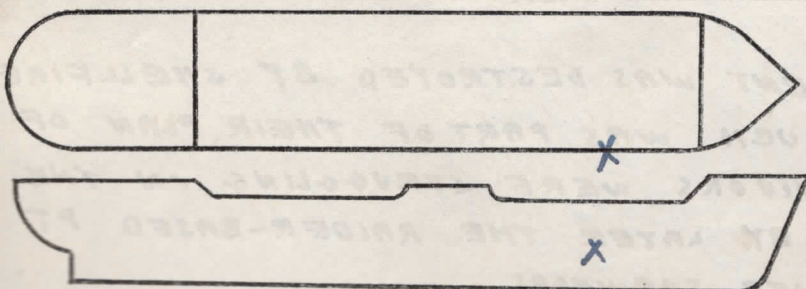


To: Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard, Washington, D. C.

Ship M/s SAWOLKAService OCEAN FREIGHTOwner W.S.A.Operator AMERICAN EXPORT LINES, INC.Information furnished by JR. 3RD MATE; 2ND MATE; CH. MATE.Date 17 OCTOBER, 1945

LINE No.	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
1	Year built and propulsion.....	Built <u>1920</u> Propulsion <u>DIESEL</u>
2	Tonnage.....	Gross <u>5882</u> Net <u>3667</u>
3	Draft loaded (maximum allowed).....	Fwd <u>26'5"</u> Aft <u>26'5"</u>
4	Draft when attacked.....	Fwd <u>28'</u> Aft <u>31'</u>
5	Cargo on board (any deck).....	Nature <u>NUTE; GUNNIES</u> Tons <u>8500</u>
6	Voyage.....	From <u>COLOMBO, INDIA CEYLON</u> To <u>CAPETOWN, S. AFRICA</u>
7	Were routing orders followed.....	<u>YES</u>
8	Any criticism of orders.....	<u>NO</u>
9	Weather at time of attack.....	Weather <u>CLEAR</u> Sea <u>ROUGH</u>
10	Was enemy sighted? When.....	<u>YES; BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER ATTACK.</u>
11	Any friendly ships in sight.....	<u>NO</u> WITH RAIDER
12	Were navigation lights on.....	<u>YES; (DIMMED) - PUT ON BY MASTER TO AVOID COLL. ↑</u>
13	Date and time of attack.....	Date <u>11-29-42</u> Time <u>2037</u>
14	Position.....	<u>400 MI. SE MADAGASCAR</u> Latitude <u>APP 28.00 S</u> Longitude <u>APP 54.00 E</u>
15	Nature of attack (Give data).....	<u>TORPEDED AND SHELLED BY GERMAN SURFACE RAIDER.</u>
16	Number of hits.....	<u>NUMEROUS SHELL HITS; 1 TORPEDO</u>
17	Location of hits (Mark diagram).....	<u>ALL OVER -; 1 T- #2-S</u>
18	Effect of hits.....	<u>SANK SHIP CAPSIZED AND SANK</u>
19	Was ship armed? What type.....	<u>YES</u>
20	Was armament used? State result.....	<u>YES; HIT RAIDER; WOUNDED GERMAN CREW.</u>
21	Any explosions or fires*.....	Ship <u>YES; FIRE</u> Cargo <u>YES; FIRE</u>
22	Was deck ruptured.....	<u>PRESUMABLY YES</u>
23	Did ship break in two.....	<u>NO</u>
24	Was SOS sent.....	<u>NO</u>
25	Ship's speed.....	Normal <u>10.5</u> When attacked <u>10.2</u> When abandoned <u>STOP</u>
26	Time abandoned, sunk.....	Abandoned <u>2045 (8 min.)</u> Sunk <u>2045 (8 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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VESSEL WAS OVERHAULED AND SHELLED BY GERMAN RAIDER; WHILE RAIDER WAS SHELLING HER, A MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT, LAUNCHED FROM RAIDER, CIRCLED SHIP AND SPRAYED VESSEL WITH MG FIRE; LATER, RAIDERS AIRCRAFT SEARCHED AREA FOR SURVIVORS JUNIOR 3RD MATE CLAIMED HE WAS ON RAIDER 85 DAYS BEFORE LANDING IN SINGAPORE.

29	Lifeboats.....	Number carried	4	Which used	1*
30	Lifeboats.....	Number lost	4	How	NO TIME TO LAUNCH. SMELLFIRE
31	Life rafts.....	Number carried	4	Which used	0
32	Life rafts.....	Number lost	4	How	SMELLFIRE
33	Life floats.....	Number carried	2	Which used	1
34	Life floats.....	Number lost	1	How	SMELLFIRE
35	Lifesaving suits.....	Number carried	20	Number used	0
36	Were boats, etc., attacked.....	Attacked	NO	Casualties	0
37	Time in each boat, raft, etc.....	Boat	-	Raft	-
		Boat	-	Raft	-
				Float	2 min.
38	Rescued by and where.....	By	GERMAN RAIDER	Where	AT SCENE
39	Number of gun crew carried (military).....	Officers	1	Enlisted men	12
40	Number ship's crew carried.....	Officers	8	Radiomen	1
				Unlicensed	32
41	Number passengers and others carried.....	Passengers	5	Others	0
42	Total on board.....		59		
43	Number gun crew injured (military).....	Officers	0	Enlisted men	6
44	Number ship's crew injured.....	Officers	5	Radiomen	1
				Unlicensed	15
45	Number passengers and others injured.....	Passengers	2	Others	0
46	Number gun crew lost (military).....	Officers	1	Enlisted men	3
47	Number ship's crew lost.....	Officers	3	Radiomen	0
				Unlicensed	14
48	Number passengers and others lost.....	Passengers	0	Others	0
49	Total casualties.....	Injured	29	Lost	21
50	Persons lost by (Specify).....	Drowning	2	Fire	UN
				Shell or torpedo	6
		Other causes	13 (UNKNOWN)		
51	Total rescued.....	Gun crew	9	Officers	5
		Unlicensed	18	Passengers	5
				Others	0
				Total	38
52	Persons saved by.....	Boats	0	Rafts	0
				Floats	7
				Suits	0
		Preservers	0	Other means	31
				No aid	0
53	Engineering watch below.....	Number on watch below	3	Number lost below	0
54	Number of look-outs.....		5		
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.

ALL LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT WAS DESTROYED BY SHELLFIRE OF RAIDER'S PT BOATS; SUCH WAS PART OF THEIR PLAN OF ATTACK. WHILE 7 SURVIVORS WERE STRUGGLING IN THE WATER, A FLOAT CAME BY. LATER THE RAIDER-BASED PT BOATS PICKED UP 31 OTHER SURVIVORS