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AIR MAIL

Habana, Cuba, June 28, 1943

No. 3613

Subject: Misconduct of Captain L. C. MONSEN, Master
of the S. S. IRVIN MACDOWELL.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

With reference to the Department's Strictly Confidential instruction of July 18, 1942, File No. 195/2117 entitled "Control of Merchant Shipping", requesting consular officers to cooperate with United States Naval Officers in foreign ports and to receive and transmit to the Department reports of "any violation of orders, deficiency in equipment, or failure to comply with lawful instructions, in Ship Masters, crews, and vessels under observation", I have the honor to report that Mr. H. L. Wilcox, Director Caribbean District, War Shipping Administration, has provided the Embassy with the following information concerning the misconduct of Captain L. C. MONSEN, Master of the S. S. IRVIN MACDOWELL:

"Captain L. C. MONSEN, Master of the S. S. IRVIN MACDOWELL, which recently loaded part cargo of sugar in Puerto Padre, which port is under the jurisdiction of the Naval Liaison Routing Officer at Antilla, was under the influence of liquor and conducted himself in quite a disorderly manner in the office of the Naval Liaison Officer and in public places, including the bar room of the Antilla Hotel.

"The Master privately and publicly denounced the Naval Liaison Officer and the Navy and talked freely and loudly regarding ships and their movements."

Respectfully yours,
For the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim:

S. J. Fletcher
American Consul

JF/hl