

CG-IOF-601

661

2 December, 1942.

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR CAPTAIN SHEPHEARD:Subject: EDWARD L. DOHENY, (U.S.) TKR.

1. The following report from another Government agency is forwarded for your information and appropriate consideration:

"The Captain of subject vessel states that on November 14, 1942, at approximately 1630 EWT at position 35°12'N, 71°30'W, rough sea, wind NW, force 7, one of the port lifeboats which was swung out on its davits, was swept overboard. The stem was torn out, but the boat was floating when last seen. The lifeboat had the name of the ship in raised letters which was painted over.

"At the same time a donut raft was swept overboard from the aft gun platform. The same day at approximately 2120 EWT, position 35°46'N, 71°25'W, same general weather, sea and wind conditions, aft port life raft was swept over. Captain stated the reason for losing this raft was due to the fact that local inspectors at Galveston had ordered an empty drum attached to each raft from which a rope was strung down to the releasing trip, the purpose being that should the vessel go down the buoyancy of the floating drum would release the trip and set the raft free. In actuality what happened was that the heavy sea sweeping over, exerted sufficient pressure on the drum to release the trip and cause the raft to go overboard. The Captain showed the boarding officer a trip arrangement whereby life-rafts could be released from the bridge. In view of this and the loss of the life raft, the Captain felt that it was inadvisable to continue using the drum arrangement."

F. E. POLLIO

cc: (1) Captain Park.
(2) Assistant Commandant.

LND:02