

Also the emergency antenna I think that should be confined in as small a place as possible in the rigging."

Recommendations from the Second Mate:

- "Q. Have you any suggestions for the saving of life, the abandonment of ship, handling of boats, rafts, etc.?"
- "A. I have. I tell you, take the rafts, for instance. They should have a trip line on it leading up to the bridge and one leading up to the poop because I just had a practical experience. If we had a trip rope on the poop we could have tripped that up before we even lowered the lifeboat and that would have been all set; that would have been out of the way. All I could see is the oars are too long for rowing. They could have shorter oars."

BALLADIER (August 15, 1942)

Recommendations from the Captain:

- "Q. Under the recommendation, section 2, what may your suggestion be?"
- "A. To fasten two skids from the upper bulwark to the lower bulwark; the boat can slide on them skids."
- "Q. What would you recommend in way of where the boat is launched, two skids?"
- "A. Two skids so the boat could slide on them skids when she has a heavy list."

JOHN HANCOCK (August 18, 1942)

Recommendations from an Ordinary Seaman:

- "Q. Your recommendation would be a more thorough education in the handling of boats, that is, the crews should be drilled more thoroughly, is that what you mean?"
- "A. I think on the releasing gear, how to get one in the water and I think they should study that more. Those reels are one thing I would like to speak of. They back lashed and jammed."
- "A. I was on one ship where they have a box and they take the fall and coil it in there and when you lower the boat it comes out free."

Recommendations from an Able Seaman:

- "A. Ships should not travel so slow in convoy or any other time. We had been going 5 knots but I believe they had stepped it up to 7. Eliminate the rafts being made fast to the ship. I believe all men should carry sheath knives."

Recommendations from the Chief Engineer:

- "Place spring door stops on all the doors."

Recommendations from the Second Officer:

- "It would be a better idea to have a box on deck to let the rope come out of. The Jacob's ladder is not satisfactory and it would be better to have a long rope ladder lashed up."