

RESTRICTED

21 September 1944
S.S. ABIGAIL S. DUNIWAY

From: Lt.(jg) H.H. COCHRANE, D-V(S) USNR., Armed Guard
Office S.S. ABIGAIL S. DUNIWAY (Relieved)
To : Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department
Washington D.C.
Via : The Port Director, Aitape, New Guinea.
Subject: "War time instruction for United States Merchant
Vessels." U.S. Fleet Headquarters of the Commander
in Chief; Violations of.
References: (a) General Instruction for Commanding Officers
of Naval Armed Guard on Merchant Ships 3rd
edition paragraph 4313.
(b) War Time Instruction for United States Merchant
Vessels (1943)

1. In accordance with references (a) the violations of
reference (b) are set out below and reported to the Port Director
for such action as he may see fit.
2. Many of the below enumerated violations in accordance
with reference (a) section 3 paragraph 4301 have been reported
by prior voyage reports between the dates of 16 July 1944 and 19 Sept.
1944.

3. Violations:

(a) Chapter 1 section 5 paragraph 1501 (a) and
paragraph 2302 - The Master of the S.S. DUNIWAY
has never posted Merchant Marine lookouts in the
wings of the Navigation Bridge and only on a few
occasions has he posted a crows nest watch as
required by these sections.

(b) Chapter one section 7 paragraph 1705 (a) and (b)
and Chapter 2 section 1 paragraph 2106 (requiring
strict requirement with citation in chapter 1 for
ships sailing singly as was the case most of the time
in forward areas during the time covered by this
report). The Master of the S.S. DUNIWAY has never
formed the inspection party required by these regulat-
ions or carried said inspection or made entry of same
in the Log Book to the best information and belief of
the Gunnery Officer.

(c) Chapter 1 section 9 paragraph 1902 (g). The
Master has never provided men to clear or made any
effort to keep clear, a free passage on deck at all
times in forward areas for men to go to and from their
gun stations with ease or safety after repeated request
to the Master about the matter. Further the Master
failed after repeated requests to keep booms not in

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use swung in clear of firing arc of gun until one port ordered to do so by the Port Director Sansapor Dutch New Guinea.

(d) Chapter 1 section 9(b) -2 The Master has refused after repeated requests to order his Merchant Seamen assigned to the battle bill to attend instruction class offered by the Gunnery Officer.

(e) Chapter 1 Section 9-(i) The Master has failed to detail an officer as gunnery officer under study as required by this section.

(f) Chapter 1 Section 11-P11101, (a)(b)(c)(d). The Master failed to have posted a notice to the Merchant crew not to mention AA action against the enemy by the ships crew and armed guard officer; thus making no effort to comply with these regulations.

(g) Chapter 1 section 11, P11109-(a) The Master and Ships Officers have failed on many occasions while under way in forward areas to provide the radio shack with the ships position as required by this section.

(h) Chapter 2 section 2, P 2208 The Master has failed to comply with this section at Aitape, New Guinea and Noemfoor Island by stopping and traveling at a dead slow ahead speed during the hours of darkness while circling outside the anchorage.

(i) Chapter 1 Section 9 P 1902(e) The master has failed to adjust evening meal hours aboard ship at request of Armed Guard Officer in order that the gun crew could be messed and still go to General Quarters half hour before sundown as required by reference(a) this being in violation of the sections here recited of reference(b).

Lt. (jg) H.H. COCHRANE, USNR
Lt. (jg) H.H. COCHRANE, USNR.
Armed Guard Commander
S.S. ABEIGAL S. DUNIWAY
(Now relieved)

*File Pending action
by P.D. Aitape.
New Guinea
E.C.C.*