

Coast Guard

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AMERICAN CONSULATE

Pará, Brazil, March 12th, 1943

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DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	<i>NN3 26-8311</i>
By	<i>[Signature]</i> NARA. Date <i>6/14/77</i>

SUBJECT: Failure of Master of S. S. "Livingstone Roe" to Comply with the Regulations and Presumed Abandonment of Seamen.

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

SIR:

I have the honor to inform the Department that Elmer L. CARTY Master of the S. S. "Livingstone Roe", operated by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, arrived at Belem on Sunday, March 7, 1943, and after discharging some 40,000 drums of urgently needed aviation gasoline, proceeded to his next port on Monday afternoon March 8, 1943.

Although the Master was reminded by both the Company's Agent and one of the Company's employees in charge of unloading the shipment that he should report to the Consulate and deposit his register, he did not do so, stating to the Agent that it was not necessary. In this connection, it is understood that he left Port of Spain without proper clearance as well as entering and leaving this port without fulfilling any of the usual formalities of entrance or clearance.

It is the opinion of this Consulate that the Master has violated Sections 354 and 355, Title 46, of the United States Code (Foreign Service Regulations Chapter XVII, Note 2 (a)). Accordingly, Consular Form No. 12 is enclosed herewith.

No Bill of Health was requested or issued.

The Master also failed to notify this Consulate of his arrival in port in accordance with the second paragraph of Note 5 (d), Section XVII-1 of Foreign Service regulations. The Consulate did not know the ship was in port until after its departure so the Master could not be reminded by the Consulate of his duties and no copy of the crew list could be requested by this office.

The morning following his departure two American seamen appeared at this Consulate claiming to be from this vessel.

Pl. [Signature]
3/5 Livingstone Roe (2)
Pará, Brazil (1)

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One of the seaman was jailed within a few hours after coming ashore Sunday evening and was held in jail until early on the morning of March 9. Upon going to the docks he was informed that his ship left the previous day. He then reported to the Consulate. From the foregoing it is easy to see that the Master made no effort whatsoever to locate the man since if he had the first logical place to contact would have been the local Police Station where the man was actually booked and held. The other seaman stated that he was drugged in one of the local houses and only recovered consciousness about dawn on Tuesday, March the 9th, whereupon he immediately went to the docks where he was informed that the ship had sailed. Neither the Consulate nor the local Police were informed that any man was missing from the ship and so far as can be ascertained no effort was made by the Master to find either one, and it appears that he abandoned them.

Although no copy of the crew list was furnished this Consulate, their statements in view of the obvious fact have been accepted and the two men are being shipped to a port where they will be able to rejoin their ship. The Consulate considers that the Master has acted very irregularly and it is requested that the Department endeavor to have instructions issued through the proper channels to the various shipping companies with vessels calling at Pará in order to avoid a repetition of this occurrence.

Respectfully yours,

Edward D. McLaughlin
American Consul

Enclosure:
As stated.

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WRR/lm

Original and hectograph
to the Department.
One copy to the Embassy
at Rio de Janeiro.