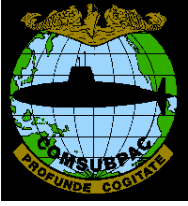


USS Bullhead (SS 332)



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

# *USS BULLHEAD (SS 332)*

## *August 6, 1945 - 84 Men Lost*

Departing Fremantle for her third war patrol, BULLHEAD, led by LCDR E.R. Holt, Jr., started for her area of responsibility on July 31, 1945. She was to patrol in the Java Sea at dark on September 5 and head for Subic Bay, Philippines. CAPITAINE and PUFFER were also to patrol in the Java Sea area, as were the British submarines TACITURN and THOROUGH.

BULLHEAD arrived in her area on August 6, but CAPITAINE did not arrive until August 13. On August 12, CAPITAINE ordered BULLHEAD to take position the following day in a scouting line with CAPITAINE and PUFFER. There was no reply and on August 15, CAPITAINE reported, "Have been unable to contact BULLHEAD by any means since arriving in area."



Since those submarines named above were in the same general area as BULLHEAD, and COD and CHUB passed through in transit at various times, it is difficult to point to one Japanese anti-submarine attack as the one which sank BULLHEAD. However, the most likely one occurred on August 6, 1945, when an enemy army plane attacked with depth charges. It claimed two direct hits, and for ten minutes thereafter, there was a great amount of gushing oil and air bubbles rising in the water. Since the position given is very near the Bali coast,

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it is presumed that the proximity of mountain peaks shortened BULLHEAD's radar range and prevented her receiving a warning of the plane's approach.

BULLHEAD sank four enemy ships, totaling 1,800 tons, and damaged three ships, for 1,300 tons, in her first two patrols. Her first patrol was made in the South China Sea from the latter part of March to the end of April 1945. No enemy contacts were made, but on March 31 and again on April 24 BULLHEAD bombarded Pratas Island with her five inch gun. She also rescued three airmen from a downed B-29 following an air strike on the China coast. In May and June 1945 BULLHEAD patrolled the Gulf of Siam and the South China Sea during her second patrol. Here she sank two small freighters, a schooner and a sub chaser, and damaged two more sub chasers and another small freighter, all in gun actions.

### *Sailors Lost On USS BULLHEAD (SS-332) 8-6-1945*

Aiple, A., Jr. QM2  
Anderson, H. A. Y2  
Barringer, R. H. S1  
Bell, G. L. MOMM1  
Benner, J. D. S1  
Bertram, W. E. MOMM2  
Bridgestock, H. R. RT2  
Brume, R. M. MOMM2  
Buczek, K. J. TM2  
Burns, R. B. CTMA  
Church, R. W. MOMM1  
Collins, J. F. EM3  
Crandall, H. E. MOMM3  
Dahl, E. M. MOMM3  
Davidson, G. M. F1  
Davidson, J. K. MOMM2  
Day, C. J. EM2  
Dougherty, C. W. SC1  
Engbretsen, E. M. CQM  
Fahey, J. R. RM3  
Foster, R. G. F1  
Foust, K. E. QM3  
Fritz, F. C. RM2  
Gay, C. W. EM3  
Gilheany, J. P., Jr. RM3  
Gossett, P. A. LTJG  
Graves, C. M. S1  
Greaves, W. F. EM3  
Hackett, H. B. STM2  
Hackman, E. D., Jr. LT

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Hancock, J. L. GM2  
Harris, J. J. QM3  
Hawkins, W. P. BM2  
Heaton, G. V., Jr. MOMM2  
Helferich, T. P. CMOMM  
Henricksen, D. O. LTJG  
Holt, E. R., Jr. LCDR  
Huisman, L. W. S1  
Ireland, W. TM2  
Jenkins, L. L. EM2  
Jensen, J. R. EM3  
Jewell, F. J. QM2  
Johnson, P., Jr. STM1  
Jones, J. W. CEMA  
Keister, R. A. RT3  
Kopf, J. J. EM3  
Kulczycki, W. A. ENS  
Mannas, O. V. TM2  
Marin, R. K. MOMM2  
Markham, J. P. TM3  
McDermott, H. A. MOMM3  
Morgan, G. P. TM3  
Overbeek, P. F. S1  
Olson, P. W. S1  
Palmer, R. W. F1  
Parks, W. J. GM1  
Parpal, J. J. LTJG  
Pattengale, R. M. TM3  
Patterson, R. S. SOM2  
Peart, W. M. EM1  
Perry, R. J. MOMM1  
Phillips, K. R. LCDR  
Piatt, C. W. SC3  
Pinder, R. A. CMOMMA  
Ralston, W. J., Jr. TM3  
Ritchie, R. J. EM3  
Roberts, J. A. EM1  
Sandoval, J. S1  
Schlegel, L. A. F1  
Schmidt, O. G. H. F1  
Short, W. E. TM1  
Shuey, B., Jr. SC3  
Siefken, D. M. FCS2  
Simms, II, J. LTJG  
Smida, E. "M" PHM1  
Smith, C. J. CRMA

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Smith, W. M. CEM  
Stifter, F. T. RT2  
Strassle, R. W. LTJG  
Taylor, C. H. S1  
Tobias, M. MOMM3  
Watson, A. T. CMOMM  
Webb, L. L. S1  
Wiersma, E. J. MOMM3