

601-800-CONFIDENTIAL



TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

INTELLIGENCE OFFICE
NEW YORK DISTRICT

INTELLIGENCE

105 Sub-Treasury Building,
New York, N. Y.,
6 May, 1940.

REC'D MAY 7 - 1940

ANS'D

My dear Pollio:

Under the provisions of Amendment No. 2, dated 9 March, 1940, relative to the sealing of radio apparatus of neutral merchant vessels wholly chartered by belligerents, I interpret that to include American ships wholly chartered to Canadian parties. The American S/S AGWISTAR is wholly chartered to the North Shore Paper Company of Montreal, and her agents are Furness Withy. She hauls pulp to New York, I believe, from the Maritime Provinces. Anyway, we intend to seal her, unless otherwise directed by your office.

The Maritime Commission publishes memoranda concerning the chartering of American ships to Canadian and other foreign agencies. While these American ships are working under these charters, should not they be sealed when in American waters? That is, when the charterers are belligerents?

The sealing of the apparatus of belligerents bound to Albany is getting under our skins, and there isn't much we can do about it. For instance, many of the belligerents bound to Albany come through New York at night. If they come from a domestic port, and most of them do, they are not required to stop at Quarantine. We get them if we know they are coming, but we always don't know that. Besides, our sealing staff is small, and is not on a 24-hour-a-day basis. Under the circumstances, it is necessary to make two or three trips a week to Albany. The prospects do not appear any better towards the elimination of the trips.

Except for the fact that not sealing before reaching Albany theoretically permits the use of radio while en route up there, no harm has been done. The permanent stationing of a reliable radioman at Albany is the obvious answer, as it is less trouble, and less expensive than having a staff on 24 hours a day, with a couple of special boats ready to jump as a ship comes through the Narrows. Besides, belligerents bound up the Delaware to Philadelphia are necessarily sealed in Philadelphia, Chester, or Wilmington, as the case may be, and, while I don't know how it is handled in the Norfolk District, I surmise that the sealing is done in Baltimore or Norfolk.

What I want to do, of course, if your office agrees with me, is to talk Captain Dempwolf into having a man permanently stationed at Albany, to avoid these trips, at least for the navigational season.

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There are at present only four or five belligerents going to Albany each week, of whom we seal half in New York if we are lucky; for the others we send the cars. Traffic there is on the increase, with the prospect of more misses in New York, with resulting more trips.

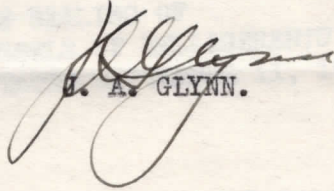
Your thoughts in the matter will be appreciated.

INTELLIGENCE

REC'D MAY 7 - 1940

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Lieutenant F. E. Pollio,
Acting Chief Intelligence Officer,
Washington, D. C.


G. A. GLYNN.