

Prosecutor: Peru Army Officer Got \$10K Per Cocaine Planeload

BY FRANK BAJAK
Associated Press

LIMA, Peru — A Peruvian army lieutenant arrested for allegedly letting small planes ferry cocaine unhindered from the world's No. 1 coca-producing valley was getting bribes of \$10,000 a planeload that he apparently shared with his superiors, the prosecutor said Friday.

Lt. Wilmer Eduardo Delgado Ruiz, 35, is the first Peruvian military officer arrested on drug trafficking charges in at least a decade.

Organized crime prosecutor Irene Mercado said conversations recorded in legally executed wiretaps indicated that he shared with his superiors the bribes he collected.

"That's what's understood," she said. "In the conversations it's understood that it was for everyone, for the bosses, for everyone."

Mercado said additional arrests could not be ruled out.

Delgado's arrest Thursday followed an eight-month investigation, Mercado said, and it follows last week's Associated Press report that found Peru's armed forces have turned a blind eye to the daily airborne ferrying to Bolivia of more than a ton of cocaine from Peru's Apurimac, Ene and Mantaro river valley.

The AP report cited police, prosecutors, former military

officers, current and former U.S. drug officials and an accused narco pilot who said local military commanders charged \$10,000 for each smuggling flight.

Peru's military has controlled the Ireland-sized region known as the VRAEM for nine years and it's commander, Gen. Cesar Astudillo, denied Friday that the armed forces had failed to vigorously combat drug trafficking.

"Never has drug trafficking been combatted as we are doing it now," he said, vigorously denying the AP report.

Mercado, the prosecutor, said Delgado was passing confidential information to drug traffickers that let them know when the clandestine airstrips they use to drop off cash and pick up drugs would be free of all military presence — or repaired from dynamite blasts used to discourage landings.

She said the bribes received by Delgado were transferred by local traffickers into the bank account of his wife, which the prosecutor said she understood amounted to about \$100,000 though she had not yet seen the registers.

Police say an average of four or five flights a day haul more than 300 kilos each of semi-refined cocaine from the VRAEM. The narco pilot with whom the AP spoke said no plane arrives with less than a half million dollars to pay for the cocaine and bribes.

UN Experts Criticize Using Force Against Migrant Boats

BY EDITH M. LEDERER
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Two U.N. experts on the human rights of migrants warned Friday that force will not stop Europe's migration crisis or deter smugglers.

Francois Crepeau, the U.N. special investigator on migrant rights, and Francisco Carrion, head of the U.N. Committee on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers, criticized a U.N. Security Council resolution authorizing the European Union to inspect and use of force against boats in the high seas suspected of being used to smuggle migrants from Libya.

Crepeau said "humankind is wired for migration" and the only way to get rid of smugglers is to offer mobility to refugees and migrants.

"In the name of controlling the border, states have lost control of the border because they have no clue who is getting in because the smugglers are in control of the market," Crepeau said at a news conference.

He said Europe should do for Syrian, Eritrean and perhaps Afghan refugees what the U.S. and other countries did almost 40 years ago for refugees from Vietnam and Indochina: implement massive resettlement programs from transit countries over many years.

"Let's not kid ourselves," said Crepeau, a law professor at McGill University in Montreal. "Europe and the rest of the world are facing mass migration not for this year or next year but for the decade to come, at least, if not decades to come."

He said two million refugees from the Middle East should be resettled in Europe over five years, which means 400,000 per year, divided by either the 28 European countries or the 32 countries in the global north.

"It's totally manageable," Crepeau said. "We've done it in the past. We can do it again. We're richer, more populous than we were 40 years ago."

Harvest

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even smaller than us — host where thousands of people just come," said Tara Gill, another event organizer. "We want to eventually incorporate that into a big festival that people in the neighboring states will be like, 'Hey! Let's go to Yankton for Halloween.'"

This supernatural spectacle has some exciting things in store for visitors.

The Dakota Theatre will host a pre-party for the event with a special showing of "Rocky Horror Picture Show" at 11:59 p.m. on Friday. The showing will include dressing up as your favorite character and an interactive prop bags.

"We had such a great success with our play of 'Rocky Horror,'" Gill said. "We can't do the play every year, but we want to eventually show this movie on a regular basis and make it a tradition."

Saturday's events will start with a waffle breakfast sponsored by Dakota Territorial Museum from 7-11 a.m. on the second floor of the Riverfront Event Center. The day will then transition into a chili feed sponsored by Yankton's fire department.

This year's festival has claimed the downtown section from West Second to West Third on Walnut Street. The rest of the surrounding streets will be open for traffic. Clatworthy thinks that decreasing the amount for street space will help ease traveling for spectators.

"Our layout and design of the festival is an improvement," she said. "It will work better this year to keep the roads open to traffic."

Within the block radius, United Way will once again provide the corn pit. The harvest playground will be

decorated like a pirate ship where kids will get to "walk the plank" and dive into more than 550 bushels of corn to dig for prizes and coupons donated from local restaurant chains. Kids will also get a chance to solve the hay bale maze from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There will also be an opportunity for local artists to showcase their talents at the open mic platform going on from 1-4 p.m. during the other festivities.

A "Market at the Meridian" showcase will feature an indoor vendor fair in the east Ballroom of the Riverfront Event Center. Festival organizers are also attempting to take the excitement for this hair-raising holiday and channel the energy into an ongoing project for Yankton. Clatworthy is working with local vendors to solicit new members for a permanent farmer's market in the downtown district.

While adding to the aspects of last year's festival, organizers used this year to update existing ideas to make this Harvest Halloween even better.

"We repeated the things that worked and improved upon them," she said. "Because we didn't have to spend as much time creating the events, we can spend more time marketing them."

An estimated 215 bales of hay will set the stage for the pig races. Each pig is sponsored by a local area business. The first heat starts at 12:30 p.m. where these untrained critters will race through 175 feet of track. After the final race at 2 p.m. one of them will be named top sow.

The Yankton Veterinary Medical Clinic's Jim and Martha Pajl will sponsor a "Monster Paws" across the Meridian Bridge at 3 p.m. All pets will sport their ghoulish glory through the frightful

bridge decorated for the holiday.

The goblin ghost train will also run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. across the bridge.

The classic horror movie "Night of the Living Dead" will be shown at the Dakota Theatre as a part of the classic films theme for the festival. This is a free screening.

"It is an opportunity to get people in our theatre and see what it is all about," Gill said. "I've heard people say they haven't been in the theatre for years, so we wanted to be a part of this festival."

Keeping with the subject matter of the theatre, organizers have integrated a new event this year: a Zombie Pub Crawl. Participants will get a chance to sport their zombie or Halloween costume attire to participating locations in the downtown area. People that visit all of these locations will be entered to win a mystery prize.

Due to conflicts with last year's parade, the idea came from local inspiration as a fun alternative.

"I really wanted to incorporate the businesses downtown and the bars," Gill said. "I've seen in other towns they have done the Zombie Pub Crawl and it was really cool."

Participants must be 21 and older to be involved. The crawl will begin at the Dakota Theatre where those partaking will receive wristbands and maps for the journey.

Despite eliminating some younger ages, Clatworthy hopes this trial run will spark other idea for future year's events.

"You just have to kind of make the choice and try it out," she said. "Maybe people will catch on and still come down in their zombie outfits and have their own little parade. Maybe someone will come along and

even start a kiddie parade."

The festival will continue with a special "battle of the bands" performance by The Lugnuts and The Rude Band. The two will alternate performances and then take the stage at the Old Brewery located at Second and Walnut, for bragging rights.

While the Lugnuts all have local roots, The Rude Band also has two of its members who are no strangers to Yankton. Native Trace Mahoney, singer and bass player for the band, now resides in Sioux Falls but will return to his roots for the concert. The Rude Band's drummer, Royce Kuenzli, recently moved to the Yankton area. He has also brings the ability of rap to the band's rock background.

The band battle will accompany a costume dance party from 7 p.m. to midnight at the brewery building. Tickets will be \$10.

"After last year, now I have to up the ante," Clatworthy said. "I really have to make it good and better than last year if I'm going to charge money. We just want them to have fun. It will be interesting to see what they do."

Several local organizations and businesses have come together to help make this festival a community affair. With all the support and ideas for the future, who knows what the next years will bring?

"Our goal is that we are creating something that is really fun and will get people from the whole tri-state region to come," Clatworthy said. "It took 32 years for Riverboat Days to get where it is. This could really turn into something big."

For more information visit <http://www.harvesthalloween.com/activities.html>.

Follow @alwooc01 on Twitter.

Energy

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Another provision in the settlement prohibits any further rate increases for the company before July 1, 2018, unless the company suffers from some extraordinary event.

NorthWestern already was required under federal law to buy electricity from the Beethoven wind farm near Tripp, S.D.

NorthWestern agreed instead to buy the 80-megawatt facility in July.

On Sept. 24, NorthWestern and PUC staff reached

an initial version of the settlement.

Further revisions followed and four major businesses — Redfield Energy, Toshiba America Business Solutions, Trail King Industries and Wal-Mart Stores — agreed to the final version Oct. 16.

NorthWestern filed in December for the rate increases to pay for more environmental equipment at the Big Stone coal-fired plant near Milbank and two other plants called Coyote near Beulah, N.D., and Neal 4 near Sioux City, Iowa; the Aberdeen peaking plant; the Yankton transmission project; and integrating into the Southwest power pool.

Church

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Michael's Catholic Church in Sioux Falls.

Stephanie Tamisiea, a local interior designer, has helped with a majority of the remodeling.

"I had some creative ideas," she said. Those ideas included exposing the brick and choosing colors for the carpet and furniture.

"The construction team wanted to do something different that hadn't been done before in the area," Tamisiea added. "They were open to new ideas about creating a community gathering spot."

One of those spots is the church's coffee shop, called Gathering Grounds, which is open to everyone.

"We want it to be a place where people downtown can go and not feel obligated to buy anything," said Cooke. "It's for fellowship."

Cooke plans on having a

countertop put in the near future so people can sit with their laptops and iPads.

Despite all the work that has come with the new location, the church congregation is happy to call the place theirs.

"We're excited about having a church in the heart of downtown," Cooke said. "We want to use it for community events, like we did with the Onward Yankton forum."

The renovations will ultimately give the church a modern feel that will fit with its name.

"The town's motto is 'Yankton! What A Discovery,' and that's what we do when we come to church: we discover God's love us and His plan for our lives," said Cooke. "The name fits the town, as well as our spiritual journey."

For more information, visit www.discoverychurchyankton.org.

Follow @ReillyBiel on Twitter.



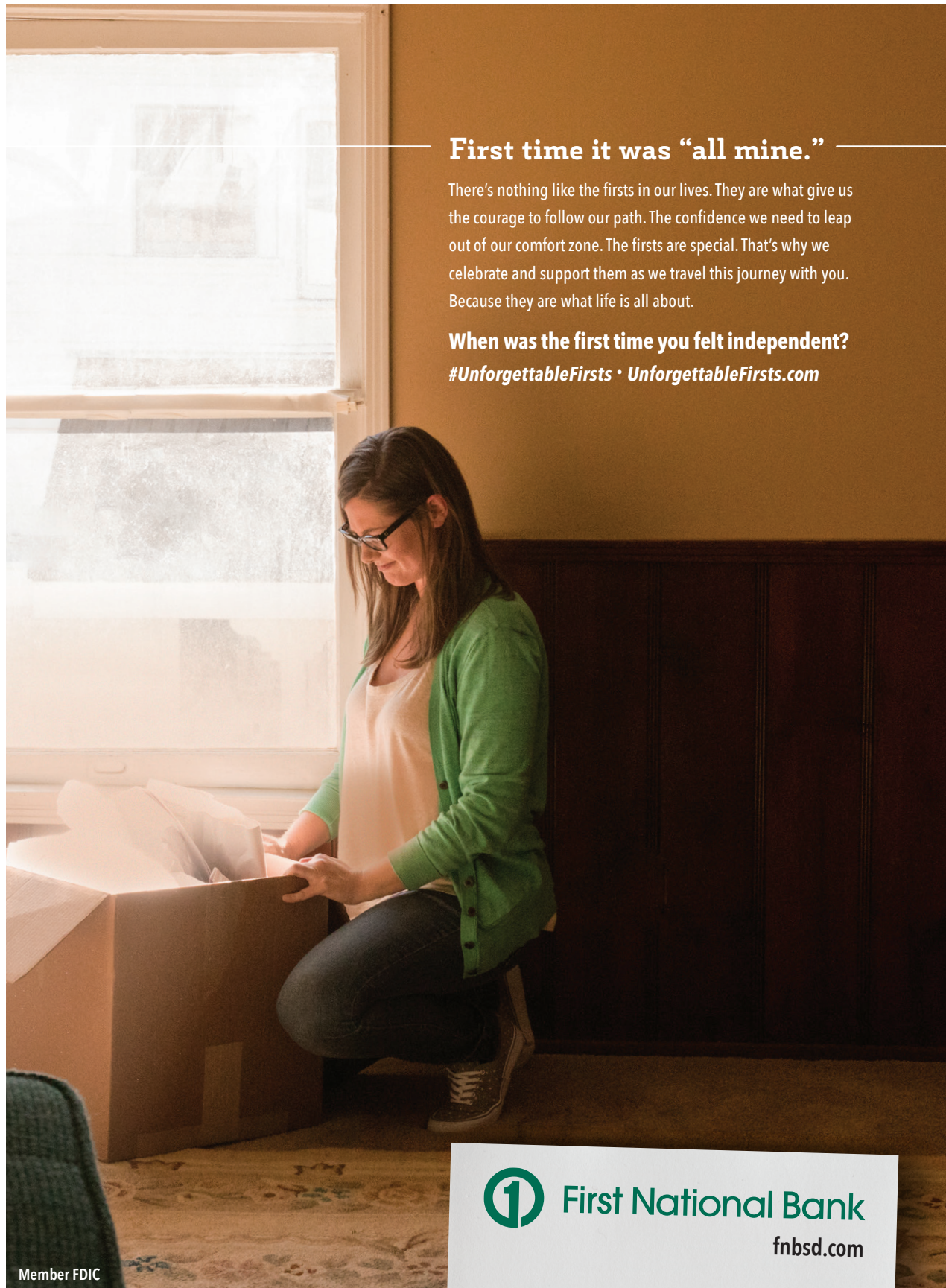
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SATURDAY 31ST • 8AM-MIDNIGHT
DOWNTOWN YANKTON, SD
OCTOBER 2015

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- VENDOR FAIR
- CORN PIT
- CHILI FEED
- HAY BALE MAZE
- SPOOKY MERIDIAN
- GHOST TRAIN
- PIG RACES
- CLASSIC FILM
- ZOMBIE WALK
- DUELING BANDS & COSTUME PARTY

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Yankton Harvest Halloween, LLC
FOR MORE INFO
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