



TV UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

UN IN ACTION

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Languages: English, French, Spanish, Russian

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: DRUGS AND CRIME

VIDEO

ANIMATED FILM SEQUENCE

AUDIO

NATSOT – DRUG MULE SKIT

"He told me he would give me money" (2")

"He told me he would pay for my mother to get well." (3")

"He told me he could solve all my problems." (2")

"He told me I had to make one little trip to London." (2.5")

NARRATION

The film, "Eva goes to Foreign", shows why some women are enticed into the drug trade. (5")

NICOLE IN CAR

It's a scene that 33-year-old Nicole knows only too well. (4")

Nicole, who has asked us not to use her real name, became a drug 'courier'— a person who carries drugs for traffickers. (7")

STREET AT NIGHT

It all began when Nicole found it difficult to support her family. Her husband wasn't

NICOLE AT CAFÉ

helping anymore. She needed some quick cash. A friend said he could help her out. (10”)

NICOLE ON CAMERA

NICOLE: (English) **F**
“A girl passed by with her flashy car and he told me what she did.” (4”)

NICOLE INSIDE CAR

NARRATION
Nicole was intrigued. The girl was a courier. She thought this could help her start a new life in the UK. (5”)

NICOLE ON CAMERA

NICOLE: (English) **F**
“He introduced me to his friends. He told me to carry one kilo of cocaine and he would give me some money. It was probably 500 US for that.” (11”)

GLOVED OFFICER HANDLES LARGE BAG OF COCAINE

NARRATION
Not much money. But for Nicole, every dollar counted. (4”)

ANIMATED FILM SEQUENCE

ANIMATION NAT SOUND

MAP – ANIMATION

NARRATION
And with that, Nicole became one of the many couriers in Trinidad and Tobago. The twin-islands’ strategic location makes it an ideal trans-shipment point for traffickers. According to the Caribbean Community and Common Market, CARICOM, some 310 metric tons of cocaine transit the Caribbean

to Europe every year. Almost half of that is seized by customs. But drug couriers keep trying. (27")

NICOLE AT HOME

The dealers contacted Nicole two weeks after the initial rendezvous. They took her luggage, packed it, and gave it back to her at the airport. (8")

NICOLE AT AIRPORT

NICOLE: (English) F

"When we reached the airport, they had two flights in one line. The flight was boarding, so they just took everybody and started to let them pass through ... I didn't get checked." (11")

AIRPLANE DEPARTS

NATSOT – AIRPLANE LEAVING

AIRPORT BAGGAGE CLAIM

NARRATION

Nicole had managed to evade Customs in Trinidad ... but her luck ran out when she got to London. (6.5")

NICOLE ON CAMERA

NICOLE: (English) F

"An immigration man stopped us. He said: 'We believe that you have an illegal substance.'" (4.5")

DOG SNIFFS THROUGH LUGGAGE

NARRATION

Instead of one kilo of cocaine, they found four. (3")

OFFICER HANDLES BAG OF
COCAINE

Charged with narco-trafficking, Nicole was sentenced to seven years in prison. (5")

LUGGAGE CONVEYOR BELT / DOG
AT BAGGAGE CLAIM

Every year, UK Customs discover thousands of women carrying illicit drugs. (5")

UK CUSTOMS' BODY SCAN
MACHINE

But with new technology, it's getting harder to trick customs officers. (4")

X-RAY SCAN ON SCREEN

CUSTOMS OFFICER: (English) **F**
"We also have body scan machines, which is very similar to an X-Ray but not quite so powerful. And that will enable us to see all the intestines and the stomach area and we will be able to see any packages that are there." (13")

AIRPORT SECURITY

NARRATION
With tighter security at airports, traffickers are becoming smarter. (4")

BOATS AT DOCKS

James Philbert is Acting Commissioner of Police in Trinidad. He says traffickers are constantly searching for new ways to move their drugs. (7.5)

OFFICER SHOWS CONCEALED
DRUGS

PHILBERT: (English) **M**
"... embedding the drugs into furniture then using the drugs as bits of artifacts. Every conceivable method is being employed to take drugs out of the country." (17")

PHILBERT ON CAMERA

NARRATION

OFFICER SHOWS CONCEALED
DRUGS

The global trade in illegal drugs is worth an astonishing 523 billion dollars, according to the UN Office on Drugs and Crime. (8")

AERIAL SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE

Here the international community is helping out with intelligence, surveillance radars, and

COAST GUARD OFFICERS AT WORK

aerial patrols to keep drugs from coming in. And the coast guard is already putting that intelligence to work. (12")

COAST GUARD SEARCHES BOAT

NATSOT – STOPPING SMALL BOAT

PHOTOGRAPH OF BOAT LOADED
WITH DRUGS

This small boat was just fishermen on the way home. But this one, recently intercepted, was loaded with more than 800 kilos of

OFFICERS IN SLUM AREA

drugs. (9.5")

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ISLANDS

While trafficking rates are down, some drug king-pins from South America still persist in channelling narcotics through the islands to western markets. (10")

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations.