

RESOLUTION No. AGN/31/RES/4

SUBJECT:

NARCOTIC DRUGS -
FINAL REPORT

TO BE CLASSIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

1 copy in the CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES
Year: 1962

1 copy in the SUBJECT SERIES:

Heading: Drugs

Sub-heading: Resolutions concerning
several types of drugs and/or of a
general nature concerning
international co-operation in the
fight against drug traffic and abuse

TEXT OF RESOLUTION

The ICPO-Interpol General Assembly, meeting in Madrid from 19th to 26th September 1962 at its 31st session, wished to give an account of the main ideas that had been expressed and the main facts that had been noted during its meetings on the subject of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs. These were as follows:

a) In spite of the efforts made by law enforcement agencies, drug traffic still remains intensive enough to merit the full attention of police departments in countries affected.

b) As far as opium traffic in South-East Asia is concerned, its origin lies mainly in what is known as the "Yunnan area", the region comprising the Northern frontier areas of Thailand, Burma, Laos and North Viet Nam and the Southern frontier area of continental China. Thailand has made considerable efforts to combat traffic in drugs coming from this area.

c) A good deal of the traffic in morphine and heroin also originates in South-East Asia; the morphine is mainly in the form of cakes marked "999".

The police forces of Hong Kong, Macao, Singapore and Thailand have conducted some very successful investigations.

d) Illicit traffic in opium, morphine and diacetylmorphine also affects the Middle East.

e) Illicit traffic in cocaine mainly affects the countries in North, South and Central America, most of the cocaine being produced in Bolivia. Illicit traffic in this drug has increased a great deal in the United States, in particular. The Committee was interested to hear of the efforts made by several countries in this part of the world.

f) The General Assembly took note with interest of the results of the Regional Conference held in Rio de Janeiro in December 1961 under the auspices of the United Nations and the Brazilian Government.

g) Illicit traffic in cannabis is still conducted on a large scale and the conclusions reached by the Monrovia Regional Conference on this subject have been confirmed.

It was pointed out that the two most effective ways of combating traffic in cannabis were the destruction of cannabis plants and vigorous action against professional traffickers.

h) Police co-operation within the Interpol framework is certainly the most effective way of combating illicit drug traffic on an international level. The Committee was pleased to find that contacts between Interpol NCBs had been intensified and that this had led to the successful conclusion of a number of cases. In this connection, the Committee wishes to remind delegates of the importance of implementing all resolutions passed by the ICPO-Interpol General Assembly during previous sessions.

i) It was felt that the passing of severe sentences on traffickers was a very effective way of combating illicit traffic.

j) Emphasis was laid on the value of bilateral and multilateral extradition treaties which would enable traffickers who had escaped abroad to be brought to justice, and it was pointed out that illicit drug traffic should be listed as an extraditable offence in such treaties.

k) The importance of controlling the wholesale and retail selling of acetic anhydride was stressed as this would make the illicit production of diacetylmorphine more difficult.

l) The Committee considered reports regarding a cure for narcotic addiction alleged to have been developed by Lady Isabella FRANKAU, M.D., of London, U.K. Press reports circulated claim a surprisingly high percentage of cures by her method of treatment. The Committee suggested that if the reports are accurate, information regarding the cure should be widespread. If, on the other hand, the alleged cures have not been authenticated, this information should be widely circulated since false and misleading information of this nature could give false hopes to drug addicts, interfere with practical rehabilitation methods and impede law enforcement.

The United Kingdom delegation advised that there had been no follow-up enquiries on the reports regarding the Lady FRANKAU alleged method of cure.

The official United Nations Observer said that he had made note of the discussions regarding this alleged method of cure and would bring the matter to the attention of the United Nations and the World Health Organization.
