

APPENDIX II

Declassified Atlantic Sub Fleet War Diary

1944

The following pages are photocopies of the daily fleet reports kept by the Commander of the Atlantic Submarine Forces. The USS Tench was built in Portsmouth, New Hampshire and completed her sea trials under the auspices of the Atlantic Submarine Forces. When Trench transited the Panama Canal in January of 1945, control was passed to the Pacific Submarine Force Command. These are low quality copies but they are legible. The dates and time frames of daily actions of all ships on patrol were meticulously recorded.

A12/NY1 1 August 1944.
Subj: War Diary for Portsmouth Navy Yard for July 1944.

3-5 July 1944.

No remarks.

6 July 1944.

U.S.S. ATULE (SS403) completed.

7 July 1944.

Italian submarine TITO SPERI arrived for overhaul.
U.S.S. ATULE (SS403) commenced intensive training and
preparation for war service. U.S.S. TENCH (SS417) and
U.S.S. THORNBAC (SS418) launched.

8 July 1944.

No remarks.

9 July 1944.

U.S.S. SEA DOG (SS401) departed for New London Area.

10 July 1944. ^B

U.S.S. RUNNER (SS476) keel laid.

11 July 1944.

U.S.S. CONGER (SS477) keel laid.

12-16 July 1944.

No remarks.

17 July 1944.

U.S.S. SEA OWL (SS405) commissioned.

18-19 July 1944.

No remarks.

20 July 1944.

U.S.S. TIGRONE (SS419) launched.

21 July 1944.

No remarks.

22 July 1944. ^B

U.S.S. CUTLASS (SS478) keel laid.

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In reply address not the signer of this letter, but Commandant, Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

REFER TO NO.

A12/NY1

**U. S. NAVY YARD
Portsmouth, N. H.**

1 November 1944.

- From: Commandant.
 To: Commandant, FIRST Naval District.
 Subj: War Diary for Portsmouth Navy Yard for October 1944.
 Ref: (a) CominCh Restr. FF1/A12-1/A16-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October 1943; R-1531 of N.D. Bul., Vol. III, No. 9, of 1 November 1943. B
 (b) 1st Nav.Dist. ltr. A12-1/ND1 of 25 November 1943.
 (c) Comdt. NYd, Portsmouth, N.H., ltr. A12/NY1 of 1 December 1943, to ComOne.

1. Complying with references (a) and (b), War Diary of the Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N. H., for the month of October, 1944, is submitted as follows. B
2. There has been no change in the mission and functions of this activity from those stated in paragraph 2, reference (c).
3. Chronological record of important events at this activity for October 1944, is as follows:

1 October 1944.

Under construction: U.S.S. LIONFISH* (SS298); U.S.S. MANTA* (SS299); U.S.S. TENCH (SS417); U.S.S. THORNBACK (SS418); U.S.S. TIGRONE (SS419); U.S.S. TIRANTE (SS420); U.S.S. TRUTTA (SS421); U.S.S. TORO (SS422); U.S.S. TORSK (SS423); U.S.S. QUILLBACK (SS424); U.S.S. ARGONAUT (SS475); U.S.S. RUNNER (SS476); U.S.S. CONGER (SS477); U.S.S. CUTLASS (SS478); U.S.S. DIABLO (SS479); U.S.S. MEDREGAL (SS480); U.S.S. REQUIN (SS481).
 Conducting intensive training and preparation for war service: U.S.S. SENNET (SS408); U.S.S. PIPER (SS409); U.S.S. THREADFIN (SS410).
 Under overhaul: U.S.S. MARLIN (SS205); U.S.S. PENGUIN (ASR 12); Italian submarine MAMELI.
 Launched U.S.S. QUILLBACK (SS424) and U.S.S. ARGONAUT (SS475).

2 October 1944.

U.S.S. IREX (SS482) keel laid.

*Note: Hulls received from Cramp Shipbuilding Corp. for completion.

"c"

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In reply address not the signer of this letter, but Commandant, Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

REFER TO NO.

A12/NY1

**U. S. NAVY YARD
Portsmouth, N. H.**

CONFIDENTIAL

1 October 1944.

From: Commandant.
To: Commandant, FIRST Naval District.
Subj: War Diary for Portsmouth Navy Yard for September 1944.
Ref: (a) CominCh Restr. FF1/A12-1/A16-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October 1943; R-1531 of N.D. Bul., Vol. III, No. 9, of 1 November 1943.
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1. Complying with references (a) and (b), War Diary of the Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N. H., for the month of September 1944, is submitted as follows.
2. There has been no change in the mission and functions of this activity from those stated in paragraph 2, reference (c).
3. Chronological record of important events at this activity for September 1944, is as follows:

1 September 1944.

Under construction: U.S.S. LIONFISH * (SS298); U.S.S. MANTA *(SS299); U.S.S. SENNET (SS408); U.S.S. PIPER (SS409); U.S.S. THREADFIN (SS410); U.S.S. TENCH (SS417); U.S.S. THORNBAC (SS418); U.S.S. TIGRONE (SS419); U.S.S. TIRANTE (SS420); U.S.S. TRUTTA (SS421); U.S.S. TORO (SS422); U.S.S. TORSK (SS423); U.S.S. QUILLBACK (SS424); U.S.S. ARGONAUT (SS475); U.S.S. RUNNER (SS476); U.S.S. CONGER (SS477); U.S.S. CUTLASS (SS478); U.S.S. DIABLO (SS479); U.S.S. MEDREGAL (SS480); U.S.S. REQUIN (SS481).
 Conducting intensive training and preparation for war service: U.S.S. SEA POACHER (SS406); U.S.S. SEA ROBIN (SS407).
 Under overhaul: Italian submarines TITO SPERI and MAMELI.

2 September 1944.

No remarks.

*Note: Hulls received from Cramp Shipbuilding Corporation for completion.

SECRET

4 October 1944

UNIT		TASK	PRESENT	FORCE	LOCATION	REMARKS
I	II	III	IV			V
<u>SUBMARINES PACIFIC FLEET</u>						
(3701)	AS-REGIR	25	N.London			Training
(3702)	AS-ANTHEDON	25	do			Trng;dpt 10/11 for CZ;rpt CinCPac
(3703)	AS-POLLO (1)		NYdNYk			FO-RFS abt 10/19
<u>SUBRON-4</u>						
<u>SUBDIV-46</u>						
(3704)	BLUEBACK	25	At Sea			arr Key West 10/9
<u>SUBRON-24</u>						
<u>SUBDIV-241</u>						
(3705)	DEVILFISH (F)	25	N.London			Training until abt 10/7
(3706)	HACKLEBACK (1)		Cramp SB Co.			Comp.Bldg. 11/1
<u>SUBRON-26</u>						
<u>SUBDIV-262</u>						
(3707)	BLOWER	25	Key West			To pred C.Z. 10/10;rpt CinCPac
<u>SUBRON-30</u>						
<u>SUBDIV-301</u>						
(3708)	BOARFISH (F)	25	N.London			Training until 10/26
(3709)	KRAKIN (1)		N.Orleans			Dpt abt 10/8 for CZ;train
(3710)	CHARR (FF)	25	Newport			Training until 10/26
(3711)	CHUB	25	N.London			Training
(3712)	LEGARTO (1)		Manitowoc			SB Co. Comp.Bldg. 10/10
<u>SUBDIV-302</u>						
(3713)	BRILL (F)(1)		Elec.Bt.Co.			Comp.Bldg. 10/24
<u>SUBRON-32</u>						
<u>SUBDIV-321</u>						
(3714)	SEL ROBIN (F)	25	At Sea			ComSubDiv-321 in SEL ROBIN arr CZ 10/12;rpt CinCPac
(3715)	SENNET (FF)	25	Portsmouth			Training until abt 10/14
(3716)	PIPER	25	Newport			Training
(3717)	THREADFIN	25	Portsmouth			Training until abt 10/24
(3718)	TENCH (1)		NYdPorts			Comp.Bldg. 10/20
(3719)	THORNBACK (1)		do			do 10/27

(1) Upon reporting.

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WAR DIARY FOR OCTOBER, 1944 (Cont'd)

5 October 1944 -

No Remarks.

6 October 1944 -

PIPER departed Newport, Rhode Island, for Bar Harbor, Maine, to conduct special torpedo firing tests.

SENNET arrived Newport, Rhode Island from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to conduct contract torpedo trials.

TENCH placed in commission at Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

SPIKEFISH and SEA OWL reported to Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet for duty in the Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet and departed Canal Zone for Pearl Harbor.

7 October 1944 -

PIPER arrived Bar Harbor, Maine, from Newport, Rhode Island.

CHARR arrived New London, Connecticut, from Newport, Rhode Island.

FNS AMAZONE departed Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for New London, Connecticut.

RIS ATROPO departed Gibraltar for Bermuda, B.W.I.

8 October 1944 -

BOARFISH departed New London, Connecticut, for Newport, Rhode Island, to conduct contract torpedo trials.

KRAKEN departed New Orleans, Louisiana, for Canal Zone.

FNS AMAZONE arrived New London, Connecticut, from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

S-14 departed New London, Connecticut, for Casco Bay, Maine, to relieve S-20.

S-20 departed Casco Bay, Maine, arrived New London, Connecticut.

DANIEL T. GRIFFIN (DE54) departed New London, Connecticut, for Boston, Massachusetts, for availability.

9 October 1944 -

S-14 arrived Casco Bay, Maine, from New London, Connecticut.

BLUEBACK arrived Key West, Florida, from New London, Connecticut.

CONFIDENTIAL

AL2/NY1 1 November 1944.
Subj: War Diary for Portsmouth Navy Yard for October 1944.

3 October 1944.

U.S.S. PIPER (SS409) departed for New London Area.

4-5 October 1944.

No remarks.

6 October 1944.

U.S.S. SENNET (SS408) departed for New London Area.
U.S.S. TENCH (SS417) commissioned.

7-9 October 1944.

No remarks.

10 October 1944.

U.S.S. THREADFIN (SS410) departed for New London Area.

11-12 October 1944.

No remarks.

13 October 1944.

U.S.S. THORNBAC (SS418) commissioned.

14-16 October 1944.

No remarks.

17 October 1944.

U.S.S. RUNNER (SS476) and U.S.S. CONGER (SS477)
launched. Italian submarine DANDOLO arrived for
overhaul.

18-24 October 1944.

No remarks.

25 October 1944.

U.S.S. TIGRONE (SS419) commissioned.

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CONFIDENTIALWAR DIARY FOR NOVEMBER, 1944 (Cont'd)12 November 1944 -

BRILL conducted deep submergence test in New London Area.

LAGARTO departed New Orleans, La., for Canal Zone.

S-48 arrived Philadelphia, Pa., from New London, Conn., for assigned availability.

APOLLO(AS25) arrived Canal Zone from New London, Conn., and reported to Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet for duty.

13 November 1944 -

BLOWER departed New London, Conn., for Canal Zone.

HACKLEBACK arrived New London, Conn., from Philadelphia, Pa., for shakedown and training.

14 November 1944 -

TENCH arrived Newport, R.I., from Portsmouth, N.H., to conduct contract torpedo trials.

CHARR arrived Canal Zone from New London, Conn.

SEMMES departed Boston, Mass., for New London, Conn.

15 November 1944 -

THORNBACK arrived Newport, R.I., from Portsmouth, N.H., to conduct contract torpedo trials.

BUGARA placed in commission at New London, Conn.

PENGUIN departed New London, Conn., for Boston, Mass., YF312 in tow.

SEMMES arrived New London, Conn., from Boston, Mass.

THREADFIN, BOARFISH, and DEVILFISH reported to Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet for duty in the Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet and departed Canal Zone for Pearl Harbor, T.H.

RICHEY (DE385) arrived New London, Conn., from Boston, Mass., and reported for temporary duty in Task Force 25.

A16-3/A4-3/(0011)

SUBMARINES, ATLANTIC FLEET**SECRET**
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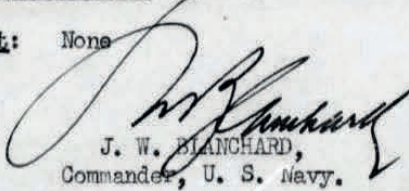
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WAR DIARY

1-30 November 1944

Designation: Commander Task Group 25.5 (New Construction Submarines,
Operating New London, Connecticut Area.)

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- 15 November - BUGARA commissioned. Commenced commissioning and outfitting period.
 - 18 November - TENCH arrived New London, Conn. from Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I. and reported for temporary duty in Task Group 25.5 for Training Operations.
 - 19 November - THORNBACK arrived New London, Conn. from Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I. and reported for temporary duty in Task Group 25.5 for Training Operations.
 - 23 November - HACKLEBACK conducted one day patrol and deep submergence test.
 - 25 November - CHUB departed New London, Conn. for Key West, Florida for temporary duty with Fleet Sound School and onward routing.
 - 26 November - HACKLEBACK departed New London, Conn. for Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I. for Contract Torpedo Trials.
 - 28 November - BUGARA departed New London, Conn. for Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I. for Contract Torpedo Trials.
 - 29 November - HACKLEBACK returned New London, Conn. from Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I. Resumed Training Operations.

Torpedoes Expended in Training:Torpedo Number 65665 by U.S.S. BLOWER on 11 November 1944,
during exercise firing.Important Orders Received and Decisions Reached: None.Other Remarks of Historical Interest: None

 J. W. BLANCHARD,
 Commander, U. S. Navy.

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A16-3/M-3/(0016)

SUBMARINES, ATLANTIC FLEET

SECRET

c/o Fleet Post Office, New York, N. Y.

WAR DIARY
1-31 December 1944

Designation: Commander Task Group 25.5 (New Construction Submarines, Operating New London, Connecticut Area).

Composition: 25.5 - New Construction Submarines, New London, Conn., U.S.S. TENCH, U.S.S. THORNBACK, U.S.S. BRILL, U.S.S. BUGARA, U.S.S. HACKLEBACK.

Designation of Next Higher Echelon: Commander Task Force 25. (Commander Submarines, U.S. Atlantic Fleet).

Effective Operation Plan of Immediate Superior: Commander Task Force 25 Operation Plan 1-44 of March 1, 1944, received 15 March 1944.

Changes to the Tasks of this Group since above plan was issued: None.

Brief of Operations of this Group: Conducted intensified training and material preparation for war operations.

December 1944:

- TENCH - Training Operations
- THORNBACK - Training Operations
- BRILL - Training Operations
- BUGARA - Training Operations
- HACKLEBACK - Training Operations

Changes from the above:

- 2 December - BUGARA returned New London, Conn. from Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I. Resumed Training Operations.
- 4 December - BULLHEAD commissioned. Commenced commissioning and outfitting period.
BUGARA conducted one day patrol and deep submergence test.
- 7 December - BRILL departed New London, Conn. for Balboa, C.Z. and onward routing.
- 8 December - THORNBACK returned Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N. H. for installation of various new equipment and to conduct certain special tests as prescribed by the Bureau of Ships and Bureau of Ordnance. Captain Leon N. BLAIR, U.S. Navy designated as Commander Task Group 25.5 by Commander Task Force 25.
- 9 December - BUMPER commissioned. Commenced commissioning and outfitting period.
TIGRONE arrived New London, Conn. from Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I. and reported for temporary duty in Task Group 25.5 for Training Operations.

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CONFIDENTIALWAR DIARY FOR DECEMBER, 1944 (Cont'd)18 December 1944 -

HNMS O-21 arrived New London, Conn., from Philadelphia, Pa.

RIS MAREA arrived Key West, Fla., from Port Everglades, Fla.

R-1 departed Bermuda, B.W.I., for New London, Conn.

FNS LeCENTAURE departed Philadelphia, Pa., for New London, Conn.

HACKLEBACK departed New London, Conn., for Key West, Fla.

DECATUR (DD341) departed New London, Conn., for Boston, Mass., for assigned availability.

MANTA placed in commission at Portsmouth, N.H.

19 December 1944 -

R-6 departed Bermuda, B.W.I., for New London, Conn.

FNS LeCENTAURE arrived New London, Conn., from Philadelphia, Pa.

20 December 1944 -

TENCH departed New London, Conn., for Key West, Fla., for onward routing to the Canal Zone.

RICHEY (DE385) departed New London, Conn., for Casco Bay, Me., duty in Task Force 25 completed.

NAWAT (YNT23) arrived Mayport, Fla., from New London, Conn.

21 December 1944 -

TIRANTE and LIONFISH arrived New London, Conn., from Newport, R.I.

BULLHEAD departed New London, Conn., for Newport, R.I., to conduct contract torpedo trials.

22 December 1944 -

LAMPREY arrived Canal Zone from New Orleans, La.

R-1 arrived New London, Conn., from Bermuda, B.W.I.

HMS TRUCULENT arrived Philadelphia, Pa., from St. John's, Newfoundland.

CONFIDENTIALWAR DIARY FOR DECEMBER, 1944 (Cont'd)23 December 1944 -

BULLHEAD arrived New London, Conn., from Newport, R.I.

R-6 arrived New London, Conn., from Bermuda, B.W.I.

S-14 departed Casco Bay, Me., for New London, Conn.

BRILL reported to Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet for duty in the Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet and departed Canal Zone for Pearl Harbor, T.H.

24 December 1944 -

HACKLEBACK arrived Key West, Fla., from New London, Conn.

S-14 arrived New London, Conn., from Casco Bay, Me.

25 December 1944 -

CHUB departed Key West, Fla., for Canal Zone.

BUGARA departed New London, Conn., for Canal Zone.

26 December 1944 -

TENCH arrived Key West, Fla., from New London, Conn., for onward routing to Canal Zone.

S-20 departed New London, Conn., for Casco Bay, Me., for services to Task Group 23.9.

27 December 1944 -

TENCH departed Key West, Fla., for Canal Zone.

TRUTTA arrived Newport, R.I., from Portsmouth, N.H., to conduct contract torpedo trials.

S-20 arrived Casco Bay, Me., from New London, Conn.

28 December 1944 -

BUMPER conducted deep submergence test in New London Area.

FNS ANTOIPE departed Key West, Fla., for Philadelphia, Pa., for assigned availability.

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CONFIDENTIALWAR DIARY FOR DECEMBER, 1944 (Cont'd)29 December 1944 -

CHUB arrived Canal Zone from Key West, Fla.

DECATUR (DD341) arrived New London, Conn., from Boston, Mass.

QUILLBACK placed in commission at Portsmouth, N.H.

30 December 1944 -

DENTUDA and CABEZON placed in commission at Submarine Base, New London, Conn.

R-11 departed Key West, Fla., for Port Everglades, Fla., for services to Anti-Submarine Development Detachment, Atlantic Fleet.

LIZARDFISH placed in commission at Manitowoc, Wis.

31 December 1944 -

TIGRONE departed New London, Conn., for Key West, Fla.

TENCH arrived Canal Zone from Key West, Fla.

DECATUR(DD341) departed New London, Conn., for Boston, Mass., for assigned availability.

R-13 departed Port Everglades, Fla., for Key West, Fla.

R-11 arrived Port Everglades, Fla., from Key West, Fla.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. Dempsey
J.C. DEMPSEY,
Commander US Navy,
Operations Officer.

Approved:

C. W. Styer
C.W. STYER,
Rear Admiral, US Navy,
Commander Submarines, Atlantic Fleet.