

CONFIDENTIAL

15 November 1944

From: Ward E. Bakken, Ensign, D-V(S), USNR.
Armed Guard Commander.
S.S. Abangarez.

To: The Chief of Naval Operations.

Via: The Port Director, Third Naval District.

Subject: Voyage Report of the S.S. Abangarez from Cardiff, Wales
to New York, New York.

Reference: (a) General Instructions for Commanding Officers of Naval
Armed Guard on Merchant Ships, 1943.

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, Sub-
Chartered to Army Transport.
- Gross Tonnage : 4,538
Type of Cargo : Sand Ballast.
- (b) Port of Departure : Cardiff, Wales.
Date of Departure : 29 October 1944.
Convoy or Singly : Singly from Cardiff, Wales to
Milford Haven. Convoy from
Milford Haven to New York.
- Number of Ships : 71 Ships after convoy was
formed.
- Number of Escorts : 8 escorts, including 2 escort
carriers and 1 rescue ship.
- Port of Arrival : New York, New York.
Average Speed : 9 Knots.
- (c) No contact with the enemy, although depth charges were dropped at 0740
on the 1 November 1944. The Commodore passed back submarine warnings
on 7 November and again on 8 November.
- (d) Passage was uneventful with the above exceptions. Lights were shown
in accord with instructions received from Convoy Commodore. Weather
was good and a fair average speed was maintained.
- (e) The only loss of time occurred in waiting at the convoy assemble point.
Loading of ballast was efficient and fast.
- (f) The radio operator did carry out "Wartime radio instructions of
Merchant Vessels. The radio log was signed daily by the Master and
by myself.

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- (g) The 4/50 on the stern of this ships should be replace by a 3/50.
The present gun causes considerable damage when fired.
 - (h) The Captain and Officers of the ship did carry out "Wartime Instructions
ofr Merchant Vessels.
 - (i) No reccommendations are submitted.
 - (j) All friendly aircraft followed the proper procedure in approaching the
convoy.
 - (k) Classes are held daily for men who are qualifying for Slc and for those
that are striking for Petty Officer Ratings. Gun Drills on all of the
guns are hald as often as is possible to perfect the working of the
gun crews. Experienced Merchant Seaman have been used in the teaching
of seamanship to members of the Armed Guard Crew. Tracking drills are
held when friendly aircraft present tracking targets.

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