

Unofficial translation

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

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CARICC MEMBER STATES

THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

04.12.2018 At the customs bridge "Red Bridge", officers of the State Customs Committee during an inspection of a luggage of an Azerbaijani citizen, who arrived from Turkey by Mercedes-Benz bus, **967 Ecstasy tablets weighing 145.05 g** were found inside a Fantom vacuum cleaner. On this fact a criminal case was instituted by the Investigative Department of the State Customs Committee. Three more citizens of Azerbaijan, who appeared at the International Bus Terminal Complex to pick up the pills, were also detained. In relation to them, a preventive measure in the form of arrest was chosen. <https://haqqin.az/news/140930>

THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

04.12.2018 Officers of the Department for Combating Drugs of the Almaty Police Department on suspicion of drug trafficking and possession of narcotic substances on a large scale detained a 38-year-old Almaty resident. During a search, about **300 g of heroin and over 200 g of marijuana** were found and seized in his house. A total of 1,395 doses of drugs were seized from the suspect.

<https://ru.sputniknews.kz/incidents/20181204/8341605/narkotiki-zaderzhanie-almaty-video.html>

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

04.12.2018 Officers of the Division for Drugs Control (UNK) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous okrug - Ugra, together with colleagues from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in Nefteyugansk, detained a man and a woman involved in organization of distribution of synthetic drugs. A 48-year-old resident of Surgut was detained at the time of distribution of narcotic drugs in a contactless way. The man managed to make more than three hiding places. During an inspection of the territory, 75 parcels with a drug of synthetic origin were discovered and seized. The woman tried to escape, but was detained on the outskirts of the city. During an inspection of the vehicle and personal belongings of a 45-year-old woman, police officers found and seized 150 convolutions with a similar substance. During a search in the garage, 900 convolutions with prohibited substances were seized from suspects. Total were seized more than **3 kg of synthetic drug**. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15148713>

04.12.2018 Officers of the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Tomsk region together with officers of the UKON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Tomsk region detained a 23-year-old man from Seversk, suspected of selling narcotic drugs. During searches, police officers seized more than **1 kg of synthetic drugs** from the young man. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15148393>

04.12.2018 Officers of the OKON MU of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia “Odintsovskoye” of the Moscow region detained a 29-year-old national of a Central Asian republic, from whom during a personal search **heroin weighing more than 200 g** was seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15150415>

05.12.2018 Officers of UKON UMVD of Russia in the Tver region detained two residents of the foreign countries at the age of 21 and 25 years on suspicion of selling narcotic drugs. Over **100 g of heroin** was found and seized from suspects. Men planned to distribute drug in the territory of Tver in a contactless way through stashes. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15161367>

OTHER COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN

04.12.2018 Three drug traffickers transporting **8 kg of heroin** were detained by Afghan National Police in the northern province of Kunduz on the Kunduz-Khanabad highway. The smugglers planned to transport the drug from the province of Takhar to the city of Kabul. Drug traffickers are arrested and under investigation. <http://www.bakhtarnews.com.af/eng/security/item/35951-smugglers-along-with-8-kgs-heroin-detain-by-policemen.html>

BRAZIL

30.11.2018 The Customs of the Federal Revenue at the port of Santos suppressed an attempt to smuggle **331 kg of cocaine** in an export cargo. Customs officers found the consignment of cocaine inside a container intended for shipment to Europe. The cocaine container was discovered as a result of a risk analysis based on specific criteria after being scanned. Drug packages were located between wooden-coated pallets (laminated), the final destination of which was the Grangemouth port in the UK with a stop at the port of Antwerp in Belgium. In addition to cocaine, empty fabric bags were discovered in the container, which were planned to be used by criminals during the collection of the consignment at the destination. <http://idg.receita.fazenda.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2018/novembro/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-intercepta-carga-de-exportacao-contendo-331-kg-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-santos>

30.11.2018 The Customs of the Federal Revenue Office at Viracopos International Airport in Campinas, state of São Paulo, prevented an attempt to smuggle cocaine in which paper was soaked. In this way of concealment, the criminals tried to obstruct the detection of the drug with the help of X-ray machines. The total weight of the smuggling consignment was **4 kg of cocaine**. Customs officers confiscated four batches of cocaine-infused paper, which were sent on cargo flights to the United States, Spain and Italy. Deliveries were made by citizens of Bolivia residing in Brazil. Smuggling shipments were suspected after analyzing declared data and comparing it with other data in the IRS risk management systems. Sheets of paper with text printed on them were examined by experts with the help of chemical reagents that indicated to presence of cocaine. <http://idg.receita.fazenda.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2018/novembro/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-apreende-cocaina-impregnada-em-folhas-de-papel-em-viracopos>

02.12.2018 In the port of Santos five armed criminals from a speedboat attacked the container ship "CAP SAN MARCO". Two members of the ship crew on watch, were caught by surprise and tied up by criminals. The offenders were aboard for about 45 minutes and then disappeared. The attack was an attempt to load cocaine on board and hide it in containers. After a thorough check on the ship, one broken container without drugs was found. Another container was found behind the broken container, to which the criminals could not access without moving other containers. In this container **402 kg of cocaine** were found. Malefactors did not succeed in concealing their consignment of cocaine, as the cocaine container was loaded at the previous port of call, presumably in Paranagua. Cocaine should have been shipped to Europe.

<https://www.fleetmon.com/maritime-news/2018/24437/hamburg-sud-container-ship-attacked-cocaine-shipme/>

04.12.2018 During joint actions of the Federal Police and the Federal Revenue Service on a ship moored in the port of Santos, on the coast of São Paulo, a consignment of **70.34 kg of cocaine** was found on board the Grand America under the Italian flag. The cargo was intended for shipment to the port of Antwerp in Belgium. <https://g1.globo.com/sp/santos-regiao/porto-mar/noticia/2018/12/04/pf-investiga-mulas-entre-portuarios-apos-achar-70-kg-de-cocaina-em-navio-em-sp.ghtml>

06.12.2018 Agents of the Customs of the Federal Revenue in the port of Santos discovered **363 kg of cocaine** hidden in a cargo of orange oil. The cargo was selected on the basis of objective criteria for risk analysis and verification. The container was loaded with metal barrels containing orange oil. Agents found two barrels, differing in appearance from the others, inside which were found packs of cocaine. The cargo was intended for shipment to the port of Antwerp in Belgium.

<https://g1.globo.com/sp/santos-regiao/porto-mar/noticia/2018/12/07/receita-federal-encontra-363-kg-de-cocaina-em-carga-de-oleo-de-laranja-no-porto-de-santos.ghtml>

GERMANY

30.11.2018 Hamburg Customs Office in the port of Hamburg discovered and seized more than **300 kg of cocaine**. The drug was hidden behind a load of dental floss. At the place of inspection of containers by X-ray, customs officers in Hamburg-Waltershof discovered suspicious structures. The container arrived from the Dominican Republic. In the front part of it, under a legal cargo, nine sports bags were found with packs containing cocaine. The market value of the consignment is estimated at about 63 million Euros. This case is under investigation by the Hamburg Customs Office.

https://www.zoll.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/Rauschgift/2018/y01_koks_am_seidenen_faden.html

IRAN

05.12.2018 Police in the port city of Bushehr, located in southern Iran, seized **1.2 tons of opium** during a special operation. A drug load was discovered at a shelter in a remote area of Bushehr.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/140217/1-2-tons-of-opium-seized-in-Bushehr-province>

SPAIN

30.11.2018 Civil Guard conducted a special operation to thwart drug trafficking in Melilla. In the commercial port of Melilla, **320 kg of hashish** were found in a cargo refrigerator. In the cargo area of the refrigerator, criminals made a full covering all over the loading area, including its side walls, behind which they placed packages with the drug. After dismantling caches, agents removed 138 packages of hashish. 64-year-old Spaniard from Barcelona was arrested. <https://www.efe.com/efe/espana/sociedad/intervienen-320-kilos-droga-oculta-con-paneles-en-el-suelo-y-las-paredes-de-un-camion/10004-3829617>

03.12.2018 The combined Customs, Civil Guard and National Police forces involving experts from the Unit of Risk Analysis (UAR) in the port of Valencia, in a container loaded with flax seeds, arrived from the port of Halifax in Canada, found **119 kg of cocaine**. The legal cargo was intended for shipment to Turkey. Cocaine was in packages weighing 1 kg and placed in large backpacks of 25-30 packages each. For the first time a consignment of cocaine from this country in North America arrives in Valencia. https://www.levante-emv.com/sucesos/2018/12/04/policia-aduanas-confiscan-119-kilos/1804247.html?utm_medium=rss

ITALY

02.12.2018 A company specializing in leather processing in Valdagno in the Vicenza area unloading goods under a layer of imported leather, which arrived from Brazil through Portugal, detected **690 kg of cocaine**. The worth of the consignment is estimated at 70 million Euros. The owner of the leather company reported to police about the discovery of drugs. According to the police, the consignment of skin arrived to the company by mistake. <https://cronachedi.it/2018/12/02/sorpresa-in-una-ditta-del-vicentino-700-chili-di-cocaina-trovati-sotto-uno-strato-di-pellami/>

CANADA

07.12.2018 Officers of the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) at the Calgary International Airport detained a 38-year-old woman who arrived on a flight from South Africa in an attempt to smuggle a large amount of heroin. As a result of screening a woman's luggage, in a double bottom of her suitcase, 1018.4 g of heroin were found. In addition, the woman tried to smuggle drugs intracavitarily. Officers in total seized **1 kg 350 g of heroin**. Drugs were to be sold in Alberta. <https://calgary.ctvnews.ca/cbsa-officers-seize-heroin-from-suitcase-at-calgary-international-airport-1.4205485>

COLOMBIA

07.12.2018 The Anti-narcotics Police and the Colombian National Navy found **120 kg of cocaine** on a ship sailing from the Colombian port of Buenaventura to China. The suspicion of the agents was caused by the fact that a small fishing vessel approached the anchorage intended for large vessels. As soon as the vessel anchored in the port, its underwater inspection began. A group of diving policemen inspected the vessel and found at a depth of more than 12 m four canvas backpacks tied with chains to the keel of the boat. Each backpack contained 30 packs of cocaine, each weighing 1 kg. A total of 120 kg of cocaine



were found and seized. The package was in form of a plastic bag and latex to prevent contact with water. The final destination of the vessel was the port of Ningbo in China.
<http://netnoticias.mx/2018-12-07-61249199/policia-decomisa-120-kilogramos-de-droga-en-colombia/>

MAROCCO

08.12.2018 Morocco's Central Bureau of Judicial Investigation discovered **1.004 tons of highly concentrated cocaine** concealed in a Moroccan-registered truck and arrested seven people suspected of having links with an international drug smuggling network operating between Morocco, Latin America and Europe. The operation was conducted following operational information provided by the General Directorate for Supervision of National Territory. According to the results of the operation, in addition to drugs, two rubber boats, GPS devices, a hydraulic engine and two vehicles were seized. 7 people were arrested. The seized shipment was smuggled by sea from a Latin American country on a commercial vessel. Smugglers were taken into custody to complete the investigation.
<http://www.mapnews.ma/en/top-news/general/over-1-t-highly-concentrated-cocaine-seized-seven-people-arrested>

THE NETHERLANDS

07.12.2018 Customs officers during an inspection in a port found **65 kg of cocaine** in a refrigerated container. The refrigerated container arrived from Peru with a load of bananas. Container was delivered by ship from Panama. Bananas were intended to be delivered to a fruit company in Barendrecht. 65 packs of cocaine were found behind the inspection hatches of the cooling engine.
<https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuwsberichten/@104664/douane-vindt-65-kilo/>

PAKISTAN

04.12.2018 During a check near Bag-e-Naraan-Hayatabad, Peshawar police thwarted an attempt to smuggle **12 kg of heroin** from the Jamrud area to the southern part of the country. Heroin was hidden in caches equipped in technical cavities of a car. A driver from the Djukirud district in Kuki Khel was arrested. Investigation is in progress.
<https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/police-recovers-12-kg-heroin-arrests-smuggle-497335.html>

07.12.2018 Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) stopped an attempt to smuggle **24 kg of heroin** at the international airport of Islamabad. A 23-year-old Briton of Pakistani origin, who checked in for a flight to Manchester in the UK was detained. The man tried to take out 25 sweaters soaked in heroin from Pakistan.
<https://www.samaa.tv/news/2018/12/anf-foils-bid-to-smuggle-25-heroin-soaked-sweaters-out-of-pakistan/>

USA

03.12.2018 US Customs and Border Protection officers in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in a container from the Dominican Republic, found and seized **96 kg of cocaine**. The street value of seized drugs is 2.4 million US dollars. CBP officers inspected several containers at the Pan American West Dock, arriving from the Dominican Republic aboard the ferry M/V Kydon. A test revealed six bundles containing 85 packs of cocaine. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) has taken control of contraband for further investigation.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-san-juan-seizes-212-pounds-cocaine-found-inside-container>

04.12.2018 US Customs and Border Protection at the port of entry into downtown Calexico, California, foiled an attempt to smuggle methamphetamine. A 32-year-old US citizen driving a Chevy Trailblazer was detained. During inspections of the vehicle inside the car's spare wheel, 50 packages of **methamphetamine with a total weight of 23.1 kg** were detected. Consignment is worth 178,500 US dollars. Woman was arrested on charges of drug smuggling. Drug and car were seized. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-officers-discover-narcotics-spare-tire>

05.12.2018 Springfield Police Department officers conducted an operation in Western Massachusetts, which resulted in the seizure of **2 kg of heroin** and **490 g of cocaine**. The raid was conducted as part of an investigation into activities of an organized group of drug dealers in Springfield. Drug dealers stored drugs and money in a house in Springfield, and high-level dealers used it to collect drugs for distribution. The market value of seized drugs is estimated at 700,000 dollars. In addition, police confiscated 4 units of unregistered firearms. Drug packs contained the Playboy and SpongeBob logos. Two residents of Springfield, 42 and 43 years old, as well as two residents of Holyoke, aged 30 and 32, were arrested. https://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2018/12/major_springfield_drug_bust_ne.html

06.12.2018 The US Customs and Border Protection, Office of Field Operations (OFO) at Hidalgo Bridge, Texas, detained a 22-year-old woman driving an Mazda CX7 SUV trying to smuggle more than **10.8 kg of cocaine**. According to the results of inspection activities of the vehicle, 9 packages of cocaine were found. Drugs and car were confiscated. The woman is arrested and placed at the disposal of the Homeland Security Investigation (HSI) for further investigation. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-hidalgo-international-bridge-arrests-local-woman-188k-worth-cocaine>

07.12.2018 US Customs and Border Protection officers in Tucson, Arizona, detained a 31-year-old Mexican citizen living in the United States for attempting to smuggle **27.2 kg of methamphetamine** into the US through the Port of San Luis. As a result of inspections, methamphetamine packs were found inside the truck's spare wheel. The market value of the consignment is 199 thousand US dollars. Methamphetamine and vehicle were seized. The criminal is arrested and transferred to the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/meth-smuggler-nabbed-cbp-officers-san-luis-port>

THAILAND

06.12.2018 Officers of the Narcotics Suppression Bureau (NSB) in the province of Chiang Rai, near the northern border of the country with Myanmar, confiscated **15 million tablets of methamphetamine**. At a checkpoint in the Thai part of the Golden Triangle, NSB officers attempted to stop a car driven by a 31-year-old drug dealer. On demand to stop, the driver refused to stop his car and started shooting at the officers. The drug dealer was killed in skirmish. In the truck officers found 75 bags labeled "999" - the brand used by drug lords of Myanmar. Each bag contained about 200 thousand tablets of methamphetamine, a total of about 15 million tablets. The murdered drug dealer turned out to be a resident of

the Chiang Khong district, located near the Mekong River in Chiang Rai.
<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/drug-trafficker-shot-dead-chiangrai-thailand-meth-11010762>

TURKEY

05.12.2018 Officers of anti-drug unit on the Erzincan-Erzurum highway on a road from Istanbul to the eastern province of Van stopped a truck with a trailer. As a result of inspection, **1 ton 271 kg of heroin** were found in a cargo of frozen animal oil that was being transported by the truck. Three people in the truck were arrested for drug trafficking.
<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/todays-headlines/over-1-ton-of-heroin-seized-in-eastern-turkey/1330643>

SRI LANKA

06.12.2018 Police Narcotics Bureau (PNB) in the area of the beach zone of Beruvel - Balapitiya detained two drug dealers, who were carrying **231.54 kg of heroin** on a boat. Boat and drugs were seized. A Special Task Force of the Police and Navy assisted in the arrest of suspects. Heroin consignment is worth over Rs 2.7 billion.
http://www.colombopage.com/archive_18B/Dec06_1544076596CH.php

FRANCE

06.12.2018 French customs authorities on the island of St. Martin in the Caribbean seized **285 kg of cocaine** worth about 24 million Euros. The coast guard approached the smugglers' boat in territorial waters near the island of St. Martin. The island is located 1500 km east of Cuba and is in the jurisdiction of France and the Netherlands. During the inspection of the vessel, two of three passengers fled, diving into the sea. The remaining crew member resisted and prevented inspection of the ship. On board, customs officers found packaging of drugs. The second boat of criminals that was nearby saw the customs officers, turned and disappeared.
[https://www.euronews.com/2018/12/06/authorities-seize-285kg-of-cocaine-near-french-caribbean-island?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3a+euronews%2fen%2fnews+\(euronews+-+news+-+en\)](https://www.euronews.com/2018/12/06/authorities-seize-285kg-of-cocaine-near-french-caribbean-island?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3a+euronews%2fen%2fnews+(euronews+-+news+-+en))

07.12.2018 In Normandy, in the district of Caen, in the area of the port of Blainville-sur-Orne, **1,662 kg of cocaine** were found and seized. Cocaine was in packs of 1 kg inside a container that arrived from Brazil. Wooden pallets served as hiding place for the concealment of drugs. During unloading, one of pallets fell to the ground and drugs were discovered by chance. The market value of the consignment is about 70 million Euros. Investigation is being conducted on this fact aimed at identifying members of the criminal organization involved in this delivery.
<https://www.francebleu.fr/infos/faits-divers-justice/plus-d-une-tonne-de-cocaine-saisie-sur-le-port-de-caen-1544199030>

FRANCE