

SS JAMES W. DENVER

On 11 April, 1943, the SS JAMES W. DENVER, a freighter of 7191 gross tons, was torpedoed and sunk in position 28.46N, 25.40W, while independently enroute from New York to North Africa, fully loaded.

With the ship settling by the head, a forty degree starboard list, and the wheel out of the water; all 68 persons on board abandoned ship using five lifeboats and two liferafts. Later 67 survivors (one died at sea) spent 7, 13, 23, 25, and 36 days in the five lifeboats, four finally having been picked up at sea by Allied ships and the one sailed to Etienne. This case is also a repetition of the effectiveness of the life saving appliances.

on the foremast and mainmast and sailed the crippled ship 350 miles before meeting an Allied ship which towed them a further distance of 450 miles to port, making a grand total of 800 miles in which a courageous handful of men, refusing to give up the ship, furnished the skill to bring her into port through their own resourcefulness.