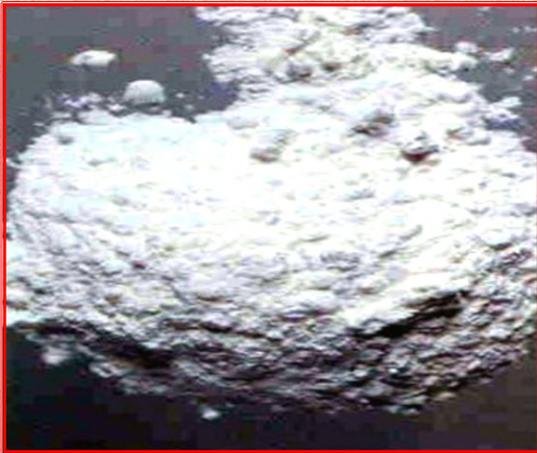
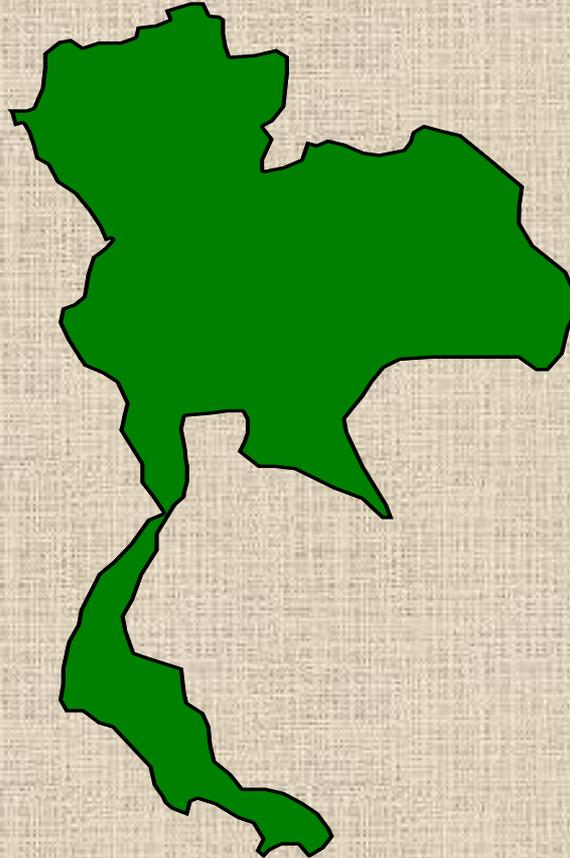


History of DEA in Thailand: The Opium War



Heroin



Poppy Cultivation

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION
September 2012

Today's Agenda

- ✓ *U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration in Thailand*
- ✓ *Thailand Narcotic Units*
- ✓ *Thailand's Drug Role*
- ✓ *The New Drug Threat in Thailand*

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in Thailand

- ✓ Single Mission Agency Expertise
- ✓ Long term Partnerships with Thai Counternarcotic Agencies



DEA MISSION AND ROLES IN THAILAND

- Within Thailand (Three Offices)
 - Bangkok (1963), Chiang Mai (1971), Udorn (1990)
 - Conducting international, regional and local impact cases
 - Diverse investigations linked throughout Asia, U.S., Canada, Europe, South America and Africa
- Interdicting International Drug Pipelines
- Financial Investigations Team (FIT)
 - Work with AMLO and ONCB
 - Transnational criminal organization money launderers across Asia
- Other
 - Promoting Professionalism and Cooperation
 - Sponsor training courses
 - Providing advice on legislative matters
 - Extraditions

Chiang Mai



Udorn



Bangkok



Sensitive Investigative Units (SIUs)

Mission Objections

- Sensitive Investigative Units (SIUs) first established in 1998
 - Units usually comprised of Royal Thai Police Narcotics Suppression Bureau Officers and Office of Narcotics Control Board personnel
- Units identify, disrupt and/or dismantle large drug trafficking organizations that impact Asia and the United States.
- Identify and seize trafficker assets
- Share narcotics intelligence developed during the investigations with the respective SIU Units and DEA offices worldwide.

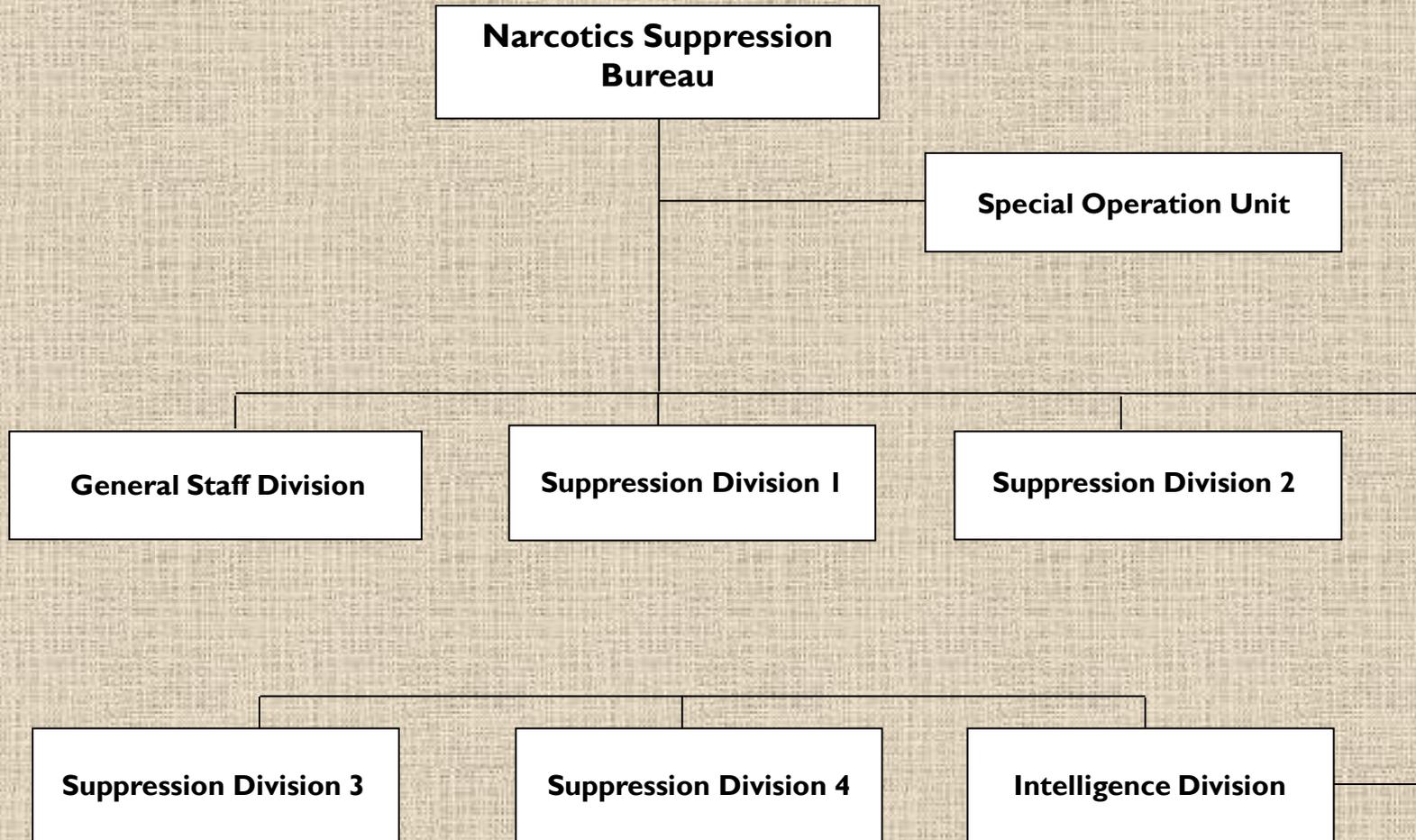


Royal Thailand Police Narcotics Suppression Bureau (NSB)



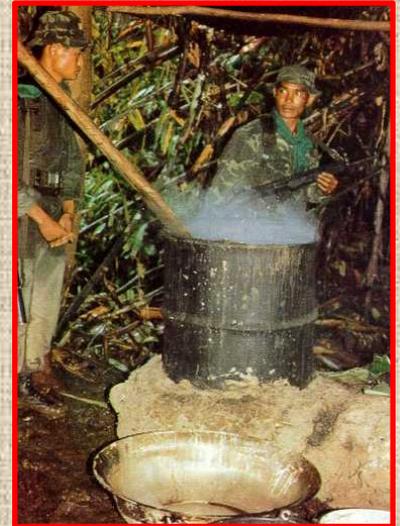
- Royal Thailand Police Narcotics Suppression Bureau (NSB) can be traced back to 1961
 - Police Department established Sub-Division 7 under Crime Suppression Division
 - Responsible exclusively for narcotics investigations, interrogation and suppression
- Police Narcotics Suppression Center established in 1973
 - Coordination and command center for narcotics suppression and investigation
- Narcotics Suppression Office created in 1990 with 286 personal
- Narcotics Suppression Office upgraded to NSB in 1992
 - Comprised of 4 divisions

Royal Thailand Police Narcotics Suppression Bureau (NSB)

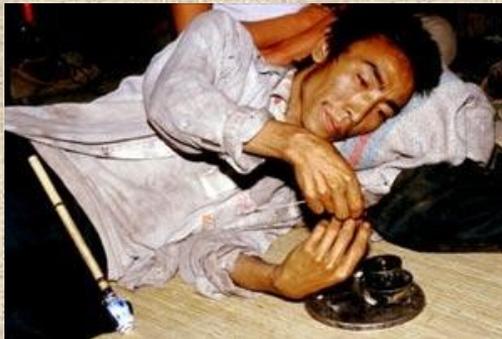


Office of Narcotics Control Board (ONCB)

- Drug abuse has always been a serious and long standing problem in Thailand
- The effort to abrogate opium smoking began in 1955
 - First resolution to prohibit opium smoking and selling issued in 1955
 - In 1958, the Government of Revolutionary Party issued the Proclamation of Revolutionary Party NO. 37 abolishing opium smoking and selling
 - Other drugs such as heroin and morphine rapidly took the place of opium



Clandestine heroin lab

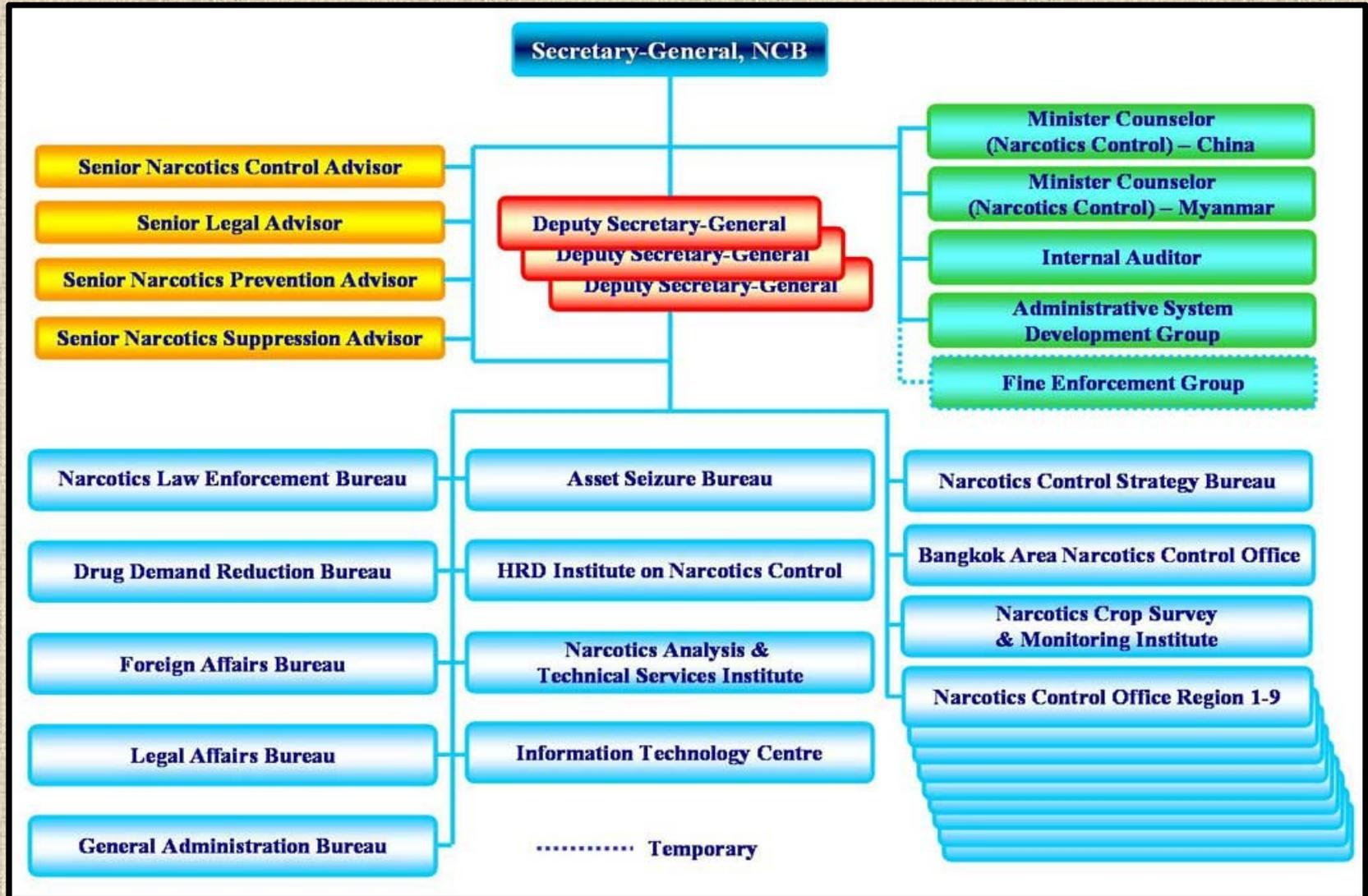


Office of Narcotics Control Board (ONCB)

- In response to recommendations, the Royal Thai Government created the Central Narcotics Board (CNB) in 1961
 - Created in response to increasing narcotics problem and recommendation by INTERPOL
- CNB created the Thailand Central Bureau of Narcotics
 - To act as coordinating body in carrying out drug suppression and prevention
- The present Office of Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) was established by the provision of the Narcotics Control Act B.E. 2519 (1976)
 - To act as a national coordinating body for prevention and suppression of drugs
 - Secretariat to the Narcotics Control Board under the Office of the Prime Minister



Office of Narcotics Control Board (ONCB)



Thailand's Drug Role

- Thailand's role as the primary conduit for Southeast Asian heroin produced in Burma has lessened in recent years as Thai drug law enforcement capabilities have become more sophisticated and effective.
- This has forced traffickers to seek alternate routes. More heroin is now shipped through China, and Cambodia and Laos and also through the south of Burma via the Andaman Sea.
- Thailand still remains a primary center of operations for heroin traffickers. Its modern communications and transportation systems facilitate arrangements for drug transactions



Decline of Southeast Asian (SEA) Opium/Heroin Trade



Khun Sa

- In the late 80s and early 90s Southeast Asian heroin was the primary drug trafficked
 - Most originated from Burma
- Burmese drug warlord Khun Sa controlled majority of opium and heroin production
 - Was responsible for 1988 shipment of 2,400-pound of heroin destined for New York City
 - Seized in Bangkok, Thailand; at the time was world's single largest heroin seizure
- In 1995, the Golden Triangle region led opium production; yielding 2,500 tons annually
- In January 1996, Khun Sa surrendered to the ruling junta of Burma
 - Surrender led to dramatic declines in opium and heroin production in the Golden Triangle

Operation Tiger Trap

- Comprehensive Joint Thai-U.S. enforcement operation
- Goal- reduction of heroin supply to the United States
- Means-disrupting of heroin trafficking operations

Operation Tiger Trap, 1994

- Operation Tiger Trap resulted in the arrest of 13 principal defendants including the highest-level heroin traffickers operating out of Thailand.
 - Five of those arrested are wanted for direct involvement in multi-hundred kilogram shipments of heroin to the United States
- Operation Tiger Trap had a significant impact on U.S. efforts against the Southeast Asian heroin traffic.
 - Drug kingpins now faced the real possibility of arrest and prosecution for trafficking crimes directed at the United States.

The New Drug Threats in Thailand and Source Countries

- Heroin flowing from Burma, Laos and Afghanistan
- Methamphetamine in tablet form from Burma, Laos, and Cambodia
- Crystal methamphetamine (ICE) form from Burma, Iran and Africa
- Cocaine from South America
- MDMA from Europe, Canada and China
- Marijuana from Laos
- Pharmaceuticals and steroids from China
- Chemicals from China and India



Methamphetamine



Cocaine



Ecstasy (MDMA)

Thank you



Joseph P. Reagan
Drug Enforcement Administration
Far East Regional Director