
Spanish authorities seize 2.5 tonnes of hashish

By Editor

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MADRID, August 5, 2008 (AFP) - Spanish customs authorities said Tuesday they had seized 2.5 tonnes of hashish from a fishing boat off the Costa del Sol and detained the vessel's crew.

The operation, which involved a helicopter, was carried out in the early hours of Monday as the boat made its way to the port of La Caleta de Velez, the economy ministry, which oversees the customs office, said in a statement.

The ship and its six crew members -- two Moroccans and four Spaniards -- were then escorted to the port of Malaga, the statement added.

On Monday Spanish customs authorities said they had seized 3.8 tonnes of hashish on a yacht off the northwestern coast of Galicia and detained the boat's three Dutch crew members.

Spain, with its extensive coastline, is Europe's main point of entry for Moroccan cannabis and for cocaine from South America, mostly from Colombia.

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