

(PMP)  
CG-628-COMP.

23 July, 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CREW DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE,  
WAR SHIPPING ADMINISTRATION.

The Coast Guard has received information from a reliable source concerning former crew members of the SS JOEL R. POINSETT. The following men were removed from their ship in Oran, Algeria, and at a trial held there were found to have hampered the prosecution of the war, while in a theatre of operations, by committing the following acts for which they were logged by the Master.

1. On June 16, 1943, while his ship was at anchor, Sidney L. Gibson, wiper, unlawfully took liquor aboard from bum boats. On June 20, in Gibraltar, he assaulted the master and threatened to kill him. Also on June 20, while under the influence of liquor, he assaulted Charles J. Lewis, O.S., with a bottle and cut deep gashes in his head.
2. On June 16 1943, while his ship was at anchor, Melvin L. Young, AB, unlawfully took liquor aboard from bum boats, became intoxicated and was insolent to the 2nd Mate. On June 27, in the Port of Oran, he took shore leave against the strict orders of the Master, leaving his ship short of the quota required by the Port Director.
3. On June 20, 1943, John F. Nemes, AB, threatened the Armed Guard while they were taking a prisoner from the ship to the shore brig. On June 25, in the Port of Oran and against the strict orders of the Master, he smoked in a prohibited area. On June 30, having been restricted to his ship until it reached home port, he was insolent to his superior officers and refused to do the work properly required of an able seaman.
4. On June 16, 1943, while his ship was at anchor, Charles J. Lewis, O.S., unlawfully took liquor aboard from bum boats, became intoxicated, caused disturbances aboard and was insolent to his superior officers. On June 27, in the port of Oran, he took shore leave against the strict orders of the Master, leaving his ship short of the quota required by the Port Director.

DECLASSIFIED

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By JA NARA. Date 5/19

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These men were sentenced in Oran and fined as follows:

1. Sidney L. Gibson - 6 months imprisonment.
2. Melvin L. Young - \$125.00 fine and 30 days imprisonment.
3. John F. Nemes - \$125.00 fine and 30 days imprisonment.
4. Charles J. Lewis - \$100.00 fine and 30 days imprisonment.

The Coast Guard will instigate whatever further disciplinary action is warranted in these cases.

H. T. JEWELL  
Commander, USCG