

CAPTURE REPORTED OF U-BOAT CAPTAIN

Seized July 11 After His Ship
Rammed Reef Off U. S.,
German Broadcast Says

LATVIAN VESSEL IS SUNK

24 of Crew Lost in Caribbean
—British Schooner, Argentine
Tanker Also Casualties

Lieutenant, George Stab, commander of a German submarine, was captured after his ship ran onto a submerged reef in seeking to escape from depth-bomb attack off the American coast on July 11, according to a broadcast from the anti-Nazi German radio station Gustav Siegfried I, which was picked up yesterday by The Boston Globe and transmitted from Boston by The Associated Press.

The broadcaster quoted a letter from Lieutenant Stab to Admiral Karl Doenitz, head of the German U-boat fleet, which said that a rubber raft dropped by an American plane saved the lives of the commander and three others. Fourteen others escaped from the submarine but were drowned.

According to The Boston Globe, the broadcaster was apparently the same German Army officer who regularly speaks over the same station. He is anti-Hitler, but is ultranationalistic, anti-British and anti-Semitic.

According to the broadcaster, Nazi censors attempted to "edit" the letter because it mentioned a mistake made by one of the U-boat officers.

German Tells Experiences

The message said:

"Only a few of us could survive. Few escaped and fewer still managed to hold out for fifty hours in a stormy, oil-covered ocean. It happened on July 11, at 8:15 P. M., when we were forced down to a depth of 190 feet because of the depth charge attacks of the enemy. Unfortunately First Mate Holler was injured and had to be replaced by Second Lieutenant Schulz. He took the wheel and made a mistake in calculation. He thought we were still ten to twelve yards from a reef, when we actually hit it.

"Within two minutes the engine room and the tower were full of water and the boat listed twenty degrees. Eighteen comrades managed to escape the submarine, but fourteen of them met death in the oil-covered sea. One man could not swim and sank right away. Two went mad and in their delirium took off their inflated jackets because they thought they saw land."

The sinking of a small Latvian merchant ship by a submarine in the Caribbean area about the middle of last month, with a loss of twenty-four members of the crew, was disclosed by the Navy yesterday. Fourteen survivors have been landed at a Gulf Coast port.

Fricis Rubis, chief engineer, was quoted by the The United Press as saying that the ship sank within one minute of being struck by a torpedo on the port side.

Most of Men Drowned

"Most of the men who lost their lives drowned," he added. "Some managed to get their life jackets, but most of the crew had to go into the water without them."

While struggling to free one of the lifeboats, the engineer went down with the ship, and was dragged under by the suction. He lost consciousness, but came to and found himself drifting in the sea. He swam for four hours before a British naval vessel picked him up. The same ship rescued the other survivors, who were on two life rafts.

From Caracas, Venezuela, it was reported that the British schooner Gold B has been torpedoed and sunk off Falcon, near the Gulf of Maracaibo. Sixty-five passengers, all British subjects, and nearly all the crew, including the captain, have been landed at Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, according to the newspaper Ultimas Noticias.

The Argentine Maritime Police announced that the tanker Trace de Diciembre had reported by radio that it had picked up twenty-three survivors of an unidentified ship.

The German radio said yesterday that U-boats had sunk two coastal sailing vessels within several hundred yards of the Atlantic coast of the United States and a medium-sized American merchant ship. There has been no confirmation of these claims.