



UNITED NATIONS

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## **ANNUAL REPORTS OF GOVERNMENTS**

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

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# **FRANCE AND TERRITORIES**

## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1952**

COMMUNICATED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF  
FRANCE

### **NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

The Secretary-General has the honour to communicate herewith an annual report forwarded to him in pursuance of Article 21 of the Convention of 13 July 1931 for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the Protocol of 11 December 1946. (For the form of annual reports, see document E/NR.1949/Form)

*New-York 1953*

## A. GENERAL

### I. LAWS AND PUBLICATIONS

*Metropolitan France, Algeria and Overseas Departments.*

#### A. Laws and Regulations

1. Decree of 12 April 1952.  
Order of 15 April 1952.
2. Decree No. 52-405 of 12 April 1952 was promulgated by the Ministry of the Interior, and is "designed to amend and supplement, with particular reference to its application in Algeria, Decree No. 48-1805 of 19 November 1948, making the importation of, trade in and possession and use of poisonous substances subject to public administrative regulations." (*Journal Officiel* of the French Republic) of 14 April 1952 - (*Journal Officiel* of Algeria) of 16 September 1952.

The changes made in the Decree of 19 November 1948 to make it applicable in Algeria relate in particular to narcotic drugs, including Indian hemp which accounts for most of the illicit traffic in Algeria and for almost all cases of drug-addiction.

The following provisions, taken from the Decree of 12 April 1952, justify the belief that the illicit use of and traffic in Indian hemp will be more effectively combatted.

Article 61 bis. "... In addition to the dealings prohibited, except where explicitly authorized, listed in article 16 of the present Decree the cultivation, harvesting, import, export, offer, distribution, sale or purchase on commission, transfer against payment, gratuitous transfer, possession and transport of plants or parts of plants (including seeds, cuttings and seedlings) either in their natural form or in any mixture from which one or more narcotic drugs as defined in article 1 of the present Decree may be obtained, shall also be subject to previous authorization in Algeria ..."

In addition, the system of import certificates and export authorizations for narcotic drugs already in force between the metropolitan territory and the Algerian departments has been legalized under this same Decree.

Lastly, it should be noted that a procedure for applying to Algeria the executive Orders of the Decree of 19 November 1948, enacted from that date up to the promulgation of the Decree of 12 April 1952, is at present under consideration.

The Order of 15 April 1952, issued in implementation of the Convention of 13 July 1931 for limiting the Manufacture and regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the Protocol of 11 December 1946, determines, as in previous years, the quantities of narcotic drugs which the manufacturers are authorized to issue for French consumption and to hold in stock. As in previous years, the Order also recalls the special obligations imposed upon the firms authorized to extract opium and coca leaf alkaloids and to manufacture dolosal and on those authorized to manufacture galenic preparations from opium.

#### B. Publications

- H. Baggsgaard-Rasmussen "*Recherches sur la Morphine*", *Annales Pharmaceutiques Francaises*, Vol. X, Nos. 11 and 12, November-December 1952.

### *French Equatorial Africa*

1. )No legislative or statutory text concerning addiction-producing substances
2. )was published in French Equatorial Africa in 1952.
  - ) Note should, however, be taken of the publication of Order No. 1377/
  - )DGSP of 24 April 1952 implementing the *Codex Medicamentarius Gallicus*
  - ) (Pharmacopoeia) 1949, seventh edition, in French Equatorial Africa.
  - ) (*Journal Officiel* of French Equatorial Africa, 15 May 1952, p. 668).
  - ) Mention should also be made of the receipt of a copy of the Inter-
  - )national Pharmacopoeia, first edition, 1951, Volume 1, edited by the
  - )World Health Organization.
  - ) It is unnecessary to dwell on these two well known documents.
3. Nothing to report.

### *French West Africa*

Decree of 5 June 1952 promulgated by Order No. 3826 - S.ET. of 19 June 1952.

This supplements article 29 of the Decree of 26 January 1926, regulating the trade in, the possession and use of poisonous substances in French West Africa, by applying it to agricultural activities in order to prohibit the cultivation of Indian hemp or "Yamba".

### *French Cameroons*

No new law, order or publication on opium and other harmful drugs was issued in 1953.

### *French Somaliland*

Nil.

### *French India*

Nil.

### *Madagascar*

Nil.

### *Morocco*

Nil.

### *New Caledonia*

No new text has been promulgated.

### *New Hebrides*

Nil.

### *French Oceania*

In the calendar year 1952, no new law, order or regulation on opium and other harmful drugs was published in the *Journal Officiel* of French Oceania.

### *St. Pierre and Miquelon*

No new regulations were issued or came into force in St. Pierre and Miquelon in 1952.

### *French Togoland*

No change to report in 1952.

Order No. 643 of 13 November 1928 promulgating the Decree of 4 May 1928 on the exercise of pharmacy in French Togoland still governs, with a few minor changes, everything relating to the manufacture, sale, export, import, labelling and distribution of pharmaceutical products.

It is proposed to apply the new French legislation on pharmacy to Togoland in the near future.

### *Tunisia*

No change.

## II. ADMINISTRATION

### *Metropolitan France, Algeria and Overseas Departments*

1. At the request of the Ministry of Public Health, a small Technical Committee met in Algiers on 3 June 1952 to carry out a comparative study of

the various regulations applicable in North Africa with regard to poisonous substances, and considered the possibilities of co-ordinating the methods used in Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria to counteract the misuse of harmful drugs. Its conclusions were transmitted to the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Public Health and to the Residents-General at Rabat and Tunis.

On 9 July 1952, the Minister of the Interior, on the proposal of the Minister of Public Health, organized a study meeting in Paris to set up a permanent system of speedy liaison between the various competent administrative services in Metropolitan France and Algeria and to prepare suitable executive legislation. The representatives of the three North African territories attended the meeting.

Lastly, on 28 November 1952, a Commission met in Algiers to examine the co-ordination of the methods used in Tunisia and Algeria against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and the growth of drug-addiction.

2. *Drug addiction*

The findings of the preceding years seemed to show that most of the individuals who committed offences in order to obtain narcotic drugs illegally were habitual offenders.

In order to confirm or disprove this fact a special study was carried out in the Paris area where, as a general rule, most cases of drug-addiction occur.

The study gave the following results:

CONVICTED DRUG ADDICTS		
<i>Year</i>	<i>New Drug Addicts</i>	<i>Habitual Offenders</i>
1946	154	21
1947	179	63
1948	148	99
1949	71	86
1950	67	66
1951	58	48
1952	29	31

These statistics thus show not only the high proportion of habitual offenders but also the spectacular decrease in the number of drug-addiction cases. In view of its importance this study is to be extended to cover the whole of France.

*French Equatorial Africa*

1. a. It seems useful to note, under this heading, the reception of the Instruction of 1 December 1952 concerning the application of the international conventions on narcotics (annulling and replacing the Instruction of 20 January 1949), issued by the Ministry of Public Health and Population, Central Pharmaceutical Service, Narcotics Bureau.

This instruction, which was transmitted by the Ministry for Overseas France under reference No. 551/DSS/3 of 25 November 1952, was circulated among the sanitary authorities of the four federated territories under reference No. 4806/DGSP-4 of 29 December 1952 and addressed to the chief pharmacist of each Territory, but only for information purposes, the General Directorate of Public Health remaining the sole body authorized to apply the international conventions. This instruction takes particular account of the changes made in the various statistical forms.

- b. Nothing to report.

- c. The difficulties mentioned in the previous annual reports concerning the transport of our imports at the port of Pointe Noire were finally eliminated in the course of the year.

A parcel containing 20 kg of opium powder, exported from France in 1949, and a parcel containing special opium preparations, exported in 1950, were forwarded to their consignee at Brazzaville during the third quarter.

None of the substances in Table B are any longer in transit.

This improvement in the situation ensures a better adjustment of requirements, for which supplies are now adequate as far as most current preparations are concerned.

2. )
3. ) Nothing to report.

#### *French West Africa*

Nothing to report.

#### *French Cameroons*

1. a. No changes have been made in the administrative provisions for the application of international conventions, which are still fully satisfactory.
- b. The special administration provided for in article 15 to apply those conventions is the Pharmaceutical Inspection Service for the Territory, set up by the Decree of 9 October 1926 regulating the exercise of the pharmaceutical profession in the Cameroons.

The chief pharmacist of the Territory, working under the orders of the Director of Public Health, administers the inspection service in constant co-operation with the various services concerned, particularly the Department of Political and Administrative Affairs, the Customs Service and the General Security Services.

- c. In 1952 no serious difficulty occurred to hamper the application of these conventions.

On the contrary, attention should be drawn to the willingness of those concerned to submit to the necessary formalities, which are in any case very simple, and to the keenness shown by all the authorities whose help the Inspector may request.

2. Fortunately, nothing has occurred to indicate that there is even the slightest threat of drug-addiction in the Territory. As will be seen, this threat which existed only on a very limited scale has on the contrary receded, if not disappeared.

#### *French Somaliland*

No change.

#### *French India*

Instructions have been issued to:  
The Head of the Public Works Service,  
The Commissioner of Police,  
The Head of the Legal Service,

Concerning the application of the resolution adopted by the United Nations Economic and Social Council concerning illicit trafficking by the crews of merchant ships and civil aircraft.

#### *Madagascar*

The Directorate of the Health Services remains the central authority and continues to control without any changes.

#### *Morocco*

1. a. No changes in 1952.
  - b. The Narcotics Bureau attached to the Central Pharmaceutical Service (Directorate of Public Health and Family Welfare) still deals with all those questions.
  - c. No difficulties in relations with other countries.
2. Drug-addiction does not seem to have increased in Morocco.

The consumption of Kif (a mixture of Indian hemp and tobacco) prepared and sold by the Tobacco Monopoly is still legal but is due to be stopped in a few months time.

In the meanwhile the Monopoly has ceased to buy Indian hemp and seized hemp is burnt instead of being used for making Kif.

3. The Narcotics Bureau receives from the Legal Services and the Customs Directorate information on the seizures and convictions.

*New Caledonia*

Nothing to report.

*New Hebrides*

No change.

*French Oceania*

The application of the international conventions has continued unaltered and has not met with any difficulties.

Drug-addiction in French Oceania does not seem to have increased during 1952 but rather to be on the decrease.

*St. Pierre and Miquelon*

Nothing to report.

*French Togoland*

The international convention on narcotic drugs signed at Geneva on 13 July 1931 was not published in French Togoland, but the preamble of the Decree of 25 May 1952 refers to the Geneva Convention of 19 February 1925.

Moreover, as all traffic in narcotic drugs is carried on with France, which is a contracting party to all the international conventions on narcotic drugs, all the provisions applicable in France are also applicable in French Togoland.

In particular, in application of article 15 of the Convention of 13 July 1931 the pharmaceutical inspector of the Territory is responsible for the control of narcotic drugs, and as far as the diversity of his technical duties will allow, he carries out a systematic and regular control of the use of narcotic drugs.

The Health Service (Pharmaceutical Inspection Service) sends in regularly to the Permanent Central Opium Board:

1. Form A (GL) concerning the import and export of narcotic drugs during the past 3 months.
2. Form B (G) concerning the annual estimates of raw materials for the coming year.
3. Form A (L) concerning annual statistics of imports and exports of methylmorphine and ethylmorphine.
4. Form C (1) (GL) concerning the annual statistics of consumption of drugs bought in the country for Government requirements and of the amounts used for the manufacture of preparations for export for which authorizations are not required.
5. Form C (2) (GL) concerning annual statistics of production and manufacture, amount received at the factories and amount used in manufacture.
6. Form C (3) (G) concerning annual statistics of prepared opium.
7. Form D (GL) concerning annual statistics of stocks.
8. Form E (GL) concerning annual statistics of seizures.

In accordance with the recommendations of the international Conventions, the chief pharmacist of the Territory is responsible for these controls.

*Tunisia*

1. a. No change.
- b. The Pharmacy Service supervises the application of the international

Conventions subject to the provisions of article 15 of the restrictive Convention of 1931.

- c. Co-operation with the police services and the customs administration has been organised both locally and for North Africa as a whole.

The pharmacy inspectors were convened to a meeting in Algiers for that purpose on 3 June and in Paris on 9 July 1952.

The Public Health, Police and Customs Co-ordination Commission has been set up in Tunisia since that date.

This Commission visited Algiers at the end of November 1952 to establish co-ordination between Tunisia and Algeria. The report of the meeting has been submitted to Morocco, which will lead to the setting up of a homogeneous North African group.

2. Generally speaking, drug addiction does not seem to be on the increase.
3. The Pharmacy Service of the Ministry of Public Health acts as a clearing centre for the information transmitted by the preventive services.

### III. CONTROL OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

#### *Metropolitan France, Algeria and Overseas Departments*

1. A 100 g sample of coca leaves was dispatched from Bolivia in violation of the licence procedure.

This operation was straightened out, as those concerned were obviously acting in good faith.

A French laboratory exported to Chile 100 g of cocaine hydrochloride, though the Chilean import certificate and the corresponding French export authorization were issued for only 75 g.

The Chilean authorities seized the surplus 25 g.

Immediate inquiry showed that there had been a technical error in carrying out the order placed by the Chilean purchaser, which had been originally for 100 g and later reduced to 75 g.

The good faith of the French exporter was proved by the fact that the financial transaction had been openly carried out for an order of 100 g.

The responsible pharmacist of this firm was nevertheless summoned before the disciplinary section of the Board of Pharmacists for negligence in the supervision of operations involving narcotic drugs.

In any case, these two incidents cannot be regarded as illicit traffic.

2. )
3. ) Nothing to report.
4. Most of the countries to which copies of export authorizations were sent, returned them stating the amounts actually imported and the date of importation.

The various territories of Overseas France fulfil this obligation periodically.

5. )
6. )
7. ) Nothing to report.
8. )

#### *French Equatorial Africa*

Nothing to report.

#### *French West Africa*

No change. The Federal Pharmacy of French West Africa, an administrative body, remains the sole importer and distributor of narcotic drugs in the administrative and private sectors. No wholesale firm has applied to be authorized importer.

#### *French Cameroons*

1. The system of import certificates and export authorizations is still both

an efficient and simple means of controlling the entry of narcotic drugs into the territory.

2. The authority responsible for issuing import certificates remains the same namely:
  - a. The Ministry of Public Health and Population, acting in collaboration with the Ministry for Overseas France, in respect of "administrative" requirements (Cameroons Central Supply Pharmacy at Yaoundé).
  - b. The Territory's pharmacy inspectorate for "private" requirements (dispensaries, drug distribution centres, hospitals attached to religious missions).

It will be seen that these imports are generally confined to special products.

The pharmacy inspector for 1952 was *Pharmacien-Lieutenant-Colonel Deniel*.

3. No changes were necessary in the conditions governing the issue of these certificates.
4. There is no problem as regards the export of narcotic drugs from the Territory as the Cameroons neither produce nor export such drugs.
5. No cases of forged or falsified certificates came to the knowledge of the authorities in 1952.
6. No difficulty arose in the unloading of and customs formalities for narcotic drugs. There is no problem of diversion or transshipment.
7. There have been no cases of imports from countries which have not adopted the system of import certificates.
8. There was no need to apply the system of special certificates for Indian hemp as it is not imported into or exported from the territory.

#### *French Somaliland*

Nothing to report.

#### *French India*

Nothing to report.

#### *Madagascar*

The present system for checking imports and authorizing export is fully satisfactory.

Imports come exclusively from Metropolitan France.

#### *Morocco*

1. The system of certificates has been satisfactory and no difficulties have been encountered in this respect.
2. The certificates and authorizations are still issued by the Directorate of Public Health and Family Welfare (Central Pharmaceutical Service- Narcotics Bureau).
3. Nothing to report.
4. Morocco is not properly speaking, a drug-exporting country. The only cases of export being infrequent deliveries to pharmacists in the Tangier Zone made on production of an import authorization from the responsible authorities of the Zone.
5. No cases of forged or falsified certificates or authorizations came to the knowledge of the authorities. Morocco being a small country, there seems to be no reason to fear the occurrence of such cases.
6. There were no operations of this kind in 1952.
7. In 1952 there were no imports from, or exports to, countries which have not adopted the system of certificates.
8. Nothing to report.

#### *New Caledonia*

The system of import certificates is entirely satisfactory.



#### *New Hebrides*

The system of import certificates for the control of imports of opium and other dangerous drugs worked satisfactorily during the past year.

Such drugs are only imported for the French National Health Service and the Condominium Health Service.

#### *French Oceania*

1. The system of import certificates and export authorizations worked satisfactorily.
2. The authorities responsible for issuing the import certificates were the same as in 1951.
3. No changes were made in the conditions of issue for import certificates.
4. The copies of export authorizations were duly returned after endorsement by the Narcotics Bureau.
5. No cases of falsified import certificates or export authorizations were reported in the calendar year 1952.
6. )
7. ) These questions do not relate to French Oceania.
8. )

#### *St. Pierre and Miquelon*

Nothing to report.

#### *French Togoland*

The system of import certificates and export authorizations for the control of imports and exports of opium and other dangerous drugs worked satisfactorily during the past year.

Import certificates for drugs for the French Togoland Supply Pharmacy are issued by the Ministry for Overseas France (Directorate of the Colonial Health Service, Third Bureau (Pharmacy)), while those intended for private pharmacies are issued by the Pharmacy Inspector for the Territory.

Export authorizations are issued by the Narcotics Bureau of the Ministry of Public Health.

#### *Tunisia*

1. Satisfactory.
2. )
3. ) No change.
4. Export of 80.83 g of dihydroxycodone base (return of drugs to the French supplying laboratory).
5. )
6. )
7. ) No comment.
8. )

## IV. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

### *Metropolitan France, Algeria and Overseas Departments*

As mentioned in chapter V above it is interesting to refer to the following ruling by the Seine Court of First Instance in Paris (16th Chamber of Summary Jurisdiction) sitting on 3 December 1952.

This case was handled by the French police in co-operation with officials of the United States Bureau of Narcotics.

Following an agreement with the French police authorities, the American inspectors got in touch with various traffickers in Paris by pretending to be foreigners wishing to obtain large quantities of drugs for despatch to the United States. As a result, several traffickers were caught red-handed and arrested.

The Court recognized the legality of this procedure, considering that this

co-operation "as far as French law is concerned is strictly in accordance with the various international conventions on suppression of the traffic in narcotic drugs, to which France has acceded and which have been duly ratified".

"The joint action of the French and United States judiciary or police authorities was agreed on and carried out in direct application of the reciprocal international obligations freely entered into by the two States concerned.

"The traffic in drugs, owing to its special nature and the difficulty of determining the factors of a given situation, calls for effective collaboration between the various national preventive services."

It is the first time that a French court has had occasion to rule on such a matter, which may create a precedent if it is upheld on appeal.

#### *French Equatorial Africa*

1. Nothing to report.
2. Resolution 436 (XIV), adopted by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations on 27 May 1952, concerning illicit trafficking by the crews of merchant ships and civil aircraft, together with a note CN 128-1952-Narcotic Drugs, from the Secretariat of the United Nations and a letter from the Ministry of Public Health and Population, after being considered by the various competent federal authorities, was the subject of a letter, dated 27 December 1952, sent to the various territorial authorities, with a view to applying the resolution.
3. Nothing to report.

#### *French West Africa*

Following the Economic and Social Council resolution of 27 May 1952 and the request by the Ministry of Public Health, Bureau of Narcotic Drugs, instructions were issued to the competent authorities of French West Africa to give the names of merchant sailors and members of the crews of civil aircraft guilty and accused of trafficking in drugs.

There were no such changes in 1952.

#### *French Cameroons*

1. The Cameroons, as a Trust Territory under French Administration, would *ipso facto* apply any international treaties or agreements transmitted to it by the French Government.
2. Thus, in accordance with the instructions received from the Minister for Overseas France, the Territory has considered all the ways and means of implementing the resolution adopted by the United Nations Economic and Social Council for controlling illicit trafficking by the crews of merchant ships and civil aircraft (resolution of 27 March 1952, transmitted by letter of 25 September 1952 from the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic).

Any sentence passed on a member of such crews must be reported by the judicial authorities to the seaman's place of registration or the Directorate of Civil Aviation for entry in the registration book or service certificate of the person concerned. The Administrator of Seaboard Conscription would immediately propose to his Department that the registration book be withdrawn and the person dismissed from the service. The Director of Civil Aviation would summon the offender before the Aircrews' Disciplinary Board. In view of the seriousness of the offence and the responsibilities of an airman this could, of course, only result in permanent dismissal from the service.

Specific instructions have already been given by the Director of Criminal Investigations to the various police services supervising the

ports and airports of the Territory to make out a special report on any matter which comes to their knowledge which is directly or indirectly related to the traffic in narcotic drugs; this report is to contain the information requested by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

A copy of this report will be sent to the Pharmacy Inspectorate, to be forwarded as an annex to the seizure report transmitted to the Bureau of Narcotic Drugs of the Central Pharmaceutical Service of the Ministry of Public Health and Population.

A second copy will, if necessary, be sent to the Directors of Seaboard Conscription or of Civil Aviation, who, pending the trial of the accused, will immediately withdraw their registration book or service certificate provisionally.

The maritime or aviation company employing the persons concerned will, of course, also be informed.

The legal authorities will also be asked to report to the Seaboard Conscription authorities and the French and Overseas Directorates of Civil Aviation any of their employees who is convicted for trafficking in narcotic drugs in the Territory.

As regards merchant vessels sailing under a foreign flag, the closest co-operation with the consular authorities concerned will make effective action possible. It should, moreover, be noted that nearly all these vessels come from European countries.

All these measures and the information provided by the United Nations Secretariat should enable the Territory to contribute to the joint campaign.

Several services are interrelated in this; as in all matters relating to traffic in narcotic drugs, the Pharmacy Inspectorate will act as the essential liaison and co-ordinating authority.

*French Somaliland*

Nothing to report.

*French India*

Nothing to report.

*Madagascar*

Nothing to report.

*Morocco*

1. Nothing to report.

2. Agreements are being concluded with other countries of French North Africa with a view to preventing illicit traffic in and use of harmful drugs.

For greater efficiency it is desirable to extend these agreements to the international zone of Tangiers and the Spanish zone of Morocco.

3. Nothing to report.

*New Caledonia*

Nothing to report.

*New Hebrides*

Nothing to report.

*French Oceania*

Nothing to report.

*St. Pierre and Miquelon*

Nothing to report.

*French Togoland*

No such case has had to be considered.

*Tunisia*

Nothing to report.

## V. ILLICIT TRAFFIC

### *Metropolitan France, Algeria and Overseas: Departments*

1. The illicit traffic in narcotic drugs during 1952 was of a similar nature to that of 1951 in so far as domestic consumption was concerned.

However, from the documentation collected by the Central Bureau for the suppression of the illicit traffic, there was an increase in consumption and especially in the traffic in Indian hemp.

Although this increase was to a great extent due to the expansion of the French Moslem colony, indigenous inhabitants of North Africa, it resulted to some extent also from the increased demand caused by the presence in France and the occupied zones of West Germany of certain contingents of the allied armies.

This type of drug addiction has certainly attracted some followers, especially among certain well-defined elements of French youth, such as pseudo-students and pseudo-intellectuals, but, generally speaking, the number of drug addicts in France remains stationary.

The Indian hemp consumed in France, or handled by illicit traffickers in France comes partly from illicit imports from North Africa or the Near East, and partly from hemp grown in France from seeds illicitly imported from Africa or Asia Minor, as has been proved by a number of large seizures made by the police responsible for the suppression of the illicit traffic of narcotic drugs.

The cases dealt with by those services again confirm that France is a transit country and a country where heroin is made from morphine base.

This morphine is made into almost pure heroin by fairly simple means. Traffickers therefore have little difficulty in training practical chemists who rapidly acquire great skill.

The contraband traffic, from the import angle, takes place by way of the Mediterranean coast, and Marseilles, the largest French port on that coast and a port of call for ships from opium-producing countries, is one of the most important points in the contraband traffic. This drug, like cigarettes, can, however, easily be discharged at various ports along the coast.

The land frontiers of the south-east and east are also points of illicit traffic from the Near East or Germany. In the latter case, the narcotic drugs, especially in the case of cocaine, are diverted from the legitimate trade. Pharmaceutical products with a narcotic base, the sale of which is controlled in France but is free in certain foreign countries, are also imported, but in small quantities.

Exports to North America are usually channelled through the normal means of sea transport - merchant ships employed in the passenger or freight trade flying the French or foreign flags and calling at Atlantic ports, especially Channel ports, and in particular Le Havre. It is, in fact, on these ships that the "runners" find it more easy to conceal their clandestine merchandise and have more facilities for bringing it on board or taking it ashore.

In addition, the suspected traffic between the Metropolis and North Africa was confirmed in 1952 with the discovery at Marseilles of a clandestine laboratory producing heroin to be sent to Africa from whence, according to the evidence gathered, it was to be sent to other countries.

A special watch is kept on air lines but no illicit traffic of any importance was reported in 1952.

2. Does not apply.
3. The number of arrests and prosecutions for traffic in and use of narcotic drugs in 1952 increased to 340 in the metropolitan territory, overseas

provinces (with the exception of Algeria) and the French zone of occupation and occurred mainly in the large towns, was as follows:

136 addicts

204 traffickers

While this figure is lower than that of the previous year, a much larger number of traffickers were arrested and in particular - and this is the Central Bureau's principal aim - the sources of supply were undermined as four clandestine laboratories were discovered and put out of action.

The penalties imposed by courts responsible for the suppression of the traffic in narcotic drugs varied between fifteen days to three years' imprisonment together with fines amounting to as much as 500,000 francs (U.S. \$1,428.50) excluding the confiscation of the drugs and Customs fines.

It is not yet possible, with the present facilities, to produce a list of the penalties imposed by courts dealing with infringements of the narcotic drugs laws. The text of a decree is being studied under which a complete return for 1953 will be submitted.

The majority of the people arrested for trafficking in narcotic drugs have no real occupation and, in most cases, the profession they give as their own is a fictitious one. A certain number of them are, however, managers or owners of bars, restaurants or night clubs, and it is among the employees of such establishments that the small traffickers or middlemen are recruited.

Penalties for the use of or traffic in Indian hemp have been inflicted mostly on North African workers and Armenians domiciled in France.

A sentence pronounced in Paris by the 16th Chamber of Summary Jurisdiction of the Seine Court of First Instance, which met on 3 December 1952 to hear a case of trafficking in heroin and opium which had been handled by the Central Bureau in co-operation with agents of the United States Bureau of Narcotics, deserves special mention.

This court rejected the plea of provocation put forward by the offenders who claimed that the fact that a police official got into touch with suspected traffickers, by passing himself off as one of them, and made purchases, was an act of provocation.

The same court further recognized, in so far as French law is concerned, the legal character of the co-operation of the French police with foreign police, within the framework of international conventions on the suppression of the traffic in narcotic drugs, to which France has acceded and which have been duly ratified.

This sentence, if upheld, will become case law. An appeal against it has been lodged by the offenders.

The number of arrests in the Algerian provinces rose in 1952 to 218, as follows:

Cultivation, illegal possession, use or traffic in kif	
Illegal possession or use of shira	199
of which 6 were made on the departure of ships	
for the metropolitan country	
9 on the departure of aircraft for the	
metropolitan country	
Traffic in or use of heroin	9
Traffic in or use of cocaine	9
Illegal possession of opium	1

4. The action taken by the Central Bureau in close co-operation with the competent services of the Ministry of Public Health and Population, the various police forces of the territory, the International Criminal Police Commission, and the foreign police mentioned in the 1951 report has proved to be very effective.

The co-operation of officials of the Central Bureau with agents of the Bureau of Narcotics of the United States Treasury Department, under the provisions of the Convention of 26 June 1936, has given convincing results:

Five important operations were carried out in Paris and Marseilles, leading, in all, to the arrest of sixteen traffickers, and the seizure of 4.7 kg of almost pure heroin (90 per cent purity) and 30 kg of opium.

The details are as follows:

*Paris, February 1952:*

Seizure of 4.2 kg of heroin and 10,000 counterfeit dollars - four traffickers indicted.

Seizure of 10 kg of opium and 5,000 counterfeit dollars - three traffickers indicted.

Seizure of 251 g of heroin - three traffickers indicted.

*Paris, March 1952:*

Seizure of 200 g of heroin - three traffickers indicted.

*Marseilles, 21 August 1952:*

Seizure of 20 kg of opium - three traffickers indicted.

In addition, at the suggestion of the Central Bureau, the repression services concentrated their efforts on detecting and suppressing the international sources of supply to international traffickers and on collecting considerable documentation on the subject, with the assistance of the International Criminal Police Commission.

As regards repression, since the discovery of a secret laboratory for the processing of morphine at Marseilles in 1951, four other laboratories, three in operation, have been discovered, their organizers or operators arrested, and large quantities of drugs in semi-processed or processed form, seized:

On 18 March 1952, at Paris (20th Arrondissement), the special services of the Prefecture of Police discovered a secret laboratory operating in a machine repair workshop:

10.1 kg of base morphine and

1 kg of heroin were seized

and three persons, one of whom was the operating chemist, were indicted.

On 29 June 1952, at Montgeron (Seine-et-Oise), a large suburb of Paris, officials of the Central Bureau discovered a well-equipped laboratory in full operation in an isolated villa, devoted almost entirely to the processing and working up of narcotics. The villa in question was a veritable clandestine manufacturing centre, able to produce considerable quantities each month, its production being limited, in practice, solely by the difficulty of purchasing and importing base morphine into France.

Three kg of morphine in process of transformation were seized, together with a considerable amount of laboratory equipment.

The operating chemist and six members of the organization were arrested; they included two persons of importance in the international drug traffic, known to have connexions with an important contraband organization operating in the United States of America.

On the same occasion, a complete set of laboratory equipment, ready for immediate use, was discovered in the possession of a confederate.

On 1 August, at Marseilles, special officials of the Judicial Police discovered a laboratory, also in operation, set up in a kitchen in the middle of the town, with a production capacity of about 4 kg

per week, using fairly simple material. It provided supplies for export to North Africa. In addition to equipment, 4 kg of heroin were seized. The discovery led to the indictment of four persons.

As indicated in paragraph 5, numerous other seizures were also made.

Lastly, officials of the Central Bureau, in close co-operation with the services of the Prefecture of Police, seized large quantities of Indian hemp grown secretly in France from imported seeds. About three tons of Indian hemp were seized and destroyed.

The Central Bureau has had to intervene only on a few occasions to prevent the issue of prescriptions and drugs for medical purposes.

The vigilance of the services of the Ministry of Public Health and Population in applying the provisions of the decree of 19 November 1948 on the supply of drugs for medical purposes, make it very difficult for drug addicts to obtain Schedule B substances illegally. It has also made the issue of false prescriptions by doctors very rare, and the practice of giving multiple prescriptions is steadily diminishing.

That explains the small number of seizures of drugs diverted from the authorized market.

5. Seizures of drugs during 1952 were as follows:

Opium .....	52.19 kg
Morphine .....	17.803 kg
Heroin .....	11.872 kg
Cocaine .....	1.037 kg
Indian hemp (in its various forms) .....	2,944.74 kg
Dross .....	1.94 kg
Cocaine ampoules (2 centigrammes) .....	16 kg
Cocaine ampoules (5 centigrammes) .....	17 kg
Morphine ampoules (2 centigrammes) .....	593 kg
Morphine ampoules (1 centigramme) .....	529 kg
Heroin ampoules (2 centigrammes) .....	102 kg
Heroin ampoules (1 centigramme) .....	73 kg
Opium tablets (5 centigrammes) .....	307 kg
Opium solution .....	0.2 kg
Laudanum solution .....	500 cm. <sup>3</sup>
<b>SCHEDULE B PATENT MEDICINES</b>	
Eucodal (ampoules) .....	21
Sedol (ampoules) .....	36
Dolantine .....	200 cm. <sup>3</sup>

**ALGERIA - SEIZURES IN 1952**

Heroin .....	1.254 kg
Cocaine .....	0.37 kg
Opium .....	0.002 kg

Prices of narcotic drugs on the illicit market in France show a slight increase over those of 1951.

It is difficult to find any precise reasons for the price variations as the illicit market is influenced by factors entirely different from those affecting ordinary trade.

Increases were found to have occurred, however, after the successful police operations.

Refined opium fetched as much as 150,000 francs (US \$428.55) per kg.

Morphine and heroin were sold at about 1,600 francs (US \$4.57) per g and sometimes the retail price reaches 4,000 francs (US \$5.71).

Although the heroin, as it comes from the illicit laboratories, is in an almost pure state, the degree of adulteration in retail of this product

is 60, and sometimes 75 per cent.

In order to counteract the increase in illicit traffic which occurred in 1951 and is indicated in the previous year's report, the Central Bureau, in agreement with the services of the Ministry of Public Health and Population, concentrated on the programme outlined in the 1951 report, which was concerned especially with detecting the sources of supply of international traffickers and the points at which the drugs entered and left French territory.

As part of the measures to improve the control of exit and entry points, at the request of the Central Bureau the decree of 26 August 1952 was issued, adding Le Havre to the list of places which French citizens who are subject to a local banishment order may not enter.

(The local banishment order, used in the prevention of drug trafficking, consists, in French penal law, of an accessory penalty prohibiting a convicted person from entering certain places, the list of which is communicated to him. The penalty for infringement varies from six days to five years imprisonment.)

In addition, arrangements have been made between the Central Bureau and the responsible services of the Ministry of Shipping and the Ministry of Public Works and Transport by which the latter are notified of members of the crews of merchant ships and civil aircraft involved in cases of drug trafficking, in order that appropriate administrative measures may be taken against them.

A meeting was held in Paris on 9 July 1952 with a view to drafting measures designed to ensure the efficient implementation of international conventions on narcotic drugs in the French territories in North Africa. The meeting was attended by qualified representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the Interior, National Defence, Finance and Public Health and Population. In connexion with the work of suppression, the effective restoration in Algeria, the provisions of the Decree of 21 November 1933 concerning the suppression of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, was considered the essential measure which the situation required. That decision was immediately put in practice and has already produced positive results.

In a further effort to strengthen the preventive and repressive measures a study is being made of the decree of 21 November 1933, with a view to adapting it more fully to the obligations contracted under international conventions signed by France, such as the Convention of 26 June 1936.

Lastly, a bill amending various articles of the Pharmacy Code, approved by the Council of State (*Conseil d'Etat*) has been placed before the National Assembly. It is being studied by the competent Committee. Its purpose is to increase the penalties for persons convicted of engaging in the illicit manufacture or processing of drugs or of supplying drugs to minors.

The bill prescribes compulsory disintoxication for drug addicts, with penalties for failure to comply.

As far as Algeria is concerned, the provisions of the decree of 12 April 1952, strengthening control over the cultivation, harvesting, import, export, distribution, purchase and seizure of Indian hemp, are an indication that the campaign against illicit traffic in that substance will be pursued more effectively.

In conclusion, the number of prosecutions in 1952 was slightly lower than in 1951, but they affected a large number of traffickers, some of them international.



In addition, four clandestine laboratories - three in operation and one in the process of being set up - were discovered and their productive capacity for the international market destroyed, while the number of seizures of morphine, heroin, cocaine and Indian hemp greatly increased.

Heavy prison sentences and fines were imposed by the courts, in accordance with the spirit of the circular of 19 February 1952 from the Minister of Justice to the public prosecutor's department concerning the suppression of drug traffic.

As a result of the sweeping measures taken against them in 1952, drug traffickers at every level, and particularly those in international trade, are now showing great caution and appear to be seeking new methods.

As a result, the work of the Central Bureau and the police services engaged in the suppression of illicit traffic - regional services of the Judicial Police, Prefecture of Police in Paris, International Criminal Police Commission, assisted in technical matters by the services of the Ministry of Public Health and Population - has become much more complicated. The continuance of the combined operations which have already proved effective should make it possible for the authorities to ferret out and counteract the measures taken by traffickers in an endeavour to circumvent the law.

In view of the recrudescence of the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, the Minister of Justice has issued the following circular to *Procureurs Généraux*:

"In their present, recently amended, form, the laws and regulations concerning narcotic drugs provide judicial officers with adequate powers to ensure effective punishment of offences in this field.

"In this connexion, note should be taken of the amendment, by the Decree of 29 July 1939, of article 2 of the Act of 19 July 1845 on the sale of poisonous substances (now article 116 of the Pharmacy Code) and the re-casting of the previous statutes by the Decree of 19 November 1948 enacting public administrative regulations governing the importation of, trade in, possession and use of poisonous substances.

"It has, however, seemed to me that the judicial punishment of offences involving narcotic drugs has not always been as severe as it should be in a matter of such importance to the public health and the prevention of crime at both the national and international levels.

"Since the end of the last world war, the traffic in narcotic drugs has been revived on a large scale: you cannot fail to realize that the greater the danger the more effective must be its repression.

"As the traffic in narcotic drugs is often international in character, the traffickers establish their headquarters and stores in countries where they believe they run the least risk; you will agree with me that it would be to say the least of it regrettable, if, owing to inadequate repressive measures, our country should attract persons of this type.

\* \*

"While the prosecutors' departments should pay particular attention to the punishment of offences involving narcotic drugs, certain distinctions should be drawn between the persons committing offences of this nature.

"In the first place, it would appear desirable to distinguish between the addicts who consume narcotic drugs obtained on the illicit market and the traffickers who supply them.

"Some addicts have been led to contract the habit as a result of undergoing therapeutic treatment. In such cases, repressive measures may be applied humanely; the chief object should be the disintoxication of the persons concerned. Judicial officers should act with discretion, taking into account such facilities as are available locally.

"On the other hand severity should be shown towards those persons who use drugs for pleasure. While it is desirable that such persons should as far as possible undergo disintoxication treatment, such treatment is unfortunately unlikely to change the state of mind which is the basic reason for their addiction. No special leniency should be shown them, especially as maladjusted persons of this type are often liable to commit other serious offences."

\* \*

"Because of their need to obtain drugs, addicts sometimes engage in the illicit traffic themselves. In addition, the large profits to be made from the traffic attract many undesirable characters to it.

"Some traffickers confine their activities to the national territory, merely purchasing drugs for retail sale at a large profit. Punishment should be particularly severe in their case. In order to prevent repetition of offences, they should be sentenced to local banishment, so as to remove them from the areas most suitable for their activities.

\* \*

"Lastly, the most dangerous persons are the international traffickers. They are usually criminals operating in organized gangs.

"Cases of this nature should be examined with particular care, in view of the difficulty of establishing proof of activities carried on in several countries. In that connexion, I would remind you that page 4 of my circular of 16 April 1949 concerning judiciary police investigations ordered by judicial officers indicates how investigations may be carried out abroad.

"More particularly in the case of traffickers in narcotic drugs, you will probably agree with me that fines, short terms of imprisonment or penalties subject to stay of sentence do not constitute an adequate punishment. They may even create the impression that offences of this kind are lightly punished in our country.

"I urge all judicial officers in the Public Prosecutor's Department to take note of the considerations set forth above and to press all prosecutions for offences involving narcotic drugs. They should not hesitate to appeal, as excessively lenient, any sentence which is not exemplary.

"I would bring these instructions more particularly to the notice of judicial officers in the large commercial ports through which drugs enter or leave this country.

"The *Procurers Généraux* will carefully supervise the action taken by their deputies in this matter and will report to my Department any special difficulties which may arise."

#### *French Equatorial Africa*

1. As in previous years, no cases of illicit use of smoking opium, morphine, cocaine or heroin have been reported.

On the other hand, the use of Indian hemp, as reported in 1950 and 1951, though it is not common still continues.

Generally speaking, the information given in last year's report is still valid.

Medical practitioners in French Equatorial Africa have been requested through the local Directors of Public Health to inquire into the problem of Indian hemp in their districts and to devote a separate chapter to the subject in their annual reports.

The following data of interest were collected:

2. The regions in which illicit cultivation of Indian hemp has been discovered are as follows:

- a. *Middle Congo*, as last year,  
Likouala (Impfondo),  
Likouala-Mossaka (Fort-Rousset),  
Sangha (Ouessou),  
Alima-Lefini (Djambala),  
Pool (Brazzaville),

to which should be added Niari, where the plant appears to grow wild.

To quote from the report for Likouala (Impfondo): "Since Indian hemp will grow almost untended in this region, the Africans take no trouble to propagate it: strong, healthy hemp plants are a common sight, especially in the small villages, in areas where the drug is held in high esteem.

"The only precaution taken by the cultivator is to isolate his plantation when he wishes to cultivate the plant on a commercial scale. The plantations are usually situated in the forests at some distance from the village, on the fringe of the agricultural land and no secondary crops such as maize, which is the principal local secondary crop, are planted on the same plot. It would therefore appear that the cultivation is known to be prohibited.

"The areas planted are fairly small, which is probably why only hemp is grown on them. Persons who are not addicts find the seed in the imported hemp and the crop is sown at the beginning of the rainy season. The Babingas are said to cultivate this plant on a large scale, their masters probably being their chief customers.

"What the writer refers to as 'imported hemp' is the drug probably obtained from the left bank of the river, in the Belgian Congo."

He adds: "It would appear that the indigenous inhabitants of Likouala do not use the hemp for any purpose other than smoking, and I do not think that the witch-doctors prescribe it as a remedy".

- b. *The Gaboon*

In this Territory, however, the drug appears to be used by some witch-doctors, chiefly those of the *Pahouine* tribes of the Cameroons frontier, to bring on their trances and to enhance the effect of their initiation ceremonies. This would be merely a sporadic use and not, properly speaking, an instance of drug addiction, no cases of which are reported by the Health Service.

- c. *Ubangi-Shari*

More detailed information is available than last year:

*M'Bomou (Rafai and Obo district)*

It would appear that cultivation in this area, though still clandestine, is more wide-spread than elsewhere and produces more than the few smokers need, so as to allow of traffic in the drug.

*Basse-Kotto*

Cultivation on a relatively small scale.

Cultivation is always clandestine and on small plots with an area of one or two square metres.

There appears to be some traffic with other regions, with lorry-drivers acting as carriers.

*Haute-Jotto*

Illicit cultivation on a very small scale carried on by Arabized foreigners rather than by the indigenous inhabitants (Bandas).

*Lobaye*

Clandestine cultivation on a small scale intended for indigenous inhabitants of the Mjombo race, Mongoumba district.

*Haute-Sangha*

The medical officer found several clandestine plantations and some users of the drug. Some of them were young people in search of stimulation, and others, old people seeking relief from painful diseases under the narcotic effect of the drug.

Finally, the Chief Medical Officer of the XIIIth Sector (Bangui) reports:

"The areas under clandestine cultivation are not large (each no more than one are) the total for Bossembene and Damara being one hectare in each case.

"The plant is chiefly cultivated by village hunters and fishermen who use it to make strong cord (for snares and traps).

"In conclusion, a very small quantity may definitely be used for narcotic drugs..."

This is the only reference made to the qualities of the fibres obtained from *Cannabis* and the use of the plant for legitimate purposes.

d. *Chad*

There is believed to be practically no use of Indian hemp in this territory.

3. The seizures now being reported are those which took place in 1951, and are distributed as follows:

	<i>Number of Seizures</i>	<i>Weight in kg</i>
a. <i>Middle Congo</i>		
Brazzaville	10	0.5
Dolisie	6	not given
Fort-Rousset	1	2
b. <i>The Gaboon</i>		
Lambarene	2	0.155
Franceville	1	0.02
c. <i>Ubangi-Shari</i>		
Customs, Bangui	1	2

All the narcotic drugs seized were burnt, and the offenders sentenced to penalties ranging from 15 days to 8 months imprisonment, or in some exceptional cases, to payment of a fine.

d. *Chad*: Nil.

4. Nothing to report.
5. The only seizures made in 1951 produced a total of 4.675 kg of Indian hemp, which need not be entered on Statistical Form E, since in no case was either illicit export or import involved.

The clandestine nature of the cultivation, the small scale on which the traffic proper is carried on, and the fact that the few people who harvest the plant put it chiefly to domestic use, make it impossible to furnish any information on the prices current.

*French West Africa*

1. Apart from Indian hemp, no illicit traffic in narcotic drugs or substances has been reported.

2. Traffic in indigenous Indian hemp, called "Yamba", has continued, still in the same area, of which Dakar is the centre.

Active measures for its repression have been taken.

Fifty-four proceedings involving eighty-nine offenders, were instituted before the courts of first instance. Appeals were lodged in eight of these cases.

Penalties imposed range from 15 days imprisonment with suspended sentence and a fine of 500 francs (US \$1.43) to 15 months' imprisonment with a fine of 5,000 francs (US \$14.29). The offence is quite frequently taken into consideration with others (such as vagrancy, or larceny).

Dakar is the largest centre of this traffic, since the court of that city heard 36 cases involving 62 offenders. Then, in order of importance, come Kaolack (9 cases), Thies (5), Saint Louis (2), Conakry and Ziguinchor (1).

It is very difficult to determine the origin of the Indian hemp in which the vagrants of Dakar in particular seem to keep up a continued traffic. When questioned on the subject, the accused either remain silent or make the invariable statement that they do not know the source of their supplies, so that it is impossible to ascertain the origin of the traffic. That is also the reason why no actions have been brought on the charge of cultivation of Indian hemp, proceedings for which, furthermore, were not legally possible until quite recently. Nevertheless, investigations have been made which support the theory that the hemp is cultivated in the canton of Pout (Thies district) which probably supplies Dakar and Thies, while other areas may receive their supplies from British Gambia (Kaolack-Ziguinchor-Thies partly) or from Sierra Leone (Conakry). A small proportion of the quantity consumed would appear to come from wild hemp.

Under the decree of 5 June 1952 referred to in Section I - Laws and Publications - it is now possible to institute proceedings for the cultivation of Indian hemp.

#### *Cameroons*

1. In 1952, no case of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs was reported either at Douala or Kribi, the only important transit points, or along the whole of the land or sea frontiers, or at airports in the Territory, or within the Territory itself.

There were no reports from any of the adjoining or neighbouring countries (British Cameroons, Nigeria, Spanish Guinea, French Equatorial Africa) of cases involving contraband in which our Territory might have been concerned.

2. *Opium poppy and coca leaves*

Not cultivated. The opium poppy, which could be put to no practical use, has never been introduced into the Territory. As regards coca leaves, the reserve stocks held by the Central Pharmacy will be adequate to meet requirements for several years to come.

#### *Indian hemp*

In 1952, as in 1951, no plantations large enough to justify the term "cultivation" were discovered.

The supervision exercised by the administration in order to prevent clandestine cultivation would therefore appear to be completely effective.

3. The judicial authorities have had no occasion to take action in cases involving illicit traffic in or possession of narcotic drugs during 1952.
4. ) It follows from what has already been said that there has been no need to
5. ) collect any special information to communicate to the United Nations, or
6. ) to carry out any seizures or confiscation of narcotic drugs in 1952.

## French Somaliland

1. One case of illicit traffic of a rather peculiar nature was reported, involving the illicit importation of 800 5-ampoule boxes of Dolosal Specia.

The details are as follows:

In June 1952, Mr. Bodin, of the Red Sea Pharmacy, one of the private pharmacists of Jibuti, informed the Inspector of Pharmacists in writing of the illicit presence in Jibuti of 800 boxes of Dolosal which an indigenous small trader unknown to him had offered to sell him. He had taken the precaution of noting the reference numbers of the Specia firm, on the sample offered to him and having stated that the merchandise was of no interest to him had advised the seller, without arousing his suspicions, to offer it to the Inspector of Pharmacies, Chief Pharmacist of the Public Health Service.

A short time afterwards, contact was made with the latter, who was amazed to find that the seller was acting in perfectly good faith and was entirely unaware that he was in possession of a narcotic drug or even that the product was dangerous. He said that he had obtained it from the crew of an Italian cargo vessel, the "Origa", in exchange for various supplies furnished by him. Better still, he had duly declared the merchandise to the Jibuti Port authorities and had paid the duty necessary to introduce it legally into the Territory.

The Inspector of Pharmacies warned him against having the product in his possession and, having obtained his identity, informed him that his merchandise would be seized immediately.

The *Procureur de la République*, who had meanwhile been informed of the case, was notified at once and ordered the seizure of the 800 boxes of Dolosal and the arrest of the possessor.

The Specia company, which had also been contacted, reported that the 800 boxes of Dolosal could easily be identified from the reference numbers taken.

They were part of a consignment of 4,000 boxes, despatched early in November 1951 by the Company's Livron factory to the Specia Agency in Saigon on the "Athos II". The consignment had arrived 800 boxes short, and the fact had been reported to the competent authorities in Indo-China.

With this information in his possession, the examining magistrate endeavoured, but without success, to ascertain how goods despatched on board the "Athos II" came ashore at Jibuti four months later from an Italian cargo vessel.

However that may be, the importer of the 800 boxes was convicted of illegally practising pharmacy, being in unlawful possession of poisonous substances, traffic in narcotic drugs, and receiving and concealment of stolen goods. Although he appeared to have been acting in perfectly good faith, at least in regard to one point (he was undoubtedly unaware of the fact that he was in possession of a narcotic drug), the *Procureur de la République* decided to take vigorous action to make the case an example.

One of the reasons which made this case possible is the fact that Jibuti has become a free port and the customs service was recently replaced by a private port authority, the agents of which are chiefly indigenous, and are not yet as efficient as the customs officers they replaced.

In order to avoid mistakes in the future, very strict orders have been issued that import of all medicines, whether toxic or non-toxic by any person not holding a pharmacist's diploma, should in all cases be prohibited.

As for the 800 boxes of Dolosal, the Specia Company brought a civil action and it is very likely that the Dolosal will be returned to them after judgment has been given, which will probably be quite shortly.

#### French India

There was no illicit traffic in opium or other harmful drugs in 1952. One trader applied for an import authorization for cocaine, which was, of course, refused and the Senior Officer in charge of Police was asked to investigate. In the event, it was shown that the trader had not had any fraudulent intentions in ordering the cocaine.

#### Madagascar

On 20 April 1952, 1.97 kg of contraband raw opium were discovered at Majunga (offender: Cugnez-Corporal in the B.T.S.). On 10 December 1952, 11 kg of opium were seized at Tamatave in a van belonging to the *Etablissements Vierne* (offender: Randrianarivelo and associates, employed by the Ets. Vierne). On 22 December 1952, 4 kg of opium were seized at Tamatave in the luggage of the offender at Manangaraza station. (Offender: Guillon, no profession, resident at Brickaville).

#### Morocco

1. There is virtually no illicit traffic in narcotic drugs worthy of mention in the French zone of Morocco, apart from the smuggling in of Indian hemp and *kif*.

The smuggling of Indian hemp and *kif* is still rife, and is doubtless highly lucrative. As the use of *kif* is still legal, traffickers are tempted to provide consumers with a product purer than that furnished by the tobacco monopoly and frequently no more expensive.

The Indian hemp is usually brought into Morocco in the form of whole plants or flowering tops, and originates almost exclusively in the Spanish zone of Morocco.

The Indian hemp smuggled into the country is distributed to middlemen who chop it and make it up into small packets which are then offered to consumers by small peddlers (often adolescents).

2. The opium poppy and coca leaf are not cultivated in Morocco.

The cultivation of Indian hemp is prohibited in the French zone of Morocco.

The illicit plantations occasionally discovered are small in size and are intended solely to provide Moroccan growers who are addicts with the small supplies of cheap, good-quality *kif* they need.

It is very difficult to estimate the quantities of Indian hemp harvested, consumed or exported illicitly.

Taking as a basis the number and nature of the offences discovered, which certainly represent only a small proportion of those committed, it may be stated that while the quantities harvested or exported clandestinely are insignificant, the quantities of contraband *kif* consumed are very probably greater than those obtained from the Monopoly.

3. Number of prosecutions:

In 1952, the number of offences reported was about 1,650, but most of the cases, under the regulations still in force, were settled out of court between the offenders and the State Tobacco Monopoly.

The various courts in Morocco heard only 55 cases involving the smuggling of Indian hemp and *kif* in 1952 and 100 persons were convicted.

The sentences imposed always involved the following:

Confiscation to the State Monopoly of the Indian hemp, the *kif* and the smugglers' means of transport; the maximum fine applicable, with imprisonment for inability to pay; a possible additional prison sentence for second offenders.

In 1952, the fines ranged from 60,000 francs to 4,000,000 francs (US \$171.42 - US \$11,428).

4. Nothing to report.
5. *Statistics of seizures:*

The only seizures made in the French zone of Morocco during 1952 were of Indian hemp and *kif* and totalled 18,803 kg of the product.

The Indian hemp seized was handed over, under the regulations now in force, to the Tobacco Monopoly which formerly used it for the manufacture of *kif*, but which has for the past six months or so followed the practice of destroying it, the reports of the destruction being submitted to us regularly every month.

6. *Prices of Drugs:*

The price of Indian hemp as first produced, that is to say in the Spanish zone, is believed to be about 600 to 800 francs (US \$1.71 - US \$2.29) per kg, but the hemp passes through the hands of several middlemen and would appear to be sold to distributors at a price of 1,200 to 2,000 francs (US \$3.43 - US \$5.71) per kg; when it has been prepared, chopped and put up in small packets, it is sold to consumers at 20 to 50 francs (US \$0.06 - US \$0.14) per packet of 5 g.

When the Tobacco Monopoly ceases to sell *kif* of its own manufacture a few months hence, the price of the contraband product may be expected to rise sharply.

It has been noted that the consumption of *kif* (both that sold by the Monopoly and the contraband variety) definitely increased during the indigenous festivals.

#### *New Caledonia*

Case No. 9818: DINH VAN THAN

The above-named, a stoker on board the S.S. "Cap Tarifa", of the *Société le Nickel*, was sentenced by the *Tribunal Correctionnel* of Nouméa on 13 June 1952 to a fine of 10,000 francs (US \$28.57) for the illegal possession of opium.

A small bottle of opium, net weight 25 g, and a small packet of opium residue were confiscated.

The opium was discovered in the Vietnamese crew's quarters, carefully concealed under Dinh Van Than's mattress.

#### *New Hebrides*

1. There is a little illicit traffic in opium in the New Hebrides, as is proved by the fact that there are a few smokers amongst the Chinese and the Vietnamese. The drug is neither diverted from legitimate trade nor manufactured locally, but is smuggled in by sea.
2. There is no cultivation of the opium poppy, coca leaf or Indian hemp in the Territory. There were no proceedings or convictions in 1952.

#### *French Oceania*

1. There is little to add to last year's report and no new circumstances have arisen to change the situation in French Oceania. The routes followed and methods of introducing the drug are the same. There appears to be no traffic except in imported opium (transport and possession), which is smuggled in on vessels arriving from Marseilles. There is no clandestine manufacture.

As regards distribution in the territory, the traffickers, who are harassed by the continual supervision exercised by the police and *gendarmerie*, have become increasingly wary.

2. The poppy plant, coca leaf and Indian hemp are not cultivated in French Oceania.



3. The following sentences were imposed in 1952 for offences against the regulations relating to narcotic drugs:
  1. Vincent Galanti, Seaman, trafficking in opium, judgment of the Higher Court of Appeal of Papeete dated 10 January 1952: one year's imprisonment.
  2. Louis Casalta, Seaman, trafficking in opium, judgment of the Higher Court of Appeal of Papeete dated 10 January 1952: one year's imprisonment.
  3. Raymond Mailhan, Seaman, trafficking in opium, judgment of the Higher Court of Appeal of Papeete dated 10 January 1952: two months' imprisonment.
  4. No. 6300, Kong Kau You, purveying opium, judgment of the *Tribunal Correctionnel* of Papeete dated 4 February 1952: 4 months' imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 francs (US \$28.57).
  5. No. 2001, Chung Long, purveying opium, judgment of the *Tribunal Correctionnel* of Papeete dated 12 February 1952: 4 months' imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 francs (US \$28.57).
  6. No. 1977, Wong Tchin, purveying opium, judgment of the *Tribunal Correctionnel* of Papeete of 12 February 1952: 2 months' imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 francs (US \$28.57).
  7. No. 2426, Yu Si, unauthorized possession of opium, judgment of the *Tribunal Correctionnel* of Papeete of 4 March 1952: 2 months' imprisonment with suspended sentence.
  8. No. 3336, Koan Lo Sin, unauthorized possession of opium, judgment of the *Tribunal Correctionnel* of Papeete of 4 March 1952: 2 months' imprisonment.
  9. No. 3884, Lou Chang Fook, unauthorized possession of opium. Judgment of the *Tribunal Correctionnel* of Papeete dated 4 March 1952: 4 months' imprisonment.
  10. No. 5285, Mou Fat, unauthorized possession of opium. Judgment of the *Tribunal Correctionnel* of Papeete of 4 March 1952: 6 months' imprisonment.

To the above list should be added the two following seizures:

  11. 120 g of raw opium seized from a petty French trafficker in the Second Zone who died suddenly.
  12. 1 kg of raw opium seized in the crew's quarters of the SS "Chanchow", of the *messageries Maritimes*. The seizure was made by Customs and police officers, on information furnished by the latter.

As the owner of the drug could not be ascertained, the case was settled out of court by the Customs authorities; the opium was confiscated and no proceedings were brought.

4. No comment.
5. The total amount of raw opium confiscated in 1952 was 1 kg (Statistical Form E) - opium of inferior quality. It was destroyed in 1953 by the Customs authorities, in the presence of the Commission.
 

As reported last year, the quantities seized represent only a very small proportion of the amount involved in the traffic, the scale of which it is difficult to determine.
6. Prices vary according to the supplies in circulation. Current prices are approximately the same as those reported in December 1951.

#### St. Pierre and Miquelon

No illicit traffic in opium and other narcotic drugs was reported from the territory of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon in 1952.

Narcotic drugs are imported into the Territory for medicinal purposes only and in very small quantities (less than 1 kg).

*French Togoland*

There is no drug addiction in the Territory itself, and no cases of drug addiction involving persons from outside the Territory were reported in 1952.

*Tunisia*

1.

TABLE OF SEIZURES IN 1952

*Repression and Enforcement Services*

<i>Substance</i>	<i>: Customs</i>	<i>: Excise</i>	<i>: Security</i>	<i>: Total 1952</i>
			<i>: Services</i>	
Opium	:	:	60 g	60 g
Heroin	: 1.55115 kg	:	404.45 g	1.9556 kg
Poppies (stalks)	:	922	:	922
Indian hemp (stalks)	:	14,550	:	14,550
Takrouri	: 13.9 kg	: 174.67 kg	: 38.84 kg	227.41 kg

*Source of confiscated drugs:*

Takrouri and Indian hemp: Tunisia and Algeria.

Opium: Tunisia.

These drugs are produced illegally

Heroin: France: 1 kg.

Unknown: 400 g.

(French seaman from Jibuti).

2. There has been an increase in illicit crops of Indian hemp and a slight increase in crops of opium poppy, particularly in the Kairouan region.

3. *Number of prosecutions:*

Total: 119

Made up of: 102 Tunisians

1 Greek

3 French

13 Algerians

*Occupation of offenders:*

In the case of Takrouri and Indian hemp, the majority were farmers or market gardeners. Heroin was brought in by seamen.

Opium: no occupation, farmer.

Fines: Monetary and penal.

4. )

5. ) Nothing to report.

6. )

VI. OTHER INFORMATION

Nothing to report for metropolitan France, Algeria and the overseas departments and territories.

**B. RAW MATERIALS**

VII. RAW OPIUM

*Metropolitan France, Algeria and Overseas Departments*

Quantity produced .....	nil.
Quantity imported .....	27,827 kg
Quantity exported .....	10,057 kg
Quantity used for the manufacture of morphine, its salts and derivatives .....	40,008 kg
Quantity used for the manufacture of galenic products .	2,552 kg
Quantity in the process of manufacture on 31 December 1952 .....	5,917 kg
Morphine manufactured from opium .....	4,464 kg

*Yield of standard morphine extracted:*

Average by weight of the morphine content of the opium used (according to the Harrison dosage) .....	11.24 per cent
Percentage of morphine extracted .....	10.98 per cent
Yield .....	97 per cent

*Poppy heads*

Quantity delivered to factories .....	315,390 kg
Quantity used for the manufacture of morphine .....	446,338 kg
Quantity of morphine extracted .....	1,435 kg
Yield .....	3.21 per cent

.....  
This section does not apply to the various territories of the French Union where neither the opium poppy nor the oil poppy is cultivated, with the exception of:

*French India*

In 1952 the Indian Union continued to deliver the amounts of opium requested by the excise services.

Quantity received: .... 180 *serres* 29 *tolas*, which represents a reduction of 10 per cent as compared with the figures for the previous year.

There is to be reduction of 10 per cent in every successive annual order. The quantity ordered for 1953 is 157 *serres* 64 *tolas*.

1 *serre* = 932 grammes

1 *tola* = 11.6 grammes

*This opium is eaten and not smoked.*

VIII. COCA LEAF

*Metropolitan France, Algeria, and Overseas Departments*

Quantity produced .....	nil.
Quantity imported .....	23,004 kg
Quantity exported .....	0.207 kg
Quantity used for the manufacture of cocaine .....	21,894 kg
Quantity used for the manufacture of galenic preparations .....	3,477 kg

This section does not apply to any of the Territories of the French Union.

IX. INDIAN HEMP

*Metropolitan France, Algeria and Overseas Departments*

Quantity produced .....	nil.
Quantity imported .....	3 kg
Quantity exported .....	5 kg
Consumption in the form of medicinal preparations ....	51 kg

A few cases of illicit cultivation of Indian hemp, already reported, were discovered in 1952.

In view of the ease with which small areas planted with seed from the Near East may be concealed, it has proved necessary to give the repression services the details of this cultivation. In the same way, all the police services throughout the Territory have had their attention drawn to the possibility of illicit cultivation of Indian hemp.

Contacts have been made with the agricultural production services which will undoubtedly be able to give assistance in this field.

All these measures appear to be necessary as there seems to be an illicit market in Indian hemp in Western Europe large enough to justify these attempts at illicit cultivation.

### French Equatorial Africa

There is virtually nothing to add to the information given in the 1951 report, which is reproduced in full below.

1. Indian hemp (*Cannabis sativa* L.) as has been indicated in section V, (Illicit Traffic), is cultivated unobtrusively in small quantities in certain parts of French Equatorial Africa, exclusively for the purpose of preparing the drug, which is smoked by some of the indigenous inhabitants.
2. There is no lawful cultivation of Indian hemp in French Equatorial Africa.
3. The plant does not grow wild to any noticeable extent; its cultivation is not lawful.

There is no authorized harvesting and hence there are no stocks.

4. Since cultivation is prohibited, it is carried on in such a way as to escape the attention of the authorities, who, as has been stated in section V, find it very difficult to interfere.
5. a. Production of resin and preparations with a resin base is prohibited.  
b. Nil.
6. Nothing to report.
7. There is nothing in particular to report concerning the internal control of the production of, trade in and use of Indian hemp.

In fact, considerable difficulty would be encountered in any attempt to discover the plant growing. Therefore the main activity of the control services must lie in the suppression of the traffic in and use of the drug, and the activities of those services in 1952 have been reported under section V (Illicit Traffic) above.

Illicit international traffic does not appear to be large. Undoubtedly some such traffic, probably on a very small scale, does exist along the frontiers between Ubangi-Shari and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan and the Belgian Congo respectively, as between the Middle Congo and the Belgian Congo. Such traffic could undoubtedly operate without any great difficulty along about 3,000 kilometres of frontier where effective control can be maintained only at certain crossing points.

8. The use of galenic preparations with an Indian hemp base is virtually non-existent. The small quantities of tincture or extract of Indian hemp in the possession of licensed persons vary but little, owing to the rarity of prescriptions calling for them.

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### French West Africa

See section V.

### French Cameroons

1. As has already been remarked, *Cannabis sativa* grows wild in a comparatively small section of the forest zones in the South (Bertoua, Sangmelima, Ebolowa). Only isolated plants are actually involved, occurring deep in the forest far from human habitation - dwellings being grouped round the cocoa plantations and close to the roads.
2. ) There can plainly be no question of legal cultivation of Indian hemp
3. ) either for industrial purposes, since the profits would be too small, or
4. ) still less for production of the drug proper or of resin or any prepara-
5. ) tion with a resin base.
6. ) It will be remembered that one of France's first acts on being given
7. ) the Territory to administer was to prohibit, by an Order dated 18 August
8. ) 1917, the cultivation of hemp, its transfer by sale, exchange or gift,  
    ) and its use throughout the Territory.  
    ) It should be noted, in conclusion, that the use of galenic preparations  
    ) of Indian hemp (extracts or tinctures) for medical purposes appears finally

)to have come to an end; as in 1951, no prescriptions for such preparations were written by practitioners qualified to prescribe them.

*French Somaliland*

Nothing to report.

*French India*

Nothing to report.

*Madagascar*

Nothing to report.

*Morocco*

1. *Cannabis sativa* does not grow wild.
2. Hemp is cultivated legally for industrial purposes only (textiles). The area under cultivation in 1952 is estimated at 270 hectares.
3. The cultivation and cutting of Indian hemp are not permitted in Morocco.
4. Illicit cultivation of hemp with a view to obtaining Indian hemp is on a fairly small scale, usually involving only a few plants in the middle of a field grown by a farmer for his own use.

One small illicit plantation was discovered in the neighbourhood of Mogador; it consisted of 320 plants, which were uprooted and destroyed.

5. It would appear that resin is neither manufactured nor used in Morocco.
6. Indian hemp may legally be used in Morocco only in the form of *kif* for smoking. The preparation sold by the Tobacco Monopoly under the name of *kif jyed* is a mixture of tobacco with about 40 per cent Indian hemp.

In 1952, 46,511 kg of the Monopoly's *kif jyed* were sold, representing about 18,609 kg of pure Indian hemp.

7. Nothing to report.
8. Consumption of pharmaceutical preparations with an Indian hemp base is still negligible and the possibility of prohibiting their use is actually under consideration. At any rate, the wholesale pharmacists have on our advice refrained from renewing their stocks of these preparations.

The campaign against the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs is to be intensified in the French zone, in conjunction with Algeria and Tunisia, and consumption of Indian hemp is to be prohibited, but these measures will not be very effective unless similar steps are taken or at least strict control is instituted in the zone of Tangiers and more particularly in the Spanish zone.

The cessation of the manufacture and sale of the Tobacco Monopoly's *kif* in the French zone of Morocco is going to produce a very marked increase in smuggling. Effective steps will consequently have to be taken in the Spanish zone of Morocco, if possible to prohibit Indian hemp, and at any rate to control its cultivation, and to prohibit export of the plant, its flowering tops or prepared *kif*.

*New Caledonia*

Nothing to report.

*New Hebrides*

Nothing to report.

*French Oceania*

Nothing to report.

*St. Pierre and Miquelon*

Nothing to report.

*French Togoland*

Nothing to report.

*Tunisia*

1. Indian hemp grows wild in Tunisia. Area undetermined.
2. Information given by the monopolies:
  - a. Quantity of Indian hemp cultivated in 1952: 49,630 kg.

- b. Area under cultivation in 1952.....: 49,362 hectares.
- c. Takrouri yield (1952 harvest).....: 8,862 kg
- d. Stocks held by the State at the end of 1952.:
  - Indian hemp 44,121 kg
  - Takrouri 1,760.0684 kg
- e. Consumption of Takrouri in 1952.....: 2,786.208 kg
- f. Purchases of Indian hemp outside Tunisia....: Nil
- g. Indian hemp plantations discovered in 1952...: None

The use of Takrouri is to cease.

On 13 September 1952 the Directorate of Finance issued an order prohibiting cultivation throughout the Territory in 1953.

A decree abolishing the Monopoly is about to be promulgated and Takrouri will become a prohibited drug like other narcotics.

The promulgation of this decree, however, is being delayed by practical and administrative difficulties.\*

### C. MANUFACTURED DRUGS

#### X. INTERNAL CONTROL OF MANUFACTURED DRUGS

*Metropolitan France, Algeria and Overseas Departments*

1. a. As in previous years, the scheme for limiting manufacture was implemented by an order: the Order of 15 April 1952. No difficulties have been encountered in enforcing the Order.

*Consumption of drugs in 1952*

##### *Group I*

Morphine	112 kg
Diacetylmorphine	12 kg
Cocaine	93 kg
Dihydrooxycodone	46 kg
Pethidine hydrochloride	208 kg

##### *Group II*

Methylmorphine	3,974 kg
Ethylmorphine	805 kg
Morpholinylethylmorphine	52 kg

On the whole, consumption was lower in 1952 than in 1951.

The decrease is very easily accounted for by the absence of influenza during the year.

- b. *Heroin*

Consumption of diacetylmorphine was 12 kg, including 1 kg used by a manufacturer for scientific research.

Real consumption was therefore 11 kg, part of which was taken from existing stocks, since new manufactures amounted only to 5 kg, of which 2 kg were for export.

Drug addicts using heroin obtain their supplies almost exclusively on the illicit market.

2. Nothing to report.

3. a. No change from the previous year's report. The drugs manufactured are used to meet internal and export requirements.

*Drugs manufactured:*

Morphine	5,944 kg
(of which 4,509 kg were extracted from opium and 1.435 kg from poppy heads)	

\* The decree was promulgated in April 1953.

Diacetylmorphine	5 kg	
Cocaine	231 kg	
Dihydrooxycodone	46.5 kg	
Pethidine hydrochloride	300 kg	
Methylmorphine	5,015 kg	
(of which 4,347 kg were manufactured from morphine and 668 kg extracted directly from opium)		
Ethylmorphine	912 kg	
Morpholinylethylmorphine	79 kg	
Morphine converted	5,795 kg	
(for the manufacture of methylmorphine		4,743 kg
(for the manufacture of ethylmorphine		976 kg
(for the manufacture of diacetylmorphine		6 kg
(for the manufacture of morpholinylethylmorphine		70 kg)

b. No change.

c. There has been no change in the control of firms authorized to stock and deal in narcotic drugs or to use them for scientific purposes.

It may be useful to recall that French regulations require the users to provide the following information for the Bureau of Narcotic Drugs:

*Drug manufacturers:*

Monthly statements of production and deliveries.

Monthly applications for manufacturing licences.

*Manufacturers of medicines containing narcotic or galenic drugs:*

Quarterly statements of purchases, production and sales.

*Wholesale distributors:*

Annual statements of purchases and sales.

In addition, all holders of narcotic drugs must keep strict accounts of their turnover of narcotic drugs and be ready at all times to present those accounts to the Pharmacy Inspector.

As regards raw materials, the control of opium is based on the Harrison analysis, which is required for every purchase by the users. In the case of other raw materials, spot checks are made from time to time on samples taken by the Pharmacy Inspectors of Health and analysed by official laboratories approved by the Ministry of Public Health.

Retail pharmacists, hospital pharmacies and physicians and veterinary surgeons who dispense drugs are required only to keep accounts.

4. Every establishment stocking narcotic drugs was inspected at least once in 1952.

It may be recalled that the Pharmacy Inspectors of Health have very wide powers with regard to narcotic drugs. Production sheets, ledgers, prescription registers, etc. must be shown to them on request. They have the right to inspect all premises in which narcotic drugs are stocked or believed to be stocked.

As regards the control of storage conditions, French regulations provide that narcotic drugs must be kept in locked cupboards or premises. Any quantities of drugs found outside such cupboards are subject to seizure.

5. *Diacetylmorphine*

The manufacture of diacetylmorphine is authorized.

5 kg were manufactured in 1952, for domestic use and export.

Heroin was exported to various territories of the French Union, in accordance with the terms of the 1931 Convention.

### *French Equatorial Africa*

1. )There is no manufacture of narcotic drugs in French Equatorial Africa,
2. )nor are there any establishments manufacturing preparations for the
3. )wholesale trade.

#### 4. *Trade and distribution*

- a. The only importers are:

Official: . The General Supply Pharmacy of Brazzaville.

The Territorial Supply Pharmacy of the Gaboon.

Private: 13 pharmacies, not all of which are importers, small orders being as far as possible filled from local stocks.

They are distributed as follows:

Brazzaville	3
Bangui	3
Libreville	1
Port-Gentil	1
Pointe-Noire	2
Fort-Lamy	2
Dolisie	1

One wholesale pharmacist at Pointe-Noire.

Similarly not all of the few medical services belonging to private firms import their supplies; small quantities are obtained when required through the wholesale firm at Pointe-Noire or the official establishments.

- b. The control of the trade in and distribution of narcotic drugs is in the hands of the Inspector of Pharmacies of French Equatorial Africa, who combines this function with the functions of Chief of Section of the Directorate-General of Public Health and Chief Pharmacist of the Federation.

The elder of the two Pointe-Noire pharmacies and the retail pharmacy of SICE Hospital, also at Pointe-Noire, were inspected in October.

The two oldest pharmacies at Brazzaville were also inspected in 1952. Nothing to report.

The plurality of the functions of the Chief Pharmacist of the Federation, the still unsolved difficulties of furnishing the country with medical supplies, the great distances between the different centres, and lack of staff, all prevent the Inspectorate of Pharmacies from expanding its activities.

### *French West Africa*

No import or export licences were issued in 1952.

Official export authorizations are issued by the Bureau of Narcotic Drugs, Ministry of Public Health, at the request of the Directorate of the Health Service, Ministry of Overseas France, exclusively to the Federal Pharmacy.

All imports are from France.

There is no manufacture in the Federation.

There is no wholesale trade.

Retail sales by pharmacists are subject to the regulations introduced by the Decree of 26 January 1926 as amended in some respects by the Decree of 8 October 1948. In each Territory these pharmacies are under the supervision of the Inspector of Pharmacies.

Stocks are kept by the official Supply Pharmacies, which release them to hospitals, nursing establishments and private pharmacies.

### *French Cameroons*

1. )The establishment in the Territory of factories for the manufacture of
2. )harmful drugs could obviously not be contemplated for a moment.
3. )



#### 4. *Trade and distribution*

The only activities involving narcotic drugs in the Territory are therefore the importation of the drugs and their distribution for purely medicinal purposes.

##### *Imports*

The following only are authorized (subject naturally to prior authorization by the Inspectorate of Pharmacies) to import narcotic drugs:

- a. the Central Supply Pharmacy at Yaoundé, an "official" establishment and by far the largest importer;
- b. the medical supply wholesaling and distributing firms (*Laborex* and the Tropical Drug Company, both at Douala);
- c. the dispensaries, at present 18 in number, selling to private customers, and if necessary certain private hospitals (maintained by foreign Missions).

Except in the rare case of these hospitals, the country of origin is of course France. It has been seen that the system of certificates established by the Conventions ensures simple and effective control of such imports.

This control is particularly easy to maintain because supplies of all raw materials (opium in powder form etc.), alkaloids (morphine, cocaine etc.) and even drug preparations (laudanum etc.) are in fact obtained by private pharmacies and official or private health institutions exclusively from the Central Supply Pharmacy, which is under the immediate authority of the Inspector of Pharmacies. The Inspector's supervisory work is naturally facilitated by this channelling of orders, which in addition simplifies the process of supply and makes it more economical.

The only "private" imports are in point of fact a few specialities imported in very small quantities - in 1952, 21 g of morphine-base and 8 g of dihydrooxycodoneinone-base.

A further point to be noted is that these specialities intended for the dispensaries were imported by a single distributor of medical supplies which takes all the dispensaries' orders, under the control of the Inspector of Pharmacies.

##### *Storage and issue*

The Central Supply Pharmacy, the chief importer of narcotic drugs, is also the chief storage and issue establishment.

The Pharmacy provides for all so-called "official" needs, i.e. those of the Territory's health institutions (50 central, regional or sub-divisional hospitals, and nearly 200 dispensaries, clinics, small medical posts etc.).

Because of the essentially collective nature of medicine in the Territory, except in the large population centres where the private practitioners are, these needs are in practice virtually those of the whole population.

Apart from the Central Pharmacy and the health institutions supplied by it, only the dispensaries, wholesale depots and Mission hospitals are authorized to stock narcotic drugs.

The trade proper, i.e. retail sales against doctors' prescriptions, which involve only very small quantities of narcotic drugs, is in the hands of the pharmacies.

##### *Control*

The keeping and issue of narcotic drugs are directly controlled by the Inspector of Pharmacies, in the case of both official and private establishments.

He ensures that all deliveries are made in accordance with the special regulations governing table B drugs (writing of prescriptions,

seven-day rule, prohibition of duplication and renewal, entry in the prescription register and in the special register of B poisons, etc.).

He inspects the B poison ledgers and checks the stock, at the same time making sure that the drugs and special products are in a sound state of preservation.

His inspection tours in 1952 showed that both physicians and pharmacists were observing the narcotic drug regulations most satisfactorily: narcotics are invariably kept in special locked cupboards inside the poison cupboards proper, which are also locked. The registers of drugs received and issued are kept up to date, doctors' prescriptions (from private practitioners) or counterfoil-book vouchers (from health institutions) being carefully preserved as authority for the issues made.

The quantities of the principal narcotic drugs consumed in 1952 and 1951 are indicated below for information.

	1951	1952
	kg	kg
Morphine	0.221	0.123
Diacetylmorphine	0.014	Nil
Cocaine	0.127	0.885
Eucodal	0.007	0.008
Pethidine	0.227	0.18

The table shows that:

1. There has been a marked decrease in consumption of morphine, without any increase in that of pethidine - on the contrary, practitioners are using rather less pethidine.
2. On the other hand there is a large increase in consumption of cocaine, due however entirely to more frequent use of Bonain's anaesthetic in hospitals' stomatological wards.
3. Although consumption of dihydrooxycodone remains substantially at the same very low level, diacetylmorphine, which was already being used less in 1951, was not prescribed at all in 1952.

Broadly speaking it is true to say that narcotic drug consumption is keeping within very narrow limits (41 g of morphine and 60 g of pethidine per million inhabitants), despite the increase in medical work throughout the Territory.

#### *French Somaliland*

Domestic control, as was reported last year, presents no difficulties.

Mention should be made of the fact that a second private pharmacy, the *Grande Pharmacie de l'Océan Indien*, was opened at Jibouti in September 1952, so that there are now 3 importers.

#### *French India*

No change from last year.

#### *Madagascar*

No drugs are manufactured in the Territory.

#### *Trade and distribution*

- a. Nil.
- b. The Chief Pharmacist of the Health Services, an Inspector of Pharmacies, supervises the retail pharmacists.

He has authority to command the services of police officers; he can effect seizures and, if necessary, request that prosecution be made.

The import registers are checked against the amounts entered on the vouchers from the customs warehouses.

Amounts issued are checked against the medical prescriptions.

*Morocco*

1. )
2. ) No drugs are manufactured in Morocco.
3. )
4. *Trade and distribution*

- a. Import licences have been or may be granted to six wholesale distributors and four manufacturers; to these should be added the Hospitals' Central Pharmacy, which is both manufacturer and distributor. (For the purposes of this report, "manufacturer" means an establishment engaged in the preparation, for sale to retailers, of galenic preparations or pharmaceutical specialties and not of alkaloids).
- b. The Inspector of Pharmacies inspects the narcotic drug registers and the manufacture registers, and examines storage conditions.

*New Caledonia*

No change from last year.

*New Hebrides*

No change from last year.

*French Oceania*

1. )
2. ) There are no manufacturers of harmful drugs in French Oceania.
3. )
4. *Trade and distribution*

- a. There is no wholesale trade in narcotic drugs in French Oceania.
- b. The situation is the same as last year, as follows:

The population of French Oceania is about 60,000, with 35,000 inhabitants in Tahiti, 16,000 of whom live at Papeete.

The only private doctors (eight) are at Papeete. The Colonial Health Service operates the health and native medical aid service, and consists of eight army doctors and four private doctors under contract, the main centres being the hospitals at Papeete, Taravao (Tahiti), Uturoa (Raiatea, Leeward Isles) and the establishments on the Marquesas and Moorea.

An Army doctor tours the five archipelagos which, though in some cases very remote, have permanent clinics and dispensaries (run by male or female staff nurses) or first-aid posts, depending on the size of the islands (approximately 24 clinics and 32 first-aid posts).

There has been no change in the number and situation of the private pharmacies (three at Papeete and one at Raiatea, Leeward Isles).

They supply the medical depots on certain islands which are licensed to sell certain non-dangerous products in general use.

The French Phosphates Company of Oceania still follows the same procedures for issuing narcotic drugs.

Six establishments - the Supply Pharmacy, four private pharmacies and the French Phosphates Company of Oceania - are the sole holders of narcotic drugs in French Oceania.

The drugs are still controlled by the head pharmacist of Papeete Hospital, an Inspector of Pharmacies, who on his tours of the private pharmacies inspects the table B registers and checks the quantities used by doctors for clinical purposes. A quarterly statement of these quantities is sent by the private pharmacies and the physician of the French Phosphates Company of Oceania to the Governor of the Territory.

No violations of the regulations were reported in 1952.

Since the legislative texts relating to poisonous substances in French Oceania are old, a study has been made of the possibility of applying the recent legislation of Metropolitan France and a plan is shortly to be dispatched to France.

*St. Pierre and Miquelon*

The only holder of narcotic drugs in St. Pierre and Miquelon is the St. Pierre Hospital, Home and Orphanage (official establishment).

*Imports during 1952*

Morphine in 0.01 ampoules	1,000 ampoules
Laudanum	3 kg
Phlebafin	300 ampoules
Suppolosal	400 suppositories.

*French Togoland*

There are no manufacturers or wholesalers in the Territory.

Only the three pharmacies at Lomé and the Supply Pharmacy imported manufactured drugs as retailers.

The Chief Pharmacist of the Territory controls imports in his capacity as Inspector of Pharmacies. He issues the import licences and receives the export authorizations from the Bureau of Narcotic Drugs of the Ministry of Public Health; he has these authorizations endorsed by the pharmacist licensee and returns them to the Ministry.

The narcotic drug registers of the dispensaries are checked several times a year by the Inspector of Pharmacies.

*Tunisia*

No change from last year.

**D. OTHER QUESTIONS**

- XI. CHAPTER IV OF THE HAGUE CONVENTION OF 1912  
*Metropolitan France, Algeria and Overseas Departments - Overseas Territories*  
Nothing to report.
- XII. PREPARED OPIUM  
*Metropolitan France, Algeria and Overseas Departments - Overseas Territories*  
The use of prepared opium is prohibited in the territories covered by this report.  
In the case of French India, where opium-eating still occurs, the plan for progressive prohibition by a 10 per cent cut in consumption, parallel with the plan in the State of India, was applied in 1952.
- XIII. MISCELLANEOUS  
*Metropolitan France, Algeria, Overseas Departments and Territories*  
Nothing to report.