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UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

PHILADELPHIA 6, PA.



ADDRESS REPLY TO  
DISTRICT COAST GUARD OFFICER (int)  
FOURTH NAVAL DISTRICT  
REFER TO FILE: CG-6614

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INT

7 July, 1945

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P.C. *mgd*

P.C.R. *mal*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

To: The Commandant (INT)

Subj: Stowaways aboard the SS JOHN N. MAFFITT (American) which arrived in Philadelphia, Pa., from Mayaguez, Puerto Rico; information on

The inclosure is forwarded for HQ information.

R. J. MAUERMAN  
Acting District Coast Guard Officer

Incl  
Subject report

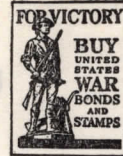
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Authority NN3-26-83-11

By LW NARA Date 5/25/17

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File of John N. Maffitt (2)  
x 4 ND (5)  
mal*



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

ADDRESS REPLY TO

DCGO, 4ND (int)

AND REFER TO CG-6614

4 July, 1945

**CONFIDENTIAL**

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRICT CG INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

Subj: Stowaways aboard the SS JOHN N. MAFFITT (American) which arrived in Philadelphia, Pa. from Mayaguez, Puerto Rico; information on

1. The Immigration and Naturalization Service, Philadelphia, Pa. notified this office at 1000, 3 July, 1945, that five Puerto Rican stowaways were discovered aboard the SS JOHN N. MAFFITT (American) which arrived at Philadelphia, Pa. from Mayaguez, Puerto Rico on 2 July, 1945. In compliance with your oral orders an investigation was conducted regarding the subject matter.

2. Andrew WALLIN, chief officer, and George KISHMAN, third officer, aboard the SS JOHN N. MAFFITT were interviewed on 3 July, 1945, and they produced the ship's rough log which contained the following information:

Luis Ramirez RAMOS, Jose Ramon QUINONES, Delfin RAMIREZ, Fernandez ROSADO and Juan Rodrig GUAGUANER, Puerto Rican citizens who had been employed as stevedores aboard the vessel at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, were apprehended as stowaways on 27 June, 1945, one day out of Mayaguez en route to Philadelphia, Pa. The vessel arrived at Pier 46 North, Philadelphia, Pa. at 2035, 2 July, 1945 and the stowaways were interrogated by representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and removed from the ship at 2200, 2 July, 1945.

WALLIN and KISHMAN said that five other Puerto Rican stevedores, who had attempted to stowaway, were removed from the ship at Mayaguez one hour before it sailed on 26 June, 1945. The vessel was searched thoroughly before departure and no other stowaways were located at that time. Both officers maintained that no member of the merchant crew was involved in aiding the stowaways in boarding the vessel nor participated in harboring them before their discovery.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Stowaways aboard the SS JOHN N. MAFFITT (American)  
which arrived in Philadelphia, Pa. from Mayaguez,  
Puerto Rico; information on

4 July, 1945

3. John W. REYNOLDS, second assistant engineer, George E. STECHILLER, third assistant engineer, and Frank ESGURRA, chief steward, concurred in their statements that they had searched their respective departments one-half hour before sailing from Mayaguez and that none of the merchantmen assisted the stowaways in any manner.

4. The Immigration and Naturalization Service reported to this office that the subject stowaways were detained at the Immigration Detention Station, Gloucester, N. J. until 5 July, 1945, when they were admitted into the United States as bona fide American citizens.

*William R. Laine*  
WILLIAM R. LAINE  
Investigator

*Edmond J. Fallon*  
EDMOND J. FALLON  
Investigator

*JSN*