

FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

26

SECURITY : SECRET

PRIORITY:

AIR POUCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE 461.749/6-251

For Dept. use only.

JUN 11

RECORD ACTION INFO
E
INFO
FR
DGR
EUR
FE
NEA
OLI
S/AE

COMM
ECA

mlr

25055

TO : Department of State

FROM : CAIRO 2866 June 2, 1951

REF : CAIRO 2374 April 3, 1951
000B316

SUBJECT : SHIPMENTS OF STRATEGIC COMMODITIES

1951 JUN 12 AM 9 15

MESSAGE CENTER

Supplementing the Embassy's reference despatch, intransit shipments to the Soviet Union from Egypt for the month of April were as follows:

Direct - 342 metric tons
Indirect - 219 metric tons.

There were no transshipments to China in April.

Efforts of the Embassy and the Consulate General at Alexandria to obtain a breakdown of transshipments by commodities and sources have so far met with no success. It seems that the cargo manifests are returned to general files after cards are prepared for tabulating machines and that the filing system is such that it has been impossible so far to obtain access to the data. Continued efforts will be made to obtain this information. It has been ascertained that the practice of the statistical section of customs in Alexandria is to accumulate various manifests before recording so that the shipments indicated in a given month do not necessarily mean that the shipments actually took place in that month since they may have accumulated manifests over a period of several months before compiling the totals.

The following specific instances of transshipments to iron curtain destinations, involving an American carrier, have been obtained by the Alexandria Consulate General:

1. s/s PRESIDENT JEFFERSON arrived March 16 with 204 tons of pepper and ginger transshipped to Odessa by the s/s PETROVSKY, a Russian ship.
2. s/s PRESIDENT MONROE arrived May 15 from the Far East. In the cargo discharged at Alexandria was a shipment consisting of 242,000 pounds of rubber latex in drums. This was shipped by the Lee Rubber Company of Singapore and the drums carried the markings Jeavons Tinto London. The cargo is now on the wharf awaiting transshipment to Bucharest Rumania by a Rumanian ship which is expected about June 1.

JUN 5 1951

RSWilliams/mg

SECRET

ACTION COPY — DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The action office must return this permanent record copy to DC/R files with an endorsement of action taken.

461.649/6-251

SECRET FILE

HH

FILED

JUN 29 1951

MESSAGE CENTER

OUT 6/15

493.749

x R

SECRET

(Classification)

2 CAIRO 2866 June 2, 1951

3. s/s PRESIDENT ARTHUR. This ship arrived May 27, 1951 from the Far East. The master declared 300 tons of general cargo to be discharged at Alexandria. When requested to supply particulars he named several articles including rubber. Inasmuch as the two previous ships of the American President Lines carried cargo for transshipment to Iron Curtain countries, it is probable that some of the 300 tons of cargo landed here is destined for transshipment.

For the Ambassador:

Randall S. Williams

Randall S. Williams
First Secretary of Embassy
Principal Economic Officer

Copy to:
Alexandria

SECRET

1373

Central File: Decimal File 461.649, International Trade And Commerce. Trade Relations, Treaties, Agreements. Customs Administration., Trade Between Union Of Soviet Socialist Republics And Hungary, Other Administrative Measures Affecting Export Trade. Embargo, Includes Determination Of Ultimate Destination Of Exported Goods. End-Use Checks. Export Licenses. Pre-Licensing Checks. Subsidies. Export Bounties., June 2, 1951. 2 June 1951. MS Commercial and Trade Relations Between Tsarist Russia, the Soviet Union and the U.S., 1910-1963: RG 59, State Department, Central Files, Commercial Relations (411.61 and 461.11), United States-Soviet Union, 1950-1963. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5106464706/GDSC?u=camb55135&sid=bookmark-GDSC&pg=1. Accessed 1 May 2024.