

Stan Mayes

13. Lucellum

This page describes Stan's account of his voyages on the ship. There is a history of **Lucellum** with photographs on the Benjidoog website [HERE](#).

Voyages on Lucellum

*I signed on **Lucellum** at Purfleet on 20 September 1944 and paid off at Avonmouth on 4 November 1944. Captain Svenson who had sailed the ship from Denmark was still her Master.*

Convoy ON256

*We sailed from the Thames in convoy down Channel on 26 September 1944 and later joined convoy ON 256 which had left Liverpool on 28 September. The Commodore ship was **Corrales** and the preserved Liberty ship **Jeremiah O'Brien** plus 72 other ships were in the convoy. We had 19 escorts and the Rescue ship was **Accrington**.*

The convoy arrived without incident at New York on 12th October 1944.

Convoy HX315

Our ship entered a dry dock in Brooklyn for a few days and we then loaded 12,000 tons of US Navy fuel at Bayonne NJ and later sailed in convoy HX 315 on 20 October 1944.

*HX 315 consisted of 40 ships and 21 escorts. Rescue ship was **Bury** [my pal Dan Griffin was sailing in her at the time]..Commodore ship was **Ivaran** (Norwegian).*

***Lucellum** had a cargo of fuel oil for the US Navy in the UK. We were also an escort oiler - **Lucellum** and many other tankers were equipped with large flexible hoses which were stretched along a purpose built flying bridge fore and aft of the ship. The hose was on rollers and could be lowered over the stern while underway and the end would be retrieved by the ship requiring the fuel.*

*We entered atrocious weather conditions after sailing from New York and **Tactician** of Harrison Line left the convoy and diverted to Halifax as she had lost some deck cargo and wanted to re-secure what remained.*

It was an uneventful trip and I paid off at Avonmouth.

Local [Tilbury seamen] on this trip were Bosun Ernie Appleford, Chief Cook Ron Boosey, and AB's Ron Wood, Bill Cousins, Ron Cornell, Jim Bailey and Jock Mc Bride. Ellerman Line crews may remember Ernie Appleford - for many years he was Foreman stevedore for Ellermans at Tilbury.

Image 1 is Stan's wageslip from **Lucellum**

DEDUCTIONS EXCLUDING ALLOTMENTS

B.	Particulars.	Amount.
	Reduction of Wages, on disrating by £... per month for.....months.....days*	
	Advance on joining	
	Fines	
	Other Cash Advances, Stores &c., (in order of date):—	
	Date. <i>Union.</i>	
	<i>Cash</i>	4 7 3
	<i>Stores.</i>	1 18 6
	<i>I. Tax</i>	5 6 6
	Health and Pensions Insur. for... <i>7</i>wks	7 10
	Unemployment Insurance for... <i>7</i>wks	
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS, exclu- sive of Allotments and Cash on leaving Ship		13 4 1
TOTAL EARNINGS (A) less		23 11 11
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS (B)		
Allotments ...		
Cash on leaving Ship		10
Amount Due on day of Discharge £		
C.		13 11 11
	War Leave Due for VoyageDays	
	War Leave Taken during Voyage.....Days	
	War Leave Still Due... <i>3</i> ...days @ <i>9/14</i> ...per Day	1 8 0
	Subsistence Allowance... <i>3</i> ...days @ <i>3/-</i> ...per Day	9 0
FINAL BALANCE (if leave is to be paid and not Carried Forward £		15 8 11

N U S
 - 3 4 2 1 1 2
 5 1 5

The above Account of Earnings and of Deductions exclusive of Allotments is correct.

Signature of Master _____

Images

1. All images on this page were provided by Stan Mayes