

WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CARICC

(based on media)

27.08-02.09.2018

№ 36

ON CARICC MEMBER STATES

THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

02.09.2018 Officers of the State Customs Committee at a customs post in the Astara region prevented a smuggling of a large consignment of narcotic drugs from the Islamic Republic of Iran to Georgia. Customs officers stopped and inspected a cargo vehicle "DAF", driven by a citizen of Ukraine, and following to the territory of Georgia. As a result of the inspection of the vehicle by a stationary x-ray device, 40 packages containing **41.4 kg of opium** were found. An investigation is being carried out on this fact. <https://ru.sputnik.az/incidents/20180902/416853897/azerbaijan-tamojna-narkotiki.html>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

27.08.2018 Officers of the Division for Drugs Control (ONK) of the Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in Nalchik detained a 33-year-old local resident, suspected of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs. During inspection of the suspect's car, 163 packets with **heroin** with a total weight of **303.93 g** were found, prepared for further sale using caches. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14243953>

28.09.2018 Officers of the Department for Drugs Control (UKON) of the Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Pskov region suppressed the activities of a group of persons selling narcotic drugs using non-contact way. A student of a higher professional education institution based in Pskov, who is a citizen of one of the Central Asian countries, bought, transported, stored and packaged narcotic drugs in the region for several months. Into drug trafficking, the young man involved another student, who was putting drugs in caches. Drug police found about 150 drug caches in Pskov, Ostrov and Nevel. The organizer of illegal activities lived in a hostel, during the search of his room the police found and seized about **500 g of drugs of synthetic origin**. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14259848>

28.08.2018 Officers of the UKON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Moscow region, jointly with colleagues from the Inter-municipal Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia "Ramenskoe" detained a 46-year-old resident of the Kirov region. During a personal search, more than **5.5 kg of marijuana** prepared for marketing was found in his bag and seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14257339>

29.08.2018 Officers of the UKON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Kemerovo region received information about forthcoming sale of a large consignment of narcotic drugs. A 55-year-old resident of Kemerovo was detained during a complex of operational search activities in the forest along the Kemerovo-Yashkino-Taiga highway at the moment of extraction from the caches of a convolution containing about **1 kg of**

heroin. The man wanted to exchange heroin for a room in a hostel. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14266110>

29.08.2018 A 51-year-old man was identified in the Chelyabinsk region by officers of the UKON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for illegal sale of heroin in courtyard of a house in Chelyabinsk with a total weight of more than 28 g. The suspect was detained while he was driving a car. Together with him in the car was a 42-year-old man. As a result of inspection of the car and personal searches of the driver and the passenger, more than 1.4 kg of heroin was found and seized. In the course of further activities, police officers in the forest in the area of the Novograd highway found two caches, containing about 6 kg of heroin. The total weight of **heroin** seized from illicit trafficking amounted to more than **7 kg**, of which almost 6 kg of highly concentrated drug of Afghan origin. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14265601>

29.08.2018 Officers of the UKON of MIA of Russia in the Omsk region, in conjunction with officers of the FSB of Russia in the Omsk region detained a 32-year-old local resident at the moment of sale of psychotropic substance amphetamine to a 28-year-old drug user. In the course of a personal search of detainees and an urgent search carried out at the place of residence of the drug dealer, **210 g of amphetamine** were found and seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14263000>

29.08.2018 The Main Investigation Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation for the Chelyabinsk region investigated activities of an organized criminal community specializing in the illicit sale of synthetic drugs. It is established that its members in 2016-2017 in the territory of the Chelyabinsk region, Tyumen, Perm, Izhevsk, Kazan, Yekaterinburg, Ufa, Orenburg and other cities were engaged in distribution of narcotic drugs through Internet. The organizers of the criminal community monitored activities of its participants, some of whom accepted requests from buyers of drugs and informed them of locations of caches, others - directly organized caches, others - involved citizens in illegal activities. During the searches, more than **10 kg of synthetic narcotic drugs** were seized, as well as 2 million rubles. 9 cars of various brands and real estate of members of the criminal community were arrested. The income from the drug business organized by this criminal group amounted to more than 150 million rubles. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14271372>

29.08.2018 Officers of the Department for Countering Drug Smuggling of the Samara customs of the Federal Customs Service (FCS) of Russia stopped an attempt of illegal transfer of potent substances to the territory of the Russian Federation. It was established that a resident of Samara purchased in the Republic of Belarus through the correspondence in Internet medicine containing strong substances. The international mailing with the medicine was discovered by customs officers during operational-search activities. In the package were tablets and ampoules containing potent substances (anabolic steroids) - testosterone propionate, testosterone isocaproate, testosterone decanoate, testosterone phenylpropionate, with total weight of 33.3 g. http://ptu.customs.ru/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14349:2018-08-29-11-23-18&catid=4:news&Itemid=88

01.09.2018 Officers of the Division of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (OMVD) of Russia in the Ruzsky urban district (Moscow region) detained a 26-year-old local resident, suspected

of possession of psychotropic substances. During personal search, within belongings of the criminal were found and seized a registered letter, inside of which were **102 paper marks, soaked in psychotropic substance LSD** with a depicted image of strawberries. The man explained that he had acquired prohibited substance for personal use. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/14291073>

THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

02.09.2018 Officers of the OMVD-1 of Shokhmansur district of Dushanbe detained three residents of Babadzhan Gafurov district of Sughd region during operative-search activities while they were trying to sell a large volume of precursors in Dushanbe. The officers seized 10 containers of chemical substances. The chemical examination carried out in the Drug Control Agency (DCA) under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan showed that the containers stored **120 kg of acetic anhydride**. Acetic anhydride is listed on the national list of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors and is used in the manufacture of heroin. A criminal case has been opened against detainees, an investigation is underway. <https://news.tj/ru/news/tajikistan/security/20180903/v-dushanbe-peresekli-krupnyu-partiyu-nezakonnogo-oborota-prekursorov>

THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

27.08.2018 As a result of the measures taken as part of Koradori-2018 in the Fergana region, **3 kg 558 g of marijuana** were found and seized in the house of a local resident. In addition, on his land, a man had been growing 27 bushes of narcotic substance marijuana. <http://www.mvd.uz/ru/lists/view/3945>

ON OTHER COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

27.08.2018 Officers of the Australian Border Troops (ABF) at the International Mail Gateway of Melbourne found a suspicious consignment of goods, received in the international post. The package consisted of eight boxes with two wine glasses and bottle openers. Inspection of packages with glasses showed that within each box powdery substance was hidden. The chemical study confirmed that the substance found is ephedrine, refers to the precursors of narcotic drugs and is used in the synthesis of narcotic drugs. About **4 kg of ephedrine** was seized. For the smuggling of this batch of internationally controlled substances, a 33-year-old resident of the Box Hill suburb of Victoria has been detained. <https://newsroom.abf.gov.au/releases/man-faces-court-over-wine-glass-ephedrine-import>

BELGIUM

28.08.2018 Police in the port of Antwerp inside a sea container with a load of bananas coming from the port of Turbo in Colombia, found and seized a large shipment of **cocaine, weighing 3.5 tons**. The container was to be sent to a company in the Netherlands, but was intercepted in the port of Antwerp. As a result of police operation, five suspects were arrested in the cities of Verdun and Osterhout charged with organization of contraband supply of this batch of cocaine - a 54-year-old man from Turnhout, two 55-year-old men, a man aged 58 and a 33-year-old woman from Oosterhout. On the same day, a 31-year-old

man from Rotterdam was arrested in Verdun. During the searches carried out at several addresses, the police seized various data carriers and documents of evidentiary value. In the transport company "Van Wanrooy Transport" a police raid was conducted. One of the arrested is its director and owner. This transport company in 2011 was connected with the smuggling of drugs to the port of Rotterdam. However, then it was not made impossible to bring to justice its leader due to insufficient evidence.

<https://www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2018/08/28/onderschepping-3-500-kilo-cocaine-leidt-tot-5-aanhoudingen-a1614483>

INDIA

01.09.2018 Officers of the Directorate for Revenue Intelligence (DRI) of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), as well as of the Ministry of Finance, which deals with issues related to cross-border smuggling, detained two smugglers who carried **1.8 kg of heroin** by car in Jammu. It was found that the seized heroin was smuggled from abroad.

<https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/drug-smugglers-arrested-in-jammu-18-kg-heroin-seized201809011033440003/>

01.09.2018 Officers of the Narcotics Control Bureau at the international airport of Cochin detained a Venezuelan citizen in an attempt to smuggle **2.9 kg of cocaine** into the country. According to available information, the accused had connections with an international drug cartel based in Brazil. The drug was in two bags inside checked baggage of the man. A detailed check of the passport of the accused showed that he arrived at Cochin airport by a flight from São Paulo (Brazil) with a transfer in Dubai (UAE).

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Kochi/around-3-kg-cocaine-seized-from-kochi-airport/article24840067.ece>

IRELAND

31.08.2018 Police officers in Dublin in a special operation during search of an apartment located in the county of Tiron, found **5 kg of heroin**. 30-years-old man was arrested.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/crime-and-law/heroin-worth-700-000-is-seized-in-dublin-1.3614386>

CHINA

29.08.2018 Hong Kong Customs officers confiscated **26 kg of cocaine** in the Kwai Chung Customhouse Cargo Examination Compound. The drug was found in caches, equipped within cargo container doors from Colombia, under the guise of a load of wooden baffles. Hong Kong customs officials said they stopped the activities of a transnational syndicate specializing in drug smuggling. Three of its members are detained, who are involved in the supply of this batch of drugs. According to the accompanying documents for the cargo, the container stored 1.4 tons of wooden baffles with value of about 2800 US dollars. The suspicion of the customs officers was caused by the origin, weight and value of the claimed cargo, that is, the economic viability of this delivery. Officers inspected the container using X-ray equipment and discovered hidden cavities in the container door designs. Instead of wooden baffles, the cargo found inside the container turned out to be empty wooden boxes of poor quality. After the opening of the caches, cocaine packs were seized. The case was transferred to the customs bureau for investigation of drugs. Arrested are two 32-year-old residents of Hong Kong and a 52-year-old man from South America.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/hong-kong-law-and-crime/article/2161894/hong-kong-customs-seize-hk30-million-worth>

COLOMBIA

28.08.2018 The Office of the General Prosecutor and the Colombian National Army informed the media about the arrest of 11 participants of the international drug syndicate in the cities of Cartagena (Bolívar) and Montélibano (Córdoba), specializing in the smuggling of cocaine through the port of Cartagena. The members of the drug syndicate infiltrated the structures of some maritime transport companies and seaports in the country, organized the smuggling of large volumes of drugs, using for their camouflage the legal supply of fruits, vegetables, meat and other perishable products that are exported in refrigerated containers to international destinations. Drug trafficking provided regular supplies of cocaine in the direction of the seaports of Belgium and the Netherlands. The investigation by the Specialized Office for Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking of four facts of seizures of large quantities of **cocaine, with a total weight of more than 2 tons** in the port of Cartagena between 2017 and 2018, made it possible to identify the scheme and scope of the criminal organization, its structure and each of its members. The structure included corrupt employees of transport companies and the port. During the investigation it was established that one of the leaders of the drug syndicate under the pseudonym of Mani was killed as a result of internal criminal disputes about illegal routes and international contacts. Among the detainees - one of the leaders and investors of the drug business under the pseudonym Pinocho - was extradited to the United States in 2004, where he spent time in jail for illicit drug trafficking, and then returned to Colombia to again run the drug business. The other two arrested persons are known under the names Coro and Bolívar, they worked for Sociedad Portuaria de Cartagena and were responsible for obtaining confidential information related to the movement of goods, type of products exported, destinations and schedules, and who, having this information, pointed to a container refrigerator that could be used to conceal a consignment of cocaine for the purpose of its further transportation to the destination. Other members of the criminal organization were employees of cargo terminals in the area of Arroza Barato in Cartagena, where the containers were stored and grouped. Among the detainees, investors, carriers, persons responsible for logistics and representatives of the so-called "armed wing", which was responsible for protection of caches with drugs and exertion of severe pressure on those participants in the drug business who had debts to the criminal organization. The Office of the General Prosecutor obtained evidence of the connection of this network with the Persian Gulf Clan, which several times coordinated the supply of drugs for some of the leaders of this criminal group. It is also established that the money received for sending tons of drugs to Europe allegedly arrived in Barranquilla, after which they were delivered to Medellín.

<https://www.fiscalia.gov.co/colombia/trafico-de-estupefacientes/caen-presuntos-aliados-del-clan-del-golfo-senalados-de-sacar-cocaina-en-contenedores-refrigerados-hacia-belgica-y-holanda/>

02.09.2018 The Counter Narcotics Directorate of the National Police in the Port of Santa Marta seized a consignment of **cocaine weighing 608 kg**. The consignment of cocaine was found in cargo containers destined for shipment to the seaport of Hamburg in Germany. As a result of the risk profile analysis, police officers identified containers for monitoring by intrusive inspection. As a result of the inspection, it was found that the inside of the fruit boxes contains rectangular green packets. After opening the caches, 598 packages were found in the boxes, 596 of which contained **cocaine weighing 608 kg**. And in the other two - paraffin, which led to the conclusion of experts on ways to deceive their partners in

Germany by this Colombian drug syndicate. The seized cocaine consignment is worth 32 million US dollars. <http://www.hoydiariodelmagdalena.com.co/new/archivos/133062>

NETHERLANDS

29.08.2018 At the port of Rotterdam, **260 kg of cocaine** were found during customs control. The drug was in cardboard boxes with plastic waste. The container came from Curaçao (an island in the Caribbean Sea belonging to the Netherlands) and was unloaded at a terminal in Maasvlakte in the territory of the port of Rotterdam. Arrested are four people who were in the immediate vicinity of the terminal. During this arrest, a car was also confiscated. The investigation is carried out by the HARC group of customs, maritime administration, prosecutors and FIOD in Rotterdam.

<https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuwsberichten/@103900/260-kilo-cocaine/>

PAKISTAN

30.08.2018 The Anti Narcotics Force of Pakistan (ANF Quetta) seized 320 kg of drugs, arrested 18 people involved in drug trafficking, and confiscated 5 cars. Seized were **234 kg of hashish, 34.8 kg of opium, 3.68 kg of heroin, 100 g of amphetamine and 47 liters of acetone.**

http://anf.gov.pk/press_release/pr30aug2018.pdf

PANAMA

31.08.2018 Officers of a unit of the National Police in a joint operation with the prosecutor's office in the port of the province of Colon seized 1017 packs of **cocaine, weighing about 1 ton.** Seven people involved in the organization of this contraband cocaine consignment were detained. During the inspection of a cargo container, several red sports bags were found, in which there were 848 packages containing cocaine. Later, while trying to drive to the territory of the sea cargo terminal, an ambulance was stopped, and after inspection of the car the police found similar sports bags of red color containing 169 packages with cocaine. <http://www.policia.gob.pa/17064-en-menos-de-horas-ms-de-una-tonelada-de-droga-fue-incautada-a-narcotraficantes-en-coln-.html>

USA

29.08.2018 Federal agents in the territory of the industrial warehouse park in North Andover, Massachusetts, found **11 kg of heroin and 5000 tablets of fentanyl.** Detained is 37-year-old resident of California. The arrest was the result of a special operation carried out by DEA agents during the month.

https://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2018/08/feds_seize_11_kilos_of_heroin.html

30.08.2018 Border patrol officers at the Blythe Station checkpoint in Yuma, Arizona on Highway 78 detained two US citizens who were carrying about **18.14 kg of heroin and 11.34 kg of cocaine** in a Honda Accord car. Drugs were discovered as a result of inspection vehicle activities using K9 service dogs and were hidden in 24 packs concealed in technological caches inside automobile tires. Arrested are 31-year-old driver and 39-year-old passenger - residents of Yuma.

<http://www.tucsonnewsnow.com/story/38998261/yuma-bp-agents-seize-nearly-1-million-in-drugs>

30.08.2018 Agents of the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the Coast Guard and the National Task Force on Narcotics in Port Wilmington, Delaware found a consignment of **cocaine weighing more than 45.36 kg**. The drug was in vacuum packs hidden inside corrugated lower valves of cardboard boxes with pineapple. Fruits came from Costa Rica. A total of 244 packs of cocaine were found. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/authorities-seize-second-significant-cocaine-load-one-week-port>

31.08.2018 The Humboldt Task Force agents in Eureka found **680 g of heroin** in a hidden car compartment, in which a 17-year-old young man was moving. Drug was detected as a result of inspection activities with the use of a service dog. <https://www.northcoastjournal.com/NewsBlog/archives/2018/08/31/teen-arrested-after-15-pounds-of-heroin-found-in-hidden-car-compartment>

PUERTO-RICO

28.08.2018 The US Air and Marine Operations (AMO) agents of US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) discovered and stopped near the island of Mona a small seagoing vessel that was heading east to the west coast of Puerto Rico. On board, the ship transported **32.8 kg of cocaine**. Arrested are two citizens of the Dominican Republic and one Colombian - the crew of the vessel. Cocaine was in 28 sealed packages in a container of gasoline that criminals threw into the sea at the approach of the Coast Guard and Marine Unit of Mayaguez. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/amo-stops-vessel-72-pounds-cocaine-concealed-gas-containers-three>

JAMAICA

31.08.2018 A Canadian citizen was detained by employees of the Police Narcotics Division at the Sangster International Airport in Montego Bay, St. James, while attempting to smuggle **5 kg of cocaine**. The man arrived at the airport and was in the process of checking in aboard the departing flight to Toronto, when several bags containing **2.27 kg of cocaine** were found in his luggage. <http://www.loopjamaica.com/content/canadian-reportedly-held-cocaine-sangster-airport>