

EXCERPT FROM COM12FLEET BOARDING REPORT, SS "KENMAR", DATED 20 APRIL 1944.

COLLISION OF THE SS KENMAR AND SS SAN ANTONIO:

"The Captain reported that on 13 April at 0508 LCT off New Island Light off Belfast the SS KENMAR collided with the SS SAN ANTONIO (US). At this time the wind was southerly, force 2. There was a smooth sea and visibility extended about one mile in the haze, half light. The SS KENMAR was proceeding at 7 kts. on course 164 T in a convoy consisting of two columns. There was no vessel visible astern in the same column as the SS KENMAR, one vessel was about a half mile ahead, and another, unidentified, was five to seven cables on the port beam. The SS SAN ANTONIO was first observed three points on the starboard bow, converging on a relative course of 60°. The SS SAN ANTONIO was the leading ship of a single column convoy and three to four cables astern of her was the SS SHOOTING STAR. At 0506 the SS KENMAR stopped her engines and swung hard left. At 0507 she went full astern. At 0508 the starboard bow of the SS KENMAR was in contact with the port quarter of the SS SAN ANTONIO. The vessels parted at 0513. The damage to the SS KENMAR extended from the stem to the eighth frame on the starboard side and from the stem to the fifth frame on the port side. Plates, frames, stem angles, knees, brackets, and angle irons buckled and set in from sheer strake downwards for an unknown distance. No leaks in the bilges or other tanks were apparent.

DISSEMINATION: JAG; COAST GUARD; COMINCH.

Op-16-B-5

MMF/r

9 May 1944

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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By AB NARA Date 6/7/17