

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Communicated to the
Council and the Members
of the League.

C.45.M.45.1944.XI.
(O.C/A.R.1942/25)
(Issued in English only)

Geneva, November 25th, 1944.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

ANNUAL REPORTS BY GOVERNMENTS FOR 1942.

BASUTOLAND.

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.)

A. GENERAL.

III. Control of International Trade.

1. The import certificate system worked satisfactorily.
2. No changes.
3. No important modification of any certificates.
4. Basutoland is not an exporting country.
5. No instances of forged certificates have come to the knowledge of this Administration during the year 1942.
6. No difficulties were encountered.
7. Not applicable to Basutoland.
8. Basutoland is not affected.

IV. International Co-operation.

Co-operation is maintained with the Union of South Africa in the control of the traffic in "dagga".

V. Illicit Traffic.

1. The only illicit traffic in narcotic substances is in dagga, and necessary legislation against its cultivation and use is in force.

It is an indigenous plant and grows in most parts of the Territory. Chiefs and Headmen are held responsible for its eradication in their respective areas, and the Government on the Reserves. When the growing of the plant is seen by the police on patrol they report the fact to the Chief or Headman, who carries out its destruction. In every case which has been reported by the police, action has been taken.

Smuggling it out of the country still continues. Profitable markets are to be found in the larger towns in the Union.

The ever-increasing use of motor cars for transport has made it more difficult to stop this smuggling.

Close co-operation between the Basutoland and the Union police in an endeavour to suppress this crime continues.

2. Not applicable to Basutoland.

3. The following is a list of prosecutions, convictions and penalties imposed during the year:-

A. Number of prosecutions 86
Number of convictions 78

Penalties imposed Fine of £151.17.6 or imprisonment with hard labour for sixteen years, one month, three weeks, two days.

B. Quantities of dagga confiscated : 594 lbs. 12 1/2 ounces (270 kg. 528 gr.)
Method of disposal ... Destroyed by fire.

C. Narcotic substances confiscated on account of illicit import or export other than in connection with criminal prosecutions.

N I L.

4-5. Not applicable to Basutoland.

6. Dagga is still purchased by buyers from the Union, at prices ranging from 1/6 to 2/- per lb. (454.5 grammes) and is retailed at a handsome profit.

B. RAW MATERIALS.

VII. Raw Opium. VIII. Coca Leaf.

Do not grow in Basutoland.

IX. Indian Hemp.

1. Indian hemp (locally known as "dagga") is an indigenous plant and grows in most parts of the Territory. It is used by a limited number of natives and is smoked pure and mixed with native tobacco in pipes or through a special pipe in the ground.

2. Cultivation prohibited.

3. Cultivation and harvesting prohibited.

4. Constant police vigilance.

5. (a) Not permitted.
(b) None.

6. Not applicable.

7. Chiefs are responsible for the destruction of the wild dagga plant in their areas but, owing to the nature of the country, particularly in mountainous regions, eradication is very difficult.

8. No new developments.

C. MANUFACTURED DRUGS.

X. Internal control of Manufactured Drugs.

1, 2 and 3 not applicable. No drugs are manufactured in Basutoland, nor is there any trade in drugs except as is shown below in sub-section 4.

4. Classes of persons to whom permits are granted for use or possession of drugs are:-

One retail chemist, seventeen doctors of whom fourteen are in Government employ, and two Government veterinary officers.

5. Inspection by Director of Medical Services.
