

**ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

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ET SOCIAL**

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

FRANCE

SEIZURE OF 4,280 PHIALS OF MORPHINE HYDROCHLORIDE IN PARIS,  
8 JANUARY 1947

Report Communicated by the Government of France on 12 April 1947

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Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with Article 23 of the Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs of 13 July 1931, as amended by the Protocol of 11 December 1946, the Secretary-General has the honour to communicate the following report on the above-mentioned seizure to the Members of the United Nations and to the other parties to the Convention.

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In December 1945, an official of the Regional Judicial Police Service at Strasbourg informed the head office of the Judicial Police Service in Paris that several unidentified persons in Paris were seeking to dispose illicitly of a large quantity of phials of morphine hydrochloride.

After various investigations and enquiries, an Inspector of the Service ascertained that the persons in possession of this supply were trying to sell it for the sum of 1,290,000 francs. On 8 January 1947, the owner of the phials was arrested in a Paris hotel when he had just delivered the entire supply.

/At the time

At the time of his arrest, this person, a baker's employee domiciled in Paris, was carrying a suitcase, containing in bulk 4,280 2 cg. phials of morphine hydrochloride without any labels.

Two accomplices were arrested a short while afterwards: one of them was a hawker living in Paris; the other was also a hawker staying in a residential hotel in Paris.

In the course of his interrogation, the first man stated that he had stolen these phials in April 1944 from a German railway truck at the station of La Loupe (Eure et Loire), when he was employed as a porter by the French National Railways. After the liberation, he had brought the phials to his Paris home, hoping to sell them on the clandestine market. He had asked his two accomplices to find "a good buyer".

The accomplices confirmed these facts and all three were sent to a prison near the Prefecture of Police, to be held at the Public Prosecutor's disposal.

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