

Ship's History USS SCABBARDFISH (SS397)

The fleet-type submarine Scabbardfish, veteran of five war patrols in the Pacific area, was launched on Jan. 27, 1944 and commissioned on April 29 at the Navy Shipyard, Portsmouth, N. H.

After shakedown and training cruises in New London and Key West, Fla., the Scabbardfish departed for Panama on July 1, 1944, arriving ~~there~~ on July 5.

On July 24 Scabbardfish arrived in Pearl Harbor, for duty with Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

On August 17, 1944 the Scabbardfish departed Pearl Harbor for her first war patrol, arriving in Midway for fuel on August 21, 1944. Crossing the International Date Line the following day, the Scabbardfish set course for Mansei Shoto area, her war patrol station.

On August 31 the submarine made her first enemy contact, a small steamer and two escorts. Torpedo attacks on these vessels were unsuccessful.

Arriving on station on Sept. 2 the Scabbardfish patrolled until Sept. 19, before sighting an enemy ship, a 5,500-ton submarine tender. Two hits damaged the tender.

The Scabbardfish took a severe depth charging for three hours after firing three torpedoes at an enemy escort vessel, and missing. Remainder of patrol, after shifting to an area north-east of Formosa was uneventful. She departed this area on October 1, for Midway and refit. The patrol lasted for 56 days.

The second patrol was in Nampo Shoto and south-eastern Honshu area, arriving in area on November 16. Her assignment was lifeguard duty for the first



Marianas based B-29 strikes on Japan. During the 49-day patrol the Scabbardfish sunk a small ~~freighter~~ <sup>cargo vessel</sup>, a 5000-ton ~~ship~~, and a Jap submarine; also damaged a 4,000-ton freighter/

Arriving in Guam on December 20 the Scabbardfish underwent refit, and on Jan. 16, 1945, departed for Saipan to conduct extensive training in Wolf Pack tactics. <sup>Upon</sup> ~~on~~ completion of training on January 23, <sup>she</sup> departed Saipan in company with submarine Flalice for patrol in north Philippine waters and southern Nansei Shoto area.

<sup>Scabbardfish</sup> On February 27, conducted surface battle ~~on~~ 12 luggers and one armed trawler. One 100-ton lugger was damaged before the Scabbardfish was forced to dive from air attacks by the enemy. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

On March 4, 1945 the Scabbardfish arrived in Saipan for fuel, and departed for Pearl Harbor for refit.

Having completed refit and training, the submarine departed for Guam, arriving on April 26, 1945. She underwent ~~voage~~  <sup>voyage</sup> repairs and fuelled for her fourth war patrol, which was ~~to be~~ in the East China ~~XXXX~~ and Yellow Seas area. She arrived on station on May 7.

An attack on a small freighter and two escorts resulted in no hits. The Scabbardfish was depth charged for four hours before she was able to surface again. Outside of routine lifeguard duty it was an uneventful patrol which lasted for 54 days.

Arriving in Guam on June 11 ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ the Scabbardfish stayed ~~there~~ long enough for refit, and on July 5, 1945, proceeded on her fifth patrol which

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was held off Iwo Jima. Her assignment was lifeguard duty and lasted 51 days.

During that time she recovered six Navy fighter pilots, who ~~were killed in the~~

~~the war~~

The final patrol of the Scabbardfish ended on August 25, 1945 when it arrived in Pearl Harbor.

HP

The Joint Army-Navy Assessment Committee formed during WWII to evaluate Japanese navy and merchant shipping loss, credited the Scabbardfish with the sinking of 2,345 tons of shipping.



USS SCABBARDFISH (SS397)

SCABBARDFISH was laid down on 27 September 1943 by the Portsmouth Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N.H.; launched on 27 January 1944; sponsored by Ensign Nancy J. Schetky; and commissioned on 29 April 1944, Lieutenant Commander F. A. Gunn in command.

After completing initial training at Portsmouth, N.H., and torpedo trials at Newport, R.I., SCABBARDFISH reported to the Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic, New London, Conn., for advance training and final outfitting. Upon completion thereof, she sailed to Key West, Fla., for ASW duties which began on 21 June 1944. On 1 July, she departed for Panama, Canal Zone. Four days later, she transited the canal en route to the west coast and Pearl Harbor.

SCABBARDFISH, as a unit of Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet, arrived at Pearl Harbor on 24 July. After completing voyage repairs and final training, she departed for Midway Island on 17 August. After refueling there, she departed on her first war patrol in the Ryukyu Islands area.

On 31 August, she sighted her first enemy ships, an inter-island steamer with two escorts. SCABBARDFISH fired two spreads of three torpedoes but all missed. After a light depth charge attack, she surfaced and continued steaming west.

On 19 September, west of Okinawa, she damaged a 5,500-ton Jingei-class submarine tender with two hits. She also fired a spread "down the throat" of a Chidori-class escort but missed. As a consequence, she underwent a depth charge attack for three hours but suffered no damage. The remainder of her patrol proved fruitless, and the submarine returned to Midway Island, on 12 October, for refitting. Two weeks later, she sailed to Saipan, Mariana Islands, for further orders.

SCABBARDFISH departed Saipan on 12 November to patrol in the seas southeast of Honshu. She arrived at her designated patrol area on the 16th and sank a 2,100-ton inter-island steamer that day. Six days later, she sank the 875-ton Kisaragi Maru and damaged a 4,000-ton freighter. On 28 November, she sank the Japanese submarine I-365, picking up one lone survivor named Sasaki.

SCABBARDFISH completed her patrol at Guam on 20 December 1944; remained there until 16 January 1945; and, then, sailed to Saipan. Upon arrival there, she underwent intensive training in wolfpack tactics. Her third war patrol began on 23 January when she began patrolling the sea lanes between the Philippine and Ryukyu islands. In late February, she engaged 12 luggers and a trawler with her deck gun but was forced to submerge by an enemy plane. She was bombed but suffered no damage. She returned to Saipan on 6 March and was ordered to return to Pearl Harbor for refitting.

SCABBARDFISH returned to Guam in late April and underwent voyage repairs by HOLLAND (AS-3). On the 29th, she departed for the East China Sea. A change of orders assigned her to the Life Guard League; and on 4 May, she rescued five crewmen from a ditched B-29. They were transferred to PICUDA (SS382) two days later, and SCABBARDFISH continued to the Yellow Sea area. On 17 May, SCABBARDFISH fired a spread of torpedoes at a small freighter which was accompanied by two escorts. This proved to be a hunter-killer group; and, when the



the torpedoes missed, they subjected the submarine to a grueling four-hour depth charge attack. The submarine sustained no serious damage and returned to Guam on 11 June to be refitted by APOLLO (AS25).

SCABBARDFISH began her fifth, and last, war patrol on 1 July with another assignment to the Life Guard League. During the period 25 July - 10 August, she rescued seven pilots. When she returned to Saipan on 15 August, the cease fire had gone into effect, and SCABBARDFISH sailed to Pearl Harbor. She sailed from there on 6 September under orders which sent her to Eniwetok for ASW training duties. She remained there for a month; sailed to Guam for a month; and, on 14 November, stood out of Apra Harbor en route to San Francisco, via Midway Island. On 29 November 1945, the submarine arrived at Mare Island for her first over haul, which was not completed until mid-march 1946.

SCABBARDFISH operated along the west coast until 17 March 1947 when she entered the San Francisco Naval Shipyard for her second major overhaul. The submarine departed directly from drydock, on 8 August, for San Diego. One month later, she called at Pearl Harbor for a few days and then continued sailing west on a simulated war patrol. After visiting the Palau Islands, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Tsingtao, and Okinawa, she returned to San Diego on 11 December 1947.

On 3 January 1948, she was underway for Mare Island and, two days later, reported to the Pacific Reserve Fleet for inactivation. In February 1948, she was placed in reserve, out of commission, and berthed at Mare Island. SCABBARDFISH remained there until October 1964 when she was again placed in commission, preparatory to transferring her to the government of Greece. She was officially transferred to the Royal Hellenic Navy, on 26 February 1965, and served as TRIANA (S-86).

SCABBARDFISH received five battle stars for World War II service.

DISPLACEMENT - 1,525 tons surfaced, 2,415 tons submerged

LENGTH - 311'8"

BEAM - 27'3"

DRAFT - 15'3"

SPEED - 20 knots surface, 8.75 knots submerged

COMPLEMENT - 80

ARMAMENT - 10 21" torpedo tubes, 1 40mm, 1 20mm

CLASS - BALAO