Action Reports, Peleliu Island Command
RG 38/370/44/20/03, Box 70
NARA II, College Park

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ACTION REPORT

ISLAND COMMANDER PELELIU

SERIAL 001004 6 AUGUST 1945

LOSS OF THE USS INDIANAPOLIS.

FORWARDS LIST OF SURVIVORS OF CRUISER USS INDIANAPOLIS, TORPEDOED AND SUNK 30 JULY 1945; ALSO FORWARDS A SUMMARY OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN REGARD TO THE SINKING, BASED ON INTERROGATIONS OF THE SURVIVORS.

Action Reports, Peleliu Island Command
RG 38/370/44/20/03, Box 70
NARA II, College Park

NAVY NO. 3252
AS:G-2:VWS-rtd

HEADQUARTERS, ISLAND COMMAND PELELIU
c/o FLEET POST OFFICE, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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6 August 1945

001004

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DATED 15 JUN 63
By [signature] Date 11/11/56
11 Jan 56

From: Commanding General, Island Command, Peleliu
To : Cincpac-Cincpoa
Via : (1) ComWesCarSubArea
(2) Commander Marianas

Subject: Survivors of the U.S.S. Indianapolis (CA 35)

References: (a) Cincpac Secret ltr AS-2, Serial 00609, Evaders, Escapers, and Survivors; Procedure for Return and Interrogation of.

Enclosures: (A) Battle Casualty List - Survivors
(B) Summary of information available in regard to the sinking of the U.S.S. Indianapolis (CA 35), based on interrogation of survivors.

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosures (A) and (B) are herewith submitted.

C. F. SCHILT

- -

cc Cincpac Pearl

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DATED 15 JUN 53
Dr. Johnston Date 1/11/56

ENCLOSURE (A)

BATTLE CASUALTY LIST

PLACE: U. S. NAVAL BASE HOSPITAL NO. 20 DATE: 5 AUGUST 1945

NAME	RANK OR RATE	SERVICE OR FILE NO.	DIAGNOSIS		COND-ITION	PROG-NOSIS
				(Diagnostic nomenclature number)		
HANSON, Harley Clarence	Mach. USN	329214	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
HARRISON, Cecil Manly	Ch. Gun.USN	342329	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
HAYNES, Lewis Leavitt	Lt.Cdr. USN	80517	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
HENSCH, Erwin Frederick	Lt. USNR	184602	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MC KESSICK, Charles Brite	Lt.(jg)USNR	267337	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MC VAY, Charles Butler	Capt. USN	20240	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MODISHER, Melvin Wayne	Lt.(jg)USNR	167321	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
REID, John (n)	Lt. USNR	98842	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
ROGERS, Ross (n), Jr.	Ens. USNR	440725	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
WOOLSTON, John (n)	Ens. USNR	435302	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	S	F
AKINES, William Roy	S2c USN	296 21 42	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
ALLARD, Vincent Jerome	QM3c USN	386 07 62	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
ALTSCHULER, Allan Harvey	S2c USNR	412 86 67	BURNS, CHEMICAL	#2504	NS	G
ANDERSON, Erick Thorwold	S2c USNR	984 47 93	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
ARMISTEAD, John Henry	S2c USNR	783 94 10	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
ASHFORD, John "T", Jr.	ART3c USNR	840 89 34	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
BARTO, Lloyd Peter	S1c USNR	868 94 38	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
BATEMAN, Bernard Byron	F2c USNR	285 86 05	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
BELCHER, James Robert	S1c USNR	745 93 20	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
BITONTI, Louis Peter	S1c USNR	862 50 22	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
BLANTHORR, Bryan (n)	S1c USNR	964 51 44	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
BROWN, Edward Joseph	S1c USNR	961 65 11	IMMERSION FOOT	#2585	NS	G
BRUNDIGE, Robert Henry	S1c USNR	322 00 70	CONTUSION, BACK.	#2512	NS	G
BUCKETT, Victor Robert	Y2c USNR	706 85 98	ABRASIONS, LEGS.	#2500	NS	G
BURTON, Curtis Henry	S1c USNR	875 66 78	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
BULLARD, John Kenneth	S1c USN	301 16 58	BURN, CHEMICAL, FACE.	#2504	NS	G

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ENCLOSURE (A) (cont.)

NAME	RANK OR RATE	SERVICE OR FILE NO.	DIAGNOSIS	COND-ITION	PROG-NOSIS
BUNAI, Robert Peter	SM1c USNR	606 96 13	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
CAMPBELL, Homer Edward	GM3c USN	613 46 50	BURNS, CHEMICAL, LEGS & BUTTOCKS. #2504	NS	G
CAMPBELL, Louis Dean	AOM3c USN	376 66 49	CONTUSION, BACK. #2512	NS	G
CARTER, Lindsey Linwell	S2c USNR	560 18 80	BURNS, CHEMICAL, LEGS #2504	NS	G
CASSIDY, John Curran	S1c USNR	748 87 08	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
CENTAZZO, Frank Joseph	SM3c USNR	823 55 12	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
CLARK, Orson (n)	S2c USNR	343 46 10	BURNS, CHEMICAL LEGS. #2504	NS	G
CLINTON, George William	S1c USNR	604 29 24	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
COLEMAN, Robert Edward	F2c USNR	275 46 70	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
COSTNER, Homer Jackson	Cox USNR	670 20 86	BURNS, CHEMICAL #2504	NS	G
DEZELSKE, William Bruce	MM2c USNR	639 21 78	ABRASIONS, LEGS. #2500	NS	G
ERICKSON, Theodore Mentzer	S2c USNR	984 49 01	BURNS, CHEMICAL, FACE #2504	NS	G
ERWIN, Louis Harold	Cox USNR	641 62 36	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
EVANS, Claudus (n)	GM3c USNR	357 31 75	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
FARMER, Archie Calvin	Cox USNR	624 39 20	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
FERRIS, Eugene Francis	S1c USN	649 33 33	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
FEDORSKI, Nicholas Walter	S1c USNR	959 04 19	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
FELTS, Donald "J"	BM1c USN	382 30 90	WOUND, LACERATED, ANAL AREA. #2563	NS	G
FERGUSON, Albert William	CMM USN	393 44 66	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
FETTING, Johnny Wayne	GM1c USNR	654 09 24	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
FOTTON, Verlin Laverre	WT3c USNR	878 45 95	IMMERSION FOOT #2585	NS	G
FRANCOIS, Norbert Edward	F1c USNR	959 13 09	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
FRANKCOUSER, Robert Morris	ART2c USNR	962 36 22	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
GALANTE, Angelo (n)	S2c USNR	951 75 71	BURNS, CHEMICAL #2504	NS	G
GALBRAITH, Norman Scott	MM2c USNR	724 80 55	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
GEBLAMER, Roscoe Wallace	F2c USNR	338 91 78	ABRASIONS, LEGS. #2500	NS	G
GUSH, Robert "B"	QM1c USNR	556 75 40	CONTUSION, SPINE. #2512	NS	G
GETTELMAN, Robert Alfred	S2c USNR	881 35 92	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
GLENN, Jay Rollin	AMM3c USNR	878 28 89	BURNS, CHEMICAL #2504	NS	G
GOOCH, William Leroy	F2c USNR	955 30 17	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
GRAY, Willis Leroy	S1c USNR	951 48 06	BURNS, CHEMICAL. #2504	NS	G
GREENLEE, Charles Ians	S2c USNR	923 68 96	BURNS, CHEMICAL, LEGS. #2504	NS	G
GRIFFITH, Robert Lee	S1c USN	356 42 87	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G

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ENCLOSURE (A) (cont.)

NAME	RATE OR RANK	SERVICE OR FILE NO.	DIAGNOSIS		COND-ITION	PROG-NOSIS
HARRILL, EDGAR ALVIN	Cpl.USMCR	916-578	CONTUSIONS, SPINE	#2512	NS	G
HARRISON, Fred Elliott	S2c USN	899-02-16	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	C	P - DIED 0930 8/5/45
HART, Fred Junior	RT2c USNR	883 68 27	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
HATFIELD, Willie (n)	S2c USNR	948 37 33	BURNS, CHEMICAL, BUTTOCKS	#2504	NS	G
HAVINS, Otha Alton	Y3c USNR	564 23 10	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
HELLER, John (n)	S2c USNR	314 70 50	BURNS, CHEMICAL	#2504	NS	G
HODGE, Howard Henry	RM2c USNR	707 53 73	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
HOSKINS, William Orsond	Y3c USNR	957 57 41	CONTUSION, LUMBAR AREA	#2512	NS	G
HOUCK, Richard Eugene	EM3c USNR	941 04 84	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
HUGHES, Max Meredith	Pfc. USMCR		EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
HUPKA, Clarence Klmer	BKrlc USNR	648 63 61	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
JACQUEMOT, Joseph Alexander	S2c USNR	712 33 56	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
JAMES, Woodie Eugene	Cox USNR	604 86 15	BURNS, CHEMICAL	#2504	NS	G
JARVIS, James Kenneth	AM3c USN-I	929 50 93	BURNS, CHEMICAL, LEGS & FEET	#2504	NS	G
JENSEN, Eugene Wenzel	S2c USNR	934 38 82	BURNS, CHEMICAL, FEET	#2504	NS	G
JOHNSON, William Albert	S1c USNR	625 42 37	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
JONES, Sidney (n)	S1c USNR	868 07 63	DU(FRACTURE RIGHT HAND)	#2518	NS	G
KAMIKIEWICZ, Raymond Stanley	S1c USNR	862:06 26	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
KEES, Shalous Eugene	EM2c USNR	755 57 35	CONTUSION, BACK	#2512	NS	G
KEMP, David Poole Jr.	SC3c USNR	868 67 57	CONTUSION, LOWER BACK	#2512	NS	G
KIRBY, Oliver Wesley	RdM3c USNR	819 84 79	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
KNYES, Edward Hiram	Cox USN	868 43 44	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
KOHN, "A" "C"	S1c USNR	865 27 15	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
KRISOICA, Joseph Frederick	AMM2c USNR	651 00 99	BURNS, CHEMICAL, BUTTOCKS,LEGS	#2504	NS	G
LAPPA, Ralph Donald	S2c USNR	307 28 02	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
LINUS, Joseph Frank	S1c USNR	875 53 30	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
MAZARA, George (n)	S2c USNR	251 23 48	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
MOORE, Clifford Eddy	S1c USNR	861 26 79	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
KRUEGER, Norman Frederick	S2c USNR	868 64 44	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
KURLICK, George Robert	FC3c USNR	285 29 31	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
KURYLA, Michael Nicholas, Jr	Cox USNR	726 67 39	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
LANTER, Kenley MacKendree	S1c USNR	893 30 71	BURNS, CHEMICAL, FEET	#2504	NS	G
LEENERMAN, Arthur Louis	RdM3c USNR	852 27 07	EXHAUSTION FROM OVER EXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G

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ENCLOSURE (A) (cont.)

NAME	RANK OR RATE	SERVICE OR FILE NO.	DIAGNOSIS		COND-ITION	PROG-NOSIS
LOCKWOOD, Thomas Homer	S2c USNR	874 26 92	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
LOFTIS, James Bryant	S1c USNR	936 19 90	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
LOPEZ, Daniel "B"	F2c USNR	888 84 22	IMMERSION FOOT	#2585	NS	G
LUCAS, Robert Andrew	S2c USNR	727 12 05	BURNS, CHEMICAL	#2504	NS	G
MACK, Donald Fleming	Bug1c USNR	711 48 34	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MADAY, Anthony Francis	MM1c USN	300 37 21	BURNS, CHEMICAL	#2504	NS	G
MATRULLA, John (n)	S1c USNR	247 03 35	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MAXWELL, Farrell Jacob	S1c USNR	875 66 17	BURNS, CHEMICAL, FEET	#2504	NS	G
MC CLAIN, Patrick Joseph	S2c USNR	314 70 84	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE	#2527	NS	G
MC CLAIN, Raymond Bryant	BM2c USNR	624 47 18	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MC COY, Giles Gilbert	Pfc USMCR	980709	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MC ELROY, Clarence Ernest	S1c USNR	880 95 22	BURNS, CHEMICAL, LEFT LEG	#2504	NS	G
MC FALL, Walter Eugene	S2c USN	329 68 67	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MC GINNIS, Paul Wendell	SM3c USNR	755 91 13	CONTUSION, BACK	#2512	NS	G
MC GWIGGAN, Robert Melvin	S1c USNR	726 00 36	CONTUSION, BACK	#2512	NS	G
MC KENZIE, Ernest Eugene	S1c USNR	338 48 21	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MESTAS, Nestor "A"	WT2c USNR	618 55 17	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MILBRODT, Glen LaVerne	S2c USNR	322 42 22	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MITCHELL, Kenneth Earl	S1c USNR	865 52 24	CONTUSIONS, BACK.	#2512	NS	G
MITCHELL, Norval Jerry, Jr.	S2c USNR	314 69 39	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MOODY, Clarence Charles	S1c USNR	857 74 24	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MORAN, Joseph John	RM1c USN	266 39 48	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MORGAN, Glenn Grover	BgM3c USNR	851 65 42	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
MOWREY, Ted Eugene	SK3c USN	381 57 90	BURNS, CHEMICAL, FACE, PENIS,	#2504	NS	G
MULDOON, John James	MM1c USNR	607 07 42	BURNS, CHEMICAL	#2504	NS	G
MULLEY, William Robert	BM1c USN	311 23 99	IMMERSION FOOT	#2585	C	P
MURCINI, Joseph Anthony	F2c USNR	959 66 48	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
NAHALL, James Franklin	S1c USNR	980 01 02	BURNS, CHEMICAL, FACE, HANDS.	#2504	NS	G
NELSON, Daniel Merrill	S2c USNR	565 58 18	DU(Fracture, Right Ankle)	#2518	NS	G
NUNLEY, Troy Audie	S2c USNR	939 96 44	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
OBLEDO, Mike Gurra	S1c USNR	842 29 52	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
OLIJAR, John (n)	S1c USNR	959 00 85	CONTUSIONS, BACK.	#2512	NS	G
ORSBURN, Frank Harold	SSML2c USNR	630 87 61	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G

ENCLOSURE (A) (cont.)

NAME	RANK OR RATE	SERVICE OR FILE NO.	DIAGNOSIS		COND-ITION	PROG-NOSIS
OUTLAND, Felton James	S1c USNR	657 71 59	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
PACE, Curtis (n)	S2c USNR	975 82 66	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
PALLITTER, Adelore Aurthor	S2c USNR	314 70 21	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
PAROUBEK, Richard Anthony	Y1c USNR	725 29 81	CONTUSIONS, BACK	#2512	NS	G
PASKET, Lyle Matthew	S2c USNR	329 68 59	CONTUSIONS, BACK	#2512	NS	G
PAULK, Luther Doyle	S2c USNR	975 82 40	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
PAYNE, Edward Glenjoy	S2c USNR	928 68 78	WOUND, LACERATED, RT. HAND	#2563	NS	G
PHILLIPS, Huie Harold	S2c USNR	975 82 50	CONTUSIONS, SPINE	#2512	NS	G
PODISH, Paul (n)	S2c USNR	923 76 45	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
PODSCHUN, Clifford Albert	S2c USNR	956 66 19	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
POTTS, Dale Floyd	S2c USNR	984 48 77	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
PRICE, James Denny	S1c USNR	839 42 06	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
QUEALY, William Charles	Pr2c USNR	643 59 29	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	S	F
RADON, John Herbert	EM3c USNR	966 75 98	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
REEVES, Chester "O" "B"	S1c USNR	616 53 41	BURNS, CHEMICAL, LEGS, ARMS	#2504	NS	G
REHNER, Herbert Adrian	S1c USN	755 21 14	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
REID, Curtis Franklin	S2c USNR	975 82 69	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
RENIRESZ, Richard (n)	S1c USNR	842 20 60	CONTUSION, LEFT KNEE	#2512	NS	G
RINEAY, Francis Henry	S2c USNR	275 48 81	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
RIGGS, Raymond Anthony	Pfc USMCR	879533	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
ROGERS, Ralph Guy	RdM3c USNR	856 31 42	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
ROHCHTERLE, Harold Joseph	RdM3c USNR	666 70 66	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
SCHRUEK, John Alton	CPhM USN	223 87 55	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
SEBERT, Clarke Wilson	S2c USNR	314 70 92	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
SHEFFIELD, Arthur Lawrence	Cox USNR	669 34 27	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
SHIFFER, Robert Patrick	GM3c USNR	633 62 24	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
SHIP, William Hafford	S2c USNR	975 82 73	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
SHORER, Harold (n)	S2c USNR	615 00 22	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	S	F
SHIPMAN, Robert Lee	GM3c USNR	670 75 26	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	C	P - DIED 0230 8/5/45
SMITH, Cozell Lee	Cox USNR	351 06 83	WOUND, LACERATED, LEFT HAND	#2563	NS	G
SMITH, James Wesley	S2c USNR	896 66 58	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G
STENCER, Daniel Frederick	S1c USNR	943 37 09	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE.	#2527	NS	G

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ENCLOSURE (A) (cont.)

NAME	RANK OR RATE	SERVICE OR FILE NO.	DIAGNOSIS	COND-ITION	PROG-NOSIS
SPENCER, Roger (n)	S1c USNR	759 00 02	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
SPINELLI, John Anthony	SC2c USNR	553 76 74	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
SPOONER, Miles Lewis	Pfc USMCR	567232	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
STEVENS, George Golden	WT2c USNR'	554 16 03	CONTUSION, BACK #2512	NS	G
STRUTEVANT, Elwyn Lee	RM2c USN	387 67 82	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
THELEN, Richard Peter	S2c USNR	314 69 47	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
THOMPSON, David Alvin	EM3c USNR	895 24 01	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
TURNER, Charles Morris	S2c USNR	317 32 58	BURNS, CHEMICAL #2504	NS	G
UMENHOFFER, Lyle Edgar	S1c USNR	632 59 26	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
VANMETER, Joseph William	WT3c USNR	955 25 17	IMMERSION FOOT #2565	NS	G
WISNIEWSKI, Stanley (n)	F2c USNR	953 40 49	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G
ZINK, Charles William	EM2c USNR	894 22 54	EXHAUSTION FROM OVEREXPOSURE. #2527	NS	G

Key to Condition: NS - Not Serious.
S - Serious.
C - Critical.

Key to Prognosis: G - Good.
F - Fair.
P - Poor.

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ENCLOSURE (B)

INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN REGARD TO THE SINKING OF THE USS INDIANAPOLIS (CA 35) BASED ON THE INTERROGATION OF SURVIVORS

1. At the time of the attack, the USS Indianapolis (CA-35) was travelling on a course approximately due west at 17 knots, not zigzagging. The degaussing coils were not turned on. The ship was completely blacked out. The weather was good, with generally unrestricted visibility. There was some cloud cover, which obscured the moon part of the time. Captain McVay reports that there was a peculiar, confused sea, with troughs which he later estimated to be about 10 feet deep.

2. There was no contact made either visually or by radar prior to the attack. The ship was not equipped with sound gear. Radio silence had not been broken prior to the attack, but an LST had been spoken visually at about 1400 (-9½) on Sunday, 29 July. The Indianapolis had passed this vessel on approximately the same course.

3. The attack occurred at about 0015 (-9½) at a position estimated to be approximately 11° 46' N., 133° 25' E. (This estimate is based on the position of survivors when picked up.) Captain McVay states that he felt two distinct explosions, which were almost simultaneous. Two survivors (Kemp, D.F., Jr., SK3c and Kenly, O.W., RdM3c) who were on deck at the time report seeing two distinct flashes on the starboard bow of the ship. Other survivors also testify that there were two explosions. Captain McVay also states that there was acrid, white smoke on the navigating bridge and in the captain's emergency cabin immediately after the explosions, causing him to believe that one of the eight inch magazines may have exploded.

4. The first explosion threw Captain McVay out of his bunk in his emergency cabin just off the navigating bridge. He states that the explosions had a whipping action on the ship, giving an effect similar to that caused by a bomb exploding under the surface close to the ship. He went out on the navigating bridge, noticed that there was water on the bridge and in the chart house, and returned to his cabin for his shoes and some clothing. Power had failed and all communications on the ship were out. A few minutes later the damage control officer reported to the captain that the ship was settling by the head very fast and that the situation looked serious. Soon afterward the executive officer reported to the captain that he did not believe the ship would stay afloat much longer and that he recommended that the ship be abandoned. The order to abandon ship was then given by the captain and was passed verbally.

5. Attempts were made to transmit distress signals on both 4235 kc and 500 kc. Moran, J.J., RM1c, states that he attempted to send the following message on 4235 kc "NCO V XVML HIT BY 2 TORPEDOES X POSITION LONG ____ LAT ____ NEED IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE". (He does not recall the exact position sent.) However, the pilot light on the key was not burning, and he does not believe

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the transmitter was functioning. Hart, F.W., RT2c reports that Chief Radio Electrician [illegible] sent SOS repeatedly on 500 kc from Radio 2, and that both he and [illegible] the transmitter was functioning properly. Hart confirms Moran's opinion that the remote key in Radio 1 was not operating the transmitter, which was located in Radio 2.

6. After Captain McVay had given the order to abandon ship, he started down the ladder to the signal bridge with the intention of ascertaining whether a distress signal had been sent. At this point the ship, which had been listing about 5° to starboard, took a decided list of about 60° to starboard, and soon afterward was listing 90°. The captain seized a life line, crawled up to the port side of the ship, and walked along the side to a point about 150 feet from the stern where he was sucked off the ship into the water by a wave.

7. Captain McVay reports that although the ship was first reported settling by the head, this was not immediately apparent from the bridge. However, as the list increased, the head settled lower, and before the ship finally sank it had rolled over on its starboard side. The stern was almost vertical just before it disappeared beneath the surface. The captain and other survivors estimate that the entire elapsed time from the first explosion until the ship disappeared did not exceed fifteen minutes.

8. A majority of the survivors were unable to find life rafts and spent the entire time in the water in life jackets until they were sighted and rafts were dropped by aircraft. These men were in considerably worse shape than the others when rescued. A large number of men who had only life jackets died of exposure before they were found.

9. Captain McVay saw no evidence of any enemy craft in the area at any time after the sinking. However, a group of officers and men who were a number of miles from the captain report that after dark on the night of 30 July red and green lights were seen which appeared to be on one or more craft on the surface. Lt. Commander L.L. Haynes (MC) who was with this group states that the lights blinked back and forth as if signalling, then moved rapidly apart and disappeared. One of the men in the water blinked a flashlight at the red light and Dr. Haynes believes it flashed back. Dr. Haynes is of the opinion that these lights may have been on two enemy submarines.

10. Dr. Haynes states that after the second day most of the men who were near him were subject to fantastic halucinations. These were contagious, so that a halucination which started with one man was quickly accepted and shared by others. For example, one of the men told the others that he had located that stern of the Indianapolis just below the surface, and that he had dived down, entered the ship, and drunk a large quantity of fresh milk.

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This report [illegible] number of men, all of whom attempted to leave the vessel by diving.

11. All of the survivors report that a large number of aircraft passed over or near them before they were finally sighted and rescue operations commenced. Their efforts to signal these planes both with signalling mirrors in daylight and Very pistols at night were apparently unsuccessful.

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6 August 1945

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rtd, dated 6 August
1945.

From: Commander Western Carolines Sub Area.
To: Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas.
Via: Commander Marianas.

Subject: Survivors of the U.S.S. Indianapolis (CA 35)

1. Forwarded.

E. T. GATES,
Chief of Staff

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[redacted] on
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Ltr., Serial 001004,
dated 6 Aug. 1945.

From: Commander Marianas.
To : Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas.

Subject: Survivors of the U.S.S. INDIANAPOLIS (CA 35).

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G. D. MURRAY

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02	CHIEF OF STAFF	1	1.	DHR		
03	ASST. CHIEF OF STAFF			DHR		
05	FLAG SECRETARY	4	3		8 AUG 1945	See our Serial 002462
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06	POSTAL					
07	MILITARY GOVERMENT					
08	LEGAL	5½	1		10 AUG 1945	Info
10	AWARDS					
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