

Gang busted for prison phone delivery with toy chopper

巴西犯罪集團以玩具直昇機走私手機入獄失敗



In a new spin on the term “roaming charge,” Brazilian police busted a gang trying to deliver cell phones to a top-security prison using a **remote-controlled** toy helicopter, media reported last week.

Four suspects were arrested outside a maximum security facility in the southern town of Presidente Venceslau in Brazil’s Sao Paulo state after the mini-chopper, 14 mobile telephones and the equivalent of US\$500 in cash were found in their rented car.

They had been stopped for a routine inspection because of their **proximity** to the prison, which holds organized crime bosses and other dangerous inmates.

The youngest of the suspects, a 17-year-old boy, reportedly confessed to police that they had received US\$5,000 to pay for the operation and would receive another US\$5,000 dollars if successful. He refused to say who was to receive the telephones.

Brazil’s criminals often continue illicit activities while **serving time**, relying on cell phones that are smuggled inside through a variety of **ingenious** ways.

In the past, carrier pigeons and doctored bibles have been used.

(AFP)

媒體上週報導，「漫遊費用」一詞有了新的解釋，巴西警方破獲一個黑幫企圖利用遙控玩具直昇機，走私手機到一所高度警戒監獄。

警方在巴西聖保羅州南部文塞斯勞總統鎮一所高度警戒的監獄外，逮捕了四名嫌犯，並在他們租來的車中找到一架迷你直昇機、十四支手機，以及折合五百美元的現金。

當他們駛近這所囚禁犯罪集團首腦和其他危險囚犯的監獄時，被警方攔下做例行性檢查。

報導指出，其中最年輕的一名十七歲男性嫌犯對警方坦承，他們在行動前收了五千元美金佣金，等事成之後會再收到五千元美金。但他拒絕透露這些手機的收受者。

巴西的罪犯服刑時通常會繼續不法活動，而管道正是以各種不同方式精心安排走私進監獄的手機。

他們曾經使用的方式包括信鴿以及動過手腳的聖經。

(法新社／翻譯：袁星塵)

In this photo released by Brazil’s military police, a remote-controlled model helicopter is shown in Sao Paulo, on May 24, 2009.

PHOTO: AP/MILITARY POLICE

這張由巴西憲兵部提供的照片中，是今年五月二十四日在聖保羅拍攝的一架遙控模型直昇機。

照片：美聯社／憲兵部

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. **remote-controlled** /r mɒt k n trɒld/ adj.

遙控的 (yao2 kong4 de5)

例: Ian got a remote-controlled car for his birthday.

(易安生日時收到一台遙控汽車。)

2. **proximity** /pr k s m t / n.

接近 (jie1 jin4)

例: Anyone within close proximity to the accident should contact the police.

(事故發生地點附近的民眾都應跟警方聯絡。)

3. **ingenious** / n inj s/ adj.

精心策劃的 (jing1 xin1 ce4 hua4 de5)

例: The ingenious plan to avoid paying taxes failed.

(這個精心策劃的逃漏稅計畫失敗了。)

IDIOM POINT 重要片語

serve time

入獄服刑

Somebody who is **serving time** is in prison. Other expressions are **doing bird**, or **doing porridge**.

Examples: “Sally got caught speeding when she was younger and had to **serve time**,” or “The judge decided that the thief had to **serve time** for stealing a handbag.”

說某人「**serve time**」，意思就是他在坐牢服刑。其他說法還有「**do bird**」或「**do porridge**」。

例如：「莎莉年輕時超速被逮，必須入獄服刑」，或是「法官判那個偷竊手提包的小偷必須入獄服刑」。

OUT LOUD 對話練習

Des: How’s everything these days?

Ursula: Not too good. I had my handbag stolen last week.

Des: Did the police catch the guy who did it?

Ursula: No, they didn’t.

Des: Do you think they’ll catch him?

Ursula: I hope so. And I hope he **serves time** for it.

Des: So do I.

黛絲：最近一切都還好嗎？

烏蘇拉：不太好，我的包包上星期被偷了。

黛絲：警方有抓到小偷嗎？

烏蘇拉：還沒。

黛絲：妳覺得他們會抓到他嗎？

烏蘇拉：我希望如此，我也希望他會被抓去關。

黛絲：我也是。