

Sniffer dogs 'helped cops to arrest drug smugglers'

Case adjourned to July 8, 2019; accused plead not guilty

● Both men were referred to the Public Prosecution, which interrogated them and ordered to be detained.

● The second defendant confessed during the interrogation that he has been consuming narcotics.

TDT | Manama

Police dogs helped the Bahrain Customs team to arrest two Gulf nationals

who hid one kg of hashish in the dashboard of their car, in an attempt to smuggle it into the Kingdom.

This was revealed on Sunday, during the trial of both men before the High Criminal Court, which adjourned the case to July 8, 2019.

Court documents showed that the men were crossing the Causeway into Bahrain when the arrests were made.

Initially, the officers didn't find anything when they searched both men and inspected the car.

However, their suspicious behaviour and the dogs' continuous barking led to a thorough search.

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The first defendant denied that the confiscated drugs belonged to him, claiming that he only was delivering it to a person here in the Kingdom.

PROSECUTORS

When allowed inside the car, the dog led the officers to the drugs which was “profession-

ally” hidden behind the control keys of the car's air-conditioner, the Prosecutors said.

Both men were referred to the Public Prosecution, which interrogated them and ordered to be detained.

In the interrogation, the first defendant denied that the confiscated drugs belonged to him, claiming that he only was delivering it to a person here in the Kingdom, whom he had met at a coffee shop here and offered him BD300 to transport a plastic bag for him, under the condition that he wouldn't open it.

The first defendant told the interrogators that he accepted the offer and that he was handed

over the bag in Saudi Arabia by an unknown person.

As for the second defendant, he also denied any knowledge of the drugs, stating that his friend, the first defendant, had asked him to join on a leisure trip to Bahrain.

But, the second defendant confessed during the interrogation that he has been consuming narcotics (Captagon) for a long period of time.

The Public Prosecution accused the first defendant of smuggling hashish with the intention of selling, while the second defendant was accused of possessing and consuming drugs.

Appeals Court upholds death to drug smugglers

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The Supreme Court Of Appeal yesterday upheld the death sentences issued against two men who were earlier convicted of smuggling more than 65kg of hashish from Iran through the sea.

As reported by Tribune earlier, the two men were charged with smuggling of narcotics with an intention to sell.

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The defendants were arrested following a joint operation between the different departments of Interior Ministry, Bahrain Police Aviation and the Coast Guard.

POLICE SOURCES

The court also fined each one of them BD10,000 and fined the first defendant an additional BD10,000 for the possession of unlicensed Thuraya satellite mobile phone.

It acquitted a third man of the charges levelled against him and ordered the confiscation of seized items.

Court files showed that investigations of the Anti-narcotics Directorate in Interior Ministry revealed that the suspects were members of a narcotics network that gets drugs delivered for trafficking within the country in co-ordination with an Iranian national.

The defendants were arrested following a joint operation between the different departments of Interior Ministry, Bahrain Police Aviation and the Coast Guard, police sources said.

Witnesses testimonies awaited in trial of Turkish men caught with fake passports

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The First High Criminal Court adjourned a case involving two Turkish men who attempted to travel to the United Kingdom using fake passports through Bahrain International Airport, to July 9, 2019, to hear witnesses' testimonies.

A female employee of Bahrain Airport Services (BAS) notified the police at the airport when she suspected that the first man's passport was a fake one.

The woman also checked the visa that was printed on the man's passport and discovered it was also counterfeited. The second suspect was arrested separately, although he was planning to travel on the same flight.

A different BAS employee suspected him as his passport had a seven-month visa printed on it. Further investigation proved

that the visa was fake and the case was reported to the police.

The first defendant told the police that an Iranian man he had met in Turkey helped him with the issuance of the fake passport, adding that the latter advised him to travel to the UK through Bahrain as the procedures here are easy and less complicated than Turkey, the Prosecutors said.

The second defendant told the police a similar story.

The Public Prosecution accused both men of entering wrong data into the system of the General Directorate of Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs to enter Bahrain.

They were also accused of forging passports, in co-operation with an unknown third party, and using fake documents to illegally enter the Kingdom.

Drunk-driving convict loses plea

TDT | Manama

A drunken driver who stabbed two cops, lost his appeal against the seven years imprisonment previously issued against him by the First High Criminal Court last April.

This was announced as the Supreme Criminal Court of Appeal yesterday upheld the man's verdict.

The Bahraini remained in custody during the past few months pending further investigations that included undergoing a mental health examination, which proved that he was fit and responsible for his action.

The details of the case showed that the 37-year-old defendant was involved in a traffic accident while under the influence of alcohol in the

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The defendant's sudden attack caused the cop behind the wheel to lose control over the vehicle and ram it into the safety rail on the side of the road.

POLICE SOURCES

Capital Governorate.

A police patrol arrived at the scene and asked the man to get inside the vehicle to take him to the police station for recording his statement.

However, the man didn't resist arrest at first and co-operated with the policemen until they started driving towards the police station.

Then, the man, who sat in the backseat of the patrol vehicle, took out a knife that was concealed in his clothes and took the cops by surprise, stabbing one of them in the neck and the other in the arm.

The defendant's sudden attack caused the cop behind the wheel to lose control over the vehicle and ram it into the safety rail on the side of the road, according to police sources.

The policeman got out of the car and tried to control the defendant, who was in a hysterical state. The man stabbed the policeman twice in the back this time, leaving him bleeding on the floor.

According to the coroner's report, the first victim's wounds were serious and could've cost him his life if there was no urgent medical intervention.

BTEA concludes roadshow in the UK

● The roadshow comes in line with the BTEA's strategic outreach programme to promote the tourism brand 'Ours Yours'.

London

The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) concluded its roadshow held across the United Kingdom where the delegation met with representatives from various travel agencies and tour operators in the UK.

They also held meetings and discussed the Kingdom's distinctive tourism offering with an aim to attract large tourist groups.

The roadshow aimed to strengthen relations with travel and tourism offices in the UK, and introduce the Kingdom as a leading tourist destination by



BTEA officials with representatives of different tour operators in the UK.

exhibiting the country's unique tourist offerings to support the development of the local tourism sector, the BTEA said in a statement issued.

These efforts come in line with BTEA's strategy which focuses on four pillars, namely: Awareness, Attraction, Access and Accommodation, the state-

ment added.

“We have successfully concluded a roadshow in the UK in cooperation with our representative office, where we have been able to establish partnerships with a number of leading tourism companies in order to attract tourists to the Kingdom.

“We were also able to promote

our new tourism developments and projects that will undoubtedly attract some of the world's leading brands in hospitality, retail and leisure,” said the Director of Marketing and Tourism Promotion at the BTEA, Yousef Mohamed Al Khan.

The delegation was headed by various BTEA officials and in-

cluded representatives from the Kingdom's national airline, Gulf Air, alongside a number of hotels and travel agencies.

The roadshow kicked off in Manchester on June 17 and ended in London.

The roadshow comes in line with the BTEA's strategic outreach programme to promote

the tourism brand 'Ours Yours' aimed at showcasing the Kingdom as the ideal tourism destination to the regional and international markets.

It also further aims to promote the Kingdom's touristic offering as a main contributor to the overall economic growth in line with the Economic Vision 2030.