

CONFIDENTIAL  
SERIAL PDNYF 017634

1st Endorsement  
17 Battery Place, New York, N.Y.  
1 March 1944.

From: The Port Director, Third Naval District.  
To: The Chief of Naval Operations.

Subj: Voyage Report of SS ABIQUA.

1. Forwarded.
2. Deficiencies reported have been referred to the department concerned (Par. E).
3. Messing conditions aboard this vessel will be discussed with the operators.

RECEIVED S-C FILES

23 Room 2055

ROUTE TO: 4 MAR 1944

Op File No. (SC)

Doc. No.

Copy No.

Pkg. No.

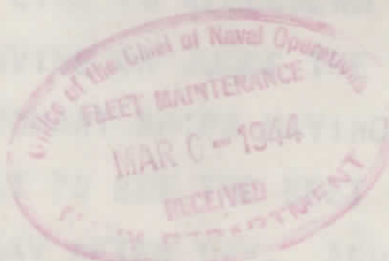
A4-3/Abiqua

3296301

F. G. REINICKE

By

McNeely



1544  
OFFICER, NAVAL ARMED GUARD  
(C/O ARMED GUARD CENTER, NEW ORLEANS, LA.)

MXS.

S.S. ABIQUA

GROSS TONS: 10,172

TO: THE VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
VIA: THE PORT DIRECTOR, NEW YORK CITY

SUBJECT: REPORT OF VOYAGE, S.S. ABIQUA  
FROM: AVONMOUTH, ENGLAND TO: NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

REFERENCE: (A) GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMANDING OFFICERS OF  
NAVAL ARMED GUARDS ON MERCHANT SHIPS, PAR. 4301.

ENCLOSURE: (A)

(1) IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFERENCES (A), THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION  
IS SUBMITTED:

- (A) TYPE OF VESSEL: TANKER TYPE OF CARGO: NONE  
OWNER OF VESSEL: WAR SHIP. ADM. CHARTERED TO: CITIES SERVICE CO.
- (B) PORT OF DEPARTURE: AVONMOUTH, ENG. DATE: FEB. 16, 1944  
CONVOYED OR INDEPENDENT: CONVOYED SPEED (AVERAGE): 14 KNOTS  
NUMBER OF SHIPS IN CONVOY: 28 NO. OF ESCORT VESSELS: 6  
PORT OF ARRIVAL: NEW YORK CITY DATE: 2/27
- (C) THERE WERE NO CONTACTS NOR ACTION WITH THE ENEMY.  
(D) NO INCIDENTS OUT OF ROUTINE. ZIG-ZAG WAS DONE ALL RIGHT.  
(E) NO DELAYS IN PORTS EN ROUTE.  
(F) WARTIME RADIO INSTRUCTIONS CARRIED OUT BY COMMERCIAL OPERATOR.  
(G) BOTH THE HEATING AND VENTILATING OF THE AFT GUN CREW QUARTERS  
MUST BE IMPROVED UPON. THE FORWARD MAGAZINE IS TAKING WATER.  
STOPS MUST BE PUT ON THE INBOARD 20MM. GUNS AMIDSHIPS. MORE  
CABINET SPACE NEEDED FOR GEAR IN AFT QUARTERS.  
(H) WARTIME INSTRUCTIONS FOLLOWED BY MASTER AND SHIPS OFFICERS.  
(I) NO RECOMMENDATIONS AT PRESENT FOR IMPROVEMENT OF SERVICE.  
(J) FRIENDLY AIRCRAFT APPROACHED PROPERLY AT ALL TIMES.

SIGNED: Regis Cg. Rahud.

P.S.

*See enclosure*  
IN REFERENCE TO "I" ABOVE, WOULD LIKE TO RECOMMEND THAT  
THE NAVY HAVE SOME POWER TO SUPERVISE OR JUDGE THE SELECTION  
OF THE STEWARD'S PERSONNEL ON MERCHANT SHIPS HAVING NAVAL  
GUN CREWS. IT IS MIGHTY DIFFICULT TO SEE THE BEST OF GRUB  
SPOILED AND DUMPED INTO THE SEA DAY AFTER DAY. AND THE MEN  
ARE LOSING WEIGHT STEADILY (ON MY SHIP AT LEAST). IT IS A  
POOR SYSTEM WHICH TURNS OUT MEN WHO ARE SUPPOSED TO BE COOKS,  
THOSE MEN REPORTING ABOARD, FINDING THE JOB TOO MUCH FOR THEIR  
LIMITED EXPERIENCE, AND TURNING DOWN THE JOB FOR MESS BOY WORK.