

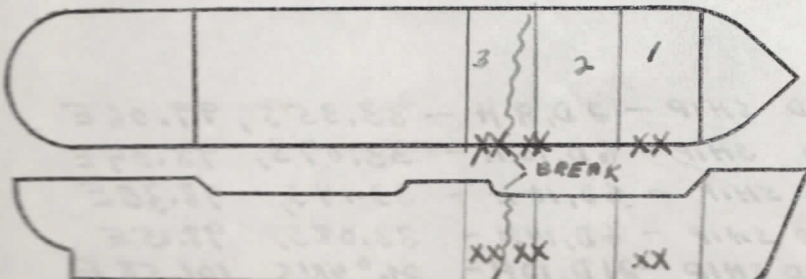
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
REPORT ON U. S. MERCHANT VESSEL WAR ACTION CASUALTY

To: Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C.
 Ship/s PETER SILVESTER Service OCEAN FREIGHT
 Owner W.S.A. Operator COAST WISE PAC - FAR EAST LINE
 Information furnished by MASTER Date 15 MARCH, 1944

LINE No.	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
1	Year built and propulsion	Built <u>1942</u> Propulsion <u>STEAM</u>
2	Tonnage	Gross <u>7176</u> Net <u>4380</u>
3	Draft loaded (maximum allowed)	Fwd <u>27'8" (M)</u> Aft _____
4	Draft when attacked	Fwd <u>18'3" (M)</u> Aft _____
5	Cargo on board (any deck)	Nature <u>GENERAL + 317 MULES + TROOPS</u> Tons <u>2700</u>
6	Voyage	From <u>MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA</u> To <u>COLOMBO, CEYLON</u>
7	Were routing orders followed	<u>YES</u>
8	Any criticism of orders	<u>NO</u>
	Weather at time of attack	Weather <u>OVERCAST</u> Sea <u>MODERATE</u>
10	Was enemy sighted? When	<u>YES; AFTER ATTACK.</u>
11	Any friendly ships in sight	<u>NO</u>
12	Were navigation lights on	<u>NO</u>
13	Date and time of attack	Date <u>2-6-45</u> Time <u>1540</u>
14	Position	Latitude <u>34° 19' S</u> Longitude <u>99° 37' E</u>
15	Nature of attack (Give data)	<u>TORPEDOED</u>
16	Number of hits	<u>6!</u>
17	Location of hits (Mark diagram)	<u>4-#35; 2-#15</u>
18	Effect of hits	<u>SANK SHIP</u>
19	Was ship armed? What type	<u>YES</u>
	Was armament used? State result	<u>NO</u>
21	Any explosions or fires*	Ship <u>NO</u> Cargo <u>NO</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>11.0</u> When attacked <u>11.2</u> When abandoned <u>STOP</u>
26	Time abandoned, sunk	Abandoned <u>1620 (40 min.)</u> Sunk <u>UNKNOWN NOTED</u>
27	Was ship reboarded	<u>YES</u> By whom <u>C.M.MATE + 4 OTHERS</u> When <u>0900 2-8-45</u>
28	Was ship brought in	How <u>NO</u> Approximate damage <u>SUNK.</u>

NOTE: ACCORDING TO ONI REPORT, SHIP REMAINED AFLOAT AND WAS LAST SIGHTED BY SURVIVORS AT 2230 2-8-45 (54 MIN 50 MIN) IN 33.00S, 99.06 E WHEN IT DISAPPEARED BEYOND THE HORIZON



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

29	Lifeboats	Number carried	4	Which used	4
30	Lifeboats	Number lost	0	How	0
31	Life rafts	Number carried	8	Which used	6
32	Life rafts	Number lost	2	How	TORPEDO EXPLOSION.
33	Life floats	Number carried	4	Which used	0
34	Life floats	Number lost	4	How	DRIFTED AWAY - NOT NEEDED.
35	Lifesaving suits	Number carried	45	Number used	0
36	Were boats, etc., attacked	Attacked	NO	Casualties	0
37	Time in each boat, raft, etc.	1 BOAT - 57 HRS. 1 BOAT 6D, 15H. 1 BOAT 21D, 12H. 1 BOAT 31D, 8H.	4 Rafts 6D 10H. 2 Rafts 6D 17H	Float	- -
38	Rescued by and where	By	ALLIED SHIPS	Where	NOTED
39	Number of gun crew carried (military)	Officers	1	Enlisted men	25
40	Number ship's crew carried	Officers	8	Radiomen	2
41	Number passengers and others carried	Passengers	107	Others	0
42	Total on board		175		
43	Number gun crew injured (military)	Officers	0	Enlisted men	1
44	Number ship's crew injured	Officers	1	Radiomen	0
45	Number passengers and others injured	Passengers	14	Others	0
46	Number gun crew lost (military)	Officers	0	Enlisted men	7
47	Number ship's crew lost	Officers	0	Radiomen	0
48	Number passengers and others lost	Passengers	25	Others	0
49	Total casualties	Injured	20	Lost	33
50	Persons lost by (Specify)	Drowning	0	Fire	0
51	Total rescued	Gun crew	19	Officers	8
52	Persons saved by	Boats	62	Rafts	80
53	Engineering watch below	Number on watch below	4	Number lost below	0
54	Number of look-outs		6		
55	Any defective material	YES; FLARES; DEFECTIVE SEA ANCHOR IN #1 BOAT; FOOD + FLARE CONTAINERS IN #3 BOAT LEAKED			
56	Any personnel fault	YES; 3RD MATE LEFT BRIDGE BEFORE BEING RECEIVED, WITHOUT ORDERS			

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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NOTED

- 1 - BOAT - 15 MEN - ALLIED SHIP - 2D, 9H - 33.35S, 99.06E
- 1 - BOAT - 12 MEN - ALLIED SHIP - 6D, 15H - 33.07S, 98.04E
- 4 - RAFTS - 62 MEN - ALLIED SHIP - 6D, 10H - 33.14S, 98.30E
- 2 - RAFTS - 18 MEN - ALLIED SHIP - 6D, 14H - 33.08S, 98.15E
- 1 BOAT - 20 MEN - ALLIED SHIP - 21D, 12H - 26° 48'S, 101.58 E
- 1 BOAT - 15 MEN - ALLIED SHIP - 31D, 8H - 21.48E 21.48E
21.48'S 113.45'E

NOTE@ 1 ARMY MAN DIED AT SEA IN #3 BOAT FROM INJURIES