

Press Cuttings: City of Flint

Flint Ordered To Unload and Sail for Home

To Avoid War Zone;
Shippers to Be Paid
From Cargo Insurance

By International News Service

The United States Lines has instructed Capt. Joseph A. Gainard of the freighter City of Flint to discharge his cargo at Bergen, Norway, and return to New York with empty holds, it was learned last night.

An authoritative source said orders cabled the line's London agents for transmission to Bergen directed Capt. Gainard, on the homeward voyage, to avoid combat areas delineated in President Roosevelt's neutrality proclamation.

The proclamation forbade the entry of American vessels into waters of the British Isles and any Norwegian port south of Bergen. It exempted vessels whose voyages commenced before the proclamation's publication, but officials said the U. S. Lines had decided to observe the restrictions.

Official sources said the London and New York underwriters who insured the Flint's cargo had agreed to Capt. Gainard's invocation of a "war risk" clause, permitting discharge of cargo consigned to a belligerent nation at the "nearest port of safety." The Flint's cargo was consigned to Manchester.

Shippers Not to Lose

The underwriters, it was said, expect to realize sufficient sums from the cargo's sale at Bergen to satisfy the shippers' claims in full and leave a small profit for themselves.

Dispatches from Capt. Gainard, it was learned meantime, have established that Soviet claims of machinery repairs to the Flint at Murmansk rested upon the fact the master took occasion during the lay-over there to shut down and clean two of the ship's three boilers.

The Soviet authorities advanced the contention of "machinery damage" in justification of the vessel's five-day stay at Murmansk, a lay-over this government contended

obliged them to restore the vessel to its American crew under international law.

Officials said the master's reports indicated Germany advanced an "equally flimsy" pretext when it said a stop the German prize crew ordered at Haugesund was necessitated by the "illness" of a member of the American crew.

The seaman's "ailment," officials said, was a harked thin.

May Remain Several Days

Bergen, Nov. 8 (AP).—The American freighter City of Flint will remain here several days, it was reported today.

The United States minister, Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, called on the British naval attaché presumably to continue negotiations in regard to disposition of the vessel's cargo.

Says Russians Chased Flint

Bergen (Thursday), Nov. 9 (AP).—William Naher, a seaman aboard the City of Flint, said today that the German prize crew mobilized all hands "for resistance" when a Russian armed trawler pursued the vessel out of Murmansk, on the morning of October 29, the day after Russian authorities permitted the ship to sail.

The Germans, finding the armed trawler close behind, were said to have taken the City of Flint dangerously in toward shore and to have shaken off pursuit.