

**CONFIDENTIAL**

5438

*File*

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SERIAL PD AG-29

DATE May 13, 1942

From: Commandant EIGHTH Naval District.  
(Port Director NTS NEW ORLEANS LA.)

To : Chief of Naval Operations.

Subject: <sup>MSI</sup> ARMING OF MERCHANT VESSELS SS ABANGAREZ

4538 Gross Tons Flag AMERICAN

References: (a) Confidential airmailgram # 052051 (~~INDUS.~~ MGR. May 1942)  
(b) Par. 6 CMO ltr. #063338 of Nov. 29, 1941.

Enclosure: (A) Consolidated report of bureaus concerned as directed by reference (b).

1. Confirming reference (a) the attached enclosure submits information required by reference (b) relative to the armaments supplied the subject merchant vessel.

F. T. LEIGHTON  
Acting

*W. E. G. Erskine*  
W. E. G. Erskine  
By direction.

Copies: Buships  
Buord  
Bunav (Sheets one and two only) Complies with C.L. 27-42  
Com \_\_\_\_\_

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Office of the Chief of Naval Operations  
FLEET MAINTENANCE  
MAY 21 1942  
RECEIVED  
NAVY DEPARTMENT

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*L-ECC*  
*61 TGM*  
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RECEIVED S-C FILES  
Room 2055

MAY 20 1942

ROUTE TO- 23  
Op File No. (SC) 580/BSI  
Doc. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Copy No. 1 of 1  
PRN 869

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PORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT ARMING MERCHANT VESSELS

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SERIAL PD AG-29

NAME OF SHIP:

~~SS~~

SS ABANGAREZ

OWNER:

UNITED FRUIT CO.

OPERATOR

or AGENT: UNITED FRUIT CO.

REGISTRY: AMERICAN

CLASS (pass. Cargo or Tank Ship)

CARGO

ITINERARY: Sailing Date: May 14, 1942 From: New Orleans To: Cristobal C. Z.

Via: \_\_\_\_\_

SHIP'S CREW

Commissioned  
Rank

MASTER: F. W. DECKER

NONE

OFFICERS:

(listed by

name only

if Comm-

issioned)

Deck Department

Engineering Dept.

Steward's Department:

Chief Mate 1  
2nd Mate 1  
3rd Mate 1  
Quartermaster \_\_\_\_\_  
Boatswain 1  
Seamen-Able 6  
Seamen-Ord 3  
Radio Operator 1  
Carpenter 1

Ch. Engineer 1  
1st. " 1  
2nd. " 1  
3rd. " 1  
4th. " \_\_\_\_\_  
Firemen 3  
Oilers 4  
Wipers 2  
Total Crew Including Master 45  
Ch. refrig. 1  
2d refrig. 1  
3rd refrig. 1

Ch. Steward 1  
Ch. Cook 1  
2nd Cook 1  
3rd Cook \_\_\_\_\_  
Messman 7  
Utilitymen 2  
Purser 1

PASSENGERS--Number on Board

NONE

U. S. NAVY PERSONNEL

Armed Guard Unit

Name

Rating

Branch Service #

~~Officer~~ in Charge: RAMSEY, HERMON M. BM 2c USN 346-56-41

Enlisted Men: SMITH, THOMAS (N) SEA 2c 0-1 USNR 400 88 25

BLAIR, JAMES LE ROY F2c 0-1 USNR 410 81 93

TRUITT, JOS. PITTMAN AS USN 262 99 19

HARRISON JR. NEWSON H. AS USN 263 51 96

Communication Group \_\_\_\_\_

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority 750161



#S  
ON BOARD SS ABANGAREY

ITEM NO.	QUANTITY NO. UNIT	DESCRIPTION	STOCK NUMBER	TITLE
1.	Each	BAG, canvas, weighted #C&R 434791	24-B-60	C
2.	Cell	BATTERIES, Blinker Signal Gun	17-B-7040	C
3.	"	BATTERIES, Flashlight	17-B-7210	C
4.	"	BATTERIES, Dry, hand lantern	17-B-7600	C
5.	Each	BELTS, pistol, automatic	A-2-B-1490	B
6.	Pair	BINOCULARS, 6 x 30	18-B-1135	B
7.	"	BINOCULARS, 7 x 35	18-B-1138	B
8.	Each	BLINKER, Signal Gun, battery type	17-B-1600	B
9.	"	BOTTLES, vacuum, 1 quart	63-B-500	B
10.	"	CASE, first-aid (armed guard)	S2-510	
11.	Misc.	CLEANING, supplies (brushes, soap, buckets, rags, etc.)		
12.	Set	FLAGS, alphabet code # 4	5-F-255-30	C
13.	Set	FLAGS, numeral # 4	5-F-4375 to 4384	C
14.	Set	FLAGS, semaphore	5-F-5100 to 5110	C
15.	Each	FLASHLIGHTS, 2 cell pocket type	17-F-13452	C
16.	"	GAS MASKS		B
17.	"	GLOBES, hand lantern	31-G-270	C
18.	Pair	GOGGLES, for lookout, light density	37-G-3555	C
19.	"	GOGGLES, for lookout, dark density	37-G-3450	C
20.	Each	HELMETS, steel standard	37-H-	B
21.	"	HELMETS, " to wear with headphone	37-H	B
22.	"	HOLSTERS, automatic pistol (colt)	A-2-H-1435	B
23.	"	LAMPS, blinker signal gun	17-L-6300	C
24.	"	LAMPS, flashlight	17-I-6320	C
25.	"	LANTERNS, hand, portable, type "J"	17-L-7760	B
26.	"	MEDICAL GUN BAG, equipment	S-2-03	
27.	"	MEGAPHONE, 18" small	37-M-330	C
28.	"	MEGAPHONE, 32" large	37-M-335	C
29.	Pair	MITTENS, ammunition-handling asbes.	A(L)2-G-48116	C
30.	Each	PISTOLS, automatic, colt, 45, # 1911	A-2-P-3415	B
31.	Gal.	PAINT, dark gray, formula 5D	52-P	C
32.	Each	ROPE, 125 fath. 3" manila, for spar	21-R-413	C
33.	"	SEARCHLIGHT, signal 8" (Crouse-Hinds)	17-S	B
34.	"	SPAR, towing	23-S-180	B
35.	"	SPY GLASS, quartermaster, 16 power	18-S-2255	B
36.	Misc.	STATIONARY (#53 items) (not over \$30)		C
37.				
38.				
39.				
40.				
41.				
42.				
43.				
44.	Set	CONVOY LIGHTS, Colored		B
45.	Each	WAKE LIGHT, Screened, Type # 2		B

## DEGAUSSING OPERATION

Type of Coils \_\_\_\_\_  
(M only; MF & Q; MF, Q & A)

Compass Compensated \_\_\_\_\_

If not Coiled -- Date Wiped \_\_\_\_\_ or Date Flashed \_\_\_\_\_

Date Calibrated \_\_\_\_\_

Range \_\_\_\_\_  
(Wolf Trap, Newport, etc.)

Degaussing Factor \_\_\_\_\_  
(From Range)

Date Depermed \_\_\_\_\_  
(If shown necessary by range)

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ARMED GUARD CENTER REPORT OF MATERIALS  
FURNISHED TO ARMED GUARD UNITS.

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- ~~xxx~~ SS ABANGAREZ
- INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED TO ARMED GUARD OFFICER--
1. Ordnance and Gunnery Instructions for Armed Guards..... YES
  2. General Instructions for Commanding Officer of Naval  
Armed Guards on Merchant Ships, Nov. 15, 1941..... YES
  3. Instructions for operating Naval Transports and  
Merchant Vessels in Time of War - Part I.....
  4. Test Firing of Guns After Leaving Port -- (CNO ltr.  
No. 396123 of 1 December, 1941 -- Attach to Orders.....
  5. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS--(Condensed from Naval Regulations,  
for Armed Guard Officers).....
  6. SILHOUETTES... MEN OF WAR - YES .....Surface Raiders.....  
.....Aircraft.....
  7. Signals for Control of Merchant Vessels by Aircraft.....
  8. Publication of German Raider Tactics.....
  9. Anti-Aircraft Machine Gun Training Centers.....

MOVABLE EQUIPMENT ISSUED TO ARMED GUARD UNIT

	ITEM	QUANTITY	SPECIFICATION NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
SPECIAL	1.		72-A	Arctics, 4 buckle, cashmerette
	2.		37-C-4	Coats, balloon cloth) Special
WINTER	3.		37-C-4	Trousers " " ) Submarine
	4.		37-C-5	Coats, woolen ) Clothing
CLOTHING	5.		37-C-5	Trousers, " )
	6.		N.37-G-15	Gloves, leather, not lined
	7.		N.72-C-1	Sou'westers, balloon cloth
	8.			Coat, Sheepskin
	9.		N.27-B-7	Blankets, Regular Navy
			Spr-11	
	10		N. 72-C-1	Overalls (Type C)
FOUL	11		N. 72-C-1	Coats, short (Type B)
WEATHER	12		N. 72-C-1	Coats, long (type A)
CLOTHING	13		N. 72-C-1	Sou'westers, balloon cloth

WELFARE AND RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT

COMMENTS: