

ARMED GUARD UNIT
S.S. ABIGAIL ADAMS
Armed Guard Center (Pacific)
Treasure Island
San Francisco, California

CONFIDENTIAL

October 5, 1944

From: Lt. (jg) Robert D. Pearce Jr., D-V(S), USNR, Armed Guard
Commander, S.S. ABIGAIL ADAMS. Gross tons: 7,176.

To: Chief of Naval Operations

Via: Port Director, San Francisco, California.

Subject: Report of voyage, S.S. Abigail Adams, Gross tons: 7,176.
From San Francisco, California to Pearl Harbor, T.H.
From Pearl Harbor, T.H. to Eniwetock, Marshall I.
From Eniwetock, Marshall I. to Saipan, Marianas I.
From Saipan, Marianas I. to Eniwetock, Marshall I.
From Eniwetock, Marshall I. to Pearl Harbor, T.H.
From Pearl Harbor, T.H. to San Francisco, California.

Reference: (a) General Instructions for Commanding Officers of Naval
Armed Guards on Merchant Ships, 1943, Paragraph 4301.

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

- (a) Name of vessel: S.S. Abigail Adams.
Type of vessel: EC-2, Cargo.
Type of Cargo: Construction equipment. Trucks, cement mixers, cement, asphalt.
Gross tonnage: 7,176.
Owner of Vessel: U.S. Government, represented by War Shipping Administration.
Chartered to: De La Rama Steamship Co., Inc. Master, Olaf Winnes.
- (b) Departed San Francisco, Cal. July 12, 1944. Sailing singly, without escort.
Arrived Pearl Harbor, T.H. July 20, 1944. Average speed 11.2 knots.
Departed Pearl Harbor, T.H. July 26, 1944. In convoy with escorts.
Arrived Eniwetock, Marshall I. August 6, 1944. Average speed 10 knots.
Departed Eniwetock, Marshall I. August 21, 1944. In convoy with escorts.
Arrived Saipan, Marianas I. August 26, 1944. Average speed 10 knots.
Departed Saipan, Marianas I. September 9, 1944. In convoy with escorts.
Arrived Eniwetock, Marshall I. September 14, 1944. Average speed 10.4
Departed Eniwetock, Marshall I. September 16, 1944. In convoy with escorts.
Arrived Pearl Harbor, T.H. September 25, 1944. Average speed 10.3
Departed Pearl Harbor, T.H. September 27, 1944. Sailing singly, without escort.
Arrived San Francisco, Cal. October 5, 1944. Average speed. 11.3 knots.

(c) Contact and action with enemy: None.

CONFIDENTIAL

- BUPERS*
- (d) General resume of voyage: July 18, 1944 surface target practice at sea. Five rounds fired from Aft. 3"50. Ship maintained normal speed and course. Daily treatment at Navy Hospital, Pearl Harbor, T.H. given to Woodward, A.C. Slc, 880 35 10, for sciatic nerve in hip. Hospitalization not necessary. Woodward, A.C. Slc, 880 35 10 injured while ashore, Saipan, AWOL. Fragment of hand grenade, thrown by Woodward, A.C., lodged in head just over right eye. Taken to hospital as quickly as possible by Dooley, Frederick C. Slc, 844 84 98 and Dronen, Ralph W. Slc, 892 46 56, who were with him at time of accident. Woodward, A.C. Slc, 880 35 10 died 1930 September 7, 1944, while in 148th. General Hospital (Army). Buried in 27th. Division Army Cemetery, Saipan, Marianas Islands.
- ✓ Wilbanks, D.J. Slc, 840 23 24 hospitalized, Navy Hospital GroPac 8, September 7, 1944 with infected right knee. Released from hospital and treatment continued aboard ship September 9, 1944.
- ✓ Duecker, F.H. Slc, 854 94 34 and Eaton, J.R. Slc 387 02 41 down with Dengue fever. Treated aboard ship. September 11, 1944. September 16, 1944 both men over fever.
- September 28, 1944 AA target practice at sea. Five rounds from Fwd. 3"50. Total of 860 rounds, all 8- 20mm used.
- Lights shown: Dim running lights 200 miles off coast of California and off Oahu, Island.

- (e) Delays in port: Waited two weeks in Eniwetock for convoy to form going West.
- REPAIRS* (f) The commercial radio operator appeared to carry out wartime radio instructions for Merchant Vessels.
- (g) Defects and deficiencies: The ships radio Auto -Alarm is defective, and unreliable. The ship has never had short-wave radio equipment. Installation of a reliable Auto-Alarm, and short-wave radio equipment is recommended.
- (h) The Master, and ships officers carried out "Wartime Instructions for United States Merchant Vessels".
- (i) Recommendations for improvement of the service. More frequent surface and A.A. target practice, against towed targets.
- (j) Improper procedure on the part of friendly aircraft: None.

Robert D. Pearce Jr.
Robert D. Pearce Jr.
Lt. (jg) USNR

CONFIDENTIAL