

WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CARICC

(based on media reports)

16-22.07.2018

№ 30

ON CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

20.07.2018 Officers of the customs post "Zhetysu" of the State Revenue Department in Almaty at the international airport of Almaty prevented an attempt to smuggle narcotic drugs in international postal items. During the customs control with the use of technical means of customs control of express cargo arrived from the United States on June 18, 2018 addressed to a citizen of Kazakhstan, narcotic drugs of **hashish and marijuana**, with a total weight of about **0.7 kilograms** were revealed. <http://24.kz/ru/news/incidents/item/253996-vvoz-partii-narkotikov-presechen-v-aeroportu-almaty>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

20.07.2018 Officers of the Federal Security Service of Russia for the Lipetsk region suppressed activities of a member of an international criminal group involved in illicit drug trafficking in the region. The 24-year-old citizen of the Republic of Tajikistan was detained by security service officers in Lebedyani. By him was detected and seized a narcotic drug **heroin**, with a total weight of more than **150 grams**, packaged for sale in 46 polymer bags. The Investigation Division of the FSS of Russia for the Lipetsk region has instituted criminal proceedings against the detainee. The sanction of the article provides for a maximum sentence of imprisonment for 20 years. http://www.lipetskmedia.ru/news/view/102959-V_Lipyetskoi.html

ON OTHER COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN

17.07.2018 Naqibullah resident of Qara Bagh district, Ghazni province who had planned to transfer **25 kilograms of heroin** abroad the country, was arrested by counter-narcotic police officers in Kabul-Kandahar highway. <http://www.bakhtarnews.com.af/eng/security/item/33992-smuggler-along-with-25-kg-heroin-arrested.html>

BRASIL

10.07.2018 The Customs of the Federal Revenue of Brazil of the Port of Santos, in a joint action with the Federal Police, interdicted an attempt to send **323 kilograms of cocaine** abroad. The drug was packed in 15 sacks, located near the door of a 20-foot container used for the export of polyethylene. The final destination would be the Port of Algeciras, Spain. In 2018, almost 9 tons of cocaine were seized, only in operations with the participation of the Customs of Santos. The seized drug was delivered to the custody of the Federal Police Office of Santos, which will continue with the investigations. <http://idg.receita.fazenda.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2018/julho/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-apreende-323-kg-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-santos>

16.07.2018 A cargo of **350 kilograms of cocaine** was seized by agents of the Internal Revenue Service inside a container in the port of Paranaguá, the state's coast. The packages

were hidden in a container that would be shipped to the port of Valencia, Spain, and loaded with beans. According to the investigation, the drug would have been placed in the container without the carrier's knowledge. <https://bandnewsfmcuritiba.com/carga-de-350-quilos-de-cocaina-e-apreendida-em-conteiner-no-porto-de-paranagua/>

19.07.2018 The Customs of the Federal Revenue at the Port of Santos seized **650 kilograms of cocaine**. The drug was detected through the work of risk analysis and the performance of the canine team. The cocaine was hidden inside a container loaded with soya beans in sacks. Thirteen bags of 50 kg each contained no soybeans, but cocaine, totaling 650 kg of the drug. The destination of the cargo was the Port of Antwerp, Belgium. One suspects the use of the criminal technique known as "rip-off loading", in which the drug is inserted into a regular charge without the owner's knowledge. The seized drug was delivered to the custody of the Federal Police Office of Santos, which will continue with the investigations.

<http://idg.receita.fazenda.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2018/julho/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-apreende-650-kg-de-cocaina-em-carga-de-graos-de-soja-no-porto-de-santos>

GUATEMALA

21.07.2018 A total of **631 kilograms of cocaine** were seized at the Quetzal Container Terminal (TCQ) of Puerto Quetzal, Escuintla. The confiscated items were found in 2 containers during an official inspection carried out by agents of the General Subdirector for the Analysis of Anti-narcotics Information (SGAIA), in compliance with the strategies to combat the transfer of narcotics promoted by the Ministry of the Interior. The police report states that in one of the containers there were 10 sacks of different sizes, where the first 300 cocaine packages were located. In the second container were, among boxes of merchandise, 331 packages of the referred drug, which came in 11 cells. According to the investigations, the containers came from Colombia. <https://dca.gob.gt/noticias-guatemala-diario-centro-america/encuentran-631-kilos-de-cocaina-en-contenedores/>

GREECE

20.07.2018 A 48-year-old woman was arrested on Friday after police found **1 kilogram of cocaine** buried in her backyard in the northern Athens suburb of Maroussi. The cocaine was found in a glass vase containing rice at a depth of 55 centimeters. The police raid on the home of the woman – an Albanian national – is part of an ongoing crackdown on a drug distributing gang. The gang received a near fatal blow in late June, when 24 suspected members aged between 20 and 71 were arrested in the areas of Aghia Sotira and Avliza in Menidi, northwestern Athens. <http://www.ekathimerini.com/230918/article/ekathimerini/news/police-arrest-female-gang-member-for-possession-of-cocaine>

INDIA

18.07.2018 Officers of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) have seized **450 grams of heroin** at Umarpur-Lalgola Link Road in West Bengal's Murshidabad district and arrested one person. The drug was to be delivered to the person's associate and subsequently transferred to Kolkata. <https://www.newkerala.com/news/read/22755/heroin-seized-in-bengal-one-arrested.html>

19.07.2018 In a joint operation conducted by the Border Security Force (BSF) and the narcotics control bureau (NCB) wing of the Amritsar police, **450 grams of heroin** was recovered from a field across the fencing line at the India-Pakistan border. Pakistani smugglers throw drug packets into the agricultural fields on the India side. Most of the

farmers and smugglers work in collusion. <https://www.hindustantimes.com/punjab/450gm-heroin-seized-from-field-near-indo-pak-border-in-amritsar/story-mhCiqvK3ahfQhZmKfDSyoJ.html>

ITALY

21.07.2018 Police have conducted a large scale operation in southern Italy. A least 18 people arrested and 21 more suspected. In three different parts of the region, officials discovered **26,000 plants of cannabis**. To take care of plantations, drones and foreign laborers were used. Operation "Secret Gardens" was carried out by two hundred police officers backed by scientific police.

http://www.euronews.com/2018/07/21/marijuana-worth-millions-seized-in-italy?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+euronews%2Fen%2Fnews+%28euronews++news++en%29

IRAN

17.07.2018 Iranian authorities seized about 550 kilograms of drugs in the central province of Alborz since the beginning of the Persian year. In particular, **450 kilograms are of opium, 50 of hashish, 33 of heroin and 17 of other narcotics**. 74 people were arrested and five vehicles were confiscated. Last week, police colonel Ahmad Taheri revealed that **two tons of drugs** were seized in the southeastern province of Sistan Baluchistan during an operation in Mehrestan and Iranshahr counties. Despite the government's anti-drug campaign, Iran is considered a transit country for narcotics from Afghanistan, with which it shares a long border, in many stretches of difficult access.

<http://www.plenglish.com/index.php?o=rn&id=31146&SEO=550-kilos-of-drugs-seized-in-iranian-province>

18.07.2018 2 afghan nationals detained in Kerman, with **35 kilograms of heroin** worth about 250,000 US dollars. The detainees carried the loads of heroin into Iran from eastern borders, and then distributed them in other provinces. Two detainees used foreign-made instant messaging applications for marketing. Iran as the country neighboring Afghanistan and Pakistan is considered the transit road for drug-traffickers.

<http://www.irna.ir/en/News/82974661>

CANADA

19.07.2018 RCMP seized **461 grams of cocaine**. A 22-year-old man was arrested near Bethune on Highway 11 while driving a car. Upon search of the vehicle police found cocaine. The man was charged with possession of cocaine with the purpose of trafficking.

<http://www.620ckrm.com/2018/07/19/lumsden-rcmp-seize-large-quantity-of-cocaine-outside-of-bethune/>

COLUMBIA

17.07.2018 Units of the National Navy in the development of an operation to control the sea in the waters of the Gulf of Urabá, seized **304 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride**, in 304 rectangular packages, found inside a container in the general area of the internal bay of Turbo, where a ship with a high flag of Portugal was inspected. The vessel had as final destination Valencia, Spain. <https://www.armada.mil.co/es/content/incautamos-304-kilos-cocaina-en-golfo-uraba>

MOLDOVA

16.07.2018 Investigative bodies disclosed details of a high-profile case of heroin smuggling, which was shipped to Moldova for further transportation to the European Union.

Prosecutors on combating organized crime and special cases completed the investigation and submitted a criminal case to the court about the activities of a criminal group formed of five Turkish citizens accused of trafficking in heroin and smuggling. The criminal case in Moldova helped seize drugs worth 5 million euros. The investigation lasted more than two years. Representatives of law enforcement agencies have identified two possible routes for the supply of drugs. The first route of drug trafficking - Afghanistan-Iran-Azerbaijan-Georgia-Ukraine-Moldova. The second route - Afghanistan-Iran-Turkey-Bulgaria-Romania-Moldova. In both cases, the final destination was the EU countries - the Netherlands or Germany. During the investigation it was established that in 2015-2017 the members of the group purchased several heavy-load vehicles, in which caches for the transport of heroin were organized. The drug dealers disguised their business as legitimate - the provision of transportation services. In particular, in February 2018 they managed to hide **about 80 kilograms of heroin** in a semitrailer loaded with tomatoes. Vegetables were transported to Moldova from Istanbul via Bulgaria and Romania. During the searches, in the warehouse in Yaloveni and in the semi-trailer of the model "Yildiz Trayler", caches with drugs were found. At the request of prosecutors, control over the transport of drugs from Turkey was carried out in cooperation with the authorities of Bulgaria, Romania, Azerbaijan and Ukraine along the entire route. The accused face 7-15 years of imprisonment, and for contraband - from 3 to 10 years of imprisonment. A sequestration was imposed on vehicles with a total cost of two million lei. <https://ru.sputnik.md/incidents/20180716/20568387/moldova-heroina-gruppirovca-millionu-evro-detali.htm>

NETHERLANDS

18.07.2018 Experts from Customs Amsterdam, on special request of the Undermining Team in Limburg, found **six kilograms of cocaine** during technical research on a passenger car. The hard drugs were in a specially made hidden space, in a separate area under the seats, which can only be opened hydraulically by means of a number of actions. The car parked in the parking lot at a gym on the Hendrikxstraat in Venlo was seized by the police for further investigation. Increasingly, criminals are trying to continue their activities in such innovative ways. The police are familiar with this method and therefore carry out regular technical investigations to bring out hidden spaces in passenger cars and trucks. On the course of an ongoing investigation by the German police into the trade and possession of narcotics, the Public Prosecution Service Limburg, FIOD, Customs, police, RIEC Limburg and the Undermining Team Limburg have jointly organized an action, during which several expensive watches, a motorcycle, two scooters, three Porsches, a few tens of thousands of euros of cash and a large amount of illegal cigarettes were found. A man from Venlo was arrested at Dusseldorf airport as a suspect in this case.

<https://www.politie.nl/nieuws/2018/juli/18/10-verborgen-cocaine-in-auto-aangetroffen.html>

18.07.2018 The national criminal investigation department carried out six detentions in a criminal investigation into corrupt harbor workers. The men, aged 25 to 56 and living in Rotterdam, Ridderkerk, Schiedam and Rijswijk are suspected, among other things, of importing **150 kilograms of cocaine**. The National Investigation Service, under the direction of a public prosecutor at the Public Prosecutor's Office in Rotterdam, has gained sight in April of a criminal association and corrupt staff who would be involved in the import of narcotic drugs via the port of Rotterdam. Of the six suspects arrested, four are suspected of non-official corruption, they were employed by a container company and a container

depot in the port. An automatic firearm, two small arms and a large amount of cash were found during the searches of the suspects' homes. The HARC team in Rotterdam, a joint venture between the police, Customs, FIOD and the Public Prosecution Service, provided assistance in confiscating the 150 kilos of cocaine that was hidden between a load of pineapples. <https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuwsberichten/@103671/zes-verdachten/>

21.07.2018 1 125 kilograms of cocaine were found in container with frozen fish from Ecuador in Rotterdam. This led to the arrest of a 48-year-old Hageraar and six men from Utrecht, Tiel, Albania and the US (28 to 48). The fish was transported to a company in Zaandam. The drugs, worth at least 22 million euros, were destroyed immediately after discovery. After the container arrived at the company in Zaandam, an Arrest Team (AT) of the police has been called in. In the shed the men seemed to open the boxes. De Hageraar was arrested in his place of residence. After that, searches were also carried out in commercial premises of the Hageraar in Rijswijk and Alphen aan den Rijn, his home in The Hague and a caravan in Bergambacht. <https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuwsberichten/@103691/1100-kilo-cocaine/>

PAKISTAN

17.07.2018 Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) Pakistan seized **812 kilograms of narcotics**, including **610 kilograms of precursors, 132 kilograms of opium, 50 kilograms of hashish, 14 kilograms of heroin** и **4,2 kilograms of amphetamine**. ANF arrested 25 people including 1 lady involved in drug trafficking and confiscated 10 vehicles. Most of the seized drug was intended to be smuggled abroad. Drugs were seized in the regions (districts, districts), provinces and settlements of Pakistan - Tehil Dalbandin Chagay, Rawalpindi, Attock, Guarat Zohayib, Sheikhpura, Islamabad, Peshawar, as well as in the international airports of Islamabad and Allama Iqbal in Lahore. <https://nation.com.pk/17-Jul-2018/anf-seizes-812-kg-narcotics-worth-rs-1-665-bn>

20.07.2018 Two men were arrested at an attempt to smuggle drugs at Islamabad international airport. Officers of Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) discovered ice heroin concealed within a suitcase of two passengers who were leaving for Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, through a private airline flight XY-316. According to the officials, both men were residents of Charsadda who were carrying heroin in their luggage. The overall weight of the **heroin** is estimated to be just over **3,7 kilograms**. ANF officials have arrested the smugglers. <https://dunyanews.tv/en/Crime/448920-Two-held-at-Islamabad-airport-for-smuggling-3700-kg-ice-heroin>

PARAGUAY

15.07.2018 Special agents of the SENAD in coordination with the Prosecutor's Office, after several months of investigations had certain risk profiles on ships and vessels that make river trips between Argentina Uruguay and Paraguay, seized **151 kilograms of cocaine** on a ship in the Port of Asunción. Cocaine was seized on a boat called Lago Ypoa as a result of operation carried out in the Port of Asunción. The operation was conducted based on information obtained from a cooperation between the Paraguayan Navy, CAFYM and the SENAD. The shipment was going from the Port of Asunción (Paraguay) to the Port of Montevideo (Uruguay). The ship Lago Ypoa, belonging to the shipping company "Storm Line", was anchored in the port. 145 cocaine packages were found among the personal belongings of captain and crew. Captain, a national of Paraguay, already has a record of

marijuana trafficking on the ship "Doña Verónica". In addition to the captain, the owner of the boat was apprehended. 8 people will be subject to investigations.

<http://www.senad.gov.py/noticia/13565-senad-incauta-151-kilos-de-cocaina-en-un-buque-en-el-puerto-de-asuncion-.html>

17.07.2018 Special agents of SENAD detained three people in a rural house of the Ñuati Guazú company in the city of Yaguarón, 50 kilometers away from Asunción, were an improvised laboratory used to turn cocaine into "coal" located. The criminal group comprised of – the head 75-year-old, negotiator and a man in charge of logistics 57-year-old, as well as a chemist 55-year-old – all citizens of Colombia. Men are arrested. Criminals used substances to darken the surface of cocaine briquettes in such a way that it resembled coal. The material evidence found in the form of coal was in bags and was prepared for transportation. With the help of this camouflage, members of the criminal group, under the guise of coal, were sending cocaine through a ship to the Middle East, in particular to Syria. In total, **3,4 kilograms of pure cocaine** were seized, but "**turned into coal**", was **32,5 kilograms**. <http://www.paraguay.com/interior-nacionales/detienen-a-colombianos-que-habrian-enviado-cocaina-carbon-a-siria-180463>

PERU

19.07.2018 As part of the customs control actions, personnel of the National Directorate of Customs and Tax Administration (Sunat) found **91 kilograms of cocaine** hydrochloride in a container destined for Belgium. The shipment had been declared as if it were potato flour, but in reality it was the aforementioned drug, which was hidden in nine paper sacks. Immediately, this finding was brought to the attention of the Public Prosecutor's Office, for which reason the First Prosecutor's Office Specialized in Illicit Drug Traffic of Callao ordered the initiation of preliminary investigations, in order to determine the criminal responsibilities according to its competence. <https://andina.pe/agencia/noticia-sunat-encuentra-91-kilos-cocaina-se-escondian-como-harina-papa-718122.aspx>

USA

16.07.2018 Police officers of Texas inside the metal shells of truck tires found **cocaine, methamphetamine and heroin, weighing 62,6 kilograms** with approximate value of 4.8 million US dollars. A 43-year-old man driving the truck was detained. Police noticed that the truck does not have an official license plate. After the driver was interviewed and his consent to inspect the car was obtained, the police found anomalies of all four tires. This circumstance caused suspicion that inside the tires could be an illicit cargo. It took several hours to open the caches and extract the drugs. According to the police, **37,2 kilograms of cocaine, 22,68 kilograms of methamphetamine and 2,72 kilograms of heroin** were found. Currently, the arrested driver is held in the Travis County Prison. The investigation continues. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5960401/Texas-police-4-8million-worth-cocaine-meth-heroin-hidden-mans-tires.html>

17.07.2018 Seaford police officers discovered **1,5 grams of marijuana** after a traffic stop on Sussex Highway. Subsequent search led to the discovery of **1 kilogram of heroin** in the trunk. Officers arrested two men - 45-year-old driver и 21-year-old passenger. <http://www.wboc.com/story/38669306/father-son-from-new-york-arrested-with-over-2-pounds-of-heroin>

17.07.2018 State troopers in Madison county, Ohio stopped an SUV with New Mexico registration for a speed violation on Interstate 70. Troopers detected the odor of marijuana

coming from the vehicle. Subsequent search in the vehicle revealed **1,36 kilograms of psilocybin mushrooms, 144 doses of LSD, 450 doses of nitrous oxide, 3 grams of cocaine and 70 grams of marijuana**. 30-year-old driver from Albuquerque is imprisoned for illegal possession of drugs. He faces up to 10 years in prison.

<https://www.news5cleveland.com/news/local-news/troopers-find-mushrooms-bsd-nitrous-cocaine-marijuana-during-traffic-stop-in-madison-co>

17.07.2018 U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers at Arizona’s Port of Nogales arrested a 37-year-old woman from Arizona involved in an attempt to smuggle methamphetamine and cocaine into the United States. A search led to the discovery of more than **0,9 kilograms of methamphetamine**, worth \$6,600 and nearly **5,9 kilograms of cocaine** with a value of almost \$144,000 beneath the center console. Officers seized the drugs and vehicle. The woman was arrested and turned over to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s Homeland Security Investigations.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/nogales-cbp-officers-seize-150k-hard-drugs>

18.07.2018 At least **2 500 marijuana plants**, along with a number of firearms and large amounts of cash, were recovered at 18 homes across the Gwinnett county, Georgia as part of a multi-agency marijuana growhouse and trafficking bust. Seven people have been arrested and charged for illegal possession of narcotic substances. The operation involved more than 200 officers and agents from law enforcement officers from the municipal police units who formed the Gwinnett Metropolitan Task Force (GMTF), as well as from the county agency, including the Gwinnett County Police Department and the sheriff's office, state and federal agencies such as The Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Georgia State Patrol and the Drug Enforcement Administration. https://www.gwinnettdailypost.com/local/several-arrests-made-marijuana-plants-guns-and-cash-seized-during/article_00825aba-c2f5-5c57-bce3-fa2bf4ba017a.html

18.07.2018 Officers from the Fresno police Major Narcotics unit team along with state Department of Justice agents with the High Intensity Drug Trafficking unit with the help of narcotics-finding dog found **13,6 kilograms of methamphetamine**. It is established that the drug was taken to the central San Joaquin Valley by Mexican drug traffickers. On suspicion of committing this crime, a 25-year-old man was arrested and imprisoned in Fresno County Jail. <https://www.modbee.com/news/state/article215128150.html>

19.07.2018 Troopers stopped a car on State Route 4 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Three men 39-, 38- and 33-year-old were in the vehicle. They found **450 grams of heroin** stuffed into the seats. All three are being held at the Hamilton County Justice Center.

<https://www.wcpo.com/news/crime/troopers-seize-85k-in-heroin-in-hamilton-county>

19.07.2018 In New York five people from the Bronx, 26 to 46 years old, were arrested on charges of illegal possession of narcotic drugs heroin and fentanyl. According to the New York City Special Narcotics Prosecutor, members of the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force (NYDETF) Group T-12 and the Investigations Unit of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor (SNP) carried out a court-ordered search in an apartment located in the Bronx area, during which about **25 kg of heroin and fentanyl** were found and seized, valued at about 7.5 million US dollars. In addition, items and equipment used to pack drugs were found in the apartment. <https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/New-York-Men-Arrested-After-75M-Worth-of-Suspected-Heroin-and-Fentanyl-was-Seized-in-Alleged-Drug-Mill-Authorities-488658081.html>

TURKEY

17.07.2018 Turkish police seized **14 kilograms of heroin** hidden in the spare tire of a van in the Edremit district in the eastern Van province. The driver of the van was arrested over drug trafficking. Besides, in the western Sakarya province, police stopped a bus for routine control and found **670 grams of heroin** on a female passenger. The passenger was arrested. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkish-police-seize-heroin-hidden-in-spare-tire-of-van/1206706>

UKRAINE

16.07.2018 At the checkpoint "Goptovka" officer of the General Division of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine in the Kharkov region found and seized about **14 kilograms of drugs**. At customs control of the car, which left Ukraine to Russia, the customs official's trained dog reacted to the car's fuel tank. After dismantling the fuel tank, 18 bags of **marijuana** with a total weight of **10 kilograms** and 8 bags with **hashish** with a total weight of **4 kilograms** were found. Earlier during the oral declaration, the driver of the car - a citizen of Ukraine, said that he had no items prohibited or restricted for movement across the Ukrainian border. <https://atn.ua/obshchestvo/na-granice-s-rossiy-v-avtomobile-nashli-14-kg-narkotikov>

18.07.2018 On the Ukrainian-Polish border at the checkpoint "Krakovets" a Romanian citizen was detained while trying to smuggle into Ukraine a narcotic drug **ecstasy** weighing **7,8 kilograms**. The offender crossed the border in a car "Audi", registered in Lithuania. The border guards stopped the car and carefully examined it. Inside the fuel tank, 9 sealed polyethylene bags containing ecstasy were found. The Romanian citizen, his car and narcotic substance were handed over to the security forces of the Lviv region. On this fact, an investigation is being carried out. <https://www.segodnya.ua/regions/lvov/v-ukrainu-iz-polshi-pytalis-vezti-pochti-8-kilogrammiv-ekstazi-1155534.html>

FRANCE

06.07.2018 The customs officers of the Hendaye Brigade seized about **11,6 kilograms of cocaine, 48,7 kilograms of cannabis**, 4 handguns and ammunition in a platform truck carrying large-displacement vehicles from Spain to England. It is during a traffic control that the customs officers intercept the truck registered in Great Britain arriving from Spain, driven by a driver of English nationality. The documents presented to the agents cover the transport of 5 vehicles, Mercedes Vaneo, BMW I3, BMW M5, Porsche 911 and Porsche Boxer, to be delivered in England. The service decided to involve the dog handler team for the inspection of the load. During the first visit, the anti-narcotic dog Eski showed a keen interest in the floor of the vehicle Mercedes Vaneo, while officers found an abnormal thickness under the carpet of the trunk of the vehicle. After the investigations, a plywood board was removed on the crowbar and revealed 43 transparent heat-sealed bags, 10 packets of black plastic and 4 bags wrapped in food film. At the opening of the containers, the customs officers counted 48,7 kilograms of cannabis herb, 11,6 kilograms of cocaine and 4 weapons, a PM Uzi 9-gauge, a 9-gauge Retay Eagle pistol, a 22-gauge Ruger pistol and a revolver of RG 22 caliber, accompanied by 106 corresponding ammunition. The judicial follow-up was entrusted to the specialized interregional jurisdiction (JIRS) of Bordeaux. <http://www.douane.gouv.fr/articles/a14876-saisie-d-armes-et-de-60-kg-de-stupefiants-dans-un-chargeement-de-grosses-cylindres>

ECUADOR

16.07.2018 In the course of drug operations, Estelar, Embrucho and Ermain, conducted by the National Police in the provinces of Guayas, El Oro and Pichincha, **723,815 kilograms of cocaine** hydrochloride were seized and destroyed. As a result of Operation Estelar, 700 packs of drugs were found disguised in 10 jute bags containing **690,1 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride**. Illegal cargo was found inside a container in the seaport of Guayaquil. It was destined to Spain, with an overload in Belgium. The value of the consignment of cocaine is about 26 million US dollars. During Operation Embrucho in the seaport of Guayaquil, the agents of the Information Unit for Ports and Airports (UIPA) and the Regional Center for the Training of Dogs (CRAC) and the Drug Enforcement Organization organized a check in accordance with the container's risk profile. During the inspection using technical equipment between the wall and the left ceiling of the container, about 30 packs containing **29,8 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride** were found. During Operation Ermain, a citizen of Venezuela was detained at the international airport Mariscal Sucre in Quito, who smuggled **3,915 kilograms of cocaine** inside a waterproof gray cloth covering it. The smuggler was on his way to Brussels (Belgium).

<http://www.policiaecuador.gob.ec/en-tres-operativos-antidrogas-la-policia-incauta-723-815-gramos-de-clorhidrato-de-cocaina/>