

## UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Post Office Box 147  
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINAMERCHANT VESSEL BOARDING REPORTConfidentialConfidentialDATE BOARDED: 27 Jan. '45 BOARDED AT: Chas., S.C. DATE OF REPORT: 30 Jan. '45VESSEL: SS "ERASTUS SMITH" NO. IN CREW: 40CREW CHECK: NEGATIVE: \_\_\_\_\_ POSITIVE: (See Below) XXXOPERATIONS IN PORT: Discharge, repair, bunker, and load.This certifies that the crew members of the Erastus Smith  
have been examined and cleared for security on 22 Jan  
day of January, 1945.ITINERARY: MED. AREA VIA NORFOLK.

*Harvey F. Johnson, Jr.*  
 Lt. Harv. F. Johnson, Jr.  
 District CG Intelligence  
 Officer, 6th NavDist

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

VAN DER POEL, Cornelius, chief mate aboard Subject vessel, is listed as having deserted the SS FREDEN, Swedish registration, at Baltimore, Md., 24 March, 1942; Z-577591, Netherlands passport No. 458621; born 19 October, 1914, at Hinzor, Holland. SUBJECT advised that he left the SS FREDEN in good faith, having announced to the ship's captain, shipping agent, and the Commissioner his dissatisfaction with the wage agreement and lack of bonus system aboard the SS FREDEN, and his intent to leave the ship at the next port to find employment elsewhere. Form NCG-2515 is attached. SUBJECT'S documents previously had been endorsed.

MENG, Rudolph Martin, CDB #15668, listed in MMSL 1 September, 1944, and HQ/INT-8, dated 3 January, 1945, same SUBJECT. Born 24 March, 1913, at Canton, New York; SUBJECT'S mother was born in Germany (Prussia), and SUBJECT'S father was born in Hungary. SUBJECT has a high school education and has continued wide reading in history and politics. SUBJECT stated that he has been interviewed several times regarding his views and attributes to "the relatively ignorant seamen" the reporting of his expressions; he admits to be anti-British largely because of association with his father "who has the old European attitude regarding the British." SUBJECT'S attitude on war is that they are useless and largely engendered by individual leaders and not by the people; he denies ever admiring "the arrogant Nazi regime in Germany." SUBJECT'S documents previously had been endorsed. Form NCG-2515 is attached.

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

BOARDING OFFICER: MERLE W. HART

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

HARVEY F. JOHNSON, JR.,  
 District CG Intelligence  
 Officer, 6th NavDist.