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COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS
Fifth session
Item 8(c) of the provisional agenda

CONTROL OF THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTICS IN GERMANY

Memorandum by the Secretary-General

1. The Commission will recall that during its fourth session it took the following decision:

"To recommend strongly to the Occupying Powers to exercise more efficient collaboration in the future for the control of the illicit traffic throughout German."

2. On 23 August 1949 the Secretary-General accordingly addressed a note verbale to the four Occupying Powers drawing their attention to this recommendation. A further note verbale was dispatched on 14 April 1950 inquiring whether the Governments concerned desired to send any information on the matter for communication to the Commission during its fifth session.

3. The Secretary-General has received communications on this subject from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America, the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**, the United States of America, the texts of which are reproduced below for the information of the Commission.

Communication from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

(Translation from the Russian)

No. 97

7 June 1950

Sir,

In returning your letter SOA 109/1/01/PJB, dated 14 April 1950 and addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR, concerning information on illicit traffic in narcotic drugs in Germany, I have the honour to inform you that, following the creation of the German Democratic Republic and the transfer to the

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Provisional Government of that Republic of the administrative functions formerly discharged by the Soviet Military Government in Germany, questions connected with the control of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs in the territory of the German Democratic Republic fall within the jurisdiction of the latter Government. #

I have the honour to be etc. ...

(Signed) Y. Malik

The Secretary-General has accordingly addressed a communication to the Democratic Republic of Germany drawing attention to the Commission's recommendation and inquiring whether the Government has any observations on the matter for transmission to the Commission during its fifth session.

Communication from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

No. 198

(122/23/50E

25 May 1950

The Permanent United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to his Note Verbale No. SOA 109/1/01/PJB of the 14th April, has the honour to transmit to him herewith the following information from His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom on the control of the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs in Germany.

2. The Allied High Commission have for some time had under consideration the most effective measures for co-ordinating the control of narcotic drugs in Germany and the stages by which responsibility for such control should be transferred to the Federal German Government. They have now addressed a letter to the Federal Government inviting its attention to the advisability of establishing in the Federal Republic a central administration for the control of narcotics. It has been pointed out that while the Occupying Powers are at present responsible to the Narcotics Commission of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations for the control of narcotics in their respective Zones of Occupation, they desire that the Federal Government should as soon as is practicable assume full responsibility for the control of narcotics in the Federal territory and that it should establish such machinery for the purpose as is required by the provisions of the International Conventions in force. The Final Act of the 1931 Convention for limiting the manufacture and regulating the distribution of narcotic drugs calls

/upon

upon Governments to establish a special administration for the control of the traffic in narcotic drugs, the organization of the campaign against drug addiction and the suppression of the illicit traffic. The Allied High Commission have accordingly recommended to the Federal Government that it should set up a Central Narcotics Administration to fulfill the above purposes.

3. The Allied High Commission have charged their three Allied Narcotic Advisers with the task of advising and assisting the Federal Government in the establishment of an administration for the control of narcotics, and have asked the Federal Government to instruct its experts in this field to act in consultation with these Allied Advisers. It has been suggested to the Federal Government that a meeting might take place shortly between German and Allied representatives to initiate discussions on this subject. As soon as the Allied High Commission are satisfied that the necessary steps are being taken for the control of narcotics to be effectively administered by the German authorities they will be prepared to discuss with the Federal Government the most appropriate way in which the latter might assume international responsibility in this field.

4. It should be added that although the Allied and German authorities in the Western Zone who are responsible for narcotics control have maintained their efforts to secure the collaboration of the Soviet Zone authorities in the control of illicit inter-Zonal drug traffic, there has been a regrettable lack of response to such efforts. The German Police authorities in the Federal Republic have failed to elicit from police authorities in the Eastern Zone any replies to specific enquiries they have made regarding drug traffic, and in general, little progress has been made since the report which the United States Delegate gave to the Narcotics Commission last year.

Communication from the United States of America

UN-2379/E

12 December 1949

The United States Representative to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his note SOA 9/6/02/PJB, dated August 23, 1949, drawing attention to the recommendation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs during its Fourth Session that the Occupying Powers exercise more efficient collaboration in the future for the control of the illicit traffic throughout Germany.

/The United States

The United States Government has received a report from the Narcotics Control Officer, Foreign Relations Division, Office of the United States High Commissioner for Germany, that police co-operation in narcotic cases is well established in the three Western Zones of Germany and the three Western Sectors of Berlin. There is close liaison in such matters between the American and British Zonal Narcotics Officers and the representatives of the Surete National in Baden-Baden and Mainz in the French Zone. These officers work directly with the specialized German municipal and rural police, as well as maintaining contact with the narcotics authorities of surrounding countries, particularly Austria, Switzerland, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Denmark. Communication between the German police authorities of the Western Zones is facilitated by the police teletype system which extends through those zones.

This satisfactory co-operation is not effective as between the Western Zones and the Eastern Zone of Occupation of Germany. The Soviet Delegate stated in the meeting of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, discussing the question of the illicit narcotic traffic (E/CN.7/186, p. 13), that an effective system of control had been set up in the Soviet Zone which was in the hands of German health and police authorities. The situation is the same in the Western Zones, but police co-operation between the Western Zones and Sectors of Berlin and the Soviet Zone and Sector is practically non-existent.

The Zentrales Opiumbureau of the Soviet Zone in Berlin issues order forms for narcotic drugs needed and not obtainable in the Soviet Zone which are regularly approved and filled by the narcotics control authorities in the Western Zones. However, this Bureau does not appear to be competent in the matter of illicit traffic and no central narcotics police agency for the Soviet Zone is known to which communications relative to narcotics smuggling can be sent by the Drugs Section, Zonal Crimes Records, Hamburg, the narcotics control officers of the Western Zones, or by the police in the cities of Western Germany.

In practice, inquiries relative to cases of illicit traffic, having possible ramifications in the Soviet Zone and requiring investigations there coming from the police of Munich, Karlsruhe, Stuttgart, Frankfurt, Hamburg and the Western Sectors of Berlin, have received no answer from the German police in the Soviet Zone or Sector of Berlin. The cases cannot therefore be completely investigated.

The police of the Western Zones are at all times ready to co-operate with the police of the Eastern Zone in narcotics cases originating there and to carry out any investigations which may be necessary in that respect. The same applies to the narcotics control authorities of the Western Zones.

Co-ordination of measures against the illicit narcotic traffic in Western and Eastern Germany can be effected without difficulty if the Soviet authorities will authorize the German police in the Eastern Zone and Sector of Berlin to co-operate fully and directly with the police in the Western Zones in narcotic smuggling cases, and/or establish a central narcotics police agency for the Soviet Zone to deal with all such cases.

The Drugs Section of the Zonal Crime Records Bureau at Hamburg co-ordinates presently narcotics investigations in the Western Zones. The British Zonal Narcotics Officer is established at Minden. The address of the Narcotics Control Officer of the United States Zone is Office of the United States High Commissioner, Bad Nauheim.
