## ARMED GUARD VOYAGE REPORT

From:

Ens. H. L. Cottrell 1 ... knots In command of

Armed Guard Unit Aboard S.S.Abiel Foster

To: Chief of Naval Operations.

Port Director, Naval Transport Service, City of

New York, N.Y.

Subject: Voyage, report of.

Reference: (A) General Instructions for Commanding Officers of Naval Armed Guard on Merchant Ships, 1943, Chapter IV, Section 3.

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

A. Name and type of vessel: Abiel Foster, liberty

Owner of vessel:

Gross tons: 7176

Cargo:

none

Charter: Matson Navigation Co.

B. Port of departure: Gouroch (The Clyde) Scotland

(See note Pg. 2)

Time and date of departure: 2100 14 February, 1944

Sailed in convoy: x

Alone:

No. of ships in convoy: 81

No. and types of vessels: several corvettes and destroyers

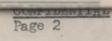
No. and types of escort aircraft: two merchant aircraft carriers

Port of arrival: New York, N.Y.

Time and date of arrival: (1930) 1 March

C. Detailed account of contact with enemy:

none



D. Speed of vessel #0.5 knots. Lights shown: no

Fog Signals: yes

Zig Zag: Yes No Course as per commodore

19 February (0200-0600) flares, gun fire and Incidents out of routine: depth charges were observed at frequent intervals. Some seemed near at hand - that is in the convoy - others seemed near the horizon. One very distinct explosion was felt at 0240. Our position was approximately 48-51N

- E. Copy of written or radio orders received by vessel from foreign government officials attached.
- F. Did commercial radio operator appear to follow wartime radio instructions? Yes x
- G. Defects or deficiencies in location or arrangement of battery and of Armed Guard quarters, or in equipment as regards material, personnel, or operation.

- H. Did master and officers of ship carry out Instructions for Naval Transportation and U. S. Merchant Vessels in Time of War? Yes x
  - I. Recommendations for Improved Armed Guard Services: none
  - J. Report of improper procedure on part of friendly aircraft approaching a Merchant Vessel.

none

Note: Previously departed Plymouth (Devon) 1030 18December, 1943 alone Milford Haven

1600 23December, 1943 in convoy

Ens. N. L. Latte

Ship cracked during storm at sea -- returned to Clyde anchorage 0200 1 Januarty, 1944