

44-1
450

Charter
4/24/46

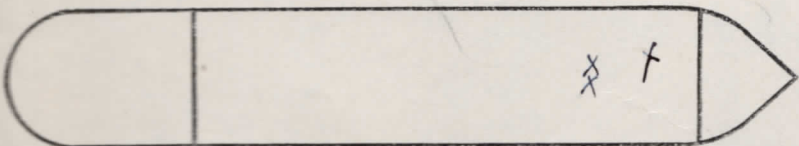
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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 NATHANIEL BACON* Service *OCEAN FREIGHT*
Owner *W.S.A.* Operator *INTERNATIONAL FREIGHTING CORP.*
Information furnished by *MASTER* Date *19 APRIL, 1946*

LINE No.	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
1	Year built and propulsion.....	Built <i>1942</i> Propulsion <i>STEAM</i>
2	Tonnage.....	Gross <i>7176</i> Net <i>4380</i>
3	Draft loaded (maximum allowed).....	Fwd <i>27' 8"</i> Aft <i>27' 8"</i>
4	Draft when attacked.....	Fwd <i>APP 24'</i> Aft <i>APP-24'</i>
5	Cargo on board (any deck).....	Nature <i>UNRRA FOOD & MED. SUPP.</i> Tons <i>5995</i>
6	Voyage.....	From <i>NORFOLK, VA.</i> To <i>CIVITEVECCHIA, ITALY</i>
7	Were routing orders followed.....	<i>YES</i> <i>VIA GENOA</i>
8	Any criticism of orders.....	<i>NO</i>
9	Weather at time of attack.....	Weather <i>OVERCAST</i> Sea <i>ROUGH</i>
10	Was enemy sighted? When.....	<i>NO</i>
11	Any friendly ships in sight.....	<i>NO</i>
12	Were navigation lights on.....	<i>NO; DAYLIGHT.</i>
13	Date and time of attack.....	Date <i>12-19-45</i> Time <i>0630</i>
14	Position.....	Latitude <i>APP. 42.21 N</i> Longitude <i>APP. 11.29 E</i>
15	Nature of attack (Give data).....	<i>MINED</i>
16	Number of hits.....	<i>3</i>
17	Location of hits (Mark diagram).....	<i>1-#1-P; 2-#2</i>
18	Effect of hits.....	<i>12' HOLE IN #1; KEEL SPLIT BET. #2 & #3; C.T.L.</i>
19	Was ship armed? What type.....	<i>NO</i>
20	Was armament used? State result.....	<i>NO</i>
21	Any explosions or fires*.....	Ship <i>NO</i> Cargo <i>YES; FIRE</i>
22	Was deck ruptured.....	<i>YES</i>
23	Did ship break in two.....	<i>YES</i>
24	Was SOS sent.....	<i>YES.</i>
25	Ship's speed.....	Normal <i>11.0</i> When attacked <i>7.0</i> When abandoned <i>STOP.</i>
26	Time abandoned, sunk.....	Abandoned <i>1005 (3 AM, 3.5 min)</i> Sunk <i>N.S.</i>
27	Was ship reboarded.....	By whom <i>THEVES; & OWNERS.</i> When <i>LATER</i>
28	Was ship brought in.....	How <i>BEACHED DRIFTED TO BEACH.</i> Approximate damage <i>C.T.L.</i>

FORM EXECUTED AT HQ BY JHF - ON - 4-19-46.



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

Declassified NARA Project: NW 63684

Indicate by star (*) rafts, floats, or suits used as temporary refuge in water before rescue by lifeboats.

LINE No.	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS									
29	Lifeboats.....	Number carried <u>6</u> Which used <u>3</u> <i>- TOO ROUGH TO LAUNCH.</i>									
30	Lifeboats.....	Number lost <u>2</u> How <u>- MINE EXPLOSION - FIRE</u>									
31	Life rafts.....	Number carried <u>4</u> Which used <u>1</u>									
32	Life rafts.....	Number lost <u>3</u> How <u>NOT NEEDED</u>									
33	Life floats.....	Number carried <u>2</u> Which used <u>0</u>									
34	Life floats.....	Number lost <u>2</u> How <u>NOT NEEDED</u>									
35	Lifesaving suits.....	Number carried <u>UN.</u> Number used <u>0</u>									
36	Were boats, etc., attacked.....	Attacked <u>NO</u> Casualties <u>0</u>									
37	Time in each boat, raft, etc.....	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">1 Boat <u>7 1/2 hrs.</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">1 Raft <u>9 hrs.</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">Float <u>—</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">2 BOATS <u>6 hrs.</u></td> <td style="border: none;">Raft <u>—</u></td> <td style="border: none;">Float <u>—</u></td> </tr> </table>	1 Boat <u>7 1/2 hrs.</u>	1 Raft <u>9 hrs.</u>	Float <u>—</u>	2 BOATS <u>6 hrs.</u>	Raft <u>—</u>	Float <u>—</u>			
1 Boat <u>7 1/2 hrs.</u>	1 Raft <u>9 hrs.</u>	Float <u>—</u>									
2 BOATS <u>6 hrs.</u>	Raft <u>—</u>	Float <u>—</u>									
38	Rescued by and where <u>3B+1R</u>	By <u>MADE PORT</u> Where <u>COAST OF ITALY</u>									
39	Number of gun crew carried (military).....	Officers <u>0</u> Enlisted men <u>0</u>									
40	Number ship's crew carried.....	Officers <u>8</u> Radiomen <u>1</u> Unlicensed <u>31</u>									
41	Number passengers and others carried.....	Passengers <u>4</u> Others <u>1 (STOWAWAY)</u> <i>WOMAN</i>									
42	Total on board.....	<u>45</u>									
43	Number gun crew injured (military).....	Officers <u>0</u> Enlisted men <u>0</u>									
44	Number ship's crew injured.....	Officers <u>X 7</u> Radiomen <u>0</u> Unlicensed <u>X 4</u>									
45	Number passengers and others injured.....	Passengers <u>0</u> Others <u>0</u>									
46	Number gun crew lost (military).....	Officers <u>0</u> Enlisted men <u>0</u>									
47	Number ship's crew lost.....	Officers <u>0</u> Radiomen <u>0</u> Unlicensed <u>2</u>									
48	Number passengers and others lost.....	Passengers <u>0</u> Others <u>0</u>									
49	Total casualties.....	Injured <u>X 11</u> Lost <u>2</u>									
50	Persons lost by (Specify).....	Drowning <u>2</u> Fire <u>0</u> Shell or torpedo <u>0</u> Other causes <u>0</u>									
51	Total rescued.....	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">Gun crew <u>0</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">Officers <u>8</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">Radio operators <u>1</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Unlicensed <u>29</u></td> <td style="border: none;">Passengers <u>4</u></td> <td style="border: none;">Others <u>1</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="border: none; text-align: right;">Total <u>43</u></td> </tr> </table>	Gun crew <u>0</u>	Officers <u>8</u>	Radio operators <u>1</u>	Unlicensed <u>29</u>	Passengers <u>4</u>	Others <u>1</u>	Total <u>43</u>		
Gun crew <u>0</u>	Officers <u>8</u>	Radio operators <u>1</u>									
Unlicensed <u>29</u>	Passengers <u>4</u>	Others <u>1</u>									
Total <u>43</u>											
52	Persons saved by.....	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">Boats <u>35</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">Rafts <u>8</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;">Floats <u>0</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;">Preservers <u>0</u></td> <td style="border: none;">Other means <u>0</u></td> <td style="border: none;">Suits <u>0</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="border: none; text-align: right;">No aid <u>0</u></td> </tr> </table>	Boats <u>35</u>	Rafts <u>8</u>	Floats <u>0</u>	Preservers <u>0</u>	Other means <u>0</u>	Suits <u>0</u>	No aid <u>0</u>		
Boats <u>35</u>	Rafts <u>8</u>	Floats <u>0</u>									
Preservers <u>0</u>	Other means <u>0</u>	Suits <u>0</u>									
No aid <u>0</u>											
53	Engineering watch below.....	Number on watch below <u>3</u> Number lost below <u>0</u>									
54	Number of look-outs.....										
55	Any defective material.....	<u>YES - BILGE PUMP IN #4 BOAT.</u>									
56	Any personnel fault.....	<u>NO</u>									

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.

