

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: U.S.S. SAWFISH(SS276) - Report of Seventh War Patrol.

(A) PROLOGUE.

Arrived at MAJURO, from 6th War Patrol on 29 May 1944,
for refit.

The ship was docked to replace the outer door gasket in #7
torpedo tube, which had come loose during the sixth patrol, and to
investigate the metal to metal clanking in the portside of #2 fuel oil
tank.

Lt-Comdr., J.S. SCHMIDT, U.S.N.; Lieut. C. C. ALLEN, U.S.N.R.;
Lt(jg) J. F. HAGAN, U.S.N.; and Ensign O. J. KRALOVEC, JR., U.S.N.R., were
detached.

Comdr. R. S. ANDREWS, U.S.N., reported aboard for temporary
duty as P.C.O. Lieut. C. L. WILSON, Jr., U.S.N.R.; Lieut. W. E. SIMS, U.S.N.;
Lieut. H. E. SHEAR, U.S.N.; and Lt(jg) P. J. RANARD, U.S.N., reported aboard
for duty.

Seventeen (17) key men were transferred, one of whom was
disqualified medically, and replacements were received from relief crews,
of whom one (1) was qualified.

The ship underwent five days training during which coordinated
attack, group communications, drills were conducted. No recovery vessels
were available and therefore, no exercise torpedoes were fired.

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(B) NARRATIVE.

26 July 1944

- 0107 I Changed course to 115.
- 0210 I Radar contact bearing 195 T, range 8,000 yards. We had radar interference on all sides and since other boats were heading for the same vicinity this was assumed to be TILEFISH.
- 0315 I Radar contact on SABBANG ISLAND, bearing 055 T, distant 22 miles.
- 0322 I Changed course to 090.
- 0400 I Sighted SABBANG ISLAND, bearing 045 T, distant 10 miles.
- 0514 I Submerged for days patrol in BALINTANG CHANNEL.
- 0830 I Sighted PETE (PLANE CONTACT #28).
- 1630 I Sighted submarine. (SHIP CONTACT #20) (ATTACK #3), bearing 270 T, range 12,000 yards. He was smoking as if he had just lighted off another engine. Angle on the bow 40 S. Came to normal approach course and went to standard speed.
- 1633 I Went to battle stations.
- 1640 I Range 11,000 yards, angle on the bow 50 S.
- 1644 I Range 7,800 yards, angle on the bow 60 S. Noted no periscope shears, which was a relief since one of our own boats might have been passing through at that time. Still making standard speed between looks.
- 1648 I 80 S. at 5,200 yards. Beginning to look tough to close. Changed course to 020. Could see a big rising sun on conning tower fairwater.
- 1650 I A beautiful 30° right zig, range 3,200 yards angle on the bow 60 S. Took a ping range of 1850 yards which checked beautifully with our solution.
- 1651-40 I Fired one.
- 1651-50 I Fired three.
- 1652-00 I Fired four.
- 1652-10 I Fired six.

Most of that outfit never knew what happened, for at

- 1652-50 I One hit about 20' abaft the conning tower. The bow gave a lurch forward and swung slightly toward us, until the second one hit

halfway between the bow and the conning tower. Then the third one hit him close to where the first one had landed. Flames shot up and the last sight was of a triple column of grey-white billowing smoke 300' high, with 30' of the bow showing a 20° up-angle. While trying to decide whether it would be worthwhile to surface and search for pieces had the matter settled by

- 1655 I A heavy explosion which at first was thought to be an aerial bomb close b
- 1657 I Another big bang. Went to 300' just in case. Changed course to 270. Secured from battle stations. (A fruitful 24 minutes work.).
- 1658 I Two ordinary explosions followed by the familiar noise of rush of gas to the surface. Since these two major and two ordinary explosions were the only ones heard, and since no planes had been seen for five or six hours, one Japanese Submarine.
- 1714 I Commenced reload forward.
- 1756 I Periscope depth. Smoke pall still over spot in channel, but assumed that all worthwhile wreckage had sunk by now, so did not surface for search.
- 1800 I Came to 50' to report news to O.T.C. No receipts. This was repeated each half hour until at,
- 2018 I Surfaced.
- 2023 I "SIGHTED SUB SANK SAME THREE HITS MY COURSE 270", and got a receipt.
- 2044 I Received patrol instructions for next day.
- 2104 I Changed course to 266, and went to 3-engine speed to patrol position.

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(F) SHIP CONTACTS.

NO	TIME	LAT	TYPE	INIT.	EST.	HOW	REMARK
	DATE	LONG		RANGE	COURSE	CON-	
				YARDS	SPEED	TACT	
20	7-26	21-10	Sub.	12000	085	P	See ATTACK #3
	1630I	121-50			18		

(G) AIRCRAFT CONTACTS.

SUBMARINE				AIRCRAFT								WEATHER					
NO	TIME	* COURSE	MIN	NO	TYPE	PROB	HOW	INIT.	ELEV.	RANGE	SEA	REL	VIS	HT	PCT		
	DATE	POSIT *	LAST			MIS-	CON-	RANGE	ANGLE	& BRG	STATE	DIR					
			SD			SION	TACT	MILES		PLANE							
			LOCK							WHEN							
										S/M							
										SEEN							
28	7-26	20-54	010	Sub	Ind	1	PETE	A/S	P	8	2°	Unk	2	115	8	3000	60
	0830I	121-08	3					Pat									

*All Lat. - N All Long. - E.

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(H) ATTACK DATA.

TORPEDO ATTACK REPORT FORM.

U.S.S. SAWFISH(SS276) Torpedo Attack No. 3 Patrol No. 7

Time 1651 LZT Date 27 July 1944 Lat. 20-10N. Long. 121-50 E.

TARGET DATA-DAMAGE INFLICTED.

Description: The target was sighted through the periscope while
patrolling submerged in BALINTANG CHANNEL.

Ship Sunk: Submarine (I-5 Class).

Damage Determined

By: Three (3) observed hits.

Target Draft 15' Course 085° Speed 18 kts Range 1770 yds at firing.

OWN SHIP DATA

Speed 4½ kts Course 020 Depth 64' Track Angle 120 S at firing.

FIRE CONTROL AND TORPEDO DATA.

Type Attack,
Remarks, etc.

The attack was made at periscope depth using a divergent spread set in the TDC. Continuous periscope bearings were introduced during the time of firing. The three (3) observed hits resulted in voluminous clouds of black smoke, and the almost immediate disappearance of the target. There was no indication that either our periscope or the torpedo wakes had been observed.

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(H) ATTACK DATA. (cont)

Tubes Fired	1	3	4	6
Track Angle	120 S	120 S	120 S	120 S
Gyro Angle	359	004	007	006
Depth Set	8 ft	8 ft	8 ft	8 ft
Power	High	High	High	High
Hit or Miss	Hit	Hit	Hit	Miss
Erratio(yes-no)	No	No	No	No
Mark Torpedo	23	23	23	23
Serial No.	49212	41541	49606	52962
Mark Exploder	6-4	6-4	6-4	6-4
Serial No.	8332	8370	8826	17720
Actuation Set	Contact	Contact	Contact	Contact
Actuation Actual	Contact	Contact	Contact	None
Mark Warhead	16-1	16-1	16-1	16-1
Serial No.	5486	9434	12335	9430
Explosive	TPX	TPX	TPX	TPX
Firing Interval	0	8"	8"	8"
Type Spread	Divergent ($\frac{1}{2}$ A, $\frac{1}{2}$ F, $1\frac{1}{2}$ F, $1\frac{1}{2}$ A)			
Sea Conditions	Calm			
Overhaul Activity	U.S.S. BUSHNELL			
Remarks:				

以上は、米潜水艦ソーフィッシュ(U.S.S. Sawfish, SS-276)の第七回の哨戒に於ける戦時日誌から抜粋したものである。この哨戒は、昭和 19 年 6 月 22 日から 8 月 15 日まで続き、アラン・ボイド・バニスター海軍中佐(Cdr. Alan Boyd Banister)が艦長を務めた。ソーフィッシュは、米潜ロック(U.S.S. Rock, SS-274)および米潜タイルフィッシュ(U.S.S. Tilefish, SS-307)と共に狼群戦術を用いてルソン海峡方面で行動していた。

ソーフィッシュは、この哨戒での戦果を伊五型潜水艦(1,900t)を撃沈、富士山丸型給油船(9,500t)を撃破、計 11,400t と報告している。これらが、伊号第二九潜水艦と戦時標準型油槽船 2TLT 型はりま丸であった。

報告書の時間に続く「I」は、Item Time Zone(日本時間)での表記である事を示している。7 月 26 日に観測された航空機「Pete」は、零式水上観測機の米軍呼称。