

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOR THE PRESS

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The American Chargé d'Affaires at Berlin, Mr. Alexander C. Kirk has reported to the Department that he today received a memorandum from the German Foreign Office with reference to his informal inquiry in the matter of the American steamer City of Flint and its crew.

The Foreign Office stated that according to information available, the City of Flint was captured by a German warship because of carriage of contraband and that a prize crew placed on board brought the steamer to the harbor of Murmansk because of sea damage ("Havarie"). The Foreign Office stated that no news had reached it that any member of the American crew has suffered injury.

In transmitting the memorandum, an official of the Foreign Office said that efforts were being made to obtain prompt further information. He asserted that the Foreign Office had no details as to "damage" which necessitated the ship's being taken to Murmansk, but said in response to inquiry that the term "havarie" would cover the case of a ship lacking charts with which to navigate the waters through which she had to proceed.

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