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DISTRICT INTELLIGENCE OFFICE  
FIFTH NAVAL DISTRICT  
MERCHANT VESSEL BOARDING REPORT

1945 FEB 23 AM 11 58

Vessel: SS/MS **"COLIN P. KELLY, JR."** Master: **O. C. Jones**  
 Flag: **American** Owner: **W. S. A.**  
 Normal Speed: **10.5 knots** Operator: **Waterman S/S Corp.**  
 Gross Registered Tonnage: **7176** Agent: **Waterman S/S Agency, Ltd.**  
 Deadweight Tonnage: **10521** Radio Call Letters: **K. K. G. I.**  
 Cargo: **In: Ballast** No. in Crew: **80 incl. gun crew.**  
 Activities Here: **Repairs** No. of Passengers: **None**  
 Boarded at: **Norfolk, Va.** Date: **1/7/45**  
 Itinerary: **See par. #2 below.**

Enclosures:

1. Contact:  
 (A) JONES, O. C., Master, rating "B".  
 (B) GRAHAM, M. J., Lieut., USNR, A.G.O., rating "B".

2. ITINERARY:

Port	Arrived	Departed	Activity
Newport News, Va.		12/11/44	Loaded
Oran, Algeria	12/28/44	12/29/44	Convoy
Marseille, France	1/ 3/45	1/10/45	Discharge
Bermuda	1/31/45	2/ 2/45	Orders
Norfolk, Va.	2/ 6/45	2/17/45	Repairs
Philadelphia, Pa.			Load

3. MISCELLANEOUS:

(1) On the outbound voyage in December two deck plates, one starboard and one port, cracked forward of #4 hold. On the return voyage, subject vessel encountered very rough weather and due to the condition of these plates she had to drop behind the convoy. The Master signaled the commodore giving him all information regarding condition of his vessel and the reply received gave him orders to proceed to Bermuda for onward routing. These orders were carried out. Subject vessel proceeded to Bermuda where she remained for 3 days awaiting calm weather at the end of

Dissemination: CC: ONI (2)  
 R. & M. Div., WSA, (1)  
 Br.-"O" (1)  
 Capt. of Port (1)

Boarding Officer: **R. T. Hasler, Jr., Lt., USNR**

Approved: **D. E. LITHGOW, Comdr., USNR.,**  
 By direction.

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Authority **EO 13526**By **TH** NARA. Date **3.2.16**

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which time she proceeded to Norfolk for repairs.

(2) - Also on the outbound voyage at 2100, 12 December 1944, during rough seas and high winds, two seamen, ALPHONSO R. JOHNSON, A.B., Z-469819 and LELAND C. CASHWELL, O.S., Z-437540, were washed overboard and lost their lives. These men as well as others in the deck crew were making an effort to secure a life raft that had fallen to the deck on the starboard side of #3 hatch from its rack which had been twisted by heavy seas.

Another seaman was washed overboard at the same time, but was able to hang on to a life boat painter as he went into the water. Calling to his shipmates on deck, he was pulled safely back aboard.

(3) The above mentioned life raft was thrown overboard at 1100 (zone), 15 December 1944, in approx. position 36°45'N-56°56'W, because it could not be secured properly and because it might break loose again thus causing further damage to the vessel.

No further information was obtained.

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