

Date 5 July 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Austin J. Lilly, Jr. Lt.D, USNR
 Commanding Officer, Naval Armed Guard
 (c/o Armed Guard Center, Gulf, New Orleans, La.)

S.S. Abel Parker Upshur Gross tons 7176

To: The Chief of Naval Operations.

Via: The Port Director Batangas, Philippine Islands.

Subj: Report of Voyage, S.S. Abel Parker Upshur, Voyage No. 11
 From Charleston, S.C. to Batangas, Philippine Islands

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

Encl: (A)

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

- (a) Type of Vessel -- Steam-freight.
 Type of cargo -- Ammunition.
 Owner of vessel -- U.S. Maritime Commission
 Chartered to -- U.S. Army
 Operated by -- International Freighting Corp., Inc.
 Master -- Robert Mauldin
- (b) Port of Departure -- Charleston, S.C. 1222 30 April 1945
 Arrived Lynhaven Roads 1018 2 May 1945 Anchored-Awaiting Orders
 Docked Newport News, Va. 1935 12 May -- Took additional supplies
 Left dock -- " 1640 13 May -- Anchored as before
 Sailed from -- Lynhaven Roads, Va. 1748 17 May 1945
 Arrived -- Christobal, P.C.Z. 1800 24 May 1945 - Anchored for orders
 Docked -- " " 0427 25 May 1945-Took oil & supplies
 Left Dock - 1008 25 May 1945 -- Anchored as before
 Sailed from Christobal, P.C.Z. 1404 25 May 1945
 Arrived Balboa, P.C.Z. 2259 25 May 1945 --- Anchored repairs to boiler
 Sailed from Balboa, P.C.Z. 2200 26 May 1945
 Arrived -- 0845 3 July 1945 awaiting orders
 Departed -- 1130 3 July 1945
 Arrived -- Batangas, Philippine Islands 1400 5 July 1945.

Convoyed from Charleston, S.C. to Lynhaven Roads, Va., and thence independent to destination.

Speed -- 10½ Knots. No ships in convoy 3.

Number of escort vessels 2

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- (c) There were no contacts or action with the enemy.
- (d) The voyage was routine. Standard three section sea watch, (4 hours on 8 hrs off) was maintained. On reaching 152 W gunners placed cots at their guns and slept there. General Quarters held morning and evening throughout voyage. By Direction Port Director Charleston, S.C. obsolete and defective ammunition removed from ship and replacement ammunition received. On 12 May 1945 eleven man gun crew aboard was increased to twenty six men making total of twenty seven with officer. Carriero, Dominic L. Slc, E, 707 08 55, whose records are carried at Armed Guard Center, Brooklyn, N.Y., was sent ashore 16 May 1945 to the Dispensary at Frontier Base, Little Creek, VA. Replacement Poole, Gale L., Slc, V-6, USNR 895 16 79 aboard 25 May from Armed Guard Pool P.C.Z.

The master this ship acted as Commodore of three ship escorted movement from Charleston S.C. to Lynnhaven Roads, Va. On the night of 1 May 1945 at approximately 2300, the movement came into contact with a south bound convoy., this ship narrowly averting collision with an escort of the south bound convoy. All ships were blacked out, until this contact apparant, when running lights were used to avoid further confusion. On arrival at Frontier Base , Little Creek, Va., I was advised unofficially that a ship in the south bound convoy had collided with one in the north bound escorted movement. This was unknown to me or to any member of the personnel on this ship until that time.

Navigation lights were shown from Lynnhaven Roads, Va. to Christobal, P.C.Z., two nights out from Balboa, P.C.Z., and in the Philippine Archepeligo.

- (e) No delay in port due to port facilities.
- (f) Commercial radio operators appeared to carry out wartime instructions for merchant vessels.
- (g) Defect in training of 5"51 aft due to worn gear, this reported to Port Director but no replacement parts available.
- (h) The master and officers of the ship appeared to carry out "Wartime Instructions For United States Merchant Vessels".
- (i) No improper procedure on the part of friendly aircraft in approaching this ship.

SHIPMASTER IS NAME
RANK Lt. D. USNR
LONG DIRECTOR

Austin J. Lilly, Jr.
Lt. D. USNR