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French Skipper Sentenced In Big Seizure of Heroin

MARSEILLES, France, Jan. 5 (AP) — A Marseilles court gave a 15-year prison sentence today to Louis Boucan, a captain of a fishing boat on which 900 pounds of heroin was found. The seizure was reported at the time to be the biggest in history.

Boucan was arrested last Feb. 28 when customs men boarded his boat off Villefranche-sur-Mer on the Mediterranean as it was starting out on a trip to Miami. The heroin was found in concrete covers on the boat's holds.

Boucan, who is 58 years old, testified at his trial that he had made two previous trips to the United States in fishing boats.

Ange Santoni, 41, also was sentenced to 15 years in prison. The authorities said he was to take charge of the heroin in Miami. Marie-Françoise de Passario-Peyssard, Boucan's former wife, was sentenced to two years in prison.

Four other men tried in absentia were given sentences ranging from 2 to 20 years.