

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

IOF-64

Washington

HEADQUARTERS

24 November, 1941.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: Activities of National Maritime Union.

Reference: (a) Summary of Information dated 17 November, 1941  
(IOF-64-CONFIDENTIAL).

## Summary of Information:

Supplementing reference (a) a report dated 14 November, 1941, indicates that RED HAWKS, organizer for the National Maritime Union, continued his activities over the week-end and used every available means of agitating the crew. For example, the Master was forced to buy three new blankets for every man; the quality of the food and its quantity had to be increased; it was necessary to install additional steam radiators as dictated by George Spradlin (American citizen who was placed aboard the KEGUMS by the Union at Mobile). RED HAWKS let it be known that he intended to call a shipyard strike when the vessel was ready to sail and thus disregarded the fact that she was of foreign register and might not return to this port (Port Arthur, Texas). All explanations made by the ship's agent and master were disregarded by this agitator. On the evening of 12 November the vessel was loaded and under sailing orders for the following morning, but reports which reached the Coast Guard representative at Port Arthur, Texas, clearly indicated that trouble was to be expected in a very short time. In close cooperation with the Immigration Office and British Vice Consul the Coast Guard Representative was kept continually advised of all activities. At 8:45 p.m. on the night of 12 November, 1941, the Anti-Sabotage Patrol was directed to cruise continually in the vicinity of the KEGUMS and to allow no small boats to approach her as it was understood HAWKS would attempt to make contact from the water as he had been denied the privilege of meeting any of the crew on the dock. The dock at this time was patrolled by Customs, Immigration and deputies hired by the British Consul.

As the KEGUMS was ready to sail shortly after noon, 13 November, the Anti-Sabotage patrol noticed RED HAWKS on the west bank of the slip waving his arms to attract the attention of the crew, and going through numerous sit-down motions while waving with both hands for the men on the ship to do the same thing. The patrol proceeded at once, assuming that HAWKS desired some assistance. As the patrol approached he ran for his car and disappeared. As the ship moved down the slip, watching for further such activities they again discovered HAWKS close to the bank doing the same thing, but again as they approached he quickly left the vicinity. The KEGUMS was well out into the Gulf Turning Basin under constant surveillance of the patrol and as she proceeded towards sea three other attempts of RED HAWKS to attract attention of the crew were frustrated by the quick action of the convoying unit.

*See Nat. Mar. Union file.*

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The talk around the waterfront prior to the sailing of the KEGUMS was to the effect that the National Maritime Union expected to tie this vessel up for another twenty or twenty-five days and thus prevent the delivery of the cargo of coke to the Canadian port of Port Alfred.

A special crew list is inclosed herewith which contains additional pertinent information regarding certain agitators aboard this vessel.

Distribution:

State

Treasury

M.I.D.

O.N.I.

F.B.I.

Maritime Commission

Customs

Operations

Maritime Service

Evaluation

Source: Reliable

Information: Reliable

CONFIDENTIALLATVIAN SS KEGUMS  
CREW LIST

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Nationality</u>
1.	Matisons, Jekabs	Captain	67	Latvian
2.	Udrins, Karlis	Ch. Officer	53	Latvian
3.	Matisons, Dimirtijs	2nd Officer	30	Latvian
4.	Kugis, Janis	3rd Officer	29	Latvian
5.	Szabados, Benedek	Wireless Opr.	41	Hungarian
6.	Almind, Erik	Ch. Engineer	35	Danish
7.	Noritis, Janis	2nd Engineer	32	Latvian
8.	Miksons, Alfreds	Bos'n	29	Latvian
9.	Upesjozupe, Janis	Carpenter	33	Latvian
10.	Slisis, Karlis	Sailor	26	Latvian
11.	Nass, Karl	Sailor	37	Norwegian
12.	Blomberg, Odde	Sailor	20	Norwegian
13.	Hanson, Karl	Sailor	20	Norwegian
14.	<u>Persson, Gurnar</u>	Sailor	36	Swedish
15.	<u>Apostolesco, Stefan</u>	Sailor	39	Roumanian
16.	<u>Kivi, Eduard</u>	Sailor	20	Estonian
17.	Balodis, Eduards	Donkeyman	54	Latvian
18.	Adolfis, Alfreds	Fireman	28	Latvian
19.	Zale, Zanis	Fireman	35	Latvian
20.	Diediskis, Karlis	Fireman	45	Latvian
21.	Bergmanis, Matis	Fireman	40	Latvian
22.	<u>Ciss, Albert</u>	Fireman	34	Latvian
23.	Radulesco, Marin	Fireman	40	Roumanian
24.	Terkkila, Unno	Fireman	35	Finnish
25.	Virbickas, Jonnas	Fireman	33	Lithuanian
26.	Silva, Georgino	Fireman	29	Brazilian
27.	Igarragaray, Gaspar	Trimmer	40	Spanish
28.	Gayoso-Santaya, Jose B.	Trimmer	40	Spanish
29.	Kauko, Pyhola	Trimmer	37	Finnish
30.	Krumins, Erna	Stewardess	32	Latvian
31.	Petrovskis, Emilija	Ch. Cook	54	Latvian
32.	Ekornes, Petter	2nd Cook	30	Norwegian
33.	Ekornes, Ann	Messgirl	22	U.S.A.
34.	Castanerro, Manuel	Messboy (Crew)	38	Cuban
35.	Nielsen, Helge	Messboy (Crew)	--	Danish
36.	Lucis, Janis	Galley boy	26	Latvian

NOTE: Number 22 is a C.I.O. organizer placed aboard this vessel by RED HAWKS and Mr. Rose at Mobile, Alabama. Nos. 11 and 12 were designated his assistants. Nos. 14, 15 and 16 are just plain agitators, with No. 15 being a personal friend and representative of RED HAWKS.

An American, George Spradlin, who was placed on the ship at Mobile, Alabama, by HAWKS and ROSE, was removed from the crew just prior to its sailing.