

100128

subject: report of voyage of S. S. Abner Doubleday

ARMED GUARD UNIT
S.S. ABNER DOUBLEDAY
ARMED GUARD CENTER (PACIFIC)
TREASURE ISLAND
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Feb. 20, 1943. Sailed from Nukunono, Tongatabu bound for White Poppy. Time: 1400. At 1200, Feb. 24, 1943 Arrival in White Poppy.

CONFIDENTIAL

The ship sailed singly on all these inter-island trips.
From: The Commander of Armed Guard Unit, S. S.
To: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department,
Washington, D. C.
Via: Port Director, White Poppy

Subject: Report of Voyage of S. S. Abner Doubleday
Reference: (a) General Instructions for Commanding Officers of Naval
Armed Guards Aboard Merchant Vessels, Paragraph 436.

1. The S S Abner Doubleday is a Steam--Freighter
type vessel, of 7176 gross tons, carrying a cargo of
Army War Supplies, owned by Sword Steamship Co. New York, N.Y.
Chartered by War Shipping Administration.

2. On Dec. 15, 1942 at 1746 this vessel sailed from San Francisco, Calif. bound for Fantan. She sailed singly with no plane escort. Average speed was eleven (11) knots. Arrival, Fantan Jan. 4, 1943.

3. No contacts were made with the enemy on this voyage.

4. The vessel followed naval routing orders all the way. At 1830 Dec. 18, 1942, sighted friendly tanker of the Esso Little Rock type. Both ships steered clear of each other. No signals were exchanged. Dec. 23, 1942, 0420: ship sighted port bow. Identified as friendly liberty ship. General quarters were sounded before identification was made. Jan. 1, 1943, south of Tonga Groupe Hurricane hit us. Time: 1200--2400. 1900: all lookouts had to be secured till storm was over. The following damage to Armed Guard Equipment: Gun tub forward caved in about 8 inches at top on srbd side. Two gun covers for 20 mm. guns torn. Water got in the magazine aft. Did not get in high enough to get the ammunition wet. The water came in through ventilators that could not be closed off. Jan. 2, 1943, Liberty ship, Edison sighted on rocks with grieb on rocks close by.

5. Jan. 15, 1943, 1100: sailed for Lautoka, Fiji. Arrival 1915, Jan. 15, 1943. Unloaded remainder of cargo there. Sailed from Lautoka, Fiji, Feb. 1, 1943 at 0750 bound back to Suva, Fiji. Arrival Feb. 1, 1943 at 1500.
Feb. 3, 1943 at 0900 ship sailed for Bleacher, Feb. 5, 1943, Arrival, Bleacher.

Form B

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Subject: Report of Voyage, of S. S. Abner Doubleday

Feb. 20, 1943, Sailed from Nukualofa, Tongatabu bound for White Poppy. Time: 1400. At 1200, Feb. 24, 1943 Arrival in White Poppy.

6. The snip sailed singly on all these inter-island trips. The average speed was eleven knots.

7. The commercial radio operator appeared to carry out war-time instruction for merchant vessels. All the officers cooperated with the Armed Guard.

Foy E. O'Neal
Foy E. O'Neal,
Ens. D-V-(G), USNR,
C.O.

FIRST ENDORSEMENT.
CONFIDENTIAL.
EF28-23/jrc

PORT DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
NOUMEA, NEW CALEDONIA.

67-7176

February 28, 1943.

From: Port Director, Noumea.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Navy
Department, Washington, D.C.

Subject: Report of Voyage of S.S. ABNER DOUBLEDAY

1. Forwarded.

J. W. Chapman
F. W. CHAPMAN,
By direction.

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Room 315

MAR 13 1943

ROUTE 10-23

Up file No. (SC) *443/Abner Doubleday*

FILE NO. _____

FILE NO. *1 2*

FILE NO. *1755*

Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
FLEET MAINTENANCE
MAR 13 1943
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cc
WMP
(See par 3) LRR
ALD *file*