



# Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1970

The Department of Justice filed today two related anti-trust suits against domestic and foreign companies engaged in the manufacture and sale of quinine and quinidine, which are important drugs used in the treatment of malaria and heart disease.

The complaints are companion cases to an indictment, returned on October 25, 1968, which charged a conspiracy to restrain and to monopolize the sales of quinine and quinidine. Five corporate defendants in that indictment have already entered pleas of nolo contendere, and fines totalling \$310,000 have been imposed.

Attorney General John N. Mitchell said that both complaints were filed in the United States District Court in New York City.

One of the complaints, brought under the Sherman Act and the Wilson Tariff Act, seeks injunctive relief against alleged price fixing and market allocation practices, as well as monopolization activities, in connection with the distribution and sale of quinine, quinidine, and cinchona products. The other complaint, brought under the Sherman Act, the Wilson Tariff Act, the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, the False Claims Act, and the Clayton Act, seeks damages

resulting from the purchase of a stockpile of quinine and quinidine from the United States Government by rigged bids, and from subsequent sales of these products to the United States Government.

Named as defendants in the injunction suit were:

N. V. Nederlandsche Combinatie Voor Chemische Industrie (Netherlands)

N. V. Amsterdamesche Chininefabriek (Netherlands)

N. V. Nederlandsche Kininefabriek (Netherlands)

Bandoengsche Kininefabriek Holland N.V. (Netherlands)

ACF Farmaceutische Groothandel N.V. (Netherlands)

N. V. Bureau Voor der Kinineverkoop "Buramic" (Netherlands)

Boehringer Mannheim G.m.b.H. (Germany)

Vereinigte Chininfabriken Zimmer & Co. G.m.b.H. (Germany)

Buchler & Co. (Germany)

Lake & Cruickshank Ltd. (Great Britain)

Societe Nogentaise de Produits Chimiques, S.A. (France)

Dart Industries Inc. (California, U.S.A.)

Vantorex Limited (Great Britain)

Mead Johnson & Company (Indiana, U.S.A.)

R. W. Greeff & Co., Inc. (New York, U.S.A.)

S.S.T. Corporation (New York, U.S.A.)

Walker Chemicals, Inc. (New York, U.S.A.)

Charles L. Huisking & Company, Inc. (New York, U.S.A.)

In addition to the companies named above, Bristol-Myers Company, New York City, was also named as a defendant in the damage suit.

Richard W. McLaren, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division, stated that defendants Dart Industries, Vantorex, Mead Johnson, and R. W. Greeff & Co. have consented to the entry of a final judgment against them in the injunction suit. The judgment, filed simultaneously with the complaint, will become final in 30 days. It enjoins these defendants from fixing prices, allocating territories, establishing quotas, submitting collusive or rigged bids, and eliminating other producers in the manufacture and sale of quinine and quinidine.

Mr. McLaren also stated that settlement of the damage action had been agreed upon with defendants Boehringer, Zimmer, Dart Industries, Vantorex, Mead Johnson, Bristol-Myers, Societe Nogentaise, and R. W. Greeff & Co. The amount of damages to be received from these defendants in settlement aggregates \$175,000.

Both civil antitrust complaints remain pending as to all other defendants .