

CONFIDENTIAL

EXCERPT FROM COMNAVEU BOARDING REPORT, SS ALEXANDER HAMILTON (U.S.),  
8 NOVEMBER 1943.

Enclosure (A) was submitted by John L. West, Master of SS ALEXANDER HAMILTON. Interrogation of Master developed no information concerning this collision.

s/s Alexander Hamilton  
At Sea  
Lat. 55-34 N Long. 29-19 W  
November 3, 1943

From: John L. West, Master  
To : SS EU Captain R. O. Demarest  
to be Marine Superintendent

Officers aboard SS WILLIAM BLACK YATES indicate that subject vessel collided with SS ALEXANDER HAMILTON rather than the believed by the Master of SS ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Dissemination: Coast Guard; J.A.G.; COMINCH F-20.  
Subject: Collision at Sea:

Op-16-P-5  
Latitude 55-34 N Longitude 29-19 W. Alexander Hamilton steering 124 Std., 118 P.H., 92° true, speed 9.5 knots, in convoy, position #94 and on station.

Weather -- heavy mist. Visibility -- 100 feet broadside.

22:14 Unknown vessel flashed on masthead range and two green lights about 35° port bow, distance about 500 feet and heading about 162° true.

22:14 05 sec., Master on bridge, hard right rudder, one blast on whistle.

22:15 Collision unavoidable, sounded three blasts on whistle, reversed engines full. Alexander Hamilton heading 102° true and coming right hard. Unknown vessel bearing down on us, apparently under right rudder.

22:15 Turned in General alarm.

22:16 Unknown vessel rammed the Alexander Hamilton amidships just forward of deep tanks over Engine Room.

22:16 Unknown vessel flashed on two red lights "not under control".

22:16 Stop engines.

22:16 Alexander Hamilton heading 112° true, unknown vessel about 182° true.

22:20 Survey showed no serious damage, full ahead on station.

22:25 Cutlaw got back on her course and again attempted to ram me, but luckily I got away.

Unknown vessel believed to be the s/s Eugene Field, U. S. Maritime Commission.

Respectfully yours,

John L. West, Master  
s/s Alexander Hamilton

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ENCLOSURE (A)

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Enclosure (A) was submitted by John L. West, Master SS ALEXANDER HAMILTON. Interrogation of Master developed no further information concerning this collision.

Interviews with officers aboard SS WILLIAM BLACK YATES indicate that subject vessel collided with SS ALEXANDER HAMILTON rather than the SS EUGENE FIELD which was believed by the Master of SS ALEXANDER HAMILTON to have collided with the SS ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Dissemination: ✓ Coast Guard; J.A.G.; COMINCH F-20.

Op-16-B-5  
EMH/mg  
24 Nov. 43.

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