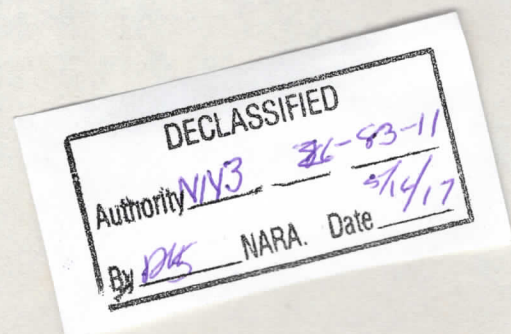


EXCERPT FROM 3ND BOARDING REPORT, "JAMES W. FANNIN" (US), 31 JULY 1943

"On 13 July, 1943, at about 1340, the SS SOLSTAD, a Norwegian Freighter, collided with subject vessel (SS JAMES W. FANNIN) in the Manchester Canal (England). A strong wind was blowing at the time, but the weather was clear, visibility good. The FANNIN was proceeding westerly in the canal at very slow speed; the SOLSTAD easterly in about the center of the canal. The FANNIN was empty at the time. As the 2 vessels approached, the SOLSTAD began to bear down on the port quarter of subject vessel. The FANNIN steered to starboard in an effort to avoid collision but the SOLSTAD continued to move forward without altering course. The narrow confines of the canal prevented subject vessel from further maneuvering and she stopped her engines. The SOLSTAD continued on and struck subject vessel in her port quarter. Damage to subject vessel was superficial: the aft bulwark was crumpled for a distance of 15 feet, 2 stanchions were broken, a small hole was punched into the deck and the frame of one liferaft was twisted. Considerable damage was done to the Norwegian ship but the details were not known. Each ship continued on its way. Although no formal investigation was made because subject vessel was scheduled to depart with an outbound convoy, the Captain of subject vessel made a report of the collision with the Marine authorities in Liverpool. Additional reports were made to the American South-African Line, the War Shipping Administration and to the Steamboat Inspection Service."

Dissemination: C.G., JAG

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