

Case No. CG-MIN-628-12-45-PO-6445

Merchant Marine Hearing Unit
United States Coast Guard
Twelfth Naval District
San Francisco, California
7 April, 1945

IN THE MATTER OF
License No. A-9488
Issued to Donald R. Ewen,
Chief Mate, C.D.B. 008552
SS KATHERINE BATES

SOURCE OF COMPLAINT: Memorandum from Captain of the Port
dated 2 April, 1945.

FACTS: Subject served as Chief Mate on the SS KATHERINE BATES. At about 1330 on 28 March, 1945, Lowell E. Baxter (227-607) boatswain mate first class, USCG, boarded the BATES at Pier 9, San Francisco, at which time he found traces of oil in the water about the ship. He found that it was coming from broken seams in lube oil drums on deck and that it was flowing through the scuppers down the hull into the bay. He contacted subject and requested the scuppers be plugged. Although subject promised that it would be done at once, when Baxter returned at 0930 on 29 March, he found that nothing had been done to prevent the oil from entering the bay and that there were still traces of oil in the water about the ship. He contacted the boatswain and requested that something be done about it. He reboarded the vessel at 1330 on 29 March and contacted the second mate, C. W. Melich, who stated that he would correct it. However, upon leaving the vessel Baxter found that there were still traces of lube oil around the ship. Immediately upon receiving this report, an Examining Officer from the Hearing Unit boarded the vessel which was then lying at United Engineering Company in Alameda and he was informed by the relief mate that both subject and the second mate had left for their homes on the east coast immediately after the payoff of the vessel on 31 March, 1945. The Shipping Articles indicate that subject lives at 315 East 187th Street, New York, New York.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Since subject cannot be located in this district, it is recommended that the matter be forwarded to Headquarters and that subject's name be put on the Stop List for this district in the event that he returns.

Robert Petersilge
ROBERT PETERSILGE
Lieut. (j.g.), USCGR
Examining Officer

7 April, 1945

Approved:

William N. Holt
WILLIAM N. HOLT
Officer-in-Charge

Ind-1
DCGO, 12th ND
7 April, 1945

To: The Commandant (OMP) Coast Guard

Forwarded.

John P. Tibbetts
JOHN P. TIBBETTS
By direction

APR 17 1945