

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Communicated to the  
Council and the Members  
of the League.

C.41.M.41.1944.XI.  
(O.C/A.R.1941/52)  
(O.C/A.R.1942/23)  
(Issued in English only)

Geneva, December 7th, 1944.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

ANNUAL REPORTS BY GOVERNMENTS FOR 1941 AND 1942.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

Communicated by the Government of the United Kingdom.

Note by the Acting Secretary-General.

In accordance with Article 21 of the Convention of 1931 for limiting the Manufacture and regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, the Acting Secretary-General has the honour to communicate the above-mentioned report to the parties to the Convention. The report is also communicated to other States and to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium and other Dangerous Drugs.

(For the form of annual reports, see document O.C.1600.)

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A. GENERAL.

I. Laws and Publications.

1. (a) Raw Opium and Ganja Regulations 1938 - made under Section 5 of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance No.28 of 1928.

(b) Regulations relating to the sale of "marihuana" cigarettes and Regulations made by the Governor under the powers of the Emergency Powers (Defence) Act, 1939, and the Emergency Powers (Colonial Defence) Order in Council 1939 dated May 26th, 1942.

2. Copy of (b) attached for information. (1)

III. Control of International Trade.

1. System of Import Certificates worked satisfactorily.

V. Illicit Traffic.

1. War conditions have undoubtedly limited the scope of activities in the illicit traffic of opium and other dangerous

(1) Note by the Secretariat.

See page 3 of the present document.

drugs, but as reports indicate that smuggling, though on a small scale, still continues - the usual vigilance and pressure are being maintained.

It is alleged, however, that American citizens now here use cocaine and morphine to some extent, but there is no evidence to prove this. Enquiry into this is still continuing.

3. See attached statement showing prosecutions and penalties imposed. (1)

6. The very strict control of imports exercised at the present time is in itself a factor contributing to the decrease in the trade. The approximate prices for illicit purchases are:-

(a) raw opium from \$200 to \$800 per lb. (454.5 grammes). The reason for the increase in price is that it is becoming difficult for opium to come into the colony.

(b) prepared opium \$80.00 per ounce (28.4 grammes).

(c) opium dross \$30.00 per ounce.

(d) cocaine and morphine - from 12 ¢ to 48 ¢ per grain (0.065 grammes).

(e) laudanum - \$6.00 per ounce.

Retail prices of other dangerous drugs are not available.

## B. RAW MATERIALS

### VII. Raw Opium. VIII. Coca Leaf.

Raw opium and coca leaf are not produced in this Colony.

### IX. Indian Hemp.

1. The growing of Cannabis sativa is forbidden by Law.

4. There have been no detections of Cannabis indica under cultivation.

5. Production is not permitted.

6. The use of Indian hemp in the form of ganja is permitted under restrictions imposed by regulations under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (700 lbs. per annum - 318 kg. 150 gr.)

7. There is no indication that the smuggling of Indian hemp is prevalent.

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(1) Note by the Secretariat.  
See document C.61 M.61 1944.XI.

C. MANUFACTURED DRUGS.

1. (a) There is no manufacture of drugs.

(b) Diacetylmorphine: Importer sends order to a firm in England: Government sends certificate of import to Home Office in accordance with Secretary of State's despatch of 16.6.1934.

2. (a) Not applicable.

(b) The import certificate system has been in operation and has worked satisfactorily. There have been no modifications in the system or in the conditions for granting of licenses.

4. Trade and Distribution.

(a) Authorisation is given to registered medical practitioners, registered dentists, registered veterinary surgeons and licensed druggists. There is no manufacture of preparations.

(b) Conditions subject to which the person described in (a) above may engage in the sale and dispensing of dangerous drugs are prescribed in the Dangerous Drugs Regulations, 1929. In 1935, an officer was appointed by the Medical Board of Trinidad to exercise supervision over the books and registers and the conditions of storage of narcotic drugs.

D. OTHER QUESTIONS.

XII. Prepared Opium.

1. The habit of smoking opium among:

(a) national population has never existed;

(b) alien population (Chinese) has been considerably reduced owing to the difficulty in getting opium into the Colony.

The use of opium for smoking is confined to the Chinese section of the population. The illicit introduction of opium is limited by strict preventive measures.

Smoking is carried on in the attics or other secluded parts of Chinese living quarters and information is rarely obtained to enable raids to be carried out.

2. The preventive Service Branch of the Customs and Excise Department in conjunction with the Constabulary make every endeavour to preclude illicit importation, traffic or possession of prepared opium (and other dangerous drugs). Prosecutions are undertaken by the Chief Preventive Officer vide V (3) hereof.

3. During the years 1941 and 1942 small quantities of raw and prepared opium were again confiscated.

4. The small quantities confiscated have been destroyed.

DANGEROUS DRUGS ORDINANCE, 1940.

Prosecutions and penalties imposed.

1 9 4 1

Number of persons involved: 15  
Nationality of persons involved:  
Chinese : 12  
East Indian : 1  
British West Indian : 2

Fines were imposed in eleven cases. They varied from 2.50 to 300 dollars. The imprisonment imposed in 10 cases as alternative of fines varied from 14 days to 1 year. In one case there was a sentence of imprisonment without fine, one case was withdrawn and one dismissed.

1 9 4 2

Number of persons involved: 15  
Nationality of persons involved:  
Chinese : 14  
Venezuelian : 1

Fines were imposed in 12 cases and were paid in 7 cases. They varied from 50 to 300 dollars. The imprisonment imposed in 11 cases as alternative of fines varied from six weeks to six months. In two cases the accused was dismissed, in four reprimanded and discharged and one case was withdrawn.

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Erratum.

Geneva, October 31st, 1945.

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ERRATUM.

At the bottom of page 1, instead of

- (1) Note by the Secretariat:  
See page 3 of the present document

read:

- (1) Note by the Secretariat:  
See document C.61.M.61.1944.XI.

At the bottom of page 2, instead of

- (1) Note by the Secretariat:  
See document C.61.M.61.1944.XI

read:

- (1) Note by the Secretariat:  
See page 4 of the present document.
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