

Pablo the Mule dog; My Chat With a Customs Officer

(background car noise)

Pablo: Ah, Heathrow, my fourth favourite London airport.

Pablo: As you can tell by the massive hole in my stomach I've had a rough time of it recently. Maybe you could tell me what happened to me?

Customs Officer: You were transported into this country where you were probably then taken into a dark room somewhere where your belly was cut open and then the packages were taken out of your stomach.

Pablo: It's a pretty rough way to start your day I can tell you. Then what happened?

Customs Officer: You were probably just left for dead Pablo.

Pablo: Typical! Man's best friend my missing liver. It's always the dogs that get it in the neck. They should use cats.

Customs Officer: I've seen all sorts of ways to smuggle drugs Pablo.

Pablo: Like what?

Customs Officer: Some people will swallow packages, and that will go into their stomach so they can avoid the controls at airports and ports.

Pablo: Human drug mules, but how much 'coke' can a human bring in this way?

Customs Officer: On average people will maybe swallow up to seventy to a hundred packages inside them.

Pablo: Gosh is that safe?

Customs Officer: It's a very dangerous activity because those packages can split while they're in your stomach and you can be dead within fifteen minutes.

Pablo: Yikes, but assuming they don't split how do people get the packages out of their bellies?

Customs Officer: Well through a natural process I'm afraid Pablo.

Pablo: No, are you saying what I think you're saying?

Customs Officer: They'll go to the bathroom..

Pablo: Yep you are.

Customs Officer: They'll fish it out, through their faeces. And once they've done that the cocaine ends up on the street.

Pablo: Eurgh, that's disgusting. So they pull it out of their... And it's covered in... And people put it up their...?

Customs Officer: Pretty grubby isn't it?

Pablo: Grubby doesn't even begin to cover it! Sounds like you've got your work cut out, maybe I could lend a hand. I could be a sniffer dog?

Customs Officer: Sorry Pablo, the dogs we hire need to be a little more... Alive.

Pablo: Thanks, that didn't hurt my feelings or anything.

Pablo: Well, I've seen a lot of people and I've heard a lot of stuff but I'm still pretty confused.

Pablo: But I'll get to the bottom of this coke stuff even if it kills... Even if it takes a really long time. Nothing's going to stop me! Marvellous.