

AGC/PAC
7-23-L-2/rg

ARMED GUARD UNIT
S. S. ABERDEEN VICTORY
ARMED GUARD CENTER (PACIFIC)
Treasure Island
San Francisco, California

CONFIDENTIAL

Date OCT 14 1944

From: The Commanding Officer, Armed Guard Unit,
S.S. Aberdeen Victory Gross Tons 7608
c/o Armed Guard Center (Pacific)

To: The Chief of Naval Operations.

Via: The Port Director 12th Naval District.

Subject: Report of Voyage, S.S. Aberdeen Victory

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

Enclosure: (A) Voyage Report

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

- (a) Type of vessel Victory Type of cargo Ammo & Explosives
Owner of vessel Waterman SS Co.
Chartered to W.S.A.
- (b) Port of departure Beaver (Portland), Ore. Date 15 July 1944
Convoyed or independent Ind.
Speed (Aver) 17 k.
No. of ships in convoy No convoy.
No. of escort vessels or aircraft None
Port of Arrival Eniwetok, Marshall Is. Date 5 Aug. 1944
- (c) No contacts with enemy.
- (d) Speed of vessel, average 17 k. No improper lights shown. Vessel did zigzag in accordance with Wartime Instructions.
- (e) Vessel was delayed an unreasonable length of time at The Eniwetok destination. We layed at anchor 53 days. Cargo discharge was very sporadic and inefficient. We were the victim of Comseron Ten (U.S.S. Prairie) and cooperation and to securing needed supplies and repairs was nil. There seems to be much dissention there between Seron Ten (of the Lagoon) and the Port Director on Eniwetok Island. Much of the early discharging was done by Navy working parties from the soliciting ships, and the explosives were dangerously handled in general. We were held up more than a month with only 1800 T. of cargo left in the ship. The working parties were ordered to chow aboard, but after we fed them for a month or more, we were very low in stores and when the Captain tried to get stores from Seron Ten they couldn't be secured.
- (f) Commercial Radio operators observed wartime instructions and kept the messages confidential, but it would be very much better if the Commercial operators on these ships were eliminated entirely.
- (g) No defects or deficiencies in battery, equipment, personnel, or operation.

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Voyage Report Cont'd.

- (h) Master and Officers of the ship did carry out Wartime Instructions for Merchant vessels.
- (i) No recommendations under this paragraph.
- (j) No report on the part of improper procedure of approaching aircraft.
- (k) The Armed Guard Unit holds classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays in which we take up various subjects such as: Watch Standing and Lookout, Aircraft ID, Aircraft Maneuvers, AA Fire Control, Submarine Tactics, First Aid, Spotting Fire, Venereal Disease, Security of Vessel & Cargo, Ammo Handling & Stowage, Fuse Setting, Tracer Control, PTS Drills (Pointer, Trainer, Sightsetter Drills), Training Courses for Next Up Rating.

We have had many special sessions, convened whenever I thought it necessary such as Gun Drills, Relation with Merchant Marine, Phraseology Over Phones, Shipboard Etiquette, and Abandoning Ship.

This Navy group is very well-behaved, morale is high, and I am proud of them. They are good workers, are honest, and I have had no necessity to award any disciplinary action whatsoever.

OFFICE OF COMMANDANT
TWELFTH NAVAL DISTRICT

San Francisco, 2, Calif.

1st ENDORSEMENT.

29 OCT 1944

From: Port Director, NTS, 12 ND.
To: Chief of Naval Operations.

1. Forwarded.

W. F. LAFRENZ
Asst. Port Director.

RECEIVED S-C FILES

Room 2055

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Keith W. Vogt, Lt. (jg) USNR.
Victory