

# Calendar No. 757

69TH CONGRESS }  
1st Session }

SENATE

} REPORT  
No. 762

TH. MICHAELSEN

MAY 3 (calendar day, MAY 5), 1926.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. SHIPSTEAD, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted the following

## REPORT

[To accompany S. 970]

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, to which was referred the bill (S. 970) for the relief of Th. Michaelsen, having considered the same, recommend that it pass without amendment.

This bill has the indorsement of the State Department. The following letter from the Secretary of State to Senator Borah sets forth the facts in the case fully:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, *Washington, D. C.*

HON. WILLIAM E. BORAH,  
*United States Senate.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 13, 1926, inclosing Senate bills Nos. 970 and 971, received by your committee, and requesting a report from the Department of State.

With respect to S. 970, a bill for the relief of Th. Michaelsen, I have the honor to inform you that on October 23, 1917, the Norwegian steamer *Lillemor*, of which Mr. Michaelsen was the mate, formed, together with the steamship *Lewis Luckenbach*, a part of a convoy of five ships operating in the English Channel. The *Luckenbach* was torpedoed in the evening, and the other ships disappeared in the darkness, with the exception of the *Lillemor*, which stayed by and succeeded in saving 43 of the crew of the torpedoed vessel. It was said that the weather was stormy and a high sea running so that the rescue was performed under difficult and dangerous circumstances.

During the life-saving work Mr. Michaelsen injured his right leg, as a result of which it appears that he has been unable to work for several years. It is understood that he has a wife and a 13-year-old daughter to support. Mr. Michaelsen, in a communication to the American consul general at Christiania, dated November 3, 1924, states that during the rescue he was obliged to go wet from sea water for approximately 16 hours with the injured leg, which caused such pain that he was later forced to return home for an operation and that since then he has been unable to work as a sailor or to do any other physical work.

On January 13, 1926, the department forwarded to the American minister at Oslo a gold watch and chain which the President presented to Mr. Michaelsen in recognition of his humane services.

It would be a most gracious act for Congress to make a suitable appropriation for the relief of Mr. Michaelsen, who has suffered greatly from injuries incurred in rescuing the crew of a torpedoed American vessel.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised the department that the proposed legislation is not in conflict with the financial program of the President.

I have the honor to be, sir,  
Your obedient servant,

FRANK B. KELLOGG.



TH. MICHAELSEN

REPORT

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations to which was referred the bill H. R. 570 for the relief of Th. Michaelsen, having considered the same, recommends that it pass without amendment. This bill has the endorsement of the State Department. The following letter from the Secretary of State to Senator Howell sets forth the facts in the case fully:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, D. C.  
JANUARY 13, 1922.  
SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt by your committee and report from the Department of State of the bill H. R. 570, for the relief of Th. Michaelsen, a Dane, who was rescued from the crew of a torpedoed American vessel. I have the honor to inform you that on October 27, 1917, the "Sigsbee" was torpedoed in the Atlantic Ocean. The "Sigsbee" was engaged in the evening and the crew was scattered. The "Sigsbee" was torpedoed with the exception of the Danes who were rescued and survived in various ways of the torpedoed vessel. It was said that the weather was stormy and a high sea ran so that the crew was separated and scattered in various directions. It is reported that he has been unable to work for several years. He is married and has a wife and a 13-year-old daughter. Mr. Michaelsen is now residing at the residence of his daughter, 1310 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. The Department has been unable to locate the American minister in Copenhagen, Denmark, and has been unable to obtain any information regarding the Danish government's position in this matter. The Department is unable to obtain any information regarding the Danish government's position in this matter. The Department is unable to obtain any information regarding the Danish government's position in this matter.