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COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

Seventh session

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

ABOLITION OF OPIUM-SMOKING IN THE FAR EAST

Reports submitted by Governments in accordance with
Economic and Social Council resolution 159 II B (VII)

Note by the Secretary-General: Since 11 January 1952, the date of issue of document E/CN.7/229, the Secretary-General has received reports for 1950 on the abolition of opium-smoking in the Far East from the following Governments:

Cambodia

France (for Indochina)

Japan

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (for North Borneo)

2. During the same period, the Secretary-General also received the following report for 1951:

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (for Singapore).

3. The Secretary-General accordingly has the honour to communicate the text of the reports to the Members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

CAMBODIA

PART ONE:

(26 February 1952)^{1/}

Pursuing the campaign against opium addiction initiated in 1948 in accordance with the international conventions, the French Administration has

^{1/} Note by the Secretariat: This report was communicated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cambodia in response to a request by the Secretary-General dated 6 September 1951 concerning Cambodia's progress report on the abolition of opium-smoking. In his covering note the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cambodia points out that until 1 January 1951 the French High Commissioner in Indochina was responsible for narcotic drug control. The position in Cambodia with regard to opium for smoking was described in Annex 7 of the High Commissioner's general report to the United Nations on the situation in Indochina. In its reply, the Government of Cambodia has accordingly reproduced the relevant part of the High Commissioner's report.

continued in 1950 to apply the provisions of the Order of 3 September 1948.

The Order, which is the basic law on opium in Indochina, was analysed in the 1948 annual report. It will suffice to recall the main control measures:

1. The direct sale of opium by the Revenue Offices and Boards (Recettes des Douanes et Régies) to registered smokers only for disintoxication under medical supervision.
2. Registration of smokers on production of medical certificate.
3. Progressive annual reduction of rations with a view to the final abolition of the sale of opium by 1 January 1954.

Since 1 January 1950 no European smoker has had his card renewed.

Since that date the rations of Asiatic smokers have been reduced by 20 per cent.

The following table in which smokers are classified in categories and the monthly rations given in grammes shows the rate at which rations are being reduced:

<u>Category of smoker</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
First	25	20	15	10	5	Nil
Second	50	40	30	20	10	"
Third	75	60	45	30	15	"
Fourth	100	80	60	40	20	"
Fifth	125	100	75	50	25	"
Sixth	200	160	120	80	40	"

It should, however, be noted that the measures cannot be fully applied everywhere, as some parts of Indochina are still outside the control of the Administration as a result of the disturbances.

In some cases the registration of smokers in Northern Viet-Nam and Laos could not be carried out in completely satisfactory conditions because of the unsettled political situation and the smuggling of opium from China, Thailand or the imperfectly controlled producing areas in Northern Viet-Nam and Laos.

In this connexion the Board was obliged to purchase raw opium in Laos and Northern Viet-Nam in 1950 in order to withdraw part of the local production from circulation. But the success of the disintoxication campaign is obviously dependent not only upon strict control of production but also upon the efficiency of the anti-addiction campaign in the countries bordering on Indochina.

PART TWO:

Statistics of the Indochinese Monopoly:

1. Stocks on 31 December 1949

Raw opium: none.

Chandu ready for packing 25,987 kg.
 Chandu packed at factories 933 "
 Chandu packed in revenue offices 1,326 "
 2. Purchases of raw opium in 1950
 Northern Viet-Nam: 553,014 kg. (delivery taken in 1951)
 Laos: 415,300 kg.
 3. Seizures of opium in 1950.

	<u>Raw</u>	<u>Prepared</u>
Northern Viet-Nam	264,867	26,272
Central Viet-Nam	0,-	0,030
Southern Viet-Nam	23,851	2,820
Cambodia	0,050	2,953
Laos	146,519	14,149
Total	435,287	46,224

4. Sales by Revenue Offices and Boards:

Viet-Nam		8,380,560
Northern Viet-Nam	378,790	
Central Viet-Nam	674,710	
Southern Viet-Nam	7,327,060	
Cambodia		1,798,710
Laos		35,775
Total		10,215,045

5. Stocks on 31 December 1950

At factories:

Raw opium	823,232
Chandu in bulk	14,833,900
Packed opium	1,956,445
<u>In revenue offices: Packed opium</u>	
Northern Viet-Nam	224,800
Central Viet-Nam	116,320
Southern Viet-Nam	337,675
Cambodia	463,880
Laos	16,585
Total	1,159,260

6. Number of registered smokers in 1950

/First

20

	First Category	Second Category	Third Category	Fourth Category	Fifth Category	Sixth Category
Northern Viet-Nam	48	180	222	261	133	72
Central Viet-Nam	39	229	172	172	157	82
Southern Viet-Nam	453	1,338	1,296	1,435	903	1,914
Cambodia	24	223	184	397	277	457
Laos	33	25	11	9	10	2
Total	603	1,986	1,885	2,274	1,480	2,527