

COPY OF COPY

According to the information obtained by the boarding officer, the vessel in question is owned by the Societe Francaise de Transport Maritime, operated by the Standard Oil of Venezuela, who are TREASURY DEPARTMENT of the vessel, and is controlled by United States Customs Service.

Charlotte Amalie

Memorandum to Assistant Secretary Long,
Department of State.

I am enclosing for your information a copy of a report from the Collector of Customs at Charlotte Amalie, Virgin Islands, with respect to the recent voyage of the French Motor Ship LIMOUSIN.

The following day, September 8, 1941, she called for St. Thomas. The Commissioner of Customs Bureau of Customs, (Signed) Herbert E. Gaston Treasury Department, Washington, D. C.

While in port of Fuel Oil 190 tons of water and 900 tons of Fuel Oil. It consumes 16 tons daily.

Receipt is acknowledged of the Bureau's Confidential letter of October 22, 1941, regarding a written report of the arrival and departure of the French M/S "LIMOUSIN", referred to in radiogram from this office dated September 11, 1941.

Enclosure.

This office regrets to advise that, through inadvertence, this report was overlooked. In the first place, it was held for additional information, and, at the time such information was received, the report itself was neglected. It is realized that it is of utmost importance to the Bureau to receive such report promptly, and proper steps have been taken to preclude a recurrence in the future of submitting any confidential report of this nature, at an unduly late date.

The records of this office show the French M/S "LIMOUSIN" arrived at this port September 11, 1941 from Caripito, Venezuela with a cargo of 6996 tons Fuel Oil and, 800 tons Diesel were discharged at this port, 3996 tons of Fuel Oil. The residue Cargo of 3000 tons fuel oil and Diesel oil was destined for Martinique, French West Indies.

According to statement made by the master of the vessel, the Fuel and Diesel Oil constituting its residue cargo, was to be used by the Central Electric Plant, and for no other purposes.

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COPY OF COPY

According to the information obtained by the boarding officer, the vessel in question is owned by the Societe Francaise de Transports Petroliers, is operated by the Standard Oil of Venezuela, who are of the vessel, and is controlled by the United States Customs Service.

Charlotte Amalie

The vessel in question departed 3:00 p.m. September 12, 1941, bound for Fort de France, Martinique, F.W.I. Further information submitted by the master of the vessel, indicated that, if left from the Virgin Islands of the United States diverted to Casa Blance, Morocco, at which port it arrived File No. 1100.6 Departure was taken from this port June 12, 1939, for Fort de France, Martinique, F.W.I. Upon its arrival at the latter named port, it was permitted to CONFIDENTIAL French Government, and remained in said port until August 28, 1941. On this date the vessel sailed for Caripito, Venezuela and arrived there September 7, 1941. The following day, September 8, 1941, she sailed for St. Thomas. The Commissioner of Customs, go as heretofore stated. Since Bureau of Customs, St. Thomas on the last named date, nothing Treasury Department, and from, or about this vessel Washington, D. C.

While in port there were on board, 260 tons of Fuel Oil Sir: 150 tons of water. The capacity of the ship is 260 tons of water and 900 tons of Fuel Oil. It consumes 16 tons

daily. Receipt is acknowledged of the Bureau's Confidential letter of October 22, 1941, regarding a written report of the arrival and departure of the French M/S "LIMOUSIN", referred to in radiogram from this office dated September 11, 1941.

C.L. Root

This office regrets to advise that, through inadvertence, this report was overlooked. In the first place, it was held for additional information, and, at the time such information was received, the report itself was neglected. It is realized that it is of utmost importance to the Bureau to receive such report promptly, and proper steps have been taken to preclude a recurrence in the future of submitting any confidential report of this nature, at an unduly late date.

The records of this office show the French M/S "LIMOUSIN" arrived at this port September 11, 1941 from Caripito, Venezuela with a cargo of 6996 tons Fuel Oil and, 800 tons Diesel Oil. Of this amount there were discharged at this port, 3996 tons of Fuel Oil. The residue Cargo of 3000 tons fuel oil and 800 tons diesel oil was destined for Martinique, French West Indies.

According to statement made by the master of the vessel, the Fuel and Diesel Oil constituting its residue cargo, was to be used by the Central Electric Plant, and for no other purposes.

According to the information obtained by the boarding officer, the vessel in question is owned by the Societe Francaise de Transports Petroliers, is operated by the Standard Oil of Venezuela, who are also the charterers of the vessel, and is controlled by the Vichy Government of France.

The vessel in question departed 3:00 p.m. September 12, 1941, bound for Fort de France, Martinique, F.W.I. Further information submitted by the master of the vessel, indicated that, if left Dunkirk May 11, 1939 for Tripoli, but was diverted to Casa Blance, Morocco, at which port it arrived June 9, 1939. Departure was taken from this port June 12, 1939, for Fort de France, Martinique, F.W.I. Upon its arrival at the latter named port, it was apparently not permitted to leave by the French Government, and remained in said port until August 28, 1941. On this date the vessel sailed for Caripito, Venezuela and arrived there September 7, 1941. The following day, September 8, 1941, she sailed for St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, with cargo as heretofore stated. Since its departure from St. Thomas on the last named date, nothing further has been heard from, or about this vessel.

While in port there were on board, 260 tons of Fuel Oil and 150 tons of water. The capacity of the ship is 260 tons of water and 900 tons of Fuel Oil. It consumes 16 tons daily at nine knots. No bunkers were taken while in port.

Respectfully,

C.L.Root
Collector of Customs.

CLR/as

copy/pm

(Copy 11-3-1941 - ew)