



## Report of interrogation from police report [#103945]

### 1.1 Details of the interrogation

Date: 24th of June 2020

Start: 16:04 hr

End: 17:27 hr

Interrogator: M.F. Van der Laan

Minute taker: S. Andersen

Witness: John Hessen

### 1.2 Minutes

-Introduction by M.F. Van der Laan-

#### **Could you tell us something about your responsibilities at the customs?**

Together with my team I am responsible for doing regular and random checks for all shipments that arrive in the port. We mainly do manual checks, in which we open containers to check freight on illegal products such as drugs or weapons. Normally I check the containers that are shipped from Central America.

#### **Could you tell me exactly how you encountered the drugs?**

Of course! As usual I was doing some random checks at the 22nd of June 2020, the day was almost over. Me and my team had already done around 50 checks, and we were checking the last shipment for that day. In the first container I opened, I found a bunch of pineapples. From my first point of view, it seemed normal. However, I know from my experience that there is always more to look at. That is why I grabbed a pineapple and shook it as a test. Because of the shaking, the upper part of the pineapple was slightly out of place. I felt that there was an incision in the middle of the pineapple. It was an incision that was made with great precision, so it had to be made by a human hand.

When I opened the pineapple, I saw that it was completely hollowed out. In the middle, a package was crumpled. I alerted my other colleagues and I told them I had found something suspicious. The others started opening more pineapples, and when it was clear that this was professional drugs smuggling we informed our boss, in line with our protocol.

#### **Something else that was off?**

Yes, one of my colleagues, Henry, was acting weird. He wanted to open the packages himself to make sure it was about smuggling drugs. However, according to our protocol, this is not the way we should act. I finally took the decision to call our boss and I did not spend any more attention to Henry.

The day after I took him aside to talk about the incident. He told me he just wanted to be sure that it was about something suspicious so we would not call our boss without a real suspicion. He told me he had some experience with false alarms before, and that his boss was not amused when he found out.

#### **Do you know anything about the distributor of the pineapples?**

Yes, the freight came from Costa Rica, from a company called Staima Agaric. I have talked to the owner, Matias, several months ago. I needed his last name for a proof of dispatch, but he reacted kind of weird. He told me that I should know his last name, since his company name is an anagram for his full name. Impossible to find out right? I told him I do not know any Spanish last names. Anyway, I've known him a bit longer and I know he's a puzzle enthusiast, so I went with it. I asked for a hint. He told me that his last name is in the top 50 of most popular Spanish last names (but without an accent on the i). I did not think it was very professional of him to do it in this way, I just wanted to quickly do my job. I eventually lost my patience, hung on him and

asked my colleague about his last name. My colleague knew it fortunately. However, I forgot what his name was eventually..

-Completion by M.F. Van der Laan-