

Lucellum

Lucellum was launched in 1938 and did sterling service in WW2 convoys. Her overall service life was 23 years and she was broken up in 1961. There is further information about some of her voyages on the **Recollections** section of the Benjidog website [HERE](#).

Image 1 is from an old postcard of **Lucellum** - the date is not known.



Career Highlights

Date	Event
29 Oct 1938	Launched
Dec 1938	Completed
1955	Sold to K.Salvesen & Sons and renamed Asturia
1956	Converted to ore carrier, 10000gt
5 Oct 1961	Wrecked at Cap a la Roche, St Lawrence River
30 Dec 1961	Broken up at Barcelona

Participation in WW2

Lucellum took part in 61 convoys according to information shown in the table below which is provided courtesy of [Convoyweb](#) - see [Ext. Ref. #5](#). The table also includes various independent voyages undertaken by this ship during the wartime period. The shaded boxes indicate in most cases that **Dolabella** continued independently after taking part in a convoy.

There are accounts of some of the early convoys on this site [HERE](#) from Stan Mayes.

On 19th December 1941 **Lucellum** was bombed and set on fire by a German bomber near Bardsey Island off Cardigan Bay - four crew were killed. (Note by Stan Mayes)

Warsailors - Ext Ref. 7, quotes the following from the Commodore's Narrative for convoy ON 162. Note that the numbers in brackets refer to the ships' positions in the convoy:

On the night of Febr. 6 it was estimated that the convoy would arrive at position X X at 23:00 and accordingly a prearranged alteration of course from 262° to 222° was ordered for that time. As usual the alteration was made by whistle signal at the precise second as shown by chronometer. There was heavy rain but the columns on each side of the Commodore could be clearly seen and in addition dimmed navigation lights and blue shaded stern lights were switched on by the Commodore immediately before the turn was made.

***Coptic** (71), which was slightly astern of station on the starboard side of Commodore (61) repeated the two short blasts and switched on her navigation lights as did all the other leaders; but as the turn was completed the **Coptic** was observed to cross under the stern of the Commodore and showed up alongside about a cable distant on the port side.*

*The **Coptic** then again sheered off to port and although this was not known to me at the time she came into collision with No. 52 (**Lucellum**) in the other column. On the following day the **Laguna** (72) reported that during the prearranged alteration of course she too had been in collision with **Abangarez** No. 63, neither of these vessels reported the collision until interrogated by the Commodore as to the obvious damage they had received.*

*The **Lucellum** was absent from convoy and as the **Coptic** could give no information as to the damage she had sustained, there was considerable anxiety about her until a message was received that she had arrived in Halifax.*

The weather throughout was bad and W.N.W. gales prevailed throughout most of the passage. The convoy steamed through considerable quantities of light field ice off the Newfoundland Coast. There was no enemy action.

Basic Data: Lucellum

Type: Tanker

Registered owners, managers and operators:

Astrakhan SS Co. Limited

H.E.Moss & Co Liverpool
(Managers)

Builders: Odense Staalskibs

Yard: Odense

Country: Denmark

Yard number: 77

Registry: N/K

Official number: 166255

Signal letters: N/K

Call sign: GQQB

Classification society: N/K

Gross tonnage: 9,425 tons

Net tonnage: N/K

Deadweight: N/K

Length: 486.6 Ft

Breadth: 65.5 Ft

Depth: 35.7 Ft

Draught: N/K

Engines: Oil engine 4S.CSA - 7 Cylinders
bore .29 1/8", stroke 59 1/16"

Engine builders: Burmeister & Wain

Works: Copenhagen

Country: Denmark

Boilers: N/A

Power: 572 NHP

Propulsion: Single screw

Speed: 12.5 knots

Cargo capacity: N/K

Crew: N/K

Departure	Convoy/Independent	Arrival		Departure	Convoy/Independent	Arrival
Halifax, Dec 27, 1939	HXF.14 (Halifax - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Jan 8, 1940		Halifax, Feb 8, 1943	HF.35 (Halifax - St John Nb)	St John Nb, Feb 10, 1943
	OG.16F (to AT SEA - Gibraltar)	Gibraltar, Feb 1, 1940		New York, Mar 18, 1943	HX.230 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Apr 2, 1943
Gibraltar, Mar 17, 1940	HG.23F (Gibraltar - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Mar 26, 1940		Liverpool, Apr 24, 1943	ON.180 (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, May 14, 1943
Freetown, Jun 25, 1940	SL.37 (Freetown - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Jul 12, 1940		New York, May 19, 1943	HX.240 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Jun 4, 1943
Liverpool, Sep 8, 1940	OB.210 (Liverpool - Dispersed)			Clyde, Jun 10, 1943	ON.188 (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, Jun 26, 1943
Freetown, Dec 7, 1940	SL.58 (Freetown - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Dec 28, 1940		New York, Jul 8, 1943	HX.247 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Jul 22, 1943
Bermuda, Feb 11, 1941	BHX.109 (Bermuda - Jd HX 109)			Clyde, Oct 19, 1943	ON.207 (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, Nov 4, 1943
	HX.109 (Halifax - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Mar 4, 1941		New York, Nov 6, 1943	HX.265 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Nov 21, 1943
Clyde, Mar 28, 1941	OB.303 (Liverpool - Dispersed)			Liverpool, Nov 26, 1943	ON.213 (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, Dec 14, 1943
Halifax, May 6, 1941	HX.125A (Halifax - Liverpool)	Liverpool, May 22, 1941		New York, Dec 22, 1943	HX.272 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Jan 6, 1944
Liverpool, Jun 8, 1941	OB.331 (Liverpool - Dispersed)			Milford Haven, Jan 14, 1944	ON.220 (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, Feb 4, 1944
Halifax, Aug 1, 1941	HX.142 (Halifax - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Aug 18, 1941		New York, Feb 13, 1944	HX.279 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Feb 29, 1944
Liverpool, Aug 30, 1941	ON.11 (Liverpool - Dispersed)			Milford Haven, Mar 8, 1944	ON.227 (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, Mar 22, 1944
Halifax, Oct 5, 1941	HX.153 (Halifax - Liverpool)			New York, Mar 28, 1944	HX.285 (NYC - Liverpool)	
Liverpool, Oct 8, 1941	ON.24 (Liverpool - Dispersed)				SC.156 (Halifax - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Apr 13, 1944
	HX.153 (Halifax - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Oct 19, 1941		Liverpool, Apr 26, 1944	ON.234 (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, May 12, 1944
Liverpool, Oct 26, 1941	ON.30 (Liverpool - Dispersed)			New York, May 19, 1944	HX.292 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Jun 2, 1944
Halifax, Dec 3, 1941	HX.163 (Halifax - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Dec 19, 1941		Methil, Aug 4, 1944	EN.417 (Methil - Loch Ewe)	Loch Ewe, Aug 6, 1944
Belfast Lough, Dec 19, 1941	BB.113 (Belfast Lough - M Haven)				ON.248F (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, Aug 20, 1944
Liverpool, Jul 24, 1942	ON.115 (Liverpool - Boston)			New York, Aug 25, 1944	HX.305 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Sep 10, 1944
Belfast Lough, Jul 31, 1942	ON.117 (Liverpool - Dispersed)			Liverpool, Sep 28, 1944	ON.256 (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, Oct 12, 1944
Halifax, Aug 19, 1942	HA.4 (Halifax - Curacao)	Curacao, Aug 28, 1942		New York, Oct 20, 1944	HX.315 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Nov 3, 1944
Curacao, Aug 29, 1942	WAT.16 (Key West - Trinidad)	Trinidad, Aug 31, 1942		Milford Haven, Nov 10, 1944	ON.265 (Southend - NYC)	New York, Nov 23, 1944
Freetown, Oct 3, 1942	SL.124 (Freetown - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Oct 22, 1942		New York, Nov 29, 1944	HX.323 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Dec 13, 1944
Liverpool, Oct 24, 1942	ON.141 (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, Nov 10, 1942		Liverpool, Dec 19, 1944	ON.273 (Southend - NYC)	New York, Jan 4, 1945
New York, Nov 15, 1942	NK.510 (NYC - Key West)	Key West, Nov 21, 1942		New York, Jan 13, 1945	HX.332 (NYC - Liverpool)	Southampton, Jan 28, 1945
Key West, Nov 21, 1942	KH.420 (Key West - Galveston Bar)	Galveston Bar, Nov 25, 1942		Liverpool, Feb 21, 1945	ON.286 (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, Mar 9, 1945
Galveston Bar, Nov 29, 1942	HK.122 (Galveston Bar - Key West)	Key West, Dec 3, 1942		New York, Mar 14, 1945	HX.344 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Mar 28, 1945
Key West, Dec 3, 1942	KN.211 (Key West - NYC)	New York, Dec 8, 1942		Falmouth, Apr 9, 1945	ON.295 (Liverpool - NYC)	New York, Apr 26, 1945
New York, Dec 13, 1942	HX.219 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, Dec 29, 1942		New York, May 3, 1945	HX.354 (NYC - Liverpool)	Liverpool, May 18, 1945
Liverpool, Jan 23, 1943	ON.162 (Liverpool - NYC)					



Service Post WW2

No further specific information has been discovered other than as shown in the Career Highlights section above terminating on her being broken 1961 after being wrecked in the St Lawrence River..