

BY *[Signature]* DATE *[Date]*

US OTH SF 7 4 2 1 SF 7 4 2 1 SF 7 4 2 1 SF 7 4 2 1 SF 7 4 2 1 SF 7 4 2 1 SF 7 4 2 1

TENS UNITS TENS UNITS TENS UNITS TENS UNITS TENS UNITS TENS UNITS TENS UNITS

OWN DAMAGE		OWN ACTION		RATL		OWN SHIP TYPE		NAME		AREA		TENS	
DAY	SCY	DATE	6-16-42	LAT	23-50	DIST LAND	40	AREA	5.5	GR. TONNAGE	5952	UNITS	
NIGHT	LIT	DATE	6-15-42	LONG	81-40	PATRONS	800	WIND	SM - force 2	COURSE	212	UNITS	
WEATHER		SEA		VISIBILITY		GOOD		MOON		CLOUDS		UNITS	
OWN SHIP: NAME		MANAGUA		NATL		NICARAG		TYPE		CARGO		UNITS	
ENROUTE		CHARLESTON FOR HAVANA		CARGO/MISSION		Gen		GUN CREW		Not armed.		UNITS	
ZIGZAG		Not		CONVOY		No		ARMED BY-US		OTHER		UNITS	
OWN LIGHTS		Blacked out		RADIO		Silent		RADAR		SOUND GEAR		MAG-DET	
LOOKOUTS		Three		REMARKS									
OWN DAMAGE		SUNK - TOP		ENEMY DAMAGE									
CONTACT MADE BY-SIGHT		SOUND		D/F		RADAR		ENEMY ATTACK		XX		ENEMY SHIP	
ON SURFACE		AWASH		PERISCOPE		SUBMERGED		XX		TORPEDO TRACK		NOT SEEN	
DISTANCE		300 ft		BEARING		COURSE		SPEED					
ENEMY IDENTITY													

MANAGUA

OWN AND ENEMY MANEUVERS AND ACTION

BEFORE ATTACK

DURING ATTACK

AFTER ATTACK

COMMENTS ON

OWN EN

EN

TACTICS

LIGHTS

MATERIAL

PERSONNEL

SHIP

OTHER

ADDL. REPORTS IN FILE

SURVIVORS

ACTION

ONI

OTHER

OWN SHIP: NAME MANAGUA

ENROUTE CHARLESTON FOR HAVANA

ZIGZAG Not

OWN LIGHTS Blacked out

LOOKOUTS Three

OWN DAMAGE SUNK - TOP

CONTACT MADE BY-SIGHT SOUND

ON SURFACE AWASH PERISCOPE SUBMERGED XX TORPEDO TRACK NOT SEEN

DISTANCE 300 ft BEARING

ENEMY IDENTITY

MANAGUA

ENROUTE CHARLESTON FOR HAVANA

ZIGZAG Not

OWN LIGHTS Blacked out

LOOKOUTS Three

OWN DAMAGE SUNK - TOP

CONTACT MADE BY-SIGHT SOUND

ON SURFACE AWASH PERISCOPE SUBMERGED XX TORPEDO TRACK NOT SEEN

DISTANCE 300 ft BEARING

ENEMY IDENTITY

96

DISPATCHES

(a) SS MANAGUA Nicaraguan. (b) 15 June 1942. (c) 2150 G. (d) 24-05 N., 81-40 W. (e) 5. (f) 1 torpedo. (g) Sank with ship. COMGULF C to COMINCH 171530.

Sunk by torpedo 0945 EWT. 55 miles from Sombrero. 20 of crew including master arrived there 8 P.M. 5 members of crew believed to be in another lifeboat. Ship was enroute from Charleston, S.C. to Havana. AMCON MATANZAS, CUBA C to COMINCH CAR 160230.

MANAGUA torpedoed and sunk vicinity 24-39 N., 81-07 W. 1345Z/15. COMINCH S to ADMIRALTY 172119.

Possibly U-45 type sub. COMINCH S to ADMIRALTY 221946.

REMARKS

MANAGUA : NIC : MV : : : 151345 : 24-39N 81-07W : SUNK
 : : : : : Jun '42 : : : :
 : : : : : : : : : :
 (Name) (Armed) ; Nat : Type : Tonnage : Date : Location : Lights : Damage

BD

What happened: torpedoed (1)
 Charleston to Havana

Description of Sub:

Survivors: 20 including master, 5 unaccounted for, but believed in another boat.
 5 landed Pidgeon Key June 17.

Additional Remarks:

B-5 report in file.

17 June - Torpedoed and sunk vicinity 24-39N 81-07W 1345Z/15.

28 June - 24-05N 81-10W 0150Z/16.

22 July - Possibly U-45 type.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

Op-16-B-5
CONFIDENTIAL

WASHINGTON

July 2, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

Subject: Summary of Statements by Survivors of SS MANAGUA, Nicaraguan Freighter, 2220 G.T., owned and controlled by A. Garcia and Co. of Havana, Cuba.

1. The MANAGUA was torpedoed without warning at 2145 EWT on June 15, 1942 at 23° 50' N - 81° 40' W, while enroute from Jacksonville, Florida to Havana, Cuba with a full general cargo, no liquids. The ship listed to port, then plunged by the stern, sinking within 10 minutes after being hit.

2. The freighter was on course 212° true, speed 8.5 knots in 800 fathoms, not zigzagging, blacked out, radio silent, 3 look-outs - one in the middle and one on each side of the bridge. The weather was good, sea calm, wind SW, force 2, the moon had set at 2120 EWT, and visibility was good, no other ships in sight.

3. The torpedo's wake was seen when 300 feet away but struck before avoiding action could be taken. Ship sank too quickly to ascertain location or extent of damage, nor is it known whether distress signals were sent. Vessel was unarmed. Confidentials were in Captain's safe and sank with the ship.

4. The crew of 25 abandoned ship in two lifeboats, one containing 20 landed at Matanzas, Cuba at 2000 EWT on June 17, 1942; and the other containing the remaining 5 landed at the Naval Air Station, at Key West on June 17, 1942.

5. The sub surfaced at about 2205 EWT, but deck cargo floating between the lifeboat and the enemy obstructed clear observation and only a silhouette was seen.

6. The Captain of the MANAGUA was instructed at Charleston to put into Jacksonville for further routing instructions; but at Jacksonville he was only told that he could leave when ready and to proceed directly to Havana. The Assistant Naval and Air Attache, Havana, has expressed the opinion that the Port Director at Jacksonville should have issued instructions not to cross the Straits of Florida except during daylight.

E. D. Henderson
Ensign, USNR

CC: ONI B-8, 16-A-4-d, F-9 (4 copies), F-10, Cominch, Cominch F-21-22, F-252, F-353, F-37 (C & R), Op-23-L, Op-28, Op-30, Op-39, BuShips, BuOrd (Ensign P. L. Vissat), BuOrd, Atlantic Fleet Anti-Submarine Unit, BuPers-6.

Headquarters
SEVENTH NAVAL DISTRICT
Office of the District Intelligence Officer
Du Pont Building
Miami, Florida

CONFIDENTIAL

Refer to No.
ON22/ME7
AS:ALB-3;Q51
(MANAGUA)
(16-B-5-tbm)

July 12, 1942

From: The District Intelligence Officer, SEVENTH Naval District.
To : The Director of Naval Intelligence.

Subject: "MANAGUA", Nicaraguan S/S Frtr., Torpedoing and sinking of,
2145 BWT, June 15, 1942, in Lat. 24:05 N., Long. 81:40 W.

Enclosures: (A) Combat Intelligence Report on subject incident.
(B) Summary of statements of survivors of subject incident.
(C) Crew list of subject vessel.
(D) NMI 142 as executed by Second Mats of subject vessel.

1. Enclosures (A) through (D) forwarded for information.

FRANK SLINGLUFF.

Copies: ComInCh-ComNSF-DIO's 1-3-4-5-6-8-10-15.
Commander Inshore Patrol (MI)
C.O., Ins. Pat. Section Base (FCMIL)
Port Director (MI)
Ship Control Officer (MI)
Convoy Captain (KW)
Combat Intelligence - Operations (MI)
British Routing Officer (KW)
Zones 1-2-4
B-8(DIO)
B-7(DIO)
FIU(Banana River)

CONTACT INTELLIGENCE REPORT OF THE TORPEDOING AND SURRENDER
OF THE NICARAGUAN FREIGHTER S/S "MATAGUA"

TIME AND DATE: 2145 EDT, June 15, 1942
POSITION: 24.03 N, 81.40 W, (Approx. 55 miles SW Sombbrero Light)
COURSE: 208° True
SPEED: 8 knots
WEATHER: Calm sea, very dark, wind SE, Force 3 m.p.h.

1. Subject vessel, unarmed, was running blacked out when one torpedo struck the port side at the #3 hold. The resulting explosion broke the ship into two portions, both of which sank in one and one-half minutes.
2. There were four lookouts posted at the time of the attack: the Captain, the Chief Mate, and two sailors, all on the bridge. The vessel's radio was silent and had not been used since the previous trip. No distress calls were sent after the attack.
3. Approximately five minutes after the attack, the submarine was seen on the surface. It was described as about 150 feet in length, gray with no streaks, a rounded conning tower with a cutaway after portion, cruiser bow, and no visible net cutter. One 3 in. gun was mounted forward. The conning tower was equipped with two radio antennae running aft, and one guy running forward. The submarine was grey, with fresh paint that had apparently been touched up in spots. All of the crew members appeared to be very young, the commanding officer being described as about 23 years of age.
4. The submarine approached one of the life boats, ordered two of the survivors to come aboard, and questioned them as to the name of the vessel, last port of departure, destination, cargo, and presence of English or Americans in the crew. During the questioning, one man in the conning tower was holding a sub-machine gun.
5. The crew abandoned ship in two life boats and two life rafts. Twenty men landed safely at Matanzas, Cuba, and the remaining five landed at Pigeon Key, Florida. There were no casualties.

Enclosure 550
CONFIDENTIAL

SUMMARY OF STATEMENTS BY SURVIVORS OF THE S/S "MIRAGUA", NICARAGUAN
FREIGHTER OF 2222 GROSS TONS, ALFREDO GARZA, LTD., OWNERS AND OPERATORS

1. The "MIRAGUA" was torpedoed without warning at 2145 GMT, June 15, 1942, at approximately 24°05' North, 81°40' West, while enroute from Charleston, S. C., to Havana, Cuba, with a general cargo. The ship broke in two and sank in 1½ minutes.

2. The freighter was on a course of 203° True, speed 6 knots, not zigzagging, blacked out, radio silent, four lookouts posted on the bridge. The sea was calm, wind direction SE, 3 miles force, visibility poor, no moonlight. No other ships were in sight at the time of the attack.

3. At 2145 GMT, a torpedo struck the vessel on the port side in the #3 hold. The ship broke in two and started sinking immediately. The vessel was unarmed and no defensive action was attempted. No distress signals were transmitted on the vessel's radio. The codes and confidential papers are believed to have gone down with the ship.

4. The ship was abandoned immediately by all hands in two life boats and two life rafts. Twenty men landed at Manzanos, Cuba, and the remaining five at Pigeon Key, Florida. There were no casualties.

5. The submarine was described as being about 150 feet long, painted gray, paint good but touched up in spots, conning tower rounded in front with a cutaway after portion, no net cutter visible, one 3 in. gun mounted forward, and a cruiser bow. The conning tower had 2 radio antennae running aft and 1 guy running forward. The crew appeared young and the commanding officer was apparently not more than 23 years of age.

Crew List of
Nicaraguan S/S "MANAGUA"

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CAPACITY</u>	<u>NATIONALITY</u>
1. Zenon URRESTI	Master	Spanish
2. Felise QUINTANA	1st Mate	Cuban
3. * Jose Antonio BILBAO	2nd Mate	Mexican
4. * Luis Antonio MARTI	Radio Operator	Cuban
5. * Jenaro ALVAREZ	Chief Engineer	Mexican
6. Eugenio ZUBIETA	2nd Asst. Engineer	Cuban
7. Isaias GENARO	3rd Asst. Engineer	Cuban
8. * Francisco GORROCHATZGUI	4th Asst. Engineer	Spanish
9. Tomas MARQUES	Quartermaster	Mexican
10. Rafael CARRERA	Carpenter	Cuban
11. Santiago ZULARAN	Sailor	Mexican
12. Juan BERGONDO	Sailor	Spanish
13. Jose MIRANDA	Sailor	Cuban
14. Alejandro FALCON	Sailor	Spanish
15. Exilio DURIAN	Sailor	Spanish
16. Julian VILA	Pantryman	Spanish
17. Herminio FERNANDEZ	Wiper	Cuban
18. Francisco ROLDAN	Wiper	Cuban
19. * Victor GARCIA	Fireman	Spanish
20. Jose LORANZO	Fireman	Cuban
21. Antonio BARRIOS	Fireman	Spanish
22. Santiago BELANSTEGUI	Cook	Spanish
23. Pedro IBARRAL	1st Steward	Cuban
24. Jose ARIAS	2nd Steward	Mexican
25. Baldomero POUSO	2nd Cook	Spanish

*These men are survivors landed at Key West.

Office of Naval Intelligence
NAVY DEPARTMENT

CONFIDENTIAL
Enclosure "D"

Intelligence Report

ENEMY ATTACK ON MERCHANT SHIPS

From: Jose Antonio MELBAO 2nd Officer At: Key West, Florida Date: June 17, 1942
Subject: Torpedoing and sinking of S/S "MANAGUA".
Name of Ship: S/S "MANAGUA" Flag: Nicaraguan Type: Freighter
Gross Tonnage: 2220 Whether Armed: No
Date of Attack: 15 June 1942 Position at Attack: Approx. 45 miles SW of Sombrero Light. (approx. 24:05 N., 81:40 W)
Whether Sunk, Captured, or Escaped: Sunk

PARTICULARS OF SHIP AND VOYAGE

Questions

Answers

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. (a) Port of departure
(b) Date of sailing
(c) Destination
(d) Route instructions</p> <p>2. Name of owners and charterers (if any). General description and weight of cargo. (If on Government service the fact should be stated).</p> <p>3. Full Christian Name, Surname and Nationality of Master.</p> | <p>Charleston, S. C.
13 June 1942
Havana, Cuba
Secret</p> <p>Alfredo Garcia, Lt., 8 & 10
Bridge St., New York City.
General cargo.</p> <p>Zenon URRUSTI</p> |
|---|---|

CONDITIONS OF ATTACK

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>4. (a) Ship's position, date, and time when enemy was sighted, or</p> <p>(b) When attack commenced</p> <p>(c) What warning given?</p> <p>(d) Ship's position, date and time
1. when ship sank, or
2. when chase was abandoned</p> <p>(e) Ship's position, date and time ship was abandoned</p> <p>5. (a) What was the cause of ship sinking (torpedo, gunfire, bombs or mine)
(b) Was she seen to sink?</p> <p>6. Course and speed of ship when enemy was first sighted or when attack commenced</p> | <p>At 2145 LMT on June 15, 1942
Approx. 45 miles SW of Sombrero Light
(Approx. 24:05 N., 81:40 W)
Same
None
Same as when attack commenced.
Ship sank in 1 1/2 minutes.
X
Same as at attack.</p> <p>1 torpedo, port side, #3 held</p> <p>Yes, broke in half and sank in 2 pieces.</p> <p>208 degrees True -- speed 8 knots</p> |
|---|---|

7. (a) Was ship zigzagging? No
8. State of weather and sea, direction and force of wind; visibility Calm sea, wind direction SE about 3 miles per hour, very dark night.
9. (a) Was ship attacked with torpedo by submerged submarine: Believe it was on surface as it appeared immediately afterwards; however, it was so dark they can not say for sure.
 If so was -
 (b) periscope of submarine or No
 (c) track of torpedo seen before vessel was struck? If so, at what distance from own ship and what avoiding action was taken? No
 (d) Did submarine subsequently come to the surface? If so, when? The sub appeared 5 minutes after the torpedo struck.
10. (a) Was ship attacked with gunfire? If so, No
 (b) Was enemy seen prior to the attack? No
 (c) Was any, and if so what, warning or order given by enemy? No warning given
11. (a) How many lookouts were on watch? 4 lookouts on the bridge. (The Captain, the Ch. Mate, and 2 sailors).
 (b) Where were they stationed?
12. Speed and course of aircraft, raider, or submarine relative to ship when first sighted, or when attack commenced Unknown
13. (a) What colors, if any, was ship flying at time of attack? Nicaraguan
 (b) When were they hoisted? Flying at all times
14. (a) If attack took place at night, what lights, if any, was ship showing? No lights.
 (b) If navigation lights were burning, were they dimmed? None
15. How was ship maneuvered after sighting enemy? X
16. (a) Were any other vessels in sight? No other vessels in sight.
17. (a) Was ship equipped with radio and did she use it? What signals? Yes - J R A. Had not chance to use.
 (b) If so, was any reply received, and from whom? X
 (c) How long before attack did ship last use her radio? And on what wave length? Not since a previous trip.
 (d) Did enemy order silence or jam radio transmission? X
18. (a) What course was submarine, raider, or aircraft steering when last seen, or if submarine, did she dive? Was circling.
 (b) Time enemy was last seen? At about 2200 EST, June 15, 1942.

CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

19. (a) Were there Navy or British codes on board? One
 (b) Which ones? Z4F -- Got it in Charleston.
 (c) What became of them? Thinks Captain has it.
20. (a) Were there any other confidential papers or mails on board? No
21. Gunfire
 At what time and range did enemy open fire? No gunfire used.

Note: Questions 22 and 23 omitted as no gunfire used.

Torpedo or Aircraft Bombing

24. Distance and bearing of submarine or aircraft when torpedoes or bombs fired. Do not know.
25. Was there any way on the ship at time torpedo or bomb was fired? Yes -- 8 knots.
26. (a) Number of torpedoes or bombs fired One
 (b) Number which hit One
 (c) Number which missed None
27. If hit:-
 (a) Position of damage and depth below water (for torpedoes) Into #3 hold, below the waterline.
 (b) Description of damage The ship broke in half.

Boarding

28. Was ship boarded by enemy and how? No
29. Was Master interrogated by enemy officers? What questions were asked? Which officer (of officers) asked questions and what knowledge of the English language had he? Does not know. (The 2nd Mate and the other survivors were questioned by the sub as to the name, destination, last port, cargo, whether there were any Amer. or Englishmen aboard). Spoke good English.

Explosive Charges

30. If ship was sunk by explosive charges? No

DEFENSIVE ACTS OF SHIPSGunfire

31. What guns were carried? No armament.

Note: Questions 32-35, inclusive, omitted as no armament carried by vessel.

Smoke

36. Was ship supplied with smoke apparatus? No

- | | |
|---|--|
| 37. (a) Were there any casualties | Do not know. There were 25 in all aboard the "MANAGUA". 5 were brought into Key West. The other are still missing. |
| 38. (a) What was the number and nationality of the passengers and crew?
(b) How did they behave? | Total complement of 25. Mixed nationality. See enclosed crew list.
Well. |
| 39. (a) What became of the passengers and crew after abandoning ship?
(b) Were any taken prisoner? | Do not know.
No |

PARTICULARS OF ENEMY CRAFT

- | | |
|---|--|
| 40. (a) Number, of submarines or aircraft.
(b) Where was number seen and how distinguished? X | No number or identifying mark could be seen. |
| 41. With the help of a sketch or silhouette drawing give a general description of the enemy ship and especially of any peculiarities noticed. A drawing of the submarine or raider, however rough, should be attached and the following points of descriptive detail noted as examples:
(a) Whether large or small
(b) Color and whether any streaks or stripes
(c) Shape of conning tower?
(d) Shape, rake, and position of stack?
(e) Any irregularities or bulges on hull or superstructure
(f) Gun position (s)
(g) Whether any net cutter
(h) Shape of bow; of stern
(i) Relative height and position of masts. | About 150 ft.
No streaks - grey.
Rounded front - outaway back - No chariot.
X
X
1 - 3" gun mounted forward
No net cutter was noticed
Cruiser bow.
2 radio antennae from the conning tower running aft. 1 guy running forward from the conning tower. |
| 42. Guns, number, and position, and nature? | One 3-in. gun mounted forward of the conning tower. |
| 43. Number of masts and king posts? | X |
| 44. Radio aerials and gear, description of? | 2 radio aerials running from the conning tower aft. |
| 45. (a) What color was enemy vessel painted?
(b) Did paint look old or new? | Grey
Rather new - touched up in spots |
| 46. Estimated speed | ? |
| 47. Estimated tonnage (gross) | ? |
| 48. Steam or motor ship? | ? |

NNI-142

CONFIDENTIAL

49. Officers of enemy vessel. Names and personnel description.

All members of the sub crew appeared very young - the Command Officer not more than 23 years of

REPORT OF INTERVIEWING OFFICER

50. General remarks by interviewing officer.

/s/ John F. Baxter,
Lieutenant, USNR,
Interviewing Officer.