

DISTRICT INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
Seventh Naval District
P. O. Box 2348, Miami 14, Florida

DIO 7ND
(16-B-5-WOM/dcm)
OSL(JOHN D. WHIDDEN)
CONFIDENTIAL

Report made at: Miami, Florida, HIO	Date when made: 27 July 1944	Report made by: Chief Bos'n K. R. FOUSE, USNR
Subject: 2 August 1944 "JOHN D. WHIDDEN", U. S. S/S - Crew trouble aboard.		

REPORT:

To: DNI

Encl. 1. Report of complaints submitted to the Master of the U. S. S/S "JOHN D. WHIDDEN" by vessel's deck delegate, Joseph D. HOLLIDAY, D 9146.
Subj: "JOHN D. WHIDDEN", U. S. S/S - Crew trouble aboard.

1. The master, Roy J. GORE, stated that there had been considerable dissention among the merchant crew of this vessel in New York City that these men had signed on in Great Lakes ports and wanted to sign on to sail south; that the vessel had not docked in New York but had anchored in the stream then, after taking on supplies, sailed south, arriving in Jacksonville, Florida, 19 July 1944. This vessel sailed from Jacksonville on 21 July 1944 and arrived in Miami, Florida, 22 July 1944.

2. The Master stated that the major portion of the crew developed while enroute from Jacksonville to Miami, Florida; that the crew from Jacksonville as the authorities in that port were unable to sign off any men; that this situation became unpleasant and two men aboard seized the opportunity to agitate additional dissention; that these two men, Joseph D. HOLLIDAY and Charles F. STONE have definite communitist tendencies and are reputed to be A.M.U. agitators; that they made a list of complaints, which they presented to the Captain (see enclosure 1.), which was signed by HOLLIDAY who acted as the Union Deck Delegate. The Master added that the men were successful in their attempt to disrupt this ship's routine inasmuch as they were able to obtain sick leave and did no work; that these men were taken to the Hospital at Jacksonville, Florida, making for medical ships of the U. S. Public Health Service; that the ship's drinking water supply was contaminated which was not true as it had been thoroughly inspected and a certificate issued by the inspecting crew members and their two leading agitators, it became necessary to sign off and obtain new hands from Tampa, Florida, and Houston, Texas, in an effort

1. Encl 1. is forwarded for information.
By direction of DIO 7ND.

W. O. MEHRTENS
Lieutenant, USNR
OinC, Commerce & Travel
Acting

Encl
1. HW 7ND Form 1. report, same subj.,
dated 27 July 1944.

CC DCGO 7ND

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NNS 26-83-11
By JA NARA. Date 5/23/17

EVALUATION: For information.

DISSEMINATION: ACTION: Encl 1.

DISTRICT INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
Seventh Naval District
P. O. Box 2348, Miami 14, Florida

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

Report made at: Miami, Florida, BIO	Date when made: 27 July 1944	Report made by: Chief Bos'n K. R. YOUSE, USNR
Subject: "JOHN D. WHIDDEN", U. S. S/S - Crew trouble aboard.		
REPORT: Encl. 1. HW List of complaints submitted to the Master of the U. S. S/S "JOHN D. WHIDDEN" by vessel's deck delegate, Joseph D. HOLLIDAY, D 9166.		
<p>1. The master, Roy M. CONE, stated that there had been considerable dissention among the merchant crew aboard; that a majority of the crew had previously expected to sign off this vessel in New York City; that these men had signed on in Great Lakes ports and wanted to sign off prior to the ship sailing south; that the vessel had not docked in New York but had anchored in the stream then, after taking on supplies, sailed south, arriving in Jacksonville, Florida, 19 July 1944. This vessel sailed from Jacksonville on 21 July 1944 and arrived in Miami, Florida, 22 July 1944.</p> <p>2. The Master stated that the major portion of the crew trouble developed while enroute from Jacksonville to Miami, Florida; that the crew had become disgruntled after sailing from Jacksonville as the authorities in that port were very reluctant to sign off any men; that this situation became unpleasant and two radicals aboard seized the opportunity to agitate additional dissention; that these two men, Joseph D. HOLLIDAY and Charles F. STONE have definite <u>Communistic</u> tendencies and are reputed to be N.M.U. agitators; that they made a list of complaints, which they presented to the Captain (see enclosure 1.), which was signed by HOLLIDAY who acted as the Union Deck Delegate. The Master added that these two men were successful in their attempt to disrupt this ship's routine inasmuch as one-half of the merchant seamen personnel faked sickness and did no work; that these men, a total of 19, signed off the vessel in Miami, Florida, asking for medical slips to enable them to report to the local offices of the U. S. Public Health Service; that it had been claimed the ship's drinking water supply was contaminated which was not true as the said system had been thoroughly inspected and a certificate issued by the inspecting officials, but that despite the fact that this proof was available for inspection by the dissenting crew members and their two leading agitators, it became necessary to sign off these men and obtain new hands from Tampa, Florida, and Houston, Texas, in an effort</p>		
EVALUATION: For information.		
DISSEMINATION:	ACTION: Encl 1.	INFORMATION: DNI-DCGO, 7ND.

SUBJECT: "JOHN D. WHIDDEN", U. S. S/S - Crew trouble aboard. N.Y.

July 15, 1944

to produce some semblance of efficiency aboard. The Master added he is of the opinion that this creation of dissention among merchant crews is a serious offence; that it should be given some serious consideration, and that some punishment should be meted out to the two men accused as being mainly responsible.

3. A check of the files of DIO 7ND, reflects the following information:
 1. HOLLIDAY, Joseph D., Z-152682, Boatswain, U. S. citizen, born in Minn., 15 May 1903, 41 years, 5'8", ruddy complexion, green eyes, brown hair, wife - Kay, 22 Manhattan Ave., N. Y., N. Y. - presently on the O.N.I. Merchant Suspect List which describes him as being a reputed Communist and trouble maker.
 2. STONE, Charles F., Z-9087-D1, U. S. Citizen, born in Minn., 33 years, 5'10", ruddy complexion, brown hair, A. B., sister Marie RIGGIN, 712 Red gate Ave., Norfolk, Va., - Previously on the Merchant Marine Suspect list of 15 April 1942, which alleged he was pro-Communitic and an unreliable employee.
4. DIO, 7ND files also reflect information on one other merchant crewman who signed off this vessel in Miami, Florida, but not stated by the master as being a trouble maker, namely, LARSEN, Henry Anders Peter, Z-267048, a naturalized U. S. citizen who was born in Denmark, 41 years, 5'8", hazel eyes, brown hair, medium fair complexion, brother - Carl LARSEN, 1119 West Blvd., Racine, Wisconsin., Current ONI Merchant Marine Suspect list indicates LARSEN is reputed to be a Communist party organizer.
5. Nineteen new crew members were signed on this vessel in Miami, Florida 24 July 1944, to replace those men who had signed off the same date. All names of new crew members checked negative in the files of DIO, 7ND. Clearance was subsequently granted this vessel and it sailed from the port of Miami, Florida, at 1612 Q., 25 July 1944, enroute to Cardenas, Cuba, direct, thence to return to the port of Wilmington, North Carolina.
6. Yellow soap, additional water buckets, additional blackout ventilators for outboard small ports.
7. More silverware to be ordered.
8. Repair steam lines on coffee urns, both salon and crew mess.
9. Line for drains under coffee urns.
10. Silver for crew mess and galley.

S/S John D. Whidden

New York, N.Y.
July 15, 1944

The following items are listed here as suggested changes that should be brought up before the N.M.U., and found to be unsatisfactory conditions that were brought up before the committee aboard the S.S. John D. Whidden, during the various meeting held during the course of the voyage.

1. Cots for crew aboard ship. Charges against Brady and Rose deferred until statement received from New York and Baluth.
2. Eliminate noise from winches or subsistence be paid to men aboard at time of loading or unloading.
3. Coffee percolators, three (3) one engine room, 1 saloon, 1 crew mess. Adjourned, 11:12 am
4. Water cooler for engine room.
5. Washing machine for ship's crew. Ship's Del.
6. Steam pipe and hot water to be installed for washing clothes.
7. Request that emergency lights be installed.
8. Request that we have additional port hole in pantry.
9. Ventilation installed overhead in galley.
10. Electric refrigerator in salon, out of order.
11. Awning for ship's crew.
12. Awning for overhead on topside.
13. Discussion of lake wages, in regard to bringing ship from lakes to deep sea. "Stone" volunteers to act.
14. Question to be submitted to authorities in regard to sulphur cargo and additional compensation for same.
15. Letter of protest to WSA demanding a more clearly written article be presented for seaman's signature. One that can be understood.
16. Good and welfare. Yellow soap, additional water buckets, additional blackout ventilators for outboard small ports.
17. More silverware to be ordered.
18. Repair steam lines on coffee urns, both salon and crew mess.
19. Line for drains under coffee urns.
20. Clock for crew mess and galley.

Encl 1.

COPY

- 2 -

21. Thermos jug for pilot house.
22. Additional quarters for gun crew to keep hospital clear.
23. Pick up cups etc. and put such in pantry sinks.
24. Motion made and seconded. Charges against Brady and Rose deferred until statement received from New York and Duluth.

Adjourned, 11:12 am

Ship's Del.

Joseph D. HOLLIDAY. D9166