

## II. SIGNIFICANT INTERDICTIONS IN 2005

### 1. Stimulants

#### [Interdiction of smuggling of stimulants concealed in air passengers' accompanied personal effects]

In March, Osaka Customs, interdicted approximately 5 kg of stimulants concealed in false-bottomed suitcase during the Customs import inspection of the personal effects brought into Japan by a male Canada-born Chinese passenger arriving at Kansai Airport from Canada.



#### [Interdiction of smuggling of stimulants concealed in air passengers' accompanied personal effects]

In May, Osaka Customs, interdicted approximately 13 kg of stimulants concealed in souvenir chocolate boxes of chocolates in parts during the Customs import inspection of the personal effects brought into Japan by 6 male and female Japanese passengers arriving at Kansai Airport from Thailand.



#### [Interdiction of smuggling of solution of stimulants concealed in air passengers' accompanied personal effects]

In June, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 1.7 kg of stimulants concealed in bottles of alcohol during the Customs inspection of personal effects brought into Japan by a male Singaporean passenger arriving at Narita Airport from Hong Kong. (Similar cases were interdicted overseas.)



## 2. Cannabis

### **[Interdiction of herbal cannabis concealed in air passengers' accompanied personal effects]**

In March, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 6 kg of herbal cannabis concealed in parts in trousers contained in the suitcase during the Customs import inspection of personal effects brought into Japan by a male Dutch passenger arriving at Narita Airport from Germany.



### **[Interdiction of herbal cannabis smuggled by Express Mail Service]**

In April, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 27 g of herbal cannabis concealed in a bottle of peanut butter during the Customs import inspection of Express Mail Service from the United States.



### **[Interdiction of herbal cannabis concealed in sea cargo]**

In May, Osaka Customs interdicted approximately 28 kg of herbal cannabis concealed in a hollowed-out table top and Chair seat during the Customs import inspection of sea cargo (wooden furniture) arriving at Osaka Port from Canada.



**[Interdiction of cannabis resin concealed in a maritime containerized cargo]**

In August, Yokohama Customs interdicted approximately 15 kg of cannabis resin concealed in ornaments attached to four side walls of the top panel of a wooden table during the Customs import inspection of a maritime containerized cargo (declared as wooden tables, etc.) arriving at the Yokohama Port from Nepal.



**[Interdiction of herbal cannabis concealed in a sea cargo]**

In October, Yokohama Customs interdicted approximately 41 kg of herbal cannabis concealed inside the rear bumper and underfloor parts of the chassis of an automobile during the Customs import inspection of sea cargo arriving at the Yokohama Port from Belgium.



**Other Smuggling Cases: plastic cards for counterfeit credit cards**

As crimes in which counterfeit credit cards are used are being perpetrated with great frequency in Japan, Customs has interdicted smuggling of plastic cards for making counterfeit credit cards, which are so-called blank cards. In 2005, Customs interdicted 10 cases of smuggling and seized a total of seventeen thousand cards.

In order to further strengthen the border control for such blank cards by Customs, plastic cards used for making counterfeit credit cards ("raw material cards" for counterfeit credit cards) were designated as import-prohibited goods as well as counterfeit credit cards in the tariff reform in fiscal 2006.

[Case] In June, Osaka Customs interdicted approximately 1,200 plastic cards for counterfeit credit cards from the crew members of a Chinese-registered vessel when they were trying to conceal them near the pier after docking.





### 3. MDMA and Other Tablet-type Synthetic Narcotics

#### [Interdiction of MDMA concealed in air passengers' accompanied personal effects]

In March, Nagoya Customs interdicted approximately 44,000 tablets of MDMA concealed in the false-bottomed suitcase of a male Austrian passenger during the Customs inspection of accompanied personal effects arriving at Chubu Airport from the Netherlands.



#### [Interdiction of MDA, etc. concealed in air passengers' accompanied personal effects]

In September, Osaka Customs interdicted approximately 29,000 tablets of MDA, etc, and approximately 900 g of herbal cannabis concealed in the suitcase of a male Japanese passenger during the Customs import inspection of accompanied personal effects arriving at Kansai International Airport from the Netherlands.



#### [Interdiction of MDMA concealed in air passengers' accompanied personal effects]

In October, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 40,000 tablets of MDMA concealed in a false-bottomed suitcase of a male Dutch passenger during the Customs import inspection of accompanied personal effects arriving at Narita Airport from the Netherlands.



#### 4. Other Illicit Drugs

##### **[Interdiction of cocaine, etc, concealed in air passengers' accompanied personal effects]**

In May, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 900 g of cocaine and approximately 2 kg of herbal cannabis concealed in a coffee bottle in a suitcase of two male Japanese passengers during the Customs import inspection of accompanied personal effects arriving at Narita Airport from Brazil via the United States.



#### 5. Firearms

##### **[Interdiction of handguns and related objects wearing on air passenger's body]**

In October, Tokyo Customs interdicted three hand guns and 207 cartridges concealed in parts in the coat of a male Philippine passenger was wearing, during the Customs import inspection of accompanied personal effects arriving at Narita Airport from Philippine.



##### **Other Smuggling Cases: offense of evasion of customs duty**

Customs collects Customs duty, consumption tax, etc. which are imposed on import cargoes. In order to secure approximate duty payment, when these taxes are evaded in false or illegal manners, Customs disposes the cases through criminal prosecution after a thorough investigation.

In 2005, accusation was filed against 12 cases, including offenses of evasion of customs duty by abusing the price differential tariff system for pork and offenses of evasion of customs duty and consumption tax by smuggling powdered konnyaku. The total evasion amounted to approximately 7.59 billion yen.