

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: Officer-in-Charge, Armed Guard Unit aboard SS/Abiel Foster.

TO: Chief of Naval Operations.
VIA: (1) U.S. Naval Port Office, Southampton.

(2) The Commander, U.S. Naval Forces in Europe. Subject: (A) Report of Turco Voyage of SS Abiel Foster (GB-Omaha and return-5th voyage). Reference: (A) General Instructions for Commanding Officers of Naval Armed Guards on Merchant Ships. 1943 Par. 4301.

(1) In accordance with Reference A., the following report is respectfully

submitted.

(A) Name: SS Abiel Foster -- Type: Liberty -- Gross Tonnage: 7176-Type of Cargo:

Army Equipment and personell -- Owner: WSA -- Operated by: Matson Navigation Lines.

(B) Port of Departure, Southampton. Time: July 5-1944 at 1000(All times DB Sum. Time) Convoy , yes. No. of ships: 11 Liberties, 10 LSTs and numerous small craft. Escorts: 3 to 5 observed at all times. Speed of Convoy: Course and speed altered frequently by Commodore-Average 8.5kts. Port of Arrival: Omaha Beach, France. Time: July 5, 1944 at 2045 Return Arrival, Southampton, July 8, at 22/5

(C) Contacts and action with enemy: None.

(D) General Resume of Voyage: Route Followed: Marked Channel to beach, speed 8.5kts.

lights shown, none, Fog Signals, none, Zig Zag, None.

(E) There were no written or verbal radio orders from foreign government officials, except verbal advices from British Admiralty concerning channel crossing frequencies (F) Commercial Radio Operators' procedure was in accordance with Wartime Instructions

(G) Armament and Equipment: No repairs or replacements needed.

- (H) Master and Officers complied with Wartime Intructions for Naval Transportation
- (I) Recommendations: None, except that: At 1800, July 7, 1944, advanced broadcast in German was heard on 3400KCs., follwood by music and unintelligible English. (If this matter was in order, it is the opinion of undersigned that broadcast heard could possibly have been an Allied propaganda message)

(J) There was no improper procedure on the part of friendly air craft which

approached the vessel.