

Authority *NA 968133*  
 By *AR* NARA Date *7-25-11*

ARMED		OWN SHIP TYPE		OWN SHIP TYPE		OWN SHIP TYPE		OWN SHIP TYPE		OWN SHIP TYPE		OWN SHIP TYPE		OWN SHIP TYPE	
DAY	NIGHT	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
✓		2012	1512	1942	1942	2012	1512	1942	1942	2012	1512	1942	1942	2012	1512
WEATHER		SEA		VISIBILITY		MOON		CLOUDS		GR TONNAGE		COURSE		SPEED	
Fine		Smooth		Excellent						4422		30		7	
OWN SHIP NAME		NATL		TYPE		CARGO		ENEMY SHIP		ENEMY SHIP		ENEMY SHIP		ENEMY SHIP	
<del>ABGARA</del>		USA		Submarine		None		Submarine		Submarine		Submarine		Submarine	
ENROUTE		ARMED BY US		OTHER		RADIO		RADAR		RADAR		RADAR		RADAR	
Jamaica to Montreal		Not used				Two on bridge.		Two on bridge.		Two on bridge.		Two on bridge.		Two on bridge.	
ZIGZAG		CONVOY		NO		RADIO		RADAR		RADAR		RADAR		RADAR	
Not		No		No		Not used		Not used		Not used		Not used		Not used	
OWN LIGHTS		DAYLIGHT		RADIO		NOT USED		RADAR		RADAR		RADAR		RADAR	
Two on bridge.		Two on bridge.		Two on bridge.		Two on bridge.		Two on bridge.		Two on bridge.		Two on bridge.		Two on bridge.	
LOOKOUTS		TWO ON BRIDGE.													
OWN DAMAGE		SUNK BY		TWO TORPEDOES.											
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.	
CONTACT MADE BY SIGHT		SOUND		D/F		RADAR		ENEMY ATTACK		XXX		ENEMY SHIP		SUBMERGING	
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.	
ON SURFACE		AWASH		PERISCOPE		SUBMERGED		XX		TORPEDO TRACK		NOT SEEN		NOT SEEN	
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.	
DISTANCE		BEARING		COURSE		SPEED									
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.	
ENEMY IDENTITY		SUB. MEDIUM SIZE		(1200 TONS).		DART GRAY,		NO STREAKS,		LOW HIGHER THAN STERN,		ONE 7" FWD AND ONE AFT		OF CONNING TOWER	
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.	
Torpedoed		without warning		while enroute		to Montreal		with cargo		of sugar.		Not zigzagging		because	
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.	
Master		had instructions		not to zigzag		unless speed		exceeded		10 knots.					
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.					
BEFORE ATTACK		DURING ATTACK		AFTER ATTACK											
None.		None.		None.											
COMMENTS ON		DWN EN		SUNK		TACTICS		LIGHTS		MATERIAL		PERSONNEL		SHIP	
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.	
The first and second torpedoes		struck on the		starboard side		below the		waterline.		Apparently					
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.					
the first torpedo		was very small		but the second		one was large		as the explosion		blasted the					
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.					
bridge		into the		air. Ship		lost way		immediately		after the		first torpedo		struck, distress	
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.					
signal		sent on		emergency		set, no		reply		received,		vessel		was	
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.					
destroyed.															
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.					
The vessel		was abandoned		by the		entire		crew		of 34		in the		lifeboat.	
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.					
Survivors		arrived		at		MOB,		Guantanamo		Bay		at		0115, May 9.	
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.					
AFTER ATTACK		REMARKS													
None.		None.		None.		None.		None.		None.					
APPROX. REPORTS IN FILE		SURVIVORS		ACTION		OTHER									
None.		None.		None.		None.									
NAME ADDRESS															
None.		None.		None.		None.									



Authority NND 968133

By AR NARA Date 7-25-11

9 May - ABGARA sunk 20-15N 72-55W 2012Z/6. 2 torpedoes,

6 June - U-88 type.

Authority NDJ 968133  
By HR NARA Date 7-25-11

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NAVY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON

Op-16-B-5

June 1, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

Lloyds says  
"ABGARA"

Subject: Summary of Statements by Survivors of the SS "ABARGA", Latvian freighter, 4,422 G. T., Daniel F. Young, Inc., New York City, Owners. ABGARA

1. The SS "ABARIA" was torpedoed without warning, first at 1612 EMT, second at 1640 EMT, May 6, 1942, at 20.45 N. - 72.55 W. or 15 miles southeast of Great Inagua Island, Bahama. She was enroute from Kingston, Jamaica, B.W.I. to Montreal, Canada with a full cargo of sugar for the Canadian Government. The vessel sank at 1640 EMT, the bow plunging first in 1500-2000 fathoms of water.

3 copies

2. The vessel was on a course 36°, speed 7 knots, not zigzagging (Master had instructions not to zigzag unless speed exceeded 10 knots), daylight attack, radio not used, 1 lookout plus First Mate, both on bridge. The weather was fine, sea smooth, NE breeze - 3 or 4 knots, visibility excellent, no ships in sight.

3. The first and second torpedoes struck on the starboard side below the waterline. Apparently the first torpedo was very small but the second one was large as the explosion blasted the bridge into the air. Ship lost way immediately after the first torpedo struck, distress signal sent on emergency set, no reply received, vessel was unarmed, confidential codes torn to bits by Captain and First Mate and thrown overboard.

NOT IN ABGARA

4. The vessel was abandoned at 1616 EMT by the entire crew of 34 in the port lifeboat. They set sail to the SW for Cape Misi; landed at Playa Blanca, May 7, at 1900; left Playa Blanca at 1630 EMT, May 8 in tow by Cuban schooner "FORTUNA" arrived U.S. NOB Guantanamo Bay at 0115, May 9.

5. The submarine was described as medium size (about 1,200 tons), painted very dark grey, no streaks, bow higher than stern, apparently one 3" gun forward and one aft of conning tower; guns were peculiarly short barreled, speed 6 or 7 knots on surface, diesel motors, when last seen bearing NE over the horizon at 1830 EMT, May 6, thick smoke from exhaust visible.

A. J. Powers  
Ensign, U.S.N.R.

CC: ONI B-8, 16-D, F-9, (4 copies), F-10, Cominch, Cominch F-22, F-252 F-353, F-37 (C & R), Op-23-L, Op-13, Op-28, Op-30, Op-39, BuShips BuOrdnance (Ensign P.L. Vissat), BuOrdnance, Atlantic Fleet Anti-Submarine Unit.

D11917

S.S. "ABARCA" Sunk May 6, 1942

SURVIVORS AND ENTIRE CREW LANDED AT US NOB, GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA ON MAY 9, 1942.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Nationality</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
1. Blome, Axel Wilhelm	Norwegian	Captain
2. Peksens, Rudolfs	Latvian	First Mate
3. Picardi, Luis	Venezuelan	Second Mate
4. Musts, Rudolfs	Latvian	Radioman
5. Stigemanis, Emils	Latvian	First Engineer
6. Rebare, Faul	Estonian	Second Engineer
7. Sprogis, Arvids	Latvian	Third Engineer
8. Grenctals, Leonhards	Latvian	Boatswain
9. Grinbergs, Detlavs	Latvian	Carpenter
10. Lulis, Paulis	Latvian	A.B. Sailor
11. Persson, Erick	Swedish	A.B. Sailor
12. Wilson, Wallace Jame	American	A.B. Sailor
13. Pippis, Johan Lindwood	American	O. Sailor
14. Swiderskis, Joseph	American	O. Sailor
15. Walter, Galving Davids	American	O. Sailor
16. Rode, Edward	American	O. Sailor
17. Cornelis, Vander Vis	Dutch	O. Sailor
18. Freimanis, Peteris	Latvian	Donkeyman
19. Freigangs, Jevdokims	Latvian	O. Sailor
20. Andrews, William Euqr.	American	Fireman
21. Dismeyer, Joseph	American	Fireman
22. Andrews, Gurash	American	Fireman
23. Priede, Zanis	Latvian	Fireman
24. Maroz, Walter	American	Fireman
25. Roach, Alfred	British	Fireman
26. Note, Vrnucud Thomas	American	Coalpasser
27. Franclin, Jame Markus	American	Coalpasser
28. Kulvery, Levia Armsby	American	Coalpasser
29. Petersen, Paul	Danish	Steward
30. Sipols, Alfreds Zanis	Latvian	First Cook
31. Vasqueze, Concepcion	American	Messman
32. Juarez, Pedro Franclin	American	Second Cook
33. Mullers, William	American	Messman
34. Howell, Frank	British	Fireman

Crew "A"

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By AR NARA Date 7-25-11