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NAVAL INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES, VICTORIA	
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REMARKS:	

Subject: _____

SINKING OF JAPANESE PRISON SHIP "MONTEVIDEO MARU" 11/7/42

N.I.D. 156/120

180 CIVILIANS LOST WITH JAP SHIP

Many N G Officials Among Victims

23/1/45
DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

156/170

Names of New Guinea civilians missing since January, 1942, and recently reported lost at sea when the Japanese vessel *Montevideo Maru* was torpedoed on July 1, 1942, were released by Mr Ward, Minister for External Territories, yesterday.

Besides troops on the ship, there were 180 civilians, including 16 missionaries. This information has been obtained from a translation of the nominal roll of the vessel, which was recently discovered in Tokyo.

The list includes about 80 officers of the Administration, including many senior officers and the following heads of departments: Government Secretary and Deputy Administrator, Mr H. H. Page, brother of Sir Earle Page, MP; Treasurer and New Guinea MLC, Mr H. O. Townsend; Director of Agriculture, Mr G. H. Murray; Director of Public Health, Dr H. C. Hosking; Director of Public Works, Mr C. R. Field; Crown Law officer, Mr G. G. Hogan.

Officials and residents who were members of the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles, not included in the list, will be notified in Army lists.

Also in the list are many prominent residents of the Territory, including Mr H. Adams (planter), Mr R. L. Clark (company manager), and Rev J. McArthur, who were non-official members of the Legislative Council. There were 15 official and non-official members of the Legislative Council, and no fewer than eight lost their lives in the vessel.

Mr Ward expressed to relatives the profound sympathy of the Commonwealth Government, and stated that the passing of such valuable officials and residents was a severe loss to the Territory.

The list is as follows:

NEW GUINEA CIVILIANS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING, NOW REPORTED LOST AT SEA

Adams, H. A., planter; Allen, A. G., planter; Allen, W. E., police officer; Ashby, S. A., planter; Atherton, J. M., dispenser; Atkinson, W., planter; Banks, E., hotel manager; Barnes, C. W., printer; Bath, V. G., labour overseer; Beck, N. R., labour overseer; Bell, D. J., plantation manager; Bernan, R. A., plantation manager; Bowman, H., medical assistant; Box, W. C., planter; Brett, G. L., mine employee; Brinston, H. G. W., clerk; Brown, R. A. L., mechanic; Brown, T. G., police officer; Bruckshaw, A. F., clerk; Bunny, J., plantation inspector; Burke, J. D., clerk; Bye, E. C., ship's captain.

Cameron, A., mechanic; Campbell, C. J., visitor; Cannon, C. F., ship's officer; Carly, L. E. L., plantation overseer; Carr, L. A., road overseer; Carson, L., planter; Clark, L., medical assistant; Clark, R. L., company manager; Clann, C., storeman; Cobb, P., plantation manager; Coe, P. E. R., clerk; Considine, L. A., clerk; Cook, R. E., accountant; Coomber, A., medical assistant; Cooper, Dr R. W., medical officer; Coote, P., company manager; Crocker, M. C., agricultural inspector; Cruise, J. B., dispenser.

Davies, R., X-ray technician; Daymond, J. E., assistant district officer; Dockrill, W., poultry farmer; Dodd, H., clerk, custodians' office; Doyle, H. G., plantation manager; Doyle, manufacturer; Downs, J., timber worker; Drane, C. T., manager, Vacuum Oil Company; Duus, W. L., telephone technician.

Earl, R. B., planter; Edwards, J. H., labour overseer; Edwards, M. S., patrol officer; Eglington, A. M., storeman; Einsiedel, E. R., clerk; Evans, T. E., medical assistant.

Field, C. R., director of public works; Flan, S. H., clerk; Florance, V. A., solicitor; Forsyth, R. H., clerk; Fulton, H., clerk.

Garrett, T., planter; Gascoigne, C. J., auctioneer; Gascoigne, I. N., clerk; Goad, J. C., medical assistant; Gray, K. M., medical assistant; Green, A. S., plantation manager; Green, E. C. D., agricultural superintendent; Greenwood, F. O., planter.

Greenwood, W., plantation manager; Gregory, H. A., district officer.

Hamilton, J. E., store manager; Hamilton, L., planter; Hawnt, E. M., telephone foreman; Hay, Dr. A., medical officer; Herket, T. H., agricultural inspector; Heron, W. L., planter; Herron, A. G., Commonwealth Bank official; Hogan, G., Crown Law officer; Holden, H., timber worker; Holland, H. D., manager Amalgamated Wireless (Asia) Ltd; Hoogerwerf, J., manager Rabaul printing works; Hosking, Dr. H. C., medical officer; Houghton, C. W., plantation manager.

Jervis, C. C., planter; Kelly, E. T. C., agricultural inspector; King, A. J., audit clerk; Livingstone, W. J., police officer; Lockhart, J., health inspector.

McCleane, G., butcher; McDougall, D., police officer; McEvoy, J. T., planter; Mackellar, C., planter; McLaren, T. W., baker; Rabaul; Maclean, C. H. R., manager W. R. Carpenter and Co; Macpherson, R., accountant; Mantle, F. W., district officer; Mater, C. S. F., clerk; Millington, B., ship's officer; Mitchell, E. H. P., patrol officer; Moore, R. K. P., planter; Muggleton, H. A., planter; Mulligan, H. A., planter; Mulligan, E. W. C., baker; Mulvey, N., engineer; Murray, G. H., Director of Agriculture; Naulty, P. G., police officer; Nunan, A. C., sawmill.

O'Dwyer, N., planter; Ormond, J. L., plantation manager.

Page, H. H., government secretary and Deputy Administrator; Parry, A. R., senior medical assistant; Perrett, A., mechanic; Pickering, M. B., clerk; Pinching, E., plantation manager; Pines, C. M., senior medical assistant; Plunkett, T. M., telephone technician.

Raff, G. S., Commonwealth Bank officer; Rand, D., plantation manager; Rankin, D. J., storeman; Reed, A. R., dairy farmer; Renfrew, A., plumber; Reynolds, J. A., clerk; Roberts, D. L., teacher; Robinson, H. E., accountant; Robinson, W., plantation overseer; Ryan, W. J., departmental manager.

Saunders, F. V., planter; Savage, S. K., clerk; Sawkins, A., plantation manager; Schmidt, A., head teacher; Scott, H., plantation manager; Sedgers, J. C., plantation inspector; Setchell, W. P., plantation manager; Shebler, A., chemist; Smith, D. McD., foreman carpenter; Smith, J. O., overseer, native labour; Smith, J. W., postmaster; Snook, S., police officer; Solomon, E. E., mechanic; Solomons, R. L., clerk; Squires, R. T., senior medical assistant; Staley, W. G., road overseer; Stephen, R. J., departmental manager; Stevens, R. H., clerk; Stewart, J., overseer; Strathearn, A., clerk; Symes, H. H. C., plantation manager.

Thomas, C., police officer; Thompson, L. C., medical assistant; Titchener, J., agricultural inspector; Townsend, H. O., treasurer, administration; Tritton, A. J., Commonwealth Bank officer; Turnbull, H. P., telephone technician; Tynan, J., merchant seaman.

Voss, G. H. D., teacher; Walker, T., police officer; Wallace, T., V. journalist and trader; Walsh, F. R., telephone technician; Washington, H. J., planter; Wayne, R. N., interpreter; Whiteman, A. K., senior clerk; Wilkin, W. M., planter; Wilmot, P., plantation manager; Youlden, R., clerk.

NEW GUINEA MISSIONARIES PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING, NOW REPORTED LOST AT SEA

Abbott, Pastor E. M., Seventh Day Adventist; Alley, Rev. D. C., Methodist Missionary Society of NZ; Beasley, Mr. S. C., Methodist Missionary Society of Australasia; Brennan, Rev. Brother C. A., Catholic Mission of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus; Collett, Mr. Trevor, Seventh Day Adventist; Hennessy, Rev. Father J., Marist Mission Society; Linggood, Rev. W. L. I., Methodist Missionary Society of Australasia; McArthur, Rev. L. A., Methodist Missionary Society of Australasia and New Guinea MLC; McCullagh, Rev. Father D., Catholic Mission of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus; Oakes, Rev. W. D.; Pearce, Mr. E. W.; Pearson, Rev. H. J.; Poole, Rev. J. W.; Shelton, Rev. H. B.; Simpson, Rev. T. N.; Trevitt, Rev. J. W., all of Methodist Missionary Society of Australasia.

JAP STORY OF HOW SHIP WAS SUNK

For the first time details have been received in Melbourne of how the Japanese prison ship *Montevideo Maru*, from Rabaul, was sunk by an Allied submarine on July 1, 1942, off the Philippines.

The report came from the Japanese, and was obtained only after strenuous efforts by Major H. S. Williams, of the Australian Army Directorate of POW's. The ship carried 1,053 POW's and civilian internees from Rabaul—mostly Australians.

According to the report received by the Japanese Navy Department from the owners of the ship, which was a naval auxiliary vessel, *Montevideo Maru* was hit by two torpedoes at 3am 60 miles NW of Cape Bojador, Luzon Island. Of the 132 crew members and 88 guards only 17 sailors and three guards got ashore.

The report said nothing about the prisoners, who, it is thought, were battened down in the holds. The ship, a 7,000-ton motor-vessel, sank within a few minutes of being hit.

Inc: Disposed.

Please reg + v

p.a. 156/26/11

Transport
7,226 tons
Sunk 18°37' N
1-7-42 119°29' E
by U.S. Submarine
U.S. STURGEON

21/10/54

IM/AM

Dear Sir,

re SINKING MONTEVIDEO MARU.

With reference to your communication of 20th October, 1954 which makes enquiry regarding the sinking of the Montevideo Maru, following is information you desire.

The MONTEVIDEO MARU, Japanese Transport, (7,226 tons) was torpedoed and sunk by a U.S. Submarine, U.S.S. STURGEON, 18° 37' N., 119° 29E., at 3 a.m. on July 1st, 1942, 60 miles N.W. of Cape Bojidor, Luzon Island, in the Philippines.

The ship carried 1,053 P.O.W.s and civilian internees from Rabaul - mostly Australians. Of the 132 Japanese crew and 88 guards only 17 sailors and three guards reached shore.

Yours faithfully,

(T. J. Hawkins)
Secretary.

Mr. G. J. Angell,
The Secretary,
R.S.S.I.L.A.,
Anzac House,
Wickham Terrace,
BRISBANE. Q'LD.

TELEPHONES

B 2859 (2 LINES)
B 5201, CLUB
B 3852
B 6100
B 3194
B 4194
B 2850
B 3921
B 7888
B 6890

Motto:

"The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance"



The Returned Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia

QUEENSLAND BRANCH (INCORPORATED)



State President:
R. D. HUISH, C.B.E.

State Secretary:
G. J. ANGELL

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS:
STATE SECRETARY, R.S.L., BOX 172, G.P.O. BRISBANE
TELEGRAMS AND CABLES: MENA, BRISBANE
IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE: No. _____

State Headquarters:
ANZAC HOUSE
WICKHAM TERRACE
BRISBANE

A/EM

20th October, 1954

AIR MAIL

The Secretary,
Historical Naval Research Section,
NAVY OFFICE
MELBOURNE

Dear Sir,

re: Sinking, Montevideo Maru


We have been asked by one of our Sub-branches (P.M.G. Sub-Branch), to seek information in regard to the abovenamed ship, which I understand was sunk by the American Navy in July 1942 whilst carrying P.O.W and Civilian Internees from Rabaul to Japan.

The Post Office, Brisbane, has erected a plaque to the memory of those employees of the P.M.G. Department who were captured in Rabaul and lost their lives when this ship was sunk.

It would be very much appreciated if you could kindly advise the date of the sinking of this ship, so that I may in turn advise the P.M.G. Sub-branch, R.S.S.A.I.L.A.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,


STATE SECRETARY.
(G. J. ANGELL)

*N. Luke
for action pls M 21/10*