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DCGO, 8ND (ops)  
6614  
24 July, 1944

*6 inch letters*

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To: The Commandant (OPS)

PORT SECURITY SECTION

Subj: Oil Pollution Act of 1924, 33 USC, 431-437; violation by SS GULF\*  
GEM, 14 July, 1944

Forwarded.

*J.J. Gidiere*  
J.J. GIDIERE  
By direction

*[Faint signature]*

*[Faint signature]*

COID time of report.  
CAPTAIN OF THE PORT (1)  
6614

Galveston, Texas  
July 20, 1944

14 July, 1944  
Texas City, Texas

District Engineer, U. S. Army  
Galveston, Texas

Sir:

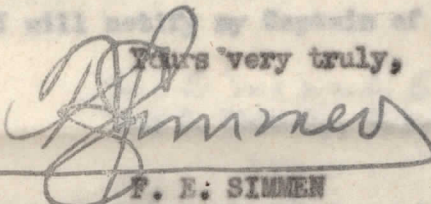
Here is a report of the violation of the Oil Pollution Act of 1924, 33 USC, 431-437 by the SS GULF-GEM at the Republic Dock, Texas City, Texas, on 14 July, 1944. Facts in the case are as follows:

The GULF-GEM, a steam screw vessel under the United States flag, is owned by the Gulf Oil Corporation and is operated by the War Shipping Administration.

The above vessel was moored at the place indicated above when two leaks, one on the starboard side and one on the port side amidship, were discovered by the Coastguardsmen on watch. John R. Eden of 2017 - 7th Street, Port Arthur, Texas, first mate on the vessel, was in charge of operations. According to the advises of Mr. Eden the cause of the leak was contributed to the age and condition of the vessel, same having been in operation approximately twenty-two years. It will be noted that, according to the statement of Mr. Eden, this vessel was not involved in any accident prior to the case in question.

Statements were taken from J. R. Eden, first mate; Coastguardsmen Joe B. McNeely, Kenneth A. Wilson, Eldon C. Purvis, and Marcelin E. Guidry. Copies are attached for your information. Samples of the oil were taken from the water and from the engine room bilge of the vessel. These samples, together with the originals of the statements taken, will be retained in this office for use by the U. S. Attorney.

Yours very truly,



F. E. SIMMEN  
Lieutenant, U. S. Coast Guard Reserve  
Captain of the Port, Galveston

Incl:

1. Statements of Eden, McNeely, Wilson,  
Purvis and Guidry.

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

CYBERWEN

0910 time of report.

14 July, 1944  
Texas City, Texas

STATEMENT  
STATEMENT

"S/S GULF-GEM, TANKER"  
Owned by Gulf Oil Corporation  
Home Office: 17 Battery Place, N. Y., N. Y.  
Under War Shipping Administration

John R. Eden, 1st Mate in charge of unloading, home address 2916 7th St., Port Arthur, Texas, ticket No. 180608, on S/S/ GULF-GEM, Tanker owned by Gulf Oil Corp., 17 Battery Place, N. Y., N. Y., under W. S. A.:

I was shown two leaks on starboard side and one on port side of above vessel by U. S. C. G. port security watch of Texas City, the leaks are about 2 gallon over allan hour, they look like they are from summer tank and may check when summer tanks are emptied, the process of pumping said tanks are in progress at this writing, this vessel is about 22 years old and I have been on this vessel as 1 st Mate since March, 1944 and during this time this ship has not been in no accident nor ran aground to cause leaks, it's cargo being light crude-oil and age of vessel is cause of leaks, every-thing possible is being done to unload to stop leakage as soon as possible. I will notify my Captain of leaks as soon as possible.

*John R. Eden*  
1st Mate

/s/ J. R. Eden

COPY

STANDARD  
8810 112

14 July, 1944  
Texas City, Texas

STATEMENT

"S/S GULF-GEN, TANKER"

Owned by Gulf Oil Corporation

Home Office: 17 Battery Place, N.Y., N.Y.

Under War Shipping Administration

The S/S Gulf-Gen docked at the Republic Oil Docks, Texas City, Texas at about 0830, July 14, 1944. On boarding the ship for inspection, I noticed that the ship was leaking in two places on the starboard side and in one place on the port side. I notified the Chief mate, John E. Eden, that the ship was leaking and he stated that the tanks which were leaking would be pumped out immediately, and that they would be taken care of. Approximate 2 to 3 gals of crude oil was escaping into the water of the Texas City Harbor per hour. I obtained a sample from the #5 port wing tank and one was taken from the water adjacent to the #5 port wing tank by Kenneth A. Wilson Sea.2c

I notified Chief Lazauskas of the condition of the ship at about 0845. He arrived immediately thereafter.

I would estimate that the leaks were leaking about 2 or 3 gallons of crude oil out on the water of Texas City Harbor.

Joe B. McNeely B.M.2c  
Joe B. McNeely, B.M.2c

*Kenneth A. Wilson*  
Kenneth A. Wilson, Sea.2c

14 July, 1944  
Texas City, Texas

STATEMENT

"S/S GULF-GEN, TANKER"  
Owned by Gulf Oil Corporation.  
Home Office: 17 Battery Place, N.Y., N.Y.  
Under War Shipping Administration

This morning at 0800 I went to the Republic dock with Chief Mate  
At 0830 of July 14, 1944 the S/S Gulf-Gen docked at the Republic Dock  
in Texas City, Texas. As Joe B. McNeely, B.M.2c, Marcolin E. Guidry, Sea.1c,  
and I, Kenneth A. Wilson, Sea.2c, boarded the Gulf-Gen for inspection, we  
noticed 2 leaks on the starboard side and in 1 place on the port side. Joe  
B. McNeely showed the Chief Mate, John R. Eden, of the Gulf-Gen, the 3 leaks  
and he said that these tanks would be pumped out first. Joe B. McNeely noti-  
fied Chief William Lazauskas and he arrived on the scene about 0900. Joe B.  
McNeely took a sample from the #5 port wing tank and was witnessed by Eldon  
C. Purvis, Sp.1c. I took a sample from the water near the leak from the #5  
port wing tank and was witnessed by Joe B. McNeely. Chief William Lazauskas  
also stated that the vessel was twenty two years old and they had been  
got a statement from the Chief Mate.

I would estimate that the leaks were letting about 2 or 3 gallons of  
crude oil out on the water of Texas City Harbor.  
A sample of oil was taken from the water along the port side of subject  
vessel by Kenneth A. Wilson, Sea. 2c, and from #5 wing tank by Joe B. McNeely,  
B.M. 2c, U. S. C. C. R.

*Kenneth A. Wilson*  
Kenneth A. Wilson, Sea. 2c

14 July, 1944  
Texas City, Texas

STATEMENT

"S/S GULF-GEN, TANKER"  
Owned by Gulf Oil Corporation  
Home office address: 17 Battery Place, N. Y., N. Y.  
Under War Shipping Administration

This morning at 0900 I went to the Republic dock with Chief Lazauskas to investigate oil leaks on the S/S Gulf-Gen. This vessel was unloading light crude oil. This vessel is owned by Gulf Oil Corporation, 17 Battery Place, N. Y., N. Y.

When I arrived at the scene and boarded the S/S Gulf-Gen I found that there were two leaks on the starboard side and one on the port side just aft of amidship. I would estimate that the three leaks combined would amount to about two gallons per hour.

John R. Eden, 2017 7th Street, Port Arthur, Texas, chief mate, of the S/S Gulf-Gen stated that he did not know any reason why the vessel should leak. Eden also stated that the vessel was twenty two years old and they had been carrying bunker C fuel oil and it did not leak with that cargo.

A sample of oil was taken from the water along the port side of subject vessel by Kenneth A. Wilson, Sea. 2c, and from #5 wing tank by Joe B. McNeely, BM. 2c, U. S. C. G. R.

*Eldon C. Purvis*  
Eldon C. Purvis, Sp. 1c

*William E. Chidrey Sp. 1c*

14 July, 1944  
Texas City, Texas

STATEMENT

"S/S GULF-GEM, TANKER"  
Owned by Gulf Oil Corporation  
Home Office: 17 Battery Place, N.Y., N.Y.  
Under War Shipping Administration

At 0830 of July 14, 1944 the S/S Gulf-Gem docked at the Republic Oil Dock in Texas City, Texas. As Joe B. McNeely, B.M.2e, Kenneth A. Wilson, Sea.2e, and I, Marcelin E. Guidry, Sea.1e, boarded the Gulf-Gem for inspection we noticed 2 leaks on the starboard side and 1 on the port side. Joe B. McNeely showed the Chief Mate, John R. Eden that the ship was leaking, and he said that he would pump from the tanks that leak first. Joe B. McNeely notified Chief William Lazauskas and he arrived on the scene at about 0900. Joe B. McNeely took a sample from the #5 port wing tank and was witnessed by Eldon C. Purvis S.P.1e, and Kenneth A. Wilson took a sample from on the water near from the leak of #5 Port wing tank witnessed by Joe B. McNeely. Chief William A. Lazauskas got a statement from the Chief mate.

I would estimate that the leaks were about 2 or 3 gallons of oil out on the water of Texas City Harbor an hour.

Marcelin E. Guidry, Sea.1e

*Marcelin E. Guidry Sea.1e*