

Serial 0014.

**SECRET**Subject: War Diary for the month of May 1944.  
-----

(c) At 0315 "Yellow" NAPLES was sounded. 0319 "Red" NAPLES; sounded General Quarters. 0345 "White" NAPLES; secured from General Quarters.

25 May

(a) Steaming in company with U.S.S. MACKENZIE and U.S.S. ORDRONAUUX enroute to MALTA. At entrance to NE channel to Valetta Harbor, MALTA, doubt existed as to position of ship with respect to channel. Steamed to eastward to make channel entrance for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Turned to enter channel and shortly thereafter sighted mine close aboard to port. It was an old moored mine that had apparently broken adrift. Its position was reported to authorities at MALTA and warning was given to an outbound Hospital ship which was passed  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour later. Entered MALTA Harbor. Strong NE (tail) wind and sea. 1105 Moored starboard side to H.M.S. DIDO.

(b) Carried out diving operations to obtain further estimates of damage received as a result of collision with LAUB. Commanding Officer had conference with local authorities concerning work to be accomplished.

(c) Continued work of clearing stores from bow compartments and of clearing wreckage and dead electrical circuits.

26 May

(a) Discharged fuel oil and transferred ammunition preparatory to entering dry dock.

27 May

(a) At 1110 Commander E.M. Ragsdale, USN reported aboard in accordance with Comnavnav secret orders.

(b) As per prearranged plan, shifted berth at 1755 and entered drydock #4, French Creek, Valetta, MALTA, Dry dock not emptied until following morning.

28 May

(a) Dry dock pumped down, further inspections were made of damaged bow and clearing work continued.

(b) Commanding Officer, Commander Ragsdale, USN, Repair Officer, USNOB, Palermo., and local dockyard officials held conference on board this vessel concerning repairs to be undertaken.