From: To: Lieutenant Lafayette Ronald HUBBARD, D-V(S), USNR, (113392). Commander, Fleet Operational Training Command, Pacific.

Subject:

Fitness Report - statement regarding.

References:

(a) Fitness report of 29 May 1943 to 7 July 1943.

(b) Record and findings of Board of Investigation convened on board the PC 815 on 30 June 1943.

(c) COTCPac ltr. Pl3, serial 0487, of 15 July 1943.

1. A statement regarding reference (a) is respectfully submitted.

- 2. Any explanation of action referred to in reference (a) is contained in reference (b), to wit: first, the existence of tacit permission to conduct non-scheduled firing; second, the appearance the area bore to a firing area; third, the absence of orders regarding such actions; fourth, the establishment of the fact that other naval vessels had previously so anchored without thought of reprimand.
- 3. Regarding reference (c) I have the deepest respect for orders.
- 4. The condition of my ship played no part in my loss of command. My relief had nothing but praise for her condition, material and personnel. My men cooperated eagerly in creating a good ship and, as any of my crew would testify, were intensely loyal to me. Since my detachment I have received individual requests from nearly all my former crew to be asked for and allowed to serve under me again.
- 5. That I was ill with a streptococci throat and dull from sulpha-thiazole on the date of the incident in reference (b), (subsequently spending three months in the hospital under treatment), in no way mitigates the seriousness of the offense, but may serve to explain in part an apparent lapse of judgment.
- 6. It is my hope that the future may add to my record, evidence of my sincerity in wishing to serve well my service and my country.

L. RON HUBBARD.

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