

RG: 178  
RG: 357

REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY  
TO DISPOSE OF RECORDS

(See Instructions on Reverse)

TO: GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC 20408

1. FROM (AGENCY OR ESTABLISHMENT)  
Dept. of Commerce - Maritime Administration

2. MAJOR SUBDIVISION

3. MINOR SUBDIVISION

4. NAME OF PERSON WITH WHOM TO CONFER  
William J. Fitzpatrick

5. TEL. EXT.  
189-2477

6. CERTIFICATE OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE:

LEAVE BLANK	
DATE RECEIVED MAY 2 1974	JOB NO. NC 174-221
NOTIFICATION TO AGENCY	
In accordance with the provisions of 44 U.S.C. 3303a the disposal request, including amendments, is approved except for items that may be stamped "disposal not approved" or "with-drawn" in column 10.	
5-17-74 James E. O'Neill (Date) Acting Archivist of the United States	

I hereby certify that I am authorized to act for this agency in matters pertaining to the disposal of the agency's records; that the records proposed for disposal in this Request of 1 page(s) are not now needed for the business of this agency or will not be needed after the retention periods specified.

5/11/74  
Date

*William J. Fitzpatrick*  
William J. Fitzpatrick  
(Signature of Agency Representative)

Records Management Officer  
(Title)

7. ITEM NO.	8. DESCRIPTION OF ITEM (With Inclusive Dates or Retention Periods)	9. SAMPLE OR JOB NO.	10. ACTION TAKEN
1.	Records of the <u>U.S. Maritime Commission</u> and the <u>Maritime Administration</u> .  Deck Department Log Books dated from ca. 1940 through December 31, 1947.  Disposition: <u>Destroy immediately</u> .  These log books consist of about <del>7</del> 4000 cubic feet of records that are presently in the New York and San Francisco Federal <u>Archives</u> and Records Centers.	II-NNA-1774 and NN-162-92	

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*1 item*

# OFFICIAL LOG-BOOK

SUPPLIED GRATUITOUSLY BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO AMERICAN  
VESSELS IN THE FOREIGN TRADE AND THE TRADE BETWEEN THE  
ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC PORTS OF THE UNITED STATES

## ACTS OF CONGRESS RELATING TO LOG-BOOKS

(R. S., secs. 4290, 4291, 4292, 4596, 4597, as amended, and Act Mar. 2, 1929—U. S. C., title 46, secs. 201, 202, 203, 701, 702 and 85)

SEC. 4290. Every vessel making voyages from a port in the United States to any foreign port (except ports in the British North American possessions), or, being of the burden of seventy-five tons or upward, from a port on the Atlantic to a port on the Pacific, or *vice versa*, shall have an official log-book; and every master of such vessel shall make, or cause to be made therein, entries of the following matters, that is to say:

*First.* Every legal conviction of any member of his crew, and the punishment inflicted.

*Second.* Every offense committed by any member of his crew for which it is intended to prosecute or to enforce a forfeiture, together with such statement concerning the reading over such entry, and concerning the reply, if any, made to the charge, as is required by the provisions of section forty-five hundred and ninety-seven.

*Third.* Every offense for which punishment is inflicted on board, and the punishment inflicted.

*Fourth.* A statement of the conduct, character, and qualifications of each of his crew; or a statement that he declines to give an opinion of such particulars.

*Fifth.* Every case of illness or injury happening to any member of the crew, with the nature thereof, and the medical treatment.

*Sixth.* Every case of death happening on board, with the cause thereof.

*Seventh.* Every birth happening on board, with the sex of the infant, and the names of the parents.

*Eighth.* Every marriage taking place on board, with the names and ages of the parties.

*Ninth.* The name of every seaman or apprentice who ceases to be a member of the crew otherwise than by death, with the place, time, manner, and cause thereof.

*Tenth.* The wages due to any seaman or apprentice who dies during the voyage, and the gross amount of all deductions to be made therefrom.

*Eleventh.* The sale of the effects of any seaman or apprentice who dies during the voyage, including a statement of each article sold, and the sum received for it.

*Twelfth.* In every case of collision in which it is practicable so to do, the master shall, immediately after the occurrence, cause a statement thereof, and of the circumstances under which the same occurred, to be entered in the official log-book. Such entry shall be made in the manner prescribed in section forty-two hundred and ninety-one, and failure to make such entry shall subject the offender to the penalties prescribed by section forty-two hundred and ninety-two.

SEC. 4291. Every entry hereby required to be made in the official log-book shall be signed by the master and by the mate, or some other one of the crew, and every entry in the official log-book shall be made as soon as possible after the occurrence to which it relates, and, if not made on the same day as the occurrence to which it relates, shall be made and dated so as to show the date of the occurrence, and of the entry respecting it; and in no case shall any entry therein, in respect of any occurrence happening previously to the arrival of the vessel at her final port, be made more than twenty-four hours after such arrival.

SEC. 4292. If in any case the official log-book is not kept in the manner hereby required, or if any entry hereby directed to be made in any such log-book is not made at the time and in the manner hereby directed, the master shall, for each such offense, be liable to a penalty of not more than twenty-five dollars; and every person who makes, or procures to be made, or assists in making, any entry in any official log-book in respect of any occurrence happening previously to the arrival of the vessel at her final port of discharge, more than twenty-four hours after such arrival, shall, for each offense, be liable to a penalty of not more than one hundred and fifty dollars.

SEC. 4596. Whenever any seaman who has been lawfully engaged or any apprentice to the sea service commits any of the following offenses, he shall be punished as follows:

*First.* For desertion, by forfeiture of all or any part of the clothes or effects he leaves on board and of all or any part of the wages or emoluments which he has then earned.

*Second.* For neglecting or refusing without reasonable cause to join his vessel or to proceed to sea in his vessel, or for absence without leave at any time within twenty-four hours of the vessel's sailing from any port, either at the commencement or during the progress of the voyage, or for absence at any time without leave and without sufficient reason from his vessel and from his duty, not amounting to desertion, by forfeiture from his wages of not more than two days' pay or sufficient to defray any expenses which shall have been properly incurred in hiring a substitute.

*Third.* For quitting the vessel without leave, after her arrival at the port of her delivery and before she is placed in security, by forfeiture from his wages of not more than one month's pay.

*Fourth.* For willful disobedience to any lawful command at sea, by being, at the option of the master, placed in irons until such disobedience shall cease, and upon arrival in port by forfeiture from his wages of not more than four days' pay, or, at the discretion of the court, by imprisonment for not more than one month.

*Fifth.* For continued willful disobedience to lawful command or continued willful neglect of duty at sea, by being, at the option of the master, placed in irons, on bread and water, with full rations every fifth day, until

such disobedience shall cease, and upon arrival in port by forfeiture, for every twenty-four hours' continuance of such disobedience or neglect, of a sum of not more than twelve days' pay, or by imprisonment for not more than three months, at the discretion of the court.

*Sixth.* For assaulting any master, mate, pilot, engineer, or staff officer, by imprisonment for not more than two years.

*Seventh.* For willfully damaging the vessel, or embezzling or willfully damaging any of the stores or cargo, by forfeiture out of his wages of a sum equal in amount to the loss thereby sustained, and also, at the discretion of the court, by imprisonment for not more than twelve months.

*Eighth.* For any act of smuggling for which he is convicted and whereby loss or damage is occasioned to the master or owner, he shall be liable to pay such master or owner such a sum as is sufficient to reimburse the master or owner for such loss or damage, and the whole or any part of his wages may be retained in satisfaction or on account of such liability, and he shall be liable to imprisonment for a period of not more than twelve months. (Dec. 21, 1898, sec. 19; Mar. 4, 1915, sec. 7; Aug. 1, 1939, sec. 6.)

SEC. 4597 (amended Dec. 21, 1898, sec. 20). Upon the commission of any of the offenses enumerated in the preceding section an entry thereof shall be made in the official log-book on the day on which the offense was committed, and shall be signed by the master and by the mate or one of the crew; and the offender, if still in the vessel, shall, before her next arrival at any port, or, if she is at the time in port, before her departure therefrom, be furnished with a copy of such entry, and have the same read over distinctly and audibly to him, and may thereupon make such a reply thereto as he thinks fit; and a statement that a copy of the entry has been so furnished, or the same has been so read over, together with his reply, if any, made by the offender, shall likewise be entered and signed in the same manner. In any subsequent legal proceedings the entries hereinbefore required shall, if practicable, be produced or proved, and in default of such production of proof the court hearing the case may, at its discretion, refuse to receive evidence of the offense.

**AN ACT TO ESTABLISH LOAD LINES FOR AMERICAN VESSELS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,  
OF MARCH 2, 1929, AS AMENDED**

SEC. 1. Load lines are hereby established for the following vessels: (a) Merchant vessels of one hundred and fifty gross tons or over, loading at or proceeding to sea from any port or place within the United States or its possessions for a foreign voyage by sea, the Great Lakes excepted. (b) Merchant vessels of the United States of one hundred and fifty gross tons or over, loading at or proceeding to sea from any foreign port or place for a voyage by sea, the Great Lakes excepted. \* \* \*

SEC. 6. It shall be the duty of the master of every vessel subject to this act and to the regulations established thereunder \* \* \* before departing from her loading port or place for a voyage by sea, to enter in the official log-book of such vessel a statement of the position of the load-line mark applicable to the voyage in question and the actual drafts forward and aft at the time of departing from port as nearly as the same can be ascertained.

SEC. 8 (b). If the master of any vessel subject to this act and to the regulations established thereunder, \* \* \* shall fail, before departing from her loading port or place, to enter in the official log-book of such vessel the statement required by section 6, he shall for each offense be liable to the United States in a penalty of \$100. The Secretary of Commerce<sup>1</sup> may, in his discretion, remit or mitigate any penalty imposed under this paragraph.

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA OF 1929, AND THE U. S. COAST GUARD REGULATIONS  
OF THE COMMANDANT, U. S. COAST GUARD, ESTABLISHING LOAD LINES, 46 C. F. R. 46.021**

**Log-book entries.—(a) Applicable to foreign voyages by sea (the Great Lakes excepted).**

The master of any passenger vessel making foreign voyages by sea shall insert at the time of departing from port in the vessel's official log a statement of the position of the subdivision load-line mark, port and starboard, in relation to the surface of the water in which the vessel is then floating,<sup>2</sup> and shall also enter a statement of the actual drafts of the vessel forward and aft as nearly as the same can be ascertained.<sup>3</sup>

There shall be entered in the official log the time that hinged, watertight doors fitted in bulkheads dividing cargo between deck spaces are opened in port and the time these doors are closed before leaving port. (These doors must be closed, secured, and remain so during the voyage.)

There shall be entered in the official log the time of opening and the time of closing in port, portable plates, gangways, cargo ports, coaling ports, and other openings in the vessel's hull below the margin line which are required by the regulations to be kept closed at sea (46 C. F. R. 46.20, 46.28, 46.31). (If it becomes essential for the safety of the ship to open any of these fittings at sea, the circumstances and the time of opening and closing shall be entered in the official log.)

There shall be entered in the official log the time of opening, closing, and securing, at sea, watertight doors fitted between bunkers for the purpose of trimming coal.

There shall be entered in the official log the time of opening, and closing in port those airports below the bulkhead deck that are required to be kept closed while at sea by the regulations.

There shall be entered in the official log a record of the following drills and inspections with an explicit record of any defects which may be disclosed and the steps taken to remedy them:

- (1) Operation of watertight power doors and watertight hinged doors in main transverse bulkheads in use at sea—daily.
- (2) Drills in the operation of watertight doors, airports, valves, and closing mechanisms of scuppers, ash chutes, and rubbish chutes—weekly. (When the voyage exceeds one week, a complete drill shall be held before leaving port.)
- (3) Inspection at sea of all watertight doors together with all mechanisms and indicators connected therewith, all valves the closing of which is necessary to make a compartment watertight—at least once a week.

<sup>1</sup> Under Reorganization Plan No. 3, 1946 (11 F. R. 7876), the functions of the Secretary of Commerce under this act were transferred to the Commandant, United States Coast Guard.

<sup>2</sup> When the draft of the vessel is limited by a seasonal load line located below the subdivision load line the position of the seasonal load line shall be entered in relation to the surface of the water in which the vessel is floating.

<sup>3</sup> When an allowance of draft is made for density of the water in which the vessel is floating, this density is to be noted in the official log.