**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

U.S. Navy Submarines Losses, Selected Accidents, and Selected Incidents of Damage Resulting from Enemy Action, Chronological

**Submarines Lost Through Enemy Action**

**Submarines Lost Through Accidents and Perils of the Sea**

**Selected Submarine Accidents/Damage From Enemy Action**

**Sources**

Submarine Lost Through Enemy Action

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submarine</th>
<th>Date of Loss</th>
<th>Casualties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shark</td>
<td>11 Feb 42</td>
<td>59 killed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunk by Japanese destroyer Yamakaze; Makassar Strait, 120 miles east of Menado, Celebes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perch</td>
<td>3 Mar 42</td>
<td>60 POWs, 6 later died</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scuttled after severe damage from Japanese destroyers Ushio and Sazanami.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grunion</td>
<td>31 Jul 42</td>
<td>70 killed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Sunk by gunfire from torpedoed Japanese transport Kashima Maru; 10 miles north Segula, near Kiska Island, Aleutians.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argonaut</td>
<td>10 Jan 43</td>
<td>104 killed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Sunk by aircraft (582d Kokutai) and Japanese destroyers Isokaze and Maikaze southeast of New Britain in Solomon Sea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amberjack</td>
<td>14 Feb 43</td>
<td>74 killed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Probably sunk by combined efforts of a Japanese seaplane (958th Kokutai), torpedo boat Hiyodori, and submarine chaser Ch 18 off Cape St. George, New Britain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grampus</td>
<td>Feb or Mar 43</td>
<td>71 killed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunk either by Japanese naval aircraft (958th Kokutai) southeast of New Britain on 19 February or by destroyer Minegumo in Blackett Strait on the night of 5-6 March.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triton</td>
<td>15 Mar 43</td>
<td>74 killed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunk either by Japanese destroyer Satsuki or submarine chaser Ch 24 north of Admiralty Islands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickerel</td>
<td>3 Apr 43</td>
<td>74 killed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunk by Japanese minelayer Shirakami and auxiliary subchaser Bunzan Maru off northern Honshu, Japan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grenadier</td>
<td>22 Apr 43</td>
<td>76 POWs, 4 later died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scuttled after Japanese seaplane attacks (936 Kokutai) damaged the boat the previous day, off Penang, Malaysia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runner</td>
<td>Jun 43</td>
<td>78 killed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Unknown, possibly a Japanese mine or combined air and surface attack off northeastern Honshu, Japan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pompano (SS-181) Aug or Sep 43 77 killed
Unknown, possibly a Japanese mine or combined air and surface attack off northeastern Honshu, Japan.

Grayling (SS-209) 9 Sep 43 76 killed
Probably rammed and sunk by Japanese transport Hokuan Maru, South China Sea west of Luzon.

Cisco (SS-290) 28 Sep 43 76 killed
Sunk by Japanese observation seaplane (945th Kokutai) and gunboat Karatsu [ex-U.S. river gunboat Luzon (PR-7)] in Sulu Sea off Panay Island.

S 44 (SS-155) 7 Oct 43 56 killed
Lost to Japanese escort destroyer Ishigaki, northeast Aritao Island off Kamchatka.

Dorado (SS-248) Oct 43 77 killed
Unknown, either accidentally bombed and sunk by friendly Guantamano-based flying boat on 13 October or sunk by a German submarine mine in the West Indies.

Wahoo (SS-238) 11 Oct 43 80 killed
Sunk by Japanese naval aircraft, submarine chasers Ch 15 and Ch 43, and minesweeper W.18 in La Perouse Strait off Japan.

Corvina (SS-226) 16 Nov 43 82 killed
Torpedoed and sunk by Japanese submarine I 176 south of Truk.

Capelin (SS-289) Nov 43 78 killed
Sunk by unknown causes, either Japanese aircraft (934 Kokutai) and minelayer Wakatake, a Japanese mine in the northern Celebes, or perhaps a hull defect reported prior to her departure from Darwin.

Sculpin (SS-191) 19 Nov 43 12 killed, 51 POWs later died and 21 POWs survived.
Damaged by Japanese destroyer Yamagumo and later scuttled north of Truk.

Scorpion (SS-278) Jan 44 77 killed
Unknown, probably a Japanese mine in Yellow or East China Sea.

Grayback (SS-208) 27 Feb 44 80 killed
Probably succumbed to damage inflicted by land-based Japanese naval aircraft suffered the day before in the East China Sea.

Trout (SS-202) 29 Feb 44 81 killed
Most likely sunk by Japanese destroyer Asashimo in Philippine Sea.

Gudgeon (SS-211) 18 April 44 79 killed
Probably sunk by Japanese naval aircraft (901st Kokutai) southwest of Iwo Jima.

Herring (SS-233) 1 Jun 44 83 killed
Sunk by Japanese Army shore battery (Guards Division 52) off Matsuwa Island, Kuriles.

Golet (SS-361) 14 Jun 44 82 killed
Probably sunk by Japanese guardboat Miya Maru, auxiliary submarine chaser Bunzan Maru, and naval aircraft off northern Honshu, Japan.

Robalo (SS-273) 26 Jul 44 74 killed, 4 POWs later died.
Sunk by a mine off western Palawan, Philippines.

Flier (SS-250) 13 Aug 44 78 killed, 8 survived and were rescued.
Sunk by a Japanese mine south of Palawan in Balabac Strait.

**Harder** (SS-257) 24 Aug 44 79 killed
Sunk by Japanese Coast Defense Vessel No. 22 off west coast of Luzon, Philippines.

**Escolar** (SS-294) 17 Oct 44 82 killed
Possibly sunk by a Japanese mine in the Yellow Sea.

**Shark** (SS-314) 24 Oct 44 87 killed
Sunk by Japanese depth charges from Harukaze, South China Sea west of Luzon.

**Albacore** (SS-218) 7 Nov 44 85 killed
Possible Japanese mine off northern tip of Honshu, Japan.

**Growler** (SS-215) 8 Nov 44 86 killed
Probably sunk by Japanese destroyer Shigure, escort vessel Chiburi, and Coast Defense Vessel No. 19 off Mindoro.

**Scamp** (SS-277) 11 Nov 44 83 killed
Sunk by Japanese naval aircraft and Coast Defense Vessel No. 4 in Tokyo Bay area.

**Swordfish** (SS-193) Jan 45 89 killed
Possibly sunk by Japanese Coast Defense Vessel No. 4 on 5 January or sunk by a mine off Okinawa on 9 January.

**Barbel** (SS-316) 4 Feb 45 81 killed
Sunk by Japanese naval aircraft in South China Sea in Palawan Passage.

**Kete** (SS-369) 20 Mar 45 87 killed
Probably sunk by a mine or a Japanese submarine (perhaps RO 41) east of Okinawa.

**Trigger** (SS-237) 28 Mar 45 89 killed
Sunk by Japanese patrol vessel Mikura, Coast Defense Vessel No. 33, and Coast Defense Vessel No. 59 in the Nansei Soto.

**Snook** (SS-279) 9 Apr 45 84 killed
Probably sunk by a combination of Japanese naval aircraft (256th, 453rd, and 951st Kokutais); escort vessel Okinawa, Coast Defense Vessel No. 8, Coast Defense Vessel No. 32, and Coast Defense Vessel No. 52; and/or submarine I-56 in the Nansei Soto.

**Lagarto** (SS-371) 3 May 45 86 killed
Sunk by Japanese minelayer Hatsutaka in Gulf of Siam.

**Bonefish** (SS-223) 18 Jun 45 85 killed
Sunk by combined efforts of escort destroyer Okinawa, Coast Defense Vessel No. 63, Coast Defense Vessel No. 75, Coast Defense Vessel No. 158, and Coast Defense Vessel No. 207 off southern coast of Honshu, Japan.

**Bullhead** (SS-332) 6 Aug 45 84 killed
Probably sunk by Japanese Army aircraft (73rd Chutai) off Bali in the Java Sea.

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### Submarines Lost Through Accidents and Perils of the Sea

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<tr>
<td><strong>F 4</strong> (SS-23)</td>
<td>25 Mar 15</td>
<td>21 died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunk after a battery explosion off Honolulu, Hawaii.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F 1</strong> (SS-20)</td>
<td>16 Dec 17</td>
<td>19 died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunk after collision with USS F 3 (SS-22) off San Diego,</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selected Submarine Accidents/Damage From Enemy Action

Grampus (later A3)  10 Dec 10  1 died
Main engine fuel explosion.

E2 (SS-25)  15 Jan 16  4 died
Battery explosion while in New York Navy Yard.

**G2** (SS-27) 30 Jul 19 3 died  

**H1** (SS-28) 12 Mar 20 4 died  
Aground and later sunk off Santa Margarita Island, California.

**S37** (SS-142) 10 Oct 23 3 died  
Battery explosion in harbor at San Pedro, California.

**S49** (SS-160) 20 Apr 26 4 died  
Battery explosion at Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut.

**S4** (SS-109) 17 Dec 27 39 died  
Rammed off Provincetown, Massachusetts, by Coast Guard cutter *Paulding*. Later salvaged.

**S34** (SS-139) 11 Jan 34 1 died  
Accidental signal cartridge explosion.

**Seadragon** (SS-194) 10 Dec 41 1 killed  
Slightly damaged by a bomb during Japanese air attack (Takao and 1st Kokutais) on Cavite Navy Yard, Philippine Islands.

**Sealion** (SS-195) 10 Dec 41 4 killed  
Severely damaged by two bombs during Japanese air attack (Takao and 1st Kokutais) on Cavite Navy Yard, Philippine Islands; later scuttled on 25 December.

**Bass** (SS-164) 17 Aug 42 26 died  
Fire in after battery room asphyxiates part of the crew.

**Tusk** (SS-426) 26 Aug 49 6 died  
Crew members washed overboard while rescuing crew of fire damaged USS *Cochino* (SS-345) in the Norwegian Sea.

**Sargo** (SSN-583) 14 Jun 60 1 died  
Oxygen feedline fire and explosion in after torpedo room; blaze extinguished by submerging in Pearl Harbor with compartment sealed and stern torpedo hatch open.

**Guitarro** (SSN-665) 15 May 69 0 died  
Sank at the pier at San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, California.

**Bonefish** (SS-582) 24 Apr 88 3 died  
Battery fire and explosion while operating off Florida.

**Barbel** (SS-580) 1 May 89 2 drowned  
Heavy waves wash three sailors from the deck of submarine while operating off Kyushu, Japan. One sailor rescued.

**Sources:**


Various files of the Ships' History Branch, Naval History and Heritage Command, Washington, DC.
20 October 2009