

Trio Faces Sentencing On \$2M Drug Charges

By **JIM SMITH**
Daily News Staff Writer

Three partners who made and sold \$2 million worth of methamphetamine (speed) over a 19-month period now face prison terms of up to 10 years after plea bargaining with federal prosecutors.

Five of their underlings, including a former Philadelphia police officer, could be jailed for up to five years, said prosecutor Louis Ruch, chief of the U.S. attorney's criminal division.

Two of the partners, Michael Corsetti, 26, a bar manager from Southwest Philadelphia, and Roofers Union member Ronald T. Pearce, 35, of Norristown, yesterday pleaded guilty to conspiracy to manufacture the drug, Ruch said.

The third partner, John Drum, 36, of Holbrook Street near Dicks, was to enter a guilty plea today, Ruch said.

U.S. District Judge John P. Fullam will sentence them Oct. 26, along with two of the men who worked for the three ringleaders — ex-policeman Dennis DeLuca, 30, of Torresdale Avenue near Aubrey, and Kenneth Smith, 34, of Wilmington, Del.

DeLuca, a seven-year veteran who was fired from the Police Department in 1979, yesterday admitted selling one pound of the drug to an FBI informant. Smith pleaded guilty to conspiracy.

Three other underlings pleaded guilty to drug manufacturing charges earlier and will be sentenced Oct. 8 in Scranton.

They are Robert E. Hoffner, 36, an owner of Hoff's Hut Bar, Allegheny Avenue near Kensington; James Robinson, 37, of Dewey Street near Harley; and used car salesman Gerald Cohen, 48, of Lindenwold, N.J.

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