

REPORT OF CONVOY

PILOT: Lieutenant Messick.

REAR GUNNER: Sgt. A. H. Taylor.

1. Attached hereto is a sketch-map of convoy, as seen by pilot at time of attack.

2. Date: March 3, 1943.  
Location: Approximately 0710S-14750E.  
Time: 1000/L.

3. Attack made on AP No. 1 travelling 80° course, 8-10,000 tons, speed undetermined. Attack made amidship from course of 360° at an estimated air-speed of 260 miles per hour. No. A/A observed from attacked ship.

4. The altitude of attack, between mast height and deck-level. Both bombs dropped simultaneously. AP strafed on route to start bombing run. One bomb-hit observed. No particular evasive action of enemy AA used.

5. Nil enemy A/C were observed.

6. Nil enemy A/C tactics were observed.

7. 150 x .50 - 350 x .30 calibre ammunition expended in one strafing attack on AP No. 1. 2 x 500 # demolition bombs (1-4 to 5 sec. delay, tail-fused, nil nose fused, and 1-8 to 11 sec. delay tail-fused, nil nose-fused.)

8. Observations: One bomb-hit on AP No. 1, later seen to explode.  
Hit by B-25 skip-bombing on DD No. 2.  
DD No. 3 standing s till.  
AP No. 4 observed to be burning.  
Beaufighters observed strafing ships throughout the convoy.  
Warships protecting convoy observed to be on constant patrol on outer edges, circling the convoyed merchantmen and transports.

9. Nil enemy A/C observed.

10. No comment on tactics employed in attack on convoy, other than those which we followed had proved successful.

