

UNITED STATES NAVAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

(PMS-11h)
Confidential

INVESTIGATION REPORT

Sixth Naval District

Subject: SORTLAND, Knut, O.S., aboard the SS ANEROID.

Report Made at: District Intelligence Office, GND, Z 3-8. *Date:* November 5, 1942

Report Made by: Lieutenant Frank M. SWIFT, USNR.

Period Covered: November 2, 1942. *Status of Case:* Closed

Origin of Case: Report that SUBJECT signed petition threatening mutiny aboard SS ANEROID.

Reference: (a) GND NNI-119, Subject LEDBINK, John, dated 11-5-42.
(b) GND NNI-119, Subject KURVINK, Cornelis, dated 11-5-42.
(c) GND NNI-119, Subject ANDERSEN, Albert, dated 11-5-42.
(d) GND NNI-119, Subject SKAUGEN, Jorgen P., dated 11-5-42.

Character of Investigation:

Discussion of matter with Master of the SS ANEROID, and inspection of petition presented to him threatening mutiny.

Enclosures: (A) Copy of petition presented to Master of SS ANEROID 9-22-42 at Port of Spain, Trinidad.

Copy to: ONI - 2 (FIO)
GND - 2
B-568, GND - 1 (FIO)
Z 3-8, GND - 1
DIST. COAST GUARD OFFICER, GND - 2 (FIO) ✓
FBI - 1 (Sav)

*Source File No.**ONI File No.:**Synopsis:*

Ingvald Kr. BIDE, Master of the Panamanian SS ANEROID, stated that his ship was torpedoed and sunk on October 2, 1942, off British Guiana. Captain BIDE related that the crew aboard this ship was composed of Scandinavians, Dutch, Irish, English, and other nationalities, and in his opinion was one of the worst crews he had ever seen. There was constant dissension between the ship's officers and the crew, and this feeling was largely fostered by the subjects of References (a), (b), (c), and (d). Captain BIDE related that on September 22, 1942, while the SS ANEROID was in Port of Spain, Trinidad, B.W.I., a petition (Enclosure A) was presented, demanding money and shore leave under threat of discontinuance of work. Among the 16 names appearing on this petition was that of SUBJECT. Captain BIDE explained that some of the crew was forced to sign this petition and others cravenly signed to avoid the displeasure of the ringleaders. Captain BIDE believes that if SKAUGEN, LEDBINK, KURVINK, and ANDERSEN had not been aboard, the crew would have been manageable. SUBJECT and the remainder of the signers of the petition, however, have evidenced that they can be bullied or persuaded to cast their lot with troublemakers aboard ship. The ship's articles describe SUBJECT as an O. S., Norwegian citizen, 29 years of age, single, 5' 8" tall, fair complexion, blue eyes. SUBJECT'S home address is shown as 5520 - 6th Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., and his next of kin is Conrad SORTLAND, same address.

*Deductions:*THIS REPORT CONSISTS OF ONE PAGE ONLY.

Approved: FRANK MORTON
S. W. SOUERS
Lt. Commander, USNR
Acting District Intelligence Officer