

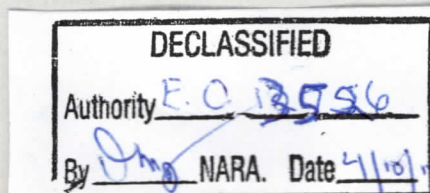
EXCERPT FROM 12ND BOARDING REPORT, "SS EWING YOUNG", (US), 22 JULY 1943.

SANITATION AND FOOD SPOILAGE:

"The Armed Guard Officer, Lieutenant YOUNG, and a U.S. Navy Pharmacist's Mate, First Class, who was attached to subject vessel, called the attention of the boarding officer to the unsanitary conditions obtaining aboard ship, particularly in the galley, asserting that sugar and flour were stowed directly beneath heavily used open ladders, and that a ten gallon container of gelatin, overgrown completely with mold, remained uncovered in the icebox for days and subjected other food to contamination. They further complained of the filthy and unsanitary method of stowing meat in the vessel's cooler, stating that meat stowed there was found to be spoiled because of the high temperature (38°), and that although the only means of access to the freezer was through the cooler, meat which had fallen to the floor across this passageway was not removed but was walked upon by the cooks and others passing through the cooler to the freezer. It was further stated that fowl hanging in the cooler were so badly decomposed that they were slimy. After repeated protests to the Master about the foul condition of the galley, Lieutenant YOUNG obtained the Master's permission to conduct the inspection of the galley. Consequently on 30 April 1943, Lieutenant YOUNG, accompanied by a U.S. Navy doctor, Lieutenant (jg) P.E. BONDO, (MC) U.S.N.R., and Ensign W.A. SMITH, Jr., Commanding Officer P.T. Unit 10, both of whom were carried as passengers on the outbound voyage, conducted an inspection. Their findings were put in writing, were signed by Lieutenant BONDO, and were laid upon the Master's desk by Lieutenant YOUNG, particular emphasis being placed upon the decomposing meat and upon the fact that cooks were walking upon the meat which had fallen across the passageway. According to Lieutenant YOUNG, the Master was extremely angry, declaring that the Armed Guard Officer had no business to conduct an inspection, and denying that permission to do so had previously been requested and granted by him. However, toward the end of the return voyage, Lieutenant YOUNG stated that the food became so intolerable that even the Master could not eat it and at this stage made an inspection himself and demanded that the situation be remedied. As a result, 1500 pounds of veal were thrown overboard and 700 pounds of tongue and corned beef were similarly disposed of by order of the Master."

Dissemination: Op-39; Op-23-L; CG; WESSEAFRON; 11ND; 13ND; AI&PR-FM; PORTDIR, 12ND; CSTL. INFO., 12ND; COMTWELVE.

Op-16-B-5
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