

ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCILCONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
ET SOCIAL

RESTRICTED

E/NS.1947/121

31 March 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONVENTION FOR LIMITING THE MANUFACTURE AND
REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS OF 13 JULY 1931
AS AMENDED BY THE PROTOCOL OF 11 DECEMBER 1946UNITED STATES OF AMERICASEIZURES OF VARIOUS NARCOTICS AT ATLANTIC COAST PORTS DURING
THE MONTHS OF JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER 1946Report No. 1139 communicated by the Government of the
United States of America, 14 March 1947Note 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.

UNITED STATES TREASURY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NARCOTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C.

November 12, 1946

Date of seizure:	See dates given below
Place of seizure:	See places listed below
Name of person or firm implicated:	See defendants named below
Name of ship:	See "Remarks" below
Coming from:	See "Remarks" below
Date of leaving first port:	See "Remarks" below
Destination and date of arrival:	See "Remarks" below
Ports of call:	See Remarks below
Kind and quantity of drugs seized:	4 pounds, 4 ounces, 308.95 grains(1.948 kgs.)net, of marihuana, which appeared to consist of the dried flowering tops and leaves of the cannabis plant in the form most frequently encountered in the United States; 22 grains(1.41 grammes) of hashish; and 10 ounces, 175 grains(294.75 grammes) of ganja. Because of the itineraries of certain vessels involved, there is the likelihood that in some seizures the cannabis (described as marihuana) was either kif or takrouri.

Origin of manufacture (marks labels, etc.): No identifying marks or labels

Where shipped or forwarded from: See "Remarks" below

Forwarding agents or consignors: See "Remarks" below

Destination or address: United States

Remarks:

There appears below a summary of cannabis seizures effected at Atlantic coast ports during the months of July, August, and September 1946:

Place and date of seizure: New York City, June 28, 1946
Names of defendants: Rudolph TORRES, American citizen.
Quantities of marihuana seized: 8 grains, net (0.512 grammes)

When the American S.S. CAPE GASPE arrived from Puerto Cabello, a visitor to the ship, Rudolph TORRES, was intercepted when he left the vessel and one marihuana cigarette was found on his person. TORRES claimed he purchased the cigarette in New York City.

Place and date of seizure: New York City, June 29, 1946
Names of defendants: Francis M. VETILL, alias Vitrell, American citizen.
Quantities of marihuana seized: 11 ounces, 404 grains, net (337.7 grammes)

A port patrol officer searched Francis M. VETILL, butcher aboard the American steamship SEDALIA VICTORY, arrived from LeHavre, and found a quantity of bulk marihuana concealed in a pillow case beneath his clothing. VETILL fled after the seizure, but subsequently was apprehended.

Place and date of seizure: Baltimore, Maryland, July 2, 1946
Names of defendants: Unknown
Quantities of marihuana seized: 3 ounces, 157.5 grains, net (95.28 grammes)

When the American steamship VICTOR HENBERT arrived from Odessa, via Constanza, Istanbul and Marseill, customs searchers found a package of marihuana in the steering engine room.

Place and date of seizure: Brooklyn, New York, July 13, 1946
Names of defendants: Karl Eric Blauberg, American citizen.
Quantities of marihuana seized: 10 ounces, 359.5 grains, net (305.9 grammes)

A customs officer found a quantity of marihuana consisting of 85 grains (5.5 grammes) in the possession of Karl Eric BLAUBERG, wiper on the American steamship SKAGWAY VICTORY, arrived from Tangier. BLAUBERG stated that he obtained the marihuana from an Arab at Tangier. The following additional seizures were made on this vessel on the same date: 334 grains (21.7 grammes) of marihuana on top of an overhead ventilator, portside, engine room; 430 grains (27.5 grammes) of marihuana on top of fidley, top deck, starboard side, behind a ventilator and bulkhead; 2 ounces, 90 grains (62.5 grammes) of marihuana in engine room on top of a ventilator over boilers; 4 ounces, 298 grains (132.5 grammes) of marihuana under a thrush bearing in the shaft alley of the engine room; and 1 ounce, 435 grains (56.2 grammes) of marihuana in the engine room air compressor.

Place and date of seizure: Baltimore, Maryland, July 15, 1946
Names of defendants: Proceso A. MOLINO, American citizen of Puerto Rican birth
Quantities of marihuana seized: 43.2 grains, net (2.8 grammes)

Upon the arrival of the American steamship CASPER S YOST, from Marseille, a customs officer found a package of marihuana in the locker of Proceso A. MOLINO, wiper.

Place and date of seizure: New York City, July 17, 1946
Names of defendants: Daniel Elchuk, American citizen.
Quantities of marihuana seized: 290 grains, net (18.79 grammes).

A customs officer found a small package of marihuana in the possession of Daniel ELCHUK, seaman on the American steamship, AMERICAN MERCHANT, arrived from French ports. ELCHUK claimed he purchased the marihuana in Paris for a woman companion, and when she had smoked a portion of it, he put the remainder in his pocket and forgot all about it. This statement does not appear very consistent with his criminal record which reflects that he served a year and a day in the penitentiary for smuggling opium into the United States and offering it for sale. The United States Attorney refused to consider prosecuting ELCHUK in Federal Court because of the smallness of the seizure. However, he was turned over to local police for prosecution.

Place and date of seizure: Boston, Massachusetts, July 18, 1946
Names of defendants: Unknown
Quantities of marihuana seized: 131 grains, net (8.38 grammes)

After the American steamship NOONDAY arrived from Buenos Aires, a package of loose marihuana was found in a gear locker overhead by customs officers.

Place and date of seizure: Hoboken, New Jersey, July 18, 1946
Names of defendants: Unknown
Quantities of marihuana seized: 85 grains, net (5.5 grammes)

Search of the American steamship TUFTS VICTORY, arrived from LeHayre, resulted in the discovery of two packages of marihuana on an overhead ledge in the shaft alley.

Place and date of seizure: Boston, Massachusetts, July 24, 1946
Names of defendants: Unknown
Quantities of marihuana seized: 3 ounces, 245 grains, net (100.74 grammes)

Two paper packages of bulk marihuana were found by a customs searcher on the American steamship SEA FALCON behind the ventilating system, between decks, port side. The vessel had arrived from Cape-town, Lourenco Marques and other African ports.

Place and date of seizure: New York City, July 31, 1946
Names of defendants: Unknown
Quantities of marihuana seized: 3 ounces, 145 grains, net (94.33 grammes)

During a routine search of the American steamship MILTON B. MEDARY a package of marihuana was found beneath toilet tissue rolls under the starboard stairway, leading to a lower deck, amidships. The vessel arrived from Rouen.

Place and date of seizure: Brooklyn, New York, August 3, 1946
Names of defendants: Unknown
Quantities of drugs seized: 23 grains, net (1.5 grammes)

Customs officers while searching the American steamship "POMONA" VICTORY, in port from LeHavre, found a package of marihuana behind a water pipe in the crew's toilet, amidships, starboard side.

Place and date of seizure: Baltimore, Maryland, August 6, 1946
Names of defendants: Paul FERNANDEZ, American citizen.
Quantities of marihuana seized: 1 ounce, 288.75 grains, net (46.83 grammes)

Upon the arrival of the American steamship SELMA VICTORY from Durban, a customs searcher found forty rolls of marihuana in the locker of Paul FERNANDEZ, junior engineer.

Place and date of seizure: New York City, August 9, 1946
Names of defendants: Claude SEALEY; and Jules A. WONG, American citizens.
Quantities of marihuana seized: 1 pound, 11 ounces, 390 grains, net (790.16 grammes)

Jules A. WONG, refrigeration engineer on the American steamship SANTA BARBARA, arrived in port from Colon, was searched when he came ashore and 7 ounces, 75 grains (203.3 grammes) of marihuana were found on his person. He stated he had stolen the marihuana from Claude SEALEY, utility man on board the ship. A search of SEALEY's quarters resulted in the discovery of three sacks of marihuana, weighing 1 pound, 4 ounces, 315 grains (586.86 grammes)

Place and date of seizure: Boston, Massachusetts, August 10, 1946
Names of defendants: Frank Joseph GASKI, American citizen.
Quantities of marihuana seized: 88 grains, net (5.63 grammes)

During a search of the steamship EXHIBITOR by the Customs searching squad, a matchbox containing marihuana was found in the effects aboard the ship of Frank J. GASKI, A.B. seaman. GASKI stated he purchased the marihuana in Casablanca while en route to India.

Place and date of seizure: Boston, Massachusetts, August 13, 1946
Names of defendants: Eben C. COLLIER, American citizen.
Quantities of cannabis seized: 22 grains, net, of hashish (1.41 grammes)

A customs searcher found a small quantity of hashish in the quarters of Eben C. COLLIER, A.B. seaman on the American steamship EXPLORER. COLLIER claimed he obtained the hashish from a native who had come on board the vessel at Alexandria, Egypt.

Place and date of seizure: New York City, August 14, 1946
Names of defendants: Rudolph DURANT, American citizen
Quantities of marihuana seized: 145 grains, net (9.28 grammes)

When customs officers searched the American steamship WASHINGTON they found a package of marihuana in the clothing of Rudolph DURANT, waiter. This man stated he purchased the marihuana from another seaman in LeHavre while the vessel was in that port.

Place and date of seizure: Boston, Massachusetts, August 14, 1946
Names of defendants: Hamid Bepari Montaz MIAN, Indian
Quantities of cannabis seized: 10 ounces, 175 grains, net,
(294.75 grammes) of ganja.

During a search of the British steamship MALANCHHA, a quantity of ganja was found in the locker of Hamid Bepari Montaz MIAN, crew member. MIAN stated he obtained the charas in Calcutta and had paid about forty rupees for it. He stated he both smoked and chewed ganja and charas.

Place and date of seizure: New Orleans, Louisiana, September 6, 1946
Names of defendants: John Joseph ORAVITZ, American citizen.
Quantities of marihuana seized: 4 ounces, 131 grains, net (121.78 grs.)

ORAVITZ, a crew member of the American steamship EDWARD E. SPAFFORD, in port from Dakar, was searched when he came ashore and six packages of marihuana were found in his clothing.

(signed) H. J. Anslinger
Commissioner of Narcotics