

SHIP:

SS ED. L. DOHENY

FLAG:

OPERATOR:

UNION:

SOURCE OF U S Office of Censorship, Postal Intercept, Record No. SA 146872
COMPLAINT: Div. Personal, Table 7, Examiner 12369 DAC 2093- Ex. 3-18-43

PLACE:

Galveston, Texas

DATE REFERRED

TO THE COAST GUARD: March 29, 1943

Headquarters:

DATE REFERRED

TO UNION: March 30, 1943

SHIP:

SS ED. L. DOHENY

DATE OF OCCURRENCE:

March 15, 1943 (Date of mailing letter)

DATE OF ORIGINAL
COMPLAINT:

March 18, 1943

CREW INVOLVED:

E. K. Speers, Chief Cook

CHARGE: E. K. Speers, Chief Cook, Standard Oil, Marine P. O., Bayonne, N. J., in a letter addressed to Miss Doddie Mercer, 730 Nineteenth Street, Rock Island, Illinois, stated there was a great deal of excitement on board the ship last trip. He states:

"One night about 10:30... we decide to get a little tough so we picks out a dirty old ship out of the fog and proceeds to ram her. Whistles were blowing, alarm bells ringing and escaping steam aroarin."

He further adds that the ships in the convoy immediately put on all lights, and that flares lighted the waters. He says: "Anyway the ship we hit proceeds to sink and there whistle gives out with the 'abandon ship' signal." He states that the rammed ship signals that its life boats are disabled. Although the writer and other sailors start out with a smaller boat, one of the convoy's escort vessels signals for them to return and that it will pick up any survivors. Writer adds: "That was six days ago. Yesterday we ended up in Galveston - and are now in dry dock having new plates put on our bow."

There were no further details given of this sailor's announcement of the sinking of a ship before official announcement had been made.

Office of Censorship condemned the letter, and it was not released for delivery to the addressee.