

ARMED GUARD UNIT  
S. S. ABBOT L. MILLS  
ARMED GUARD CENTER (ATLANTIC)  
C/O FLEET P.O. N.Y.

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10 August 1945

From: ERICKSON, Carl Edward, 317348, D-L USNR.  
Commanding Officer, Naval Armed Guard.  
(c/o Armed Guard Center Atlantic).  
S. S. ABBOT L. MILLS Gross tons: 7176  
Flag or Registry U. S. A.

To: Chief of Naval Operations.

Via: Port Director Port Said, Egypt.

Subject: Report of Voyage S. S. ABBOT L. MILLS  
From Calcutta, India to Port Said, Egypt.

Reference: (a) General Instructions for Commanding Officers of  
Naval Armed Guards on Merchant Ships, 1944 Fourth  
Edition, paragraph 4301.

Enclosure: (A)

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

(a) Type of vessel E-C2 Liberty , Type of Cargo U.S. Army.  
Owner of vessel: U. S. A. War Shipping Administration.  
Chartered to: Coastwise Pacific Far East Lines.  
Ingvald Halvarsen Master.

(b) 1. Port of Departure: Calcutta, India 20 July 1945  
Convoyed or Independent: Independent

Speed (aver.) 11.1

No. of escort vessels: None

Port of Arrival: Colombo, Ceylon 25 July 1945

2. Port of Departure: Colombo, Ceylon 27 July 1945

Convoyed or Independent: Independent

Speed (aver.) 11.0

No. Of escort vessels: None

Port of Arrival: Suez, Egypt 9 August 1945

3. Port of Departure: Suez, Egypt August 1945

Convoyed or Independent: Independent

Speed Aver. 9.0

No. Of escort vessels: None

Port of Arrival: Port Said, Egypt August 1945

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(c) Contacts and action with the enemy: None

(d) General resume of the voyage:

Upon leaving both Colombo, and Ceylon I did not receive any notification concerning a departure conference, therefore, I did not attend a departure ~~at~~ at either port.

From Calcutta, India to Port Said, Egypt the ship burned navigation lights at full brilliancy, and sailed with the ship undarkened.

There was a great deal of internal friction aboard ship between the master and his ships officers. Rarely did a ships officer speak to the master unless it was on business.

There were two fights aboard ship in Calcutta, India. One on 8 July 1945 at 0130 between the ships steward and the navy gun crew. I pressed charges against the steward which was taken care of by Coast Guard Intelligence and the steward was found guilty on three charges and given eight months probation. The navy men were found not guilty. The second fight occurred on ~~1800~~ 18 July 1945 at 2300 between the ships bos'n and the officers messman, the messman was taken to the hospital for treatment. The captain was notified of the fight but did not leave his bunk to see what had happened.

On 4 August 1945 the entire ships crew filed a petition and brought it to the captain saying they were not getting sufficient food. In no way was the navy gun crew involved.

(e) The ship made a reasonable turnaround.

(f) The commercial radio operators appeared to carry out wartime instructions for merchant vessels and kept all intercepted messages confidential.

(g) There are no defects or deficiencies to report.

(h) The ships officers appeared to carry out Wartime Instructions for Merchant Vessels.

(i) 1. With all the paper work that goes with the job of being an armed guard officer, I feel that a typewriter should be sent along as part of the regular gear.

(j) There was no improper procedure on the part of friendly aircraft approaching the vessel either when sailing independently or in convoy. We sailed alone all the time.

(k) Training at sea: Lectures have been given on the following subjects: Orientation, Small Arms Instructions, Articles of the Government of the Navy, Abandon Ship, Liberty Instructions, Venereal (Health) Cargo Pilferage, Sensorship, First Aid, Safety Precautions, Gas Mask Drill, Life Jackets and Voting.

(1) This report is forwarded from abroad.

*Carl E. Erickson*  
Carl E. Erickson  
Lt. (jg) D-L USNR:

FIRST ENDORSEMENT  
EN3-11(ES)/A4-3  
CONFIDENTIAL

U.S. Naval Liaison Office  
Port Said, Egypt  
11 August 1945

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From: The U. S. Naval Liaison Officer.  
To : Chief of Naval Operations.  
Via : Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Northwest African Waters.

1. Forwarded.
2. The Armed Guard unit was placed in a maintenance status on 10 August 1945, at Port Said, Egypt.

*M. H. Benach, Jr.*  
M. H. BENACH, JR.

**SEP 1 1945**

*2nd* ENDORSEMENT  
FROM: COMNAVNAW  
TO : CNO  
1. FORWARDED.  
*W. E. G. Erskine*  
**W. E. G. ERSKINE.**  
By Direction



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