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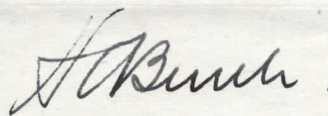
DEC 10 1942

MEMORANDUM for Lieutenant Commander F. E. Pollio

SUBJECT: Lifeboat Equipment.

1. A survivor of the Panamanian "SS ANEROID," which was sunk on October 2, 1942, states that some of the crew members lost their lives in the following manner: When the pelican hook, which was used to secure the gripes on one of the lifeboats, was released it caught in the outboard hand rail which was on the bottom side of the boat. When the boat was lowered away, it capsized because of the pelican hook being caught in the hand rail, and threw a number of the crew members into the sea. He was of the opinion that those who drowned were among those thrown into the sea from the lifeboat.

2. He also suggested that such an occurrence is likely to happen again with the rigs which are now being used on merchant vessels and he suggested that the hand rails on the bottom of lifeboats should be made so that it would be impossible for a pelican hook to catch in them. He pointed out that the lashings from the gripes to the pelican hook could have been cut, thus avoiding the danger of the hook catching in the hand rail, but due to the intense excitement, no one was able to find a knife with which to cut the lashing.



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