

CONFIDENTIAL

17 March 1945

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

To: Chief of Naval Operations

Via: U.S. Navy Port Office, Oran, Algeria, N. Africa

Subject: Voyage Report of the S.S. Abangarez from Marseille, France to Oran, Algeria, N. Africa, via Algiers, Algeria, N. Africa.

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 | : C. Dahlgard |
| Chartered to | : War Shipping Board, subchartered to Army Transport. |
| Gross Tonnage | : <u>4,538</u> |
| Type of Cargo | : Empty- Marseille to Algiers
Argol- Algiers to Oran |
- (b)
- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Port of Departure | : Marseille, France |
| Date of Departure | : 13 March 1945 |
| Convoy or Singly | : Singly |
| Number of Ships | : One |
| Number of Escorts | : None |
| Port of Arrival | : Oran, Algeria |
| Average Speed | : 12 knots |
- (c) No contact was made with the enemy.
- (d) Navigation lights were shown and weather was favorable during the entire voyage.
- (e) The unloading of the vessel at Marseille, France was efficient. The partial loading of the vessel at Algiers, Algeria was good considering the type of local labor and supervisors employed.
- (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 are submitted.
- (h) The Captain and Officers of the ship appeared to carry out "Wartime Instructions for Merchant Vessels". *LJM*
- (i) No recommendations are submitted.

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2.

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- (j) All friendly aircraft followed the proper procedure in approaching the vessel.
- (k) Classes are held for men who are qualifying for Slc and for those that are striking for Petty Officer ratings. Gun drills on all the guns are held as often as possible to perfect the working of the Armed Guard and Merchant Marine gun crews.

Ens. Ralph K. Brafford
Ensign Ralph K. Brafford USNR.

1st endorsement

Oran, Algeria.
20 March 1945.

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From: U. S. Naval Port Officer.
To: Commander Eight Fleet (NAVPO Med).

1. Forwarded.
2. The rough log was read and it was noted that general quarters were held daily at dawn and dusk while at sea.

J. B. Fleming
J. B. FLEMING.

2nd ENDORSEMENT MAR 25 1945
From: Commander U. S. EIGHTH Fleet.
To : Chief of Naval Operations (Op 39)
1. FORWARDED.
W. E. G. Erskine
W. E. G. ERSKINE,
By direction.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 750161