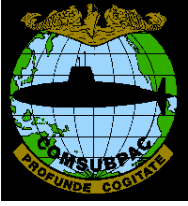


## USS Pompano (SS 181)



*Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet*

# *USS POMPANO (SS 181)*

## *August 29, 1943 - 77 Men Lost*

After leaving Midway on 20 August 1943 to start her seventh war patrol, POMPANO, with Lt. Cdr. W.M. Thomas in command, was never heard from again. Her orders were to patrol off the east coast of Honshu from about 29 August to sunset of 27 September 1943, and then to return to Pearl Harbor for refit, stopping at Midway en route for fuel.

When no transmission was received from her, especially just prior to her expected arrival at Midway on 5 October, word was sent from Pearl to keep a sharp lookout for her. By 15 October, all hope was abandoned, and POMPANO was reported as presumed lost in enemy waters.



Japanese information available now shows no attack which could conceivably have been directed towards POMPANO. On 6 September POMPANO was informed by dispatch that the area to the north of her own was open. Since that area was considered more productive for sinkings than the one she was in, it is quite possible that she moved into it. Both the area between Honshu and Hokkaido, and the one east of northern Honshu are known to have been heavily mined by the enemy, with the greatest concentration of mines in the northern area. In view of the evidence given, it is considered probable that POMPANO met her end by an

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unreported attack.

In the six patrols completed before her loss, POMPANO sank ten enemy ships for a total of 42,000 tons, and damaged four, totaling 55,300 tons. In the first month of the war, POMPANO patrolled near Wake Island, and sank a large freighter-transport of 16,500 tons. On her second patrol, conducted east of Formosa, she sank a large transport, a tanker, a small freighter, and two patrol boats. POMPANO went to the Empire for her third patrol, from mid-August to mid-September 1942, and sank a freighter and a patrol boat. In the Marshalls area on her fourth patrol, she damaged two tankers. Going to the Empire again for her fifth patrol, POMPANO damaged an aircraft carrier. She went to Japan a third time for her sixth patrol, this time along the coast south of Honshu. There she sank a sampan and damaged a freighter.

### *Sailors Lost On USS POMPANO (SS-181) 8-29-1943*

Allen, D. E. MOMM1	Anstine, L. M. MOMM2	Appel, J. L. S1	Bennett, J. J. S1
Bissell, R. D. S1	Blum, C. TM2	Brooks, G. S., Jr. LTJG	Buckley, J. J. MOMM2
Carlson, R. W. LT	Case, R. F. CTMA	Caskey, L. E. MOMM1	Christian, W. O. FC3
Cravens, H. Q. QM2	Delbridge, C. A. MOMM2	Dennis, W. W. W. MOMM2	Eaves, G. E. SM1
Feazelle, C. F. EM2	Gaffney, G. A, Jr. SM3	Galloway, E. J. EM2	Ganium, S. STM1
Gipson, V. TM2	Graeflin, J. F. MOMM2	Gray, L. K. MM3	Gross, R. R. EM2
Guess, H. P. CTM	Hanson, J. W. Y1	Hanson, D. S. MOMM2	Hastings, W. W. MM3
Helms, T. P. GM2	Jenkes, R. B. MOMM1	Jenkins, J. D. MOMM2	Jennings, G. A. MOMM2
Johnigan, O. P. RM1	Johnson, S. F. EM3	Keesee, M. L. RM2	Kirschbaum, F. J. EM1
Lassiter, J. H. LT	Laux, E. G. EM3	Leonard, W. L. STM1	Lorenz, R. LT
Madden, C. A. CEMA	Mansfield, R. L. MM3	Masucci, D. P. MM3	Matthews, C. L. MOMM1
McGrath, T. P. LT	Messerschmidt, W. G. F1	Meyer, R. G. GM3	Mikkelson, W. A. TM2
Moitz, A. M. TM3	Morgan, R. D. TM2	O'Connell, B. J. F1	Owen, J. S. SC1
Page, H. S. S1	Parady, P. D. QM3	Phillips, C. R. CMOMMA	Phipps, C. CMOMM
Poole, C. C. LT	Proctor, W. C. MM3	Pyzow, W. EM2	Rafferty, C. T. PHM1
Reed, G. R. TM2	Revotskie, P. F1	Rice, R. L. RM3	Ritzenhein, V. P. F1
Rodgers, A. D. EM2	Rogers, W. H. SC1	Rokosz, S. F. EKR3	Rubscha, J., Jr. MM3
Scott, F. B. RT1	Shedloski, J. N. F1	Slinden, I. G. MM3	Swanson, V. L. TM1
Thomas, W. M. LCDR	Wagner, J. E. TM3	Warwick, M. J. EM3	White, D. W. S1
Wilson, C. A. CMOMMA			