II. SIGNIFICANT INTERDICTIONS IN 2006

1. Stimulants

[Interdiction of smuggling of stimulants concealed around air passengers' body]

In August, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 14 kg of stimulants wrapped around the body, flanks or hips during the Customs inspection of personal effects brought into Japan by six Chinese (Hong Kong) male and female passengers arriving at Narita Airport from Hong Kong.





[Interdiction of smuggling of stimulants concealed in a maritime containerized cargo]

In November, Yokohama Customs interdicted approximately 14 kg of stimulants concealed in plastic drums containing salted bracken during the Customs import inspection of a maritime containerized cargo (declared as salted bracken) arriving at Yokohama Port from China.





[Interdiction of smuggling of solutions of stimulants impregnated by air passengers into bath towels]

In December, Moji Customs interdicted approximately 3 kg of stimulants impregnated into bath towels during the Customs inspection of personal effects brought into Japan by a Japanese male passenger arriving at Fukuoka Airport from China.





2. Cannabis

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

In February, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 5 kg of herbal cannabis concealed in modified wooden hangers contained in a suitcase during the Customs inspection of personal effects brought into Japan by a Singaporean female passenger arriving at Narita Airport from the Netherlands via Austria.





[Interdiction of smuggling of cannabis resin swallowed by air passengers]

In February, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 0.5 kg of cannabis resin swallowed by a Japanese male passenger arriving at Narita Airport from India during the Customs inspection of personal effects.





[Interdiction of cannabis resin concealed in air passengers' accompanied personal effects]

In March, Moji Customs interdicted approximately 10 kg of cannabis resin concealed in Chinese tea boxes contained in the carry-on bags, etc. during the Customs inspection of personal effects brought into Japan by three Japanese male passengers arriving at Fukuoka Airport from China.





[Interdiction of herbal cannabis concealed in air passengers' marker]

In June, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 1.4 kg of herbal cannabis concealed in modified marker pens contained in the suitcase during the Customs inspection of personal effects brought into Japan by a Japanese male passenger arriving at Narita Airport from the Netherlands.





[Interdiction of cannabis resin concealed in air passengers' accompanied personal effects]

In September, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 6 kg of cannabis resin concealed in the bottom of a suitcase and the soles of sneakers during the Customs inspection of personal effects brought into Japan by a Turkish male passenger arriving at Narita Airport from Turkey.





Other Smuggling Cases: illegal exporting of materials related to weapons of mass destruction

In Japan, exporting may, according to cargoes and destinations, require a prior permit of the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act in order to maintain international peace and safety. Cargoes requiring such permit consist of two categories: "list control" where cargoes to be controlled are listed for each item in the Export Trade Control Order and "catch-all control" where cargoes are controlled based on their application without specifying specification for each item.

[Case]

In October 2006, Tokyo Customs accused a major precision equipment manufacturer of having illegally exported three 3D measuring machines to Singapore by falsely declaring lower precision for the machines.



3. MDMA and Other Tablet-type Synthetic Narcotics

[Interdiction of MDMA concealed in ordinary airmail items]

In April, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 2,500 tablets of MDMA concealed in straws during the Customs inspection of four ordinary airmail items arriving at Narita International Airport Post Office from the Netherlands.





[Interdiction of MDMA, etc. concealed in international express mail items]

In August, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 8,000 tablets of MDMA concealed by being fixed with tape to the internal surface of a golf bag during the Customs inspection of international express mail items arriving at Tokyo International Post Office from Canada.





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

In December, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 45,000 tablets of MDMA wrapped with adhesive tape and concealed in a suitcase during the Customs inspection of personal effects brought into Japan by a Japanese male passenger arriving at Narita Airport from Germany.





4. Other Illicit Drugs

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

In September, Tokyo Customs interdicted approximately 15 kg of opium concealed in the false top and bottom of a suitcase during the Customs inspection of personal effects brought into Japan by a Turkish male passenger arriving at Narita Airport from Turkey.





Firearms

[Interdiction of smuggling of handguns, explosives and related objects by ship crew members and gangsters]

In January, Tokyo Customs and Yokohama Customs, in cooperation with related organizations, interdicted 11 handguns, 220 cartridges, six explosives, 5 kg of herbal cannabis, and other related objects discharged by two Philippine crew members and Japanese gangsters from a Philippine-registered ship entering Yokohama Port from the Philippines.





Other Cases: offense of evasion of customs duty for frozen pork

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 by making an accusation after a thorough investigation.

[Case]

In December, Tokyo Customs accused meat wholesalers of having evaded customs duty of approximately 11.9 billion yen by falsely declaring higher prices for frozen pork imported from Denmark through the abuse of the price differential tariff system for pork.