

NAVAL BASE, NAVY 3205

# BOARDING REPORT

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CONFIDENTIAL  
BIO-B5-BR

Date 1 March 1945  
1945 MAR 23 PM 2 03

VESEL: S.S. LEW WALLACE : NATIONALITY: United States :

BOARDED AT: Naval Base, Navy 3205 : MASTER: S. HEGLUND :

DATE BOARDED: 18 February 1945 : AGENTS: Alaska Steamship Company :

DATE ARRIVED: 15 February 1945 : HOME PORT: Seattle, Washington :

FROM: Hollandia, New Guinea : TOTAL PASSENGERS: 12 U.S.O. :

CARGO: None : ALIEN PASSENGERS: None :

## 1. CREW:

On 18 February 1945 the Base Intelligence Officer was advised by the War Shipping Administration representative that EDWARDS, Jesse (n), Ordinary Seaman, Z446821, had been picked up by the Base Police because of drunkenness, and that he did not have any identification papers.

In company with the Assistant Base Police Officer, the reporting officer boarded the S.S. LEW WALLACE and questioned EDWARDS. The following information was secured:

- a. Born - 18 February 1924 at Conway, South Carolina.
- b. Home Address - 84G Midway Street, North Charleston, South Carolina.
- c. U.S. Navy Record
  - 8 July 1941 - Enlisted as Apprentice Seaman at NRS Raleigh, N.Car.
  - 3 Sept. - Transferred to USNTS, Norfolk, Virginia.
  - 3 Sept. - Temporarily based on shore with Bomb Squadron 8.
  - 23 Dec. - Embarked on Hornet with Squadron 8.
  - 1 Feb. 1942 - Temporarily based on shore with Bomb Squadron 8.
  - 28 Feb. - On board Hornet.
  - 1 Sept. - Advanced in rating to Seaman First Class.
  - 20 Sept. - Transferred to Scout Squadron 8.
  - 31 Oct. - Transferred to LURLINE for further transfer to Navy Hospital.
  - 2 Nov. - Transferred to ARGONNE for treatment of injuries received in action 26 October.

BOARDING OFFICER: Lieut. H.C. RIKER, S(I), USNR.

DISSEMINATION: ONI (2) ✓  
BIO, 13ND (1)  
FILE (1)

J. E. BOAK,  
Commodore, U. S. N.  
Commander Naval Base.

C. A. GILE,  
By direction.

*file note*

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*MMPD has no interest mae 3/28/45*

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23 Nov. - Transferred to Receiving Station, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 30 Dec. - Received at Receiving Station, Navy Yard,  
 Philadelphia, Pa.  
 25 Feb. 1943 - Transferred to Princeton.  
 9 June - Transferred as patient to Naval Hospital,  
 Philadelphia, Pa.  
 11 Aug. - Issued good discharge from Naval Hospital,  
 Philadelphia, under honorable conditions by reason  
 of medical survey.

## d. Merchant Marine Record:

In the early fall of 1944 EDWARDS shipped on the S.S. BLANCHE F. SIGMAN,  
 Army Hospital Ship to Liverpool.  
 October 1944. Shipped aboard U.S. Army Hospital Ship MARIGOLD for  
 Pacific duty.  
 Discharged from MARIGOLD at Hollandia because of striking the First Mate.  
 Shipped aboard S.S. LEW WALLACE at Hollandia, arriving at this base on  
 15 February 1945.

## e. Action at this port:

On 17 February 1945 at about 1400, EDWARDS left the ship without permission,  
 on a small naval base boat. He was wearing khakis and a borrowed U.S.O. cap with U.S.O.  
 insignia. His intention was to visit the Fleet Officers' Club in order to secure  
 whiskey. His next recollection was when he awoke in the Base Brig.

f. EDWARDS produced his record of naval service, signed by K.P. DELONARDO,  
 Ensign, USNR., Records Division, Bureau of Naval Personnel; also, a U.S. Coast Guard  
 certificate of service, qualifying him for duty in the deck department in the rating  
 of Ordinary Seaman.

In view of the fact that EDWARDS had sufficient identification papers,  
 there was no further intelligence interest in his case. It is understood that the  
 Master of the ship and the War Shipping Administration representative agreed that  
 EDWARDS be retained aboard in a probationary status.

Nichola MONTAGANO, member of a U.S.O. troop aboard ship was also question-  
 ed. He stated that he had loaned his cap and insignia to EDWARDS. He admitted his error  
 and regretted his actions, at the same time mentioning that such a courtesy had been  
 extended to others of the merchant marine. The seriousness of his indiscretion was  
 pointed out to him.

2. MISCELLANEOUS:

The reporting officer is cognizant of the information contained in DNI confidential  
 letter Op-16-B5 over A4-3/QS1, serial number 0130A316, dated 4 July 1943, to all  
 District Intelligence Officers (less 16), subject - Boarding Reports, Preparation of.  
 This letter states that all kinds of crew misconduct will be omitted in boarding reports  
 unless they involve possible leakage of shipping information. However, inasmuch as  
 there are no representatives of the United States Coast Guard presently on duty at this

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this base, it is felt that such information is of value and should be forwarded to the appropriate District Intelligence Officer for further dissemination to the United States Coast Guard.

It is the opinion of the reporting officer that EDWARDS' actions at this base can be attributed more to his physical condition than to any inherent characteristic as a troublemaker.