



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

WASHINGTON

HEADQUARTERS

14 August, 1942

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Subject: **LOIS, gasoline launch; fire on board.**

Reference:

Summary of Information:

The following is the substance of an official report received at Coast Guard Headquarters:

At about 0830, July 31, 1942, a fire occurred on subject vessel while enroute downstream in the Mississippi River near Napoleon Avenue Ferry Landing, New Orleans, Louisiana, said to have been caused by explosion of vapor gases in the boat's engine room. The two crew members escaped to a steel barge in tow. The Bisso Towboat Company tug INDEPENDENCE pulled the burning boat into midstream, where the fire was extinguished. The LOIS is reported "practically destroyed."

*Handwritten signature*

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FOR DEFENSE



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Source: Reliable  
Information: Reliable