

NEWPORT NEWS.--BOATSWAIN WALTER BRUCE OF THE AMERICAN TANKER MALAY SAID TODAY THAT "THE NEXT TIME I GO TO SEA IT WILL BE IN AN ARMED BOAT."

"YOU CAN'T FIGHT OFF SUBS WITH POTATOES," THE SAILOR FROM THE TANKER, DAMAGED IN A SUBMARINE ATTACK, SAID.

INTERVIEWS WITH SURVIVORS OF THE MALAY WERE ALLOWED BY 5TH NAVAL DISTRICT OFFICIALS ON AUTHORIZATION FROM WASHINGTON.

BRUCE SAID THAT "IF WE HAD A GUN ABOARD WE COULD HAVE SHELLLED THE SUB WHILE IT WAS ON THE SURFACE. THE QUICKER MERCHANT BOATS ARE ARMED THE QUICKER INDISCRIMINATE SHELLING AND TORPEDOING WILL SLACK OFF. EVERY SAILOR I HAVE TALKED TO SAYS SUBS ARE NOW THICKER ALONG THE ATLANTIC COAST THAN FISH."

CAPT. JOHN M. DODGE OF THE MALAY SAID THAT HE WISHED "TO THANK THE MEN OF MY SHIP FOR THE COURAGEOUS WAY THEY DID THEIR DUTY UNDER FIRE."

DODGE SAID THAT "WE WERE IN A TOUGH FIGHT AND THE MEN DID A FINE JOB OF HELPING BRING THE SHIP TO PORT SAFELY. I HOPE THE MALAY WILL KEEP HER GOOD LUCK AND SOON BE BACK ON THE SEA AGAIN HAULING OIL FOR US."

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