniles normally sniff it. Minors rarely inject themselves with heroin, but even 2-3 sniffs may be sufficient to produce addiction. On the other hand the 20-30 year old addicts are more familiar with the use of hypodermics. The fatality rate is particularly high among them.

Occasionally "heroin No 4" gets on the Berlin market. This substance has a purity of 96 percent and is smuggled from Eastern countries in double-bottom suitcases via the East Berlin airport of Schoenefeld. Anyone used to Hongkong rocks and then changing to "heroin No 4" is likely to pay with his life.

The card index of the Berlin criminal police records 1,150 drug addicts--nobody dares estimate the figures of unknown addicts. According to the statistics issued by the senator for labor and social affairs, 3 out of every 1,000 Berliners aged from 14-21 are heroin addicts, and 1 of the 3 is usually a girl.

So far the Berlin police has not achieved a major coup in the campaign against narcotics. No more than 33 kg of heroin were seized last year. In the first 6 weeks of this year raids and baggage inspections yielded 400 grs of heroin, but all efforts to trace the major narcotics distributors have been in vain so far.

"There is nothing we can do about the dead," resignedly says senior Berlin criminal police director Kaleth. An attempt is going to be made to lean more heavily on the dealers, that is the intermediate traders.

A mere drop in the ocean is represented by the work of five organizations in Berlin, which aim to cure addicts and reintegrate them into society. The therapeutic communities ranging from Synanon, Release II, Drug Information, the Caritas Association to the antidrug association can handle only a limited influx of addicts. In these institutions mainly juvenile addicts are looked after by young people of similar age, who usually are cured addicts and therefore fully familiar with the problems involved.

The Senate gives financial support to these communities and hopes for a cumulative effect. Those who find the way back to a normal life in these institutions may subsequently participate in the fight against drugs.

DM300 for 1 gr of Heroin

In the first half of 1976 the customs and border defense agencies of the Federal Republic seized the following quantities of drugs:

Cannabis products (hashish and marihuana): 2,905.5 kg
Opium: 1.1 kg
Morphine: 2.6 kg and 7,740 tablets
Cocaine: .9 kg
LSD: 5,786 doses
Amphetamines: 1.7 kg and 791 tablets

A total of approximately 100 kg of heroin was seized from January 1976 to 10 February 1977. The corresponding figure for 1975 was 35.5 kg.

The following are current market prices:

1 gr of hashish: DM13
1 gr of heroin: DM200-300, 10 "shots" per gr, 1 shot = DM30
1 dose of mescaline (virtually unobtainable nowadays): DM3-5
1 dose of LSD: DM3-10.

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END