

File 1. O. F. AMERICAN CONSULATE

Karachi, India, November 16, 1943

1943 DEC 6 AM 9 10

CONFIDENTIAL -- SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

Subject: Hospitalization of American Seaman Clarence A. HARRISON, Jr.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a memorandum giving the details of the relief and hospitalization at Karachi of the American merchant seaman, Clarence A. HARRISON, Jr., Z-295221. Harrison was a member of the crew of the American vessel, S. S. John B. Casement, which arrived at Karachi on August 18, 1943 from San Pedro via Wellington, New Zealand. The master was Captain Eric J. KELLY, and Karachi agents Cooper and Company. The operators of the vessel were the Luckenbach Steamship Company, 120 Wall Street, New York.

It is requested that the Department forward copies of the despatch and memorandum to the Coast Guard, War Shipping Administration, Public Health Service, and operators for their information and assistance upon arrival of the seamen in the United States.

Respectfully yours,

C. E. Macy
American Consul

Enclosures:

1. Memorandum
 - (a) From 181st General Hospital, APO 883, October 22, 1943
 - (b) Copy of Wage Account of Clarence A. Harrison.

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Original and hectograph copy to the Department
Copy to the Consulate General, Calcutta

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MEMORANDUM

HOSPITALIZATION OF AMERICAN SEAMAN CLARENCE A. HARRISON, JR.

American Seaman Clarence A. HARRISON, Jr., was signed on the articles of the S. S. John S. Casement at San Pedro, California, on May 23, 1943, as fireman-water tender at base wages of \$110.00 per month. The ship called at Wellington, New Zealand and arrived at Karachi on August 18, 1943. Two weeks before his arrival at Karachi Harrison developed a cough and severe fever. He was treated by the Captain with aspirin and sulfathiazole, and had apparently almost completely recovered by the time he reached Karachi. It was thought best, however, to send him to the United States Army hospital here for observation. Harrison arrived at the hospital and remained there until November 10. There is attached a copy of the Army medical board report on disposition of the patient giving the clinical history of the case. It may be stated, however, that the final diagnosis was lung abscess (multiple) of right lower lobe, acute.

It was necessary to pay Harrison the accrued balance of wages due and discharge him from the Casement on August 18, 1943. A copy of his wage account is enclosed from which it will be seen that the balance paid was \$93.95 equal to Rs. 310/6/- at the exchange rate of \$100.00 to Rs. 330.375. The full sum was paid to Harrison on October 27, 1943 prior to his departure from Karachi.

It was finally decided by Army medical authorities (see disposition report) that it would be best to return Harrison to the United States as a litter patient, under medical care, accompanying a detachment of Army casual personnel. Arrangements were made whereby Harrison left Karachi by plane of the Air Transport Command on November 10 for Bombay where he will embark on the next transport leaving for the United States. He will remain at the United States Army hospital at Bombay until he sails. The Consulate at Bombay will take charge of any necessary arrangements at that port. No expenditures were made by Cooper and Company, the Karachi agents of the S. S. John S. Casement, for Harrison's relief, as no charges are made by the Army for hospitalization of American seamen.

It may be mentioned that Clarence A. Harrison's brother, Herbert HARRISON, called at Karachi shortly before November 10 as a member of the crew of the S. S. Fort Washington. Herbert Harrison had an opportunity to see his brother and said that a lung condition had existed since Clarence Harrison's early youth.

American Consulate,
Karachi, India,
November 16, 1943

Enclosure No. 1(a) to despatch No. 710
 November 16, 1943, from American Consul,
 Karachi, India, Re Hospitalization of
 American Seaman Clarence A. HARRISON, Jr.

COPY

181ST GENERAL HOSPITAL
 SERVICES OF SUPPLY
 U S A F C B I
 A P O 883

22 October 1943

SUBJECT: Disposition of Patient.

TO : Commanding Officer, 181st General Hospital, APO 883.

1. It is recommended that CLARENCE A. HARRISON JR., Z-295221, Merchant Marine from S.S. John S. Casement, Luckenbach Steamship Company, now a patient in 181st General Hospital on Ward B-5, be examined by a board of medical officers to determine appropriate disposition. He is 21 years of age.

2. a. This patient was admitted to the 181st General Hospital on 18 August 1943 on authority of 6b (13) AR 40-590.

b. History and Clinical Findings: Two weeks before admission en route to India he developed a cough and fever. For the first 2 days it was non-productive and then sputum which was blood streaked appeared. He was treated with aspirin and sulfathiazole and seemed to recover except for the cough, for which he was sent to this hospital for x-ray on arrival in India. The x-ray showed extensive parenchymal blotchy infiltration in the right base from the dome of the diaphragm to the 4th rib anteriorly. On the left there was some mottled areas above the dome of the diaphragm. He was admitted although he did not appear ill. He ran a fever which at times reached 101° but more often was low grade. Later films showed no decrease in the involved areas. Physical examination revealed dullness to percussion of both bases posteriorly, but more marked on the right. Tactile fremitus is increased bilaterally. Breath sounds are diminished over right lower lobe while numerous moist rales can be heard over the left base. On 24 September he began raising foul, frothy, green pus bringing up 12 oz. in the first 24 hours. Since then he has been on postural drainage and every 3 to 5 days he raises large amounts of this foul green pus. The percussion note became hyperresonant over the right base and numerous moist rales and rhonchi were heard. On 17 October it was noticed that he was getting clubbing of the fingers and toes, and recently the sputum has become blood streaked. The x-ray now shows definite evidence of multiple lung abscesses of the right lower lobe.

c. Diagnosis: Lung abscess, (multiple) of right lower lobe, acute, secondary to right lower lobar pneumonia in the first week of August 1943.

3. This/

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3. This patient has received the maximum benefit from hospitalization here and will soon need repeated bronchoscopic examinations and possibly extensive chest surgery.

4. It is recommended that the above named patient be returned to the United States by the first available air transportation for further treatment and disposition in a general hospital. The present condition of this patient is satisfactory for travel as a hospital litter patient. Medical care by enlisted attendant will be necessary en route.

For the Chief of Medical Service:

(s) IVAN W. SCOTT
Captain, M.C.
Assistant Chief of Medical
Services.

1st Ind. RSC/jez
HEADQUARTERS 181ST GENERAL HOSPITAL, SOS, USAF-CBI, APO 883,
23 October 1943.

TO: President Disposition Board, 181st General Hospital,
SOS, USAF-CBI, APO 883.

1. Approved and forwarded
2. Disposition Board's findings will be made a part of this correspondence by enclosure and indorsement hereon.

For the Commanding Officer:

(s) ROBERT S. CREW,
Major, M. C.,
Executive Officer.

2nd Ind. TTK/fok
PRESIDENT DISPOSITION BOARD, 181st General Hospital, SOS,
USAF-CBI, APO 883.
26 October 1943.

TO: Commanding Officer, 181st General Hospital, SOS,
USAF-CBI, APO 883.

1. 1st Indorsement complied with.

(s) THOMAS T. KOCHENDERFER
Captain, M.C.,
President.

- 1 Incl.
Board's findings

Findings/

- 3 -

Findings of the Medical Disposition Board in the case of
Clarence A. Harrison Jr., Z-295221, Merchant Marine
from S. S. John S. Casement, Luckenbach Steamship
Company.

26 October 1943

1. Under the provisions of paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 34, this Headquarters, dated 13 October 1943, a Board of Officers convened to examine and make the proper disposition in the case of Clarence A. Harrison, Jr., Z-295221, Merchant Marine from S. S. John S. Casement, Luckenbach Steamship Company.

Thomas T. Kochenderfer, Captain, M.C., President
James M. Ketchie, Captain, M.C., Member
John W. Canaday, Captain, M.C., Recorder

2. His clinical case record was thoroughly reviewed and the patient was personally examined by all members of the Board.

3. The Board concurs in the diagnosis: Lung abscess, (multiple) of right lower lobe, acute, secondary to right lower lobar pneumonia in the first week of August 1943.

4. This patient was admitted to the 181st General Hospital on 18 August 1943 from S. S. John S. Casement, Luckenbach Steamship Company. The diagnosis has been proven by repeated x-ray studies. No further benefit may be expected by treatment here. Further improvement may require extensive thoracic surgery. The length of time required by water transportation would jeopardize the patient's chance of recovery.

5. This man is unfit for duty.

6. The Board recommends that Clarence A. Harrison, Merchant Marine, be returned to a General Hospital in the United States by the first available air transportation as a hospital litter patient for further treatment and disposition. Medical attendants and facilities will be required en route.

Priority No. 2 will be satisfactory.

(s) THOMAS T. KOCHENDERFER
Captain, M.C.
President.

(s) JAMES M. KETCHIE
Captain, M.C.
Member.

(s) JOHN W. CANADAY
Captain, M.C.,
Recorder

3rd Ind./

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3rd Ind.
Harrison, Clarence A. Jr. (Civ.) CRW/fok
COMMANDING OFFICER, 181st General Hospital, SOS, USAF-CBI,
APO 883. 29 Oct. 1943.

TO: Registrar, 181st General Hospital, SOS, USAF-CBI, APO 883.

1. Recommend approval for return to a General Hospital in the United States.
2. Disapprove air transportation and recommend first available water transportation with patients being returned from this hospital so that the Medical facilities offered by hospital ship platoons may be available.
3. Notify American Consul concerning this case, so that proper arrangements may be made.

(s) CHARLES R. WILLIAMS
Lt. Col., M.C.
Commanding.

1 Incl
n/c

File