

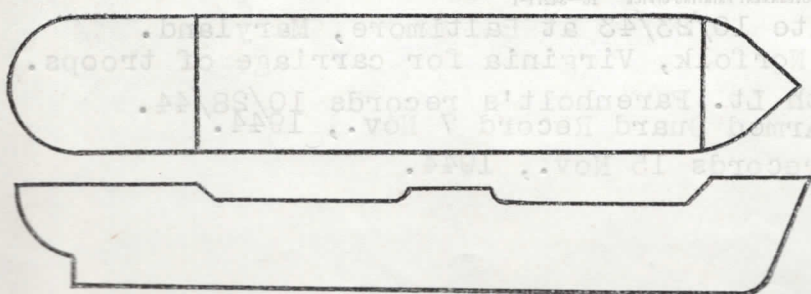
To: Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C.

Ship S/s PAUL HAMILTON Service Ocean Freight

Owner W.S.A. Operator Black Diamond SS Co.

Information furnished by WSA & HQ records Date 27 October, 1944

LINE No.	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
1	Year built and propulsion	Built <u>1942</u> Propulsion <u>Steam</u>
2	Tonnage	Gross <u>7177</u> Net <u>4375</u>
3	Draft loaded (maximum allowed)	Fwd <u>27'9" (M)</u> Aft _____
4	Draft when attacked	Fwd <u>App. 24' (M)</u> Aft _____
5	Cargo on board (any deck)	Nature <u>Explosives and troops</u> Tons _____
6	Voyage	From <u>United States</u> To <u>Italy</u>
7	Were routing orders followed	<u>Yes</u>
	Any criticism of orders	<u>No</u>
9	Weather at time of attack	Weather <u>Clear</u> Sea <u>Calm</u>
10	Was enemy sighted? When	<u>Yes; before attack</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>4/20/44</u> Time <u>2111</u>
14	Position	Latitude <u>36°55'N</u> Longitude <u>03°54'E</u>
15	Nature of attack (Give data)	<u>Torpedoed (Air); or bombed</u>
16	Number of hits	<u>1</u>
17	Location of hits (Mark diagram)	<u>Un.</u>
18	Effect of hits	<u>Ship exploded with violence and sunk.</u>
	Was ship armed? What type	<u>1-5"38; 1-3"50; 8-20 MM</u>
20	Was armament used? State result	<u>Yes</u>
21	Any explosions or fires*	Ship <u>Explosion</u> Cargo <u>Explosion</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>12.5</u> When attacked <u>9.0</u> When abandoned <u>No time</u>
26	Time abandoned, sunk	Abandoned <u>No time - no survivors</u> Sunk <u>2111.5 (1/2 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.

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NOTE: a) Vessel was attacked and sunk by enemy aircraft; vessel was seen to explode with such violence that it is now concluded that there were no survivors. A flare reaching 1000 feet into the air resulted.
 b) CF. ONI report of "Stephen F. Austin" -- position of convoy was given away when the "Paul Hamilton" opened fire.

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 4 Which used 0
30	Lifeboats.....	Number lost 4 How Torpedo explosion
31	Life rafts.....	Number carried 4 Which used 0
32	Life rafts.....	Number lost 4 How Torpedo explosion
33	Life floats.....	Number carried 24 Which used 0
34	Life floats.....	Number lost 24 How Torpedo explosion
35	Lifesaving suits.....	Number carried 47 Number used 0
36	Were boats, etc., attacked.....	Attacked No Casualties 0
37	Time in each boat, raft, etc.....	--- Boat --- Raft --- Float
		--- Boat --- Raft --- Float
38	Rescued by and where.....	By No survivors Where
39	Number of gun crew carried (military).....	Officers 2 Enlisted men 27
40	Number ship's crew carried.....	Officers 8 Radiomen 3 Unlicensed 36
41	Number passengers and others carried.....	Passengers 504 Others 0
42	Total on board.....	580
43	Number gun crew injured (military).....	Officers 0 Enlisted men 0
44	Number ship's crew injured.....	Officers 0 Radiomen 0 Unlicensed 0
45	Number passengers and others injured.....	Passengers 0 Others 0
46	Number gun crew lost (military).....	Officers 2 Enlisted men 27
47	Number ship's crew lost.....	Officers 8 Radiomen 3 Unlicensed 36
48	Number passengers and others lost.....	Passengers 504 Other 0
49	Total casualties.....	Injured 0 Lost 580
50	Persons lost by (Specify).....	Drowning 0 Fire 0 Shell or torpedo 580
		Other causes 0
51	Total rescued.....	Gun crew 0 Officers 0 Radio operators 0
		Unlicensed 0 Passengers 0 Others 0 Total 0
52	Persons saved by.....	Boats 0 Rafts 0 Floats 0 Suits 0
		Preservers 0 Other means 0 No aid 0
53	Engineering watch below.....	Number on watch below 3 Number lost below 3
54	Number of look-outs.....	40
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.

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- NOTE: a)-Last inspection certificate 10/23/43 at Baltimore, Maryland.
 b)-Waiver issued 3/29/44 at Norfolk, Virginia for carriage of troops.
 c)-Checked merchant crew with Lt. Farenholt's records 10/28/44.
 d)-Checked with U. S. Navy Armed Guard Record 7 Nov., 1944.
 e)-Checked with U. S. Army records 15 Nov., 1944.