

**ECONOMIC
AND
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**CONSEIL
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RESTRICTED

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31 March 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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

CANADA

SEIZURE OF 5.4 GRAMMES OPIUM, 455 GRAMMES OPIUM SCUM, 2 GRAMMES YEN SHEE
AND 4.53 KGS. OF DRIED POPPY PODS AT COQUITLAM, B.C. ON APRIL 26, 1946

Report No. 16 communicated by the Government of Canada,
December 2, 1946

Note by the Secretary-General

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

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

1. Name of person or persons implicated: May Lin Duck, Chinese (b. 1890)
2. Date of Seizure: 26th April, 1946
3. Place of Seizure: Coquitlam, B.C.
4. Kind and quantity of drug seized:
 - OPIUM: in deck - 5 grs; in containers - 80 grains (tog. 5.4 grammes)
 - OPIUM SCUM: in match box - 30 grs; in jar - 1 lb. (tog. 455 grammes)
 - YEN SHEE: 30 grs. (2 grammes)
 - POPPY PODS (dried): 10 lbs. (4.53 kgs)
5. Act and Section under which charged: O. & N.D. Act; Sec. 4(d) "Possession of Opium".
6. Result of prosecution:
 - (a) Date sentenced: 4th July 1946.
 - (b) Where sentenced: New Westminster, B.C.
 - (c) Sentence: 6 Mos; with Hard Labour; fined \$200 or 5 days in default of payment.

7. Remarks:

In the first week of March, 1946, it was learned through an Agent that subject of this report was distributing Opium from his residence, charging \$500 a piund for raw gum Opium and \$140 for processed Opium. From reliable sources it was also gathered that Mah Lin Duck was obtaining his supplies of Opium from crew members (Lascars) of freighters tied up at New Westminster, B.C. for lumber cargo.

Duck's criminal record, which is a lengthy one, includes four convictions for breaches of the Drug Act, the first dating back to January 1921.

With a view to confirming the above suspicions, our Narcotic Squad detailed an Agent to make a purchase and also ascertain, if possible, the original source of supply. On the 26th of March, 1946, the Agent got in touch with subject at his residence but was unable to make a "buy". According to the Agent, Duck stated he only had a small supply on hand and could not sell any of it; that he had recently sold 34 ounces of Opium (962.7 grammes) to a Chinaman in Vancouver, B.C. at \$130 an ounce for delivery to a compatriot in Nanaimo, B.C.; also, he sold some to another Chinaman in Vancouver. The identity of these men is known to members of the Narcotic Squad through previous investigations, and their activities are being covered.

In view of all the circumstances learned during the preliminary investigation, it was decided to raid subject's premises, (a chicken farm). The raid was duly carried out by our Narcotic Squad at 2 p.m. on 26th April, 1946. Subject was absent at the time but the place (living quarters of which were found to be in a filthy condition) was thoroughly searched. Evidence of the drug addiction of subject was apparent. On a table beside his bed was all the paraphernalia for the injection of Opium and several jars containing traces of Opium were in plain view. Evidence of the distribution of Opium was the finding under the bed of Decking Paper, some of which had been cut to deck size. Under the table a match box which contained Opium Scum was found. Approximately 30 grains (2 grammes) of Yen Shee and a gunny sack containing 5 lbs. (2.27 kgs.) dried Opium Pods were found in the bedroom. Another sack containing a similar quantity of Pods was located in the kitchen. Hidden behind a barrel in the kitchen was found 50 grs. (3.25 grammes) of Opium. It was not until after 5 p.m. that Mah Lin Duck returned to the farm when he was placed under arrest. He informed a member of the Squad that he was very sick and had not had a "shot" since he left the farm that morning. He readily admitted ownership of the narcotics that had been found. In the jail at New Westminster where he was interrogated, after warning, Duck said he had bought the narcotics from Mah Buck Hin at Nanaimo, B.C. (Note: Mah Buck Hin, with Wong Ah Doo, was convicted and sentenced at Nanaimo on 1st March 1946. The source of this man's supply was alleged to be crew members (Lascars) of freighters tied up at New Westminster.)

During the period subject was in jail awaiting trial, the Detective Sergeant in charge of the investigation received information to the effect that there was a further cache of Opium at the farm. On the 30th April, 1946, members of the Narcotic Squad proceeded to the farm and conducted a four hour search. In the first hour, one pound (453 grammes) of Opium in a sealer was uncovered by Police Dog "Cliff". This same dog also rendered splendid assistance in the cases of Mah Buck Hin and Wong Ah Doo (See Report No. 9).

On July 4th, 1946, Mah Lin Luick was brought to trial. Having pleaded Guilty to the charge of "Illegal Possession" he was sentenced as stated.

Crews of freighters at New Westminster are receiving appropriate attention.

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

15th Sept. 1946.