

ARMED GUARD UNIT

SS ABERDEEN VICTORY

Armed Guard Center (Pacific)
Treasure Island
San Francisco, California

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE 4 June 1945

From: The Commanding Officer, Armed Guard Unit,
SS Aberdeen Victory Gross Tons 7608.45
Flag or Registry U. S. A.
To: The Chief of Naval Operations.
Via: Port Director 12th Naval District.
Subject: Report of Voyage No. 3, S.S. Aberdeen Victory from Okinawa to San Francisco
Reference: (a) General Instructions for Commanding Officers of Naval Armed Guards on Merchant Ships, Par. 4301.
Enclosure: (A) Crew list of Armed Guard and Communication Liaison personnel.

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

- (a) Type of vessel Victory Cargo (type) in ballast
Owner of vessel Maritime Commission
Chartered to Waterman Steamship, 19 Rector st., New York, N.Y.
Master's Name Capt. A. Anderson
- (b) Port of departure Okinawa 15 May 1945
Convoyed or Independent Convoyed to Ulithi Date
Speed (Aver.) 8.7 Knots in convoy; 17.7 Knots travelling independently.
No. of ships in convoy 16
No. of escort vessels or aircraft 6 vessels
Port of arrival San Francisco, Calif. 4 June 1945
Date
- (c) There were no contacts or action with the enemy during the voyage.
- (d) The only port of call was Ulithi. Arrived 1015, 21 May 1945; departed 1805 same day. The vessel observed blackout regulations strictly. The vessel did not zigzag according to instructions; on 25 May it was sporadic, and was discontinued altogether beginning 0800, 26 May 1945, presumably for navigational reasons until 0340, 30 May 1945.
- (e) There seemed to be no appreciable delay in port due to lack of port facilities. Frequent air raids were the chief difficulty; they averaged 3 (three) a day, lasting on an average of one hour each.
- (f) The two commercial radio operators appeared to carry out war-time radio instructions for merchant vessels, particularly in regard to keeping intercepted messages confidential.

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- (g) No significant defects or deficiencies in location or arrangement of the battery, or in equipment as regards material, personnel, or operation have been noted.
- (h) The master and officers of the ship seemed to carry out "War-time Instructions for Merchant Vessels", except as noted in (d) above concerning zig-zag.
- (i) There are no recommendations tending to the improvement or greater efficiency of the service to be made at this time.
- (j) No improper procedure on the part of friendly aircraft approaching a merchant vessel was noted.
- (k) Training at sea consisted principally of semaphore drill and drill in the use of Springfield rifle and .45 cal. Colt pistol.
- (l) A correct copy of the crew list of Armed Guard and Communication Liaison personnel aboard is attached hereto.

John O. Riedl
JOHN O. RIEDL. Lt., (D)L, USNR

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