

8 January, 1943

107 S.S. BROAD ARROW

U.S. Tanker, built 1918; 7,796 gross tons; cargo, diesel oil.  
 Departed Port of Spain, Trinidad, 5 January, 1943, for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.  
 Torpedoed 8 January, 1943, 2340 LMT: 07°21 N. - 55°43 W.; in convoy.  
 Weather, hazy; sea, calm; wind, light W.  
 On board, 47; saved, 24.  
 Vessel: total loss.

This tanker was in convoy, with other vessels in sight, when struck by a torpedo on the port side at the magazine aft. The whole after end was blown open, and flooded immediately. Shortly afterwards, another hit the same side forward of midship, and this section immediately burst into flames. The vessel was abandoned without specific orders, in the two after lifeboats and two rafts. The boats and rafts made little apparent effort to pick up men who were floundering in the water, and two who could not swim were left on the deck. The USS PC-577 rescued those in the boats and on the rafts, and landed them the same day at Paramaribo.

The ship went down, still afire, at 0400, plunging stern first. Survivors saw red and white flares, and heard explosions or gunfire during the time they were in the boats, but did not see the submarine.

