

CONVENTION FOR LIMITING THE MANUFACTURE AND
REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS OF 13 JULY 1931
AS AMENDED BY THE PROTOCOL OF 11 DECEMBER 1946

INDIA

SEIZURES OF OPIUM AT BOMBAY DURING JUNE AND JULY 1946

Report communicated by the Government of the United Kingdom
19 December 1946

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with Article 23 of the Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs of 13 July 1931, as amended by the Protocol of 11 December 1946, the Secretary-General has the honour to communicate the following report on the above-mentioned seizures to the Members of the United Nations and to the other parties to the Convention.

Date of seizure:	22nd. June 1946
Port of seizure and the department making the seizure:	Bombay, Preventive Department, New Custom House, Bombay.
Number and description of packages, tins, wrappers, labels, etc., seized, including the marks, if any, thereon:	Four pieces of opium tied around waist with white cloth and one piece of opium in the pocket of a boiler suit worn by him and four long pieces of opium stretching from ankle to knee and covered by 2 pairs of stockings worn by him.
Place of seizure:	At the foot of the gangway of s.s. Silver - ASH berthed at No Shed Alexandra Dock.
Nature of contents, quantity:	14 lbs-2 3/4 ozs (6 Kgs.420 grammes) valued at Rps.1123/-.
Name of Manufacturer and place of origin:	Not known
Name of the vessel, its agents, the port from which it started and its ports of call:	s.s. Silver - Ash due to sail for Far Eastern ports. Agents: Volkart Brothers.

From whom, how, where and at what price drugs were obtained by accused, if any:

From a Chinaman in Kamatipura who had asked him to carry it to the ship.

Personal particulars of accused, if any, (name, nationality, occupation and other details):

No. 1

- a) Name: Peter Mirnada
- b) Age: 21
- c) Nationality: Manglorean Christian
- d) Occupation: Unemployed
- e) Build: Thin
- f) Height: 5'
- g) Marks: Scar on forehead
- h) Residence: 1 Sadruddin Bldg.
Nesbit Rd., Mazagon

No. 2

- a) Cham Loi Sang
- b) Age: 38
- c) Nationality: Chinese
- d) Occupation: Fitter - Mazagon Dock
- e) Build: Medium
- f) Height: 5'4"
- g) Marks: A cut on right hand
- h) Residence: Chinese Club,
Kamatipura.

Statement:

The accused Peter Mirnada when arrested wore a boiler suit and stated that the opium was given to him by a Chinaman in a building behind the Cemetery at Kamatipura and promised Rps.50/- for carrying the opium. Accused No. 2 Cham Loi Sang, who had boarded the vessel a few minutes before the arrest of No. 1 had no business on the ship and said he had come to see friends. No. 1 denied that it was No. 2 who gave him the drug, but said that he may have "covered" him from the town to the dock. On a further statement made by No. 1 at the Police station to S.I.S. Sohoni of the Division grant house, one N.G. Yin, age:35, occupation:cooly, was arrested by the Police for being in possession of about 6 tolas of opium, scales etc. in a room at Kamatipura.

Name and address of consignor:

Destination (country and place, and consignee):

Date of despatch from the country of origin, if known:

Not known

No. of labels (or copies of labels), wrappers and tins or other containers sent with the report:

Nil

Any other particulars throwing light on the method employed in the illicit traffic in drugs:

To engage persons who wore boiler suits in order to make an appearance of their being engaged on ships as fitters and thereby get themselves into dock gates and board ships mixed along with other dock labour dressed like them. The principals engage the services of Chinese fitters also dressed in boiler suits to escort, receive and deliver the drug on board to the purchaser or his agent.

Judicial decision regarding the seizure:

Accused No.1 Peter Mirnada pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 3 months' R.I.
Accused No. 2 Cham Loi Sang pleaded Not Guilty and was defended by Advocate Iswarlal Dalal, given the benefit of doubt and acquitted.
Accused No. 3 N.G. Yin was convicted and sentenced to one month R.I. The case was disposed of by the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. Oscar Brown.

x
x x

Date of seizure:

4th. July 1946.

Port of seizure and the department making the seizure:

Preventive Department, New Custom House, Bombay.

Number and description of packages, tins, wrappers, labels, etc., seized, including the marks, if any, thereon:

Six packets wrapped in brown paper.

Place of seizure:

Red Gate, Alexandra Dock.

Nature of contents, quantity:

Opium. 12 lbs. 10-1/32 ozs.
(5 Kgs. 436 grammes) at Rps. 2 per tola

Name of manufacturer and place of origin:

Not known

Name of the vessel, its agents, the port from which it started and its ports of call:

Not known

From whom, how, where and at what price drugs were obtained by accused, if any: Not known

Personal particulars of accused, if any (name, nationality, occupation and other details):

- a) Name: Thomas Francis
- b) Age: 21 years
- c) Nationality: Indian Christian
- d) Occupation: Dock worker
- e) Build: Medium
- f) Height: 6' 3"
- g) Marks: Nil
- h) Residence: Foot-path off Main Gate, Princess Dock

1) Statement:

The accused stated that he ran away from his parents at Bangalore and arrived in Bombay about 5 days ago and had met a Mohammedan at Derby Talkies, near Umarchadi who took him to his hut opposite main gate, Princess and Victoria Docks. He was later hailed and taken to the vicinity of a latrine and given the opium and was asked to go to No.1 Shed and remain near M.C. to receive further instructions. He stated that he did not know the name of the person who gave him the opium.

Name and address of consignor: Not known

Destination (country and place, and consignee): Not known

Date of despatch from the country of origin, if known: Not known.

No. of labels (or copies of labels) wrappers and tins or other containers sent with the report: Nil

Any other particulars throwing light on the method employed in the illicit traffic in drugs:

Judicial decision regarding the seizure:

Accused was sentenced to 7 months rigorous imprisonment by 3rd. Presidency Magistrate, Bombay.