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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.

CANADA

SEIZURE OF 11.28 GRAMMES OF DIACETYLMORPHINE AT MALTON AIRPORT
(NEAR TORONTO), ONTARIO, ON JANUARY 27, 1946.

Report No. 6 communicated by the Government of Canada,
June 26, 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 seizure to the Members of the United Nations and to the other parties to the Convention.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

1. Name of person or persons implicated: Ernest CHOW, Chinese-Canadian (b.25.1.1925)
Doris MAIR, Canadian, (b.18.1.1928)
2. Date of Seizure: 27.1.46.
3. Place of Seizure: Malton Airport (near Toronto), Ont.
4. Kind and quantity of drug seized: 706-1/4 gr.(11.28 grammes) Diacetylmorphine capsules.
5. Act and Section under which charged: O. & N.D.Act. Sec.4(d): "Possession of Diacetylmorphine"
6. Result of prosecution:
 - (a) Date sentenced: 25.3.46.
 - (b) Where sentenced: Toronto, Ontario.
 - (c) Sentence: CHOW: 9 Mos; Fined \$500 or 3 mos. in default of payment.
MAIR: 9 Mos; Fined \$500 or 3 mos. in default of payment
7. Remarks:

Ernie Chow's illicit narcotic activities in Vancouver, B.C., were under investigation by the Police and constant watch was being kept on his movements with a view to early arrest. On the 23rd of January, 1946, it was ascertained that Chow, accompanied by Doris Mair, a prostitute, and, supposedly unknown to each other, had left Vancouver

by plane via Trans-Canada Airlines for the Malton Airport located not many miles from Toronto, Ontario, which city, by the way, seems to be the headquarters of a gang presently engaged in the illicit traffic of narcotic drugs, especially the Mexican or "Brown" variety of Heroin, and where it was being sold on the streets at from \$3.00 to \$3.50 a capsule. As, no doubt, the visit to Toronto was for the purpose of buying some narcotics for resale on the West coast where Morphine or Heroin was being sold at the fantastic price of \$20.00 a grain, the information was immediately transmitted to Toronto where appropriate arrangements were made to cover the arrival of the suspects.

First off the plane was Chow who, carrying no baggage, appeared to scan every other individual on his way to the Rotunda at the Airport, as did the woman who followed shortly afterwards carrying a weekend bag. There was no obvious recognition of any kind on the part of either. Having been duly identified by members of the Police party previously detailed for the purpose, Chow and Mair were observed to leave the Airport by separate conveyances which were trailed to the city of Toronto. From then on and for four days surveillance never slackened. Although Chow and Mair were not supposed to be acquainted with each other, the Chinaman on one occasion was shadowed when he called for Mair at a rooming house, 558 Ontario Street, Toronto, which is the residence of a couple of well known addicts, to which the woman proceeded immediately upon her arrival at the Airport, and where, with the exception of a trip by train, to Kingston, Ontario, she stayed whilst in Toronto. The covering of Mair on the journey to Kingston was made possible by the splendid co-operative assistance of a railway employee.

On the 26th of January 1946, Chow purchased two tickets for the return trip to Vancouver, B.C., by T.C.A., one for himself and one in the name of Mrs. Mair. He desired to depart by plane leaving at 12.05 a.m., 27th of January. He left a phone number at the T.C.A. office where he could be contacted, as also that of Mair, which was at 558 Ontario Street. The space for the flight was confirmed by T.C.A. who were advised that both suspects would be detained at the Airport so that the space for them would not be tied up. The woman appeared around 10 p.m. on the 26th at T.C.A. Royal York office and arranged for her space and ten minutes before midnight Chow appeared. Both he and Mair sat on the same seat but did not recognise each other. They were seen to enter the bus for Malton Airport. Mair, who had checked her weekend bag, was observed carrying two packages. Both left the bus and entered the "entrance-way" to the Airport. In the Lobby, Chow was seen to pass Mair a red-edged envelope; he also spoke a few words to her. They sat on separate seats in the waiting room, Chow seating himself on the same seat as a member of the Police squad. Their names were called over the Airport radio loud speaker with the request that they come forward and claim their reservations. Doris Mair, who went to the wicket first, was immediately apprehended and taken to the search room. Chow was also taken into custody as he approached the wicket. A search of Mair's possessions revealed the 706 Heroin capsules, also a slip of paper bearing the address - 811 Thurston Street, Suite 4; a similar slip was later found in Chow's possession. (This is the address of a well known character in Vancouver.) Mair was arrested and given the usual warning. A search of Chow was negative insofar as narcotics were concerned. He had in his possession a slip of paper bearing the address 558 Ontario Street. He was duly arrested and warned. Both were jointly charged with being in illegal possession of Diacetylmorphine.

Doris Mair, who pleaded guilty, was sentenced as stated. Ernie Chow, pleaded Not Guilty; he, however, was found Guilty and convicted as mentioned.

This is the largest seizure of this so-called Mexican or "Brown" variety of Heroin and the Police have a fairly good idea of the source from which these narcotics were originally obtained and are at present concentrating on this angle with a view to other charges being laid against these traffickers.

Sgd. K.C. HOSSICK
Acting Chief, Narcotic Division

June 15, 1956