

23 November, 1942

106 S.S. CADDO

U.S. Tanker, built 1942; 10,173 gross tons; cargo, gasoline.  
Departed Baytown, Texas, 11 November, 1942, for Iceland.  
Torpedoed 23 November, 1942, 0250 Ship's time; 42°25 N.- 48°27 W.  
Weather, clear; sea, long swells; wind, moderate N.E.  
On board, 60; saved, 6 (2 others said to be prisoners on submarine)  
Vessel: total loss.

A torpedo fired at 500 yards range struck the pumproom just forward of the after bulkhead, port side. A muffled explosion was heard, followed by a bright momentary flash and a nauseating gaseous odor. #4 lifeboat and raft were demolished, and the radio transmitter put out of operation. Track of torpedo was seen just before it hit, but not in time to take action. At 0420 the ship was abandoned in the remaining 3 lifeboats, and the tanker went down stern first almost immediately.

The submarine surfaced about 10 minutes later, and took the Master and Chief Officer aboard. The #1 boat was the only one known to have been rescued, six of its original 17 occupants being still alive and aboard when it was picked up 8 December, at 38°10 N.- 35° 24 W., by the Spanish MV MOTOMAR. The survivors were landed at Harous Hook, Pa., 24 December, for hospitalization.

