

FROM VCNO 2nd end; Voyage Rept SS ABIEL FOSTER 2/7/43 BuPers File Q51  
 DATE 3/30/43 DATE RECEIVED 3/31/43  
 FILE NO. (SC)A4-3 SERIAL NO. 0121023  
 SUBJECT Shooting of member of Armed Guard Crew.

*Minervini, Mario Joseph 57c USNR*

ENCLOSURES RECEIVED

ROUTED TO	ORDER	ACTION	INITIAL
Pers			
Pers-1			
Pers-0			
Pers-10			
Pers-215			
Pers-22	3		<i>Hand</i>
Pers-23			
Pers-234			
Pers-24			
Pers-3			
Pers-32			
Pers-320	<i>19207 Rsa</i>		
Pers-6	2	<i>Noted - JH Ensign</i>	
Pers-7			
Pers-17			
Pers-			
Pers-			

REMARKS



## SYMBOLS

- A - For appropriate action and return.  
 O - For information and return.  
 R - Correspondence retained.

NOTE: Correspondence attached hereto may be retained, if desired, but this Routing Sheet MUST BE RETURNED TO THE CONFIDENTIAL MAIL ROOM.

CONFIDENTIAL  
CONFIDENTIAL

SECOND ENDORSEMENT

On Voyage Report, S. S. ABIEL  
FOSTER, dated Feb. 7, 1943.

March 30, 1943-  
CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL  
NAVY DEPARTMENT  
RECEIVED

1943 MAR 31 AM 11 49

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.  
To : The Chief of Naval Personnel.

Subject: Shooting of Member of Armed Guard Crew.

1. Forwarded for information regarding the accidental shooting of Minervini, Mario Joseph, 706 06 78, S2c, V-6, USNR, as set forth in paragraph (5).

2. The ultimate return of the basic correspondence is requested.

*V. D. Chapline*  
V. D. CHAPLINE  
By direction

✓ 500

7. At 1100, November 12, 1942 arrived Cristobol, C.Z. Upon request, received 20 rounds additional ammunition for 4" 50 cal. gun and 4800 additional rounds of ammunition for 20 m.m. guns. Left Cristobol, C.Z. at 1200, November 13, 1942. 110404

8. On November 27, 28, 29, 1942, encountered severe storm off southern coast of Chile shortly before arriving at Cape Horn. Magazine for 4" gun was partially flooded with about six inches of water. Six rounds of ammunition were damaged by water and thrown overboard. Part of the deck cargo shifted because of the violence of the storm and water taken over the bow and some damage was done. Some superficial damage was also done to 3" gun by heavy seas. As soon as storm abated necessary repairs were made.

9. At 1800, December 16, 1942 arrived Cape Town, South Africa. Reported to U.S. Naval Attache for instructions. Left Cape Town, South Africa at 0400, December 18, 1942. Roderick, William Donald, 224 98 07, Sea2c, U.S.N. did not report back to ship after shore liberty. Separate report has been made. Left this port sailing alone with instructions to keep within three miles of shore.

10. Arrived Durban, South Africa at 1100, December 22, 1942. Left Durban, South Africa at 1400, December 22, 1942 in convoy of 19 Merchant Ships with an escort of 1 destroyer and two corvettes. Convoy broke up and dispersed at 0600, December 25, 1942 off the southeast tip of Madagascar.

11. Arrived at Bandar Shapur at 1415, January 12, 1943. At 0930, January 13, 1943 were directed to proceed to Shatt al Arab to anchor at the outer bar to await orders to proceed to dock at Abadan, Iran. Arrived at Shatt al Arab anchorage at 2000, January 14, 1943.

12. On January 18, 1943 took Maslauskas, Albert Charles, 607 25 43, Sea2c, V-6, U.S.N.R. to Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., Ltd. Hospital at Abadan, Iran for observation. This man had complained of severe headaches which he thought were caused from striking his head on overhead in getting out of his bunk. Doctor's opinion was that this man's injury was more psychological than physical but at suggestion prescribed medicine. Returned to ship at anchorage accompanied by Maslauskas on January 21, 1943.

13. Arrived at Abadan, Iran at 0800, February 8, 1943.

*W.H. McIntyre*  
W.H. McIntyre

OFFICE U.S. NAVAL OBSERVER  
BASRA IRAQ

FIRST ENDORSEMENT:

EF13-7/AG  
Serial 076

From: U.S. Naval Observer.  
To : Vice Chief of Naval Operations.  
Subject: Report of voyage, SS Abiel Foster from New York, N.Y.,  
to Abadan, Iran.

1.

Forwarded.

280

DERWOOD W. LOCKARD.

*Charles Brown*  
CHARLES L. BROWN,  
By direction.



From: Commanding Officer  
Naval Armed Guard, S.S. Abiel Foster

To: The Chief of Naval Operations.

VIA: Port Director, Third Naval District.

Subject: Report of Voyage SS Abiel Foster  
From New York, N.Y.  
To Abadan, Iran

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Reference: (a) General Instructions for Commanding Officers of Naval  
Armed Guards aboard Merchant Vessels, paragraph 38.

1. S.S. Abiel Foster, Liberty Ship, gross tonnage 7176, cargo of War Supplies, owned by U.S. Maritime Commission, chartered by War Shipping Administration, operated by Matson Navigation Company left New York at 0915, October 27, 1942. Convoy consisted of 24 Merchant Ships with an escort of 3 corvettes and two destroyers. Speed of the convoy was 8 knots.

2. On October 29, 1942, with permission of convoy Commodore, test fired all guns. Fired two rounds on 4" 50 cal., 3 rounds on 3" 50 cal., and ten rounds each on four 20 m.m. guns. Upon examination, after firing, found installations all secure.

3. Roberti, Mario (none), 204 60 39, Sea2c, V-6, U.S.N.R. was found unconscious in his room at 1730 on October 30, 1942. Destroyer escort came alongside and removed patient. Doctor on board destroyer advised man would be placed in hospital in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for observation.

4. Received signal at 1745 from convoy Commodore that enemy submarine was in vicinity. Ship's radio operator also received message via radio giving position of submarine about 700 miles east of convoy. Posted watch on Condition 2.

5. On November 2, 1942, at 1600, at change of watch, Murelle, Donald Rocco, 224 96 80, Sea2c, U.S.N., accidentally fired 45 cal. pistol after receiving it from previous lookout, Minervini, Mario Joseph, 706 06 78, Sea2c, V-6, U.S.N.R. Neither man was able to explain how live round happened to be in chamber. Minervini was shot through left thigh and bullet came out left buttock just below base of spine and just above anus. It is believed shot first hit deck at 20 m.m. gun mount and then ricocheted to point of entrance in thigh. The wound was clean, there were apparently no fractures and the bullet did not remain in body. Man was taken ashore the following day and placed in hospital at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

6. At 1200, November 3, 1942 anchored in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. At 1230, November 8, 1942 left Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in convoy of 19 Merchant Ships and escort of 2 Destroyers and 3 Corvettes.