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 5TH NAVAL DISTRICT
 COMMANDING OFFICER

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

5th Naval District,
 Baltimore, Maryland,
 7 November, 1942.

From: Commanding Officer, Baltimore Base
 To : Commandant
 Via : District Coast Guard Officer, 5th Naval District
 Subject: Fire on board U.S.A.T. EDMUND B. ALEXANDER, Report on
 References: (a) H/L 8 April, 1942 (SC-661)
 (b) Report by Bethlehem Steel Company on the fire
 (c) Baltimore City Fire Department fire report
 Inclosures: (A) Copy of Reference (b)
 (B) Copy of Reference (c)

1. In compliance with Reference (a), References (b) and (c) are submitted, which give a detailed picture of the incidents, which have been checked by this office and found to be correct, except in Reference (b) that the Coast Guard fire boat had hose lines laid out but under instructions from the Chief of the Baltimore City Fire Department, the lines were not charged at any time but were merely held in readiness. No water was pumped by the Coast Guard fire boat at all.

2. The Coast Guard first became cognizant of this fire at approximately 0150 when H. M. Hosel, Chief Specialist, Officer in Charge of C.G.C. #913-F, on standby duty at Pier 4, Pratt Street, heard fire engines responding to an alarm. Upon going on deck and looking around the harbor, he saw the fire at the Bethlehem Steel Company, Key Highway plant. The C.G.C. #913-F immediately got under way and proceeded to the fire, where the Officer in Charge, upon his arrival, immediately reported to the Baltimore City Fire Chief who was in charge of the fire. As there was no need for even this fire boat, no additional Coast Guard equipment was called.

3. The Bethlehem Steel Company admitted complete responsibility as the fire was caused through fault of one of their employees. The Commanding Officer, Baltimore Base, accompanied by the Assistant to Industrial Manager, USN, Baltimore, conferred with Mr. J. M. Willis, General Manager of the Bethlehem Steel Company plant. As a result of this conference it was agreed that the Baltimore City Fire Department would be notified more promptly through a better method of procedure,

