

In the Matter of Merchant Mariner's Document No. Z-109454-D1 and
all other Seaman Documents

Issued to: Kaare Larsen

DECISION OF THE COMMANDANT
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

1417

Kaare Larsen

This appeal has been taken in accordance with Title 46 United States Code 239(g) and Title 46 Code of Federal Regulations 137.30-1.

By order dated 10 June 1963, an Examiner of the United States Coast Guard at New Orleans, Louisiana suspended Appellant's seaman documents for six months outright plus six months on twelve months' probation upon finding him guilty of misconduct. The specifications found proved allege that while serving as an oiler on board the United States SS STELLA LYKES under authority of the document above described, on 24 April 1963, Appellant failed to perform his duties due to intoxication; on 10 May 1963, he was absent from his vessel without permission; and on 11 May 1963, Appellant failed to join his vessel. All three offenses occurred in a foreign port.

At the hearing, Appellant elected to act as his own counsel. Since Appellant entered a plea of guilty to the charge and each specification, no evidence was introduced by the Investigating Officer.

OPINION

The present order of suspension includes a six months' suspension in June 1962 which was placed on twelve months' probation for an earlier offense of failure to join. Appellant was also found guilty of this offense in 1958 and 1961.

The only ground for appeal is the claim that Appellant's failure to perform duties properly in the past few years has been due to an "emotional slump."

In view of Appellant's prior record of similar offenses, his explanation does not make it advisable to modify the Examiner's order.

ORDER

The order of the Examiner dated at New Orleans, Louisiana, on 10 June 1963, is AFFIRMED.

E.J. Roland
Admiral, United States Coast Guard
Commandant

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 19th day of September 1963.