

ACTION OFF SKERKI BANK

0030 2 December 1942

Background: After the Allied invasion of French North Africa, the Royal Navy began night surface sweeps against Italian convoys trying to reinforce the Axis troops in Tunisia. Force Q from Bone ran across an Italian convoy in the early morning hours of 2 December.

Forces:

Royal Navy (Rear Admiral C. H. J. Harcourt)	Division 1	Aurora Argonaut Sirius	(Arethusa– flag) (Dido) (Dido)
	Division 2	Quentin Quiberon	("Q" Class – flag) ("Q" Class)
Regia Marina (Captain Aldo Cocchia)	Division 1	Da Recco Folgore Camicia Nera Clio Procione	(Navigatori –flag) (Folgore) (Soldati) (Spica) (Pegaso)
	Division 2	Transport 1 Transport 2 Transport 2 Transport 3	(Medium Merchant – flag) (Medium Merchant) (Medium Merchant) (Medium Merchant)

Set-up:

N^

Regia Marina: The convoy begins the scenario in a disorganized state. Three of the merchantmen, with the flag leading, are in line formation on a course of 240, with the flag 18 inches from the north edge and 10 inches from the east edge. Da Recco, Clio and Folgore are also in line on a course of 240, 1 inch south of the three merchantmen. The fourth merchantman is 4 inches west and 1 inch north of the merchant flag, on a course of 240. The Camicia Nera is 3 inches north of the last merchantman in line, on a course of 240. The Procione is 5 inches south of the merchant flag, on a course of 240.

Royal Navy: The British are steaming in line, with Division 1 leading Division 2, on a course of 60.

Aurora is 18 inches from the north edge and 30 inches from the east edge.

The west edge is friendly for the British player. The north edge is friendly for the Italian player.

Victory Conditions:

- 1 point per Italian destroyer sunk,
- 1 point per British destroyer torpedoed,
- 2 points per British destroyer sunk,
- 2 points per cruiser torpedoed,
- 4 points per cruiser sunk,
- 2 points per merchantman sunk.

Special Rules:

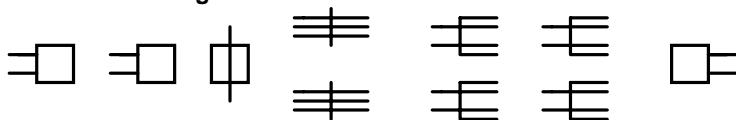
- All Italian ships not in formation with a flagship must roll for random movement until they join a flagship. The Da Recco is the flag for warships, while Merchantman 1 is the flag for the merchantmen.
- Pegaso class is similar to the Spica class in game terms, but with a speed of 3.50 inches, an AAMG in place of Main X, and 2 triple 17.7 inch centerline torpedo tube mounts.
- British cruisers have Type 271 search radars and Type 284 fire control radars. British destroyers have Type 281 search radars and Type 285 fire control radars.
- Visibility is level **-5** (**-11** for the Italians) with a spotting base of **8** inches.

Outcome: In common with other night actions, the British caught the Italians flat-footed. While the Italians did manage some torpedo attacks, the British retired unscathed after sinking 3 of the transports and Folgore. Da Recco and Procione were also damaged.

Arethusa

<u>Navy</u>	Royal Navy			<u>Date</u>	1941		
<u>Class</u>	Light cruiser						
<u>Surface Armament</u>				<u>Ranges</u>		<u>Directors</u>	
Main Battery:	6 inch guns in 3 twin turrets			25 inches		Forward	
Secondary Battery:	4 inch guns in 4 twin mounts			16 inches		Forward	
Torpedoes:	21 inch torpedoes in 2 triple mounts			13 inches at 4.25"		Port and starboard	
Maximum Value:	9			16 inches at 2.75"			
<u>Gun:</u>	5"	10"	15"	20"	25"	Power	Relia
6 inch twin	A/12	8/10	3/7	2/5	1/2	5	A
4 inch twin	A/12	8/8	2/3	1/0		3	B
<u>Speed</u>	4.00"	4 boilers	4 engines	<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1	20.5"-22.5": ±3	24": ±4
Flotation	Total: 66	DIW: 33	Sinking: 44				

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Four ships in class: Arethusa, Galatea, Penelope and Aurora.
- Aurora had no aircraft or catapult. Treat hits in 36-42 as void hits.
- Penelope has secondary director aft in place of searchlight.

Hits

Fuel Oil 1	11-12	Void
Main Magazine A	13-14	Void
Main Magazine A	15-21	Main A
Main Magazine B	22-24	Main B
Main Magazine B	25	Bridge
Secondary Magazine	26	Bridge, Main Director
Secondary Magazine	31	Bridge
Transmitting Room	32	Secondary Director
Boiler Room 1	33	Search Radar
Boiler Room 1	34	AAMGs
Boiler Room 1	35	Funnel, Searchlight 1 or 2
Engine Room 1	36	Catapult, AAMGs
Engine Room 1	41	Catapult, AAMGs
Engine Room 1	42	Catapult, Aircraft
Engine Room 1	43	Catapult, Aircraft
Boiler Room 2	44	Torpedo 1 or 2
Boiler Room 2	45	Torpedo 1 or 2, Funnel
Boiler Room 2	46	Funnel
Engine Room 2	51	Secondary 1 or 2
Engine Room 2	52-53	AAMGs
Engine Room 2	54	Secondary 3 or 4
Main Magazine Y	55	Aft Secondary Director, Searchlight 3
Main Magazine Y	56-62	Main Y
Fuel Oil 2, Propshaft 1 or 2 (4-6)	63	Void
Fuel Oil 2, Propshaft 3 or 4	64	Void
Steering	65	Steering
Void	66	Void

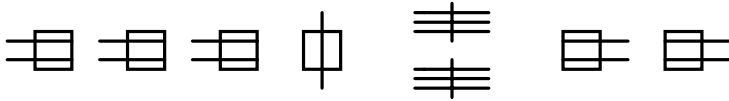
Internal Diagram

V1 1FP	FO1 2FP	FM A 2FP	FM B 2FP	SM 2FP	TR 1FP	BR1 B1 B2 14FP	ER1 E1 E2 11FP	BR2 B3 B4 14FP	ER2 E3 E4 11FP	AM Y 2FP	FO2 2FP	ST 2FP	V2 0FP
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Dido

<u>Navy Class</u>	Royal Navy Light cruiser				<u>Date</u>	1942		
<u>Surface Armament</u>					<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>		
Main Battery:	5.25 inch guns in 5 twin turrets				24 inches	Forward (surface), fore and aft (air)		
Torpedoes:	21 inch torpedoes in 2 triple mounts 2 special hits				13 inches at 4.25" 16 inches at 2.75"	Port and starboard		
<u>Gun:</u>	5"	10"	15"	20"	24"	Power	Relia	
5.25 inch twin	A/13	8/10	3/6	2/2	1/0	4	B	
<u>Speed</u>	4.25"	4 boilers	4 engines	<u>Torpedo Hits</u>		17.7"-18": ±1	20.5"-22.5": ±3	24": ±4
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 69	DIW: 35	Sinking: 42					

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Nine ships in class, including Cleopatra, Euryalus, Naiad and Phoebe.
- Some were built without the C turret, but had it installed later.

Hits

Officers Berths	11-12	Void
Fuel Oil 1	13-14	Void
Main Magazine A	15-16	Turret A
Main Magazine B	21-22	Turret B
Main Magazine C	23-24	Turret C
Fuel Oil 2	25	AAMGs
Fuel Oil 2	26	Bridge
Transmitting Room	31	Bridge, Main Director Surface
Boiler Room 1	32	Bridge, Forward Main Director Air
Boiler Room 1	33	AAMGs
Boiler Room 1	34	Search Radar
Boiler Room 1	35	Funnel
Engine Room 1	36	Searchlight 1 or 2
Engine Room 1	41	Void
Engine Room 1	42	AAMGs
Boiler Room 2	43-44	Void
Boiler Room 2	45	Funnel
Boiler Room 2	46	Searchlight 3 or 4
Engine Room 2	51	Void
Engine Room 2	52	Aft Main Director Air
Engine Room 2	53	AAMGs
Main Magazine X	54-55	Main X
Main Magazine Y	56-61	Main Y
Fuel Oil 2, Propshaft 1 or 2	62	Void
Fuel Oil 2, Propshaft 3 or 4)	63-64	Void
Steering	65	Steering
Void	66	Void

Internal Diagram

V1 1FP	FO1 2FP	FM A 2FP	FM B 2FP	FM C 2FP	FO2 2FP	TR 1FP	BR1 B1 B2 14FP	ER1 E1 E2 11FP	BR2 B3 B4 14FP	ER2 E3 E4 11FP	AM X 2FP	AM Y 2FP	FO3 2FP	ST 1FP	V2 0FP
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“O/P/Q/R/S/T/U/V” Classes

<u>Navy Class</u>	Royal Navy Destroyer				<u>Date</u>	1941		
<u>Surface Armament</u>					<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>		
Main Battery:	4 inch guns in 4 single mounts [4.7 inch guns in 4 single mounts]				17 inches	Fore		
Torpedoes:	21 inch torpedoes in 2 quadruple mounts				18 inches	Fore]		
Maximum Value:	9				13 inches at 4.25"	Port and starboard		
					16 inches at 2.75"			
<u>Gun:</u>	5"	10"	15"	18"	Power	Relia		
4 inch single	A/10	8/6	2/1	1/-2	3	B		
4.7 inch single	A/10	8/6	2/2	1/-1	4	B		
<u>Speed</u>	4.50	2 boilers	2 engines	<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1	20.5"-22.5": ±3	24": ±5	
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 27	DIW: 14	Sinking: 18					

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Seventy-one units in classes O through W.
- Some of units of the O and P classes had 4 4.7" guns. The 4.7" gun-armed Os and Ps gave up the aft set of torpedo tubes for a 4" AA gun. The gun cannot engage surface targets. Oribi, Onslow, Onslaught and Offa had 4.7s.
- The Qs through Vs (except Savage) all had 4 4.7s and no 4" gun. Their 4.7s could elevate to 55 degrees, giving them a measure of main battery antiaircraft capability.
- GR space is the Gearing Room. Treat hits on it as Engine Room hits, although it floods separately.

Hits

Fuel Oil 1	11-14	Forward Void
Fuel Oil 1	15	Main A
Forward Main Magazine	16-21	Main A
Forward Main Magazine	22-23	Main B
Fuel Oil 1	24	Main B
Fuel Oil 1	25	AAMGs
Fuel Oil 1	26	Bridge
Fuel Oil 1	31	Bridge
Boiler Room 1	32	Main Director
Boiler Room 1	33	Search Radar
Boiler Room 1	34	Funnel
Boiler Room 2	35-36	Funnel
Boiler Room 2	41	AAMGs
Engine Room	42-44	Torpedo A
Engine Room	45	Torpedo B
Gearing Room	46-51	Torpedo B
Fuel Oil 2	52	Searchlight
Fuel Oil 2	53	AAMGs
Fuel Oil 2	54-55	Main X
Aft Main Magazine	55	Main X
Aft Main Magazine	56	Main X
Aft Main Magazine	61-62	Main Y
Propshaft 1 or 2	63-64	Void
Steering	65-66	Steering

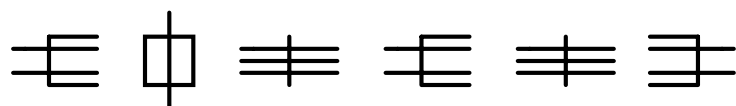
Internal Diagram

VO1 1FP	FM A&B 1FP	FO1 2FP	BR1 B1 5FP	BR2 B3 5FP	ER E1 E2 6FP	GR 3FP	FO2 2FP	AM X&Y 1FP	ST 1FP
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“Navigatori” Class

<u>Navy</u> <u>Class</u>	Regia Marina Destroyer				<u>Date</u> <u>Armor</u>	1941 None	
<u>Surface Armament</u>					<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>	
Main Battery:	4.7 inch guns in 3 twin mounts				19 inches	Fore	
Torpedoes:	21 inch torpedoes in 2 triple mounts				5 inches at 6.00"	Port and starboard	
Maximum Value:	8				9 inches at 4.75		
					13 inches at 3.75"		
<u>Gun:</u> 4.7 inch twin	5" A/12	10" 8/8	15" 2/4	19" 1/1	Power 4	Relia B	
<u>Speed</u>	3.50	4 boilers	2 engines	<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1	20.5"-22.5": ±3	24": ±5
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 27	DIW: 14	Sinking: 18				

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Twelve ships in class, including Luca Tarigo and Lanzerotto Malocello
- Speed is as refit. Usodimare and Da Recco were not refitted, and retained a speed of 4.75 inches.
- Da Noli, Malocello, Pancaldo, Vivaldi and Zeno had twin rather than triple torpedo tubes.
- Large destroyers originally classed as scouts.

Hits

Fuel Oil 1	11-14	Forward Void
Fuel Oil 1	15	Void
Forward Main Magazine	16-21	Void
Forward Main Magazine	22-23	Main A
Fuel Oil 2	24	Main A
Fuel Oil 2	25	Bridge
Fuel Oil 2	26	AAMGs
Boiler Room 1	31	Bridge
Boiler Room 1	32	Main Director
Boiler Room 1	33	Void
Engine Room 1	34	Funnel
Engine Room 1	35-36	Torpedo A
Midships Main Magazine	41	Torpedo A
Boiler Room 2	42-43	AAMGs [Main M]
Boiler Room 2	44	Funnel
Engine Room 2	45	Funnel
Engine Room 2	46-51	Torpedo B
Aft Main Magazine	52	Torpedo B
Aft Main Magazine	53	Searchlight
Aft Main Magazine	54-55	Main X
Fuel Oil 3	56	Main X
Fuel Oil 3	61-62	Void
Propshaft 1 or 2	63-64	Void
Steering	65-66	Steering

Internal Diagram

FO1 1FP	FM A 1FP	FO2 2FP	BR1 B1 B2 4FP	ER1 E1 4FP	MM M 1FP	BR2 B3 B4 4FP	ER2 E2 4FP	FO3 1FP	AM X 1FP	ST 1FP
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Folgore Class

<u>Navy Class</u>	Regia Marina Destroyer				<u>Date</u>	1941		
<u>Surface Armament</u>					<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>		
Main Battery:	4.7 inch guns in 2 twin mounts				19 inches	Fore		
Torpedoes:	21 inch torpedoes in 2 triple mounts 2 special hits				5 inches at 6.00" 9 inches at 4.75 13 inches at 3.75"	Port and starboard		
<u>Gun:</u> 4.7 inch twin	5" A/12	10" 8/8	15" 2/4	19" 1/1	Power 4	Relia B		
<u>Speed</u>	4.00	3 boilers	2 engines	<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1	20.5"-22.5": ±3	24": ±5	
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 27	DIW: 14	Sinking: 18					

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Four ships in class, three of which were sunk in surface actions.
- Dardo class, with four units, were similar in game terms.

Hits

Fuel Oil 1	11-14	Forward Void
Fuel Oil 1	15	Void
Forward Main Magazine	16-21	Void
Forward Main Magazine	22-23	Main A
Fuel Oil 2	24	Main A
Fuel Oil 2	25	Bridge
Fuel Oil 2	26	AAMGs
Fuel Oil 2	31	Bridge
Boiler Room	32	Main Director
Boiler Room	33	Void
Boiler Room	34	Funnel
Boiler Room	35-36	Funnel
Boiler Room	41	Torpedo A
Engine Room	42-43	Torpedo A
Engine Room	44-45	AAMGs
Engine Room	46-51	Torpedo B
Aft Main Magazine	52	Torpedo B
Aft Main Magazine	53	Searchlight
Aft Main Magazine	54-55	Main X
Fuel Oil 3	56	Main X
Fuel Oil 3	61-62	Void
Propshaft 1 or 2	63-64	Void
Steering	65-66	Steering

Internal Diagram

FO1 1FP	FM A&B 1FP	FO2 3FP	BR B1,2,3 10FP	ER E1 E2 9FP	AM X&Y 1FP	FO3 1FP	ST 1FP
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“Soldati/Maestrale/Oriani” Classes

<u>Navy Class</u>	Regia Marina Destroyer				<u>Date</u>	1941
					<u>Armor</u>	None
<u>Surface Armament</u>					<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>
Main Battery:	4.7 inch guns in 2 twin mounts				19 inches	Fore
Torpedoes:	21 inch torpedoes in 2 triple mounts				5 inches at 6.00"	Port and starboard
Maximum Value:	8				9 inches at 4.75	
					13 inches at 3.75"	
<u>Gun:</u>	5"	10"	15"	19"	Power	Relia
4.7 inch twin	A/12	8/8	2/4	1/1	4	B
<u>Speed</u>	4.75	3 boilers	2 engines	<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1	20.5"-22.5": ±3 24": ±5
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 27	DIW: 14	Sinking: 18			

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Twelve ships in class.
- Maestrale class, with four units, and Oriani class, with four units, were similar in game terms.
- Camicia Nera, Carabiniere, Geniere and Lanciere had the midships mount shown.

Hits

Fuel Oil 1	11-14	Forward Void
Fuel Oil 1	15	Void
Forward Main Magazine	16-21	Void
Forward Main Magazine	22-23	Main A
Fuel Oil 2	24	Main A
Fuel Oil 2	25	Bridge
Fuel Oil 2	26	AAMGs
Fuel Oil 2	31	Bridge
Boiler Room 1	32	Main Director
Boiler Room 1	33	Void
Boiler Room 1	34	Funnel
Boiler Room 1	35	Funnel
Boiler Room 2	36	Funnel
Boiler Room 2	41	Torpedo A
Engine Room	42-43	Torpedo A
Engine Room	44-45	AAMGs [Main M]
Engine Room	46-51	Torpedo B
Aft Main Magazine	52	Torpedo B
Aft Main Magazine	53	Searchlight
Aft Main Magazine	54-55	Main X
Fuel Oil 3	56	Main X
Fuel Oil 3	61-62	Void
Propshaft 1 or 2	63-64	Void
Steering	65-66	Steering

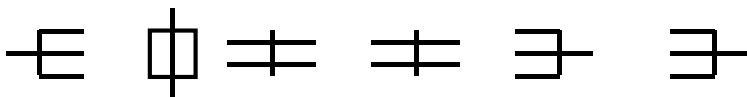
Internal Diagram

FO1 1FP	FM A&B 1FP	FO2 3FP	BR1 B1 B2 6FP	BR2 B3 4FP	ER E1 E2 9FP	AM X&Y 1FP	FO3 1FP	ST 1FP
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Spica Class

<u>Navy Class</u>	Regia Marina Torpedo Boat/Escort				<u>Date</u>	1940
					<u>Armor</u>	None
<u>Surface Armament</u>			<u>Ranges</u>			<u>Directors</u>
Main Battery:	3.9 inch guns in 3 single mounts				16 inches	Fore
Torpedoes:	17.7 inch torpedoes in 2 twin mounts				2 inches at 4.75"	Port and starboard
Maximum Value:	8				6 inches at 3.75	
<u>Gun:</u>	5"	10"	15"	16"	Power	Relia
3.9 inch single	A/10	8/6	2/0	1/-2	3	B
<u>Speed</u>	3.75	2 boilers	2 engines	<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±2	20.5"-22.5": ±4 24": ±6
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 25	DIW: 13	Sinking: 17			

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Thirty ships in class.
- Astore, Spica, Centauro and Climene had two single torpedo tubes on each beam and a twin mount on the centerline.
- Canopa, Cassiopea, Castore, Cigno, Libra, Lince, Lira and Lupo had four single tubes, two on each side.
- The remainder had two twin mounts on the centerline.

Hits

Fuel Oil 1	11-14	Forward Void
Fuel Oil 1	15	Void
Forward Main Magazine	16-21	Void
Forward Main Magazine	22-23	Main A
Fuel Oil 2	24	Main A
Fuel Oil 2	25	Bridge
Fuel Oil 2	26	AAMGs
Fuel Oil 2	31	Bridge
Boiler Room 1	32	Main Director
Boiler Room 1	33	Void
Boiler Room 1	34	Funnel
Boiler Room 2	35-36	Funnel
Boiler Room 2	41-42	Torpedo 1 or 2 [Torpedo A]
Engine Room	43-44	AAMGs
Engine Room	45-46	Torpedo 3 or 4 [Torpedo B]
Engine Room	51	Searchlight
Aft Main Magazine	52	Main X
Aft Main Magazine	53	Main X
Aft Main Magazine	54-55	Main Y
Fuel Oil 3	56	Main Y
Fuel Oil 3	61-62	Void
Propshaft 1 or 2	63-64	Void
Steering	65-66	Steering

Internal Diagram

FO1 1FP	FM A 1FP	FO2 2FP	BR1 B1 4FP	BR2 B2 4FP	ER E1,E2 8FP	AM XY 2FP	FO3 2FP	ST 1FP
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Merchantman (engine amidships)

<u>Navy Class</u>	Merchantman Engine amidships			<u>Date</u> <u>Armor</u>	1942 None		
<u>Speed</u>	1.00"-2.00"	2 boilers	1 engine	<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18":	20.5"-22.5":	24":
				<u>Small</u>	±3	±6	±9
				<u>Medium</u>	±2	±4	±6
				<u>Large</u>	±1	±3	±5
<u>Flotation</u>	Total:	DIW:	Sinking:				
<u>Small</u>	29	15	20				
<u>Medium</u>	38	19	25				
<u>Large</u>	43	22	28				

Notes

- Models merchantment with boilers and engine situated amidships rather than aft.
- Small merchantmen equate to a displacement of 1000 to 3000 displaced tons (about 1500 to 4000 gross registered tons), medium merchantmen to 3000-7000 displaced tons (about 4000 to 9000 grt) and large merchantmen to 7000-15000 displaced tons (about 9000-20000 grt).

Hits

Small	Medium	Large		Small	Medium	Large
Bow	Bow	Bow	11-13	Bow	Bow	Bow
Hold 1	Hold 1	Hold 1	14-15	Hold 1	Hold 1	Hold 1
Hold 1	Hold 1	Hold 1	16-21	Hold 1	Hold 1	Hold 1
Hold 1	Hold 1	Hold 2	22-23	Hold 1	Hold 2	Hold 2
Hold 1	Hold 2	Hold 2	24-25	Hold 1	Hold 2	Hold 2
Hold 1	Hold 2	Hold 2	26	Bridge	Bridge	Bridge
Hold 1	Hold 2	Hold 3	31-32	Bridge	Bridge	Bridge
Hold 1	Hold 2	Hold 3	33-34	Hold 1	Hold 2	Hold 3
Engine	Engine	Engine	35-42	Engine	Engine	Engine
Hold 2	Hold 3	Hold 4	43-44	Hold 2	Hold 3	Hold 4
Hold 2	Hold 3	Hold 4	45-46	Hold 2	Hold 3	Hold 4
Hold 2	Hold 3	Hold 4	51	Hold 2	Hold 3	Hold 4
Hold 2	Hold 3	Hold 5	52-53	Hold 2	Hold 3	Hold 5
Hold 2	Hold 4	Hold 5	54-55	Hold 2	Hold 4	Hold 5
Hold 2	Hold 4	Hold 6	56-61	Hold 2	Hold 4	Hold 6
Hold 2	Hold 4	Hold 6	62-63	Hold 2	Hold 4	Hold 6
Hold 2	Hold 4	Hold 6	64	Hold 2	Hold 4	Hold 6
Steering	Steering	Steering	65-66	Steering	Steering	Steering

Internal Diagram -- Small

BOW 1FP	H1 FP 12FP	ER B1,E1 3FP	H2 FP 12FP	ST 1FP
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Internal Diagram -- Medium

BOW 1FP	H1 8FP	H2 8FP	ER B1,E1 4FP	H3 8FP	H4 8FP	ST 1FP
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Internal Diagram -- Large

BOW 1FP	H1 6FP	H2 6FP	H3 6FP	ER B1,E1 5FP	H4 6FP	H5 6FP	H6 6FP	ST 1FP
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