Lusitania: An Examination of Captaincy and Seamanship in the Face of Disaster

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Abstract
The last voyage of the RMS Lusitania is examined. The Cunard liner left New York for Liverpool on May 1, 1915 as the conflict in Europe began to escalate. The research separates the act of war from the actions of the ship's command and control infrastructure and the seamanship of its crew. This distinction is made under a thesis that more lives could have and should have been saved. The central question of the research was therefore: to what extent should the captain and crew of RMS Lusitania be held to account for the elevated loss of life in the hostile sinking of the Lusitania on May 7, 1915 and to what degree did this singular tragedy influence American public opinion toward the War.

Recommended Citation

Those sailing on Lusitania would have been well aware of the Titanic tragedy just three years earlier. In at least one case, a male passenger gave up his life jacket to a female passenger because he believed “it might not be a very good thing to be saved and live to be accused of cowardice.” Memories of the Titanic may have weighed heavily on those experiencing the Lusitania disaster. In both ship disasters, some passengers – in the face of almost certain death – showed a heroic concern for the welfare of others, especially for women and children. 

Tulsa World (Tulsa, Oklahoma), 29 May 1915, p Several histories of the Lusitania disaster give the impression that Duncan sailed on the liner New York with Ellen Terry (see below). Though Duncan idolized the older actress and even had a child with her son, theater director Edward Gordon Craig, it seems to have been one of Duncan's young dancers rather than Duncan herself who accompanied Terry. Duncan mentions the Lusitania briefly in her autobiography: “Life is a dream, and it is well that it is so, or who could survive some of its experiences? Eloise Daniel lost her first husband in the Titanic disaster and met her future mate when he was pulled aboard the lifeboat she was in. They married two years later. Interviewed on their arrival in London, he described the crossing on the Philadelphia as “absolutely uneventful.” English sentences with in the face of disaster in context. No results, please check your input for typos or set a different source language 14 exact sentences 16 similar. 1. In the face of disaster, there was no better place to go. The New Yorker. 2. This indicated that the PHCs in Padang Pariaman were not ready to serve as health facilities in the face of disasters and that there had been no effort to implement disaster preparedness procedures. PubMed. 20. Firstly, they are at a disadvantage in the face of disasters because of the inequalities in exposure and sensitivity to risk, as well as the inequalities in their accessibility to resources, capabilities, and opportunities [1]. PubMed. 21.