

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

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MERCHANT VESSEL BOARDING REPORT

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ConfidentialConfidential

DATE BOARDED: 12-18-44 BOARDED AT: Wilm.N.C. DATE OF REPORT: 12-20-44
 VESSEL: S.S. "CHARLES M. CONRAD" NO. IN CREW: 42
 CREW CHECK: NEGATIVE POSITIVE: (See Below) XXX
 OPERATIONS IN PORT: Discharging

ITINERARY: Vessel arrived Wilmington, N. C. 18 December, 1944.

1. Crew list was checked through the files of this office with the following results:

"Robert ARATA, Bryon Road, Old Greenwich, Conn., formerly aboard S.S. "WILLIAM MOULTRIE", possible CPM, had in his possession certain Communistic Publications, and a detailed map of entrance to Chesapeake Bay, showing Soundings."

"John MURRAY, one Paul Frank PALAZZI tried to depose MURRAY from his job as Philadelphia NMU Port Agent, and MURRAY'S secretary, Esther HOPTNER, is wife of said P.F. PALAZZI."

"William ARMSTRONG, address not known, a member of Seamen's branch of Young Communist League of N.Y., had a 1943 membership book issued to him."

2. Investigation disclosed that Robert Louis ARATA'S Continuous Discharge Book, #027775, bears Third Naval District Security Indorsement dated 17 July, 1944. SUBJECT stated he brought the Communistic Literature back from Russia as souvenirs, that they are printed in Russian language, and that the books are now at his home which he lists as 8 Bryon Road, Old Greenwich, Connecticut. ARATA also stated he obtained the detailed map of Chesapeake Bay while in Cadet School at Great Neck, Long Island, and that he may still have the map at his home also. SUBJECT denied all charges of being a member of the Communist Party.

DISSEMINATION: CIO (1)
 DIO, 6ND (2)
 DCGIO, 6ND (1)
 File (1)

BOARDING OFFICER: J. R. TODD

APPROVED: Harvey E. Johnson, Jr.
 HARVEY E. JOHNSON, JR.,
 District CG Intelligence
 Officer, 6th NavDist.

35 Charles M. Conrad (2)
 X 55 William Moultrie (2)

copy filed
 667 (5)

File

3. Investigation revealed that John Francis MURRAY'S Certificate of Identification, Z-438888, bears Third Naval District Security Indorsement dated 11 July, 1944, the indorsement being placed on his certificate when he was issued his license in New York. MURRAY denied knowing Paul Frank PALAZZI, and stated that is is not a member of any Union.

4. A discreet interview with William John ARMSTRONG, Z-445196, Ordinary Seaman aboard the S.S. "CHARLES M. CONRAD", revealed he is not identical with the William ARMSTRONG referred to in Paragraph (1). ARMSTRONG stated he was born 17 August, 1925, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and lists his present address as 6614 Vandyke Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. A clearance indorsement was placed on SUBJECT'S Maritime Documents.

Cross-file UNIT

SS CHARLES M. CONRAD (US)

Number

2

Letter from DOGO, LINS (int)

Date 20 July, 1945

Subject LATIMER, Robert, Z-553095; censorship violator

Original filed under

Date Censorship, violation of

Number

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