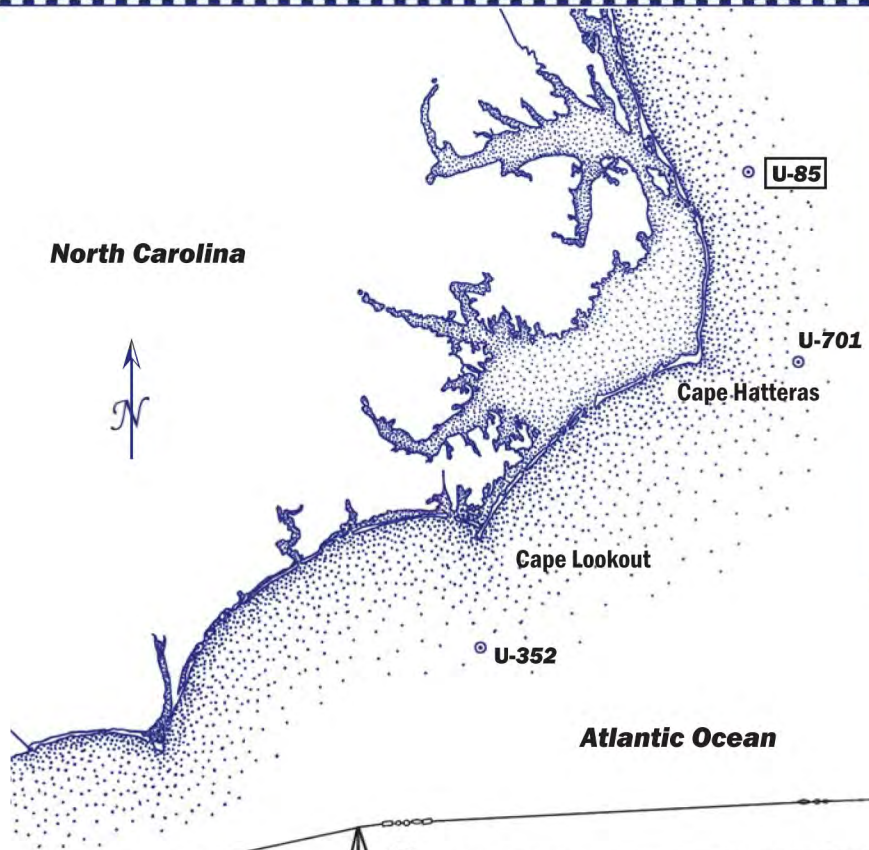
U-85

Unterseeboot Type VIIB



You Should Know

This wreck is federally protected by the SUNKEN MILITARY CRAFT ACT.

Visitation and enjoyment of this cultural resource is encouraged.

Removal of artifacts or alteration of the site is strictly prohibited.

This site is owned by the Federal Republic of Germany and is considered a war grave. Please respect it as such and refrain from alteration or penetration of the site.

You are encouraged to enjoy this resource responsibly and to leave the site unaltered for the enjoyment of future divers.

Vessel History

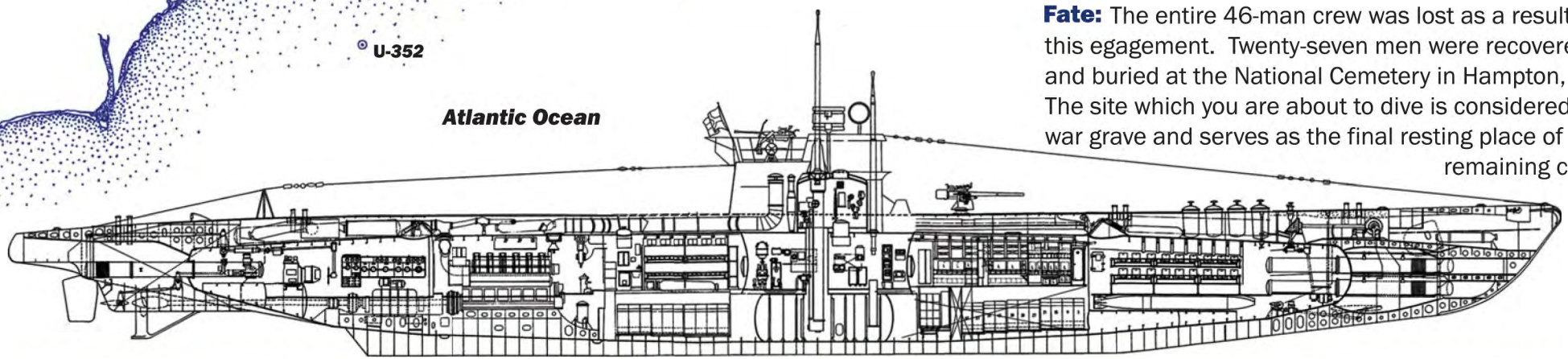
Launched: April 10, 1941, in Lübeck, Germany

Commander: Oberleutnant zur See Eberhard Greger

Actions: Successfully sunk 3 Allied merchant ships

Loss: In the early morning hours of April 14, 1942, U-*85* was hunting allied shipping just a few miles off Nags Head, N.C., when the American four-stack destroyer, USS *Roper* acquired a sonar contact. The *Roper* gave chase and was narrowly missed by a stern torpedo fired by U-*85*. As the USS *Roper* closed the distance it succeeded in delivering a fatal shot from its 3- inch deck gun which breached the pressure hull of U-*85* causing it to sink to the bottom.

Fate: The entire 46-man crew was lost as a result of this egagement. Twenty-seven men were recovered and buried at the National Cemetery in Hampton, Va. The site which you are about to dive is considered a war grave and serves as the final resting place of the remaining crew.



Marine Life Commonly Found on the U-*85* Site

Conger Eel

Conger oceanicus

Purple Sea Urchin

Arbacia punctulata

Gray Triggerfish

Balistes capriscus

http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/missions

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Spadefish

Chaetodipterus faber

Black Sea Bass

Centropristis striata

Greater Amberjack

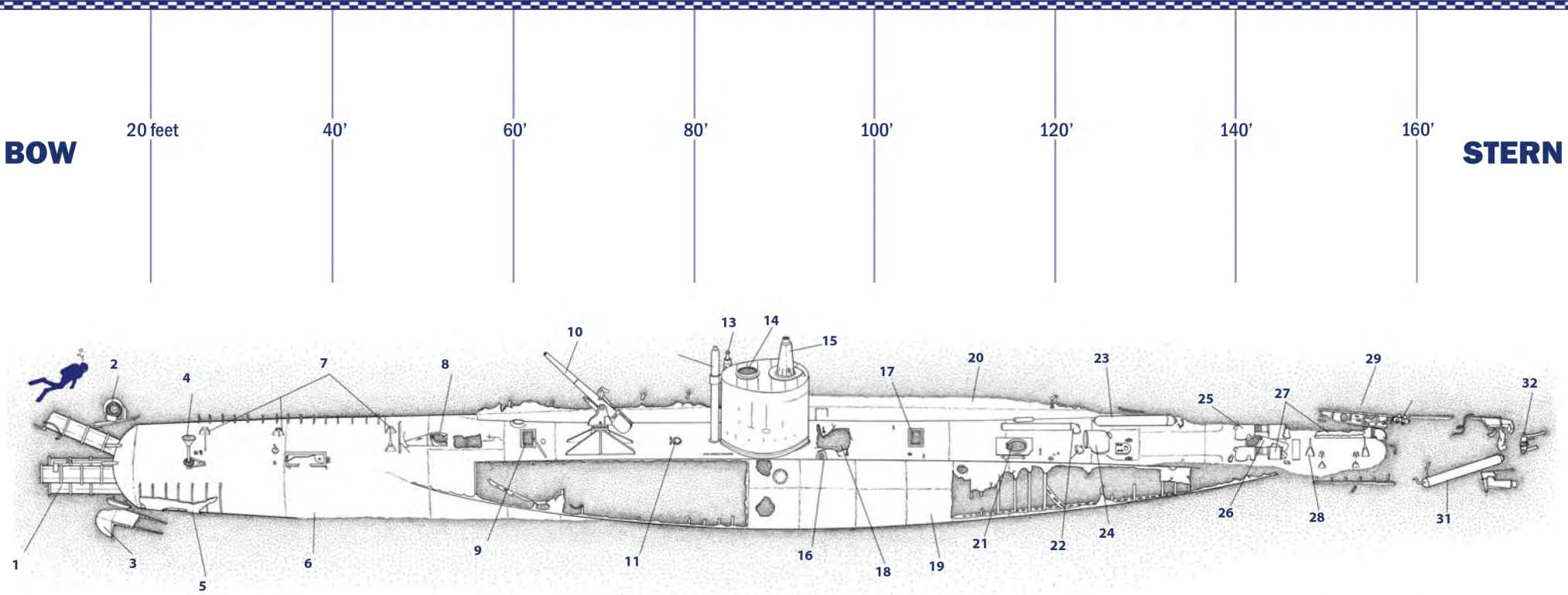
Serioloa dumerili

GPS Coordinates: N35° 54.810'/W75° 17.215'
Depth: 95 fsw
Skill Level: Intermediate

U-85

Archaeological Site Plan

National Marine Sanctuaries



1 Forward Torpedo Tubes
2 Anchor Windlass
3 Port Diving Plane
4 Capstan
5 Outer Hull Fairing
6 Pressure Hull
7 Torpedo Container Brackets
8 Torpedo Loading Hatch
9 Battery Loading Hatch
10 88 mm Deck Gun
11 Magnetic Compass Mount
12 Sky Periscope Sleeve
13 RDF Loop Mount
14 Conning Tower Hatch
15 Attack Periscope Housing
16 Diving Tank Blow Valves
17 Aft Battery Loading Hatch
18 USS *Roper* 3-in. Shell Hit
19 Port Saddle Tank
20 Starboard Saddle Tank
21 Galley Escape Hatch
22 Engine Room Air Inlet
23 High Pressure Air Flask
24 Main Diesel Air Intake
25 Diesel Exhaust Trunk
26 Torpedo Loading Hatch
27 Exhaust Silencers
28 Torpedo Container Brackets
29 Outer Hull Remnants
30 Bits or Docking Cleats
31 High Pressure Air Flask
32 Steering Quadrant

Take Only Pictures ~ Leave Only Bubbles