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S.S. ABNER DOUBLEDAY
2 December 1943

FROM: WADE R. MCKINNEY, ENSIGN USNR
TO: THE VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
VIA: PORT DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: VOYAGE REPORT OF S.S. ABNER DOUBLEDAY

REFERENCE: (A) GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMANDING OFFICERS OF NAVAL ARMED GUARDS ON MERCHANT SHIPS 1942.

1. In accordance with reference (A) the following is submitted.

- 1. Name of vessel.....S.S. 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.....New York
Time of departure.....0630
Date of departure.....13 November 1943
Sailing in convoy.....yes
Number of ships.....73
Escort vessels.....Corvettes & Destroyers
Speed of convoy.....9-1/2
Port of arrival.....Southampton, Eng.
Time of arrival.....1525
Master of ship.....John G. Sturges
Nationality of master.....U.S.A.

3. Contacts with the enemy.
There were no contacts with the enemy.

4. Summary of the voyage.

- Nov. 13 0630 Anchor aweigh; 0400 sea watches set of 8 men per watch, 2 forward, 2 aft, 4 bridge with P.O. in charge of each watch.
- Nov. 15 0900 Fire and boat drill, 1345 3"50 magazine alarm sounded. On inspection found magazine flooded. Pumped water out, removed, inspected and coated rounds with light grease and replaced. All secure at 1530. Were unable to find how flood valve was opened.
- Nov. 17 Clocks advanced one hour.

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- Nov. 20 1600 Earl Alfred Tillotson Slc 573 13 48 after being relieved of sea watch on 3"50 gun forward, slipped on gun deck and in falling attempted to break fall, in doing this he dislocated his right shoulder. First aid was given in ship's hospital. A doctor was asked to come aboard, request being granted by commodore. Clocks advanced one hour.
- Nov. 21 1150 Dr. Sherrant boarded and attended Tillotson. 1346 Doctor left ship to board his own ship. Clocks advanced one hour.
- Nov. 23 1035 fire and boat drill. Clocks advanced one hour.
- Nov. 25 1135 fired few rounds from 20MM. 1130 fired 6 rounds from 4"50 at designated target by order of commodore.
- Nov. 26 Clocks advanced one hour.
- Nov. 28 0030 Arrival at Milford Haven, Wales, No pilot. 0225 dropped anchor, 1110 Pilot boarded, 1150 Anchor aweigh. 1310 Anchor dropped inside Milford Haven nets. 1430 Attended conference for sailing orders.
- Nov. 30 1045 Ammunition launch along side to exchange damaged 3"50 ammunition for new.
- Dec. 1 0137 Anchor dropped at Portland, England harbor. 0830 Anchor aweigh, 1210 Pilot aboard for Southampton, England. 1525 Tied up to pier 106.

5. Radio Messages Received:

November 17.....ASD3.....1502Z
November 20.....ASD3.....2300Z
November 22.....ASD3.....2313Z
November 22.....ASD3.....2318Z
November 22.....ASD3.....2325Z

6. Commercial radio operator did carry out war time instructions for merchant vessels.
7. Master and officers did carry out their wartime instructions.

Wade R. McKinney
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C.O. Armed Guard Unit.