

ARMED GUARD UNIT
S.S. ABIGAIL ADAMS
ARMED GUARD CENTER (PACIFIC)
Treasure Island
San Francisco, California

CONFIDENTIAL

Noumea, New Caledonia,
May 11, 1944.

From: The Commanding Officer, Naval Armed Guard,
S.S. Abigail Adams, Gross tons: 7,176.

To: The Chief of Naval Operations.

Via: The Port Director, Noumea, New Caledonia.

Subject: Report of voyage, S.S. Abigail Adams, Gross tons: 7,176;
From Auckland, New Zealand
To Noumea, New Caledonia,
To Vila, Efate, N. H.,
To Espiritu Santo, N. H.
To Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands,
To Blue Bay, Russell Islands,
To Nissan, Green Islands,
To Stirling Island, Treasury Islands,
To Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands,
To Noumea, New Caledonia.

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.
Gross tonnage: 7,176. Type of cargo: Auckland and Noumea to Nissan,
gasoline, diesel oil, and canned foodstuffs; Nissan to Noumea, tanks,
vehicles, field guns, and miscellaneous equipment of New Zealand Army.
Owner of vessel: U.S.A. represented by War Shipping Administration.
Chartered to: De La Rama Steamship Company, Inc.

(b) Departed Auckland, N.Z. March 20, 1944, sailing singly, without escort.
Average speed 10.1 K. Arrived Noumea, N.C. March 24, 1944.
Departed Noumea, N. C. March 29, 1944, sailing singly, without escort.
Ave. speed 7.9 K. Arrived Vila, Efate, N.H. March 31, 1944.
Departed Vila, Efate, N.H. April 1, 1944, sailing singly, with 1 ex-
cort vessel. Ave. speed 11.0 K. Arrived Second Channel, Espiritu
Santo, N.H. April 2, 1944.
Departed Espiritu Santo, N.H. April 11, 1944, sailing in convoy of 6
ships, with 2 escort vessels. Ave. speed 9.4 K. Arrived Guadalcanal,

(b) Cont'd

Solomon Islands April 14, 1944.

Departed Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands April 14, 1944, sailing singly, with 2 escort vessels. Ave. speed 9.5 K. Arrived Blue Bay, Russell Islands April 14, 1944.

Departed Blue Bay, Russell Islands April 16, 1944, sailing singly, with 2 escort vessels. Ave. speed 9.7 K. Arrived Nissan, Green Islands April 18, 1944.

Departed Nissan, Green Islands April 27, 1944, sailing in convoy of 2 ships, with 2 escort vessels. Ave. speed 9.7 K. Arrived Stirling Island, Treasury Islands, April 28, 1944.

Departed Stirling Island, Treasury Islands April 30, 1944, sailing singly, with 2 escort vessels. Ave. speed 9.3 K. Arrived Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, May 2, 1944.

Departed Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands May 5, 1944, in convoy of 4 ships, with 3 escort vessels (On May 7, convoy was joined at sea by a fifth ship and a fourth escort vessel). Ave. speed 9.5 K. Separated from convoy May 8 according to instructions. Arrived Noumea, New Caledonia, May 11, 1944.

(c) Contacts and action with enemy: None.

(d) General resume of voyage:

April 18-27, during discharge and loading of vessel, under way, LCTs acting as lighters rammed numerous holes in ship's sides, and apparently sprung two seams in skin below water line. Most of holes were patch-welded before departure from Nissan.

April 5, at Espiritu Santo, N.H., Phillips, Elza Uel, 662 01 63, BM2c, U.S.N.R. was admitted to U.S.N. Base Hospital No. 3 for treatment of duodenal ulcer.

April 5, at Espiritu Santo, N.H., Fowler, Ralph (n), 605 45 85, GM3c, reported for duty on board, replacing Phillips, E.U., BM2c, detached for hospitalization.

Average speed of vessel: 9.5 Knots.

Lights shown: None.

Vessel zig-zagged in accordance with instructions.

(e) Delays in port due to lack of port facilities: None.

(f) The commercial radio operator appeared to carry out wartime radio instructions for merchant vessels, in all respects.

(g) Defects and deficiencies: The ship has been without a Naval communications liason group since September 13, 1943. Signalmen are particularly needed.

(h) The Master and ship's officers carried out "Wartime Instructions for United States Merchant Vessels".

- (i) Recommendations for the improvement of the service: More frequent target practice, - both surface target practice with a towed target, and anti-aircraft machine gun target practice with a towed sleeve.
- (j) Improper procedure on the part of friendly aircraft: None.

John H. Todd
JOHN H. TODD,
Lieutenant, D-V(S), U.S.N.R.

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PORT DIRECTORS OFFICE
NOUMEA, NEW CALEDONIA

FIRST ENDORSEMENT

May 11, 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Port Director, Noumea.
To: The Chief of Naval Operations.
Subject: Report of S. S. Abigail Adams.
1. Forwarded.

C. E. Farrey
C. E. FARREY,
By direction.

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Room 2055

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