Declassified NARA Project: NW 63684 WAR SHIPPING ADMINISTRATION BOMBAY MUTUAL BUILDING 28 March, 1944 Lt. Comdr W. Ney Evans, Chriman, Crew Disciplinary Committee, War Shipping Administration Dear Sir: S.S. MEYER LISSNER For your information there are enclosed the following documents relating to a Summary Court Martial of two seamen of the s.s. Meyer Lissner Report of Regional Representative, Recruitment and Manning Organization, Mr. C.B.G.Murphy to Calcutta office. very truly yours, Burton H. White, Legal Representative. Enc: APR 13 DECLASSIFIED . Authority NN 3-26-83-NARA. Date. Data as to restrain of accused: No restraint of accused: S. O. S.-I. B. C. Emergency Reproduction No. 1 W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 115 April 2, 1928 (1).

March 23, 1944.

TO: Calcutta Office.

Attention No. E.S. O Keefe.

Dear Sirs,

On March 17th 1944 the U.S. Army held a Trial by Summary Court of two merchant geamen of the erew of the s.s. Mayor Liesner for violation of the 96th Article of War on the following charges:-

"In that Sidney (and) Lederman, Steward, United States Herchant Herins Survice, did, at Calcutta, India, on or shout 11 March 1944 receive, have and conseal ans (1) Maternan Fountain Pen and two (2) Reman Lighters, a total value of approximately \$9.30 of the goods and chattels of the United States Government, then lately before felorically stolen, taken and carried away from the cargo hatch of the s.s. Never Liesner, he the said Sidney (and) Lederman well knowing the said goods and chattels to have been so feloniously stolen, taken and carried away."

"In that Emory I. McKiroy, Chief Conk, United States Merchant Marine Service, did, at Calcutts, India, on or about 11 March 1944 reserve, have and conceal one (1) Naturean Pountain Rem and four (4) Rousen Lighters, a total value of approximately \$ 14.60 of the goods and chattels of the United States Government, then lately before following stales, taken and carried away from the cargo hatch of the s.s. Never Lisaner, he, the said Emory L. McKiroy then wall knowing the said goods and chattels to have been so falcalously stoles, taken and carried away."

Both men pleaded guilty and were each fined the sum of \$100 or in lieu thereof to be confined to hard labor at such place as the Reviewing Officer might direct for 30 days. The fine was paid. This court martial together with the verdict and sentence was approved by Brigadier General G.I. Chever, Commanding Base Section # 2, U.S.A.F., S.O.S., Chi.

After a preliminary investigation by the C.I.D., U.S. Army, it was decided to visit the ship in force. Accordingly I bearded the vessel about 5.30 p.m. Sunday March 19th in company with Major Wadaworth, Base Provest Marshal, Major Ferion, Officer-in-Charge, C.I.D., U.S. Army, Salentta, other officers of their staffs and some 40 Military Police. This action was taken after your approval and in answer to a request from this Administration that the Army take firm investigative action.

Data as to restrain of accused: No restraint of accused: No restraint of accused)

Declassified NARA Project: NW 63684 On reaching the vessel I obtained commurence of the Master, Captain feeDonough, who ordered all share leave stopped and all hends, except the regime room watch, to report on the Flying Bridge. McMlory and Lederman were the only two men of the merchant eres who were found implicated in the theft of a considerable quantity of Rosson Lighters, Parker fountain pens and beer. The Unlocked deck houses of the vessel were found full of empty beer bottles, unopened cases of beer, lighters and pens together with some boxos of drugs - all apparently from the sarge of the vessel. In Tween decks the were empty beer bottles all round the bulkheads. I found one box of empty beer bottles in the L of the alleyway behind the linen locker on the starbon side second deck.

CECMs tore .

(WRITE NOTHING ABOVE THIS LINE)

CHARGE SHEET

Calcutta, India

17 March 19 14

Name, etc., of accused delicove filmory and maid Chiefe Cooker Zee 391085 anumber, grade, company)

United. State best vergenantiating inc. Service lias names, etc., to follow in same manner).

Pay, per month. Allotments to dependents, & (Base pay to bay for length of service).

per month.

Government Insurance deduction, \$

per month.

Data as to service : Entereder Inicial states and Phipping series definization in which serving at

termina data as to service not under

an enlist ment).

Data as to witness, etc.:
(Give names, addresses and note if for accused. Last documentary evidence and note where each item thereof may be found)

Against the Accused:

Major William S. Ferdon. S.C.

Captain Robert S.Fuchs, Inf.,

S/Sgt. William F. Keith.

M/Set. Harold Downes.

1st Lt. W.B.O'Hanley, MMB.

C.I.D. Calcutta, India

C.I.D. Calcutta, India

C.I.D. Calcutta, India

C. I.D. Calcutta, India

Hq.Base Sec 2, Calcutta, India (value of goods)

For the Accused:

None as known

Data as to restrain of accused: No restraint of accused)

(WRITE NOTHING ABOVE THIS LINE)

(Signature of accuser) Captain. CMP (Grade, organization, or branch) AFFIDAVIT Before me, the undersigned, authorized by law to administer oaths in cases of this character personally appeared the above named accuser this 17th day of March , 1944 and made oath that he is a person subject to military law and that he personally signed the foregoing charges and specifications, and further that hemost more mmmmd* has investigated (Indicate by specification and charge number) the matters set forth in specificationsof the Charge. (Indicated by specifi eation and charge number) and that the same are true in fact, to the best of his knowledge and belief (Signature) ARL B. SWARNER. Actes, a summary Chart, notary public, etc.) Staff Judge Advocate NOTES .- At (*) strike out words not applicable. If the accuser has personal knowledge of the facts stated in one or more specifications or parts thereof, and his knowledge as to other specifications or parts thereof is derived from investigation of the facts, the form of the oaths will be varied accordingly. In no case will be permitted to state alternatively, as to any particular charge or specification, that he either has personal knowlege or has investigated. If the oath is administered by a civil officer having a seal, his official seal should be affixed. 1st IND Headquarter Base Section 2, SOS. Calcutta, India Referred for trial to Major Gilbert E. Johnston, T.C. (Grade, name, and organization of summa y court, or trial judge advocate) court martial appointed by paragraph 24 ... Special (Summary) (Trial judge advocate of special or general)
rders No. 60 , Headquarters Base Section 2, SOS, Calcutta, India, 6 March 1944. Orders No.60 Brigadier General CHEVES: command of (Command of order) Adjutant. H. L. HUDSON, 1st Lt., AGD.

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Ex/Abarrer	cut tage I	ndia 17 March 1944.	
Major I A G D.			
Staff Judge Advocate Entered on service record in cases of convicti	(Signature, gration	X. Cheves , Commanding . Ade and organization) X. Cheves , Commanding . R. Cheves , Commanding .	
	(4)	(Initials of personal adjutant)	

CHARGE: Violation of the 96th Article of War

In that Emory L.McElroy, Chief Cook, United States Merchant Marine Service, did, at Calcutta, India, on or about 11 March 1944 receive, have and conceal one (1) Waterman Fountain Pen and four (4) Ronson Lighters, a total value of approximately \$14.60 of the goods and chattels of the United States Government, then lately before feloniously stolen, taken and carried away from the cargo hatch of the SS **REFFETISSNER**, he, the said Emory L.McElroy then well knowing the said goods and chattels to have been so feloniously stolen, taken and carried away.

(Additional sheets, if necessary, for charges and specifications will be attached here. Ordinary 8 by 12½ inches paper will used for additional sheets).