

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
Post Office Box 147
Charleston, South Carolina

MERCHANT VESSEL BOARDING REPORTCONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIALDATE BOARDED: 7-20-44 BOARDED AT: Jax. Fla. DATE OF REPORT: 7-21-44VESSEL: SS JOHN D. WHIDDEN 421 NO. IN CREW: 37CREW CHECK: NEGATIVE: _____ POSITIVE (SEE BELOW) XIOPERATIONS IN PORT: DISCHARGING NEWSPRINT

ITINERARY: DEPARTED FROM JACKSONVILLE, FLA. AT 1700 ON 21 JULY,
1944, FOR MIAMI, FLA.

1. The crew list was checked with negative results through the DIO, 6ND files, with the following exceptions:

Raymond Gregory WALLACE, born 20 May, 1911, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Z-246402-DE, duplicate issued on 11-26-43

2. SUBJECT WALLACE, whose home is 2403 Kinnebeckinnic Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, age 27, 6' 11", blond hair, blue eyes, fair complexion, fireman-water tender, states that he lost his first papers when the SS COLLIER was torpedoed in the Atlantic on 19 March, 1942. SUBJECT states that he lost his second set of duplicate seaman's papers in Panama in 1943. SUBJECT' papers were examined and found to be in order.

3. Delbert T. FOX, Z-60104, age 38, born in Michigan, was Boatswain on USAT "TOLVA" 20 March, 1942. Reliable information indicates SUBJECT to be an agitator, to slow down work of men under him, to have made open statements to the effect that his men were not to man the guns, that U.S. Merchant vessels needed no guns, and to have made remarks to discourage the U.S. Navy gun crew at target practice.

4. Roy M. CORR, Master of the WHIDDEN was questioned regarding SUBJECT FOX, who is the same person mentioned in DCGO, 6ND Dispatch No. 192188 dated 19 July, 1944. Informant stated that

DISSEMINATION: CIO (1)
DIO, 6ND (2)
DCGIO, 6ND (1) ✓
File (1)

BOARDING OFFICER: Henry J. Sahn

APPROVED: _____

HARVEY F. JOHNSON, JR.,
District CG Intelligence
Officer, 6th NavDist.

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SUBJECT was signed aboard this vessel in Cleveland. Captain CONE states that SUBJECT was brought to Cleveland by the NMU from New York to organize seamen on the "Pittsburg Steel Trust Lake Boats". Informant states that SUBJECT was in Cleveland attempting to organize the seamen and, "to load these lake boats with NMU men", in order that the NMU would be the bargaining representative of the seamen manning these lake boats. Captain CONE states that in a subsequent election to determine who would be the bargaining representative for the seamen on these lake boats, the NMU was defeated, and that since FOX'S work was at an end in Cleveland, he signed on the WHIDDEN in order to get to New York, which is his home. Captain CONE states that FOX gave him no trouble whatsoever on this trip, and that he conducted himself very well. SUBJECT FOX was engaged in casual conversation by the investigating officer, but no information of an affirmative nature was elicited.

5. Captain CONE reported that Joseph D. HOLLIDAY, Z-152682, Boatswain, United States, age 41, 5' 8", ruddy complexion, brown hair, whose wife, Kay, resides at 22 Manhattan Avenue, New York City, was an agitator and Communist, who formerly fought with the Loyalists in Spain. Informant states that SUBJECT spread dissatisfaction among crew members, concentrating his efforts on young men recently out of Maritime School, inculcating them with the principles of Communism and attempting to make them dissatisfied with conditions aboard ship. Captain CONE states that he informed HOLLIDAY while they were in port in Cleveland that two men would in the future stand watch rather than three as heretofore, and that the other man would be used to work about the ship. Informant states that HOLLIDAY refused to have only two men stand watch; told the Captain that the ship would not sail unless three men stood watch, so that it was necessary to call the union representative into a conference to settle this matter.

6. Captain CONE states that Charles F. STONE, Z-9087-D1, AB, United States, age 33, 5' 10" in height, ruddy complexion, brown hair, brown eyes, whose wife, Margaret, resides at 512 East First Street, Duluth, Minnesota, is also a Communist. The Captain stated that the SUBJECT STONE'S actions and approach toward seamen was substantially the same as those of HOLLIDAY.

7. Captain CONE states that STONE has a nervous affliction and that when he goes ashore and drinks to excess he "gets the jitters", so that he cannot stand watch, and is of no use aboard ship for eight to twelve hours after he stops drinking. Captain CONE described STONE as a "sea-lawyer" and agitator, and a person who spreads dissatisfaction among the crew members.

8. Captain CONE advised at 0830 on 20 July, 1944, that all of

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the crew members have signified their intentions of signing off at Jacksonville and not staying aboard the ship until she reaches port in Miami. Various crew members were engaged in discreet conversation in order to determine the reason for their signing off. It was determined that this crew had been brought from New York City to Duluth, Minnesota to take this ship through the Great Lakes by way of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and New York City, where they were to sign off. The crew members stated that when the ship made port in New York on 16 July, 1944, that they weighed anchor out in the river off Staten Island and that they were unable to go ashore. It was further learned that the Union Hiring Hall in New York City was inactive as this was a Sunday when they made port in New York and the ship departed from New York twenty-four hours later, so that the crew members were unable to sign off. They stated that Jacksonville was the first port of call since they left New York, and that they were signing off here and going back to New York. They stated that they were "deep sea seamen", and that the wages they received on coastwise vessels was not sufficient for them to live, and that consequently they wanted to get off this ship as soon as possible and get back to New York in order to sign on a Liberty Ship going overseas.

9. L. C. AMBROSE, B.M.1c (250-4483), USNR, in charge of the Navy Gun Crew aboard the WHIDDEN, confirmed the reason for the crew wanting to sign off the ship. Informant stated he neither saw nor heard anything of an affirmative nature while aboard the ship. When inquiries were made of AMBROSE regarding HOLLIDAY and STONE, he stated, "they kinda more or less do the talking for the Union on the ship." AMBROSE further stated that HOLLIDAY and STONE did not speak to the Navy Crew Members other than in a casual manner.

10. Elmer FOSTER, South Atlantic Steamship Company, Jacksonville, Florida, agents for the SS WHIDDEN, advised that after a conference on the morning of 20 July, between the Captain of the ship, the Shipping Commissioners Office and the Union, that it was agreed that the present crew would remain aboard until the ship reached Miami.

11. The following aliens were cleared and an endorsement placed on their maritime documents:

Ioannis S. EGINITIS, Z-379329, 2nd Mate,
age 33 (Greece)
Felix R. SIMMERMAN, Z-362263, 2nd Asst.
Engr. age 28 (Estonia)
Hulbert W. BARON, Z-209053, Oiler, age 38,
(British)
Albert F. THOMAS, Z-20847, Oiler, age 40,
(British)

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TRANSMIT

Harold L. LISSEMORE, Z-483777, Utility,
age 19 (Canada)
Charles J. BEECROFT, Z-484534, O.S.,
age 26 (Canada)

12. George A. DOMANGUE, Z-97292, 3rd Mate, United States,
age 29, signed off due to illness, and was replaced by a
person named WOODELL. It was impossible to ascertain WOOD-
ELL'S full name or Z number as he was signed on by the Cap-
tain of the ship immediately prior to sailing. Customs,
Shipping Commissioners Office and Immigration had no record
of WOODELL'S being signed on. Elmer FOSTER, South Atlantic
Steamship Company, Jacksonville, Agents for this ship, ad-
vised that the Albury Company, Miami, Shipping Agents, would
have a record of WOODELL'S shipping articles.

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| ACKNOWLEDGE |

MAIL TO
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MESSAGE TO
SENT VIA 48383

OUTGOING HEADLINE

A QUAB 192135 QUON QWM GR 112 BT

TEXT

REPEATED X FOR INSURE X IN 19215 NEGATIVE X REF IN 19215 X FARMER BRISBURY HALLAM,
DOB 16 MAY 1917, MILWAUKEE, WIS X LAST Z-24642-29 X DUPLICATE ISSUED ON 12-25-43 X
DEPARTED X FOR Z-4012, AGE 22, BORN IN MICHIGAN, WAS BOEN ON WEST "PIPER" MARCH 20, 1942
KOLLEGE INFORMATION THAT HE SUBJECT TO BE AN ASSISTANT, TO HAVE RECORDED DOWN WORK OF REP
INSURE HIM, TO HAVE MADE OPEN STATEMENTS TO THE EFFECT THAT HE WAS WENT AWAY TO USE THE
GUNS, MAY 11, 8, NEWBORN VENTURE NEEDER NO GUNS, AND TO HAVE BEEN RELIANT TO DISCLOSE
THE U. S. MARINE CORPS AT MARCH PRACTICE X NEGATIVE DISCREPANT INTERROGATION OF FOR
AND REPEATED DISCUSSION WITH MASTER REGARDING THIS X

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NN3-26-83-11
By JA NARA. Date 5/23/17

INITIALS OF "RELEASING" OFFICER

TIME RELEASED

JULY 1944 BI/AAP