

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
REPORT ON U. S. MERCHANT VESSEL WAR ACTION CASUALTY

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

Ship S/S JONATHAN STURGES

Service OCEAN FREIGHT

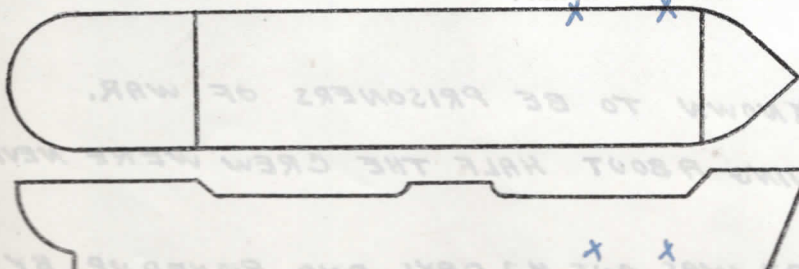
Owner W.S.A.

Operator MISSISSIPPI SHIPPING Co.

Information furnished by PORT CAPTAIN

Date 14 SEPTEMBER 1944

LINE No.	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
1	Year built and propulsion	Built <u>1942</u> Propulsion <u>STEAM.</u>
2	Tonnage	Gross <u>7176</u> Net <u>4397</u>
3	Draft loaded (maximum allowed)	Fwd <u>27'10" (M)</u> 27'8" Aft <u>28</u>
4	Draft when attacked	Fwd <u>11'9" (M)</u> 9'6" Aft <u>14</u>
5	Cargo on board (any deck)	Nature <u>SAND BALLAST</u> Tons <u>1500</u>
6	Voyage	From <u>LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND</u> To <u>NEW YORK, N.Y.</u>
7	Were routing orders followed	<u>YES</u>
8	Any criticism of orders	<u>NO.</u>
9	Weather at time of attack	Weather <u>OVERCAST</u> Sea <u>ROUGH.</u>
10	Was enemy sighted? When	<u>NO.</u>
11	Any friendly ships in sight	<u>YES; CONVOY.</u>
12	Were navigation lights on	<u>NO.</u>
13	Date and time of attack	Date <u>2/23/43</u> Time <u>2220.</u>
14	Position	Latitude <u>46°15'N</u> Longitude <u>38°11'W</u>
15	Nature of attack (Give data)	<u>TORPEDO</u>
16	Number of hits	<u>2</u>
17	Location of hits (Mark diagram)	<u>2-FOR'D.</u> # 1A 2P
18	Effect of hits	<u>SANK SHIP.</u>
19	Was ship armed? What type	<u>YES</u>
20	Was armament used? State result	<u>NO.</u>
21	Any explosions or fires*	Ship <u>NO</u> Cargo <u>NO.</u>
22	Was deck ruptured	<u>YES</u>
23	Did ship break in two	<u>YES</u>
24	Was SOS sent	<u>NO.</u>
25	Ship's speed	Normal <u>10.0</u> When attacked <u>9.0</u> When abandoned <u>3.0.</u>
26	Time abandoned, sunk	Abandoned <u>2225 (5 min.)</u> Sunk <u>2225 (5 min.)</u>
27	Was ship reboarded	By whom <u>NO</u> When <u>—</u>
28	Was ship brought in	How <u>NO</u> Approximate damage <u>SUNK.</u>



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



29	Lifeboats.....	Number carried	4	Which used	3
30	Lifeboats.....	Number lost	1	How	SWAMPED
31	Life rafts.....	Number carried	4	Which used	2*
32	Life rafts.....	Number lost	2	How	TORPEDO EXPLOSION.
33	Life floats.....	Number carried	2	Which used	0
34	Life floats.....	Number lost	2	How	DRIFTED AWAY
35	Lifesaving suits.....	Number carried	60	Number used	0
36	Were boats, etc., attacked.....	Attacked	NO	Casualties	0
37	Time in each boat, raft, etc.....	1 Boat	16 DAYS	Raft	NOTED
		1 Boat	42 DAYS	Raft	
38	Rescued by and where.....	By	GERMAN SUB	Where	
			ALLIED SHIP		
39	Number of gun crew carried (military).....	Officers	1	Enlisted men	30
40	Number ship's crew carried.....	Officers	8	Radiomen	1
41	Number passengers and others carried.....	Passengers	0	Others	0
		Total on board.....	25		
43	Number gun crew injured (military).....	Officers	UN.	Enlisted men	UN
44	Number ship's crew injured.....	Officers	UN.	Radiomen	UN.
		Unlicensed	UN.		
45	Number passengers and others injured.....	Passengers	0	Others	0
46	Number gun crew lost (military).....	Officers	1	Enlisted men	23
47	Number ship's crew lost.....	Officers	5	Radiomen	1
		Unlicensed	23		
48	Number passengers and others lost.....	Passengers	0	Other:	0
49	Total casualties.....	Injured	UN.	Lost	53
		Drowning	UN.	Fire	0
50	Persons lost by (Specify).....	Shell or torpedo	UN.		
		Other causes	1-EXPOSURE; 1-CRUSHED; 51 (UNKNOWN)		NOTED
51	Total rescued.....	Gun crew	7	Officers	3
		Unlicensed	12	Passengers	0
52	Persons saved by.....	Boats	22	Rafts	0
		Preservers	0	Other means	0
53	Engineering watch below.....	Number on watch below	3	Number lost below	0
54	Number of look-outs.....		12		
55	Any defective material.....		NO		
56	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 (1)** - 4 SURVIVORS ARE KNOWN TO BE PRISONERS OF WAR.

**NOTE (2)** (a) 2 LIFE BOAT CONTAINING ABOUT HALF THE CREW WERE NEVER HEARD FROM.

(b) THE LIFEBOAT THAT WAS OUT 42 DAYS AND PICKED UP BY THE GERMAN SUB WAS A LIFEBOAT FROM THE "MADOERA" INTO WHICH SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE "JONATHAN STURGES" WENT. THESE MEN (4) ARE PRISONERS OF WAR.