

INFORMATION CONCERNING MERCHANT CREWS

(Excerpt from Boarding Report)

SS "MONTOSO" (U.S.), 3ND Boarding Report, 2/10/43.

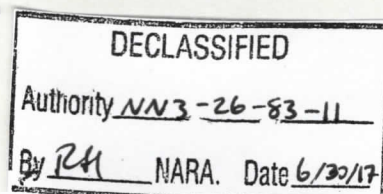
The following is reported:

"Considerable trouble was experienced with the four members of the crew hereinafter mentioned. On January 17, 1943, while the ship was at anchor at Georgetown, Demerara, British Guiana, the following four members of the crew went ashore at 1700 Queen: Francisco CARMONA, #Z-249831, born Puerto Rico, age 32, height 5'8", E-351043, fireman, next of kin Severo Carmona, Bo. Mosquito, Vieques, P.R.; Oscar Crus GARCIA, #Z-281951, E-285379, born Puerto Rico, age 32, height 5'6", fireman, next of kin Flor Rivera Cruz, 2 Agua St., Ponce, P.R.; Victor Marrero RODRIGUEZ, #Z-114415, C-7935, born Puerto Rico, age 23, height 5'2", coal passer, next of kin Dominga Gonzalos Rodriguez, 319 Verduin St., Ensenada, P.R.; Juan Rios MACEIRA (on crew list as Juan RIOS), #Z-188105, E-203252, born Puerto Rico, age 21, height 5'4", address No. 16 Calle Los Santos, Barrio Obrero, P.R., coal passer.

"The ship sailed at 1414 Queen, January 18, 1943, for Hyde Park, Demerara, without these men. It was pointed out that had the men wanted to do so they could very well have joined the ship at Hyde Park, up to 1000 Queen, January 19, 1943, but they failed to do so. On its return, the ship arrived at Georgetown at 0810 Queen, January 23, 1943, and these men went aboard at about 1000. There was no shore leave granted as the ship was sailing at 0500 January 24, but these four men went ashore at about 1930 January 23, by means of a line over the stern. They were observed at 0200 January 24, coming aboard by means of a line over the stern.

"It was further stated that on February 10, 1943, at 1407 Roger, the ship anchored at Quarantine, Mobile, and that at 1430 Juan RIOS MACEIRA left his watch and refused to do any more work. At 1600, the 1600 to 2000 fireman, Francisco CARMONA, and Juan LUGO (born Puerto Rico, age 22, height 5'11", next of kin Julia Sepulveda, 13 Agua St., Ponce, R.P.) refused to take their watch, giving no reason for such refusal. LUGO finally decided to go down to the engine room, where he stayed at his watch until the bridge had finished with engines at 1632 Roger. The action of these four men has been reported to the Merchant Marine Inspectors, Mobile, Alabama."

Op-16-B-5
JPE/chp
2/26/43.



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