



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

October 23, 1941

PERSONAL AND [REDACTED]  
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson  
Secretary to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

With reference to my letter of October 17, 1941, to you, I am transmitting a supplemental memorandum regarding our additional investigation of the Norwegian Steamship Busko and its crew and expeditionary party which were located in the vicinity of Northeast Greenland last month by a United States Coast Guard cutter.

With this memorandum I am transmitting various photographs, all of which I thought would be of interest to the President and you. Our investigation is continuing, and in the event any further information of importance is developed regarding this situation, you may be assured the same will be promptly brought to your attention.

With assurances of my highest esteem and best regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(E)(2)  
Justice Dept. letter, 9-21-72  
By DBS, NLR, Date APR 9 1975

Fig: SS "BUSKO"



October 23, 1941

MEMORANDUM

Re: SS "BUSKO"

The following information, supplemental to that set out in a memorandum of October 17, 1941, is submitted with reference to the investigation of the above-named Norwegian steamship which was located on September 12, 1941, by a United States Coast Guard cutter near Greenland.

As previously stated, the boat, together with the members of the crew and expeditionary party, was escorted to the harbor at Boston, Massachusetts. Hearings by the Immigration and Naturalization Service were completed October 14, 1941. The twenty-one individuals who traveled on the Steamship Busko, previously referred to as "Buskoe", from Norway to Greenland, are all in the custody of the Immigration and Naturalization Service at the Immigration Station at East Boston, Massachusetts. To date these individuals have been denied admission into the United States, due to the fact that they are not in possession of unexpired immigration visas and other proper documents. The SS Busko is being held in the custody of the United States Navy at Boston.

Hallvard Ophus Devold, a photograph of whom appears on Exhibit O attached hereto, the leader of the expedition on which the SS Busko was engaged, has advised that his wife and two minor children, a daughter and a son, reside in Oslo, Norway, as does his father, Harald Devold, who is a retired minister from the State Church of Norway. His four brothers and three sisters also reside in Norway. He advised he has some cousins in the Middle Western portion of the United States, although he does not recall all of their names, remarking that one, however, is Ole Andrew Devold, a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota, who at one time was a State Senator.

Mr. Devold advised he received a bachelor of arts degree in 1920 from the University of Oslo, having majored in political economy and meteorology. Thereafter he was employed by the Norwegian government at various stations throughout Norway as weather manager, proceeding in 1926 to MacKenzie Bay, Northeast Greenland, for the purpose of setting up a weather reporting station with complete meteorological equipment. This was a private project, Devold stating it was financed by himself and some friends, not caring to disclose the identities of these friends.



In 1928 this project received financial assistance from the Norwegian government, and Mr. Devold's brother, Fim Devold, came to Greenland, at which time Hallvard Devold returned to Norway. In July, 1929 there was formed a stock company with a capitalization of approximately \$40,000, known as the As Arktisk Naeringsdrift (Arctic Development Company), Observatory Street, Oslo, Norway. Kristian Frederic Broegger was selected as president, and Sejerstad Boedtker as director and manager of this company.

The Norwegian government loaned this company various sums without interest, the exact amounts being unknown to Devold, and annual expeditions were sent to Greenland. After the first expedition the succeeding ones were more or less in the nature of relief parties, new individuals relieving those stationed at Greenland, so that the latter might return to their homes in Norway.

At the outbreak of the current war, this company had a broadcasting station, however about August, 1940, during the time of the German occupation of Norway, the "Fret of Nansen", a British boat, destroyed this Norwegian broadcasting station. Devold advised he was the leader of one of these Greenland expeditions about 1932, also remarking that he owned some shares of stock in this company. Thereafter he was engaged in various expeditionary parties, did some work at a weather station at Spitsbergen, and then worked in a textile mill owned by his cousins in Norway.

On February 5, 1939, Devold was ordered into the Norwegian military service at the time of the trouble between Finland and Russia, being assigned to the telephone service in the Field Mountain Artillery Division, due to a special radio training course he had previously had at Oslo in 1922. He continued in the army after the current war broke out, and up until about June 9, 1940, when the service was demobilized. Thereafter he published a book about September, 1940, entitled "Polar Life", through the Gendendal Publishing House of Norway, which according to Devold has no German interests. He remarked that the manager of this publishing house had been put in jail by the Germans, since the Norwegian theaters in which the manager had a large interest went on strike at the time war broke out.

Subsequent to the publication of his book, and about the first of September, 1940, according to Devold, the Norwegian government established the Norges Svalbard Og Ishavs Undersokelser (Norwegian Spitsbergen and Arctic Sea Exploration Bureau). This division

is also known as the Svalbard Kontor, and the same is a bureau in the Norwegian Department of Commerce. The headquarters of this bureau are in Oslo, Norway.

Adolf Hoel was appointed the Director of that organization due to his number of years of experience in that area. There were twelve men in the office at Oslo, Devold stating that there were no Germans in that bureau. He advised the purposes of the bureau were to have available information about the Arctic region, principally for the Norwegian government, although Devold admitted the bureau would unquestionably have to furnish information to the German government if such information were desired. Hoel is also a professor at the University of Oslo.

During the past winter there was appointed by the Norwegian government a committee, independent of the above-named bureau, to handle the interests of the Norwegian government in the Arctic region. This committee was composed of Professor Adolf Hoel, above named, Professor Karl Marstrander, a linguist, and Dr. Gustav Smedal. Devold admitted that one function of this committee was to furnish the German authorities with information as to conditions in the Arctic.

Devold stated he had been employed by the above-named bureau of which Hoel was the Director. Thereafter, some time during April or May, 1941, the above-mentioned committee requested Devold to prepare figures relative to the cost of sending an expedition of twenty men and equipment into East Greenland, these figures to be based upon a scale previously set up by the Norwegian government, with the amount of provisions necessary for a period of two years, even though the expedition would only remain out for a year. He indicated there was some Norwegian law which provided that these parties must be equipped for a two year period. The proposed expedition called for the placing of two men to a station in huts in Greenland.

Devold advised that the activities of the above-named company or Bureau and this committee of three were so interwoven that it was difficult to differentiate between the activities of the two groups, it being noted that the three committee members were also affiliated with the bureau. He explained that according to a Danish-Norwegian agreement, individuals cannot personally own land in East Greenland, and any hunting in that area must be through the company in question, whose operations are in East Greenland between 72 and 76½ degrees latitude.



Over a period of years the company has set up fifteen stations which are considered the main points from which the expeditionary parties work, and in addition thereto between 150 and 160 huts have been established throughout this area in Greenland for utilization by the individuals on the expeditionary parties should they find themselves considerably removed from their hunting station. Devold stated the company considered it extremely important to keep men at these stations throughout the war, so that their activities and occupations would continue after the cessation of hostilities; in other words, the company would be in a position to establish a continuous operation in this area over a period of years in opposition to the claims of the Danish or other expeditions.

Devold was questioned in detail regarding the nationalistic tendencies of the members of the above-named committee. He said it had been rumored in Oslo, possibly with some basis in fact, that Hoel is sympathetic to the Nazi regime, since prior to the German occupation of Norway Hoel was sympathetic toward the Nasjonal Samling (Norwegian National Socialist Party), members of which are referred to as "Quislings". Devold stated that to the best of his knowledge, when the Quisling movement started in 1933, Hoel was a member of the Norwegian National Socialist Party, but subsequently there was a split in the party and Devold believes Hoel severed his relationship with the party as a member.

Furthermore, Devold indicated the German authorities at Oslo had considered, at least passively, that Professor Marstrander was their representative on this committee. Devold stated, however, that it was his personal opinion Marstrander is not sympathetic to the Nazi regime, and Devold claims Marstrander has in no way aided the Nazi regime through his activities on this particular committee.

Devold insisted that he personally is not a member of the committee, but was merely employed as secretary of the above-named bureau, and in that capacity was requested by the committee to submit information on a proposed expedition, which information he did submit about April or May, 1941. Devold stated the report on the proposed expedition not only covered the necessary supplies and equipment for twenty men, but also carried the proposal to set up two radio broadcasting stations in East Greenland, one at MacKenzie Bay and the other at Peter's Bay.

The committee submitted the proposed expedition report to the German authorities at Oslo, and Devold understands it was thereupon forwarded to Berlin. In July, 1941, a German officer, whose name Devold claims he does not know, advised the committee that since it would be necessary to utilize two or three ships in such an expedition, the German authorities had decided against such expedition. Professor Hoel thereupon pointed out that the company would have to send at least one ship to Greenland, since at the time the company had seven men in Greenland who would have to receive supplies, explaining that these supplies were sent annually, on which occasions ordinarily a sufficient number of men was sent to replace those in Greenland who desired to return to Norway.

This German officer then questioned Professor Hoel as to whether or not the proposed expedition was for relief purposes, and upon receiving an affirmative reply it was later indicated by the Germans that it would be permissible to send an expedition of not more than ten men.

The committee then called upon the Norwegian Department of Commerce for finances, and subsequently received word that money was available. Devold believed the sum made available was 140,000 kroner, remarking it was his opinion the expedition would cost at least 100,000 kroner, 85,000 already having been expended. He said the men who were to go on this expedition would be representatives of the Svalbard Kontor, the company in question.

About August 2 or 3, 1941, Professor Hoel exhibited to Devold a letter from the Norwegian Department of Commerce, authorizing the expedition. Due to the limited period of time available before ice would set in in the area to be covered by the expeditionary party, Devold states it was necessary to prepare the expedition with the greatest haste. He hired the Steamship Busko from Elling Aarseth and Company of Aalesund, Norway. Arrangements were then made by Devold for the supplies and equipment to be furnished, it being necessary to have the German government arrange for the ten rifles, six shotguns, ten thousand rifle cartridges and three thousand shotgun cartridges to be shipped by the Borsemakerschau Company, Oslo, Norway to Aalesund, Norway, for delivery to the Steamship Busko.

Upon being advised that the expedition had been authorized, Devold notified Gerhard Antonzen, an old trapper who had formerly worked



for the company, that he, Antonsen, could have four men join this expeditionary party. Having received an inquiry from Anders Godager, a trapper, regarding employment on the expedition, Devold notified him he could have two men in the party. He also notified Gunnar Knopf, an old trapper who had formerly worked for the company, that he could have four men join the expeditionary party.

Devold remarked that when the Germans authorized this expedition they had deleted that portion of the plans dealing with the radio stations, and accordingly the supplies were secured without including any radio equipment.

On August 13, 1941, Devold proceeded to Aalesund and there met Captain Hessen and the crew of the Steamship Busko, and Devold thereupon took charge of the expedition. It took until August 19 to load the supplies upon the boat.

Per Kramer, who was in Aalesund, indicated his desire to join the expedition, and Devold informed him that although the quota was full, Kramer could start out with the boat to replace any members who might drop out, apparently prior to the departure of the boat from Norway. It is noted that Gunnar Knopf did not leave with the SS Busko due to the illness of his wife.

After leaving Aalesund in order to pick up further supplies and members of the expeditionary party at points in Norway, according to Devold's records Mr. and Mrs. Anders Godager were picked up on August 21 at Namsos; Antonsen, Sasterdal, Sverdsten and Bjerkli were picked up August 22 at Sanneskjoen; Johan Jacobsen, Bjarne Jacobsen and Sigurd Jakobsen were picked up August 29 at Laukvik, as was Bradley.

With reference to the negotiations to place Jacob Rytter Bradley, the German agent and radio man, aboard the SS Busko, and the subsequent sailing of the boat, these situations are covered in the prior memorandum of October 17, 1941.

Devold did remark, however, that the Norwegian government presently had weather reporting stations in Tromso, Bergen and Oslo, all in Norway, which three stations are presently sending and receiving information about the weather, and which stations are under the control of the German government.



Devold commented, with reference to the possibility of Bradley or other members of the expeditionary party securing photographs of Greenland and other information regarding the topography of the country, to be ultimately supplied to the German government, that this was rather a ridiculous presumption, since the German government apparently already had this information, inasmuch as during 1932 this entire area in Greenland had been mapped by Danish and Norwegian expeditions, and all these pictures were taken by a German technician. Devold stated that while that expedition in 1932 had been under the leadership of Professor Hoel, the information had been sent to Berlin so that one Max Bundermann could examine the pictures, charts and maps in preparing an appropriate report.

A similar expedition in 1932, carried out by the Danish government under the direction of Professor Koch, also was in collaboration with German technicians.

Devold remarked that during 1931 or 1932 one Dr. Alfred Weggner, equipped with dogs and motor sleds, conducted an exhaustive survey of the ice cap thicknesses of this Greenland area; furthermore, Devold understands that a Professor Lockman of Berlin and Professor Koch, above named, collaborated on this matter at the Institute of Berlin.

Devold explained that the only reason he personally made the trip was due to his acquaintance with the exact location of the Norwegian stations in Greenland, which knowledge would make it possible to expedite the trip before the ice set in. To a query as to whether he realized the importance of this station in East Greenland from a military standpoint, Devold remarked that he did not realize the importance, since the British had already destroyed one station, however he, Devold, was left no alternative and he knows the German officers felt reasonably certain Devold would return to Norway, due to his wife and family there. Devold stated that none of the men at the various stations in East Greenland were expected to communicate with each other, remarking that ordinarily considerable bad weather is encountered and the men have numerous chores, and consequently they would not communicate with each other.

By reference to the prior memorandum of October 17, it will be recalled that a German Gestapo agent named Kranse brought Bradley aboard the Steamship Busko at Laukvik on August 28, and it was necessary

for the steamship to be cleared by various German naval officers at the points the ship touched in Norway in securing supplies and individuals who were to make the trip.

Among the papers of Devold which were found aboard the Steamship Busko during the investigation, was a copy of an undated telegram reading as follows:

"SVALBARD

IF OF INTEREST TELL KRAUSE THAT THE INSPECTORS GO  
ON BOARD AT NANSOS, SANDESKJOEN AND LAUKVIK.

DEVOLD"



Jacob Rytter Bradley, a photograph of whom is attached hereto upon Exhibit L, is an unmarried individual whose father resides at Bergen, Norway, as do Jacob Bradley's two sisters. He has one brother who has been at Dresden, Germany, for the past year and one-half as agent of his father for the Sanke Company. He has another brother who is in the Finnish Army, having voluntarily joined the service of Finland in 1938. With further reference to the uncle of Bradley, mentioned in the prior memorandum of October 17, 1941, Bradley stated that this uncle, Ingolf Hysing Olsen, age 55, was sent to London by the Norwegian Shipowners Union at the time the war between Germany and Great Britain started. Mr. Olsen occupies the same position in England in this war that he held during the previous World War.

With reference to any possible military experience, Bradley said that he has not served in any military organization, he has had no military training and he does not hold any commission in any reserve military organization. Bradley advised that although he had traveled extensively throughout the world as a seaman, subsequent to his graduation from a navigation school in Bergen, Norway in 1936, he had never previously been on an expedition. He advised that he had been in the United States fifteen or twenty times, the longest period of time spent in the United States having been during 1936 when he was confined in a marine hospital in Newport News, Virginia, with a social disease. Bradley stated during his visits to the United States while employed on various vessels, he had been at Seattle and Tacoma, Washington, San Pedro and San Francisco, California, Galveston, Texas, Norfolk and Newport News, Virginia, Baltimore, Maryland and New York City. He denied that he had been in communication with anyone in the United States during the past five years.

Regarding his discussions with Zeibolt, the German agent in Oslo, Norway, prior to the voyage on the S. S. Busko, Bradley advised that Zeibolt told him that he, Zeibolt, had talked with the heads of the expeditionary party and the latter had decided to continue the expeditions throughout the duration of the war. Bradley suggested to Zeibolt that Bradley be permitted to talk with the members of that company. However, Zeibolt informed him that it was not good for too many people to know about Bradley's trip on this ship since if it became public, the vessel might not arrive at its destination. Zeibolt remarked that if too many people discussed the possibility of a radio station being placed in Greenland, Great Britain would receive this information and destroy the station.

Bradley advised he was instructed to broadcast his information from Greenland at four different frequencies, four times a day; that is, at 5 AM, 8 AM, 12 Noon and 5 PM. Zeibolt advised Bradley that about eight to ten days after Bradley's arrival in Greenland, the Germans would start to listen for broadcasts from Bradley and Bradley was expected to start sending information about September 12, 1941. Bradley said that there were two masts about forty-five to fifty feet high, some seventy-five feet apart, at a point approximately sixty to seventy feet above sea level at Peter's Bay, Greenland. However, there was only a partial antenna leading to one of the masts which Bradley found he could use upon his arrival there. He said he started the generator operating about September 13, 1941, but due to the fact there was open water nearby, he decided it would be best to wait until the ice had closed in before broadcasting, being furthermore prompted to make this decision by reason of planes, undoubtedly patrol planes, which he could hear in the distance. He stated that no messages were ever sent by him from this radio station in Greenland.

Bradley advised that at the time the representatives of the United States Government located him in Greenland he had not attempted to destroy the secret codes or equipment since he realized his presence in Greenland with the radio equipment would cause him considerable trouble, and he felt that by not destroying this material he would not increase his apparent difficulties.

A photograph of Captain Elias Ragnavald Nilsen Hessen, the master of the Steamship Buske, who was referred to in the previous memorandum as Elias Hessen, is attached hereto on Exhibit O. Captain Hessen, who is unmarried, has a sister residing in Norway and a brother, Nils Hessen, with five children living in Two Harbors, Minnesota. Captain Hessen's parents are deceased. He has an uncle, Peter Cristoferson, a carpenter by trade, who resides in Seattle, Washington, although Captain Hessen claims he does not know his address not having communicated with either his uncle or brother in the United States for several years.

Captain Hessen informed he was employed by the present expedition about August 1, 1941, having begun his operations about August 11, 1941. Through the company he secured the crew for the S. S. Busko. The captain advised that Devold, representative of the organization handling the expedition, had informed that authorization had been received from the German Government to make this voyage,



Hessen remarking that there was no agreement that any radio equipment should be taken aboard the ship, and the ship's radio, a ship-to-shore telephone apparatus, was never in operation while Hessen was in command of the ship. Captain Hessen said that the trip was uneventful until they arrived at Laukvik, Norway, August 28, 1941, at which time Mr. Devold informed the Captain another individual was to join the expedition. Shortly thereafter a German Gestapo Agent named Krause boarded the ship from a small motor boat and advised that the radio equipment and operator were slightly delayed but would arrive that night. Captain Hessen claims this is the first knowledge he had that a radio transmitter was to be taken on this expedition and he, Hessen, was very much opposed to transporting this equipment, particularly as it was apparent that the radio operator was to be a representative of the German Gestapo. Furthermore, Captain Hessen was fearful of the action which might be taken should he be approached by a British or American patrol boat, and Hessen so informed Krause and Devold. However, Krause informed Captain Hessen that this equipment and operator were to join the expedition, leaving no alternative than for the Captain to go forward with this voyage taking the operator and equipment. Captain Hessen stated that he, together with Krause, Devold and members of the crew participated in a farewell party at the home of Peter Knopf at Laukvik, Norway. Peter Knopf is the brother of Gunnar Knopf who was unable to accompany the expedition by reason of the illness of his wife, as mentioned hereinbefore. Sometime during the night, the radio equipment was delivered aboard the Steamship Busko and later that morning Bradley, accompanied by a German Gestapo Agent, boarded the boat. Shortly before daybreak, after the two Gestapo Agents had disembarked, Captain Hessen started his ship, the Steamship Busko, on the voyage to Greenland.

Enroute to Greenland, Captain Hessen claims he and his chief mate, Magnar Frihagen, considered turning about and returning to Aalesund with the ship and entire equipment. However, being fearful of what might happen to themselves, the members of the crew and their families at the hands of the German authorities, it was decided to proceed with the voyage. The resentment of members of the crew and expeditionary party at taking Bradley and the radio equipment has been corroborated through the interviews with the other individuals who were aboard this vessel; likewise, these other individuals have corroborated his statement regarding their fear of reprisal by the German authorities should they refuse to proceed with the voyage or

endeavor to destroy the equipment, some of the individuals remarking that there was some discussion about throwing the radio equipment overboard.

Captain Hessen advised he had been employed just for this one trip on the S. S. Busko to Greenland and return to Norway. He indicated that he desired to remain in the United States, at least until after the war in Europe had ended.

Magnar Frihagen, first mate of the Steamship Busko, advised he is unmarried, his parents, three sisters and brother residing in Norway. He said he has been following the sea for a livelihood during the past ten years, being employed during this entire time by the Norwegian Company which owned the Steamship Busko. He said he had spent most of his time on coastal vessels in Scandinavian countries. However, for the ten months prior to the sailing of the Busko, he had attended the Aalesund Officers and Mates Navigation School in Norway, as a result of which he was made first mate on this voyage. Frihagen likewise denied, when he signed on the Busko on August 15th or 16th, 1941, that there was to be any radio transmission equipment taken aboard, in fact, that there was to be anything other than the expeditionary members and their usual provisions.

Gerhard Elinas Berg Antonsen, a trapper, previously referred to as Gerhard Antonsen, a photograph of whom is attached hereto on Exhibit N, advised that for the past fifteen years, with the exception of a couple of years he spent in Norway, he had been engaged as a trapper in Greenland, having returned to Norway about two years ago. During the past two years, while working on a railroad in Norway, Antonsen has attempted, through Professor Adolf Hoel, to organize a trapping and hunting expedition to Greenland, although his efforts have been unsuccessful. Antonsen stated he had met Devold in Greenland in 1932 and knew him as an Arctic explorer and trapper. Antonsen had no further contact with Devold until several weeks prior to the time this expedition left Norway for Greenland in August, 1941, when Antonsen received a letter from Devold informing him of the expedition which was being assembled to proceed to Greenland. In that letter Devold requested Antonsen to secure the services of three trappers in order to complete the number of trappers necessary for the expedition, and Antonsen did arrange for three trappers known to him, Bjerkli, Sasterdal and Sverdsten, to go as members of this expeditionary party. Antonsen explained that Norske Arktiske Naeringsdrift (Arctic Development Company) which was to outfit this expedition, could best be



described as a company which furnished the food and supplies for the expedition on a share basis, the trappers being paid a salary which was assigned to their families in Norway, in addition to which they were supplied food and materials while in Greenland. Furthermore, the trappers were to receive in addition thereto, fifty per cent of the value of the catch when they returned to Norway. Antonsen's salary was to be 150 kroner per month.

Antonsen stated that he thereafter proceeded on this voyage on the Steamship Busko, disembarking at Revet, Greenland, with his equipment and provisions where he was to maintain his headquarters with Henry Rudi, who had been trapping at that point for some time.

Antonsen stated that he is unmarried, that his father and two brothers reside in Norway, and his sister Hanna Antonsen, who may now be married, resides somewhere in Washington, D. C., her address or possible married name being unknown to him.

Bjarne Ivar Jacobsen, a photograph of whom is attached hereto on Exhibit O, will be recalled as one of the trappers, who together with his cousin Jehan Jacobsen, disembarked from the S. S. Busko with Jacob Bradley at Peter's Bay, Greenland. Bjarne Jacobsen, is unmarried, and has a father, two brothers and five sisters in Norway. He stated he has no relatives in the United States. He remarked that while following his trade as a seaman, he had visited the United States eight or ten times, lastly over seven years ago. He said he had been to Baltimore, Philadelphia, Brooklyn and New York City on these various occasions. He stated that he has never had any military service and that he is not a member of any military reserve organization. Bjarne Jacobsen said that after their arrival at Peter's Bay, they first had to make some repairs on the house there to make it livable, after which Bradley diligently worked on the radio equipment, having stated to Jacobsen that he had been instructed to send a message by September 15, 1941. Jacobsen remarked that they had encountered some difficulty in getting the generator to function and accordingly, to his knowledge, no messages had been dispatched from this station at Peter's Bay up until the time they were taken into custody by United States Government representatives. Jacobsen remarked that Bradley made no attempt to conceal this radio equipment, either from the United States Government representatives or from other trappers who had visited at their cabin at Peter's Bay. Jacobsen remarked that the three of them into custody, destroyed the masts, burned the coal and took the equipment and papers.

Johan Anton Jacobsen's photograph is attached hereto on Exhibit M. He advised he is unmarried, his mother and three sisters residing in Norway, his father being deceased. He said he has no relatives living in the United States. He said he was in the Norwegian Army during the current war about four months, having been captured by the Germans and held on the Hills four or five days, after which he was permitted to return to his home. He advised that he would like to be of service to the Norwegian forces in Canada. He also remarked that while he was not personally in favor of this radio activity of Bradley, he had gone along being fearful that Bradley, a Gestapo Agent, might cause trouble for him if he did not. He stated Bradley informed him that the only purpose of the radio transmitter was to furnish weather reports to the stations in Norway. He corroborated his cousin's statement that Bradley had claimed he was expected to send his first message over this radio transmitter some time between the 15th and 20th of September.

Petrus Bernhard Ekrem, chief engineer, photograph of whom appears on Exhibit N, attached hereto, is married, his wife and two minor children residing in Norway. He has a brother, Ole Ekrem, who resides at Seattle, Washington, although he has not seen or heard from him during the past six or seven years. Ekrem states he has never previously been in the United States. For about two months in 1920 he was in the Norwegian Army. However, he now has no reserve commission or other connection with the Norwegian Army. Ekrem corroborated the statement of Captain Hessen that although the Captain and the crew did not desire to transport Bradley and his radio equipment to Greenland, it was done to protect their own personal safety and that of their families, since the German Gestapo Agent Krause inferred that unless these orders were carried out, it might prove very detrimental to them or members of their families.

Bernhard Sunde, fireman, a photograph of whom appears on Exhibit M, attached hereto, advised that his father Bernard Bjorken Sunde and brother Johan Nickoli Sunde, came to the United States together in April, 1940, aboard the Norwegian ship "Arctus", entering at the port of New York. His brother, Johan, is now living with an uncle, Herman Vinge, at an unknown address in New York City. Sunde's father was last heard from on a Norwegian ship which has since been reported sunk. Sunde stated he is unmarried, that he has a mother, one brother and four sisters residing in Norway, and in addition to the



above-named, his uncle Captain Olaf Vinge also resides at an unknown address in New York City. Sunde stated that during July, 1941, he had been aboard the two thousand ton Norwegian Steamship "Lysaker" which put in at Stettin, a coastal town in Germany, with a cargo of fish. The ship was in port five weeks under Nazi supervision and finally the fish was unloaded and the ship took on about five hundred tons of sugar assigned to Stavanger, Norway. However, this sugar was subsequently taken away from Norway by the Germans and reshipped to Norway to make it appear to the Norwegians that the Germans were furnishing them this sugar. He said, in a similar manner, the Germans remove all the good flour from Norway and in return therefor give the Norwegians flour so poor that they can hardly eat it. Sunde also said the Germans take the meat from Norway, leaving no meat whatsoever for the Norwegians, which practice has been pursued ever since the invasion of Norway by Germany.

Sunde stated that although he started on the voyage on the S. S. Busko thinking it was a hunting and fishing expedition, nevertheless, after he saw the radio equipment being placed on the boat, he decided to stay with the boat in the hope that the British or American Navy would stop the Steamship Busko and arrest them. He said that he felt such an arrest would afford him an opportunity of fulfilling his desire to join the American or British Navy.

Regarding any prior military record, Sunde stated that during April, 1940, he was called into the Norwegian Army for six months' compulsory training. However, after serving but one month the Germans invaded Norway and he was discharged. He now holds no commission or reserve in any Norwegian military organization.

Anders Godager and his wife, Astrid Godager, whose photographs appear on Exhibits N and M, respectively, attached hereto, advised that they had been going together for some seven years but had not felt it desirable to be married due to their financial condition. However, when they perfected arrangements to go on this expedition on the S. S. Busko, they were married at Hama, Norway, August 18, 1941. Mr. Godager's parents, brother and two sisters reside in Norway, as do his wife's father, brother and three sisters. Mr. Godager has an uncle, Bergen Smestad, who is engaged somewhere in the middle western part of the United States in the real estate business, and he has an aunt, Anna Langdel, who resides somewhere in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Godager has two children by a former marriage, presently

living in Norway. Mrs. Astrid Godager advised she has a cousin named Johnson living somewhere in the United States although she has never communicated with him and does not know his exact location. Mr. Godager remarked that there were no arrangements for him or any other members of the expeditionary party to communicate or corroborate with Bradley in Greenland. There was no idea expressed of having Bradley's radio transmitting station to act as a headquarters for the dissemination of any information which the various trappers might secure in Greenland.

Haakon Johansen, a seaman, unmarried, has both of his parents, as well as his two brothers and sister, residing in Norway. He explained his main reason in making this voyage aboard the S. S. Busko was so that he might be overtaken by a British or American vessel since he had no intention of returning to Norway if he could avoid doing so.

Magne Kristensen, steward on the vessel, is unmarried, his mother and brother residing in Norway. He likewise stated his purpose in going on this voyage was to leave Norway, possibly to be captured by a British or American vessel so that he would not be forced into a German work army being formed in Norway through drafting young men and sending them either to Germany or Russia to work.

Matias Bergset, a seaman, unmarried, whose parents and two brothers reside in Norway, remarked that he has two uncles and an aunt residing at unknown addresses in the United States. He said that at the time the current war broke out he was on an expedition on the sea and upon his return to Norway he was employed as a guard in the Norwegian Army, having guarded German prisoners at Tromsø, Norway, for three weeks until Norway was taken by the Germans. Then he returned to his father's farm.

Peter Sætre, seaman, is single, his parents and four sisters residing in Norway. He advised that upon the German invasion of Norway he was in the Norwegian Army as a volunteer for some eight or nine days helping to resist the German invasion. Prior thereto he had spent about three months in the Norwegian Army in 1937 taking compulsory military training. He now has no connection with the Norwegian Army or any other military organization.



Lars Soren Petres Pettersen Brandal, assistant engineer, has a wife, four children, a brother, sister, father and step-mother living in Norway. He has an uncle, Soren Vestre, who at the last time he heard from him, some twenty years ago, was residing in Seattle, Washington as a fisherman. Brandal stated he completed six months' compulsory military training in the Norwegian Marines in 1925, that he has had no subsequent military experience. He said that when the Germans invaded Norway he volunteered his services to the Norwegian Government in order to help resist the invasion. However, he was not accepted since his Government did not have equipment for a volunteer army.

Johan Kristian Bang Bjerkli, a trapper, is single with a mother, four brothers and two sisters residing in Norway. He stated he has an aunt named Olsen who lives somewhere in Minneapolis, Minnesota, although they have never communicated with each other. He was in the Norwegian Army for sixty-two days prior to the German occupation, at which time he was demobilized and permitted to return to his home. He said he would prefer to remain in the United States or some other place than Norway until the expiration of the war.

Sigurd Jakobsen, a trapper, is single, his parents residing in Norway.

Per Kramer, a trapper, is single, his mother residing in Norway and his brother John Kramer, residing at 1906 Steiner Street, San Francisco, California. He said that his family for a number of years had operated a coffee shop in Tromso, Norway, catering principally to British sailors, as a result of which all members of his family spoke English. When Germany invaded Norway, the German soldiers believed Kramer's family were acting as British spies, as a result of which Kramer's house was taken over by the German Army. Kramer had an argument with the German officer, after which the German Gestapo sought his apprehension. Kramer, therefore, endeavored to leave Norway but was unsuccessful until he joined the expeditionary party on the S. S. Busko. He claimed that while enroute from Norway to Greenland he endeavored to organize a mutiny on board the Steamship Busko among the trappers and crew in order to take over the vessel and bring it in to Reykjavik, Iceland. However, he was unable to gain sufficient support for this movement and he, therefore, abandoned the idea. Kramer said it is his intention to return to England as soon as possible and join the British Navy so that when Norway is regained from Germany, he may return to Tromso.

Fredrik Sasterdal, a trapper, is single, his parents, three brothers and two sisters residing in Norway.

Harald Sverdsten, a trapper, is single, his mother, three brothers and sister all residing in Norway. He also said he had joined the expeditionary party so that he could leave Norway, since he expected to be forced into the German work array of young men which would be sent to the European continent.

The Norwegian Legation began interviewing the various members of the crew and expeditionary party of the Steamship Busko at Boston, Massachusetts, on October 20, 1941, and at the date of this memorandum such interviews are still in progress.

There are being attached hereto as exhibits, a number of photographs of the radio equipment aboard the Steamship Busko, together with members of the crew and expeditionary party, and a photograph of the vessel.



TABLE OF EXHIBITS

- Exhibit A - SS Buskoe
- Exhibit B - Group photograph showing Lorenz radio transmitter, Societe Belge Radio Electrique receiver and accessories, motor generator and panel board, together with FBI Special Agent
- Exhibit C - Lorenz radio transmitter case and accessories, meteorological instruments and books, with FBI Special Agent
- Exhibit D - Lorenz radio transmitter, front view
- Exhibit E - Lorenz radio transmitter disassembled, front view
- Exhibit F - Lorenz radio transmitter disassembled, rear view
- Exhibit G - Lorenz radio transmitter, bottom view, showing wiring
- Exhibit H - Societe Belge Radio Electrique receiving set with power unit, tubes, antenna and ground wire, front view
- Exhibit I - Motor generator set, top view
- Exhibit J - Power control panel of motor generator set
- Exhibit K - Minerva receiving set with antenna
- Exhibit L - Jacob Rytter Bradley, radio man  
Per Kramer, trapper  
Haakon Jehansen, seaman  
Magne Askervik Kristensen, steward
- Exhibit M - Fredrik Sasterdal, trapper  
Astrid Godager, trapper  
Johan Jacobsen, trapper  
Bernhard Sunde, fireman
- Exhibit N - Anders Godager, trapper  
Harald Sverdsten, trapper  
Gerhard Antonsen, trapper  
Petrus Ekrem, chief engineer

Exhibit O - Hallvard Ophaus Devold, Expeditionary leader  
Peter Sæter, seaman  
Elias Hessen, Master  
Ejarns Ivar Jacobsen, trapper

Exhibit P - Johan Kristian Bang Bjerkli, trapper  
Matias Berget, seaman

Photographs not available of Lars Soren Petres Pettersen Brandal,  
assistant engineer; Sigurd Jakobsen, trapper; and Magnar Frihagen, mate.





Exhibit A - SS Buskoe



Exhibit B - Group photograph showing Lorenz radio transmitter, Societe Belge Radio Électrique receiver and accessories, motor generator and panel board, together with FBI Special Agent





Exhibit C - Lorenz radio transmitter case and accessories, meteorological instruments and books, with FBI Special Agent





Fredrik Sasterdal,  
Trapper



Astrid Godager,  
Trapper



Johan Jacobsen,  
Trapper



Bernhard Sunde,  
Fireman



Anders Godager,  
Trapper



Harald Sverdsten,  
Trapper



Gerhard Antonsen,  
Trapper



Petrus Ekren,  
Chief Engineer

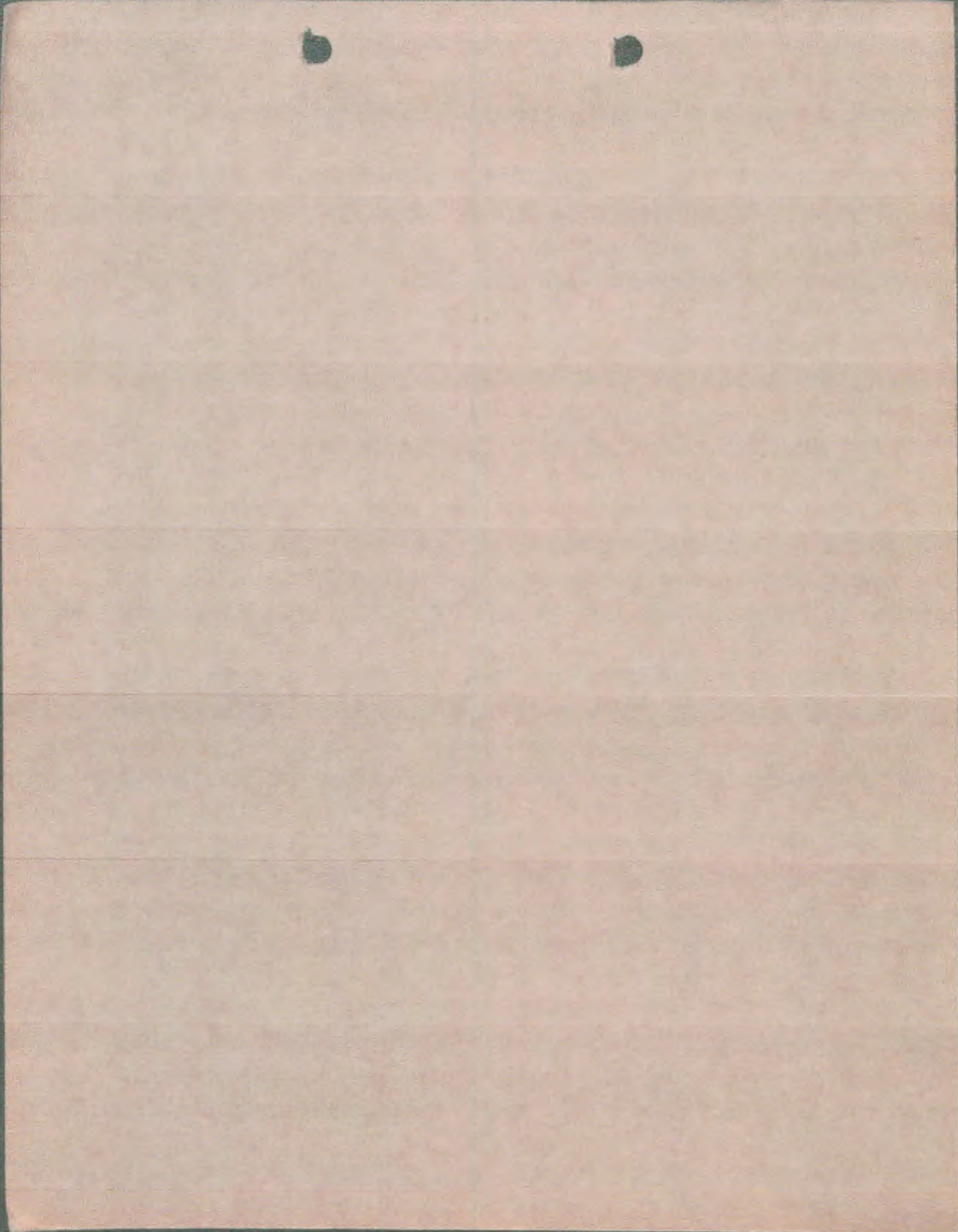


Johan Kristian Bang Bjerkli,  
Trapper



Matias Berget,  
Seaman







Hallvard Ophus Devold,  
Expeditionary leader



Peter Saster,  
Seaman



Elias Hessen,  
Master



Bjarns Ivar Jacobsen,  
Trapper



Jacob Rytter Bradley,  
Radio man



Per Kramer,  
Trapper



Haakon Johansen,  
Seaman



Magne Aakervik Kristensen,  
Steward



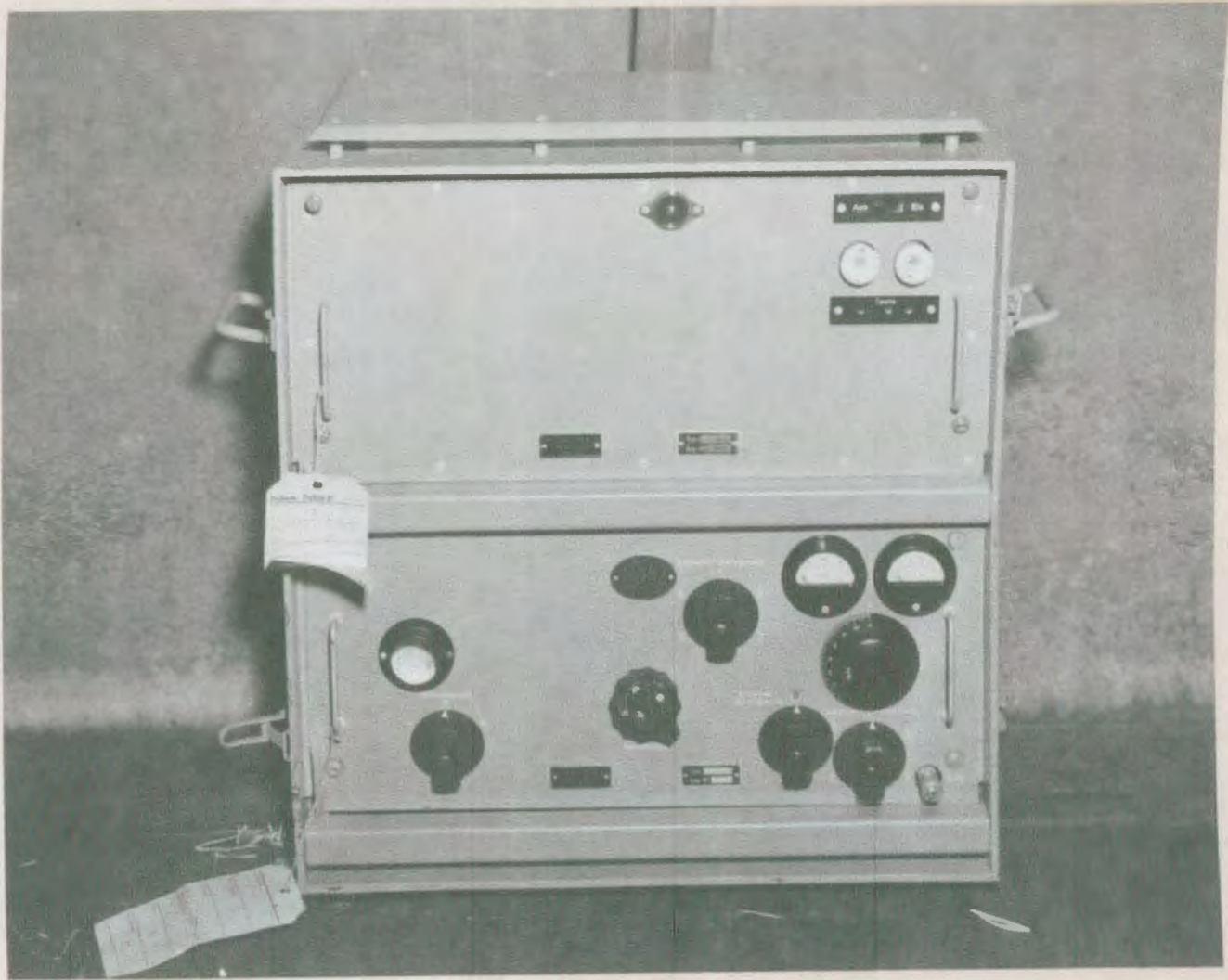


Exhibit D - Lorenz radio transmitter, front view

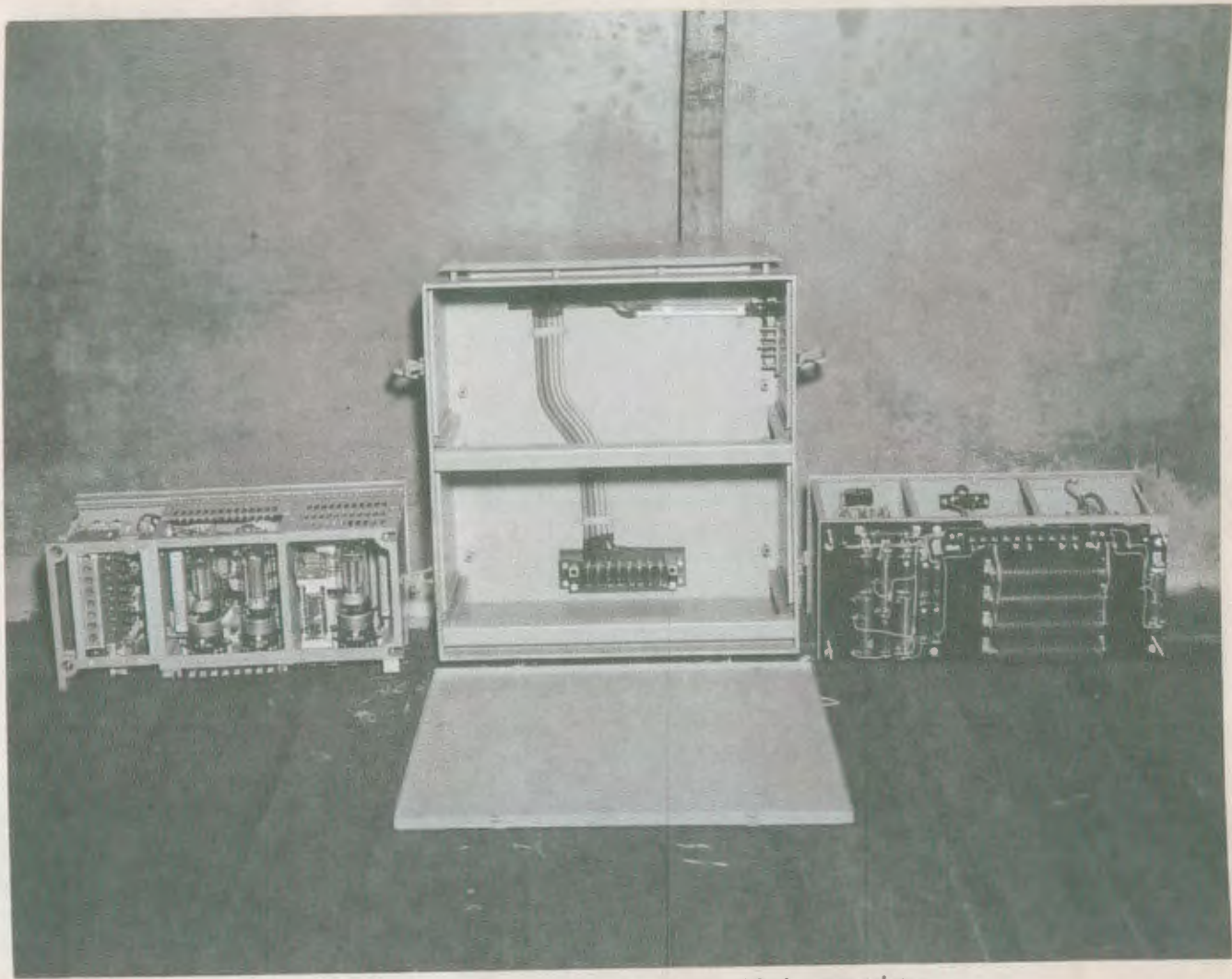


Exhibit F - Lorenz radio transmitter disassembled, rear view

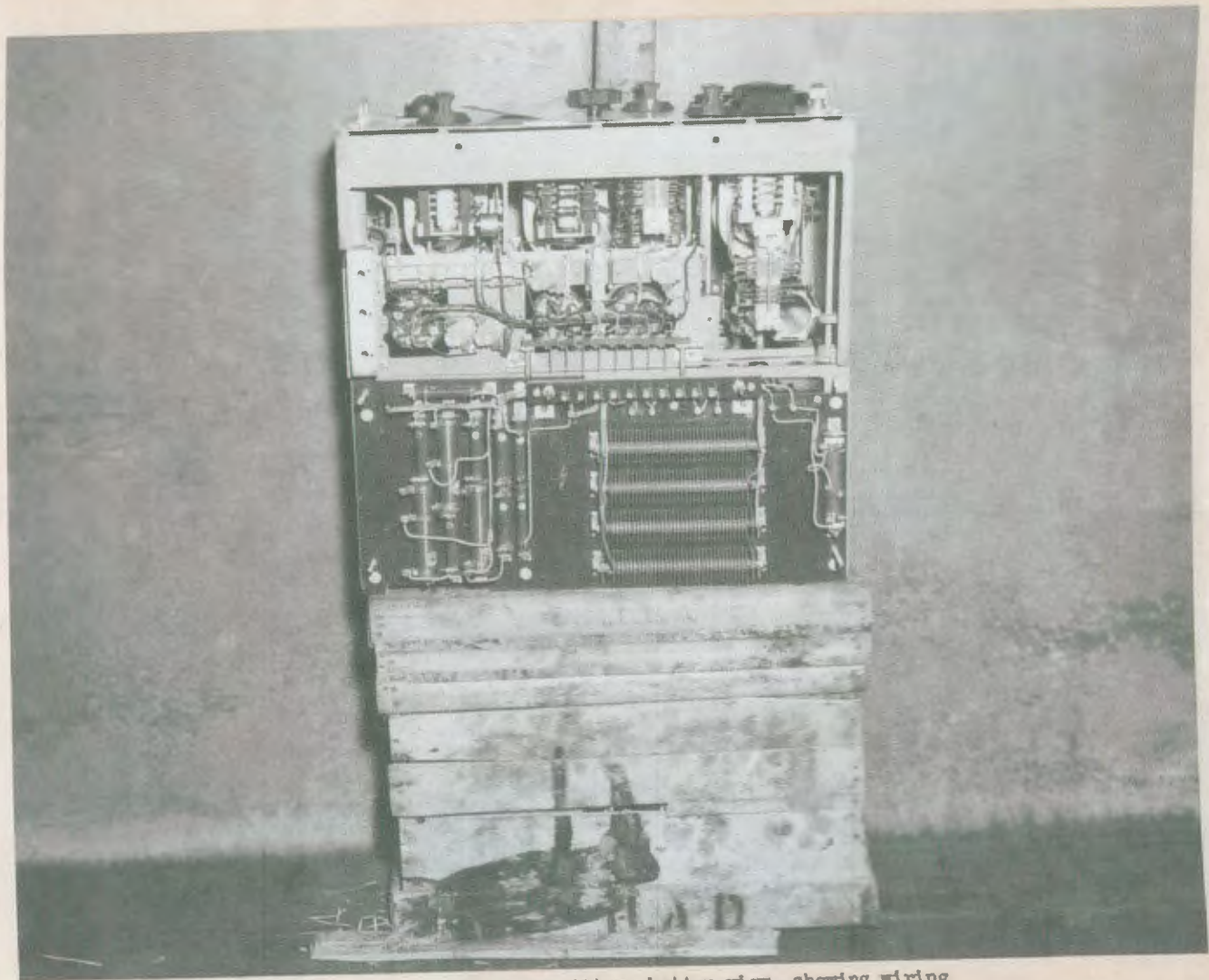


Exhibit G - Lorenz radio transmitter, bottom view, showing wiring



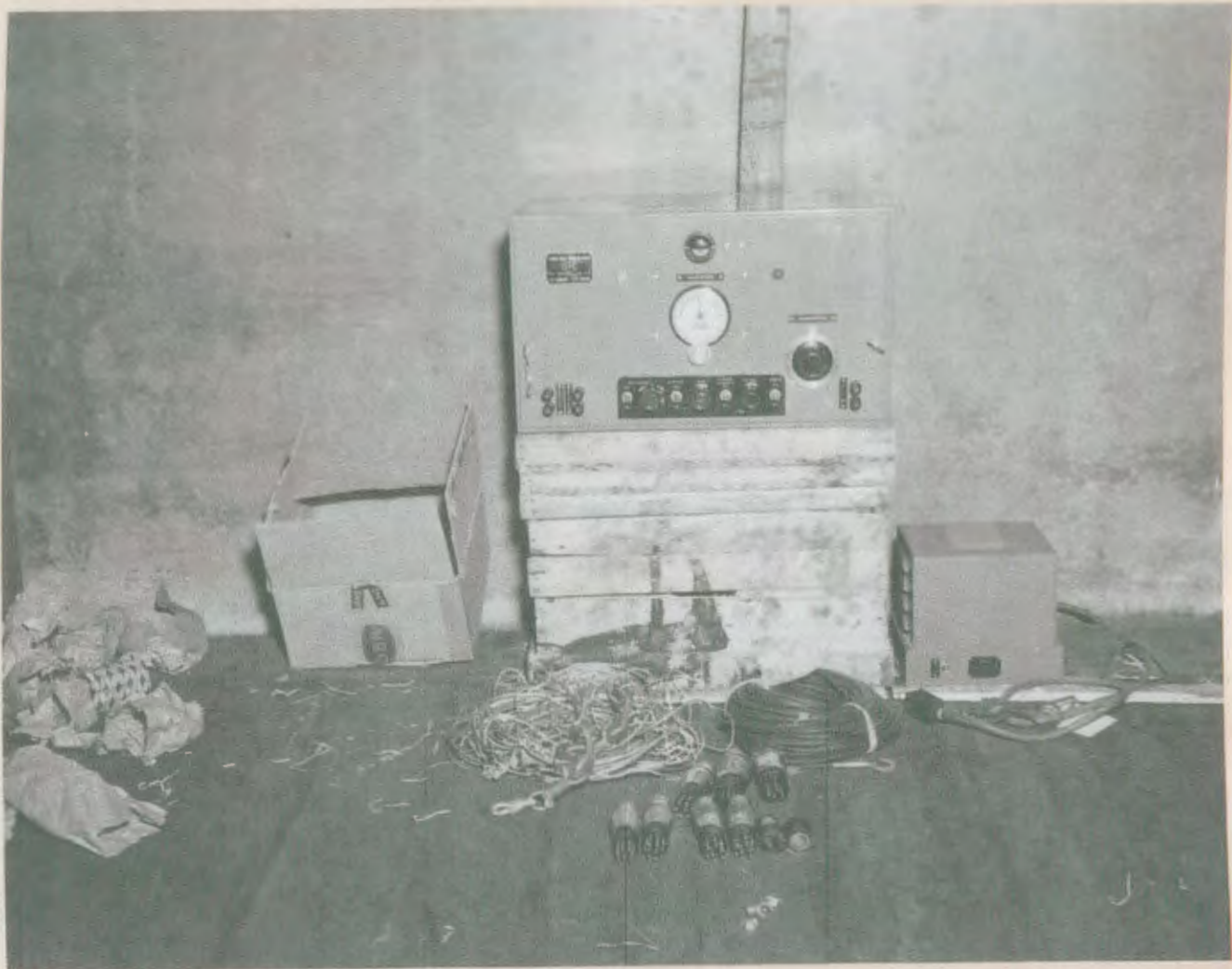


Exhibit H - Societe Belge Radio Electrique receiving set with power unit,  
tubes, antenna and ground wire, front view

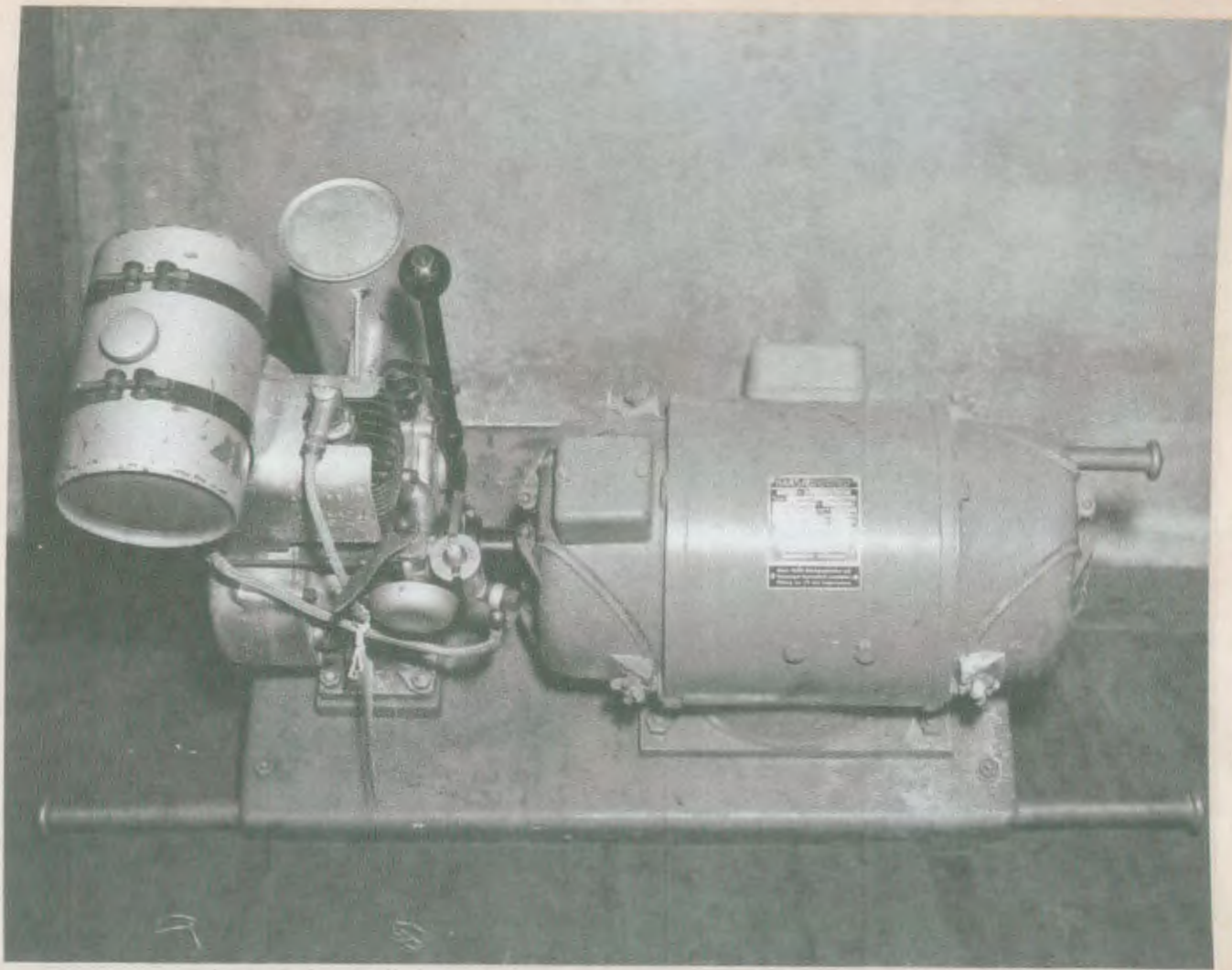


Exhibit I - Motor generator set, top view

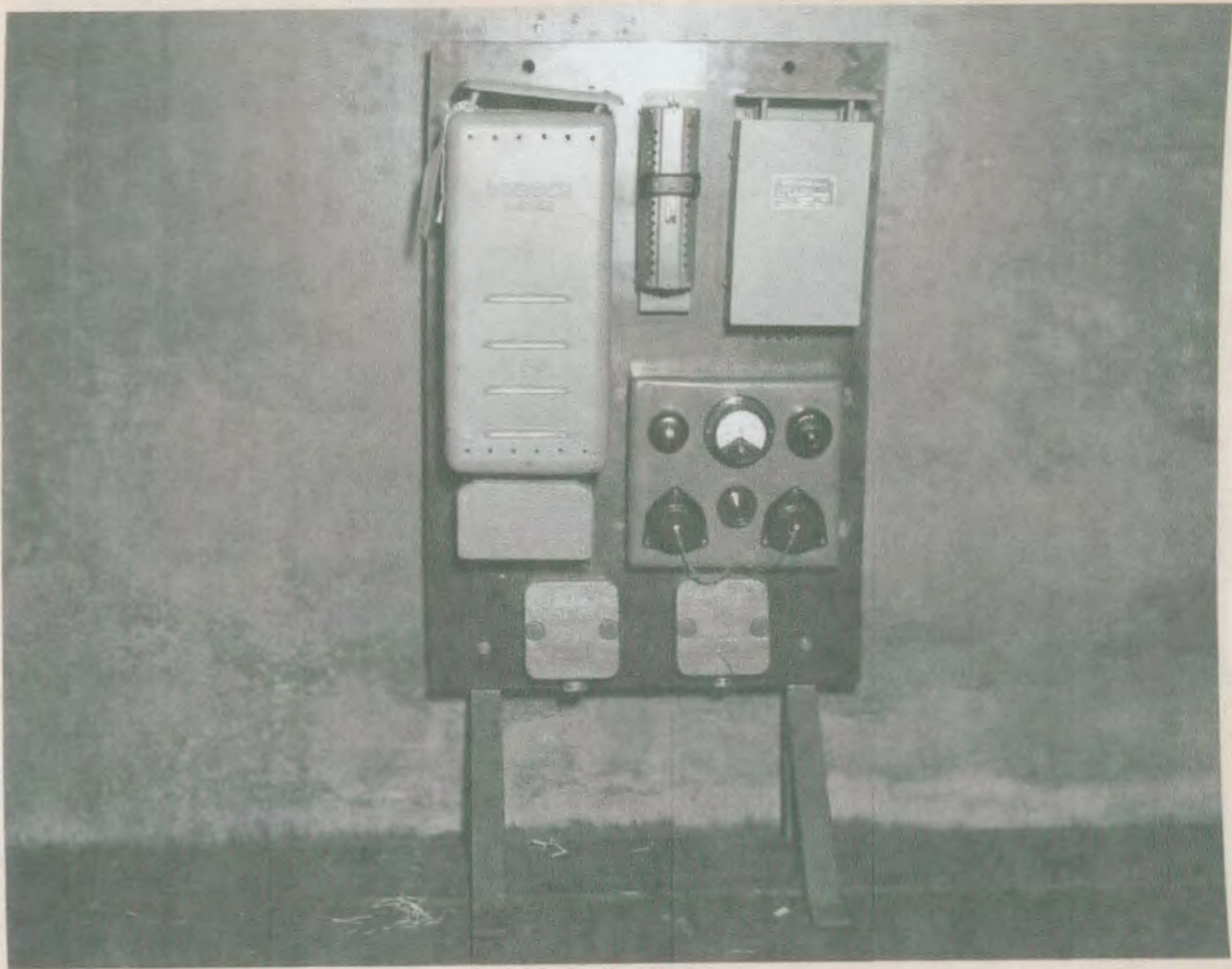


Exhibit J - Power control panel of motor generator set