

USS Argonaut (SS 166)



Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet

USS ARGONAUT (SS 166)

January 10, 1943 - 105 Men Lost



While operating in the area southeast of New Britain between 5 degrees and 50 east during her third patrol, ARGONAUT (Lt. Cmdr. J.R. Pierce) intercepted a Japanese convoy returning to Rabaul from Lae, on 10 January 1943. An U.S. Army plane, which was out of bombs, saw one destroyer hit by a torpedo, saw the explosion of two other destroyers, and reported other vessels in the group.

After a severe depth charge attack ARGONAUT was forced to surface and the destroyers, according to the plane's report, circled and pumped shells into her bow, which was sticking up at a considerable angle. This action took place in 5 degrees to 40 'S, 152 degrees to 02 'E, and further efforts to contact ARGONAUT by radio were fruitless. It is quite certain, then, that ARGONAUT met her end in this action. Japanese reports made available since the end of the war record a depth charge attack followed by artillery fire, at which time the "destroyed top of the sub floated."

ARGONAUT's first patrol near Midway had resulted in no damage to enemy ships, but her second was a most successful one. It was conducted following a complete modernization at Mare Island. Her mission had been to cooperate with NAUTILUS in transporting 252 Marine officers and men to Makin Island for a diversionary raid against enemy shore installations. In the early morning of 17 August 1942, the raiders were debarked in boats. After nearly two days ashore, the Marines returned, and the submarines transported them back to Pearl Harbor, ARGONAUT arriving on 26 August.

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On the basis of the report given by the Army flier who witnessed the attack in which ARGONAUT perished, the ship was credited with having damaged one Japanese destroyer on her last patrol.



Sailors Lost On USS ARGONAUT (SS 166) 1-10-1943

Alexander, C. H. Y1	Alexander, R. D QM2	Allen, R. W. LT	Baker, C. H. CMOMMA
Ball, R. N. S1	Beecham, T. W. CEM	Bergado, M. T. MA1	Bodak, J. B. MOMM2
Bowers, F. H. F1	Bowker, G. A. LT	Boyt, R. H. CMOMM	Brooks, M. M. MOMM2
Brown, M. V. MOMM2	Campbell, C. K. MOMM2	Carlisle, S. H. MOMM1	Cartmell, W. A. CMOMM
Cerrinack, C. J. CGM	Corbin, I. B. RM1	Cox, A. F2	Davidson, R. C. GM3
Davis, W. W. S2	De Guzman, J. OCC	Dischner, D. H. MOMM2	Everett, J. L. LT
Facchini, D. F. MOMM2	Ferentz, J. S2	Ferguson, C. V. S1	Finley, G. W. BM2
Fitzgerald, W. D. GM1	Gasko, J. BM2	Gilliland, J. A. S1	Goshorn, R. L. GM2
Hall, V. E. S2	Hansen, E. J. EM2	Harbison, R. N. TM3	Harrison, E. H. SC3
Hartman, D. R. MOMM2	Hogg, F. M. MOMM2	Hudson, B. J. RM1	Hunter, R. S2
Jenkins, G. S. CQM	Kaplan, G. S2	Kaylor, F. G. PHM1	Kelley, J. A. MOMM1

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Kessinger, H. SC1	Knapp, A. L. QM3	Kocis, G. H. ENS	Koller, F. M. TM3
Lauder, G. E. TM2	Lay, G. E. MOMM2	Leaverton, C. C. EM1	Legler, K. R. RM3
Leland, L. D. CRM	Lewis, F. H. EM3	Logan, H. L. CMOMM	Lokey, G. A. SM2
Losbanes, Z. I. MA1	Maloney, R. M., Jr. TM1	Martin, P. P. MATT2	McClelland, E. EM3
Miller, R. H. EM2	Miller, W. F., Jr. S1	Miltner, B. G. LTJG	Morgan, T. M. FC3
Myers, W. H., Jr. S1	Narrow, T. A., Jr. S1	Nichols, R. F. EM3	Olds, P. J. OS2
Parker, B. B. S1	Parker, T. MOMM2	Parsons, R., Jr. RM2	Peevey, J. W. EM3
Pierce, J. R. LCDR	Pritchard, W. I. F1	Ramos, M., JR OS1	Rasimas, A. J. CEM
Remillard, P. B. SM2	Robertson, R. N. LT	Rolland, H. L. CGM	Rollins, G. M. S1
Romero, L. CCSTD	Roup, M. F. MOMM1	Rule, J. MOMM2	Schempp, F. E. TM3
Seidman, W. F. RM3	Serafini, H. J. MOMM2	Sheeks, D. C. Y2	Sigler, E. W. MOMM1
Simoneau, F. W. LT	Smith, T. L. CBM	Spaeth, J. R. MOMM2	Stanley, J. GM2
Thomas, W. D. OC2	Tingling, H. J. S1	Vesmas, J. CM1	Vierling, W. E. MOMM1
Wagner, E. J. MOMM2	Wehner, W. G. F1	White, C. C., Jr. TM1	White, T. A. S1
Widener, H. R. CY	Williams, R. W. TM3	Winsor, W. G. GM1	Wylie, R. D. F1
Zintz, E. L. SC3			



Wyatt Vespers to Honor Jack Lay
 The program of the Vesper Services at Wyatt Sunday afternoon at 5 will be dedicated to Geo. E. (Jack) Lay, reported "missing in action" with the U. S. S. Argonaut a little more than a year ago. The flowers at the chancel will be in memory of Jack and presented to his mother, Mrs. C. W. Gregory, at the close of the services. Mr. and Mrs. Clyde P Ganus of Mayfield, Ky., will sing during the hour and the sermon will be by the pastor, Rev. J. C. Montgomery.



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METHODIST CHURCH
Wyatt, Missouri
The Sabbath, February 27, 1944

VESPERS
5:00 P. M.

This program is lovingly dedicated to the
memory of
George E. "Jack" Lay
Machinist Mate 2-c, U. S. Navy

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