



# Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 1972

The Department of Justice today filed an antitrust suit charging an American subsidiary of a Japanese auto company with illegally restraining trade in the sale of Datsun automobiles in the United States.

Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst said the civil suit against the Nissan Motor Corporation in U.S.A., located in Gardena, California, was filed in U.S. District Court in San Francisco.

The suit charged that Nissan, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nissan Motor Company, Ltd. of Tokyo, Japan, conspired with its dealers throughout the United States to fix the prices at which Datsun motor vehicles are sold to consumers.

The complaint further charged that the defendant and its dealers agreed that dealers would refrain from selling to or through automobile brokers or discount houses and would confine their sales efforts to the marketing areas designated by Nissan.

Acting Assistant Attorney General Walker B. Comegys, in charge of the Antitrust Division, said that the suit asked the Court to require Nissan to end its price fixing

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conspiracies with its dealers and to inform its dealers that they are free to determine their own prices and the customers to whom they will sell.

In the fiscal year ending September 30, 1971, Nissan had sales in excess of \$467 million to its dealers located throughout the United States.