

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
REPORT ON U. S. MERCHANT VESSEL WAR ACTION CASUALTY

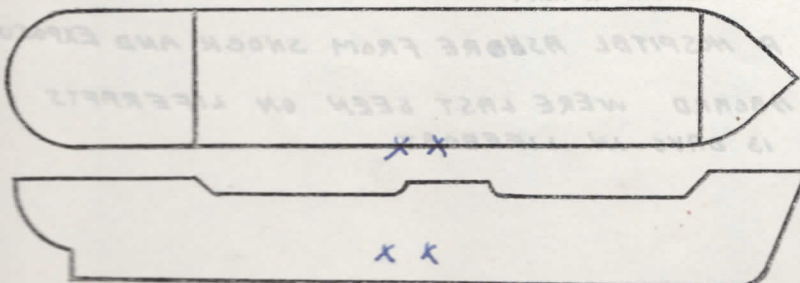
To: Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C.

Ship M/s EAST INDIAN Service OCEAN FREIGHT

Owner FORD MOTOR Co → U.S.M.C. Operator ISTHMIAN SS Co.

Information furnished by 3RD MATE + ONI + HQ RECORDS Date 6 NOVEMBER, 1944.

LINE No.	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
1	Year built and propulsion	Built <u>1918</u> Propulsion <u>DIESEL</u>
2	Tonnage	Gross <u>8159</u> Net <u>5160</u>
3	Draft loaded (maximum allowed)	Fwd <u>29' (M)</u> Aft _____
4	Draft when attacked	Fwd <u>29' (M)</u> Aft _____
5	Cargo on board (any deck)	Nature <u>GENERAL + MANGANESE ORE</u> Tons <u>9600</u>
6	Voyage	From <u>CAPETOWN, SOUTH AFRICA</u> To <u>NEW YORK VIA PUNTA ARENAS</u>
7	Were routing orders followed	<u>YES</u>
	Any criticism of orders	<u>NO</u>
9	Weather at time of attack	Weather <u>CLEAR</u> Sea <u>CHOPPY</u>
10	Was enemy sighted? When	<u>YES; AFTER ATTACK.</u>
11	Any friendly ships in sight	<u>NO</u>
12	Were navigation lights on	<u>NO; DAYLIGHT</u>
13	Date and time of attack	Date <u>11-3-42</u> Time <u>1650</u>
14	Position	Latitude <u>37° 23' S</u> Longitude <u>13° 34' E</u>
15	Nature of attack (Give data)	<u>TORPEDOED</u>
16	Number of hits	<u>2</u>
17	Location of hits (Mark diagram)	<u>2-MACH. S</u>
18	Effect of hits	<u>SANK SHIP</u>
	Was ship armed? What type	<u>YES</u>
20	Was armament used? State result	<u>NO</u>
21	Any explosions or fires*	Ship <u>NO</u> Cargo <u>NO</u>
22	Was deck ruptured	<u>YES</u>
23	Did ship break in two	<u>UNKNOWN</u>
24	Was SOS sent	<u>NO</u>
25	Ship's speed	Normal <u>11.5</u> When attacked <u>11.5</u> When abandoned <u>9.0</u>
26	Time abandoned, sunk	Abandoned <u>1652 (2 min.)</u> Sunk <u>1652 (2 min.)</u>
27	Was ship reboarded	By whom <u>NO</u> When _____
28	Was ship brought in	How <u>NO</u> Approximate damage <u>SUNK.</u>



*Fill in this diagram to show attack hits, fires, etc.

29	Lifeboats.....	Number carried	4	Which used	1
30	Lifeboats.....	Number lost	3	How	1- NO TIME FOR LAUNCHING 2- TORPEDO EXPLOSION
31	Life rafts.....	Number carried	4	Which used	4
32	Life rafts.....	Number lost	4	How	LAST SEEN WITH 34 SURVIVORS. NOTE
33	Life floats.....	Number carried	0	Which used	0
34	Life floats.....	Number lost	0	How	0
35	Lifesaving suits.....	Number carried	0	Number used	0
36	Were boats, etc., attacked.....	Attacked	NO	Casualties	0
37	Time in each boat, raft, etc.....	1 Boat	13 DAYS	4 Rafts	UN. NOTE
		Boat		Raft	
38	Rescued by and where.....	By	ALLIED SHIP	Where	135 MI. S. OF CAPE TOWN
39	Number of gun crew carried (military).....	Officers	1	Enlisted men	12
40	Number ship's crew carried.....	Officers	8	Radiomen	1
				Unlicensed	38
41	Number passengers and others carried.....	Passengers	12	Others	0
42	Total on board.....		72		
43	Number gun crew injured (military).....	Officers	0	Enlisted men	0
44	Number ship's crew injured.....	Officers	0	Radiomen	1 NOTE
				Unlicensed	2
45	Number passengers and others injured.....	Passengers	0	Others	0
46	Number gun crew lost (military).....	Officers	1	Enlisted men	10
47	Number ship's crew lost.....	Officers	6	Radiomen	0
				Unlicensed	28
48	Number passengers and others lost.....	Passengers	10	Other	0
49	Total casualties.....	Injured	3	Lost	55
50	Persons lost by (Specify).....	Drowning	0	Fire	0
				Shell or torpedo	21
		Other causes	34 (PRESUMABLY EXPOSURE) NOTE		
51	Total rescued.....	Gun crew	2	Officers	2
		Unlicensed	10	Passengers	2
				Others	0
				Total	12 NOTE
52	Persons saved by.....	Boats	17	Rafts	34 NOTE
		Preservers	0	Other means	0
				No aid	0
53	Engineering watch below.....	Number on watch below	3	Number lost below	3
54	Number of look-outs.....		10		
55	Any defective material.....		NO		
56	Any personnel fault.....		NO		

COMMENTS, CRITICISMS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The comments, criticisms, or recommendations of survivors with respect to safety of seamen and ships involved in war actions are earnestly solicited by Headquarters in order that the fullest provision possible may be made for the safety of American ships and seamen.

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NOTE - RADIO OPERATOR DIED IN A HOSPITAL ASHORE FROM SHOCK AND EXPOSURE.
NOTE - 34 MEMBERS OUT OF 72 ABOARD WERE LAST SEEN ON LIFERAFTS
 17- WERE RESCUED AFTER 13 DAYS IN LIFEBOAT
 21- NEVER SEEN
 72 = TOTAL ABOARD

LAST INSPECTION CERTIFICATE ISSUED 10/6/41 AT NEW YORK.