



HEADQUARTERS



COMMANDANT, U. S. COAST GUARD
OFFICE NO.



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON

105
OCT 29 PM 3 44

28 October, 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

Subj: Report concerning seizure of the SS BUSKO

1. I have been requested by Lt. Commander Cross, USNR, OP-20-GX, to try and get for him the report concerning the seizure of the SS BUSKO, a Norwegian sealing vessel, by the USCG Cutter NORTHLAND in Sept. 1941.

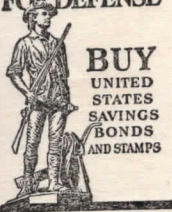
2. If you can send this report to me, I will pass it on to Lt. Commander Cross and get a receipt from him if you consider it necessary. He will return the report when he has finished with it.

3. The report can be sent to me via Room 1622 Navy Department and will reach me quickly in this way.

R. E. Gordon
R. E. GORDON
Lt., USCGR

*File
Gordon advised
to have Cross
request the
report thru him
D*

FOR DEFENSE



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Washington

Headquarters

2 February, 1942.

MEMORANDUM TO ALL DIVISIONS AND SECTIONS AT HEADQUARTERS

Subject: Norwegian Motorship "BUSKO".

Reference: (a) Headquarters memorandum to All Divisions and Sections at Headquarters, 9 January, 1942, (Restricted).

1. Reference (a) is canceled. The BUSKO will not be acquired by the Coast Guard.

L. T. CHALKER,
Assistant Commandant.

19 November, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR - Admiral Waesche (via Captain Chalker):

1. In answer to the questions presented in the attached memorandum, you are advised as follows:

(a) The Coast Guard has no authority to charter the Norwegian Motorship BUSKO, but such vessel may be chartered by the Maritime Commission and sub-chartered to the Coast Guard under the provisions of section 3, Act of June 6, 1941 (Public, No. 101, 77th Congress).

(b) Since foreign merchant vessels chartered by the Maritime Commission under this authority may be further chartered to private operators and be documented under the laws of the United States, which thereby would secure to them the status of vessels of the United States, it follows that they are entitled to fly the United States flag. In my opinion, a vessel further chartered by the Maritime Commission to the Coast Guard would characterize such vessel a public vessel and would entitled it to no lesser right to fly the United States flag than a vessel chartered to a private operator and entitled to documentation.

*File
Bunker jacket
Copy*

*See general and confidential and
file for dispatches.*

In reply refer to No.

OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON

November 3, 1941

Commander, ~~Homingray~~
Commander, Farley
Commander, ~~...~~

Received from the Office of Naval Intelligence, Mail and Despatch Section, one official Navy Department Envelope marked, No. 15, addressed to Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C.

Chief, Jones
Data Officer
Mr. Keat
Mr. Stridger
Mr. Ludwig
Mr. Clark
Mechanical Data Control

J. Jones

COMMENT

file

Board of Inv.

Bussac
(In operations)

case. (Speculand)

See Banko jacket

U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Northland
 Northeast Greenland Patrol
 Northeast Greenland (Flagship)
 21 September, 1941.

CONFIDENTIAL.

From: Commander Northeast Greenland Patrol.
 To : The Chief of Naval Operations.
 Via : (1) Commander Support Force.
 (2) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

Subject: Report on Subversive Activity, Northeast Greenland.

Reference: (a) My dispatch 161230 September, 1941 to Cinclant, info Opanav, Comsupfor.

Inclosure: (A) Proceedings of Board of Investigation.

1. This letter hereby reports and confirms reference (a).

2. Inclosure (A), a careful investigation of the facts surrounding the subversive activity immediately following apprehension, is submitted for information and guidance in adjudication.

In view of probably further subversive activity in Northeast Greenland, it is recommended a patrol be maintained there throughout the year; in summer with naval vessels equipped with planes; during the closed season, with dog sledges subsidized by the Army.

ED. H. SMITH.

Ed. H. SMITH.

1st Indorsement

U. S. Coast Guard Cutter Northland (Flagship)
Northeast Greenland Patrol
Northeast Greenland

RECORD OF 21 September, 1941.

From: Commander Northeast Greenland Patrol.
To: Chief of Naval Operations.
Via: Commander, Support Force and Commander-in-Chief,
U. S. S. Atlantic Fleet. NORTHLAND (FLAGSHIP)

1. The proceedings, opinion and recommendation of the Board are forwarded approved.
2. The evidence clearly reveals that Nazi officials arranged with the Norges Svalbard expedition to transport a Nazi agent and establish him and a radio at Peter Bugt, Northeast Greenland, where this man was found by the U. S. Coast Guard Cutter NORTHLAND, 14 Sept., 1941, preparing to send daily weather reports and other information of military value.
3. The BUSKOE, crew, and passengers, therefore, were taken into protective custody in accordance with basic operation orders. This is the first known case of subversive activity disclosed in Greenland since the promulgation of the United States-Greenland Agreement, and one which likewise constitutes a violation of United States' general policy of Western Hemisphere Defense.
4. In view of probably further attempts of subversive activity in Northeast Greenland, it is recommended a patrol be maintained there throughout the year; in summer with naval vessels equipped with planes; during the closed season, with dog sledges subsidized by the Army.

Ed. H. SMITH.

Ed. H. SMITH,
Commander, U. S. Coast Cutter
Northland, Northeast Greenland Patrol.