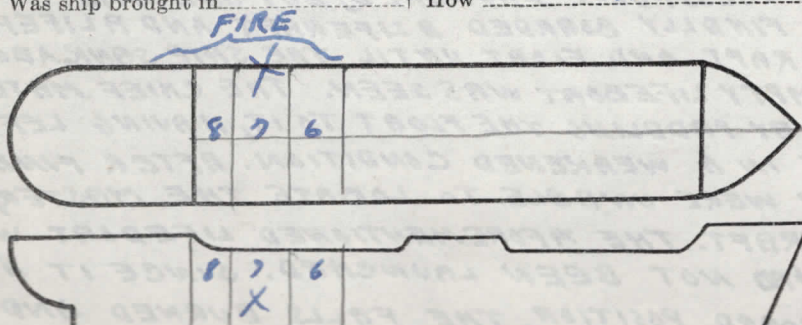


REPORT ON U.S. MERCHANT RANKER WAR ACTION CASUALTY

To: Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C.

Ship S/S H.D. COLLIER Service OCEAN TANK SHIP
 Owner STANDARD OIL CO. OF CALIF. Operator WSA - CALTEX OIL CO LTD.
 Information furnished by CHIEF MATE + ONI REPORT Date 20 SEPTEMBER 1944

Line No.	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
1	Year built and propulsion.....	Built <u>1938</u> Propulsion <u>STEAM</u>
2	Tonnage.....	Gross <u>8298</u> Net <u>4934</u>
3	Draft loaded (maximum allowed).....	Fwd. <u>29'10" (M)</u> Aft.....
4	Draft when attacked.....	Fwd. <u>29'00" (M)</u> Aft.....
5	D. W. T. (Emergency Coastwise L. L.).....	<u>12,000</u>
6	Cargo 42's capacity and carried.....	Capacity <u>103,413 BBLs.</u> Carried <u>103,000 BBLs.</u>
7	Kind of cargo or tank ballast.....	<u>100-OCT. - #2 - #3 - #4; 80-OCT. - #1-7-8; KEROSENE 5-6</u>
8	Was ship gas-free? (Specify).....	<u>NO; LOADED</u>
9	Voyage.....	From <u>ABADAN, IRAN</u> To <u>BOMBAY, INDIA.</u>
10	Were routing orders followed.....	<u>YES</u>
11	Any criticism of orders.....	<u>YES</u>
12	Weather at time of attack.....	Weather <u>OVERCAST</u> Sea <u>CHOPPY</u>
13	Was enemy sighted? When.....	<u>YES; AFTER ATTACK.</u>
14	Any friendly ships in sight.....	<u>NO</u>
15	Were navigation lights on.....	<u>NO</u>
16	Date and time of attack.....	Date <u>3-13-44</u> Time <u>1734</u>
17	Position.....	Latitude <u>21°30' N</u> Longitude <u>66°11'E</u>
18	Nature of attack (Give data).....	<u>TORPEDOED AND SHELLED</u>
19	Number of hits.....	<u>1-TORPEDO; 3-SHELLS.</u>
20	Location of hits (Mark diagram).....	<u>1-TORP- AFT (3/4 PAR. BOD.); 3-SHELLS ALL OVER.</u>
21	Effect of hits.....	<u>SANK SHIP</u>
22	Was ship armed? What type.....	<u>YES; 1-4"; 1-3"; 8-20MM.</u>
23	Was armament used? State result.....	<u>YES; NONE.</u>
24	Was oil sprayed over ship.....	<u>YES</u>
25	Did cargo fire (Mark diagram).....	<u>YES</u>
26	Did tanks explode (Mark diagram).....	<u>YES</u>
27	Was deck ruptured.....	<u>YES</u>
28	Did ship break in two.....	<u>NO</u>
29	Was SOS sent.....	<u>NO</u>
30	Ship's speed.....	Normal <u>15.0</u> When attacked <u>13.0</u> When abandoned <u>6.0</u>
31	Time abandoned, sunk.....	Abandoned <u>1829 (5.5 min)</u> Sunk <u>0545-3-16-44 (59 hrs, 44 min)</u>
32	Was ship reboarded.....	By whom <u>NO</u> When.....
33	Was ship brought in.....	How <u>NO</u> Approximate damage <u>SUNK</u>



Fill in this diagram to show attack hits, fires, explosions, etc.

NOTE

34	Lifeboats	Number carried	7	Which used	1 - SWAMPED
35	Lifeboats	Number lost	2	How	1 - FIRE
36	Life rafts	Number carried	5	Which used	1*
37	Life rafts	Number lost	4	How	3 - FIRE 1 - TORPEDO EXPLOSION
38	Life floats	Number carried	2	Which used	1*
39	Life floats	Number lost	1	How	FIRE
40	Lifesaving suits	Number carried	49	Number used	0
41	Were boats, etc., attacked	Attacked	NO	Casualties	0
42	Time in each boat, raft, etc.	1--68 hrs, 45 min Boat	--	Raft	--
43	Rescued by and where	10 10	By	ALLIED SHIP	Where AT SEA 22° 47' N, 68° 10' E
44	Number of gun crew carried (military)	Officers	1	Enlisted men	27
45	Number of ship's crew carried	Officers	10	Radiomen	1
46	Number of others carried		0	Unlicensed	32
47	Total on board		71		
48	Number of gun crew injured (military)	Officers	0	Enlisted men	2
49	Number of ship's crew injured	Officers	2	Radiomen	0
50	Number of others injured		0	Unlicensed	0
51	Number of gun crew lost (military)	Officers	0	Enlisted men	12
52	Number of ship's crew lost	Officers	5	Radiomen	0
53	Number of others lost		0	Unlicensed	28
54	Total casualties	Injured	4	Lost	45
55	Persons lost by (specify)	Drowning	0	Fire	0
56		Shell or Torpedo	3	Other causes	42 (UNKNOWN - PRESUMABLY FIRE + DROWNING)
57	Total rescued	Gun crew	16	Officers	5
58		Radiomen	1	Unlicensed	4
59	Persons saved by	Boats	26	Rafts	0
60		Floats	0	Suits	0
61	Engineering watch below	Preservers	0	Other means	0
62		No aid	0	Number on watch below	3
63	Number of lookouts		8	Number lost below	3
64	Any defective material		NO		
65	Any personnel fault		NO		

COMMENTS, CRITICISMS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The comments, criticisms, or recommendations of survivors with respect to safety of seamen and ships involved in war actions are earnestly solicited by Headquarters in order that the fullest provision possible may be made for the safety of American ships and seamen.

NOTE - 2 LIFEBOATS WERE SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED, BUT ONE WAS SWAMPED AND THE OCCUPANTS FINALLY BOARDED A LIFERAFT AND A LIFEFLAT. THEY REMAINED ABOARD THE RAFT AND FLOAT UNTIL THE SHIP SANK, ABOUT 3-14-43 - 1 DAY LATER - AN EMPTY LIFEBOAT WAS SEEN. THE CHIEF MATE + 11 OTHERS SECURED THE BOAT BY PADDLING THE FLOAT TO IT, HAVING LEFT THE MASTER BEHIND ON THE RAFT IN A WEAKENED CONDITION. AFTER FINALLY SECURING THE LIFE BOAT, THEY WERE UNABLE TO LOCATE THE MASTER, LAST SEEN ABOARD THE LIFERAFT. THE AFOREMENTIONED LIFEBOAT WAS UNDOUBTELY ONE WHICH HAD NOT BEEN LAUNCHED. SINCE IT HAD BEEN CARRIED IN THE OUTBOARD POSITION, THE FILLS BURNED AND IT BURNED FREE ALL WOOD EXCEPT FLOORBOARDS WERE BURNED.