

CONFIDENTIAL

29 April 1945

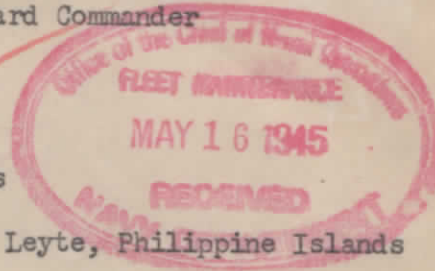
From: Lester S. Pearl, Lt(jg), USNR, Armed Guard Commander  
S.S. Abiqua

To : The Chief of Naval Operations

Via : Port Director, Leyte, Philippine Islands

Subject: Voyage Report from Sydney, Australia to Leyte, Philippine Islands

Reference: (a) General Instructions for Commanding Officers of Naval Armed Guards on Merchant Ships, 1944, Fourth Edition, Paragraph 4301



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

- (a) Type of vessel - T-2 Tanker. Type of cargo, 101,674 bbls. of United States Navy fuel oil, 17 LCVP boats, 20 bags of mail, 753 drums of lubricating oil. Owner of vessel - War Shipping Administration, Washington, D. C. Not chartered.
- (b) Left Sydney, Australia at 2030 on 13 April 1945, sailing singly at an average speed of 14 knots with no ships in convoy and no escorts and arrived at Papituela oil dock Los Negros Island and Manus Island, Admiralty Islands at 1200 on 20 April 1945. Left anchorage 299 at Manus Island at 0730 on 23 April 1945 sailing singly at an average speed of 14 knots with no ships in convoy and no escorts and arrived at Kossol, Palau Islands at 1030 on 26 April 1945. Left Palau Islands at 1200 on 27 April 1945 sailing in convoy at an average speed of 13 knots with 5 other ships in convoy and 2 escorts and arrived at Leyte, Philippines at 1600 on 29 April 1945.
- (c) No contacts or action with the enemy. At 0745 on 24 April 1945 while traveling singly we sighted what appeared to be a mine at Latitude 01-30 N and Longitude 143-52 E. Two rounds were fired at it by the 5" -38 gun at an approximate range of 1800 yards. Due to the ship's zig-zag course the object was caught in our wake and bounced so much the result of the gunfire was uncertain.
- (d) No lights were shown during voyage except as directed; zig-zag course was followed as directed.
- (e) No unusual delays in port.
- (f) Radio operators followed wartime radio instructions for merchant vessels.
- (g) No defects or deficiencies in material, personnel or operation.
- (h) Master and officers of the ship followed "Wartime Instructions for Merchant Vessels."
- (i) No recommendations.
- (j) No instance of improper procedure by a friendly aircraft or vessel.
- (k) Training given at sea consisted in drills by combined Merchant and Navy crews at battle stations, air craft recognition, fire and abandon ship drill, instructions concerning proper behavior ashore.

Lester S. Pearl, Lt(jg), USNR  
Armed Guard Commander  
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