

Op-16-B-5

Date: 27 Nov. 1943

FGH:REB

MEMORANDUM FOR: Intell. Off., USCG Hdqs., Rm. 7212, 1300 E st., N.W.

SUBJECT: SS JOSEPH N. TEAL, USF.

Enclosure (s): (1) 3ND C&T Report dated 15 Nov. 1943, SS JOSEPH N. TEAL.
1943 NOV 29 PM 3 08

1. Enclosure(s) (1) is forwarded for information and such attention as may be deemed appropriate.

2. The information forwarded herewith is extremely confidential in character and its security must be preserved, by carefully safeguarding its existence and source, as well as the names of any informants mentioned therein. In no case, if the report covers an investigation of an individual, shall the report be shown to the subject, nor shall copies be made of it, nor shall the Office of Naval Intelligence be mentioned in connection with any such action taken on the basis of such report.

Ultimate return of this correspondence to ONI Op-16-B-5 is requested.

~~XXX~~ This correspondence may be retained or destroyed.

H. A. BURCH
Lieut. Comdr., U.S.N.R.

CONFIDENTIAL

To safeguard the security of the information contained herein, please initial and return to Intelligence for filing when it has served its purpose

CONFIDENTIAL
BY HAND

1. Subject vessel departed Oran, 23 November 1943.
2. BECHERT, Gustave Walter, merchant seaman, arrived on subject vessel, listed on the crew manifest as Boatswain. He was transferred to the passenger manifest by INS and sent to Ellis Island to enable him to appear before a Board of Special Inquiry and establish his alleged U.S. citizenship. He was interviewed at Ellis Island on 16 November 1943 by representatives of DIO 3ND and MID with the following results:
3. Subject stated that he was born on 2 May 1910, on the island of Lahaina Maui, Territory of Hawaii, of a Hawaiian mother, and a German father who is unknown to him. He first went to sea in 1926, and has been following the sea since. Sailing coastal-European, and South American routes. He has sailed on the S/S MAUNALEI, SANTA VERONICA, GOLDEN PEAK, MAUNI LANI, DICKENSON, KANSAN, ALABAMA, EXCALIBER, MICHIGAN, HANLEY, and various inter island trading vessels. He first signed on the S/S JOSEPH N. TEAL at Baltimore on the 11th March 1943 which was bound for Casablanca and returned to Norfolk on the 30th June 1943. He reshipped on the JOSEPH N. TEAL on 27 July 1943 from Newport News, and sailed to Oran returning to New York City 15 November 1943.

JSF/hck

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2 copies

B-5 (3ND)
1 copy

B-7 (3ND)
1 copy

TG (B-5)
1 copy

B-1 (3ND)
1 copy

5-47-43-3M

Form #7 4-1-43

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

THIRD NAVAL DISTRICT

COMMERCE AND TRAVEL SECTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL
MAIL ROOM15 NOVEMBER 1943 ROOM
1943 NOV 22 AM 9 30

~~PLANNED~~
SHIP S/S JOSEPH N. TEAL ARRIVAL ~~DEPARTURE~~ DATE 11/15/43

AGENTS Simpson, Spence, and Young PIER 19 NR TIME 1600

CONTROL SQUAD:

FBI Not present; waived

MIS Agent Charles A. Pickett

INS Inspector Martin

ONI Agent Joseph S. Ferris

NO. OF PASSENGERS ABOARD 1 CLASSIFICATION 1 US BR CAN

OTHERS:DETAILS:

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S/S JOSEPH N. TEAL

ARRIVAL

15 NOVEMBER 1943

RECEIVED
ON MAIL ROOM

1943 NOV 22 AM 9 30

He claims his seaman papers, discharge book, and birth certificate was stolen about the middle of August in Oran, and that he reported this to the military authorities there. He also claims to have married THELMA ESPARGOYA(phonetic), a U.S. citizen, in Baltimore in 1942, but he states they are separated at the present time. BECHERT had in his possession a dues book of the Sailors Union of the Pacific #4108; Draft classification card issued from Board #2, 528 S. Broadway, Baltimore, Md., order #2863, class 3 as of 16 July 1941. He also had Social Security card #216-12-9529, dated 18 November 1939.

4. Search of DIO 3ND Central Files was negative.
5. Passenger was released by Travel Security panel.

