

1944 JAN 31 PM 24



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

POST OFFICE BOX 540
NORFOLK 1, VA.

ADDRESS REPLY TO THE
DISTRICT COAST GUARD OFFICER (int)
FIFTH NAVAL DISTRICT
REFER TO FILE:

27 January, 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM TO COMMANDER F.E. POLLIO:

Subj: Steamer JOSEPH M. MEDILL: report of occurrences aboard.

1. The inclosed copy of a letter is forwarded as a matter of interest to you.
2. The original thereof was received today by this office from the addressee for action. The District Intelligence Officer, 5th Naval District was immediately apprised and subsequently an agent from F.B.I. called for it.
3. If this office learns of the action taken thereon by the F.B.I., such information will be forwarded to you.

K.A. MARR
K. A. MARR, Lieut.,
USCGR.

Incl.
cc of letter of W.W. Eger dated 26 January/44,
addressed to U.S. Local Inspectors of Steam
Vessels.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority <i>NN3-26-83-11</i>
By <i>[Signature]</i> NARA. Date <i>6/6/17</i>

*File
march
12/7*

*no-cross if
572*

COPY

Stm. Joseph M. Medill
Norfolk Va. Jan. 26th, 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

United States Local Inspectors of Steam Vessels
Norfolk, Va.

Gentlemen:

An occurrence I had on this ship last voyage should I believe be brought to your attention.

We were bound west in Meditteranean. Early the morning of Dec. 19 the standard and steering compasses showed considerable wly. error. I was at a loss to account for this and did nothing about it until next morning the 20th when we had a sunny morning and corrected standard compass with a magnet reducing wly. error from 90 to 20.

I asked for check up on degaussing here, Mr. V. L. Flannery came aboard the afternoon of Jan. 24, and signed the following statement in compass observation book. "Degaussing resistance on standard compass found to have soldered connections broken, compass off 90. Steering compass off 110 feeders on coils reversed." Sgnd. V.L. Flannery.

I have no positive proof of who made this attempt to sabotage boat, but of course have my idea as I slept very little except on mates watch.

Yours very truly,

/s/ W.W. Eger