

FILE MEMORANDUM

28 February, 1945

At approximately 4:00 p.m. a telephone call was received from E. Henry, gangway watchman aboard the American S/S. John Laurence, which was docked on the East side of Pier #3, Locust Point. Henry advised that he had found a total of approximately 20 feet of what he represented to be TNT. It appears that he had located this over a passageway door leading from the sheltered deck of the starboard side of the ship. ONI was immediately notified and in turn informed the FBI of the foregoing, and the officer in charge of the 63rd Ordnance Bomb Disposal Squad, U.S. Army, Baltimore, Maryland was also advised of the foregoing.

On 1 March, Bomb Disposal Squad informed this office that they had obtained the so-called TNT from Mr. E. Henry, and found it to be a propellant powder of possibly cordite, which was not hazardous in its present condition from an explosion standpoint, but it represented a serious fire hazard. It was the opinion that this powder had been secured by some crew member, possibly as a souvenir, and no further investigation was made by either the Bomb Disposal Squad or by the Coast Guard Intelligence.

*W. H. Wood*