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Geneva, July 7th, 1945.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS.

ANNUAL REPORTS BY GOVERNMENTS FOR 1943.

I R A Q

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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# REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ

For the Calendar year 1943.

On

The Traffic in Opium and Other Dangerous Drugs.

## A GENERAL.

### I. *Laws and Publications*

- (1) & (2) During the year 1943 no new laws, orders or regulations were made.
- (3) No official publications likely to be of interest to the Opium Advisory Committee were issued during the year.

### II. *Administration*

- (1) (a) No modifications in the administrative arrangements for the execution of the international conventions were made during the year.
- (b) No change was made under this item.
- (c) No difficulties were encountered in the application thereof the majority of consignments imported reached destination intact though it took quite a long time due to war condition.
- (2) No special development occurred in regard to addiction in this country during the year.

### III. *Control of International Trade*

(1) The system of import certificates for the control of imports and exports of Opium and other dangerous drugs has generally worked satisfactorily and no difficulties having arisen during the year.

(2) There has been no change in the Ministry (Ministry of Social Affairs) responsible for issuing import certificates and export authorisation. No diversion or transit certificates were issued during the year.

(3) The conditions of issue of import certificates and export authorisations have not been modified.

(4) Iraq is not an exporting country but all copies of export authorisations sent to the Government during the year were endorsed and returned in accordance with the provisions of article (13) of the Geneva Convention of 1925.

(5) No cases of forged or falsified import certificates or export authorisations have come to the knowledge of the authorities at any time during the year.

(6) No difficulties have arisen with regard to transit, transshipment or diversion and there are no free ports, free zones or bonded warehouses for depositing dangerous drugs in this country.

(7) There were no transaction in dangerous drugs during the year with countries which have not adopted the import certificates system. Import of dangerous drugs into this country during the year has been made exclusively either from the united kingdom or the united states of America.

(8) No change has taken place under this item, and no Indian hemp on special certificates has been imported during the year, and no difficulties have been encountered.

### IV. *International Co-Operation*

(1) No international treaties or agreements were concluded during the year under review.

(2) No points of importance or interest as regards co-operation with other governments on this matter have taken place.

### V. *Illicit Traffic*

(1) There is nothing of special interest or importance to report regarding illicit traffic during the year under review which as last year is still confined to prepared Opium and Hashish. These are smuggled into the interior from the neighbouring countries of Iran and Syria and partly from India.

Addicts in the country obtain these only through illegitimate channels.

There were no confiscations of other dangerous drugs in Iraq during the year other than Opium and Hashish and there are no other details or particulars as regards method of smuggling these drugs into this country than those given in previous government's reports.

(2) Opium poppy, coca plant and Indian hemp are not cultivated in Iraq and there is no evidence of its illicit existence.

(3 & 4) During the year there were 92 cases of prosecution and convictions for offences connected with illicit traffic in Opium and Hashish etc. penalties imposed in the form of fines totalled £208/11/- and the total of punishment inflicted was four years, six months and twenty five days. There were four important cases, two in Baghdad in which 7,920 Kg. of Opium and 3,080 Kg. of Hashish were seized and other two cases at Mosul in which there were a seizure of 30,190 Kg. of Hashish.

(5) The total amounts of substances confiscated by the Customs authorities in the country during the year is given as follows:—

Opium	kg.	55,719
Hashish	..	34,008
Sukhta	..	1,001
Shira		0,002

All drugs seized during the year were destroyed.

(6) No reliable information as to the prices of drugs in the illicit traffic is available.

Price of Opium is reported to be £5/-/- per kilogramme and Hashish at £50/-/- per kilogramme. Calculating at these rates the total price of Opium and Hashish confiscated in the country during the year amounts to £278/12/- and £1700/8/6 respectively.

VI. *Other information including any suggestions which might be useful either to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Opium or to Governments.*

The authorities here are of the opinion that the low prices at which Hashish is sold in Syria and Opium in Persia may be attributed to the illicit traffic in Iraq of these two drugs.

**B. Raw Materials.**

VII. *Raw Opium.*

The Opium poppy is not cultivated in Iraq and no raw Opium is produced.

VIII. *Coca Leaf.*

The coca plant is not cultivated in Iraq.

IX. *Indian Hemp.*

The Indian Hemp plant (Cannabis Sativa) does not grow wild in Iraq and is not cultivated there.

No developments have occurred as regards the use of the galenical preparations (extract and tincture) of Indian Hemp.

**C. Manufactured Drugs.**

X. *International Control of Manufactured Drugs.*

Full information was given in this government annual report for the year 1940 and there are no alterations or modification to report this year.

XI. *Chapter IV. of the Hague Opium Convention 1912.*

There is nothing to report.

XII. *Prepared Opium.*

The possession and use of prepared Opium other than for medicinal use is totally prohibited.

Strict vigilance is exercised by both Customs and Police Officers to prevent illicit traffic and Opium smoking appears to be steadily diminishing in some parts of the country. The number of persons known to the Police during the year 1943 as being addicted to the use of Opium and Hashish was (771) and (355) respectively.

All Opium or Hashish confiscated from smokers was destroyed.

XIII. *Other Drugs.*

There is nothing to report.

**D. Other Questions.**

XIV. *Additional Information.*

The estimated population of Iraq at 1943 was 5,000,000.