

CONFIDENTIAL

SS ABNER DOUBLEDAY
JANUARY 10, 1944

FROM: WADE R. MCKINNEY, ENSIGN USNR
TO: THE VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
VIA: PORT DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: VOYAGE REPORT OF SS ABNER DOUBLEDAY
REFERENCE: (A) GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMANDING OFFICERS OF NAVAL ARMED GUARDS ON MERCHANT SHIPS 1942.

7176
EA

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

1. NAME OF VESSEL.....SS ABNER DOUBLEDAY
TYPE OF VESSEL.....STEAMSHIP
CHARTER OPERATED UNDER.....A.T.S.
GROSS TONNAGE.....7176
TYPE OF CARGO.....ARMY GENERAL
OWNER OF VESSEL....MARINE TRANSPORT LINES, INC.
2. PORT OF DEPARTURE.....SOUTHAMPTON
TIME OF DEPARTURE.....
DATE OF DEPARTURE.....23, DECEMBER 1943
SAILING IN CONVOY.....YES
ESCORT VESSELS...CORVETTES & DESTROYERS
SPEED OF CONVOY.....9 -1/2
PORT OF ARRIVAL.....ST. JOHNS N.B.
TIME OF ARRIVAL.....
MASTER OF SHIP.....JOHN C. STURGES
NATIONALITY OF MASTER.....U.S.A.

3. CONTACTS WITH THE ENEMY

THERE WERE NO CONTACTS WITH THE ENEMY

4. SUMMARY OF THE VOYAGE.
- DEC. 0800 NINE S1/C ASHORE FOR DENTAL TREATMENT
DEC. 13 SEA WATCH SET 1400, 8 MEN ON WATCH, PO IN CHARGE. TWO MEN ON 3/50, TWO MEN ON 4/50 AND 4 MEN ON BRIDGE. 1529 SHIP CLEAR OF PIER 102 SOUTHAMPTON ENGLAND. 1630 ANCHORED CAVES ROADS ENGLAND AWAITING ORDERS.
DEC. 15 0410 ANCHOR AWEIGH 0450 PASSED THROUGH SUBMARINE NETS 0551 ARRIVAL PILOT STATION AND PILOT AWAY.

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DEC 16 2108 ARRIVAL MILFORD HAVEN, 2231 LET GO ANCHOR
DALE ROADS MILFORD HAVEN ENGLAND 2400 SEA WATCH
BROKEN AND 4 MEN ON WATCH, ONE ON 3/50 ONE ON
4/50 ONE ON BRIDGE, ONE ROVING.

DEC 18 1356 CHANGED ANCHORAGE

DEC 22 CUMBY S1/C & URBANEK S1/C ASHORE FOR DENTAL TREA-
-TMENT LETTERS ATTACHED.

DEC 23 0930 ATTENDED CONFERENCE WITH CAPTAIN
1400 INSPECTED AND CHECKED ALL GUNS & AMMUNITION
1600 SEA WATCH OF 8 MEN SET.
1640 ANCHOR AWEIGH, 1652 PASSED THROUGH
SUBMARINE NETS MILFORD HAVEN ENGLAND.
1658 SPOTTED TARGET AND OPENED FIRE WITH 3/50
AS PER ORDERS RECEIVED AT CONFERENCE.
1705 OPEN WITH 4/50 & AGAIN WITH 3/50 AT SMALL
BOAT, PAINTED, AS DIRECTED. VERY GOOD SHOOTING
WITH BOTH GUNS BELIEVE TO HAVE SCORED 2 DIRECT
HITS. 1715 OPEN 20 MM, S ON PORT SIDE AT FLARE,
SHOT THE FLARE FROM 2 SHOOT. VERY GOOD SHOOTING.

DEC 26 1240 PASSED LIFE RAFT NO IDENTIFICATION.

DEC 27 VESSEL ROLLING AND PITCHING HEAVILY AND SHIPPING
HEAVY SPRAY FORE & AFT PORT SIDE. HAIL SQUALLS
HELM VERY SLOW RESPONDING DUE TO HEAVY SEAS
AND HIGH WINDS.

DEC 29 VERY SLOW HELM, VESSEL ROLLING, PITCHING, AND
SHIPPING SEA FORE & AFT ON PORT SIDE. SNOW & HAIL
SQUALLS THROUGHOUT DAY & NITE.

DEC 28 SHIPS OUT OF CONTROL ALL AROUND, HELM VERY SLOW
DUE TO HEAVY SEAS & STRONG WINDS. SNOW & SLEET
SQUALLS ALL DAY & NITE.

DEC 30 SEA & WIND CALMER.

JAN 2/44 RUNNING OUT OF THE STORM FAIR SAILING

JAN 8 0930 DEPARTED FROM NEW YORK CONVOY WITH 5 OTHER
SHIPS FOR ST. JOHNS N.S.

5 RADIO MESSAGES RECEIVED

KND3-9	250504Z	KND3-9.....	301348Z
KND3-9.....	261756Z	KND3-9.....	311021Z
KND3-9.....	271954Z	KND3-9.....	031222Z
KND3-9.....	281849Z	KND3-9.....	061239Z
KND3-9.....	291746Z	KND3-9.....	061246Z

- 6. RADIO OPERATORS DID CARRY OUT WAR TIME INSTRUCTIONS FOR MERCHANT VESSELS
- 7. MASTER & OFFICERS DID CARRY OUT THEIR WAR TIME INSTRUCTIONS

Wade R. McKinney
WADE R. MCKINNEY
C.O. ARMED GUARD UNIT

88 JANUARY 1944

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LIBRARY INFORMATION

U.S. NAVY OPERATIONAL BOTTLES R.O.