

N. N. I. 96-1943

**CONFIDENTIAL**

ISSUED BY THE INTELLIGENCE DIVISION  
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
NAVY DEPARTMENT  
**INTELLIGENCE REPORT**

Serial 1-44 Monograph Index Guide No. 505-100  
(Start new series each year, i. e. 1-43, 2-43)  
(To correspond with SUBJECT given below. See O. N. I. Index Guide. Make separate report for each main title.)

From U.S. Naval Liaison Office at Antofagasta, Chile Date 15 January, 1944  
(Ship, fleet, unit, district, office, station, or person)

Reference \_\_\_\_\_  
(Directive, correspondence, previous related report, etc., if applicable)

Source Conversation with Master S/S CURACA Evaluation B-2  
(As official, personal observation, publication, press, conversation with—  
Identify when practicable, etc.) A-1 to E-C etc.  
AB/EN 3-10; SER. 431246-41-13-42

Subject United States Merchant Marine Seafaring Population  
(Nation reported on) (Main title as per index guide) (Subtitles) (Make separate report for each title)

BRIEF—(Here enter careful summary of report, containing substance actually stated; include important facts, names, places, dates, etc.)

*file*  
John MATOS, Junior Engineer, S/S CURACA (US), sells personal belongings, draws \$200 advance salary and fails to rejoin ship in Arica, Chile, 7 January 1944; reported to have in his possession two checks, one for 6,000 pesos (Chilean) and another for 15,000 pesos (Chilean).

1. Upon the arrival of the S/S CURACA at Antofagasta on 9 January 1944 this office was advised by Captain Youdelman that his junior engineer, by name of John MATOS, had sold all of his personal belongings to various crew members and had drawn \$200 in U.S. currency against his salary and had failed to return to the ship at time of sailing on 7 January.
2. The Captain was advised by other crew members that subject had in his possession two checks drawn on Chilean banks, one in the amount of 6,000 pesos (Chilean) and the other in the amount of 15,000 pesos (Chilean), at the time subject left the ship.
3. Grace Line agents in Arica had endeavored to locate subject and send him to this port to join the CURACA here but, so far, have been unable to locate him.
4. At the time of signing ship's articles subject declared his next of kin as being his wife, located in Antofagasta. However, this office has been unable to confirm this with the local authorities.
5. Details available on subject are as follows: 20 years at sea; Junior Engineer; age 46; height 5'6"; weight 168 lbs.; born in Patagonia but took out citizenship in Puerto Rico; identification Z-74960; license C-45810; shipped on the S/S CURACA 20 November 1943 at Texas City.
6. It is thought that this is a deliberate attempt to "jump ship," but the reported fact of having checks for Chilean pesos in his possession is thought to be of special significance. An attempt will be made to locate this man for further questioning upon completion of which further report will be forwarded.

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O.N.I.: DIO FND: NA Steno.

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