



Government of Gibraltar
HM Customs

Press Release

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18 YEARS FOR IMPORTING DRUGS OPERATION SEA VIEW

Today at the Supreme Court before Acting Chief Justice Mr Anthony Dudley, three men pleaded guilty to charges of Importation of 500kgs of Cannabis Resin into Gibraltar. This dates back to a Customs Operation in July 2008, when Officers intercepted a Gibraltar registered vessel within territorial waters. The vessel was found to contain a total of seventeen bales of Cannabis Resin weighing approximately 500kgs.

Three of the defendants were arrested on board the vessel, whilst a further four, believed to be acting as spotters/controllers, were arrested in the area of the Spur Battery in the Upper Rock.

Derek William Kiley (43) British national resident in Windsor, UK and Mustafa Dris Mohamadi (49) Moroccan national and resident in Ceuta, both arrested onboard the vessel, pleaded guilty to the importation of the drugs and have each been sentenced to six years imprisonment. Meanwhile, Mohammed Azaifar (34) Moroccan national resident in Algeciras and arrested at Spur Battery, also pleaded guilty to the importation charge and was sentenced to six years and nine months.

The trial date for the other four defendants is set down for the 11th January 2010 and is expected to last for approximately three weeks.