

NARCOTIC DRUGS

Exchange of notes at Prague February 9 and June 15, 1928
Entered into force June 15, 1928

Department of State files

The American Legation to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs

No. 1084

PRAGUE, *February 9, 1928*

NOTE

The American Legation presents its compliments to the Czechoslovak Ministry for Foreign Affairs and has the honor to bring to its attention, at the request of the Department of State at Washington, the desire of the Treasury Department of the United States Government to arrange with the Ministry of Finance of the Czechoslovak Government for (1) a direct exchange of information and evidence with reference to persons engaged in the illicit traffic of narcotic drugs. This would include such information as photographs, criminal records, finger prints, Bertillon measurements, description of the methods which the persons in question have been found to use, the places from which they have operated, the partners with whom they have worked, etc.

(2) The immediate direct forwarding of information by letter or cable as to the suspected movements of narcotic drugs, or of those involved in smuggling drugs, if such movements might concern the other country. Unless such information as this reaches its destination directly and speedily it is useless.

(3) Mutual cooperation in detective and investigation work.

The officer of the United States Treasury Department who will have charge, on behalf of this Government, of the cooperation in the suppression of the illicit traffic in narcotics is Colonel L. G. Nutt, whose mail and telegraph address is Deputy Commissioner in Charge of Narcotics, Treasury Department, Washington, D.C.

If, as the American Government hopes, the Czechoslovak Government will favorably consider the above outlined cooperation with the Treasury Department, the Legation would be glad to be advised of the name of the Czechoslovak official with whom Colonel Nutt should communicate.

The Legation avails itself of this occasion to renew to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, assurances of its highest consideration.

THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Prague

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the American Legation

[TRANSLATION]

No. 67.087/II/28

Referring to its Note No. 1084 of February 9, 1928, regarding common action on the part of the United States and Czechoslovakia in the war against illicit traffic in drugs and narcotics, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs has the honor to bring the following to the attention of the American Legation:

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs has received with great satisfaction the project to this end which has been presented and is entirely willing to participate in its realization.

The Ministry at the same time, ventures to point out that there exist in Czechoslovakia several regulations for the combatting of illicit trade in drugs and narcotics, to wit:

1. Government Decree of June 18, 1925 (No. 147 in the Collection of Laws and Decrees) issued as applying to the law bearing on the International Opium Convention according to which doctors appointed by the Government are charged with supervision of the manufacture, importation, sale, distribution and exportation of drugs and narcotics falling within the above-mentioned convention.

2. A Decree of the Interior Ministry inviting the agencies of public safety (the police and gendarmes) who are charged with investigating cases of illicit sale of narcotics, to secure photographic and shorthand evidence of the delinquents and to cause them to appear thereafter before the "Central Bureau attached to the Prague Prefecture of Police for the War Against Traffic in Drugs and Narcotics in Czechoslovakia."

3. Decree of the Finance Ministry, by virtue of which the customs offices are required to report to the "Central Bureau" aforementioned discovered cases of smuggling of drugs and narcotics.

In consequence, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs begs Col. L. G. Nutt, Deputy Commissioner in Charge of Narcotics, Treasury Department, Washington, D.C., to be good enough in all matters and questions bearing on the illicit traffic in drugs and narcotics, to address himself directly to the "Service Central près la Préfecture de Police de Prague pour la Lutte contre le Commerce des Narcotiques et Stupéfiants en Tchécoslovaquie". Instruc-

tions have already been given this Bureau to correspond directly with Col. Nutt at Washington.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs takes this occasion to renew to the Legation of the United States of America assurances of its high consideration.

PRAGUE, *June 15, 1928*