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TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
No. 276

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INDIA

PLANS FOR INCREASING OPIUM PRODUCTION, EXPORTS OUTLINED

Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 24 Nov 76 p 5 BK

[Text] Opium, the narcotic which has even sparked off wars, may soon help India to produce lifesaving drugs and to enter the export market for drugs like codeine and morphine.

It is the potential world market which has made Neemuch, a small cantonment township in Madhya Pradesh, important. Ideally situated in the opium belt, it now houses India's most modern government alkaloid plant. The plant went into mass production in October.

Exported Indian opium accounts for 60 percent of the manufacture of codeine and morphine, but India only sells its raw materials, and has to import some opium drugs.

Also as one of the world's largest legal exporters of opium and one of the world's few exporters, India is exporting nearly 1,000 tons and earning Rs 40 crores in foreign exchange.

If the finished drugs are produced in India the foreign exchange resources could get a real boost.

This is not all. What is being planned is the modernizing of the old government alkaloid works at Ghazipur and an increase in productivity.

Under consideration, too, is a plan to set up a third plant for extraction of alkaloids from lanced poppy capsules in technical collaboration from abroad, and entire export oriented.

The central idea is clear: export more and more of the finished drugs and tighten the noose round smugglers so that there can be much more opium for export legally.

The government has gone for diversification for other reasons too. The increased availability of alternative raw materials like poppy straw and

its concentrate was making inroads into India's almost monopolistic position as a legal opium exporter. It was further felt that with expansion of poppy straw and development of high-yielding morphine rich strains of poppy in Tasmania and Spain, India's market may have been cut.

It was a timely move to diversify our exports and to set up the Neemuch plant. This, it is estimated, can manufacture 8,700 kgs of various alkaloids and their finished salts in a single shift. Until now all India had was the government alkaloid plant at Ghazipur, set up during World War II as a makeshift arrangement to serve the emergency needs of the eastern theater of war.

For the present the Neemuch plant will work on a single shift basis and is expected to meet fully the internal demands of the pharmaceutical industry.

The second shift at Neemuch, to be commissioned in 1978, is to aim at the export market.

The plant, built at a cost of Rs 2.4 crores, is considered to be the only one of its type in Asia. It is based on indigenous technology with the entire machinery produced in the country. Set up by the National Industrial Development Corporation on a turnkey basis, it would be fully controlled by the central government.

Opium has been traditionally grown in India and used for both medicinal and non-medicinal purposes. At present it is estimated that 50,000 hectares are cultivated and more than a million people depend on opium production for their livelihood.

But there is also another trade in opium, providing employment and quick money to thousands, the smuggling trade. This permits the use of opium for non-medicinal purposes ruining not only the physical health of the addict but also the socioeconomic fabric of his society.

It is the illegal trade in opium which has now to be fought.

As for Neemuch, India has made a good beginning for a positive use of the narcotic. The potential is great, the results awaited.

CSO: 5300

INDIA

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS OFFICERS SEIZE OPIUM--Bara Banki, Nov 27 (SAMACHAR)--The narcotics department recovered 70 kg of contraband opium from a car on the Bara Banki-Lucknow road yesterday. On a tipoff, the district opium officers along with two opium inspectors intercepted the vehicle carrying over Rs 70,000 worth of the contraband concealed in a secret chamber underneath the back seat of the car, and seized the opium. This contraband was being taken to Delhi, the police said. [Text] [Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 28 Nov 76 p 4 BK]

DELHI POLICE SEIZE OPIUM--New Delhi, Nov 28--Three kilograms of opium worth about Rs 4,000 was seized last night from Ajit Singh, of Karnal, by Delhi police. A case under the Opium Act has been registered against Ajit Singh at the Tilak Nagar police station. [Text] [Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 29 Nov 76 p 3 BK]

CSO: 5300

JAPAN

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS--Kitakyushu, 2 Dec--Maritime safety authorities Thursday announced the arrest of a South Korean seaman and a Japanese woman in nearby Shimonoseki on drug trafficking charges. Officials said Kimie Takase, 36, who runs a bar, received 400 grams of stimulant drugs with a street value of 120 million yen from Kong Hu-taek, 42, a deckhand of the 135-ton South Korean fish carrier Paekyong-ho No 103 late last month. The arrests followed discovery of some of the drug at Takase's bar Tuesday. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 1029 GMT 2 Dec 76 OW]

DRUG ARREST--Matsue, 2 Dec--Local police arrested Thursday Shizuo Hasegawa, 29, of Onomichi, Hiroshima Prefecture, on a charge of trafficking in stimulant drugs and confiscated 1 gram of stimulant in raids in Hasegawa's home and two other places in Hiroshima Prefecture. According to police, Hasegawa sold some 10 grams of stimulant at a black market price of over 100,000 yen to reputed gang boss Masao Nukume, 35, of Mitsugi in Hiroshima Prefecture in September. Nukume was arrested on a drug charge in September. Police said the stimulant was distributed to gangsters in western Japan, including a Korean resident, Pak Tae-choi, 36, whose Japanese name is Masao Omori, of Onomichi, Hiroshima Prefecture. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 1236 GMT 2 Dec 76 OW]

CSO: 5300

LAOS

NEW LIFE VILLAGE ESTABLISHED FOR REHABILITATED ADDICTS

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 13 Oct 76 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Administrative Department, Ministry of Interior Establishes New Life Village for Persons Rehabilitated at Don Thao and Don Nang"]

[Excerpt] To implement party and government policy guidelines on improving the standard of living of our fraternal people, particularly drug addicts who have been rehabilitated at Don Thao and Don Nang, into capable, progressive people with employment, the Administrative Department, Ministry of Interior, War Veterans, and Social Affairs has established a New Life Village at Kilometer 62 on the road to Phon Hong so that they can participate in building a prosperous nation.

This was learned during an interview our reporters held with Somboun Vong-nobountham, chief of the Administrative Department of the Ministry of Interior, War Veterans, and Social Affairs on 15 October 1976. He stated that social victims who have been released but do not desire to return to their homes and have no professions will be allowed to live in the New Life village. Here, they will engage in farming and animal husbandry, operate a rice mill, and grow castor beans for raising silkworms.

Somboun Vong-nobountham said that establishing this New Life Village constitutes rebuilding a new type of society, a new type of village for this new social system. The village, which can hold about 100 families, also has a hospital, school, and store. Construction of this new village was begun in August 1976 on an experimental basis. Later on, the village was set up for drug addicts. Plans call for 100 villages to be built along Highway 13 in order for the people to enjoy using the people's democratic system while living along a major highway and so that those who used to grow opium in the mountains can turn to growing vegetables instead. This will also conserve forests, enable the people to protect lines of communication, and facilitate communications and the distribution of goods.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

FOREIGN ELEMENTS TRAIN ILLEGAL DRUG LAB STAFF

Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 30 Nov 76 BK

[Text] Illegal drug laboratories recently found in the country may lead to evidence that the people manning these laboratories are trained by foreign elements. Disclosing this after the launching of the Pahang Branch of the National Association for the Prevention of Drug Abuse (?Pemadam). The deputy minister of law, Encik Rais Yatim, said those who have been arrested in the raid on the laboratories have come from the golden triangle countries. So far, two such heroin processing laboratories have been discovered in (?Bukit) Mertajam. Several chemists and workers were arrested.

Encik Rais also said that the elements who trained the staff could be communist terrorists in the country.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

DRUG ARRESTS--Kuala Lumpur, Friday--Police have arrested 2,507 people, in raids in and around the city since June, City Chief Police Officer Deputy Commissioner Datuk Mansor Mohamed Noor said here today. Of the total, 2,212 were arrested for drug offences and 87 for subversive activities. [Excerpt] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Oct 76 p 15]

NARCOTICS IN SARAWAK--Kuching--The police here have achieved more successes in their war against drug trafficking. Twenty-eight tubes of a white substance believed to be heroin were found in an early morning raid on a house in Jalan Haji Kassan. Then, four hours later, another 25 tubes were found in a house in Sungai Maong Tengah. Three youths were detained. Two days earlier another youth was found with three tubes of the same white material in Khoo Hun Yang Street. These are believed to amount to the largest drug haul the Kuching police have ever recorded. [Text] [Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 6 Nov 76 p 14]

CSO: 5300

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

ARRESTS IN KARACHI--Karachi (REUTER)--Four foreigners including a Canadian--Robert Blair Richard of Montreal--have been arrested in this Pakistani city in connection with the seizure of hashish worth \$70,000, an official announcement said. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 19 Nov 76 p 14]

CSO: 5300

FOUR PUSHERS RECEIVE DEATH SENTENCES

Jakarta INDONESIA TIMES in English 9 Oct 76 p 6

[Excerpts] Singapore--Three more people have been sentenced to death here for drug trafficking under a law introduced only a year ago.

A 25-year-old port worker, Teo Hook Seng, was the first to be ordered to the gallows three months ago for trafficking in grammes of morphine. His appeal is still pending.

The Singapore High Court Wednesday sentenced the three others in two separate trials. All three men, who pleaded not guilty, are expected to appeal.

Their cases were heard before a panel of two High Court judges under an amendment to the misuse of drugs act which makes the death penalty mandatory for being in possession of more than three grammes of morphine and two grammes of diamorphine (heroin) for the purpose of trafficking.

The Singapore Government has abolished the British system of trial by jury and replaced it with the judges trial in attempt to tighten any legal or technical loopholes.

The three sentenced to death Wednesday were a 41-year-old street trader Cheah Ah Pheng, a 28-year-old butcher Poonnsah Harnand, a 20-year-old painter Gan Chye Koon.

Cheah was found guilty of trafficking in 62.97 grammes of morphine. Cheah told the court he had bought the drug for 800 Singapore dollars (about 160 sterling) for his own consumption. He was a morphine addict.

The court rejected his defence and accepted the prosecution submission that the drug found in his possession were well over his normal consumption and were for the purpose of drug trafficking.

Poon and Gann [as published] who appeared in Court together, were charged with trafficking in 55.25 grammes of heroin.

They denied "selling" the drugs in the streets but said that they had smoked heroin on various occasions.

The Court, in finding the two men guilty after an eight-day trial, said: "The evidence of the prosecution as a whole clearly establishes that the two accused are heroin traffickers." -- Rtr/Ant

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

FIFTH DEATH SENTENCE METED OUT FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 14 Oct 76 p 16

[Excerpts] Singapore, Wed.--Labourer Teh Sin Tong, 28, was sentenced today to death by the High Court for heroin trafficking--the fifth man to be given the death penalty under a 1975 amendment to the Misuse of Drugs Act.

Teh, a Malaysian, was found guilty of unlawfully trafficking in 254.7 grammes of diamorphine at the Woodlands Customs checkpoint on April 1.

The court was told that Teh arrived by bus from Johore Baru at the checkpoint that day. He was searched and six newspaper-wrapped parcels were found tied to his leg--three on each side.

Each parcel contained five plastic packets of a white-brown substance, later ascertained to be high quality diamorphine or heroin No 4 as commonly known in the market.

CSO: 5300

SOUTH KOREA

BRIEFS

WARNING ON MARIHUANA--Seoul, 24 Nov--The national police headquarters warned today that any people found using marihuana known here as hemp would face arrest for severe punishment. Expressing concern over the trend of increase in the number of hemp smokers in recent years, the headquarters said that the hemp-using among some people reached the point where stern legal steps were needed to prevent it from being spread to other people. Especially noting the fact that more than 70 percent of the hemp users apprehended this year were youngsters, it also told the nation's police force to tighten guard against the trafficking and using of the prohibited grass around foreign military facilities where many entertainers are flocking. According to statistics revealed by the headquarters, of the 564 hemp smokers arrested this year, 76.3 percent or 430 were found aged between 18 and 20. It is followed by those between 20 and 40 with 20.7 percent or 117, and those above 40 with 3 percent or 17. [Text] [Seoul HAPTONG in English 0255 GMT 24 Nov 76 SK]

NARCOTICS RING--Seoul, 2 Nov--The national police headquarters said today that it has smashed a large-scale narcotics smuggling ring involving a Japanese national and a Korean visitor from Japan. The Japanese, identified as Tadayuki Kishiyama, 38, of Osaka, was arrested along with the Korean visitor named Kim Tae-hak, 38, from the same Japanese city and two local drug traffickers including Son Tae-kyu, 44. The four were charged with breaking the habit-forming drug control law. The police also seized from them a fund of 23 million Japanese yen the Japanese was about to use for a purchase of Philopon. Son had supplied Tadayuki with 4 kg of Philopon for some 50 million won on four occasions, the police said. Tadayuki has visited Seoul several times with a tourist visa to bring large quantities of the prohibited drug to Japan. Tadayuki and Son were caught red-handed when they were making a contact recently, the police said. [Text] [Seoul HAPTONG in English 0835 GMT 23 Nov 76 SK]

CSO: 5300

U.S. CONTRIBUTES HELICOPTERS FOR DRUG-SUPPRESSION WORK

Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 23 Nov 76 p 4 BK

[Editorial: "New Era of Cooperation"]

[Text] Marking a new era of cooperation and better understanding between Thailand and the United States, U.S. Ambassador Charles Whitehouse yesterday, during a formal ceremony, presented five helicopters to the Thai Government for use in narcotics suppression in the north. Joining the two similar aircraft provided by the U.S. two years ago, the five Bell 205A1 will be a boon to Thailand's determination to fight drug trafficking in the north which has grown in size much to the worry of the Thai Government.

Since he became prime minister last month, Mr Thanin Kraiwichian has stressed the importance and urgency to wage a more effective campaign against drug abuse and addiction. He has listed the drug problem as the first and foremost threat to the nation. He has said that even though Thailand is not the largest heroin-producing country among the three countries in the so-called Golden Triangle covering Burma, Laos and Thailand it has become one of the biggest heroin markets in the world.

Illicit drug trafficking is an urgent problem, and Thailand must find an immediate solution. As the prime minister has pointed out, the government shall regard the suppression of drug abuses as an important policy. Means must be found to strictly prohibit the cultivation of opium which is the raw material for heroin and replace opium cultivation with the cultivation of other cash crops. This the government has done with full efforts with projects sponsored by H.M. the King, the rural development projects and other projects by the United Nations and the Forest Department.

This is not the first time that the U.S. has come to our aid in this field. Many agreements have been signed in the past with the U.S. giving equipment help to fight opium cultivation and illicit drug trafficking. Because drug abuse has become also a serious national threat in the U.S. that country has said that it will cooperate with foreign governments working to eradicate the production of illicit drugs within their own frontiers.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

POLICE OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON RECENT NARCOTICS MEETING

Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 28 Nov 76 BK

[28 November press conference by the Thai deputy police director general, Pol Gen Chumphon Lohachala, on recent international narcotics conference]

[Text] Deputy police director general Pol Gen Chumphon Lohachala confirmed to newsmen that narcotics traffickers have recently been engaging in widespread illicit narcotics trade and have been employing new methods in shipping drugs. Here is what he said [begin recording]:

[Chumphon] Illicit narcotics trafficking is widespread. Most traders personally travel to make trade contacts, while they use their subordinates to transport the narcotics. This will require more close coordination among suppression and investigation authorities.

In the international exchange of information pertaining to narcotics transportation, new methods were detailed by each of the participating countries. For example, in certain countries narcotics shipments were made in containers being shipped with other containers. In addition, the carriers would regularly change their routes by shifting to countries in which narcotics laws are lenient and in which controls are less strict.

Shipping narcotics through the mail is also on the rise. Narcotics are being sent to addresses throughout the world. Another method is the use of airport authorities to deliver narcotics to the plane where the shipment would be watched over by the plane's attendant and would be taken out of the airport by an airport official at the destination country; the three parties in this shipment method are, of course, on the same team. In addition, more narcotics are being delivered to Pacific islands as temporary holding sites for future importation to Australia and New Zealand.

Shipments through the Suez Canal have also become popular since the canal opened, as the shipping distance is shorter. The conference asked that countries watch for shipment through the Suez Canal. Incidents of shipment of narcotics by fishing boats, sailboats, and private planes are on the rise. Countries which have intelligence units are to submit lists of vehicles

used in these shipments to the countries concerned so that the latter countries can also help watch for these vehicles.

Smuggling of morphine is more popular than opium smuggling because of size and convenience in concealment. The conference asked acetic anhydride producing countries to control the production and sale to companies needing the chemical. Acetic anhydride consuming countries were also asked to stringently control import and use. Thailand's law already has stipulations controlling the import of acetic anhydride, but it is also imported illegally under a false label.

As for suppression by each of the participating countries, there was a display on the progress of each country. For Thailand, the National Administrative Reform Council [NARC] order Number 22 contributed a part in discouraging narcotics traders, but we cannot prosecute them due to a lack of full evidence--they are merely providing the capital. If clear evidence can be found implicating them they can be arrested by virtue of NARC Order 22. In any event, this showed our intention to prevent and suppress the narcotic problem and the conference was informed.

[Question] Did we ask for any kind of cooperation from the conference concerning the prevention and suppression of narcotics? Were problems facing Thailand explained to the conference?

[Answer] The conference, in its knowledge that most of the narcotics originated from Thailand, wanted to know about our prevention measures. We explained our efforts to prevent narcotics from leaving Thailand, the amount of narcotics confiscated this year is higher than previous years both in the form of morphine, heroin and in other forms. As for their request for cooperation, we asked them for data on what forms of narcotics originating from Thailand were captured abroad--essentially information pertaining to traffickers. Methods of transportation are mostly repetitive. Generally, we asked for information.

[Question] Did we ask for experts on and equipment for narcotics suppression?

[Answer] Actually, the conference sympathizes with us. Officials from various agencies were sent to our country--the UN, Canadian and Hong Kong authorities. These authorities coordinate their work with us and they saw the existing problems. We did not ask for any form of direct assistance, since it is within our budgetary capability to obtain suppression equipment. Anyhow, the United States recently gave us five helicopters for use in narcotics suppression which the prime minister received the the U.S. ambassador in a ceremony. This assistance is the result of the United States seeing that we seriously intend to suppress the problem. As for experts, the purpose of their visits was more to observe than to provide assistance or advice. There are advisors on substitution crops who are under a UN-sponsored project. The substitution crops project had been initiated by the king; this project is coordinated with the mentioned UN project. [end recording].

THAILAND

POLICE OFFICER ARRESTED FOR PLANNED HEROIN SALE

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Nov 76 p 5 BK

[Text] Chon Buri--A sergeant attached to the Muang District police station was arrested yesterday after his superiors found him in possession of a tube of No 4 heroin which he allegedly intended to sell to prisoners.

After being informed that police at the station were smuggling heroin into the cells, Chief Inspector Kittisan Chusi searched Sergeant Wanlop Im-udom while he was on duty at 12:30 pm yesterday.

The inspector discovered a tube of No 4 heroin, weighing about 60 grammes, in the sergeant's pocket.

Wanlop later admitted that he had sold heroin to drug addicts detained in the cells.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

HEROIN FACTORY CLOSE TO BURMESE BORDER RAIDED

Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 25 Nov 76 BK

[Text] According to a report by the Radio Thailand correspondent in Chiang Mai Province, at 1000 on 24 November 35 policemen from the Border Police Patrol of Chiang Mai and of Ban Kiu Thap Yang, Chiang Rai Province, led by Pol Maj Gen Wichai Wichaithanaphat, Zone 3 Border Patrol Police superintendent, left by helicopter for Doi Chati village, Tambon Mae Tham, Mae Chan District, following an intelligence report reaching the police that a number of displaced Haw Chinese had set up a heroin factory on top of Doi Chati. The factory was about 500 meters from the Burmese border. A number of Border Patrol Police had already been dispatched to the factory ahead of the helioborne group.

When the helicopter arrived at the spot it was fired on by the Haw Chinese, who dispersed into bunkers around the factory. There were altogether about 30 Haw Chinese there. A number of them managed to move an unknown amount of heroin across the Burmese border, while others set fire to the factory and refinery equipment prior to the arrival of the police. They opened fire on the policemen to protect their men trying to take the heroin into Burma.

The police had a Mandarin-speaking interpreter call over a loudspeaker telling the displaced Haw Chinese, later found to be the men of Khun Sang, to lay down their arms. But they fired on the police in return. The police aboard the helicopter therefore strafed at random around the factory and all the Haw Chinese fled into Burma.

The Border Patrol Police forces cleared the area and found a big heroin factory--which was burned down--as well as heroin-producing equipment--which was damaged--as well as bunkers dug around the factory. The police checked the area thoroughly and destroyed what remained in the factory so that the Haw Chinese would not be able to set up a heroin factory there again. Police also sent forces to check the border area.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

THAI HEROIN TRAFFICKER GETS 120 YEARS

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Dec 76 p 1 BK

[Text] The Criminal Court yesterday sentenced heroin trafficker Hong Ninwatchararang to 120 years imprisonment.

Hong (23) was arrested red-handed with 4 kilograms of No 3 heroin by Phra Khanong police on 16 March this year.

His 15-year-old sister, Sunantha, who was arrested at the same time, is facing trial in the Juvenile Court.

Police said the Ninwatchararang family had been peddling drugs for some time. The father and his elder brother are now serving their jail terms in Samut Prakan for trafficking in narcotics.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

THAI COURT JAILS HONG KONG HEROIN SMUGGLER

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Dec 76 p 3 BK

[Text] The manager of a trading company in Hong Kong and a taxi driver were sentenced yesterday by the Criminal Court to 20 years' imprisonment on a charge of smuggling heroin.

The jailed were Luang Huangkaem (34), a Hong Kong Chinese and Somsak Rithimichai (27).

At first, the court handed them a 30 years jail term, but reduced the sentence due to their confession.

The public prosecutor said in the verdict that on 24 May 1976 the two had planned to smuggle 4,250 grammes of heroin valued at 126,150 baht from the country by hiding the drug in golf bag, but were arrested before they could accomplish their aim.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

THAI YOUTH ARRESTED FOR ALLEGEDLY SELLING HEROIN

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 18 Nov 76 p 3 BK

[Text] A 21-year-old youth was arrested by police of Bang Yirua Station yesterday for allegedly selling heroin.

Police said Rewat Sichandon produced five tubes of heroin and asked for 500 baht when a police decoy approached him to buy some.

A search at his home in Soi Sarapi 3, Khlong San District, uncovered 23 more tubes of heroin, police said.

Rewat was charged with possessing and peddling narcotics as well as being a person dangerous to society.



Drug peddler suspect Rewat Sichandon, 21, being questioned after his arrest.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

SEIZURE OF RECORD HEROIN HAUL 18 NOVEMBER REPORTED

Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 19 Nov 76 BK

[Excerpts] Our correspondent in Region 2--Chiang Mai--reported that Region 3 Border Patrol Policemen [BPP] raided a heroin-production site near the border at Mae Hong Son and confiscated the largest amount of heroin taken into custody in the last 10 years.

Arriving by helicopters yesterday at Doi Huai Padam, a rugged mountain along the Burmese border, 30 BPP's raided the village where the heroin production site was located and encountered no resistance. The site was later reported to belong to Thai Yai refugees.

On searching a temporary shelter area which was assumed to be the command site, a full set of heroin-production equipment was found along with Number 4 heroin of the "Deer" and "999" brands packed and ready to be shipped. There were 6 crates each containing 20 big bags of the Number 4 heroin. There were also 6 large bags weighing about 1 pound each of Number 3 heroin. Total weight of captured heroin was about 45 kilograms, worth about 260 million baht and considered to be the largest heroin seizure in Thailand in the past 10 years. The suspects escaped during the early part of the raid; only innocent villagers remained. The captured items were then taken to be stored at Dara Ratsami Camp in Chiang Mai on the same day.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BANGKOK POLICE ARREST MAJOR HEROIN PROCESSOR

Bangkok DAILY TIME in Thai 19 Nov 76 pp 1, 16 BK

[Text] At 0500 on 18 November a number of Crime Suppression Police Force officers under the leadership of Pol Col M.L. Toem Sanitwong, the superintendent of the Crime Suppression Division Area 7, and Pol Lt Col Phairot Thong-in, general inspector of the Second Section of the division, were sent to arrest Arun Saechua alias Chai Chamrunphan, 49 years old, at house No 226 on Soi Saengarun, Bang Khen District in Bangkok. The arrested has been known as a big heroin processor and the operation was conducted in compliance with the order issued by Pol Maj Gen Suwit Sotthithat, commander of the Crime Suppression Division who had been informed that Arun alias Chai and his wife were hiding at the house.

The police raided the house while the person was sleeping with his wife, Thongphun Plukpanya, and found samples of heroin and opium. Later his daughter, Miss Charuni Chamrunphan alias Chaicharoen, together with her husband, Suwit Phinmon, went to visit the arrested. Suwit has also been known as a narcotics dealer who used to contact police informants to sell his drugs. Looking suspicious, the two were searched, and a .22 cal. pistol was found on Miss Charuni. After being informed of the charge against them, the two were arrested for further prosecution.

Arun alias Chai, the accused, has been regarded as an internationally known heroin producer who is wanted by Interpol. He used to operate a big heroin factory with Flight Lieutenant Chamnong Sawangarun. This factory was closed down by the police in 1970. The latter was arrested during the police raid, but Arun successfully escaped. After that Arun built his new heroin factory in the Golden Triangle area in Burma and secretly traveled back and forth between Burma and Thailand. Arun once offered 30 million baht to Interpol so that he could conveniently run his factory, but his proposal was turned down. The police accused him of being dangerous to society and having narcotics in his possession for sale while his daughter and son-in-law faced the charge of being dangerous to society.



Arun Saechua alias Chai Chamrunphan, international-level heroin trafficker who was nabbed in bed by the police.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

AMERICAN ARRESTED ON CHARGES OF DRUG POSSESSION

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Nov 76 p 1 BK

[Text] Metropolitan Narcotics Suppression Police yesterday arrested an American tourist at the Federal Hotel on Sukhumvit Road on charges of possessing heroin and marijuana.

Arrested was Larry Norman (28) following a tipoff that he was dealing with a narcotics ring.

Police raided Norman's hotel room and uncovered a quantity of heroin and marijuana hidden in the soles of his specially designed shoes.

Norman was held for further interrogation.

CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

BRIEFS

DRUGS CONFISCATION--Lima, 29 Nov--A heavy blow was inflicted to international drug traffic through a combined operation a few days ago between Ecuador, Colombia and the United States, which resulted in the confiscation of 500 kilos of cocaine and 800 kilos of marihuana on the Colombian-Ecuadorean border. Alfonso Rivera, director of the Peruvian Investigative Police, on releasing the information, said a similar operation is planned for next year on the Chilean-Bolivian border to further cripple the international bands controlling the illegal drug traffic. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1933 GMT 29 Nov 76 PA]

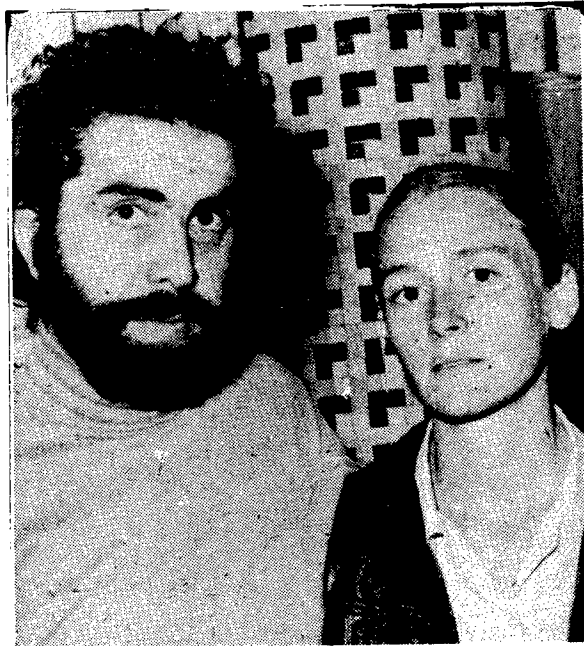
CSO: 5300

PANAMA

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARREST

Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 12 Nov 76 p 32 PA

Panamanian authorities arrested two U.S. citizens, David Lee Shepard and his wife, Mary Ann Stiner, on 10 November at Tocumen International Airport, with 2.3 kg of cocaine. They were flying from Quito, Ecuador, on their way to New Orleans to deliver the cocaine.



CSO: 5300

LEBANON

RECORD HASHISH CROP IN LEBANON

Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 20 Nov 76 p 12

[Text] Baalbek, Lebanon (REUTER)--Lebanon's hashish merchants have never had it so good.

Civil war has increased their liberty and allowed them to devote more time to the pursuit of happiness.

In Baalbek, the centre of Lebanon's lucrative hashish trade, they are bringing in the harvest of cannabis, the plant from which hashish is made.

It is a record crop, provisionally estimated at twice the volume of last year's harvest. But the quality is not rated exceptional by the men handling what is probably one of Lebanon's most valuable export commodities.

"You see, it's like with wine," explained Ahmed, a 36-year-old father of four and a respected member of Lebanese society and Baalbek's hashish establishment.

"There are outstanding years, good years and undistinguished years. It depends on rainfall and sun."

Ahmed picked a speck of dust from his immaculate pinstripe suit and eyed his well-polished shoes dubiously before getting out of his car to walk along a dusty track towards a vast field of dark-green cannabis plants.

Baalbek is the principal town of the hashish-growing northern Bekaa Valley and before the war the region's hashish merchants, landowners and sharecroppers employed by them were harassed by police, narcotics agents and government officials.

"There used to be slight difficulties and problems," Ahmed said. "You had to pay hush money here and bribes there. You had to watch out for agents sent by the American Government."

"Mind you, none of us had real problems. Money can fix everything. Everybody has his price."

Last spring, the Bekaa's cannabis planters--no longer molested by any legal authority in a country plunged into anarchy--almost doubled the area under cultivation.

Baalbek has been left relatively untouched by the protracted civil war. The 60 percent of Lebanese territory under Syrian control includes the Bekaa and Baalbek and Syrian troops are now encamped in the ancient Roman and Greek temples which made Baalbek one of Lebanon's chief tourist attractions before the war.

The Syrians do not interfere in the hashish business. Just a few hundred yards from a Syrian roadblock outside Baalbek, cannabis plants laid out for the obligatory 1-month drying period before processing form a green carpet along both sides of the road.

There are no fears that supplies might exceed demand, once the entire current crop has been processed and packed to hit the market in December.

"We can't really grow enough," Ahmed said. "We are selling stocks from last year now and sharply increased domestic demand has driven up the price.

"The less control there is, the more demand. People who wouldn't buy before the war buy now."

The finest quality of Lebanese hashish, known by connoisseurs abroad as "Red Lebanese," changes hands in Baalbek at \$170 for 2 1/2 pounds, up from \$100 early this year.

In London, the same amount sells at around \$2,000, Baalbek dealers say.

"Our biggest single customer now is Egypt," Ahmed said. "Buyers from there usually place orders in the range between 300 kilos and 1 ton.

"European clients these days rarely order shipments of more than 200 kilograms because their laws have become so tough. The Americans no longer come here.

"But when they get Lebanese hashish through NATO, a very useful organization. [as published] American soldiers stationed in West Germany as part of NATO forces in Europe buy the goods from Europeans and then ship it home, often by military transport."

"Ahmed and other experts here said that the bulk of Baalbek's most famous produce now is routed through Damascus airport, with the remainder being trucked to Jounieh, the provisional capital of Lebanon's rightists, for onward shipment by boat.

CSO: 5300

AUSTRIA

BRIEFS

DRUG ABUSE--Austrian police have stepped up their struggle against narcotics and dangerous drug dealers. Thirteen persons have been arrested in the past few days and more arrests are to come. Two of the detainees, 22-year-old Michael Wiesniewsky and 21-year-old Peter Huber, both from Vienna, admitted to having prepared a shipment of 30 kilos of marihuana to Vienna, and to having brought to Vienna 8 kilos of red hashish and a smaller quantity of cocaine from Damascus in October. [Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 1 Dec 76 p 10 AU]

CSO: 5300

CYPRUS

LEBANESE HOLDING HEROIN, HASHISH ARRESTED

Nicosia TA NEA in Greek 7 Nov 76 p 10

[Text] Larnaca, 6 November (from our correspondent)--The Lebanese student Habib Salim 'Akkawi, 21, who arrived in Larnaca on 6 November had hidden narcotics in his underpants.

'Akkawi was searched in Customs at about 1000, as soon as he disembarked from the ship. A brick of hashish weighing 59.25 grams was found in his underpants. Also, 7.5 grams of heroin and nine cigarettes containing narcotics were discovered in his possession.

After his arrest by Larnaca TAE [Criminal Investigation Department] officers, 'Akkawi was sent to the city court which ordered that he be detained for 5 days.

CSO: 5300

DENMARK

BRIEFS

AUSTRALIAN DRUG CARRIER--Acting on a tip from Bangkok police, narcotics police and customs officials at Copenhagen Airport arrested 26-year-old Australian Anthony Miller in possession of 6.8 kg of heroin concealed in chessboards while en route from Thailand to Amsterdam. [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 24 Nov 76 part 1 p 2 LD]

CSO: 5300

ANTIDRUG LAW NEEDS MODIFICATION

Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 19 Oct 76 p 7

[Article by Guglielmo Pepe: "Drug Statistics Changed Due to Pressures by Pharmaceutical Firms?"]

[Text] Rome--The narcotics law is creating some problems for the Public Health Minister. A group of PCI senators has sent a letter to the Chairman of the Public Health and Hygiene Commission Adriano Ossicini asking him to invite the minister to give the most possible detailed information on the minister's views regarding changes in the law, "in order to avoid an arbitrary liberalization of sales of narcotics through an incorrect presentation of the data permitted by the law."

The position taken by the communists is without question to be related to the recent decisions made by the Superior Health Council, decisions that Psychiatrist Luigi Cancrini, PCI Regional Councillor, believes are of unprecedented seriousness."

What is involved? The law on narcotics and addiction approved in December last year indicated some general criteria regarding the sale of these substances and also established the use of six tables on the basis of their degree of danger. Health officials were to be responsible for the final review of these tables. Later, the Superior Health Institute established a study group which after two months of work presented a document with complete tables. And it was at this point last September that the Council intervened. Having absolutely no consideration for the degree of danger, it changed some of the preceding data (even against the advice of the Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee).

One of the most serious decisions refers to pentazocine which was moved from the first to the fourth table. The result is that while at first, an identity card and a prescription written on a special form were needed to buy this product, now an ordinary non-refillable medical prescription is sufficient. It must be said however that "Talwin," pentazocine in solution, already was in the fifth table. Perhaps the Health Council members, believed that in this way, they could get around the conflict. It is certain that the decision caused considerable perplexity. Pentazocine is a terrible drug. When the addict no longer finds heroin, he uses pentazocine which has even more disastrous consequences. Furthermore it is so habit-forming, even from the psychological point of view, that often its users have resorted to violence to get it: acts of aggression against druggists are no longer counted.

But then why did the Health Council ignore this danger? Cancrini says, it must be reported, that the drug law had created considerable concern in the pharmaceutical industry which distorted the meaning of some regulations and hoodwinked some doctors and pharmacists by maintaining that restrictions were being put on necessary medicines and at the same time created a scarcity of certain medications such as the barbiturates. All this was designed to create alarm. The fact is that for the first time, through this law, an effort was made to curb a scandalous market."

Instead, Guido Blumir, of STAMPA ALTERNATIVA [Alternative Press] was not at all suprised by the decisions. For him they are part of an endless series in a farce that has lasted for a long time. He says they are "speculative maneuvers by the pharmaceutical companies and they have always existed concerning controlled drugs. They began in the Senate and continued in the Chamber when the tables, which already were too liberal, were further liberalized." Not only that but we have lodged several complaints against the barons of the SINTE (Italian Neuro-Psycho-Pharmacological Society) but the maneuvers continued."

The Radical Party echoes the gloomier criticisms. In a conference last week, it proposed some changes in the law. Four principal objectives were: to assure without equivocation the effective immunity from prosecution for possession for personal use; to assure that users who need help get effective treatment; establish uniform criteria to crystallize the concept of "moderate quantities" on the basis of which possession is not a crime; and finally, greater tolerance for behavior connected with the use of light drugs.

6034

CSO: 5300

ITALY

FLORENCE BECOMING ANOTHER DRUG CENTER

Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 19 Oct 76 p 7

[Article by Pino Rea: "Death Does Not Visit Only the Big Cities; Heroin Has Come to Florence"]

[Text] Heroin has massively invaded Florence. Constantly expanding sales can be calculated in several billions of lire annually. Signs of this appeared in August 1975 when nine vendors who traveled between the Tuscan capital and Modena (from whence came "brown sugar") were arrested by the local police [Questura] narcotics squad. The definitive conformation came recently with the arrest of Guglielmo Apruzzo and Enzo Masi, two croupiers employed at the Amsterdam casino. From Holland they had imported 230 grams of pure heroin. Additional confirmation came with the death of a young Viareggio student discovered in agony in his bedroom. The "goods" confiscated from the two croupiers (the first large haul) was to be delivered to a Florentine industrialist whose name is not yet known. He reportedly was to pay 40 million lire for it. Another sign of a lively market in Florence, as in all other large cities is that there is a demand for large amounts of capital.

Another sign that heroin traffic is spreading like an oil slick, and mainly involves the young so-called proletariat, was an open meeting, the first of its kind, which Lotta Continua [Continuing Struggle] organized last Saturday on the subject of hard drugs. Some militants in the Tufello People's Culture Center told how they are trying to deal with the problem in Rome in a way different from that in various other public sectors. Among other things, some of those plans are still on paper. The extra-parliamentary left, therefore, also has declared war in Florence and is preparing to sharpen its weapons against the network of big traffickers.

To reconstruct outlines of the market in detail is impossible now. The circulation of heroin on a mass scale (excluding, therefore, the circuit of the Florence "well-to-do" which the police claim, always have preferred cocaine) is a very recent phenomenon and no group or organization has so

far carried out a detailed investigation. It is known that the heroin explosion took place in the summer of 1975 at the time of a sudden scarcity of hashish and marihuana. This technique often is used by large traffickers who try to push consumers toward the more profitable market of heroin by depriving buyers of the softer drugs to which they have become accustomed. The names of many of the small deals are known. Most of them sell in order to buy a fix for themselves but they are not willing to talk. It is known that the main sales points are Santa Croce, Piazza Santo Spirito, Il Duomo. The sources are known: Amsterdam and Versailles (this channel is certainly controlled by Fascists). But there has been no success in getting at the higher ups.

The local police narcotics squad has not given out any more information than is already known. And rather, the figures supplied are frankly too optimistic: 300 proven heroin addicts, a figure which in circles close to the drug world is multiplied at least by 10. The anti-drug squad is not giving out figures on distributors. They show only statistics according to which, beginning with the first of the year (practically when the new law became effective), 20 hard drug pushers were arrested. But a glance at the news shows that it is always a matter of the last link in the chain, distributors tied to that "circle" where getting a fix and selling are indissolubly linked.

The discovery of 230 grams of pure heroin, instead, shows that the turnover is rather high and that Florence now is no longer just a distribution center but an actual production center where pure heroin is expertly cut (one gram yields 20 doses at 10 to 15,000 lire each) with codeine in addition to the usual strychnine. "This substance does not eliminate the typical pains of the heroin addict," says Dr Daysi Greppi of the Toxicology Center of Careggi. She adds, "it therefore forces him to immediately take another injection. In short, a double deal."

At the Toxicology Center, one of the new functions which opened in January 1974 on the basis of an agreement with the Regional Administration, Prof Pier Francesco Mannaioni posed the theory of the substitution of heroin with methadone, a synthetic narcotic that is less destructive but also results in dependence and often has side effects. Since January 1974 a total of 450 addicts passed through the center. They came from various cities of the center-north. Every few days, according to the distance they had to travel, they came to get their dose of "surrogate." Thus, the traffic of heroin was joined by that of methadone and an effort now is being made to try to stop this by administering the product in the form of a syrup (therefore, theoretically it cannot be injected) rather than in phials or tablets. Presently the center has 200 regular patients. For the rest, some have been sent to Ravenna, Modena and Trento where similar efforts were organized, while the others were lost by the wayside. Many have sworn that they are cured, but the proven cases of cure number only three. Even the Viarraggio student who died from an overdose of heroin was in the past subjected to a de-toxification cure, but as events have indicated he did not escape the heroin spiral. Lotta Continua is told, "Only medical teams work at the center. It is another ghetto. Perhaps it is less inhuman, but it is always a ghetto. They are trying to stop the situation, but it will never be solved."

ITALY

LARGE DRUG HAUL IN ROME

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 7 Nov 76 p 5

[Article: "Drugs Worth 5 Billion Lire Confiscated in Rome"]

[Text] Twenty kilograms of pure heroin and 2 and 1/2 kilograms of morphine for a total value of almost 5 billion lire were confiscated in Rome yesterday during two large scale drug hunting operations. The first one conducted at the Fiumicino Airport led to the arrest of two persons: One of them identified himself as 30-year-old Singapore businessman, Koh Bak-kin and the other was a 34-year-old Malaysian teacher, Syed Mohammed Bin Fazzalda. Both were coming from Bangkok and information about them was provided to the Italian frontier post by Interpol.

As soon as they came down from the ramp of the Thai airline company's Boeing aircraft the two narcotic dealers were stopped and led to the police office. A meticulous inspection of their baggage made possible the discovery of this huge amount of heroin. It consisted of "third class" drug, the so called "Chinese" type, as determined by agents of the narcotic squad. This is the type of heroin which lately has apparently invaded world markets. Its value is said to amount to over 4 billion lire.

Yesterday's haul of this narcotic substance was one of the biggest ever confiscated in Italy in recent years. The record, still unsurpassed, was attained in Padua 5 years ago when 32 kilograms of heroin was confiscated.

The value of the 2 and 1/2 kilograms of morphine base, confiscated by the Customs official, who discovered it under the shelter of track 15 of the Termini Station, is put at 700 million lire. The drug had been hidden in a bottom sub-compartment of a "24 hour" suitcase belonging to Mulazim Terzi, a Turkish citizen, who was arrested. The morphine base (namely the raw type used in preparing heroin dosages) was contained in 20 small plastic bags.

Once morphine is processed into heroin it is subsequently "cut" and diluted with other substances such as glucose or quinine by the dealers. Thus the

narcotic substance which is sold as heroin to the consumer is made up of one part heroin and nine parts of other substances. Investigators have figured that the amount of morphine confiscated was enough for the preparation of as much as 90,000 doses.

According to the police, the huge quantity of heroin (one of the biggest ever confiscated in the capital) is leading to the supposition that there must be some sort of laboratory equipped for processing this substance and its output into heroin dosages. In conjunction with this the Customs officer is investigating a Soviet citizen, a certain Beniamin Karapet, who was in the company of Mulazim Terzi at the time of his arrest.

7964

CSO: 5300

ITALY

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED IN ROME--From member of the triumvirate of the "anonymous confiscations" of Rome to boss of the heavy narcotics traffic? This may have been the metamorphosis achieved by Maffeo Bellicini, the Marseilles Italian arrested on the afternoon of the day before in a restaurant on Via Cerveteri along with six other persons, all of them known to the police and some of them on the wanted list. The investigators went on this assumption on the basis of having discovered 2 kilograms of pure heroin (worth at least 300 million lire) that was hidden in Vincenzo Rossi's residence (brother of the well known character referred to as "Jo La Maire" of the Marseilles criminal element), one of Bellicini's five dinner companions handcuffed by the Carabinieri. Along with the heroin there was also a precision scale used in subdividing cocaine into dosages, and in addition hundreds of passports, identification cards and blank passbooks bearing the relative seals, but of false validity. The house search of Vincenzo Rossi at Via Amari in Appio fits into the framework of a series of investigations organized by the Carabinieri's investigative squad, after the arrest of Bellicini, for the purpose of identifying all those involved, (believed to be about 100 persons) belonging to the "large family," who made it possible for the Marseilles-Italian bandit to hide himself after the Lecce jail break-in. As one remembers, Graziano Mesina also took part. The latter known as "the hatcher" has been in Bellicini's employ, but has not yet been found. In the meantime it has been learned that the six persons arrested along with Bellicini have been accused of helping a criminal, accepting deliveries, falsification of documents and of keeping narcotic substances in their possession. [Text] [Rome L'UNITA in Italian 29 Oct 76 p 10] 7964

CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

BRISK DRUG BUSINESS YIELDS 200 MILLION KRONOR

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 20 Nov 76 p 7

[Article by Leif Dahlin]

[Text] To date 200 million kronor in drugs have been sold on the Swedish narcotics market.

"And that is a low estimate," said the head of the national criminal police force narcotics division in Stockholm, commissioner Stig Norman. He considers it fully established that at least 50 million kronor in "sound" Swedish currency has been smuggled out and handed over to the narcotics syndicate on the continent.

On Thursday a new drug gang was uncovered which sold in the millions and knew how to turn black money into white.

"Unless the criminal and social agencies are given different norms to work for, the narcotics problem will overwhelm us," said Lars Kollander, supply officer for the national police directorate.

From what DAGENS NYHETER has learned, the national police directorate has very advanced plans to gather information in every single drug case that would force the social service board to step in.

Drugs are connected with almost all crimes committed today according to commissioner Norman, who gave the following example.

On 2 October 1976 a Dutch truck driver was asked to smuggle 10 kilos of amphetamines from Utrecht in Holland to a designated parking lot outside Ljungby. For some reason he decided not to and asked his reserve driver if he would take care of the smuggling operation. The father of the reserve driver heard about the smuggling and notified the police.

Two Plastic Pipes

In two plastic pipes mounted on the rear axle of the trailer the police found 10 kilos of amphetamines. The truck driver who was offered 5000 gulden in payment admitted that a Swede unknown to him would come to a meeting place outside Ljungby where the plastic pipes were to be unscrewed and paid for with a half million kronor.

"We immediately suspected a 30-year old car salesman in Stockholm of being the intended recipient," said commissioner Norman who continued:

"The car salesman was seized along with his brother and several other people in another big drug case. The court did not consider the evidence of the prosecution sufficiently convincing to make an arrest. The man was released and it was thought in that context that he had had enough of a warning to 'lie low' in the future.

"But the profits on drugs are so big and the fear of detection and imprisonment so slight that he continued. This man has been under our constant surveillance since the beginning of October. On Wednesday, what we had been waiting for happened --

"The car dealer delivered a plastic bag to a friend in a public place in the city of Stockholm. The event was photographed by the police team who saw the man jump into a taxi. This was followed to the Bromma Airport.

In the Restroom

"The man went into the restroom and came out with a briefcase in his hand. We had reason to believe he had approximately half a million in the briefcase. When he left the restroom to buy a plane ticket to Malmo the plastic bag was found in the restroom. It was later discovered that the fingerprints of the car dealer were on the bag. The police followed along in the plane to Malmo.

"The plane flew on to Amsterdam and the Malmo police shadowed the man to the airport restaurant. The police reported that they saw the Swede hand over a thick envelope to an unknown person at a restaurant table. It was quite clear to the team that this was a narcotics transaction. The Swedish courier returned on the next flight home.

"From experience we know that such a transaction is followed by the delivery of the drug a day or two later," commissioner Norman continued.

"The customs agents at all ports in southern Sweden were notified and the police had teams at all border stations. We hoped of course that

the smuggler truck (loaded in Holland and clearly identified) would cross the border so that we could follow it to the 'source' and thus make a big seizure, but the following then happened.

"Thursday morning a German-registered passenger car drove off the Travemunde ferry in Helsingborg. The customs men waved the car to one side for a routine check and found 10 kilos of amphetamines in a gasoline tank with a false bottom.

"The courier is now under arrest and has admitted that he was asked to drive the car to Stockholm. The whole gang was broken up. This time the car dealer won't get off.

"Along with him we arrested a man of the same age who worked part time as a caretaker for a big firm as camouflage for his criminal activity.

House Search

"The man had not collected his pay for several months and during the house search in a number of apartments used by him and the car dealer, the following was found:

"Plastic bags for narcotics, scales, sealing apparatus and 80 grams of amphetamines in a bag.

"In one of the men's apartments on Brannkyrkagatan we found 250,000 kronor in mixed bills spread out on the table, in chests and in clothes hung up in the closets. "

Chief prosecutor Eric Ostberg, leader of the investigation said:

"This time the police had enough evidence to justify jailing the car dealer but the problem is to prove the sale of narcotics. If I can't do that it will be hard to confiscate his fancy house in Bromma and his friend's summer place on Varmdo. Both have families and it is likely that neither filed tax returns. It is possible that the tax authorities could lock up the assets of these men."

Known

"We know," said commissioner Norman, "that the car dealer and his friend are known on the drug market. At the preliminary hearing they said that the last contact with Amsterdam was on car business. It is quite clear that they collected the profits from drugs there and then drove to Belgium or West Germany and bought up used cars. The instruments and odometers were changed.

"In that way they paid lower customs charges. One can buy a cellar, 'establish' a business, set up a sign and sell cars 'cheap' to cover

'legal profits.' This type of criminal later invests large sums in properties with all that implies."

The police and the customs agents agree that only 1 or 2 percent of all drugs smuggled into Sweden are seized. A recent statistic shows that so far this year 267 kilos of cannabis, 15 kilos of heroin and 106.5 kilos of stimulants (such as amphetamines and phenometralin) have been seized.

Overdose

Just recently the third heroin victim died in Malmo and according to reports the police could track down through telephone taps the men who distributed heroin mixed with strychnine.

According to reports an investigation of a social medical nature is underway into 700 of the 5000 deaths involving injected drugs in recent years. It is known that deaths among drug addicts increased tenfold in recent years.

A father in Solna told DAGENS NYHETER this:

"It isn't true that only young people from poor social environments are affected by drugs. I thought I worked hard and took good care of my family. We have always been well-off and wanted only the best for our children. The youngest boy left school at 16 with good examination marks, looked for a job but couldn't find any. He got into a gang, stole a little and started smoking hash.

"We have always had a good relationship and it was my boy who came and told me what he was doing. My wife and I and the older children tried to help him but the hash led him on to greater misdeeds and stronger drugs and he injected morphine. He was taken to a detoxification center but that didn't help more than a few weeks after he was released from the hospital.

"The director and psychiatrist were involved and there were group discussions and group care on farms in the country but nothing helped. And he needed money so there were thefts and he was jailed for 6 weeks with a subsequent 6-week period of psychiatric observation.

"During that time he stayed off drugs and when he got out he applied to the Folk High School but was not accepted. He became discouraged once more and turned to drugs again. He wanted to get in to Ulleraker but that was a mistake because he was placed mostly among 'older brothers' there and sat and watched TV.

"He came home again and the routine was that when I went to work he got up and went in to the transit center. I have been there many times and

looked for him among the pushers selling openly. I saw how the boy was broken down in time and no one could give us a hand in our despair. And then what I had feared happened. One day this summer when I came home from work, the police called:

""Your son has been found dead in the restroom of Central Station.'

"Beside him lay a hypodermic needle and drug powder. I have never felt so terribly helpless."

6578

CSO: 5300

END