

43318

ARMED GUARD UNIT  
S.S. ABIEL FOSTER  
ARMED GUARD CENTER (PACIFIC)  
TREASURE ISLAND  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

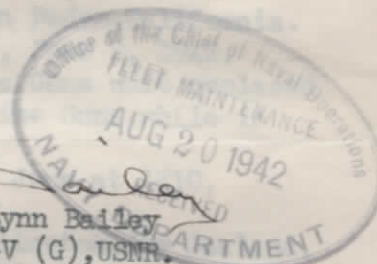
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CONFIDENTIAL

12 July 1942

3. Average speed of vessel in war zone was 11.5 knots.
4. No lights were shown and no fog signals were used while vessel was in war zone.
5. Master and Officers of the ship co-operated perfectly and carried out "INSTRUCTIONS FOR NAVAL TRANSPORTATION AND U.S. MERCHANT VESSELS IN TIME OF WAR".
6. The S.S. ABIEL FOSTER is an EC-2 U.S. Maritime Commission "Liberty" ship, of 7,176 gross tons, and carried a Lend-Lease cargo of medium tanks and automobiles. The vessel is owned by the U.S. Maritime Commission and is operated by the Matson Navigation Company.
7. The ship was never challenged, either by enemy or friendly aircraft or surface craft on the entire outward bound voyage.
8. The ship was not in convoy at any time.

Frederic Lynn Bailey  
Ensign, D-V (G), USNR.



FIRST ENDORSEMENT

OFFICE OF NAVAL ATTACHE Melbourne Australia  
July 22, 1942.

From: Naval Attache.  
To : The Chief of Naval Operations.

1.

Forwarded. **RECEIVED S-C FILE**  
Room 2155 L.D. CAUSEY

**AUG 19 1942**

ROUTE TO:- 23

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12 July 1942

From: Commanding Officer, Armed Guard Unit, S.S. ABIEL FOSTER.  
To: The Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department,  
Washington, D.C.  
Via: The Naval Attache, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.  
Subject: Report of Voyage of S.S. ABIEL FOSTER from San  
Francisco, California, U.S.A., to Sydney, New South  
Wales, Australia.  
Reference: General Instructions for Commanding Officers of  
Naval Armed Guard Units Aboard Merchant Vessels,  
Paragraph 38.

1. Departure San Francisco, California, Buoy J.,  
30 May 1942, at 2350, following an evasive south  
to southwesterly course to port of destination.  
At 1635, 31 May 1942, due to engine trouble, which  
later proved to be loose bolts in the slide of the  
intermediate pressure cylinder, a change of course  
was made, taking the vessel to San Pedro, California.  
Arrival San Pedro, California, 0557, June 2, 1942.  
Three(3) Mark III Browning Machine Guns were replaced  
by three(3) Mark IX Browning Machine Guns, while in  
this port.  
Departure San Pedro, California, 3 June at 1810,  
resumed original course.  
June 26, 1942 at 0635, arrival Wellington, New Zealand.  
Time of passage 21 days, 17 hours, 25 minutes. Average  
speed 12.1 knots. Distance of voyage 6308 miles.  
Departure Wellington, New Zealand, June 26, at 1350.  
July 3, 1942 at 1715, arrival Point Lonsdale, Melbourne,  
Australia. Time of passage 7 days, 5 hours, 25 minutes.  
Average speed 10.4 knots. Distance from Wellington, New  
Zealand 1805 miles.  
July 10, 1942 at 1221, departure Melbourne, Australia.  
July 12, 1942 at 1500, arrival Sydney, Australia. Time of  
passage 2 days, 2 hours, 40 minutes. Average speed 12.07  
knots. Distance from Melbourne, Australia 612 miles.
2. The commercial radio operator carried out all war time  
radio instructions. No confidential messages were intercepted.