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E/NS.1947/210
22 August 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 1946

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SEIZURE OF NARCOTICS MADE IN NEW YORK ON 7 MARCH 1947

Supplementary Report Communicated by the Government of the
United States of America, on 7 July 1947

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 seizure
to the Members of the United Nations and to the other parties to the
Convention.

No. 222 (b)
225 (b)
231 (b)

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

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

NARCOTIC SEIZURE REPORT

June 10, 1947

1. Date of seizure: March 7, 1947
2. Place of seizure: San Francisco, California
3. Name of person or firm implicated: Judah EZRA, deceased, British subject.
4. Name of ship: ...
5. Coming from: ...
6. Date of leaving first port: ...
7. Destination and date of arrival: ...
8. Ports of call: ...
9. Owners or nationality of ship: ...
10. Kind and quantity of drugs seized: Fifty-nine 5-tael (11 kg. 151 gr.) tins of prepared opium and twenty-two 1-tael (831.6 grammes) tins of prepared opium, weighing 19 pounds, 3 ounces, (8 kg. 703.3 grs.) net; a satchelfull of loose pieces of prepared opium, of a total net weight of 6 pounds, 6 ounces; (2 kg. 891.6 grs.) seven 1-ounce tins and two envelopes of morphine hydrochloride, of a total net weight of 7 ounces, 306 grains (218.3 grammes)
11. Origin of manufacture (marks, labels, etc.): The 5-tael and 1-tael tins were of the ROOSTER & ELEPHANT BRAND (LAM KEE-MACAO), originating in the French Leased territory of Kwangchow-wan. Six morphine tins were marked with an elephant on one end. One tin bore no marks.
12. Where shipped or forwarded from: Originally shipped from Shanghai
13. Forwarding agents or consignors: Abraham Brothers, Shanghai
14. Destination or address: Judah and Isaac EZRA, San Francisco
15. Remarks:

Seizure reports Nos. 222, 225, and 231, and a supplementary report dated September 28, 1933, gave details of the EZRA smuggling case involving vast quantities of assorted narcotics. It will be recalled that Judah and Isaac EZRA each received a sentence of 12 years and each was fined \$12,000.

Judah EZRA was released from the penitentiary during 1940 and was deported to Shanghai, where he died several years later. Isaac EZRA was released about the same time and took up residence in Seattle, Washington, being an American citizen.

/On March 7, 1947

On March 7, 1947, workmen renovating a building in San Francisco, California, discovered a panel outside of Apartment 2. This panel led to a space between the ceiling and the roof. On opening the panel into this recess they observed two suitcases and one handbag, the latter containing a number of brass tins and smaller oval-shaped tin containers. The discovery was brought to the attention of the new owner of the premises, who finally asked a customs inspector to describe opium tins to him and when the description fitted the articles found in the house, the whole seizure was turned over to customs.

The seizure consisted of the following items:

- 59 - 5-tael tins of prepared opium (11 kg. 151 gr.)
- 22 - 1-tael tins of prepared opium (431.6 grammes)
- A bundle of loose pieces of prepared opium
- 6 - 1-ounce tins of morphine hydrochloride (170.1 grammes)
- 1 - 1-ounce tin (partly full) of morphine hydrochloride (28.4 grammes)
- 2 - envelopes containing morphine hydrochloride

The containers were old and in very poor condition, and quantities of opium and morphine had leaked into the suitcases and handbag.

In addition to the opium and morphine, the following articles were found:

- Three cartons containing 671 empty oval-shaped tins which had previously contained morphine
- One carton of labels reading "THREE STAR GOLD"
- One carton of labels reading "THREE STAR ELEPHANT"
- Four cartons of round labels reading "THREE STAR GOLD"
- One box of labels reading "MADE IN FRANCE"
- One box of labels reading "28 GRAMME"
- One box of gummed labels reading "THREE STAR GOLD"
- Three boxes containing glazed paper
- One box of small envelopes
- One carton containing 106 empty 2-ounce (56.7 grammes) tins (new)
- One pottery and two glass mortars
- One pottery and two glass pestles
- Six tubes of liquid solder
- One stapling machine and one box of clips
- Two large and two small electrotypes reading "THREE STAR GOLD"

Used as packing in the aforementioned cartons were San Francisco newspapers of September 15, 1932, September 5, 1932, April 9, 1933, and April 19, 1933.

Customs agents investigating the case ascertained that the building had been the property of Isaac EZRA, and from 1931 through 1933 Apartment 2 had been occupied by Judah EZRA and his wife. There had been several previous owners of the property before the current owner purchased it, and therefore, he was guiltless.

Isaac EZRA was interviewed in Seattle and disclaimed any knowledge of the narcotics, claiming that although he was the owner of the building, he rented one of the apartments to Judah EZRA. He stated that Judah was rather handy with tools and undoubtedly concealed the narcotics prior to his arrest in 1933, mentioning that at the time of arrest Judah agreed to turn over the remaining narcotics to the officers.

/There is

There is no doubt that the narcotics were the property of Judah EZRA and it cannot be proved that Isaac EZRA had any knowledge of the cache. Since his release from prison, Isaac EZRA apparently had led a law-abiding life.

The 5-tael (189 grammes) and 1-tael (37.8 grammes) tins appear to be authentic products of the opium factory of the French Leased Territory of Kwanchow-wan, and seem to be typical samples of the ROOSTER & ELEPHANT Brand (LAM KEE-MACAO). With regard to the morphine tins, the markings thereon have no significance as indication of origin, since it is obvious that the EZRA brothers had large numbers of tins and labels, such as the "THREE STAR GOLD", "THREE STAR ELEPHANT", "MADE IN FRANCE", etc., made to order for packaging and distributing morphine and heroin. In the seizure reports covering the original case mention was made of the fact that the EZRA brothers had had tins and labels made to order locally.

/signed/ H.J. Anslinger

H.J. ANSLINGER
Commissioner of Narcotics
