



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Searsport, Maine 11 28

ADDRESS REPLY TO

ACOTP-Searsport

AND REFER TO

file: int-668

RECEIVED  
45 OCT 20 AM 11 28

RECEIVED

OCT 26 1945

19 October, 1945

COAST GUARD INTELLIGENCE  
FIRST NAVAL DISTRICT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

To: The Commandant

Via: DCGO, 1st Naval District

Subj: Report on arrest of German prisoners of war, stowaways on  
SS FRED C. STEBBINS

1. Acting on instructions relayed by the Captain of the Port, Rockland, Maine, at 2100, 17 October, 1945, I issued orders to Lieutenant H. E. Mobley, USCGR, directing him to proceed with a detail to effect the arrest of the stowaways upon arrival of the SS FRED C. STEBBINS at this port.

2. A copy of my orders and a copy of the report submitted by Lieutenant Mobley are forwarded for your information and such disposition as may be deemed appropriate.

*G. A. Joseph*  
G. A. JOSEPH

Incl

Copy of ACOTP/L (668)  
of 18 October, 1945

Copy of Lieut. Mobley's  
report (668) of 18 October, 1945

CC:

COTP-Rockland, Maine  
SCGO-Portland, Maine

Ind-1

DCGO-1ND

int-668

26 October, 1945

Forwarded.

*A. M. Hale*  
A. M. HALE

By direction

*Give: Lt. Mobley @ Stebbins (2)  
LEM*

*File*

COPY

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

18 October, 1945

ACOTP

Refer to file:

To: Lieutenant H. E. Mobley, USCGR

Subj: Orders; temporary duty; arrest of stowaways

1. Upon arrival of the SP-89 in Penobscot Bay area, proceed with and in charge of the below-named men by whatever transportation is available to subject vessel, boarding same regardless of quarantine condition, and receive from the Master of said vessel two (2) foreign stowaways, placing said stowaways under arrest, returning them to Port of Searsport for delivery to US Army authorities.

F. W. Schleicher,	B.M.1c
T. E. Stanford,	Sp.2c
A. B. Epps,	B.M.1c
J. B. Samford,	B.M.1c
I. Gac	B.M.1c

2. The vessel anchored at 0845 and was immediately boarded by Coast Guard. You will take such precautions as may be necessary to insure safe-keeping and delivery of the stowaways to the US Army authorities at Searsport Cargo port of Embarkation, which is hereby authorized. Obtain receipt from Army for same.

3. This order constitutes necessary authority for the foregoing. A copy hereof will be given to the Master of the SP-89, and another to the Army officer receiving the prisoners from the Coast Guard.

Citizenship: Germany	Werner Friedewald
Place of Birth: Germany	

4. You will secure all pertinent information relative to this affair, including name of vessel, name and descriptions of prisoners, time arrested, time disposed of, and such other information as may be deemed advisable.

Height: 5' 8"	Weight: 162
Height: 5' 8"	Weight: 170

5. Departed in compliance with the above \_\_\_\_\_ this date. The prisoners were interrogated at the ACOTP office and stated that they had originally been taken prisoner by the American forces at Metz, Germany, and subsequently turned over to the French and removed to a prisoner of war camp at Cherbourg. They complained that while the Americans had fed them well and treated them well, the French had treated them poorly and that their co-prisoners were dying.

G. A. JOSEPH  
LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
ACOTP-SEARSPORT, MAINE

mcb

COPY

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Address Reply to: Searsport, Maine  
 ACOTP  
 Refer to File: CG-668  
 18 October, 1945  
 To: Asst. COTP, Searsport, Maine  
 Subj: Report on arrest of German prisoners of war, stowaways on SS FRED C. STEBBINS

6. The prisoners each had a carton containing personal effects which were impounded in accordance with ACOTP order, dated 18 October, 1945, I proceeded with and in charge of the armed detail listed in said order, via the LT-201 (US Army) to the Searsport explosive anchorage, where the SS FRED C. STEBBINS, underway from sea, was about to anchor, this being the first port of call in the United States for subject vessel.

2. The vessel anchored at 0845 and was immediately boarded by the Coast Guard party. The master of the vessel was contacted and upon presentation of orders delivered the stowaways to me; they were immediately placed under arrest and via the CG-38685 were returned to the office of the ACOTP at Searsport Cargo Port of Embarkation.

3. The following information was recorded relative to the two German prisoner-stowaways:

H. E. MOBLEY,

Lieutenant, USCGR

Name: Frederick Kodritzki  
 Citizenship: Germany  
 Place of birth: Germany  
 Age: 24  
 Color hair: brown  
 Color eyes: blue  
 Height: 5' 8"  
 Weight: 170

Name: Werner Friedewald  
 Citizenship: Germany  
 Place of birth: Germany  
 Age: 21  
 Color hair: brown  
 Color eyes: brown  
 Height: 5' 8"  
 Weight: 162

4. The prisoners were interrogated at the ACOTP office and stated that they had originally been taken prisoner by the American forces at Metz, Germany, and subsequently turned over to the French and removed to a prisoner of war camp at Cherbourg. They complained that while the Americans had fed them well and treated them well, the French had treated them horribly and that their co-prisoners were dying daily from starvation.

5. They further stated that they effected an escape from the Cherbourg camp and secretly boarded the STEBBINS, then taking on a cargo of military explosives at the Port of Cherbourg. They claimed to have been given bread by other German prisoners who were engaged in loading the subject vessel. The STEBBINS sailed from France bound for the United States on 6 October, 1945. The stowaways were discovered on 8 October, 1945, and turned over to the master who made them prisoners-at-large. They voluntarily worked aboard the ship during the crossing; when the ship reached the continental limits of the United States, the stowaways were put in closer custody until delivered to the Coast Guard as outlined above.

6. The prisoners each had a carton containing personal effects which were inspected and returned to them, the contents being mainly clothes and sea-store cigarettes. They appeared greatly pleased with their feat and displayed fear at the prospect of returning to France where they claimed they would be shot. There appeared to be no other explanation for the act other than that they wanted to be under American care and have American food.

7. At 1025, this date, the prisoners were turned over to Army intelligence officers who removed them to Dow Field, Bangor, pending further orders.

H. E. MOBLEY,  
Lieutenant, USCGR.