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BOARDING REPORT
COMMERCE AND TRAVEL SECTION OF D. I. O.
FOURTH NAVAL DISTRICT
Philadelphia, Pa.

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Vessel & Nationality: M/S CHESTER SUN (American) Date of Arrival: 1/25/42

Boarded at: Marcus Hook, Penna.

Owner: Sun Oil Company
Operated by: Sun Oil Company
Agent: Sun Oil Company

Gross Tonnage: 9,096

Captain: Malcolm Hammer

Sailed from: Westwego, La. On 1/18/42

Radio: X Int. Call Letters: K G M V
Radio Operator: Damian Caffery & Jacob Webb.

Next Port: Lockport, La.
Approx. date of Departure: 1/26/42

Cargo & Tonnage: Crude - 104,000 bbls.

Armament: No

Convoy: No

Degaussing: No

Routing Instructions or other Yes

Secret or Confidential Publications: 937, 938, 939, 1189 and 1308

Report

On 1/23/42, off Cape Lookout, subject vessel altered course to pass 45 miles off Diamond Shoals, having received message of torpedoing of the Venore.

The Master wished to suggest that the Government take some action in making large companies take on a pilot for their vessels when coming up the Delaware River since it is necessary for the Master to be on the bridge day and night recently. It causes such a state of fatigue that it is dangerous to navigation in the river. In Texas, all the rivers and channels and canals have a pilot to take a vessel to its destination. In leaving the river the Officers complain that they are unnecessarily held up with the Navy and Coast Guard coming aboard merely to break the seal on the radio when the Master could easily do this since it is worked out on this basis in Texas and Louisiana down the Mississippi. Officers complain that they are often held for a length of time of one to two hours in a gale. The Chester Sun for instance was only in ballast and it was necessary to drop both anchors, but even so the vessel tossed and dragged. It was suggested that a correction be made on this matter, especially with vessels on regular trade to this port.

The crew on this vessel have enjoyed a satisfactory reputation thus far. As the officers on the bridge are all in the Reserve there is a close eye kept on the crew and its actions.

/s/ C. E. Holcomb

Lt. (jg) USNR