

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

of a

COURT OF INQUIRY

convened at the

U.S. NAVAL BASE, NEW YORK, N.Y.

by order of

COMMANDER IN CHIEF, U.S. ATLANTIC FLEET

Appointing Order dated 29 April 1952

To inquire into the collision between the
U. S. S. WASP (CV-18) and U. S. S. HOBSON
(DMS-26) which occurred on 26 April 1952.

Commencing on 9 May 1952 through 20 May 1952

Volume I of III Volumes

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (S) ~~Secret~~ to
of *OPNAVSSIC*
on *14 Aug 50* *DR Spain JAS Sec Cont*
(Date) *14 Aug 50*
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

FIRST DAY

*All redactions
are TS-6.*

U. S. Naval Supply Depot,
Bayonne Annex,
U. S. Naval Base,
New York, New York.
Friday, 9 May 1952.

The court met at 1305.

Present:

Rear Admiral _____, U. S. Navy,
Rear Admiral _____, U. S. Navy, and
Rear Admiral _____, U. S. Navy, members, and

Lieutenant Commander _____, U. S. Naval
Reserve, counsel for the court.
Lieutenant _____, U. S. Naval Reserve, assistant to
the counsel for the court.
Commander _____, U. S. Navy, advisor to the
counsel for the court.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: I introduce the following reporters who
will prepare the record: _____, yeoman, first class,
U. S. Navy; _____, yeoman, second class, U. S. Navy;
_____, yeoman, second class, U. S. Navy, and
_____, yeoman, third class, U. S. Naval Reserve.

The above reporters were all sworn.

The court was cleared and the counsel for the court read the
appointing order, original prefixed marked "A"; counsel for the
court read an order appointing the advisor to the counsel for
the court, original prefixed marked "B"; counsel for the court
stated that an assistant to the counsel for the court had been
appointed by oral directive which directive would be confirmed
in writing at a later date.

All matters preliminary to the inquiry having been determined
and all the members having viewed the damage to the USS WASP
(CV-18), the court, having decided to sit with open doors, was
opened.

COURT: The court has decided to sit with open doors. In view
of the wide-spread interest in this case I think it well to
amplify this somewhat. Sitting with open doors means that the
press and other publicity media and interested spectators are
permitted to attend. However, when classified matter, that is
matter the disclosure of which would be of value to our potential
enemies, is under discussion, the court will be closed temporarily.
In this case we are dealing with an accident which occurred while
the vessels were operating under simulated war conditions and in
conformity with highly confidential doctrine and instructions.
Naturally, therefore, a considerable part of the testimony in-
volves highly confidential matter and this cannot be made public.
For this reason I regret to tell you that I feel sure it probably
will be necessary to clear the court rather frequently.

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All redactions
are TSB.

Captain _____, U. S. Navy, entered as a party to the inquiry and introduced Lieutenant Commander _____, U. S. Naval Reserve, as his counsel. Lieutenant Commander _____ took seat as such.

The party was fully informed of his rights as such.

The counsel for the court read the appointing order.

The counsel for the court read the order appointing the advisor to the counsel for the court.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: In addition to that, the Commander in Chief, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, in accordance with a request of the father of Lieutenant Commander _____, U. S. Navy, Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. HOBSON, has provided a legal officer to represent Lieutenant Commander _____ at this inquiry. This counsel will be permitted to cross-examine witnesses as necessary in the interests of Lieutenant Commander _____. I introduce Commander _____, U. S. Navy, as counsel who will represent Lieutenant Commander _____ at this hearing. The original dispatch authorizing such counsel will be prefixed to the record marked "C".

Commander _____ took seat as such.

COUNSEL REPRESENTING LCDR _____: If it please the court I question the directions. I understood I was to be accorded all the rights of a party. You just said cross-examine witnesses; that is not what is meant.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: It is intended, sir, as far as counsel for the court is concerned to afford you all of those rights. The dispatch, which is a classified dispatch, and which I paraphrased here, referred only to cross-examination of witnesses, but I'm satisfied we won't have any argument on that score.

The court announced that counsel representing Lieutenant Commander _____ would be accorded all rights and privileges of a party.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: I read section 0309 e, of the Naval Supplement, Manual for Courts-Martial, with respect to challenges "Members of a court of inquiry may be challenged at any time during the proceedings, but only for good cause. The following shall be considered good cause for challenging: (1) If the member has any hostility or prejudice toward the party. (2) If the member has formed an opinion as to the party's culpability. (3) If, for any other reason, the member cannot approach the fact-finding problem with an open mind and impartiality."

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: Do the parties desire to challenge any member of the court?

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are B6

CAPTAIN

, A PARTY: I do not - no desire to chall

COUNSEL REPRESENTING LCDR : Counsel for Lieutenant
Commander has a challenge to direct to the person of
Rear Admiral on the grounds he cannot approach the
fact-finding problem with an open mind and impartiality, sir.
I request Admiral be examined, sir.

Upon request of counsel representing Lieutenant Commander
, the challenged member took the stand, was properly
sworn and examined as follows:

Examined by counsel representing LCDR :

COUNSEL REPRESENTING LCDR : I offer to the reporter
this document and request that it be marked as an exhibit for
identification.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: May I see it, sir?

The reporter marked the document Exhibit A1 for identification.

COUNSEL REPRESENTING LCDR : I believe that is the pr
release of the Admiral's background, sir.

1. Q. Admiral, as a witness, sir, would you read over this
statement and inform me of any errors - if it is a correct
representation - reasonably accurate history of your naval
service, sir? - - The pencil notations are mine, sir, just a
copy.

A. (The witness read the document.) - Commander, I am not
positive, of course, of the exactness of these dates. It is
substantially correct.

2. Q. Substantially correct. Thank you.

COUNSEL REPRESENTING LCDR : I offer into evidence as
Defense Exhibit A1 this substantially correct statement of Admi
naval service.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: I think you should offer it just as
Exhibit A1, but not defense exhibit.

Exhibit A1 for identification was offered in evidence as Exhi
A1. There being no objection, it was so received.

3. Q. Admiral, from this Exhibit A1 introduced in evidence a
a substantially correct document representing your naval servi
I see you joined the U. S. S. TEXAS on graduation in 1916 and
served on her throughout World War I until August, 1920?

A. I think that is substantially correct.

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4. Q. And do you recall, Admiral - that is a long time ago - what your duties were during that period of time?

A. Yes. At various times - I was senior watch officer - deck watch officer, I was senior turret officer in charge of all turrets. I was Spot 2. I acted as navigator during the latter part of my stay for approximately two or three months. At various other times I served as assistant navigator, and watch officer, among other duties.

5. Q. That was a well-rounded general line officer's training during that period?

A. I so considered it.

6. Q. And after leaving the TEXAS you went to the Presidential yacht MAYFLOWER?

A. That is correct.

7. Q. In what capacity?

A. Chief engineer - one year.

8. Q. And then, according to this, you went to flight school flight training?

A. May I interrupt? - You said I went from the TEXAS to the MAYFLOWER; that is incorrect if that is the case.

9. Q. That is what it says, joined the TEXAS and served through World War I, to August, 1920, then it says you served on the U. S. S. MAYFLOWER from January 12 - -?

A. That is January, 1922, I was only there one year. During the two years you referred to I was executive officer and commanding officer of a destroyer most of the time.

10. Q. In 1923 you went to flight training?

A. Yes, sir.

11. Q. From 1923 to 1929 you were performing squadron air operations on board the U. S. S. LEXINGTON - excuse me, 1927, you went to the LEXINGTON and had command of a fighter squadron and - ?

A. Yes, I did. You have skipped some years in there.

12. Q. Yes. Fill in the gaps, would you, sir?

A. After graduation from the flight training school I went as executive officer of a patrol plane squadron, served there, as I recall, one and one-half years, then went to the Naval Academy as instructor in the department of marine engineering and aeronautics and was attached to a squadron operating there for two years. That brings us up to date, doesn't it?

13. Q. Yes.

A. (Continuing) I then had command of a fighter squadron on the LEXINGTON for 2 years. Then I served in the Bureau of Aeronautics. I think I was there three years, as personnel officer - detail officer. I then went to sea for two years as operations officer on the staff of Commander Aircraft Scouting

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A. (continued) Force, later Battle Force. The third year at sea I was navigator on the U. S. S. LANGLEY. I then came back ashore, served for one year as detail officer again, then I was transferred to duty as aviation officer in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations - they only had one aviator in naval operations at that time. We are getting up how far?

14. Q. We are up to 1938 now?

A. I went to sea the next time as executive officer of the U. S. S. RANGER for a year. Then I went as aide to Commander Battle Force, later Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet - I was Fleet Aviator. That brings us up to what?

15. Q. Up to July, 1940, now.

A. Ought to go up to 1941 - no, you're correct.

16. Q. It is very difficult to remember.

A. 1940, then I came ashore and was commanding officer of the U. S. Naval Air Station, Anacostia, for a year, and then went Aide to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air for a year. Then in 1942 I went to sea as commanding officer of the U. S. ENTERPRISE.

17. Q. Do you wish to make the record complete?

A. Year by year I don't. Eventually I served as Commander of a task force and of a carrier division for about two years. I was the last sea duty I had until 1950.

18. Q. Fine, sir. Admiral, from what you have said, the summary of your service, you have had a total of four years on board the TEXAS, you had two years service as commanding officer and executive officer of a destroyer, and you had a year in command of or served on the U. S. S. MAYFLOWER; that brings us up to 1922, is that correct, sir?

A. Yes, I think that is correct.

19. Q. And then after that time from 1922 until 19 - -.

A. From 1923. January, 1923.

20. Q. 1923 - June, 1938, your sea duty was on the staff of AirPac, sir, is that right, sir?

A. Well, he wasn't called AirPac at that time - you're getting me a bit confused. What period did you cover there?

21. Q. 1923 until 1938.

A. Oh, no, my sea duty - -.

COUNSEL REPRESENTING LCDR 5.6 : Would the reporter read that testimony giving the Admiral's recited services from 1923 until 1938. I think that is the best way to handle that.

The reporter read the portion of the testimony requested.

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22. Q. I was going to summarize from this testimony; you served for two years as executive officer of a patrol squadron and you served -- ?

A. No, I served a year and a half. You go ahead and summarize. You asked if I served two years - no, I served approximately year and one-half in the patrol squadron.

23. Q. Patrol Squadron executive officer. Then you served as navigator on board the LANGLEY for a period of about a year?

A. Well, that was - yes, I did serve - that was much later.

24. Q. Then you served for about two years as - on the staff of Commander Cruisers?

A. No, Commander Aircraft -- .

25. Q. Continue then.

A. Scouting Force, later Aircraft Battle Force.

26. Q. And that is, in general, a synopsis of your service at sea?

A. No. I was on sea duty on almost every assignment. The squadron was based on the LEXINGTON, that was all sea duty, the staff was embarked on the ship, that was all sea duty. - By no means except for some shore duty it was all sea duty.

27. Q. You have had considerable experience in handling air operations from your duty as - on board the LEXINGTON and on board the aircraft carrier LANGLEY, you have had considerable experience in the navigation - in the operation of a ship?

A. Yes. I would like to add one thing. Eventually I was executive officer of a carrier. You didn't go up to the executive officer of a carrier. I was commanding officer of a carrier also, I was commander of a carrier division and a Carrier Task Force.

28. Q. All this time, Admiral, you - in operating with carriers have you formed any opinion as to whether or not flight is hazardous on board carriers? - Flight operations are hazardous

A. Well, only to the extent all flight operations are hazardous I think the casualty rate on a carrier would compare favorably with that elsewhere. I have never seen any comparison - I never thought of the matter seriously.

29. Q. Do you think any special skill is required to operate aircraft from carriers, in launching aircraft and recovering them again?

A. Why of course the individual has to be trained. I think a reasonably good flyer can be taught. He has to get special training for that duty.

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30. Q. In the aircraft operations on board the carrier, do you believe that there must be very close cooperation between the officers conning the ship and the officers doing the flying, the pilots?

A. Certainly the commanding officers of carriers must have the welfare of the planes in the air in their minds all the time, like anything else it is handled through subordinates. Yes, certainly, the commanding officer has to be familiar with operations on carriers, familiar with the operation of aircraft.

31. Q. Admiral, do you think, in the light of all your experience, that an aviation commanding officer is better adapted - educated in aircraft than a line officer without aviation experience?

A. Well, I believe I adhere to the policy of the Navy, that it is desirable to have a commanding officer of a carrier with aircraft experience. I don't believe he is required to be a naval aviator - he can be an observer, certainly he must be informed on aviation matters, that I believe.

32. Q. Do you know of any aircraft carrier that the commanding officer - that is commanded by other than a naval aviator, sir?

A. I don't know of any.

33. Q. You concur in the policy of the Navy Department for the reasons you have just stated?

A. Yes, I concur.

34. Q. You concur in that?

A. I have not said it is impossible for a line officer to command, I think it is preferable that a line officer with aviation experience command one rather than a line officer not otherwise qualified.

35. Q. Should the facts which this court of inquiry are about to uncover indicate that the commanding officer, U. S. S. WASP was in some measure derelict or at fault, would such a finding be at variance with your opinions that the commanding officer of an aircraft carrier be a naval aviator?

Counsel for the court objected to the question on the ground that it was irrelevant and immaterial.

Counsel representing LCDR Tierney replied.

The court was cleared. The challenged member withdrew. The court was opened. All parties to the inquiry entered, and the court announced that the objection was not sustained.

The reporter read the question.

A. No. As a matter of fact, I believe the question of whether an officer does his duty properly is the same whether he be a naval aviator or an unrestricted line officer or some other officer. It would not prejudice me in any way.

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36. Q. Do you know Captain [redacted] - have you met Captain [redacted] before, Admiral?

A. Yes.

37. Q. Has he ever served under your command, sir?

A. I don't think so - it could be possible.

38. Q. Have you ever sat on a selection board on which Captain [redacted] was under consideration?

A. I don't think so - I don't recall if I have.

39. Q. Have you ever discussed Captain [redacted] fitness to command the U. S. S. WASP with other officers?

A. His fitness to command, no, I don't recall that I have. It is possible I heard some discussion between various officers where Captain [redacted] had been mentioned, but at that time the question of fitness was under discussion, but the question or matter of shipboard experience. I have heard officers discuss that.

40. Q. Do you know of Captain [redacted] professional reputation, sir?

A. Well, only very generally. It is possible to infer he would have to be a good officer having been detailed to command a capital ship.

41. Q. Would that bias you?

A. Personally I know nothing particularly one way or the other.

42. Q. Have you - you said you had met Captain [redacted], sir. Have you had frequent meetings with Captain [redacted] in the course of the past - shall we say three years?

A. I can't remember. I don't know. It seems to me Captain [redacted] was in the Department - Op05. I have probably seen him there on occasions. I don't know of any extensive contact - no more than any other officer up there.

43. Q. Have you ever met Captain [redacted] at parties?

A. I would imagine so.

COUNSEL REPRESENTING LCDR [redacted]: I have no further questions to ask of this witness, sir.

Cross-examined by the counsel for the court:

44. Q. Admiral [redacted] would your knowledge of Captain [redacted] or of his reputation prevent or hinder you from fair and impartially arriving at the facts in the subject matter of this inquiry?

A. Emphatically no.

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45. Q. Is there any reason why you cannot approach the fact finding problem presented to this court impartially, with an open mind?

A. None whatsoever.

46. Q. Have you formed any opinion as to the fault of any ^{one} in this collision?

A. I have not.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: No further questions.

COUNSEL REPRESENTING LCDR : No further questions. Thank you very much, Admiral.

The court was cleared, the challenged member withdrawing. The court was opened. All parties to the inquiry entered. The court announced that the challenge of counsel representing Lieutenant Commander was not sustained.

Captain , U. S. Navy, a party, introduced Captain , U. S. Navy, and Lieutenant Commander , U. S. Navy, as his assistant counsel.

Captain and Lieutenant Commander took seat as such.

Each member, the counsel for the court, the assistant counsel for the court, and the advisor to the counsel for the court were duly sworn.

Lieutenant , junior, U. S. Naval Reserve, entered, informed the court that he had a direct interest in the subject of the inquiry, and requested that he be designated a party to the inquiry and accorded the rights as such.

The court having decided that Lieutenant had a direct interest in the subject of the inquiry, he was designated a party and his rights as such were explained to him.

Lieutenant introduced Lieutenant Commander , U. S. Navy, as his counsel. Lieutenant Commander took seat as such.

Lieutenant read the appointing orders and stated that he did not object to any member. The record of proceedings of the court as far as it had progressed was read to Lieutenant . He stated that he did not desire to recall any of the previous witnesses for cross-examination.

Lieutenant , U. S. Naval Reserve, entered, informed the court that he had a direct interest in the subject of the inquiry, and requested that he be designated a party to the inquiry, and accorded the rights as such.

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The court having decided that Lieutenant had a direct interest in the subject of the inquiry, he was designated a party, and his rights as such were explained to him.

Lieutenant introduced Lieutenant U. S. Navy, as his counsel. Lieutenant took seat as such.

Lieutenant read the appointing orders and stated that he did not object to any member. The record of proceedings of the court as far as it had progressed was read to Lieutenant. He stated that he did not desire to recall any of the previous witnesses for cross-examination.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: The court is now constituted and I will ask all persons who expect to be witnesses in this matter to leave the courtroom.

No witnesses not otherwise connected with the inquiry were present.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: At this point, if it please the court I wish to comply with that portion of the Naval Supplement to the Manual for Courts-Martial which requires certain specified questions to be put to the surviving officers and crew of any vessel that has been lost. These questions relate to the official report of the commanding officer of the loss of that ship. The official report was made by Lieutenant and is contained in a confidential dispatch. I would like to close the court for the purpose of reading that confidential dispatch in the presence of all the available surviving officers and crew of the HOBSON. I would like them called in, sir.

At this point the court sat with closed doors.

The press and all spectators withdrew from the courtroom.

The court called for the official report of the senior survivor of the crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON and directed that the counsel for the court read the report in court in the presence of the senior survivor and of such of the surviving officers and crew as could be assembled.

All available survivors of officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON entered the courtroom and were informed of the subject matter of the inquiry.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: Sir, for the benefit of these people I will read section 0507d of the Naval Supplement to the Manual for Courts-Martial. "Whenever inquiry is made into the loss of a ship, the court shall call for the official report of the commanding officer of such ship, containing the narrative of the disaster, and this report shall be read in court in the presence of the commanding officer and of such of the surviving officers and crew as can be assembled, and shall be appended to the record."

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After these survivors have been sworn as witnesses, the following questions shall be put to them by the court: (1) (To the commanding officer:) 'Is the narrative just read to the court a true statement of the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?' (2) (To the commanding officer:) 'Have you any complaint to make against any of the surviving officers and crew of the said ship on that occasion?' (3) (To the surviving officers and crew:) 'Have you any objections to make in regard to the narrative just read to court, or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship - - -.'

I will read this dispatch, "From: U.S.S. WASP CV-18. To: SECNAV. Info: CNO/CINCLANTFLT/COMINLANT/COMINRON-6/BUPERS/COMINDIV-62. LT CMA CMA USNR CMA SENIOR SURVIVOR SENDS X ART 0778 NAVY REGS REFERS X HOBSON DMS 26 ASSIGNED NIGHT PLANE GUARD POSITION 2 X LIGHTING MEASURE GREEN IN EFFECT X AT 262221 PETER FORMATION EXECUTED TURN MOVEMENT INTO WIND X HOBSON MANEUVERED TO CHANGE FROM NIGHT LAUNCH TO NIGHT RECOVERY STATION X AT APPROXIMATELY 262225 PETER WASP AND HOBSON COLLIDED APPROXIMATE POSITION 42 DASH 21 NORTH 44 DASH 15 WEST X WASP HIT HOBSON STARBOARD SIDE AMIDSHIPS COLLISION ANGLE 90 DEGREES X HOBSON CUT IN TWO SANK IN APPROXIMATELY 4 MINUTES X EXTENSIVE SEARCH CONTINUED UNTIL 270744 PETER X NEAREST ESTIMATE 239 OFFICERS AND MEN ON BOARD X 61 SURVIVORS X 178 LOST X"

Permission was granted to withdraw the dispatch at the conclusion of the inquiry, and substitute a copy thereof.

A copy of the dispatch is appended to the record marked "D".

Lieutenant _____, senior survivor, and all other available surviving officers and members of the crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON were duly sworn.

The court announced that it would sit with open doors. The court was opened and all available surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON remained in the courtroom.

Lieutenant _____, junior, U. S. Naval Reserve, a party to the inquiry, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, was reminded of his rights as a party. He was advised of his rights as a witness, ~~and~~ under Article 31, Uniform Code of Military Justice, and was also advised that any statement made or testimony given by him might be used as evidence against him in any subsequent trial by court-martial.

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Counsel for Lieutenant [redacted] stated that the party was full informed of his rights as a party and as a witness, and of his rights against self-incrimination.

Lieutenant [redacted] had been previously sworn with the other surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON and was reminded that the oath was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rank, service number, present duty station, and permanent address. - Including class of service.

A. [redacted], junior, lieutenant, U. S. Naval Reserve, presently attached to U. S. S. WASP.

2. Q. Your branch of service? - U. S. Navy or U. S. Naval Reserve?
A. U. S. Naval Reserve.

3. Q. Will you state your naval and marine experience?

A. I joined the U. S. Merchant Marine Cadets in June of 1943, completed basic training, reported for sea duty on the U. S. S. JOHN M. HARLAND in August, '43. I signed off in May of 1944, went to King's Point for advance training. Graduated from King's Point Merchant Marine Academy, January, 1945. January, 1945, until March, 1948, served with various lines, purser, third assistant, second assistant, acting first assistant, and acting chief engineer. I was called to active duty the 8th of March, 1951; attended the Damage Control Training Center, Philadelphia. On completion of training there was sent to the U. S. S. HOBSON (DMS-26) for duty. I was damage control officer assistant repair officer until December, 1951, at which time I relieved as engineering officer, U. S. S. HOBSON. On board the HOBSON I stood deck watches - conn watch - JOOD and for the past two months - six weeks or two months, standing OOD watches - standing top watch.

4. Q. Were you attached to the U. S. S. HOBSON on the 26th of April, 1952?

A. I was, sir.

5. Q. On the 26th of April, 1952, was the HOBSON lost as a result of a collision?

A. She was, sir.

6. Q. Are you the senior surviving officer of the HOBSON?

A. I am, sir.

7. Q. Would you give to the court if you can, and in the presence of the surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON here assembled, and without divulging any classified information or doctrine found in classified publications, a narrative of events leading to the collision between the U. S. S. WASP and the U. S. S. HOBSON and subsequent loss of the HOBSON?

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A. I have such narrative here that I would like to read, sir "NARRATIVE OF EVENTS LEADING TO THE COLLISION BETWEEN THE U.S. WASP AND THE U.S.S. HOBSON AS OBSERVED BY MYSELF. On 26 April 1952, the U. S. S. HOBSON (DMS-26) was steaming in company with the U. S. S. WASP and U. S. S. RODMAN. I, Lieutenant [redacted], USNR, was officer-of-the-deck on the HOBSON for the 2000 to 2400 watch. LTJG [redacted], USNR, JOOD, had the Conn. The course was 102° speed 20 knots, two (2) boilers on the line, one and three. The ship was darkened except for the truck lights. The weather was good, dark but clear, visibility good. The WASP was bearing 065°T range 3,000 yards. At approximately 2215 PETER the WASP signalled 'FOX CORPEN 265 TACK FOX speed 27.' Upon receipt of the signal I relieved Mr. [redacted] and assumed the Conn. About 2221 PETER the WASP signalled 'FOX is at the dip signals follow execute follows Turn 260 TACK speed 27' and gave execute immediately thereafter. The captain of the HOBSON, LCDR [redacted] USN, was on the bridge and ordered the steersman 'right standard rudder.' I stepped to the starboard wing of the bridge and asked the Captain if he had the Conn. He answered, 'I have the Conn.' He then ordered the steersman to steady on course 130°T. At this time I took a bearing on the WASP using the port alidade. I read the bearing as 045° to 048°T but doubt the accuracy of the reading as the alidade was badly fogged. The ship steadied on 130°T for approximately one (1) minute and forty-five seconds or two minutes, then the captain ordered 'left standard rudder, new course 090°T'. At that time I stepped into the wheel house and checked to see if 090°T would clear the WASP and how much. It appeared she would pass about 800 yards to port at our closest point of approach. The ship swung past 090°T, to 082°T, then steadied on 090°T. The course was held for some two or three minutes then the captain ordered left standard rudder; the range to the WASP at that time was reported as 1240 yards. Just as the steersman reported to the Captain that the rudder was left standard, the Captain ordered 'increase to left full - increase to hard left. The range to the WASP at that time was reported as 750 yards. A few seconds later the Captain ordered 'All ahead emergency fl This was approximately five seconds before the collision. At the time he called for emergency flank I cried out 'Stand by for collision!' [redacted], BM3, jumped for the LMC and QM1, hit the general alarm. I did not hear the alarm sound. T WASP struck the starboard side of the HOBSON at a point which I thought, at the time, was at the forward fireroom. The HOBSON rolled about 40° to starboard, then back taking about an 80° list to port. The collision angle was about 90°. Four of us were standing on the port windshield. [redacted], QM1, the Captain, Mr. [redacted], and myself, in that order from aft to forward. [redacted] jumped first, followed by the Captain who was still wearing a parka and had binoculars hanging around his neck. The seas swept Mr. [redacted] and myself off the ship and we swam away. I did not see the ship again and approximately forty-five minutes later I was picked up by a boat from the RODMAN. At the time of the collision there were 239 officers and men aboard the HOBSON. Sixty-one survived and one (1) body was recovered. The approximate location of the collision was 42° 21' north and 44° 15' west."

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: The narrative just read will be appended to the record.

The narrative is appended marked "E".

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: I have further detailed questions to ask this witness; however, in order to expedite this hearing, as I have to call each one of the available survivors of the HOBSON to the witness stand, I am going to ask that this witness be excused from the stand without further examination or cross-examination at this time in order that I may continue with the rest of the survivors.

The witness resumed his seat as a party to the inquiry.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: Now will all the survivors present from the HOBSON and any other person that might be called as a witness, other than the parties, leave the courtroom.

The court then, at 1455, took a recess until 1520, at which time it reconvened.

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All redactions are B-6.

as reporter. , yeoman second class, U. S. Navy, entered

Present: All the members, counsel for the court, all the parties and their counsel, and the reporter.

No witnesses not otherwise connected with the inquiry were present.

Lieutenant , U. S. Naval Reserve, was recalled as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. Mister , what was the last port of call of the HOBSON before the collision?

A. Charlesten, South Carolina.

2. Q. And she had not touched land from Charleston up until time of the collision?

A. No, sir.

3. Q. Is the narrative that you read to the court, and the that was contained in the confidential dispatch which was read the court by the counsel for the court, true statements of the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. To the best of my knowledge, yes, sir.

4. Q. Have you any complaint to make against any of the surviving officers and crew of said ship on that occasion?

A. I do not, sir.

Neither the counsel for the court, the court, nor the other parties desired further to examine this witness; he resumed his seat as a party.

Lieutenant (junior grade) , U. S. Naval Reserve, who had been previously sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rank, branch of service, file number and present duty station.

A. My name is , Lieutenant (junior grade) , U. S. Naval Reserve; my present duty station is the U. WASP.

2. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. I was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON (DMS-26).

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3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the HOBSON and the narrative contained in the dispatch read to the court by the counsel for the court pertaining to the loss of that ship. Have you any objections to make in regard to either of those narratives - - -

A. No, sir, I have not.

4. Q. Or anything to lay to the charge of any officer ^{or} man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir, I have none.

5. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man that appears on that list with whom you were personally acquainted, and who, of your own knowledge, you know was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, to the time of her sinking?

A. I have.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during the voyage and who is not among the survivors ^{or} on the list which you held?

A. Yes, sir, I know of two which I have listed on here.

8. Q. You have placed the names of two men that you knew were aboard the HOBSON during that voyage which are not on that mimeographed list?

A. Yes, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended, marked Exhibit 1.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which has not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

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All redactions
are TB-6

Lieutenant (junior grade) [redacted] U.S. Naval Reserve who had been previously sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rank, file number, branch of service, and present duty station.

A. [redacted] Lieutenant (junior grade), [redacted], U.S. Naval Reserve, U.S.S. WASP.

2. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. I was the Junior-Officer-of-the-Deck, sir.

3. Q. Were you Junior-Officer-of-the-Deck of the HOBSON at the time of her sinking?

A. That's right, sir.

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the HOBSON, and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch which was read to the court by the counsel for the court pertaining to the loss of the HOBSON. Have you any objections to make in regard to either of those narratives?

A. No, sir.

5. Q. Have you anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

6. Q. Do you have a list of the names of the men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of the name of every man that appears on that list and with whom you are personally acquainted and who, of your own personal knowledge, you know was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the time of the HOBSON sinking?

A. I have, sir.

8. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. The list was incomplete. There were two names that I added.

9. Q. And you know they were aboard, of your own knowledge?

A. I do, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 2.

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All redactions
are BB.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desire to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

Lieutenant (junior grade) ^{Supply Corps} [redacted], U.S. Naval Reserve, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rank, file number, branch of service, present duty station

A. [redacted], Lieutenant (junior grade), U.S. Naval Reserve, [redacted].

2. Q. And your present duty station?

A. Present duty station is the U.S.S. HOBSON (DMS 26).

3. Q. Was that your duty station on the 26th of April 1952?

A. Yes, sir.

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch that was read to the court by the counsel for the court regarding the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you any objections to make in regard to either of those narratives?

A. No, sir.

6. Q. Or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

7. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. I have a list of names of people that I knew were on board

8. Q. But do you have a list of names of people believed to have died in the sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

9. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, were aboard the HOBSON during her

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All redactions
are B-6.

voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the time her sink
A. Yes, sir.

10. Q. Would you produce that list?
A. Yes, sir.

11. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOB
during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the
list which you hold?
A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties,
by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended
marked Exhibit 3.

Neither the counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties
desired further to examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make
any further statement covering anything related to the subject
matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record
in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the
previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

Ensign _____, U.S. Navy, who was sworn with the sur-
viving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a
witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath
previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rank, file number, branch of service
and present duty station.

A. _____, Ensign, U.S. Navy, _____. My present
duty station is TAD assigned to the WASP.

2. Q. What was your duty station on the 26th of April 1952?
A. At the time of the collision?

3. Q. At the time of the collision?
A. I was not on duty. I was asleep at the time.

4. Q. Well, to what ship or station were you attached at that
time?

A. U.S.S. HOBSON (DMS-26).

5. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the HOBSON concerning the sinking and loss of that ship and the dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court; have you any objections to make in regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir, I do not.

6. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir, I do.

7. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of the name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted, and who, of your own knowledge, you know was aboard the HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the time of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir, I have.

8. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. Yes, sir, two. I added their names to this list.

9. Q. And you know of your own personal knowledge that those two men were aboard?

A. Yes, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 4.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desire to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make a further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

Ensign ^{B-6} , U.S. Naval Reserve, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rank, file number, branch of service, and present duty station.

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A. - ^{B-6}, Ensign, U.S.N.R. I was on the HOBSON as assistant navigator. My file number is ^{B-6}.

2. Q. And your present duty station?

A. Temporary duty to the WASP.

3. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. U.S.S. HOBSON (DMS 26). I was assistant navigator and ship secretary.

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the HOBSON and the narrative contained in the dispatch read by the counsel of the court to the court which was sent by the senior surviving officer to the Secretary of the Navy. Have you any objections to make in regard to those narratives - - or, either of those narratives?

A. No, sir, I haven't.

5. Q. Or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir, I have none.

6. Q. Have you a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who, of your own personal knowledge, you know was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the time of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir, I have.

8. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. Yes, sir, two. Lieutenant ^{B-6}, United States Medical Corps, and Lieutenant (junior grade) ^{B-6}, who was the Gunnery Officer on the HOBSON. (phonetic spellings)

9. Q. And you know of your own personal knowledge that those men were aboard the HOBSON during that voyage?

A. Yes, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received, and is appended, marked Exhibit 5.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desire to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make further statement covering anything related to the subject matter.

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of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

Ensign *B6*, U.S. Naval Reserve, who was sworn with surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rank, file number, branch of service, and present duty station.

A. *B6*, Ensign, U.S. Naval Reserve, *B6*, U.S. WASP - - HOBSON, officially.

2. Q. U.S. Navy?

A. U.S. Naval Reserve.

3. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. Do you mean division responsibility or watch responsibility?

4. Q. The ship to which you were attached?

A. Assistant Engineering Officer in charge of main propulsion.

5. Q. On what ship?

A. U.S.S. HOBSON.

6. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the HOBSON and contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel of the court to the court concerning the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objections to make in regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of an officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

7. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the U.S.S. HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

8. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who, of your own knowledge, was aboard the HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up until the time of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir, I have. Sir, may I add that there were two names missing from the list. I have added them.

9. Q. And you know they were aboard?

A. I know they were on board. There are also three misspellings of names which I corrected.

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The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 6.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desire to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make a further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

^{B-6} , chief electrician's mate, U.S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service, and present duty station.

A. ^{B-6} , chief electrician's mate, ^{B-6} , U.S. Navy, and I was attached to the U.S.S. HOBSON (DMS 26).

2. Q. Your present duty station is aboard the WASP, is that correct?

A. Yes, sir.

3. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. U.S.S. HOBSON (DMS-26).

4. Q. You were present and heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the U.S.S. HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court which concerned the loss of the HOBSON. Have you any objections to make in regard to either of those narratives?

A. No, sir.

5. Q. Or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

6. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted - - -?

A. Yes, sir.

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8. Q. (continuing) and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up until the time of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

9. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage who is not among the survivors or on the list you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 7.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B6 radioman, first class, U.S. Naval Reserve, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B6*, radioman, first class, *B6*, U.S.N.R., temporary duty on the U.S.S. WASP.

2. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. Radioman aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON (DMS 26).

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the U.S.S. HOBSON concerning the loss of the HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning the sinking of the ship. Have you any objections to make in regard to either of the narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. None, sir.

4. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died at the sinking of the HOBSON?

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All redactions are B.G.

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during the voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the time of her sinking?

A. I have, sir.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. Yes, sir, I have listed the doctor, Lieutenant _____, and gunner's mate, third.

7. Q. _____, gunner's mate third - - -?

A. Yes, sir, to the best of my knowledge.

8. Q. And you personally know that those two men were aboard HOBSON during that voyage?

A. I know that Doctor _____ was aboard, and _____ was on the ship as far as I know, because I was only - - only went aboard there the first day of April and I knew he was on there when I went aboard, but I couldn't definitely say that he was on there. But I do know that Doctor _____ - - -

9. Q. And you did not see _____?

A. No, sir.

10. Q. Between the time of departure from Charleston, South Carolina, and the time of her sinking, did you see _____?

A. Not that I recall, sir. I just put his name down because I knew that he was on the ship when I reported and he was not listed on the list.

11. Q. When did the HOBSON sail from Charleston?

A. The twenty-first, I think, sir.

12. Q. Do you know whether he was aboard then?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 8.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desire to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

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The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

^{B-6}, boilerman, first class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service, and present duty station.

A. ^{B-6}, boilerman, first class, ^{B-6}, U.S.N., attached to the U.S.S. WASP.

2. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. I was "Oil King" aboard the HOBSON.

3. Q. You were attached to the U.S.S. HOBSON on that day?

A. That's right.

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer aboard the HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objections to make to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON? ^{W-4}

A. No, sir, I haven't.

5. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the U.S.S. HOBSON?

A. Yes, I have.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of the name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted, and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON after her departure from Charleston, South Carolina, and during her last voyage from Charleston up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir, I did.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. ^{B-6}, fireman apprentice, is not on that list.

8. Q. Do you know his initials?

A. No, I don't, sir.

9. Q. And you personally saw him aboard the HOBSON after her departure from Charleston, South Carolina, on her last voyage?

A. Yes, sir; I did, sir.

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The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 9.

Neither the counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

^{B6} , quartermaster, first class, U. S. Naval Reserve, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service, and present duty station.
A. My name is ^{B6} , quartermaster, first class, ^{B6} U.S.N.R.
2. Q. And present duty station?
A. TAD aboard the U.S.S. WASP (CV-18).
3. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?
A. U.S.S. HOBSON (DMS-26).
4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objections to make in regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States ship HOBSON?
A. No, sir.
5. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?
A. Yes, sir, I have.
6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of the name of every man with whom you were acquainted, and who you know, your own knowledge, was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?
A. Yes, sir, I have. I have also added three that was not the list.

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All redactions are B36.

7. Q. You have added to that the names of three men?
A. Yes, sir.

8. Q. That you know personally they were aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON after her departure from South Carolina on her last voyage?
A. Yes, sir.

9. Q. What are those names?
A. Lieutenant (junior grade) _____, Lieutenant (junior grade) _____, Medical Officer, and _____, gunner's mate, third.

10. Q. Do you know _____ initials?
A. No, sir, I don't.

11. Q. But you personally saw _____ aboard the HOBSON during that last voyage?
A. Yes, sir.

12. Q. Do you know a _____ - - a yeoman in the log room - or, did you know a _____, log room yeoman?
A. Yes, sir, I knew him, but I don't recall seeing him after we left Charleston.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 10.

Neither the counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

_____, machinist's mate, first class, U. S. Navy who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your full name, rate, service number, branch of service, and present duty station.

A. _____, machinist's mate, first class, _____ I am presently attached to the U.S.S. WASP; former _____ from the HOBSON.

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2. Q. What is your branch of service?

A. U. S. Navy.

3. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. Well, I was assigned to the Chief Master-at-Arms - - -

4. Q. On what ship?

A. U.S.S. HOBSON.

5. Q. And you were attached to that ship on that date?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the HOBSON concerning the sinking of that ship and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning her loss. Have you any objections to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States ship HOBSON? *WV*

A. No, sir, I have not.

7. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir, I do.

8. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted, and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U.S.S. HOBS during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

9. Q. Do you know the name of any other man who was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir, I do not.

10. Q. Do you know or did you know a man by the name of *B. B.* who was log room yeoman - - he was a fireman?

A. No, sir, I wasn't acquainted with him.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 11.

Neither the counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

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The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B. V. *B. V.*, machinist's mate, first class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B. V.*, machinist's mate, first class, U. S. Navy.

2. Q. Service number?

A. *B. V.*

3. Q. Present duty station?

A. Aboard the U.S.S. WASP.

4. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. U.S.S. HOBSON.

5. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the HOBSON concerning her loss and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning her loss. Have you any objections to make in regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

6. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the U.S.S. HOBSON?

A. I have, sir.

7. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted, and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. I have, sir.

8. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 12.

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All redactions
are T-6.

9. Q. Do you know a man or did you know a man by the name of _____ whose rate was fireman and who was the log room yeoman?

A. I did, sir.

10. Q. Did you see him aboard the HOBSON during that voyage?

A. Yes, sir.

11. Q. During her last voyage?

A. Yes, sir.

12. Q. After her departure from Charleston?

A. Yes, sir.

13. Q. Do you know his initials?

A. No, I don't.

14. Q. Do you know his first name or any other name?

A. I think his first initial was _____.

15. Q. Do you know the town he came from?

A. No, I don't.

16. Q. Do you know a gunner's mate, third class, by the name of _____?

A. No, I don't.

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: I have no further questions of this witness at this time, sir.

COURT: The court has a question.

Examined by the court:

17. Q. Did you add _____ name when you were asked if there were any others on that that you knew of?

A. No, sir. I didn't add any names on there.

COURT: Did you ask him that question?

COUNSEL FOR THE COURT: I asked him the question, sir, if he knew of anybody else. but I refreshed his recollection and ask him if he knew _____.

18. Q. The court just wondered why you didn't mention earlier. What was the reason for that?

A. No obvious reason at all.

19. Q. You just didn't remember?

A. No, I did not remember. I don't even know - - I was on the HOBSON a month.

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All redaction
etc B-6.

COUNSEL FOR LT : May I make a statement, sir?

COURT: Yes.

COUNSEL FOR LT : May I say that the four persons who have been mentioned who are not on this list were listed on or, were listed as missing on the HOBSON. They were inadvertently left off of these lists. We did not have an opportunity to check it, but the witnesses have not mentioned the names of any persons who have not previously been listed as missing. These are not new names, but they are names that did not get on this particular list. But they will be added to the lists held by the remaining survivors.

Neither the counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

The court then, at 1615, took a recess until 1617, at which time it reconvened.

Present: All the members, counsel for the court, all the parties and their counsel and the reporter.

No witnesses not otherwise connected with the inquiry were present.

, radarman, second class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service, and present duty station.

A. , radarman, second class, U. S. Navy.

2. Service number?

A.

3. Q. Duty station?

A. U.S.S. WASP is my duty station.

4. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. U.S.S. HOBSON.

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5. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the U.S.S. HOBSON concerning her sinking, and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning her loss. Do you have any objections to make in regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir, I haven't.

6. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir, I do.

7. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted, and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir, I have.

8. Q. Do you know of the name of any other man who was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during the voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. Yes, sir, I do.

9. Q. What are those names?

A. Yates, gunner's mate, third, and Lieutenant (junior grade) Kreger, and Lieutenant McCord.

10. Q. And have you placed them on the list?

A. Yes, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 13.

Neither the counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

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B6, yeoman, second class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service, and present duty station.

A. B6, yeoman, second, Regular Navy.

2. Q. Present duty station?

A. Aboard the U.S.S. WASP.

3. Q. And what was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. U.S.S. HOBSON.

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the HOBSON concerning her sinking and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning her loss. Have you any objections to make in regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

5. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of the name of every man with whom you are personally acquainted, and who you know, of your own knowledge -- personal knowledge, was aboard the HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during that time and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 14.

Neither the counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

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The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6, boatswain's mate, second class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding?

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, serial number, branch of service, and present duty station.

A. B-6, boatswain's mate, second class, Present duty station is U.S.S. WASP - - temporary duty, sir.

2. Q. Branch of service?

A. U. S. Navy.

3. Q. And what was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. I was boatswain's mate in charge of the second and mine division.

4. Q. On what ship?

A. On the U.S.S. HOBSON.

5. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the HOBSON concerning her loss, and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court. Have you any objections to make to either of those narratives?

A. No, sir.

6. Q. Or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

7. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

8. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of the name of every man - - - the confidential dispatch read by the counsel

A. Yes, sir. to the confidential dispatch read by the counsel

objections to make to either of those narratives?

Or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

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9. Q. (continuing) with whom you were personally acquainted, and who you know, of your own knowledge, was actually aboard the HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

10. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during the voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 15.

Neither the counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

, radarman, second class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service, and present duty station.

A. My name is , radarman, second class, U. S. Navy; station: U.S.S. WASP.

2. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. U.S.S. HOBSON, sir.

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior surviving officer of the HOBSON - - -?

A. I have.

4. Q. (continuing) of the details of her loss and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning the loss. Have you any objections to make to either of those narratives, or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

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ALL BL

5. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were acquainted, and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U.S.S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir, I have.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 16.

Neither the counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

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B6, yeoman second class, U. S. Navy, entered as reporter.

B6, fire controlman, third class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, serial number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. B6, fire controlman, third class, U. S. Navy. What do you mean by duty station? B6

2. Q. ^{To} What vessel are you presently attached? W2
A. USS WASP.

3. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?
A. Fire control worker aboard ship.

4. Q. Aboard what ship?
A. USS HOBSON.

5. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the HOBSON concerning the details of her sinking, and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning her loss. Have you any objection to make to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

6. Q. Do you have a list of names of the men believed to have died on the HOBSON when she sank?

A. I have.

7. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of the name of every man with whom you were acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. I have.

8. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 17.

Neither counsel for the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

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The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B6, radarman, second class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, ^{and} was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B6*, radarman, second class, U. S. Navy, *B6*
USS WASP.

2. Q. To what ship were you attached on the 26th of April 1964?

A. USS HOBSON (DMS26).

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the USS HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objection to make to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

4. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the USS HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of the name of every man with whom you are personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the court and to the parties, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 18.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired to further examine this witness.

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The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6, damage controlman, third class, U. S. N. who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B-6*, DC3, *B-6*, USN, temporarily attached to the USS WASP.

2. Q. To what ship were you attached on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON (DMS26).

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the HOBSON concerning her sinking and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court concerning her loss. Have you any objection to make to either of those narratives or any charge to lay against any officer or crew member with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

4. Q. Do you have a list of the names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of the name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own personal knowledge, was actually aboard the HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 19.

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Neither the counsel for the court, the court nor the parties desired further to examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

^{B-6}, boatswain's mate, third class, U. S. Navy who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. ^{B-6}, boatswain's mate, third class, U. S. Navy, presently attached TAD aboard the USS WASP.

2. Q. To what vessel were you attached on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON (DMS26).

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the USS HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning her sinking. Have you any objection to make to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

4. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have been on the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of the name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, by the counsel for the court, offered in evidence.

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There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 20.

Neither the counsel for the court, the court nor the parties desired further to examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B 6, quartermaster, third class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. B 6, QM3, B 6, U. S. Navy, USS HOBSON (DMS26).

2. Q. You are presently attached to the USS WASP?

A. Right now, yes, sir; USS WASP.

3. Q. To what vessel were you attached on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON (DMS26).

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the HOBSON concerning her sinking, and the narrative contained in the dispatch read by the counsel for the court concerning the sinking. Have you any objection to make in regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

5. Q. Do you have a list of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of the name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors of whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

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The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 21.

Neither counsel for the court, the court nor the parties desired further to examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B6 quartermaster, third class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B6*, quartermaster, third class, U. S. Navy, signal supervisor of visual signaling, USS WASP, TAD

2. Q. And what ship were you attached on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON (DMS26).

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the USS HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court concerning her sinking. Have you any objection that you want to make to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

4. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the USS HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man on that list with whom you are acquainted and who you know, of your own personal knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. I put the checks to the right, sir.

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6. Q. You have checked their names to the right?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during the voyage and who is not among the survivors or is on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 22.

Neither counsel for the court, the court nor the parties desired further to examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6, radioman, third class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B-6*, radioman, third class, *B-6*, U. S. Navy, USS HOBSON.

2. Q. Your present duty station?

A. USS WASP.

3. Q. To what vessel were you attached on the 26th of April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON.

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the USS HOBSON and the narrative read by the counsel for the court, contained in the confidential dispatch, concerning the details of her sinking. Have you any objection to make to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

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5. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the USS HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors of whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 23.

Neither counsel for the court, the court nor the parties desired further to examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6, pipefitter, fireman, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B-6*, PFWN, *B-6*, U. S. Navy, USS WAS

2. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON (DMS26).

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the USS HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confident dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning the details of the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objection to make in regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

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4. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have been in the sinking of the USS HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you placed a checkmark to the left of the name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors whose name does not appear on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 24.

Neither counsel for the court, the court nor the parties desire further to examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6 e, junior, sonarman, seaman, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B-6* e, junior, seaman, *B-6* U. S. TAD, USS WASP (CV18).

2. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON (DMS26).

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the USS HOBSON concerning her sinking, and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court concerning that sinking. Have you any objection to make with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

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SECURITY INFORMATION 46

4. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you placed a check mark ⁷ on the left of every name of every man with whom you are personally acquainted and who you know, of your own personal knowledge, was aboard the HOBSON during the voyage--her last voyage--from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name does not appear on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 25.

Neither counsel for the court, the court nor the parties desire further to examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out in the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6, radarman, seaman, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U.S.S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B-6*, radarman, seaman, *B-6* U. S. Navy, USS WASP.

2. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON.

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3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the USS HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court concerning the loss of the USS HOBSON. Have you any objection to make with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

4. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the USS HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina, up to the point of the sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors whose name does not appear on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 26.

Neither counsel for the court, the court nor the parties desired further to examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

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The court then, at 1655, took a recess until 1712, at which time it reconvened.

B-6 yeoman, third class, U. S. Naval Reserve, entered as reporter.

Present: All the members, counsel for the court, all the parties and their counsel, and the reporter.

No witnesses not otherwise connected with the inquiry were present.

B-6, boatswain's mate seaman, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B-6*, boatswain's mate seaman, *B-6*, U. S. Navy, U. S. S. WASP.

2. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. U. S. S. HOBSON.

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the HOBSON concerning the details of her sinking, and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel for the court to the court concerning her loss. Have any objection to make to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

4. Q. Do you have a list of names of the men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you are personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U. S. S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the U. S. S. HOBSON during the voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you now hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 27.

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Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6, seaman, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, ^{and} was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B-6*, seaman, *B-6*, USN. I am on the U. S. WASP.

2. Q. And what was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. U. S. S. HOBSON, sir.

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the U. S. S. HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel ^{for} the court concerning the details of the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objection with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

4. Q. Do you have a list of names of the men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you are acquainted and who you know, of your own personal knowledge, was aboard the HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 28.

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Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6 ., interior communicationsman, fireman, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, ^{and} was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B-6* ., ICFN.

2. Q. Your service number?

A. *B-6*

3. Q. Branch of service?

A. U. S. Navy.

4. Q. Present duty station?

A. U. S. S. WASP.

5. Q. And what was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. That was the U. S. S. HOBSON.

6. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the U. S. S. HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch read by the counsel ^{for} of the court concerning the details of her sinking. Have you any objection with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of an officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

7. Q. Do you have a list of names of the men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

8. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U. S. S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

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9. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 29.

Neither counsel for the court, the court nor the parties desired further to examine this witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B/C metalsmith fireman, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B/C*, MEFN, *B/C* U. S. Navy, the WASP at present.

2. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. U. S. S. HOBSON (DMS-26).

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the U. S. S. HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch which counsel for the court read concerning the details of the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objection with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

4. Q. Do you have a list of names of the men believed to have died in the sinking of the U. S. S. HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

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5. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U. S. S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, I don't, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 30.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B6, radioman seaman, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, ^{AND} was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B6*, radioman seaman, USN, U. S. S. WAS

2. Q. Service number.

A. *B6*

3. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. U. S. S. HOBSON (DMS-26).

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the U. S. S. HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch which counsel ^{for} the court read concerning the details of the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objection regard to either of those narratives?

A. No, sir.

5. Q. Or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir, I haven't.

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6. Q. Do you have a list of names of the men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir, I do.

7. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U. S. S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina up to the point of her sinking?

A. I have, sir.

8. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir, I don't.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court, offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 31.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6, radarman seaman, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON; was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, ^{and} was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B-6* RDSN, *B-6* USN, U. S. S. WASP (CV)

2. Q. What ship were you attached to on the 26th of April 1954?

A. U. S. S. HOBSON (DMS-26).

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the U. S. S. HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch which counsel ~~for~~ the court read concerning the details of the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objection with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

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4. Q. Do you have a list of names of the men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. I have.

5. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U. S. S. HOBSON on her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina up to the point of her sinking?

A. I have.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name does not appear on that list?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 32.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6, boilerman fireman apprentice, U. S. Navy, was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. B-6 I am a boilerman, fireman apprentice, and I am in the U. S. Navy.

2. Q. And your present duty station?

A. At the present time U. S. S. WASSP.

3. Q. And what was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. I was on watch in the forward fireroom of the U. S. S. HOBSON.

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4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the U. S. S. HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch which counsel ~~of~~^{for} the court read concerning the details of the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objection with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

5. Q. Do you have a list of names of the men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U. S. S. HOBSON during her voyage from Charleston, South Carolina up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir, I have.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir, I don't.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 33.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

^{B-6} quartermaster seaman, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, ^{AND} was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. My name is ^{B-6} ~~_____~~ rate, quartermaster seaman, ^{B-6} United States Navy, presently attached to the U. S. WASP.

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2. Q. And what was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. That night I had the steersman watch on the U. S. S. HOBSON.

3. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the U. S. S. HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch which counsel for the court read concerning the details of the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objection with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir, I don't.

4. Q. Do you have a list of names of the men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir, I do.

5. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who, you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U. S. S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you now hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 34.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6 _____, sonarman, third class, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

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1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. ^{B-6} , sonarman, third class, ^{B-6} . My present duty station is attached to the U. S. S. WASP.

2. Q. Branch of service?

A. U. S. Navy.

3. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. I was attached to the U. S. S. HOBSON, sir.

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the U. S. S. HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch which counsel of the court read concerning the details of the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objection with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

5. Q. Do you have a list of names of the men believed to have died in the sinking of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the U. S. S. HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the U. S. S. HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors of whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 35.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

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36 seaman, U. S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the U. S. S. HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, ^{and} was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. 36- , seaman, 36 USN.

2. Q. Presently attached?

A. U. S. S. WASP.

3. Q. And to what vessel were you attached on 26 April 1952?

A. U. S. S. HOBSON.

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the U. S. S. HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch which counsel ~~for~~ the court read concerning the details of the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objection with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

5. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 36.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

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The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B 6, seaman, U.S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the USS HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, ^{and} was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B 6*, SN, USN.

2. Q. Presently attached to the WASP?

A. Yes, sir.

3. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON (DMS-26).

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the USS HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confident dispatch which counsel ^{for} the court read concerning the detail of the sinking of the HOBSON. Have you any objection with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

5. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you are personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 37.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

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The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B6, yeoman, seaman, U.S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the USS HOBSON, was called a witness by the counsel for the court, ^{and} was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. My name is *B6* YNSN, service number, *B6*
I am now attached to the USS WASP for temporary duty.

2. Q. What was your duty station on 26 April 1952?

A. Well, sir, I worked in the office as legal yeoman.

3. Q. What vessel were you attached to?

A. USS HOBSON.

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor of the HOBSON and the narrative contained in the confidential dispatch which counsel ~~for~~ the court read concerning the details of her sinking. Have you any objection to make with regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir, I have not.

5. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge was aboard the USS HOBSON during her last voyage from Charleston, South Carolina up to the point of her sinking?

A. Yes, sir, I have.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 38.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

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The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B6, fireman apprentice, U.S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the USS HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B6* an apprentice, *B6* , USN.

2. Q. And you are presently attached to the USS WASP, is that correct?

A. Yes, sir.

3. Q. To what vessel were you attached on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON.

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read by the senior survivor from the HOBSON and also the narrative contained in the dispatch read by the counsel ^{for} of the court to the court concerning the details of the loss of the HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Do you have any objection to make to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

6. Q. Do you have any objection in regard to the narrative which was read?

A. No, sir.

7. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the USS HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

8. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during the voyage from Charleston, South Carolina up to the time of the HOBSON sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

9. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors ^{OR} that list that you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

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There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 39.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

, radioman, seaman, U.S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the USS HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, ^{and} was warned that the ~~was~~ oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. RMSN, U.S. Navy.

2. Q. And you are presently attached to the USS WASP?

A. Right.

3. Q. To what ship or to what vessel were you attached on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON.

4. Q. You have heard in this courtroom the narrative as to the sinking of the HOBSON read by the senior surviving officer and also the narrative contained in the dispatch read by the counsel ~~for~~ the court. Do you have any objection to make in regard to either of those narratives or do you have anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

5. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the USS HOBSON?

A. I do.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during the voyage from Charleston, South Carolina and up to the time of the sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or on the list which you hold?

A. No.

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ALL BCL

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 40.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6, pipefitter, fireman, U.S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the USS HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B-6*, fireman, *B-6*, U.S. Navy.

2. Q. And you are presently attached to the USS WASP, is that correct?

A. Yes, sir.

3. Q. To what vessel were you attached on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON.

4. Q. You have heard the narratives read in this courtroom as to the sinking of the HOBSON, the narrative read by the senior surviving officer from the HOBSON, and the narrative read by the counsel ^{for} the court from the dispatch. Have you any objection to make in regard to either narrative which was read or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

5. Q. Do you have with you now a list of the names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the USS HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

6. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during the voyage from Charleston, South Carolina to the time of the HOBSON's sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

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7. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 41.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6 fireman apprentice, U.S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the USS HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, ^{and} was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *B-6*, fireman apprentice, USN

2. Q. And you are presently attached to the USS WASP, is that correct?

A. Yes, sir.

3. Q. To what vessel were you attached on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON.

4. Q. You heard the narrative read in this courtroom by the senior surviving officer from the HOBSON and the narrative contained in the dispatch read by the counsel for the court regarding the loss of the HOBSON.

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you any objection to make in regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

6. Q. Do you have a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the USS HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

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7. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during the voyage from Charleston, South Carolina and up to the time of the HOBSON sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

8. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors or whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 42.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

R/b fireman, U.S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the USS HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was ~~warned~~ that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. *R/b*, rate, FN, *R/b* U.S. Navy.

2. Q. And you are presently attached to the USS WASP?

A. Yes, sir.

3. Q. To what vessel were you attached on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON.

4. Q. You have heard the narrative read in this courtroom as to the sinking of the USS HOBSON by the senior surviving officer from the HOBSON and also the narrative contained in the dispatch read by the counsel for the court.

A. Yes, sir.

5. Q. Have you any objection to make in regard to either of those narratives or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

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5. Q. Have you any objection to make in regard to either narrative or anything to lay to the charge of any officer or man with regard to the loss of the United States Ship HOBSON?

A. No, sir.

6. Q. Do you have with you now a list of names of men believed to have died in the sinking of the USS HOBSON?

A. Yes, sir.

7. Q. Have you placed a check mark to the left of every name of every man on that list with whom you were personally acquainted and who you know, of your own knowledge, was aboard the USS HOBSON during the voyage from Charleston, South Carolina and up to the time of the HOBSON sinking?

A. Yes, sir.

8. Q. Do you know of any other man who was aboard the USS HOBSON during that voyage and who is not among the survivors of whose name is not on the list which you hold?

A. No, sir.

The document was submitted to the parties and to the court, and by the counsel for the court offered in evidence.

There being no objection, it was so received and is appended marked Exhibit 44.

Neither counsel for the court, the court, nor the parties desired further to examine the witness.

The court informed the witness that he was privileged to make any further statement covering anything related to the subject matter of the inquiry that he thought should be a matter of record in connection therewith, which had not been fully brought out by the previous questioning.

The witness stated that he had nothing further to say.

The witness was duly warned and withdrew.

B-6 seaman apprentice, U.S. Navy, who was sworn with the surviving officers and crew of the USS HOBSON, was called as a witness by the counsel for the court, and was warned that the oath previously taken by him was still binding.

Examined by the counsel for the court:

1. Q. State your name, rate, service number, branch of service and present duty station.

A. B-6 SA, B-6, U.S. Navy.

2. Q. Are you presently attached to the USS WASP?

A. I am.

3. Q. To what vessel were you attached on 26 April 1952?

A. USS HOBSON.

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