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Comdr. [unclear] 7-9 int



C. G. HEADQUARTERS
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UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Galveston, Texas

ADDRESS REPLY TO

CAPTAIN OF THE PORT (1)
1944 MAY 8 PM 2 31
AND REFER TO 6614

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT
U. S. COAST GUARD
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

APR 26 1 24 PM '44

24 April, 1944 PORT SECURITY SECTION

AN	F	NV	PT
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To: The Commandant

Via: District Coast Guard Officer, Eighth Naval District

Subj: Oil Pollution Act of 1924, 33 USC, 431-437; violation by United States Merchant Vessel WV EDGEWATER, 19 April, 1944

- Ref:
- (a) HQ ltr to all DCGOS 18 August, 1943 (CG-100.18 Min.).
 - (b) DCGO 8ND ltr to COTP, Galveston, 18 September, 1943, (6614) Enforcement of the Oil Pollution Act.
 - (c) HQ Dispatch to all DCGOS 231920 (October).

In accordance with References (a), (b) and (c) inclosure is forwarded.

[Signature]
F. E. SIMMEN

Incl
Copy of file in subject case

Ind-1
DCGO, 8ND (ops)
5 May, 1944

To: The Commandant

Forwarded.

[Signature]
J. J. GIDIÈRE
By direction

Galveston, Texas, Texas

CAPTAIN OF THE PORT (1)
6614

1 May, 1944

District Engineer, U. S. Army, Galveston, Texas.
Galveston, Texas

Sirs:

Here is a report of violation of the Oil Pollution Act of 1924, 33 USC, 431-437 by the U. S. Merchant Vessel SS Cities Service Kansas at the Republic Oil Dock, Texas City, Texas, on 27 April, 1944. The facts in the case are as follows:

The Cities Service Kansas, a steam screw vessel under the United States flag, is owned by the City Service Oil Company and is operated by the War Shipping Administration. Mate in charge, and showed him the leak bubbling up to surface of the water in the harbor along side of vessel on port side.

The above vessel was discharging oil at the place referred to above when a leak on the port side of the vessel just aft midship was discovered by Coast Guardsman Kenneth A. Wilson. Oil was bubbling to the surface of the water, and the leak was below the water line at that time. Herbert A. Asdal of 464 Kissel Avenue, Staten Island, New York, was third mate of the vessel in charge of operations. His written statement indicates that this vessel was not involved in any collision which might have caused damage and subsequent leaking on the port side. The vessel is twenty-four years of age. This case is being reported to the Officer in Charge, Merchant Marine Inspection, U. S. Coast Guard, for his information and action.

Statements were taken from Coast Guardsmen Kenneth A. Wilson, Ennis B. Whatley, Joe B. McNeely, and the third mate of the vessel Herbert A. Asdal. Copies are attached for your information. Samples of the oil were taken from the water and from No. 4 port tank of the vessel. These samples, together with originals of the statements taken, will be retained in this office for use by the U. S. Attorney.

Yours very truly,

William Laganos C. G.
F. E. SIMEN

Lieutenant, U. S. C. G. R.
Captain of the Port, Galveston

CC: The Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C.
DCGO, Eighth Naval District, New Orleans, La.
U. S. District Attorney, Houston, Texas
Merchant Marine Inspector in Charge, Galveston, Texas

Texas City, Texas

ASS'T. CAPTAIN OF THE PORT

27 April, 1944

TO: Captain of the Port, Galveston, Texas.

Subj: Violation of the Oil Pollution Act by; S/S Cities Service
Kansas.

1. About 1020 this A.M., I was notified that the S/S Cities Service Kansas, owned by Cities Service Oil Company, home office, 60 Wall Towers, New York, New York and under the War Shipping Administration, docked at Republic Oil Company docks, Texas City, Texas, discharging cargo of penevides crude oil, had a leak.
2. Upon arriving on the scene at 1030, I contacted 3rd Mate, Herbert A. Asdal, License No. 9396, home address, 464 Kissel Ave., Staten Island, New York, who was the Mate in charge, and showed him the leak bubbling up to surface of the water in the harbor along side of vessel on port side, just aft midship. The leak was at rate of about 5 gallons an hour. I asked the Mate if anything could be done to remedy the leak, the Mate stated only to unload which was being done. The Mate also stated that the vessel was 24 years old and he had been on this vessel as 3rd Mate for 3 months, and this was the first time the leak had showed up. He stated that he does not know of this vessel having any collisions with anything which would cause the leak. He further stated that the leak looked like it was coming from No. 4 main tank on port side of the vessel.
3. There was about 100 gallons of oil from the leak on surface of the water along the port side of vessel and under the dock to which the vessel was tied to. The Mate stated that he would notify his Captain or Agents as soon as possible about the leak. The Captain was not aboard at this time.
4. Samples of oil were taken, one from the No. 4 port tank on subject vessel and one from the water along the port side of subject vessel. These samples together with statements given by witnesses were taken to the Coast Guard Base, Galveston, Texas and there turned over to the legal department.

William Lazauskas C. Sp.
WILLIAM LAZAUSKAS, CSp.

STATEMENT

Texas City, Texas
Texas City, Texas
April 27, 1944

As I was standing gangway watch on S.S. Cities Service Kansas, I noticed a leak on the port side, a little aft midship about 1020. Chief William Lazauskas was notified and he arrived on the scene about 1030 and took charge.

Joe B. McNeely, BM2c took a sample of the oil from the water and I took a sample from the # 4 port tank, the tank that had the leak.

In the mean time, Chief William Lazauskas talked to Herbert A. Asdal, 3rd Mate in charge of the vessel, S.S. Cities Service Kansas. He said that was the first time the leak was called to his attention. He didn't know the cause of the leak, but the ship was 24 years old. He also said he would report it to the Captain or the Agents as soon as possible. The owner of the vessel is the Cities Service Company.

I would estimate that about 5 gallons of crude oil were coming out of the leak in an hour.

James H. Whitley
James H. Whitley, Sea 1c.
U.S. Coast Guard

Kenneth A. Wilson, Sea 2c.
U.S. Coast Guard (R).

Kenneth A. Wilson

STATEMENT

Texas City, Texas
April 27, 1944

While on patrol the morning of April 27, I was shown a leak on the port side of the Cities Service Kansas, by Kenneth A. Wilson, who was on gangway watch at the time. Chief Willie Lazauskas was notified and arrived about 1030 A.M. to take charge.

Joe B. McNeely, BM2c took a sample from the water on the port side of the Cities Service Kansas and Kenneth Wilson took a sample from the No. 4 port tank, which had the leak.

Chief Willie Lazauskas talked to the 3rd Mate, Herbert A. Asdal, who was in charge of the Cities Service Kansas at the time. The Mate said that it was the first time the leak had been called to his attention and that he did not know the cause of the leak. He said the Ship was 24 years old. The leak would be reported as soon as possible to the Captain or the agents. The Mate stated the owners are the Cities Service Company. About 5 gallons of crude oil leaked out per hour.

Emis B. Whatley

Emis B. Whatley, Sea Ic.
U.S. Coast Guard

STATEMENT

April 27, 1944

I, Herbert A. Asdal, 3rd Mate in charge on S/S City Service Kansas, home address, 464 Kissel Ave. West Newbrington Staten Island, New York, # License 9396, about 1030 this A.M., I was shown a leak on above vessel by United States Coast Guard Port Security watch, on port side just aft of midship, just about where No. 4 main tank on port side is located. Leak is about 5 gallons an hour, cause of leak unknown as ship is 24 years of age. Cargo being discharged is Penevides crude. I have been on this vessel about 3 months as third Mate and this is the first time leak has showed up and I do not recall of this vessel having any collision with anything to cause leak. This vessel is owned by City Service Oil Company, home address 60 Wall Towers, New York, New York, and is under the W.S.A.

I will notify my Captain or Agent of leak as soon as possible

/s/ Herbert A. Asdal

STATEMENT

April 27, 1944
Texas City, Texas

I was notified at 1030 that the S.S. City Service Kansas was leaking. On arriving I found that the # 4 hatch port side was leaking approximately 5 gals. per hour. I obtained a sample of oil from the water along side of the subject vessel and one was obtained from # 4 hatch port side by Kenneth A. Wilson, Sea 2c. The ship was loaded with light crude. The Mate in charge was notified that the ship was leaking and said that it would be taken care of.

Joe B. McNeely, BM 2c
Joe B. McNeely, BM2c