

IN REPLY ADDRESS  
COMMANDANT  
TWELFTH NAVAL DISTRICT  
AND REFER TO

OFFICE OF COMMANDANT  
TWELFTH NAVAL DISTRICT  
SAN FRANCISCO, 2, CALIFORNIA



ND12-14GB/Wr  
(SC)A9/A16-3  
Serial 015345

**CONFIDENTIAL**

FIRST ENDORSEMENT TO  
CO Armed Guard Unit  
SS ABEL STEARNS ltr of  
3 June 1945

7176  
85

3 July 1945

From: Port Director, NTS, Twelfth Naval District  
To: Chief of Naval Operations

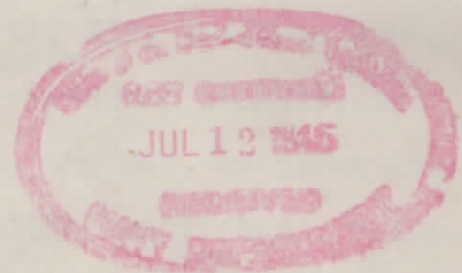
Subject: SS ABEL STEARNS - Voyage Report of.

1. Forwarded.
2. Paragraph 1(g) -

General alarm bells located on the weather deck are not authorized.

*C. G. Mc Cord*

C. G. MC CORD,  
Assistant Port Director  
for Ship Inspection and  
Material



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**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Jgm*

44-3/A9/III

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JUNE ,1945.  
SS ABEL STEARNS

FROM: LT.(jg) RICHARD L. LaGRANGE, USNR,  
OFFICER IN CHARGE NAVAL ARMED GUARD,  
SS ABEL STEARNS.

TO: CNO

VIA: PORT DIRECTOR, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

SUBJECT: REPORT OF VOYAGE, SS ABEL STEARNS.

REFERENCE: (a) GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMANDING  
OFFICERS OF NAVAL ARMED GUARDS ON  
MERCHANT SHIPS, PARAGRAPH 4301.

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFERENCE (a) THE  
FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS HEREWITH SUBMITTED:

- (a) TYPE OF VESSEL: FREIGHTER (LIBERTY)  
TYPE OF CARGO: NONE.  
OWNER OF VESSEL: W S A  
CHARTERED TO: A.H. BULL  
GROSS TONNAGE: 7176
- (b) PORT OF DEPARTURE; ZAMBOANGA, MINDANAO,  
3, MAY, 1945, at 0915. CONVOYED.  
ARRIVED SAN PEDRO BAY, TACLOBAN, LEYTE,  
P.I., 5, MAY, 1945, at 0938.  
DEPARTED SAN PEDRO BAY, LEYTE, P.I.,  
8, MAY, 1945, at 1005. CONVOYED.  
DEPARTED CONVOY, 11, MAY, 1945, at 0900.  
PROCEEDING INDEPENDENTLY.  
ARRIVED ENIWETOK, MARSHALL ISLANDS, 18,  
MAY, 1945, at 0935.  
DEPARTED ENIWETOK, 19, MAY, 1945, at 1000.  
INDEPENDENT.  
ARRIVED SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.,  
3, JUNE, 1945, at 1600.

NUMBER OF SHIPS IN CONVOY:  
ZAMBOANGA TO TACLOBAN--- 5 SHIPS  
TACLOBAN TO POINT OF  
DEPARTURE - - - - - 52 SHIPS.

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REPORT OF INCIDENT:

ZAMBOANGA TO TACLOBAN-- 1 SHIP  
TACLOBAN TO POINT OF  
DEPARTURE FROM CONVOY-- 3 SHIPS

SPEED IN CONVOY: 9 KNOTS  
INDEPENDENT SPEED: 11.4 KNOTS  
AIRCRAFT ESCORT: NONE.

- (c) NO CONTACT WAS HAD WITH ENEMY.  
(d) VOYAGE WAS ROUTINE THROUGH-OUT.  
AFTER LEAVING LEYTE SHIP PROCEEDED IN  
CONVOY TO HOLLANDIA, NEW GUINEA AND  
FROM THERE PROCEEDED INDEPENDENTLY TO  
FINCH HAVEN, NEW GUINEA, AND FROM THERE  
TO GREEN ISLAND WHERE OFFICERS, PERSONNEL  
AND EQUIPMENT OF MTB # 7 WERE LOADED AND  
FROM THERE TO EMIRAU ISLAND WHERE OFFICERS,  
PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT OF MTB # 16 WERE  
LOADED. SHIP THEN STOPPED AT MANUS AND  
FROM THERE TO HOLLANDIA AND FROM THERE  
IN CONVOY TO LEYTE. FROM LEYTE SHIP  
PROCEEDED TO ZAMBOANGA, MINDANAO, THENCE  
TO ISABELLA, BASILAN, THENCE BACK TO  
SAMBOANGA, THEN BACK TO LEYTE IN CONVOY.  
FROM LEYTE SHIP PROCEEDED IN CONVOY TO  
PAULAU AND PROCEEDED INDEPENDENTLY TO  
ENIWETOK, MARSHALL ISLANDS FOR FUEL.  
FROM ENIWETOK SHIP PROCEEDED INDEPENDENTLY  
TO SAN FRANCISCO. VESSEL'S SPEED IN CONVOY  
WAS 9 KNOTS. SPEED INDEPENDENTLY 11.4 KNOTS.  
RUNNING LIGHTS WERE SHOWN AT TIMES ORDERED  
BY PORT DIRECTORS IN ROUTING ORDERS. VESSEL  
DID NOT ZIGZAG AT ANY TIME.  
(e) NO UNREASONABLE DELAY IN SHIP'S TURN  
AROUND.  
(f) MERCHANT MARINE RADIO OPERATORS APPEARED  
TO CARRY OUT " WAR TIME INSTRUCTIONS  
REGARDING THE KEEPING OF INTERCEPTED  
MESSAGES CONFIDENTIAL.  
(g) A DEFECT IN LOCATION OF GENERAL ALARM  
SYSTEM ONLY INDOORS WAS NOTED. IN TROPICAL  
WATERS HOT WEATHER CAUSES MEN TO SLEEP OUT  
SIDE THEIR FOCUSLS. ALARMS ARE NOT LOUD  
ENOUGH TO WAKEN THEM. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT  
SYSTEM BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE OUTSIDE ALARM  
BELLS.

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DECLASSIFIED

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