

Interrogation Notes, Harvey. 8/12/41.LINER Hans Gerard.

Born 22 Nov. 1918. in Kolzig (Silesia).
 Was in Mercantile Marine, conscripted to Fighting Navy Oct. 1939.
 Previously on the "Bremen" and at Norddeich Station as wireless operator (all services).
 He did a course and was then sent as a wireless operator back to Norddeich until December 1940.
 Joined "Kormoran" as wireless operator under Lieut. von Halapert. Received and sent messages.
 Sent out two Q.Q. messages (600 m. 500 kc.) before beginning battle with Cruiser. No acknowledgement of message received. Fight began after 4 p.m. (3 or 4 minutes after sending out Q.Q. messages) 26 S. 111 E. given as position.
 He was not in regular communication with German Stations. The wave length varied from 10-60 m. according to weather and time. Wave length increased as evening came on.

The Q.Q. signal was intended to distract attention from them. Sent on 200 watt power.
 No other signals sent out.
 Later on the radio apparatus was out of action and no message could be sent to Germany.
 For receiving they had no fixed wave length.
 They received messages and news from various stations. They jammed messages sent out by captured ships with press notices, figures etc.
 Never sent out S.O.S. messages to lure ships. Practice was considered too dangerous.
 They gave simple M.Q. position, S.E.T. "Street Malakka"; message was intended to be picked up by Dutch East Indies.
 They had 4 receivers and two transmitters.
 No radio communication with aeroplane, although the plane had a transmitter.
 Not last supply ship 4/5 weeks before fight.
 News was sent in cipher.
 Says position of meeting with Supply Ship was determined from Germany as they did not communicate directly with ship.
 Know a few days before that they would meet the Supply Ship.
 No radio communication with speed boat.
 The boat was used once or twice.
 There were 18 operators, 4 H.O. Os., one senior petty officer & 1 Officer. 4 men went on watch for 12 hours - two professionals and two men, and the others took 12 hours in turn (four hours at a time).
 His special job was weather news and news from various stations. Wave length for receiving messages from Germany varied.
 Does not know from which station orders were received from Germany.
 No radio communication with other German ships.
 They had Telefunken and Lorenz apparatus, also small Siemens parts.
 Occupied with piling, ordinary D.F. as used by merchant ships. Wireless piling did not lead to any captures, because other ships kept silent.
 The "Antonius" sent out no Q.Q. message, the "British Union" & "Afric Star" did. "Agnita" did not, "Draftsman" and "Surylocus" not sure. "Nikolaos" D.L. sent S.O.S., "Velebrit" sent no signal, nor "Harceba" nor "Embirikos".
 All signals were jammed by using their own transmitters.
 He had nothing to do with sending out signals.