

**§ 4.31 Unlading or transshipment due to casualty.**

(a) When any cargo or stores of a vessel have been unladen or transshipped at any place in the United States or its Customs waters other than a port of entry because of accident, stress of weather, or other necessity, no penalty shall be imposed under section 453 or 586(a), Tariff Act of 1930, if due notice is given to the director of the port at which the vessel thereafter first arrives and satisfactory proof is submitted to him as provided for in section 586(f), Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, regarding such accident, stress of weather, or other necessity. The port director may accept the certificates of the master and two or more officers or members of the crew of the vessel, of whom the person next to the master in command shall be one, as proof that the unlading or transshipment was necessary by reason of unavoidable cause.

(b) The port director may then permit entry of the vessel and its cargo and permit the unlading of the cargo in such place at the port as he may deem proper. Unless its transportation has been in violation of the coastwise laws, the cargo may be cleared through Customs at the port where it is discharged or forwarded to the port of original destination under an entry for immediate transportation or for transportation and exportation, as the case may be. All regulations shall apply in such cases as if the unlading and delivery took place at the port of original destination.

[28 FR 14596, Dec. 31, 1963, as amended by T.D. 95-77, 60 FR 50010, Sept. 27, 1995]

**§ 4.32 Vessels in distress; landing of cargo.**

(a) When a vessel from a foreign port arrives in distress at a port other than that to which it is destined, a permit to land merchandise or baggage may be issued if such action is necessary. Merchandise and baggage so unladen shall be taken into Customs custody and, if it has not been transported in violation of the coastwise laws, may be entered and disposed of in the same manner as any other imported merchandise or may be reladen without entry to be carried to its destination on the vessel from which it was unladen, subject

only to charges for storage and safe-keeping.

(b) A bond on Customs Form 301, containing the bond conditions set forth in § 113.64 of this chapter relating to international carriers shall be given in an amount to be determined by the port director to insure the proper disposition of the cargo, whether such cargo be dutiable or free.

[28 FR 14596, Dec. 31, 1963, as amended by T.D. 84-213, 49 FR 41164, Oct. 19, 1984]

**§ 4.33 Diversion of cargo.**

(a) *Unlading at other than original port of destination.* A vessel may unlade cargo or baggage at an alternative port of entry to the port of original destination if:

(1) It is compelled by any cause to put into the alternative port and the director of that port issues a permit for the unlading of cargo or baggage; or

(2) As a result of an emergency existing at the port of destination, the port director authorizes the vessel to proceed in accordance with the residue cargo bond procedure to the alternative port. The owner or agent of the vessel shall apply for such authorization in writing, stating the reasons and agreeing to hold the port director and the Government harmless for the diversion.

(b) *Disposition of cargo or baggage at emergency port.* Cargo and baggage unladen at the alternative port under the circumstances set forth in paragraph (a) of this section may be:

(1) Entered in the same manner as other imported cargo or baggage;

(2) Treated as unclaimed and stored at the risk and expense of its owner; or

(3) Reladen upon the same vessel without entry, for transportation to its original destination.

(c) *Substitution of ports of discharge on manifest.* After entry, the Cargo Declaration, Customs Form 1302, of a vessel may be changed at any time to permit discharge of manifested cargo at any domestic port in lieu of any other port shown on the Cargo Declaration, if:

(1) A written application for the diversion is made on the amended Cargo Declaration by the master, owner, or agent of the vessel to the director of

the port where the vessel is located, after entry of the vessel at that port;

(2) An amended Cargo Declaration, under oath, covering the cargo, which it is desired to divert, is furnished in support of the application and is filed in such number of copies as the port director shall require for local Customs purposes; and

(3) The certified traveling manifest is not altered or added to in any way by the master, owner, or agent of the vessel. When an application under paragraph (c)(1) of this section is approved, the port director shall securely attach an approved copy of the amended manifest to the traveling manifest and shall send one copy of the amended Cargo Declaration to the director of the port where the vessel's bond was filed.

(d) *Retention of cargo on board for later return to the United States.* If, as the result of a strike or other emergency at a United States port for which inward foreign cargo is manifested, it is desired to retain the cargo on board the vessel for discharge at a foreign port but with the purpose of having the cargo returned to the United States, an application may be made by the master, owner, or agent of the vessel to amend the vessel's Cargo Declaration, Customs Form 1302, under a procedure similar to that described in paragraph (c) of this section, except that a foreign port shall be substituted for the domestic port of discharge. If the application is approved, it shall be handled in the same manner as an application filed under paragraph (c) of this section. However, before approving the application, the port director is authorized to require such bond as he deems necessary to insure that export control laws and regulations are not circumvented.

[T.D. 77-255, 42 FR 56320, Oct. 25, 1977]

**§ 4.34 Prematurely discharged, overcarried, and undelivered cargo.**

(a) *Prematurely landed cargo.* Upon receipt of a satisfactory written application from the owner or agent of a vessel establishing that cargo was prematurely landed and left behind by the importing vessel through error or emergency, the port director may permit inward foreign cargo remaining on the dock to be reloaded on the next

available vessel owned or chartered by the owner of the importing vessel for transportation to the destination shown on the Cargo Declaration, Customs Form 1302, of the first vessel, provided the importing vessel actually entered the port of destination of the prematurely landed cargo. Unless so forwarded within 30 days from the date of landing, the cargo shall be appropriately entered for Customs clearance or for forwarding in bond; otherwise, it shall be sent to general order as unclaimed. If the merchandise is so entered for Customs clearance at the port of unloading, or if it is so forwarded in bond, other than by the importing vessel or by another vessel owned or chartered by the owner of the importing vessel, representatives of the importing vessel shall file at the port of unloading a Cargo Declaration in duplicate listing the cargo. The port director shall retain the original and forward the duplicate to the director of the originally intended port of discharge.

(b) *Overcarried cargo.* Upon receipt of a satisfactory written application by the owner or agent of a vessel establishing that cargo was not landed at its destination and was overcarried to another domestic port through error or emergency, the port director may permit the cargo to be returned in the importing vessel, or in another vessel owned or chartered by the owner of the importing vessel, to the destination shown on the Cargo Declaration, Customs Form 1302, of the importing vessel, provided the importing vessel actually entered the port of destination.<sup>67</sup>

(c) *Inaccessibly stowed cargo.* Cargo so stowed as to be inaccessible upon arrival at destination may be retained on board, carried forward to another domestic port or ports, and returned to the port of destination in the importing vessel or in another vessel owned or

<sup>67</sup> See §141.69(c) of this chapter for the conditions under which such merchandise and goods removed from a port of intended entry under these or certain other circumstances may subsequently be cleared under a consumption entry which had been filed therefore before the merchandise was removed from the port of intended entry.

<sup>68-69</sup> [Reserved]