

NARCOTIC DRUGS

*Exchange of notes at Lisbon February 11, 1928, and February 22, 1929
Entered into force February 22, 1929*

Department of State files

The American Minister to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

AMERICAN LEGATION

LISBON, PORTUGAL

February 11, 1928

No. 696

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that my Government being concerned to bring about stricter control of the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, desires to effect a closer co-operation between the competent administrative officials of the United States and of Portugal.

I, therefore, have the honor to ask that Your Excellency may very kindly help in this by arranging that the appropriate office of the Portuguese Government may exchange directly with the Treasury Department of the United States information and evidence in respect of persons engaged in the illicit traffic of narcotics. This exchange would include such information as photographs, criminal records, finger-prints, Bertillon measurements, description of methods which the persons in question had been found to use, the places from which they have operated, the partners they have worked with, etc., etc.

And also, for the direct and immediate forwarding by letter or cable of information as to suspected movement of narcotic drugs, or of those persons involved in smuggling such drugs where such movements might concern Portugal. And further, for mutual co-operation between Portuguese and American officials in detective and investigation work. Unless such information reaches its destination directly and speedily it is useless.

In case Your Excellency may, as I hope, be disposed to lend your powerful aid to the furthering of such a direct exchange between the competent officials of our two Governments, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that the official of the Treasury Department who would have charge for the American Government of this co-operation in the suppressing 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 the proposed arrangement meets with the approval of Your Excellency's Government, I have the honor to ask to be informed of the name and designation of the Portuguese official with whom Colonel L. G. Nutt should communicate, which I am instructed by my Government to transmit by telegraph.

I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

FRED MORRIS DEARING

His Excellency

Dr. BETENCOURT RODRIGUES
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Lisbon

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Minister

[TRANSLATION]

S. d. N. Proc. No. 43
No. 188

LISBON, *February 22, 1929*

MR. MINISTER:

With reference to Your Excellency's Note No. 696 of February 11, 1928, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that the Portuguese Government has decided with the greatest interest to accept the proposals of the Government of the United States of America, towards making a closer cooperation between the competent administrative authorities of Portugal and of the United States with a view to bringing about stricter control of the traffic in narcotic drugs.

I am only now in a position to bring to Your Excellency the acquiescence of the Portuguese Government to the proposals of the Government of the United States, because the services which it was necessary to organize for the efficient repression of that traffic are only now beginning to function. The Government of the Republic had not realized the necessity for the urgency for organizing those services, because the vice of narcotic drugs and the traffic therein, is practically non-existent in Portugal. It is a service which we organize more to follow the procedure of foreign entities and to cooperate with them, than for our own use, which happily will seldom be applied here. In these circumstances the Portuguese official with whom Colonel L. G. Nutt, Deputy Commissioner in Charge of Narcotics, Treasury Department, Washington, may directly correspond, is, in so far as it refers to the Continent of

Portugal, Professor Raul Lupi Nogueira, Chief Inspector of Pharmaceutical Practice, General Direction of Health, Ministry of the Interior, Lisbon. This official will endeavor in future to secure photographs, finger prints, and other information as requested in Your Excellency's Note under reference.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my high consideration.

MANUEL CARLOS Q. MEYRELLES