

CONFIDENTIAL

29 February 1944

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

To: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

Via: U.S. Naval Liaison Officer, Naples, Italy.

Subject: Voyage report of S.S. Abangarez, from Norfolk, Virginia
to Naples Italy.

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

Enclosure: (A)

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

- (a) Name of Vessel : S.S. ABANGAREZ
Type of Vessel : Refrigerator
Owner of Vessel : United Fruit Company
Chartered to : War Shipping Board, Sub Chartered
to Army Transport.
Gross Tonnage : ~~4,825~~ 4538
Type of Cargo : Meat, Eggs and Butter.
- (b) Port of Departure : Norfolk, Virginia
Date of Departure : 2 February 1944
Convoy of Singly : Convoy
Number of Ships : 88
Number of Escorts : 13
Port of Arrival : Naples, Italy
Date of Arrival : 29 February 1944
Average Speed : 8.96
- (c) Enemy reconnaissance plane fired on by Shore Batteries while ship was
anchored in the harbor of Augusta, Sicily. This ship did not open fire.
- (d) Ship carried Convoy Commodore and Staff. Trip was without incident.
Average speed to Gibraltar was 9.4. Lights were shown in accord with
instructions by the Commodore.
- (e) The only loss of time was in waiting for reformation of the Convoy at
Augusta, Sicily.
- (f) Yes, as far as can be determined. *See g*
- (g) The firing steps installed in the six 20 M.M. Gun Tubs are dangerous
and do not serve the purpose for which intended. If these steps can not
be made more practical they should be removed.
- (h) Yes
(l) None
(j) None

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