

A F S C H R I F T.

THE NORWEGIAN SHIPPING AND TRADE MISSION

Established by authority of the Royal Norwegian Government.

OSVIND LORENTZEN
DIRECTOR OF SHIPPING AND CURATOR.

August 21st. 1941.

80 Broad Street
New-York, N.Y.

Colonel W. van den Donker
Algemeen Militair Commandant,
Curacao, D.W.I.

Dear Sir:

Re: ENERN, TOERN and FEMERN in Patrol Duty Curacao.

We beg to refer to correspondence exchanged between your goodself and Mr. Hans Bull-Øvrevik in connection with the above mentioned catchers.

There seems to exist a difference of opinion as to the conditions under which the officers and crews of the above mentioned vessels have been hired.

In your letter of July 12th, of which excerpts have been transmitted to us by Mr. Bull, you state that "it is quite impossible that you should have accepted the full Nortraship agreement".

Mr. Hans Bull-Øvrevik has hitherto maintained that these crews are entitled to full conditions as printed in the tariff of July 1st 1940 entered between the Norwegian Shipping and Trade Mission and the Seamen's Organisations. This assertion seems to be supported by an agreement, copy of which has been shown us by the Master of one of the vessels during his recent visit to New-York, in which it is stated that all conditions of said tariff should apply to officers and crews of said catchers. It is true that this agreement was only signed by the officers and crews of the vessels concerned and by Mr. Hans Bull-Øvrevik, whereas we cannot find that the Dutch Admiralty has affixed their signature to same.

Having in no way been party to the arrangements referred to above, we cannot venture to give any opinion as to the actual status. However, in order to bring to a close this uncertain situation which, no doubt, is causing you some inconvenience, we make free to suggest that you make up a written agreement with the officers and crews for example from July 1st 1941 and onwards, clearly stating the conditions which you are willing to grant them.

We have the feeling that if, without further reference to the agreement between the Norwegian Shipping and Trade Mission and the Seamen's Organisations of July 1st 1940, you are prepared to offer the conditions prevailing hitherto, the crews will accept them.

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August 21st. 1941.

Colonel W. van den Donker, Curacao, D.W.I.

As to the period elapsed between the moment these vessels entered into the patrol service at Curacao and the date on which the new agreement as outlined above would start, we will have to settle for account of the Norwegian Government the outstanding differences in case you consider that your agreement with Mr. Hans-Bull-Øvrevik does not cover the full terms of the Norwegian Shipping and Trade Mission tariff of July 1st 1940.

Very truly yours,

THE NORWEGIAN SHIPPING AND TRADE MISSION

sgd. N. Jonas.