

(PMP)
CG-628-COMP

JUL 13 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CREW DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE,
WAR SHIPPING ADMINISTRATION.

The Coast Guard has received reliable information concerning the following officers of the SS ALPHA.

1. Hugh E. Rumph, Chief Engineer, during April, 1943, is reported to have been incompetent and negligent in the operation of the engine room thereby causing his vessel considerable damage and delay. Report states that he neglected to make important and necessary repairs and failed to advise the Master concerning the condition of boilers and feed pumps resulting, consequently, in the vessel sailing in an unseaworthy condition.
2. Robert McKenzie, 1st Ass't Engineer, is reported for possible negligence in connection with the loss of a large quantity of water from the boiler of the ALPHA, which loss resulted in the burning of seven fusible plugs. Further, it is alleged that on one occasion he failed to turn to, and also deserted this vessel in May 1943.

Disciplinary action which the Coast Guard considers necessary will be instigated in these cases.

H. T. Jewell
Commander USCG