# British nationals face death penalty in Bali drug case amid Indonesia’s tough stance



Three British nationals have found themselves ensnared in a harrowing legal battle in Indonesia, facing potential death sentences for allegedly smuggling over two pounds of cocaine into Bali. The accused, Jonathan Christopher Collyer, 28, and Lisa Ellen Stocker, 29, were arrested on 1 February after customs officers discovered suspicious items in their luggage, which they had disguised as food packages. Prosecutor I Made Dipa Umbara revealed in court that a laboratory analysis confirmed the presence of 993.56 grams (2.19 pounds) of cocaine concealed within 17 sachets of Angel Delight, a powdered dessert mix. The estimated street value of the drugs is approximately 6 billion rupiah, or £272,212.

Two days post-arrest, a third suspect, Phineas Ambrose Float, 31, was apprehended during a controlled police delivery, alleged to have received the drugs after the original pair handed them over in a hotel parking area in Denpasar. This trio's smuggling exploits were not limited to this attempt; they reportedly succeeded in trafficking cocaine into Bali on two previous occasions before their arrest, as highlighted by Ponco Indriyo, Deputy Director of the Bali Police Narcotics Unit. Following the reading of charges in court on Tuesday, the proceedings were adjourned until 10 June, when witness testimonies are expected to be heard. Both defendants and their legal representatives remained tight-lipped, refraining from comments to media personnel.

Indonesia is infamous for its stringent drug laws, which can result in the death penalty for those convicted of serious narcotics offenses. Death row inmates are sometimes executed by firing squad, a grim reality for many. Currently, around 530 individuals, including 96 foreigners, are on death row in Indonesia, primarily for drug-related crimes. The last executions occurred in July 2016, with the death penalty having become a focal point in the country’s fight against drug trafficking.

The case echoes the story of Lindsay Sandiford, a British woman who has been on death row in Indonesia for over a decade after being convicted of smuggling approximately 3.8 kilograms (8.4 pounds) of cocaine in 2012. Sandiford claimed she was coerced by a criminal gang threatening her family, yet the court imposed the death penalty instead of the 15-year prison term recommended by prosecutors, citing the damaging impact on Bali’s image and the government's anti-drug initiatives. Her case has drawn significant attention, illustrating the severe consequences of drug trafficking in Indonesia, especially for foreign nationals. The UK government has consistently opposed the death penalty and articulated its stance to Indonesian officials, highlighting the diplomatic sensitivities surrounding such cases.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has identified Indonesia as a major hub for drug smuggling, a situation exacerbated by the targeting of its youth by international drug syndicates. As this latest case unfolds, it serves as a stark reminder of the perilous intersection between drug trafficking and global tourism in Indonesia, a nation that continues to grapple with the dual challenges of economic dependency on tourism and the fierce enforcement of its drug laws.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/southeast-asia/british-bali-cocaine-angel-delight-b2763338.html)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/southeast-asia/british-bali-cocaine-angel-delight-b2763338.html), [[2]](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jan/22/indonesia-sentences-briton-death-drugs)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://news.sky.com/story/bali-court-upholds-britons-death-penalty-10449407), [[4]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-21149631), [[6]](https://news.sky.com/story/bali-lindsay-sandiford-fights-death-penalty-10454837)
* Paragraph 4 – [[5]](https://www.cnn.com/2013/01/22/world/asia/indonesia-uk-death-sentence/index.html), [[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lindsay_Sandiford)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/southeast-asia/british-bali-cocaine-angel-delight-b2763338.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/jan/22/indonesia-sentences-briton-death-drugs> - In January 2013, Lindsay Sandiford, a 56-year-old British woman, was sentenced to death in Indonesia for attempting to smuggle £1.6 million worth of cocaine into Bali. Arrested in May 2012, she claimed she was coerced by a criminal gang threatening her children. Despite prosecutors recommending a 15-year prison term, the court imposed the death penalty, citing the damage to Bali's image and the government's anti-drug efforts. Sandiford expressed regret and planned to appeal the decision.
3. <https://news.sky.com/story/bali-court-upholds-britons-death-penalty-10449407> - In April 2013, the Bali High Court upheld the death sentence for Lindsay Sandiford, a British woman convicted of smuggling cocaine into Bali. The court rejected her appeal, and she was given 14 days to appeal to Indonesia's Supreme Court. Sandiford's lawyer argued she acted under threat of violence to her family. The UK government opposed the sentence, with a Foreign Office spokesman stating, 'The UK strongly opposes the death penalty and has repeatedly made representations to the Indonesian government on this matter.'
4. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-21149631> - In January 2013, Lindsay Sandiford, a 56-year-old British woman, was sentenced to death in Indonesia for attempting to smuggle £1.6 million worth of cocaine into Bali. Arrested in May 2012, she claimed she was coerced by a criminal gang threatening her children. Despite prosecutors recommending a 15-year prison term, the court imposed the death penalty, citing the damage to Bali's image and the government's anti-drug efforts. Sandiford expressed regret and planned to appeal the decision.
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6. <https://news.sky.com/story/bali-lindsay-sandiford-fights-death-penalty-10454837> - In January 2013, Lindsay Sandiford, a 56-year-old British woman, was sentenced to death in Indonesia for attempting to smuggle £1.6 million worth of cocaine into Bali. Arrested in May 2012, she claimed she was coerced by a criminal gang threatening her children. Despite prosecutors recommending a 15-year prison term, the court imposed the death penalty, citing the damage to Bali's image and the government's anti-drug efforts. Sandiford expressed regret and planned to appeal the decision.
7. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lindsay_Sandiford> - Lindsay Sandiford, born on 25 June 1956, is a British former legal secretary and convicted drug smuggler who was sentenced to death in January 2013 by a court in Indonesia after being found guilty of smuggling cocaine into Bali. Although death is the maximum punishment for drug-related offences under Indonesian law, the severity of the sentence was greeted with shock because prosecutors had not recommended the death penalty for Sandiford. The ruling was also condemned by the British Government and anti-death penalty campaigners.