

CONFIDENTIAL

16 May 1945

From: Ralph K. Brafford, Ensign, (D)-L, USNR.  
Armed Guard Commander  
S.S. Abangarez

To: Chief of Naval Operations

Via: Port Director, Third Naval District

Subject: Voyage Report of the S.S. Abangarez from Marseille, France,  
via Leghorn, Italy to Naples, Italy.

Reference: (a) General Instructions for Commanding Officers of Naval Armed  
Guard on Merchant Ships, 1944.

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following information  
is submitted.

- (a)
- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Name of Vessel    | : S.S. Abangarez  |
| Owner of Vessel   | : United Fruit Company  |
| Captain of Vessel | : A. L. Hestvik   |
| Chartered to      | : War Shipping Board, Subchartered<br>to Army Transport.                |
| Gross Tonnage     | : <u>4,538</u>  |
| Type of Cargo     | : Refrigerated Products to Leghorn.<br>Empty, Leghorn to Naples, Italy. |
- (b)
- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Port of Departure | : Marseille, France |
| Date of Departure | : 10 May 1945       |
| Convoy or Singly  | : Singly            |
| Number of Ships   | : One               |
| Number of Escorts | : None              |
| Port of Arrival   | : Naples, Italy     |
| Average Speed     | : 10.5 knots        |
- (c) No contact was made with the enemy.
- (d) Weather was favorable with the exception of fog closing in on the morning of 16 May 1945 as the vessel approached Naples, Italy from Leghorn, Italy. Navigation lights were shown every night at sea.
- (e) The unloading operations at Marseille, France and Leghorn, Italy were efficient. At Marseille, France the discharge of 1022 tons was performed in  $44\frac{1}{2}$  hours. At Leghorn, Italy the discharge of 1079 tons was performed in 52 working hours.
- (f) The radio operators appeared to carry out "Wartime Instructions for Merchant Vessels". The radio log was signed daily by the Master and myself.
- (g) No recommendations submitted.

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2.

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- (h) The Captain and Officers of the ship appeared to carry out "Wartime Instructions for Merchant Vessels".
- (i) No recommendations are submitted.
- (j) Friendly aircraft practised bombing runs on the vessel between Leghorn, Italy and Naples, Italy at 1600 on 15 May 1945.
- (k) Classes are held for men qualifying for Slc and for those that are striking for Petty Officer ratings. Gun drills on all guns are held to perfect the working of the gun crew.

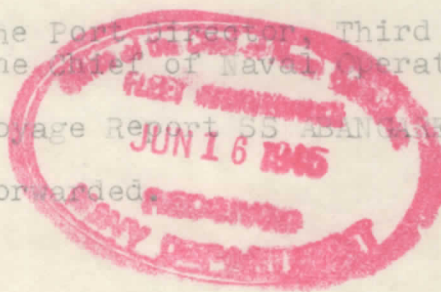
*Ens. Ralph K. Brafford*

Ensign Ralph K. Brafford, USNR.

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SERIAL PDNYF 053703

1st Endorsement  
17 Battery Place, New York, N.Y.  
12 June 1945

From: The Port Director, Third Naval District.  
To: The Chief of Naval Operations.  
Subj: Voyage Report SS ABANGAREZ.  
1. Forwarded.



For

*F.G. Reinicke*  
F.G. REINICKE

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