

DESTROYER ESCORT AND 112 MEN LOST

Underhill Sunk Off Philippines —Submarine Lagarto Given Up—107 Craft Written Off

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10 (AP)—The Navy announced today the loss of a submarine and a destroyer escort with about 200 men.

One hundred and seven snips previously not reported as casualties, for reasons of national security, were announced as stricken from the Navy's register today through loss or damage in the war or perils of the sea, in addition to the submarine and destroyer escort lost.

The destroyer escort newly announced as lost was the Underhill, sunk in Philippine waters, with 112 officers and men dead and missing. Among the missing is her skipper, Lieut. Comdr. Robert M. Newcomb, 49, whose wife, Mrs. Georgia Smith Newcomb, lives at Winding River Farm, Guilford, Conn.

A vessel of the Underhill's class normally carries a complement of about 150 officers and men.

One officer and thirteen enlisted men were listed as killed and nine officers and eighty-nine enlisted men as missing. No detail was given on the loss of the ship beyond that it was by enemy action.

The submarine reported lost was the Lagarto, which presumably carried about ninety men. It was listed as overdue and presumed lost.

The Lagarto was commanded by Comdr. Frank De Vere Latta, 34, a native of Indianapolis and 1932 graduate of the Naval Academy. He had been in submarine warfare since the beginning of the war, first as commander of the Ortolan and later of the Narwahl. He held the Navy Cross for six successful war patrols.

Among the ships the Navy reported as written off were the destroyers Parrott, Tucker, and Worden, the destroyer escort Holder and the submarines S-27, S-36 and S-39. These submarines are of a type built in the 1920's but some are reported to have been refitted and modernized since the war began.

The other vessels included fifteen "named" ships ranging from mine-layers to tugs; seven submarine chasers, and forty-six patrol torpedo boats. The remainder were chiefly landing ships or craft.

The larger vessels in that list were the attack transport Thomas Stone, cargo ships Aludra and Deimos, mine layer Montgomery, gunboat Erie, net layer Ailanthus, salvage vessel Rescuer, tugs Genesee and Grebe, mine sweepers Hornbill, Crow, Bunting and YMS-133 and the auxiliaries Robert L. Barnes and Ronaki.

The Navy did not disclose the fate of any individual vessel except the Lagarto.

In addition to these ships, the Navy said that forty-five LCT's [landing craft, tanks] had been stricken from the register, but LCT's are not commissioned vessels.

The Lagarto, the Underhill and the 107 vessels stricken from the register brought to 432 the total of commissioned ships and motor torpedo boats announced as lost by the Navy since the war began. Of these, 154 were fighting ships of submarine or larger size.