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CG-63  
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3 December, 1943

**CONFIDENTIAL**

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, MERCHANT MARINE INSPECTION DIVISION

Subj: Summary of information received in the Intelligence Division

The following from Aruba, N.W.I., dated 14 November, 1943, is forwarded for your information:

"Upon boarding the SS FRED W. WELLER, information was received that on 26 October a light attached to one of the life rafts became unfastened and fell in the water fully illuminated. This occurred during a heavy storm. A similar incident occurred on 2 November when the sea was calm. This was interesting in view of the fact that water had flooded a compartment of the ship that contained valuable Navy cargo. The Master believes that the flood probably occurred as a result of the storm on 26 October. The other officers aboard the ship expressed the opinion that the flooding occurred from the opening of a valve. Investigation was started and will be completed at the ship's next port of call."

F. E. POLLIO  
Commander, USCG

CC: Admiral Chalker  
Chief Operations Officer

LMD:ams

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Authority 41ND 3-26-83-11  
By [Signature] NARA. Date 4/2/87

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