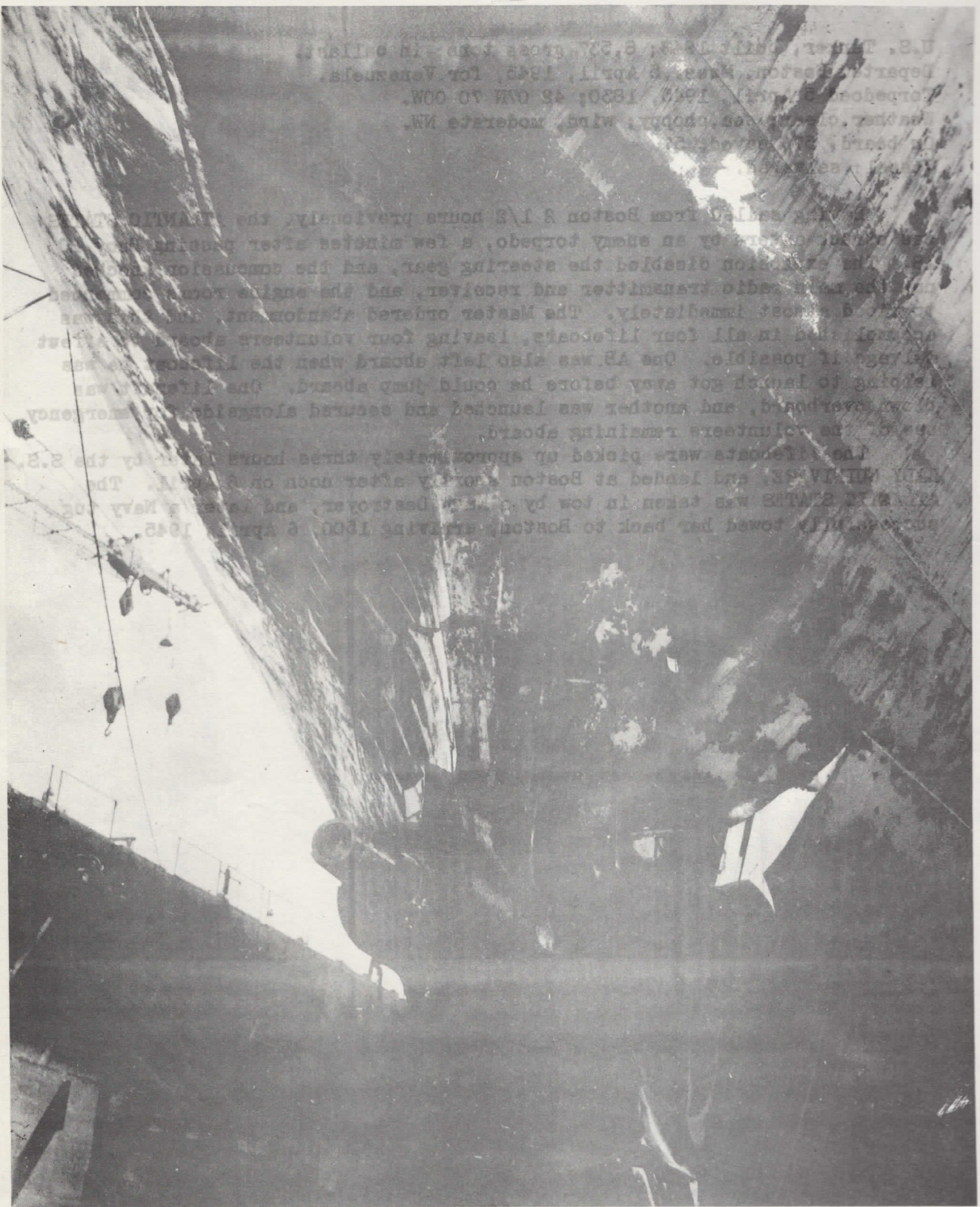


147 S.S. ATLANTIC STATES

U.S. Tanker, built 1943; 8,537 gross tons; in ballast.
Departed Boston, Mass., 5 April, 1945, for Venezuela.
Torpedoed 5 April, 1945, 1830; 42 07N 70 00W.
Weather, clear; sea, choppy; wind, moderate NW.
On board, 57; saved, 57.
Vessel: salvaged.

Having sailed from Boston 2 1/2 hours previously, the ATLANTIC STATES was struck astern by an enemy torpedo, a few minutes after passing Buoy HC 18. The explosion disabled the steering gear, and the concussion knocked out the main radio transmitter and receiver, and the engine rooms commenced to flood almost immediately. The Master ordered abandonment, and this was accomplished in all four lifeboats, leaving four volunteers aboard to effect salvage if possible. One AB was also left aboard when the lifeboat he was helping to launch got away before he could jump aboard. One liferaft was blown overboard, and another was launched and secured alongside for emergency use of the volunteers remaining aboard.

The lifeboats were picked up approximately three hours later by the S.S. LADY GUINIVERE, and landed at Boston shortly after noon on 6 April. The ATLANTIC STATES was taken in tow by a Navy Destroyer, and later a Navy tug successfully towed her back to Boston, arriving 1500, 6 April, 1945.



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