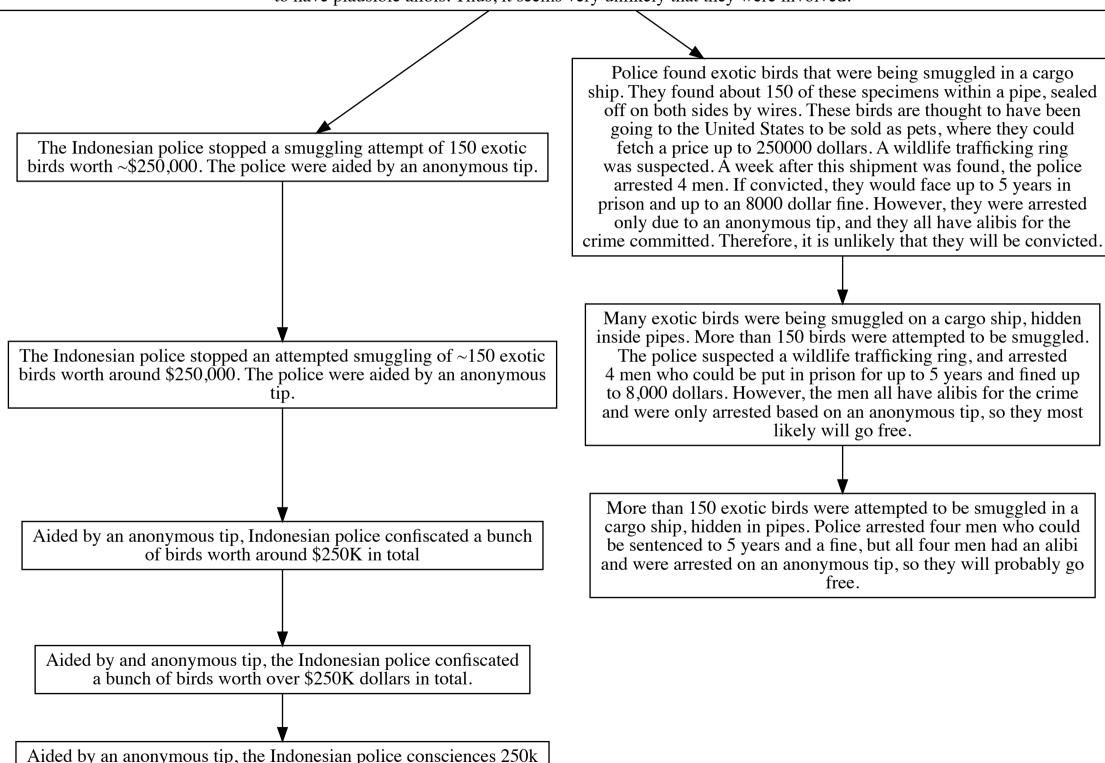
Thanks to a routine cargo vessel check, the Indonesian police were able to prevent a smuggling attempt. They found about 150 exotic birds stuffed into plastic drain pipes that were sealed at each end by a wire. The animals were meant to be transported to the US, where they were to be sold as pets. Officials assume that the operation was planned and executed by a wildlife trafficking ring. This delivery would have been worth approximately \$250,000. Nearly one week after discovering the illegally captured birds, the police arrested four men who purportedly attempted to commit the smuggling. The suspects face up to five years in prison and a fine of up to \$8000 if found guilty. The case rests on an anonymous tip, which provides a very weak case for the suspects' guilt. Moreover, all four suspects appear to have plausible alibis. Thus, it seems very unlikely that they were involved.



worth of birds.