

CONFIDENTIAL

(L) RADIO

U.S.S. CHIMAN WAR PATROL NO. TWO

Radio conditions were satisfactory.

The RBH receiver which replaces one of the original RAL receivers is definitely inferior to the RAL. This replacement was made prior to first patrol and inferior performance was experienced during first patrol. During the past refit, overhaul of the set produced no improvement so a new RBH set was installed. During second patrol inferior performance was again experienced. The main fault of the RBH is an excessively high noise to signal ratio.

While on lifeguard duty particularly, two good high frequency receivers are needed. It is requested that the RBH be replaced with an RAL.

(M) RADAR

(a) The performance of the SJ-1 radar was satisfactory throughout the patrol except for the presence of abnormal minor lobes. The set itself was not out of commission during patrol, but hand train was necessary for a few hours when the speed-reversing control burned out. Two 5U4G tubes in the regulated rectifier unit were replaced during a routine check.

(b) The SD-4 radar performed satisfactorily throughout the patrol. The set was out of commission for about one-half hour when the preamplifier power transformer burned out. With the preamplifier unit bypassed, maximum range for aircraft contacts became 22 miles whereas with the preamplifier in use the maximum range had been about 10 miles. One 905 CRT replaced, old one having a loose end connection. The APR/SPA set performed satisfactorily. The IFF was turned on during lifeguard duty, but no responses were received.

(N) SOUND GEAR AND SOUND CONDITIONS

(a) Sound gear performed satisfactorily until last few days of patrol except for frequent breakdowns of the TDM micro switch. On the night of 21 March 1945, speed was increased to 18 knots with the QB head lowered. Speed was immediately reduced and the head ordered raised. The head would not raise at slow speed, and it was noted that the head was revolving at slower than normal speed. The cause of this derangement is not known.

The QB-TDM was in operation whenever ship's speed was less than 14 knots during daylight and moonlight. This time period included the greater portion of time spent on patrol.

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(O) DENSITY LAYERS

U.S.S. CAIMAN

WAR PATROL NO. TWO

No remarks.

(P) HEALTH, FOOD AND HABITABILITY

(a) Health of the crew was excellent, there being only 11 sick days.

(b) Food was adequate. Commissary personnel problems to departure adversely affected performance of the department. Great improvement is expected on the next patrol.

(c) Habitability was excellent.

(Q) PERSONNEL

The performance of duty of all personnel was highly satisfactory.

(a) Number of men on board during patrol	77
(b) Number of men qualified at start of patrol	58
(c) Number of men qualified at end of patrol	66
(d) Number of unqualified men making their first patrol	9
(e) Number of men advanced in rating during patrol	4

(R) MILES STEAMED - FUEL USED

Fremantle to Area	3551 miles	-	41502 gallons
In Area	6914		48343
Area to Subic	1225		12255

(S) DURATION

Days enroute Area	6
Days in Area	37
Days enroute Subic	5
Days submerged	7

(T) FACTORS OF ENDURANCE REMAINING

Torpedoes 18. Fuel 15,000 gals. Provisions 10 days. Personnel Factor Indeterminate. Limiting Factor for this patrol: Orders to proceed to base.

(U) RADIO AND RADAR COUNTERMEASURES

No information.

SUBMARINE SQUADRON TWENTY SIX

FC5-26/A16-3
Serial 080

Care of Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California.

14 April 1945.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
U.S.S. CAIMAN (SS323)
Report of Second
War Patrol.

From: The Commander Submarine Squadron TWENTY SIX.
To : The Commander-in-Chief, UNITED STATES FLEET.
Via : (1) The Commander Submarines, SEVENTH FLEET.
(2) The Commander SEVENTH FLEET.

Subject: U.S.S. CAIMAN (SS323) - Report of Second War Patrol.

1. The second war patrol of U.S.S. CAIMAN under command of Lieutenant Commander W. L. FEY, Jr., U.S.N., his first patrol as Commanding Officer, started at Fremantle, W.A. on 18 February 1945 and ended at Subic Bay, P.I., on 6 April 1945. Forty-one days were spent north of the Malay Barrier, the last three of which were enroute to Subic; seven days were spent submerged. The patrol was conducted in the South China Sea off the east coast of the Malay Peninsula and entrance to the Gulf of Siam the first portion in coordination with PINTADO, the latter portion with PAMPANITO, MINGO and SEALION. Various lifeguard duties were assigned but effectiveness on this duty was almost nullified by numerous enemy air contacts and lack of friendly air cover.

2. Area coverage was dictated by the Group Commanders, at times submarines of the group patrolling as far as 30 miles off shore were directed to conduct submerged patrol. Generally good area coverage was maintained while CAIMAN was acting independently or as group commander. Only one worthwhile contact was made during the patrol, this was developed into a torpedo attack.

TORPEDO ATTACK No. 1. While at periscope depth about 5 miles east of Pula Kapas two small freighters were sighted on a southeasterly course. Because of flat calm and shallow water, use of high speed during the approach to obtain a favorable range, was not possible. Four steam torpedoes were fired from the bow tubes at a range of about 4,000 yards using 120° port track. Three splashes seen, one ahead and two astern of the target and three explosions heard, believed at the time to be aircraft depth bombs, were probably three of the torpedoes exploding in shallow water at the end of their run. Since the target was not kept under observation it is possible that the fourth torpedo hit, this possibility warrants a check of aircraft reports of ships damaged in this vicinity.

FC5-26/A16-3
Serial 080

SUBMARINE SQUADRON TWENTY SIX

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

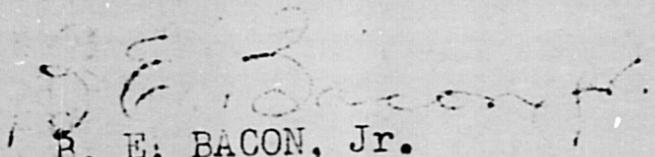
14 April 1945.

Subject: U.S.S. CAIMAN (SS323) - Report of Second War Patrol.

3. On return from patrol one ship's cook, who had been handling food until two days before arrival, was found to have syphillis; a medical examination will be given all personnel before their departure on patrol. Otherwise the health of the crew was excellent and despite the disheartening results of the patrol morale was good.

4. Material condition of CAIMAN was very good and a normal refit will be given by ANYHEDON and Submarine Division Two Sixty-Two Relief Crew.

5. The Squadron Commander welcomes the officers and crew of CAIMAN and regrets their lack of opportunity to inflict damage during an arduous patrol.


B. E. BACON, Jr.

Serial 0769

30 April 1945

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to:
USS CAIMAN Conf. Ltr.
A16-3 Serial 021 dated
6 April 1945. Report
of Second War Patrol.

From: The Commander Submarines SEVENTH FLEET.
To: The Commander in Chief, UNITED STATES FLEET.
Via: The Commander SEVENTH FLEET.

Subject: U.S.S. CAIMAN (SS323) - Report of Second War
Patrol - Comment an.

1. The Second War Patrol of the CAIMAN was the first in command for Lieutenant Commander W. L. FEY, Jr., U.S.N. The Patrol was conducted in the SOUTH CHINA SEA off the east coast of MALAYA, and in the entrance to the GULF of SIAM. CAIMAN was a member of a coordinated group consisting of PAMPANITO (OTC), MINGO, SEALION and CAIMAN.
2. On 27 March the only attack of the patrol took place. Four torpedoes fired at long range missed two small marus proceeding along the coast of MALAYA near PULO KAPAS.
3. It is of interest to note that on seventeen days during which aircraft were sighted, fifteen contacts were made generally between the hours of 0930 and 1230. The regularity with which this air patrol was sighted conceivably indicates periodic enemy discovery of CAIMAN's general location and possibly offers an explanation for the paucity of enemy traffic in CAIMAN's area during that period.
4. Lifeguard services were preformed on three occasions during the patrol.
5. The award of the Submarine Combat Insignia is not authorized for this patrol.
6. The Force Commander congratulates the Commanding Officer, Officers and Crew of the CAIMAN on the completion of this arduous patrol and upon their performance of lifeguard duties.

James Fife
JAMES FIFE.
ORIGINAL COPY.

6 0581

FE24-71/A16-3

UNITED STATES NAVY

14/pr

Serial 0769

30 April 1945

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to:
USS CAIMAN Conf. Ltr.
A16-3 Serial 021 dated
6 April 1945. Report
of Second War Patrol.

Subject: U.S.S. CAIMAN (SS323) - Report of Second War
Patrol - Comment on.

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CTG-71.5	(2)		S/Ms 7thFlt	(2)
CTG-71.8	(2)			

THIS REPORT WILL BE DESTROYED PRIOR TO
ENTRY INTO ENEMY CONTROLLED WATERS.

J. B. Miller
J. B. MILLER,
Flag Secretary.

SEVENTH FLEET
COMNAVSTA
19 MAY 1945
RECEIVED

38571

UNITED STATES FLEET
COMMANDER SEVENTH FLEET

26

Reg. No.	F446
R.S. No.	6 0581

Al6-3(8)(F-3-4/ekb)

Serial: 03007

CONFIDENTIAL

5-03419

THIRD ENDORSEMENT on:
USS CAIMAN conf. ltr.,
serial 021 dated 6
April 1945.

23 MAY 1945

From: Commander Seventh Fleet.
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Subject: U.S.S. CAIMAN (SS323) - Report of Second
War Patrol.
1. Forwarded.

5

RHL
was

J. H. Long
J. H. LONG
By direction

JT 20