

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

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Geneva,

August 9th, 1927.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER
DANGEROUS DRUGS.

Seizure of Drugs in Berlin.

Communicated by the Representative of Germany.

Note by the Secretary-General.

The Secretary-General has the honour to circulate the attached letter from the Representative of Germany, for the information of the States Members of the League, the Parties to the Hague Convention of 1912 and the members of the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs.

Berlin,

July 10th, 1927.

Translation.

I have the honour to communicate to you the information so far obtained from the preliminary examination by the police with regard to the international gang which was discovered in Berlin at the end of 1926 to be carrying on an extensive traffic in drugs.

The gang was divided into two groups of dealers, one of which smuggled narcotics to the Far East, the other to America.

The intermediary and general agent of the gang was Dr. Anton Sluczewski, born on May 9th, 1890 at Sosnowiec in Russia.

The group of dealers for the East consisted of the following agents and purchasers:

Harry Strykowski, born on January 13th, 1891 at Bielsk (Poland),
Boris Bogdanowski, " September 18th, 1884 at Melitopol
(Russia).
Mehdi Assadulaeff, " September 18th, 1888 at Isfahan (Persia)
Israel Litwak, " June 10th, 1893 at Berliansk, (Russia)
Novesou and Bischutzki,

and the following customers, all commercial dealers:

Kawada		at Dairen
Borks)	
Brinberg)	at Harbin
Tribuch)	
Umoda)	

Bogdanowski, who has also passed under the name of
Bagdanoff, gave the names of the following persons as traffickers,
but they were not in Germany at the time of the enquiries:

Josef Eisenberg, born July 25th 1887, at Bielogozolla,
Samuel Gorfund, (alias Horfung, Horfinkel, Pelja) born April
5th, 1881 at Odessa,

Samsonowicz,
Blietscheit,
Stanoff,
Alexejew,
Christoff and
Glussmann.

The group of traffickers for America included:

Michael Bistrizki, born September 6th, 1878 at Kieff, and
Michael Lipkes, born December 1st, 1893 at Kieff, who were known
as "Grunbaum", uncle and nephew.

These two persons, who have absconded, declared that
they were agents on probation for Germany, and that their group
also had agents in Paris and London. They added that they had
behind them ten American banks and even members of the New York
police.

Further, a merchant of the name of Georgio Ambrosio Alvazzi, born on April 23rd, 1882 at Orbe in Switzerland, appears to be associated with this group. The forwarding firm "Tokio-Gesellschaft" of Hamburg, which has also been mentioned, never existed.

Sources of Supply.

In Germany Sluczewski succeeded in obtaining the services of one Eoharti, the authorized representative of "Theodor Teichgraber A.G." of Berlin, a limited liability company which has since failed and been dissolved. Fictitious orders were sent from countries with no certificate system, export licences applied for, and the goods despatched apparently in order. In this way 147 kg. of narcotic drugs were exported between 1924 and 1926; three other smaller orders were given to two other firms. The documents in support of these orders consisted of original letters from the Persian firm of Issacharoff and the firm of Assadulaoff at Teheran, as well as a letter from the Persian Legation to the effect that this Teheran firm dealt in narcotics.

In 1926 760 kgs. of drugs were delivered from France by the firm of Hoffmann, La Roche and Co. of Paris through the firm of Gallix, Dubois, Muller and Co. These goods were to have been bought originally from Hoffmann, La Roche and Co. at Bâle. The person giving the order, however, was referred to the French firm because at that time no export licence was required in France.

At least 150 kg. were bought in Switzerland from the firm of Wecker, Frey and Co. of Zurich. This consignment, which was declared as toys, is said to have been seized in New York.

Method of Consignment.

The goods bought in Germany were regularly handed over for despatch to Intrag (Internationale Transport-Gesellschaft) in Berlin. Employees of this firm, Frau Marie Marschner, née Kohn, born August 9th, 1896, at Budapest and Willi Ritter, since deceased, changed the destination and packings of the consignments after they had been cleared by the customs and thus managed to secure possession of the drugs on behalf of their clients.

The drugs from Paris were mostly sent to the free port of Copenhagen as "chemical products" and were usually repacked as postal parcels by Strykowski on the premises of the forwarding firm of Bondix and Co. and sent on by post.

The persons named include several, such as Aisenberg, Strykowski and Samsonovitch, who have long been known to the Opium Committee as traffickers.

The German authorities have instituted judicial proceedings within the limits of their competence.

(Signed) Dr. Anselmino.