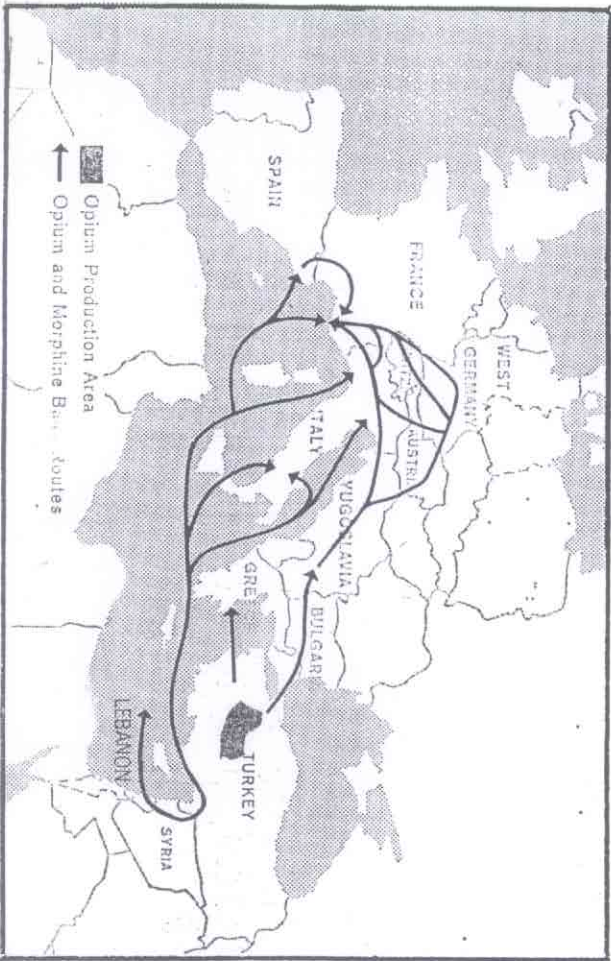


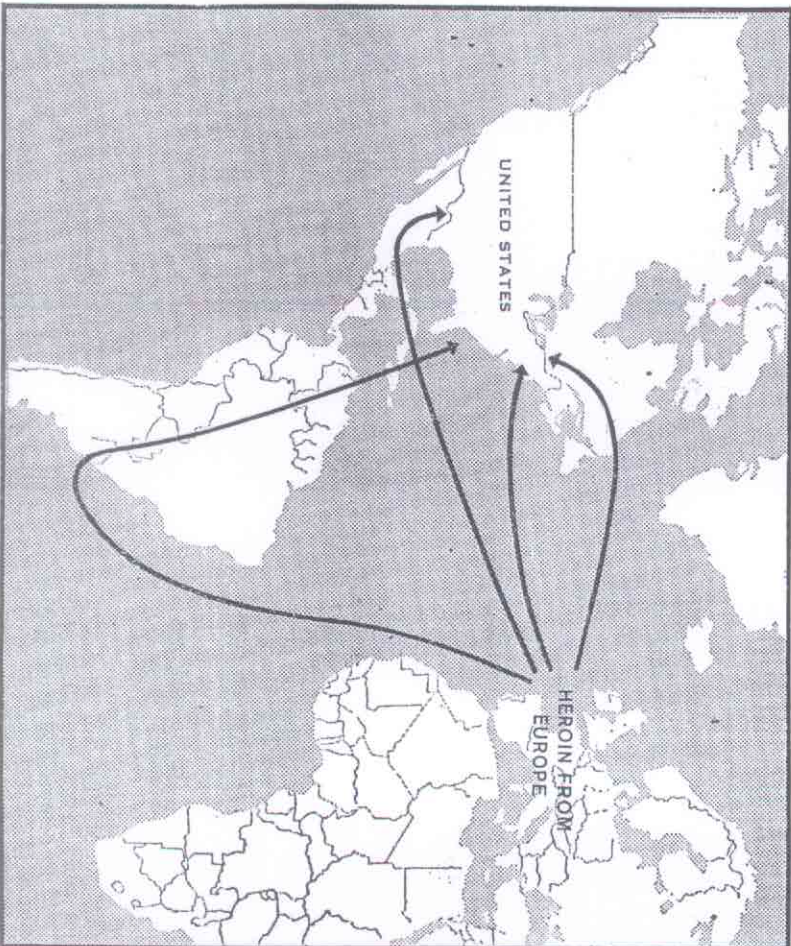
THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1972

THE TURKEY-US NETWORK Opium and Morphine Base Movement from Turkey to W. Europe



The three maps on this page—showing the movement of illicit drugs—and the two tables on production and prices were adapted from the official United States Government report "World Opium Survey 1972," which was prepared over nine months under the auspices of the Cabinet Committee on International Narcotics Control.

Heroin Movement Routes from Europe to the United States



New York Called Key City In Heroin Flow Into U.S.

By RICHARD L. MADDEN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16—The Government said today that New York was the main distribution point for heroin smuggled into the United States through circuitous routes from Europe.

The world opium survey, made public today by the State Department, said that three "basic smuggling routes" were used to transport heroin from Europe to the United States, but it added:

"Regardless of the smuggling route, however, most of the heroin entering the United States apparently winds up in New York before being distributed to other parts of the country."

The report did not estimate how much heroin flowed through New York or describe how it was distributed elsewhere in the nation.

3 Routes Identified

The three basic smuggling routes were described as running from Europe directly to the United States or through Canada, from Europe by way of Mexico, and from Europe by way of various other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

"The direct Europe-United States route is the oldest French heroin smuggling route and remains the most active," the report said. It said that such a direct route avoided the need for a foreign middleman and offered the advantage of concealing a shipment in a volume of trans-Atlantic commerce with only one customs check. But "the risk to the French traffickers is much greater, since the arrest of a courier in the United States has often

implicated the entire trafficking group," the report declared.

French narcotics traffickers may use Canada as an alternate point of entry into the United States "in the belief that customs inspection in Canada and on the Canada-United States border are more relaxed than on the East Coast of the United States, particularly when French passengers are involved," the report said.

Connection Little Known

"Although little is known about French-Latin American connections, it appears that well organized smuggling rings in Latin America purchase large quantities of heroin from French traffickers and then arrange for its transport and sale in the United States," according to the report.

"Many of the readers of these Latin American groups are ethnic French Corsicans and ethnic Italians who have close ties with their countrymen in Europe. Some of these groups have been smuggling various types of contraband goods for many years and have added heroin to their established smuggling trade."

French heroin, the report said, is believed to enter Latin America primarily through Buenos Aires and Montevideo, with much of the clandestine traffic passing through Panama.

To illustrate the enormous profit and mark-up involved, the report said that the price paid to a farmer in Turkey for a given amount of raw opium was the equivalent of \$22. That opium processed into a kilogram of pure heroin would bring \$220,000 in New York. The heroin reaching the addict is greatly adulterated.

Estimated Illicit Opium Output, by Major Producers, 1971

(In metric tons)

India	100
Afghanistan	100
Turkey	35-80
Pakistan	20-160
Burma, Thailand and Laos	700
Mexico	10-20
Other*	20-50
Total	990-1,210**

*Mainly Eastern Europe.

**Additional amounts probably are produced in Latin America, North Africa and the Far East.

Illicit Market Prices, from Production to Distribution of Heroin

(Dollars per kilogram)

Price to farmer for opium (in Turkey)	\$22
Wholesale price for heroin* (Marseilles)	5,000
Border price for heroin (New York)	10,000
Wholesale price for heroin (New York)	22,000
Retail price for heroin (New York)	220,000**

*When raw opium is converted to morphine and heroin, the volume is reduced by a ratio of 10:1.

**If sold as pure heroin. In fact, heroin is greatly adulterated when it reaches the addict; the price for adulterated heroin—40% purity—would be about \$88,000 per kilogram.

U.S. Officials See Signs of Progress In Stopping Drugs

By DANA ADAMS SCHMIDT
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15—In a document accompanying the State Department's drug survey, the Nixon Administration said today that despite pessimistic forecasts it was making substantial progress toward blocking the flow of heroin from abroad, toward enforcing domestic drug laws, and toward treating the victims of drug abuse.

The progress achieved in cutting off supplies is reflected, the document said, by sharply increased heroin prices in the eastern United States. In Boston, for instance, the cost of one gram of heroin jumped from \$418 to \$785 in the last 12 months, while in Baltimore, the price of a bag of heroin—a single dose—rose from \$10 to \$15, the document said.

Progress May be Temporary

The document noted, however, that the "heroin drought" might be temporary because "some of the heroin which formerly supplied our troops in

Vietnam is now being directed towards addicts in this country."

The achievements of law-enforcement authorities in combating drugs were summarized as follows:

¶Domestic seizures of heroin by the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs and by United States Customs increased from 1,161 pounds in the fiscal year ended in June, 1971, to 1,626 pounds in the fiscal year that ended in June, 1972. The bureau estimates American heroin use at 12,000 to 20,000 pounds annually.

¶Arrests by the Federal drug agency and by Customs rose from 12,947 in 1971 to 16,144 in this last fiscal year.

¶The office for Drug Abuse Law Enforcement, which is aimed at street-level pushers, has established task forces in 34 cities since Jan. 28. Agents made more than 1,000 arrests and identified about 3,000 pushers.

¶The Internal Revenue Service went after top narcotics wholesalers through income-tax investigations. In the first year of its special drive against the big operators, who usually keep in the background, the Federal taxmen seized \$9.9-million in currency and property.

In Vietnam, the document noted, drug abuse—which in 1971 ran as high as 5 or 6 per cent in some units—had declined to 1.8 per cent, according to urinalysis tests as of July 1, 1972.

Drug Agents in N.Y. Arrest 3 Frenchmen

11/18/92
By Sanford J. Ungar
Washington Post Staff Writer

Federal narcotics agents seized three Frenchmen, including one of France's most wanted criminals, as they arrived in New York yesterday on a flight from Brazil.

The Justice Department immediately claimed that they were part of an international narcotics conspiracy responsible for smuggling hundreds of millions of dollars worth of heroin into the United States through Europe and Latin America.

Two indictments, returned by a federal grand jury last month but sealed at the time, were opened yesterday in federal court in Brooklyn. They charge two of the Frenchmen and 18 others of various nationalities with criminal con-

spiracy, importation and distribution of the heroin.

The third Frenchman was named in another federal indictment pending in U.S. court in Manhattan and alleging involvement in a separate narcotics smuggling ring through Europe and Canada.

U.S. District Court Judge Jacob Mishler in Brooklyn set bail for the two indicted there, Christian David, 41, and Michel Nicoli, 42, at \$2.5 million each.

David, who has been sentenced to death in absentia in France, was rushed to a hospital after it was disclosed in court that he had swallowed a piece of metal and bits of

See DOPE, A10, Col. 1

DOPE, From A1

glass from a smashed light bulb in an apparent suicide attempt.

Brazilian authorities had arrested Nicoli and David—whose nickname is "Le Beau Serge" (Handsome Serge)—at the request of U.S. narcotics officials and held them for several weeks before escorting them onto a plane in Rio de Janeiro.

Through an interpreter, David complained in Mishler's Brooklyn courtroom, "I have been tortured for 30 days and I am not about to say anything without a lawyer. I have been given nothing to eat for days. I have no money. They took everything."

Thomas P. Puccio, an assistant U.S. attorney in charge of federal narcotics cases in Brooklyn, took a dim view of that contention. In his affidavit asking that the enormous bail amount be set, he said both David's and Nicoli's "financial resources are believed to be vast," although their "present occupations are unknown."

Puccio also said that Nicoli, who uses the pseudonyms Abraham E. Goldman and Miguel

Dos Santos, had fled the United States in 1968, forfeiting \$50,000 bond that he had posted in another case allegedly involving false statements in a customs baggage declaration.

There were reports that Brazil angered France by sending David and Nicoli to New York instead of Paris, where both are wanted in other criminal cases.

Asked whether they would eventually be returned to France, Robert A. Morse, U.S. attorney for the eastern district of New York, said, "That will have to be determined at a later date."

Some U.S. authorities claimed that the two indictments opened yesterday covered the biggest narcotics ring ever prosecuted in this country. The heroin it handled was processed in the French city of Marseilles from Turkish opium and sent to New York and Miami through Latin America, those authorities said.

John D. Ingersoll, director of the U.S. Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, made similar claims on Oct. 30 at a press conference announcing the "smashing of an international heroin trafficking ring" reputedly responsible for smuggling "one-fourth of

all heroin reaching Eastern United States city streets."

That ring was allegedly headed by Auguste Joseph Ricord, a French citizen extradited to the United States from Paraguay in September after 16 months of State Department negotiations.

A BNDD source said yesterday that the two rings were probably connected—one name, that of Frenchman William Perrin, was common to both—but that it was difficult to tell because international narcotics traffic "is kind of a loose-knit thing."

Among those named in the two indictments opened yesterday in Brooklyn were citi-

zens of Argentina, Switzerland and Italy.

Also indicted were several Americans already in the custody of New York and New Jersey state authorities on other charges.

Brazilian police said they are holding several other men recently arrested there on narcotics charges who will soon be flown to Italy and France.

The third Frenchman arrested as he stepped off the airplane in New York yesterday, Andre Pastou, 37, was named in an earlier Manhattan indictment along with the owners of taverns in the Spanish capital of Madrid.

U.S. Narcotics Study Concludes Only a 'Small Fraction'

Continued From Page 1, Col. 8

derway to curtail the growing of the opium poppy—the source of heroin—but that because of local conditions these programs “are unlikely to be successful unless accompanied by serious changes in a number of long-standing social and economic traditions.”

The report said that a minimum of 200 tons of illegal opium was available for the international market in 1971 and, in addition, “there were undoubtedly substantial stocks available—in the form of raw

and processed opium, morphine base, and heroin held by growers, processors, or traffickers.”

In 1971, total seizures amounted to 21.6 tons of opium equivalent, and the seizures in the first quarter of this year reached 9 tons.

The report was released the day before Harper & Row is publishing a controversial book, “The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia,” by Alfred W. McCoy. It charges that the C.I.A. and other United States agencies for political reasons supported Asians involved in drug trade.

When this was pointed out to a ranking State Department official later, he maintained that the dual publication was “purely coincidental.” He said the Government report had been “in the works” for a long time, and had received its final approval this morning at the White House meeting.

The Government report described in some detail how illicit opium and its derivatives — mainly heroin — were marketed. It said “the primary complex,” which leads to the largest deliveries to the United States, begins in Turkey, encompasses many countries in Western Europe and the Western Hemisphere and terminates in the United States.

A second complex is the Southeast Asian market — with the opium grown in the “golden triangle” of Burma, Thailand and Laos. This complex serves mostly addicts and users in the area. The report said that the withdrawal of American forces from Vietnam had hurt production.

A third complex, composed of India, Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan, also serves addicts in the area, mostly in Iran, but the report said the second and third complexes “are of interest also because of their potential for becoming important suppliers of opium for the international heroin market, in the future, particularly is the primary complex falters.”

Describing how the illegal drugs move to markets, the report said the smuggler’s methods “are limited only by the scope of his imagination.”

It said that the most popular method of smuggling opium and morphine base from Turkey into Western Europe, for manufacture into heroin, is the use of “specially constructed compartments or ‘traps’ built into passenger cars, commer-

cial trucks, and touring buses.

“Much of the morphine base is concealed in trucks carrying bonded consignments of legitimate cargo which has been sealed with a customs band,” it said. “These sealed trucks, operating under international customs arrangements, will usually be allowed to travel across various national frontiers with little or no controls. The great number of such trucks traveling into Western Europe precludes any systematic inspection.”

The smuggling by sea, less popular now than several years ago, “still accounts for a large amount of narcotics entering France,” while smuggling by air is “the least favored smuggling method,” the report said.

The route taken from Turkey overland passes through Bulgaria or Greece to Yugoslavia. From there, the drugs are taken either to West Germany through Austria or to France through Italy.

“The most common entry points for narcotics transported by ships are Marseilles, Barcelona, Venice, Trieste, Genoa, and Naples, and to a lesser extent, Bari, Brindisi and Piraeus,” it said.

The greatest change in smuggling patterns, the report said, is that West Germany has become “a major opium and morphine base storage depot and staging area.”

Latin Route Developing

Once in France, the morphine base is refined into heroin by small, mobile laboratories.

“The French heroin traffic is believed to be dominated by a few large trafficking groups,” the report said. “The most common factor in virtually every major trafficking group over the last 20 years is the preponderance of French Corsicans. It is this ethnic group above all others that has controlled the heroin traffic in France.”

The heroin is then smuggled into the United States either directly from France, often

of Illicit Flow

Is Seized

concealed in cars or unaccompanied baggage, or through third countries.

“Since 1969, heroin smuggled via the Latin American route has accounted for about one-third of the seizures,” the report said. “Although little is known about French-Latin American connections, it appears that well-organized smuggling rings in Latin America purchase large quantities of heroin from French traffickers and then arrange for its transport and sale to the United States. Many of the leaders of these Latin-American groups are ethnic French Corsicans and ethnic Italians who have close ties with their countrymen in Europe.”

French heroin is believed to enter Latin America mostly through Buenos Aires and Montevideo, and much of the traffic to the United States passes through Panama, “which has long served as a convenient refueling and transshipment point.”

Sizable amounts have also been sent to the United States through Mexico, “and recently the importance of this route may have increased,” the report said.

Canada also has become a major transit stop for drugs to the United States, the report said.

In Southeast Asia, the report said, until the United States servicemen market developed, sales to non-Asians were very small. But in 1970 and 1971, Southeast Asian dealers “produced large quantities of white, high-quality heroin for the U.S. servicemen market in Vietnam.”

After June 1971, with the start of the withdrawal of American troops, the market declined sharply.

In an appendix, the report summarized the traffic in countries and areas. These included the following:

Turkey

Turkey is the largest source

of the raw material for the heroin sold on the American market. Turkish opium is preferred by heroin traffickers because the morphine content is one of the highest in the world, ranging from 9 to 14 per cent. Because of this, legal prices for Turkey's opium exports far surpass those of other countries. The report noted Turkey's decision to ban the legal production of opium, in the hope this would also mean the end of the illegal production. But it said that "there will still be a need for vigorous law enforcement against smugglers if the flow of illegal opium is to be slowed after 1972, when production is banned. This is true because of the likelihood that illegal stocks may be stored in Turkey."

"A large network exists in Turkey to collect, and in some cases, process and smuggle the opium out of the country."

Afghanistan

Opium production in Afghanistan is all illegal, but about 100 tons is produced each year, because the royal government "is simply unable to provide adequate enforcement." The report said that an effective enforcement program is blocked because in some areas opium is the only cash crop, and some tribes, like the Pathans, "enjoy special privileges, such as exemption from taxes and conscription." It said, "The king regards these tribes as an important pillar and will not wish to antagonize them."

Iran

Iran is a major customer of illegal Afghan opium exports for some 400,000 addicts, a drop from the peak of 1.5-million before a ban on opium was instituted in 1955, the report said. But even with this total, Iran is among the world's leading consumers of narcotics. By comparison, there are estimated to be 560,000 heroin addicts in the United States.

Pakistan

The illegal opium production in Pakistan ranges between 32 tons and 170 tons a year, all of it in the North West frontier Province. Most of this is sold in Iran also. The report noted that the Pakistani Government had expressed a willingness to combat illegal opium growing, but the report said this "will be a difficult problem."

"The new administration will be reluctant to risk antagonizing the tribal peoples with an opium eradication plan," it said, noting that Pakistani officials believed that opium consumption was a minor problem.

India

India is the world's largest producer of legal opium, and when Turkey ends its production of legal opium, will have a virtual monopoly in this field. But it is also estimated that 100 tons a year end up in the illegal market, although most of it is consumed in India itself.

Burma

Burma produces about 400 tons a year, and is the largest single producer for overseas markets. The Government does not regard the matter as serious and refuses to participate in international control bodies.

The Burmese traffic is controlled largely by Chinese, many of them former members of Nationalist Chinese forces that retreated in Burma after the victory of the communists. Most of the opium produced in northern Burma and northwest

Thailand is processed in refineries within an area of about 650 square miles at the junction of the borders of Burma, Thailand and Laos. This area, the report said, "is the heart of the Southeast Asian narcotics trade."

From this "golden triangle" the heroin sold to American servicemen apparently originated. The report said that the abilities of the area supply large quantities of processed opium and heroin "remain unimpaired."

Laos

Most of the 100 tons of opium produced in Laos is consumed there, and since 1971, production has been diminished. The principal problem in Laos "is essentially one of preventing opium originating in other countries, primarily Burma, from transiting Laos on the way to South Vietnam or other countries."

Hong Kong

The report said that Hong Kong was a major consumer of opium and heroin and also an important processing and transit point.

Operators of heroin refineries in Hong Kong have elaborate and largely successful security precautions, the report said. The general public in Hong Kong is "apathetic" about the problem and it is hard to get the courts and juries to hand out stiff sentences, the report said.

China

The report said that despite China's long association with opium, there was "no reliable evidence that China has either engaged in or sanctioned the illicit export of opium and its derivatives nor are there any indications of government participating in the opium trade of Southeast Asia and adjacent markets."

France

France was praised for increasing her attention to the drug problem, after long believing that publicity would only contribute to the spread of drugs. The report said that although addiction was less serious in France than in the United States, there had been a sharp increase in heroin use. But despite the stepped-up enforcement, France was estimated by the report to be responsible for 80 per cent of the American heroin.

West Germany

Because it has become a way station for Turkish morphine base, the drug problem has increased in West Germany, the report said. Much of the smuggling is done by the large numbers of Turks and other Middle

Easterners working in Germany. The report said that "enforcement efforts have been substantially increased but are still hampered by Germany's constitutionally decentralized police system and a need for more specialized training in narcotics enforcement techniques."

Italy

Italy also serves as a transit country and "some organized groups of Mafiosi remain in close liaison with their Corsican counterparts and the American Mafia in the international traffic in heroin," the report said. A crackdown on the Mafiosi has been under way, it said, "but the arrests appear to have involved only minor figures."

Panama

Panama was described as a long-time "staging area for contraband American cigarettes and other goods bound for Latin America." Because of the heavy ship traffic in the canal, and the air traffic at its airport, control of smuggling "is a formidable task."

"Countless pilots have loaded their planes with contraband whisky and cigarettes from Panama's free-port areas and flown them to South America," the report said. In the past, the planes would usually return to Panama empty; now many return with cocaine from the Andean countries and with heroin that has been smuggled into Latin America from Europe. The drugs are flown to Miami or elsewhere in the United States, sometimes by way of Mexico. In recent years, some of the cocaine has been shipped from Panama to Europe in exchange for heroin, which is ultimately smuggled into the United States."

Other Latin American countries, such as Brazil and Argentina, as well as Caribbean Islands, were cited as transit points also. It said that drug abuse in Latin America continues to rise and the flow of narcotics from and through the region to the United States "continues unabated."

Mexico

The report estimated that 25 per cent of the heroin moved into the United States is from Mexico. It said an important route is Route 15 which runs northward along the western coast of Mexico. The heroin is brought across the border in cars, or sometimes in light planes or fishing boats.

"The profits are so enormous—up to \$50,000 for a single trip—that there is no shortage of entrepreneurs," the report said.

The Southeast Asia Illicit Opium Network

