

DATA SHEETS #2

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THE 52 SUBMARINES LOST DURING WORLD WAR II

During World War II the U.S. Navy lost 52 submarines with 374 officers and 3131 enlisted men. This list gives the names of those ships, the building shipyard, cause, location and date of loss, and some indication of what cover collectors might expect to find when searching for covers from these ships.

cover collectors	might	expect	to find when searching	for covers	from the	ese shi
NAME and NUMBER	YARD		LOCATION WHERE LOST	DATE LOST	CANCELS USED	
NAME and NUMBER ALBACORE SS-218 AMBERJACK SS-219 ARGONAUT SS-166 BARBEL SS-316 BONEFISH SS-223 BULLHEAD SS-332 CAPELIN SS-289 CISCO SS-290 CORVINA SS-226 DARTER SS-227 DORADO SS-248 ESCOLAR SS-294 FLIER SS-250 GOLET SS-361 GRAMPUS SS-207 GRAYBACK SS-208 GRAYLING SS-209 GRENADIER SS-210 GROWLER SS-215 GRUNION SS-216 GUDGEON SS-211 HARDER SS-257 HERRING SS-233 KETE SS-369 LAGARTO SS-371 PERCH SS-176 PICKEREL SS-177 POMPANO SS-181 R-12 SS-89	YARD EBB S E	OF LOSS OF LOS	LOCATION WHERE LOST Japanese Home Waters Off New Britain Off New Britain Off Borneo Japanese Home Waters Java Sea Celebes Sea South Pacific Ocean Marshalls Archipelago Palawan Passage Canal Zone, Panama Japanese Home Waters Off Borneo Japanese Home Waters Off New Britain Ryukyu Archipelago Philippine Waters Malayan Waters Malayan Waters Philippine Waters Aleutian Waters Marianas Archipelago Philippine Waters Kuriles Archipelago Ryukyu Archipelago Ryukyu Archipelago Ryukyu Archipelago South China Seas Java Sea Japanese Home Waters Japanese Home Waters Off Key West, Fla.	DATE LOST Nov 7,'44 Feb 16,'43 Jan 10,'43 Feb 4,'45 Jun 18,'45 Aug 6,'45 Dec 9,'43 Sept 28,'43 Oct 12,'43 Oct 12,'43 Oct 17,'44 Aug 13,'44 Jun 14,'44 Feb 26,'43 Rov 8,'44 Jun 14,'44 Mar 20,'45 May 3,'45 May 3,'45 May 3,'45 May 3,'45 May 3,'45 May 3,'45 May 3,'43 Jun 12,'43	CANCELS USED CCADCBCCCGCCAAAACCACCGGAAAAF	SCARCITY OF COVERS C A D D D D D D D D D B B B B C C D D A A A A
R-12 SS-89 ROBALO SS-273 RUNNER SS-275 S-26 SS-131 S-27 SS-132 S-28 SS-133 S-36 SS-141 S-39 SS-144 S-44 SS-155 SCAMP SS-277 SCORPION SS-278 SCULPIN SS-191 SEALION SS-195 SEAWOLF SS-197 SHARK I SS-174 SHARK II SS-314 SNOCK SS-279 SWORDFISH SS-193 TANG SS-306 TRIGGER SS-237 TRITON SS-201 TROUT SS-202 TULLIBEE SS-284	FR MANS HOURS HOUSE HOUS	ODE ODE ODD OCCL GRD ODD ODD ODD ODD ODD ODD ODD ODD ODD O	Japanese Home Waters Off Key West, Fla. Off Borneo Japanese Home Waters Gulf of Panama Amchitka Is., Aleutians Off Oahu, Hawaii Straits of Makassar Off Rossell Isl, Pac. Kuriles Archipelago Japanese Home Waters East China Sea Gilberts Archipelago Cavite, Philippines Off Morotai Is., NEI Molucca Sea Off Hong Kong Off Hainan Is., SCSea Ryukyu Archipelago Formosa Strait Ryukyu Archipelago Admiralty Archipelago Admiralty Archipelago Off Palau Island	Aug 29,'43 Jun 12,'43 Jul 26,'44 May 28,'43 Jan 24,'42 Jun 19,'42 Jul 4.'44		

WORLD WAR II SUBMARINE LOSSES

LEGEND

SHIPYARDS:

EB - Electric Boat Co., Groton, Connecticut PTS - Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire

CRAMP - Cramp Shipbuilding Co., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

MAN - Manitowoc Shipbuilding Co., Manitowoc, Wisconsin MI - Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, California

FR - Fore River Shipbuilding Co., Quincy, Massachusetts

BETHQ - Bethlehem Steel Co., Quincy, Massachusetts

BETHS - Bethlehem Steel Co., San Francisco, California

CAUSE OF LOSS:

OD - Overdue from Patrol

SS - Sunk by surface ship

ODP - Overdue from Passage

GRD - Grounding

ODE - Overdue from Exercises

COL - Collision

BD - Bombed in Dry Dock

DATE LOST:

Reference is United States Submarine Losses World War II, CNO Washington DC 1963

CANCELS USED:

A - Used name cancels

B - Used Branch Number cancels

C - Used Type Z (U.S. Navy) cancels

D - Cancels issued but details unknown

E - Never had postal service but used Type F or FZ cancels

F - Never had postal service but used straight-line or corner card markings

G - Never had postal service; no markings known

SCARCITY:

A - Common

B - Fairly scarce

C - Very Scarce

D - Covers virtually unknown

Note - scarcity refers to covers from the boat itself and not commemorative covers (such as keel laying, launching or commissioning) cancelled ashore or on other ships.

U.S. SUBMARINE DISASTERS IN PEACETIME

Name/Number	Date <u>Lost</u>	Men Lost	Survivors	Salvaged	Postal Place and Depth Facs. Cause
F-1(SS-20)	10-11-12	2		Yes	No Port Watson- ville, Monterey Bay, Calif, Broke
		•			her moorings during heavy storm.
F-4(SS-23)	3-25-15	21	None	Yes	306' No l½ m.off Honolulu Hawaii corrosion of lead lining
					of battery tank permitted seawater seepage into battery compartment causing loss of control.
G-2(SS-27)	7-2-19	3	1	Yes	80' No In Two Tree Channel,Long Island Sound
					East of Niantic Bay, Connecticut; flooded by rip currents washing over engine hatch.
H-1(SS-28)	3-12-20	4		No	50' No Off Redondo Pt, Magdalena Bay, Lower California
					Foundered during salvage operations after grounding.
S-5(SS-110)	9 -1- 20	0	38	No	172' No 40 m.southeast of Delaware Cape flooded by main induction. Crew raised stern
					and hole cut in hull by crews of steamers Atlantis and General Goethels for escape.
R-6(SS-83)	9-26-21	2	18	Yes	35' No Sank while moored in San Pedro Harbor,
					California alongside Tender Camden, sinking due to opening inner Torpedo Tube Door while outboard shutter was open.
s-48(ss-159)	12-7-21	0	41	Yes	60' Yes In Long Island Sound off Bridge port, Connecticut Failure to replace hatch cover on after ballast tank, stern compartments flooded.

7	¹a <u>me/Number</u>	and the same of th	Men Lost S	Survivors	<u>Salvaged</u>	<u>Depth</u>	Posta Facs			
	S-38(SS-143)	7-17-23	0		Yes	102'		Anchorage Bay Alaska, sank by		
						motor r valve l	room, locate id bee	stern due to looding of the cover of sea d below water-n removed by		
	0-5(SS-66)	10-29-23	3	18	Yes	42 '	No	Limon Bay, Panama Canal Zonecollided		
						with Un Abangar	ited :	Fruit steamer		
	S-51(SS-162)	9 - 25 - 25	33	3	Yes	132'	No	Off Block Island Long Island Sound, collided		
						ship Ci forward on port	of he	with passenger Rome, rammed tower.		
	s-4(SS-109)	12-17-27	40	None	Yes	102'	No	Off Provincetown Masscollided with U.S.C.G.		
		•		· .		Destroy on star ward of	board	llding-rammed side just for-		
	SQUALUS(SS-1	92) 5-23-39	26	33	Yes	243'	Yes	Off Portsmouth N.H., failure of main induction:		
nesi	0.0/00.70	•			•	valve di	uring	dive.		
	0 - 9(SS-70)	6-20-41	33	None	No	440 '		Forty miles southeast of Portsmouth N.H.		
	e e					Founder cruise.	red while on training			
	Cochino(SS=34				No	840 '		In Greenland Sea 100 m.north		
٠	*Six men from rescue.	Tusk (SS-4	426) los	st assisti	ng in	Norway, battery	foun	of Hammerfest dered after sion.		
	Stickleback (SS-415)	5-30-58	0	82	No	9,000'	Pear	19 m.south of 1 Harbor,Hawaii ided with USS		
						Silverstein (DE-534) broached during maneuvers and was struck between control room and forward battery room.				

Name/Number	Date <u>Lost</u>	Men Lost	Survivors	Salvaged	<u>Depth</u>	Posta Faca			
Thresher (SSN-593)	4-10-63	129	None	No	8,400'	No	In Atlantic, 200 miles east of Boston, Mass.		
					Cause 1				
Scorpion (SSN-589)	5-21-68	99.	None	No	10,000'	No	In Atlantic, 400 miles south of Azores, cause unannounced.		
guitarro (SSN-665)	5-16-69	0		Yes			Mare Is. Naval shipyard, Vallejo, Calif., dockside due to of workmen.		

"OPERATION HIGHJUMP"

On 3 December 1946, the largest Naval Expeditionary Force ever to depart for the Antarctic regions sailed from Norfolk, Virginia, and San Diego, California. The expedition was under the command of Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, U.S.N.

The expedition conducted surveys to determine whether the southern polar regions has any value to national defense and long term United States economy.

It also prospected for all metals, particularly uranium, which at that time was a critical metal used in the Atom Bomb.

A further objective of the expedition was to strengthen this country's claim, never previously formally asserted, to Antarctic areas.

The Commander of the Task Force was Captain Richard H. Cruzen, U.S.N., who had served as Executive Officer of the Byrd Expedition of 1939-1941.





TASK FORCE 68

Mount Olympus (AGC-8) Flagship Brownson (DD-868) Burton Island (AG-88) Cacapon (AO-52) Canisted (AO-99) Currituck (AV-7) Henderson (DD-785)

Merrick (AKA-97)
Northwind (WPG-282)
Philippine Sea (CV-47)
Pine Island (AV-12)
Sennet (SS-408)
Yancey (AKA-93)

The expedition was assigned the code name "Operation Highjump" and many of the ships used a cachet that looked similar to this:





Captain M.E. Borden USNR 28 James Street New Bedford, Mass.

"OPERATION INLAND SEAS"

The greatest fleet of naval ships ever to sail the Great Lakes occurred in the summer of 1959 when 28 U.S. ships participated in "Operation Inland Seas". These U.S. ships were joined by many Canadian ships in conjunction with the official opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway by President Eisenhower and Queen Elizabeth.

The Following Ships Comprised the Fleet

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Ault (DD-698)
                                             ***Macon (CA-132)
Cambria (APA-36)
                                                 Oglethorpe (AKA-100)
Putnam (DD-757)
Charles H. Roan (DD-853)
Charles R. Ware (DD-865)
*Corsair (SS-435)
Donner (LSD-20)
Dupont (DD-941)
                                               *Quillback (SS-424)
Sablefish (SS-303)
                                                 Samuel B. Roberts (DD-823)
                                                 San Marcos (LSD-25)
Forrest Royal (DD-872)
                                                Suffolk County (LST-1173)
Terrebone Parish (LST-1156)
Forrest Sherman (DD-931)
Haynsworth (DD-700)
                                              **Torsk (SS-423)
Henley (DD-762)
                                                Waldron (DD-699)
John W. Weeks (DD-701)
                                                Warrington (DD-843)
Jos. P. Kennedy, Jr. (DD-850)
                                              Willard Keith (DD-775)
Kleinsmith (APD-134)
                                               Willis A. Lee (DL-4)
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The ships were all issued a special rubber stamp cachet which depicts a cruiser against a background of the five Great Lakes. The cachet reads:

"The United States Navy sails the inland seas."
The Salt Water Fleet visits Americans in the fresh water inland seas.
24 June - 25 July 1959.

*The Corsair (SS-435) and Quillback (SS-424) modified their cachet slightly, by cutting away a portion of the ship design to conform to the lines of a submarine. During this operation, Corsair (SS-435) became the first submarine ever to submerge in all five of the Great Lakes.

**The Torsk (SS-423) had a cachet made which was similar to the one issued but had a submarine instead of a cruiser against the background.

***The Macon (CA-132) used a rubber stamp cachet of their own design depicting an outline of the ship below an outline map of the Great Lakes, and "USS Macon (CA-132)" above the map, "Great Lakes" on either side of the map, and "Operation Inland Seas June-July '59" below the ship's outline.