

5 October, 1942

99. S.S. LARRY DOHENY

U.S. Tanker, built 1921; 7,038 gross tons; cargo, fuel oil.
Departed Long Beach, Calif., 3 October, 1942, for Portland, Ore.
Torpedoed 5 October, 1942, 2207 PWT; 42°20 N.-125°02 W.
Weather, clear; sea, choppy; wind, moderate S.E.
On board, 44; saved, 38.
Vessel; total loss.

At 2000 an unidentified sound was heard aft, believed by the Third Mate on watch to have come from the engine room. The track of a torpedo was reported by two lookouts at 2120, but also discounted by the Mate, and a third was seen by the man on the forecastle shortly afterwards, but no preventive action was taken. At 2207 a torpedo ripped the port side at #2 tank, reported as a dull thud followed by a loud snapping crack, and the #2 and #3 tanks exploded, shooting flames high in the air. The steering gear was disrupted, and smoke and fumes prevented the sending of a distress message. The vessel lost headway almost immediately, and the Master ordered her abandoned, although the Armed Guard remained at the after gun in hopes of sighting the submarine, till ordered to the boat.

The survivors, in #3 and #4 lifeboats, were picked up at 0545 and 0745, 6 October, by the SS COOS BAY, which searched the area unsuccessfully for further survivors. The tanker went down, bow first, at 1110 PWT, 6 October, 1942, and the crew was landed at Orford, Ore., later that day.

