

MILITARY SEA TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

BRIDGE-GANGWAY LOG

USNS _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR KEEPING THE BRIDGE-GANGWAY LOG

1. The Bridge-Gangway Log is an official record of the ship. Under no circumstances shall pages be removed nor shall erasures be made in this log. When a correction is necessary, a single line shall be drawn through the original entry so that the entry remains legible. The correct entry shall then be inserted in such manner as to ensure clarity and legibility. Correction(s) shall be made only by the person responsible for the original entry, and such correction(s) shall be initialed by him on the margin of the page.
2. It is difficult, if not impossible, to write factual remarks in the Deck Log from memory. All important "happenings" of the watch should, therefore, unless entered directly in the Deck Log, be entered immediately in the Bridge-Gangway Log. Each change of course and speed and each aid to navigation sighted (including buoys) and the time when they are passed abeam and lost from sight should be entered in the Bridge-Gangway Log. When these aids to navigation are numerous, the officer of the watch need list only the more important and prominent ones in the Deck Log. Every contact, whether visual, radar, or sonar, must be logged. However, when visual and radar contacts prove false, their inclusion in the Deck Log is not recommended. In the case of grounding, collision, or other damage, the officer of the watch will require information in great detail. Such information should be entered immediately in the Bridge-Gangway Log in order that the officer of the watch may make proper entries in the Deck Log. In writing his remarks in the Deck Log, the officer of the watch may or may not include all entries made in the Bridge-Gangway Log, depending upon the importance of the event or the outcome of a series of events.
3. The Bridge-Gangway Log shall be maintained on the Bridge when the ship is at sea and at the Gangway when the ship is in port. The person responsible for the entries made in the Bridge-Gangway Log during each watch shall sign the log immediately below such entries and enter the time he was actually relieved of the watch. Insofar as practicable, entries made in the Bridge-Gangway Log shall be written in the same phraseology as entries made in the Deck Log.
4. The Bridge-Gangway Log shall be transferred to the home port commander 6-months after date of last entry and when the ship is transferred from MSTS. Home port commanders will destroy Bridge-Gangway Logs two years after date of last entry.

