

F16-5/10-44
RWM/jgo
(2)

United States Naval Base
Office of the Port Director
Navy 3505
c/o FPO San Francisco, Calif.

7 September 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

7176

From: Port Director
 To: Chief of Naval Operations
 Subject: Voyage Report of SS ABIGAIL S. DUNNIWAY, transmittal of
 Reference: (a) General Instructions for Commanding Officers of
 Naval Armed Guards on Merchant Ships, 1944, Fourth
 Edition.
 Enclosures: (A) Voyage report of SS ABIGAIL S. DUNNIWAY
 (B) Changes in Naval Personnel made outside continental
 United States, report of.

1. In accordance with Reference (a), Enclosures (A) and (B) are herewith transmitted.
2. The Armed Guard officer and the master carried out all port regulations and instructions properly.

RECEIVED S-C FILES

23 Room 2055

INDEXED TO: SS SEP 29 1944

Op. File No. (67)

Doc. No.

Copy No.

File No.

14-3/Abigail S. Dunningway

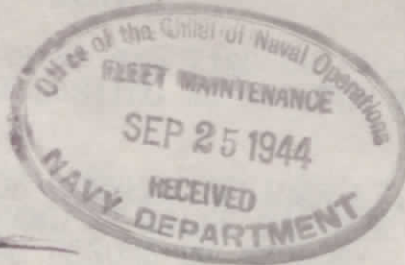
D. A. WRIGHT

R. W. Morris

R. W. MORRIS,

By direction.

*see C. page 1-2
E.C.C.
g*



172

*AED
Bulwer.*

(S)
MUT/780
LJ2-1/JO-PT

C/O J.B. G. B. LEONARDI
HEAD 2202
OFFICE OF THE PORT DIRECTOR

CONFIDENTIAL

24 AUGUST 1944

FROM; LT (JG) H.H. COCHRANE USNR COMMANDING OFFICER ARMED GUARD UNIT
 S.S. ABIGAIL S. DUNIWAY (GROSS TONS - 7176)
 C/O ARMED GUARD CENTERS; PACIFIC, TREASURE ISLAND, CALIF.
 ATLANTIC, BROOKLYN, NYC, N.Y.

TO; THE VICE-CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS.

VIA; THE PORT DIRECTOR, BIAK ISLAND, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC.

SUBJECT; REPORT OF THE VOYAGE OF THE S.S. ABIGAIL S. DUNIWAY, FROM
 MILNE BAY NEW GUINEA TO CERTAIN NEW GUINEA PORTS AND TO
 BIAK ISLAND, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC.

REFERENCE; (A) GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMANDING OFFICERS OF NAVAL
 ARMED GUARDS, PARA 4301.

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFERENCE (A) THE FOLLOWING DATA IS
 SUBMITTED;

- A. TYPE OF VESSEL EC2 LIBERTY
- TYPE OF CARGO TROOPS, BEER, BOMBS, GENERAL.
- OWNER OF VESSEL U.S. MARITIME COMMISSION.
- CHARTERED TO U.S. ARMY PER WEYERHAEUSER INC.
- B. PORT OF DEPARTURE MILNE BAY, NEW GUINEA.
- PARTLY CONVOYED PARTLY INDEPENDENT.
- (1) CONVOY SPEED 9 KNOT AVERAGE.
- (2) INDEPENDENT SPEED 11 KNOT AVERAGE.
- (3) NUMBER OF SHIPS IN CONVOY;
 - (A) FROM FINCHAFEAN TO HOLLANDIA NEW GUINEA 11 SHIPS
AND 7 ESCORTS.
 - (B) FROM HOLLANDIA TO MAFFIN BAY, DUTCH NEW GUINEA,
5 SHIPS, AND 3 ESCORTS.
 - (C) FROM MAFFIN BAY TO BIAK ISLAND, 2 SHIPS, & 2 ESC-
CORTS.

C. THERE WAS NO SIGHTING OR ENGAGEMENT OF ENEMY CRAFT. THERE
 WAS ONE RED AIR ALERT LASTING 20 MINUTES AT MAFFIN BAY DUTCH NEW GUINEA
 ON 19 AUGUST 1944.

D. THE PRIOR GUNNERY OFFICER LT. WILLIAM B STAFFORD USNR WAS
 RELIEVED OF THIS COMMAND AT MILNE BAY NEW GUINEA FOR EMERGENCY LEAVE ON
 16 JULY 1944. GENERAL RESUME OF VOYAGE;

THE SHIP LEFT MILNE BAY NEW GUINEA
 ON 21 JULY 1944 WITH ABOUT 600 ARMY TROOPS AND OFFICERS ABOARD, AND A
 GENERAL ARMY CARGO OF BEER AND OTHER EQUIPMENT FOR HOLLANDIA, DUTCH NEW
 GUINEA. THE SHIP ANCHORED AT MOROBE HARBOR AWAITING ORDERS ON 22 JULY 1944

Buff Em.

CONFIDENTIAL

SERVICE REPORT SERIAL

PAGE 2

DURING WHICH TIME THE ARMY PASSENGERS AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE MERCHANT CREW AND MERCHANT OFFICERS WERE SEEN TO BE FREELY CONSUMING BEER PRESUMABLY FROM THE CARGO, WHICH RESULTED IN GENERAL DRUNKENNESS ABOARD AND SOME SHOOTING (NO CASUALTIES) WHEN THESE MATTERS WERE REPORTED TO THE MASTER OF THE SHIP HE WAS ALSO DRINKING BEER WITH HIS ENGINEERING OFFICER AND OTHERS, AND STATED THAT SUCH MATTERS WERE NOT HIS RESPONSIBILITY AND LEFT THE MATTER TO THE TROOP COMMANDER AND ARMED GUARD TO HANDLE. THE TROOP COMMANDER BROUGHT THE CONSUMPTION OF THE SHIP CARGO UNDER CONTROL.

THE SHIP LEFT MOROBE HARBOR ON 22 JULY 1944, AND PROCEEDED INDEPENDENTLY TO FINCHAEFEN NE GUINEA WHERE IT JOINED A CONVOY OF 10 SHIPS AND 7 ESCORTS BOUND FOR HOLLANDIA, DUTCH NEW GUINEA, ARRIVING AT HOLLANDIA DUTCH NEW GUINEA ON 27 JULY 1944 WHERE THE TROOPS AND PART OF THE CARGO WAS DISCHARGED, AND THE SHIP WAS RE-LOADED WITH AIREAL BOMBS AND OTHER WAR CARGO OTHER FORWARD AREAS.

THE SHIP LEFT HOLLANDIA DUTCH NEW GUINEA ON 7 AUGUST 1944 IN CONVOY (5 SHIPS, 3 ESCORTS) AND ARRIVED AT MAFFIN BAY DUTCH NEW GUINEA ON 8 AUGUST 1944, AND LAY AT ANCHOR AWAITING ORDERS UNTIL 10 AUGUST 1944 AT WHICH TIME IT MOVED TO YELLOW BEACH, MAFFIN BAY AREA, AND DISCHARGED ALL BOMBS, AND PART OF THE BEER CARGO. ON 17 AUGUST 1944 THE SHIP LEFT YELLOW BEACH FOR MAFFIN BAY ANCHORAGE AND WENT ON A REEF AT YELLOW BEACH GOING FULL SPEED AHEAD. THE REEF WAS RECORDED ON THE CHARTS IN USE AND THE MASTER WAS ON THE BRIDGE AT THE TIME COMMANDING THE SHIP. THE SHIP WAS REMOVED FROM THE REEF AT HIGH TIDE AFTER FURTHER UNLOADING OF BEER CARGO ON 18 AUGUST 1944 BY AN AUSTRALIAN CORVETTE, AND PROCEEDED TO MAFFIN BAY AND DISCHARGED MORE CARGO.

THE SHIP LEFT MAFFIN BAY DUTCH NEW GUINEA ON 22 AUGUST 1944 AFTER BEING LOADED WITH ABOUT 200 U.S. ARMY TROOPS AND OFFICER PASSENGERS FOR OTHER ADVANCED BASES. THE SHIP TRAVELED IN CONVOY (2 SHIPS AND 2 ESCORTS) TO BIAK ISLAND ARRIVING ON 23 AUGUST 1944.

E. LOADING AND UNLOADING OPERATIONS AT MILNE BAY NEW GUINEA AND HOLLANDIA DUTCH NEW GUINEA WAS VERY WELL HANDLED, BUT THE UNLOADING OPERATIONS AT MAFFIN BAY AND YELLOW BEACH DUTCH NEW GUINEA WAS VERY POOR AS MANY OF THE WORKING CREWS SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME CONSUMING THE BEER THEY WERE HANDLING.

F. IN RE: THE COMMERCIAL RADIO OPERATOR; UNDER THE DIRECTION AND ORDERS OF THE MASTER OF THE SHIP THE COMMERCIAL RADIO OPERATOR HAS HANDLED ALL DECODING, AND FURTHER RECIEVES TWO HOURS OVERTIME PER DAY FOR THE PREPARATION OF A SHIPS NEWS PAPER, ALTHO SAME IS DONE DURING THE HOURS HE STANDS REGULAR SEA WATCHES, AND DURING THE HOURS THAT THE NAVY RADIO OPERATORS ARE ON SEA WATCH WHICH INTERFERED WITH THE NAVY RADIO WATCH. NO LEAKAGE HAS BEEN OBSERVED OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

G. DEFECTS IN THE BATTERY CONSISTED OF AN INSUFFICIENT OPENING IN THE REAR SIDE OF THE FORWARD GUN TUB TO PERMIT A RAPID PASSING OF AMMUNITION TO THE GUN FOR A.A. FIRE, AND SAME WAS PARTLY CORRECTED BY THE GUN CREW, AND REPORTED TO THE BUREAU OF ORDNANCE AND ARMED GUARD CENTERS CONCERNED.

CONFIDENTIAL

(VOYAGE REPORT CONTINUED)

PAGE 3

*a.s.d.
jm*

ONE MEMBER OF THE ARMED GUARD CREW WAS TURNED OVER TO THE PORT DIRECTOR MAFFIN BAY, DUTCH NEW GUINEA FOR SUSPECTED THEFT ABOARD SHIP ON 14 AUGUST 1944. A REORGANIZATION OF THE BATTLE STATION BILL FOR MERCHANT PERSONEL ON 21 AUGUST 1944 BROUGHT FORTH A REFUSAL ON THE PART OF THE FIRST ASSISTANT ENGINEER JOHN A. COLLIGAN, THE SECOND ASSISTANT ENGINEER ERWIN C. HAY, AND THE THIRD ASSISTANT ENGINEER, CARL S. KINDBERG, TO ACCEPT A BATTLE STATION WHILE OFF WATCH TO PASS AMMUNITION FOR THE FORWARD GUN, ON THE THEORY THAT THEIR SERVICES MIGHT BE NEEDED IN THE ENGINE ROOM, AND THAT THEY WERE NOT SUBJECT TO SUCH ASSIGNMENT OR PARAGRAPH 1205 GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ARMED GUARD COMMANDERS, 1943 ED. OR THE DIRECTIVE OF THE COMMANDANT OF THE TWELTH NAVAL DISTRICT ON THIS SUBJECT DATED 31 DECEMBER 1942, WHICH WAS POSTED ABOARD SHIP.

H. WARTIME INSTRUCTIONS FOR UNITED STATES MERCHANT VESSELS WITH HEREIN NOTED EXCEPTIONS HAVE BEEN FAIRLY WELL OBSERVED.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS TENDING TO IMPROVE THE SERVICE WOULD BE FOR A BETTER SYSTEM OF FIRE CONTROL FOR MERCHANT TYPE 5 INCH 38 GUN INSTALLATIONS.

J. NO IMPROPER PROCEEDURE OF FRIENDLY AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN NOTED.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Henry H. Cochrane USNR
 LT (JG) HENRY H. COCHRANE D-V-(S) USNR
 ARMED GUARD COMMANDER
 S.S. ABIGAIL S. DUNIWAY