

RUSH Makes End of Patrol Seizure

On 11 May, RUSH gained permission from the Commandant and the Seventeenth District to seize YURYO MARU #31 for gross underlogging of her Pacific Cod catch.

RUSH was initially tipped off of irregularities by a report from the Japanese trawler's embarked National Marine Fisheries Service observer, James Barrowman. On 9 May, a RUSH boarding crew consisting of LTJG Sackler, LTJG Mozee, QM1 Sivley, BM1 Goodlet, ET3 Overton, SA Swikihardt, SA Cheshire, and NMFS agent Ken Creamer began investigating the irregularities.

Barrowman's claim that the Japanese were underlogging their catch was well-documented and permission was sought to seize the vessel.

On 11 May Coast Guard Headquarters sent a message that there was no objection to the seizure from the Commandant or Department of State. A custody crew consisting of LTJG Vance (officer-in-charge), ENS Campbell, QM1 Sivley, RM1 Dean, and FNMK Ferrara, was placed onboard to take the ship to Kodiak. Agent Creamer, LTJG Mozee, and Observer Barrowman flew to Anchorage, Alaska, to present evidence and testimony in the initial court hearing.

