

10 June, 1942

76. S.S. HAGAN

U.S. Tanker; built, 1919; 6,401 gross tons; cargo, molasses.
 Departed Antilla, Cuba, 10 June, 1942, for Havana.
 Torpedoed 10 June, 1942, 2010 EST; 22°00 N.- 77°30 W.
 Weather, clear; sea, smooth; wind, light E.
 On board, 44; saved, 38.
 Vessel: total loss.

The tanker, proceeding between Cuban ports with a partial load of black strap molasses, was hit by a torpedo which entered the boiler room from the starboard. The machinery was disabled, and the crew stood by the lifeboats, but the vessel was not in a sinking condition until a second torpedo struck in way of the bunkers, spraying fuel oil over everything, but, fortunately, not catching fire. She began to sink rapidly, and was abandoned at once. The starboard boats, #1 and #3, were the ones used, and 15 men were taken from the water, as the tanker went down by the stern soon after the second hit, and when last seen, two hours after the attack, had about 50' of the bow projecting vertically from the water.

The lifeboats remained in the vicinity for two hours, and then drifted ashore, one at Cayo Verde, and the other at Cayo Romano, Cuba. The survivors were taken to Nuevitas by a pilot boat and a Cuban gunboat. Six men were lost.

