NORTH CAPE -- FIRST CONTACT

0840 26 December 1943

Background: The Battle of North Cape resulted from the Kriegsmarine's last fling at using surface forces against Russia-bound convoys. In this case the target was JW55B, a convoy of 18 merchantmen bound for Murmansk. The Germans spotted the convoy early and on Christmas Day 1943 sent Scharnhorst and five destroyers against it. The Germans sailed into the teeth of a Force 7 gale with orders not to repeat the timid performance of the Battle of Barents Sea. The next day, the German force collided with the screening cruisers of Rear Admiral Burnett.

Forces: Royal Navy Vice-Admiral R. L.	Division 1	Belfast Sheffield	(Belfast flag) (Southampton)
Burnett	Division 2	Norfolk	("County" Class)
Kriegsmarine Rear-Admiral Erich Bey	Division 1	Scharnhorst	(Scharnhorst)
rteal / tallillal Ellell Bey	Division 2	Z29 Z30 Z33 Z34 Z38	(Type 36A flag) (Type 36A) (Type 36A) (Type 36A) (Type 36A)

Set-up:

Out up.	
N^	

German Division 1 is on a course of 360 (due north), 38 inches from the east edge and 24 inches from the north edge, moving at a speed of 1.50 inches. German Division 2 is on a course of 240 in line abreast with 10 inches separating each destroyer, moving at a speed of 1.50 inches. The middle destroyer from the northern end of the line is 56 inches from the east edge and 46 inches from the north edge.

British Divisions 1 and 2 begin in line abreast with Division 2 to the south and 1 1/2 inches separating each ship Both are on a course of 270 -- due west. Division 1 is 30 inches from the north edge and 6 inches

from the east edge.

Victory Conditions:

- a) There is a convoy to the north. The German player gets 2 points for exiting Scharnhorst from the north edge if she has at least half her main battery operable and speed of at least 3.00 inches.
- b) The German player gets 1 point for exiting Scharnhort from the south edge if the same conditions as stated in a) are met.
- c) The German player gets 2 points for each British cruiser sunk.
- d) The British player gets 1 point for each German destroyer sunk, 1 point for reducing Scharnhorst's speed below 3.00 inches, 2 points for reducing Scharnhorst's speed to zero and 4 points for sinking Scharnhorst.

Special Rules:

- 1. The Type 36A destroyers have received their 5.9 inch twin turrets, thus mounting 3 5.9 inch singles amidships and aft and 1 5.9 inch twin forward. The 5.9 inch mounts have a gunnery modifier of -2.
- 2. The German destroyers will continue on their current course and speed until fired on by the British. Scharnhorst must continue on its current course and speed until fired on by the British.
- 3. All British cruisers have 273, 281, 284 and 285 radar and CICs.
- 4. Seas are heavy. Scharnhorst is limited to a speed of 3.75 inches, cruisers and destroyers to a speed of 3.00 inches, and the German destroyers have a heavy seas gunnery modifier of -3.
- 5. Visibility is 7 inches with a gunfire modifier of -5 -- essentially night due to the Arctic gloom and the heavy weather.
- 6. Optional: When Burnett reported contact with Scharnhorst, Admiral Fraser ordered a division of destroyers south to support the cruiser force. These arrive on the north edge at a point selected by the British player at the start of the game. They appear no earlier than Turn 8, on 1D6 roll of 1. The force is the second division from the next scenario.

Outcome: The British cruiser force covering the convoy spotted Scharnhorst on radar and closed down to visual sighting range. They took her by suprise as she was moving behind a picket line of destroyers and put three shells into her before she could escape. The action gave the British a fix on Scharnhorst's position, stopped her from finding the convoy and separated her from her destroyers.

Belfast Date Navy Royal Navy 1942 Class Heavy cruiser Surface Armament Ranges Directors 25 inches Fore and aft Main Battery: 6 inch guns in 4 triple turrets Secondary Battery: 4 inch guns in 4 twin mounts 16 inches Port, starboard and aft Torpedoes: 21 inch torpedoes in 2 triple mounts 13 inches at 4.25" Port and starboard 2 special hits 16 inches at 2.75" Speed 4.00" 4 boilers 4 engines DIW: 33 Sinking: 44 **Flotation** Total: 67 Torpedo Hits 17.7"-18": ±1 24": ±3 20.5"-22.5": ±2

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Similar to Southampton class, but with re-arranged internal spaces.
- Two in class: Belfast and Edinburgh

Hits

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

Internal Diagram

ı							BR1	ER1	BR2	ER2					
ı	V1	FO1	FM	FM	TR	SM	B1	E1	В3	E3	AM	AM	FO2	ST	V
ı	1FP	2FP	Α	В	1FP	2FP	B2	E2	B4	E4	Χ	Υ	2FP	1FP	0FP
ı			2FP	2FP			14FP	11FP	14FP	11FP	2FP	2FP			

Void

66

Void

"County" Royal Navy Date 1942 (Cumberland modeled) Navy Class Heavy cruiser

Surface Armament Main Battery:

Speed

8 inch guns in 4 twin turrets Secondary Battery: 4 inch guns in 4 twin mounts Torpedoes: 21 inch torpedoes in 2 quadruple mounts

2 special hits

8 boilers 4 engines

DIW: 34 **Flotation** Total: 67 Sinking: 44

> <u>Torpedo Hits</u> 17.7"-18": ±1 24": ±3 20.5"-22.5": ±2

Armament Arrangement

4.00"



Steering

Void

65

66

Notes

Directors

Fore and aft

Port and starboard

Port and starboard

- Five ships in class, including Kent, Berwick, Cornwall, Cumberland, Suffolk
- Only Kent had torpedo tubes.

Ranges

29 inches

16 inches

13 inches at 4.25"

16 inches at 2.75"

Hits

	Officers Berths	11-12	Void	
	Fuel Oil 1	13-14	Void	
	Main Magazine A		Main A	i
	Main Magazine B	22-24	Main B	
	Main Magazine B	25	Bridge	
	Transmitting Room	26	Bridge, Forward Main Director	
ĺ	Fuel Oil 2	31	Bridge Port or Starboard Secondary Director [Bridge,]	
	Boiler Room 1	32	Search Radar, AAMGs	
	Boiler Room 1	33	Funnel, Secondary 1 or 2	
	Boiler Room 1	34	Torpedo 1 or 2 [Void]	
	Boiler Room 1	35	Torpedo 1 or 2 [Void]	
	Boiler Room 2	36	Funnel, Secondary 3 or 4	
	Boiler Room 2	41	Funnel	
	Boiler Room 2	42-43	Catapult, Aircraft	
	Secondary Magazine	44	Aircraft	
	Engine Room 1	45	Aircraft	
	Engine Room 1	46	Searchlight A or B	
	Engine Room 2	51	Aft main director [Secondary director]	
	Engine Room 2	52	Void	
	Main Magazine X		Main X	- :
	Main Magazine Y		Main Y	į
	Fuel Oil 3, Propshaft 1 or 2		Void	
	Fuel Oil 3, Propshaft 3 or 4	64	Void	

Steering

Void

Internal Diagram

2FP 2FP 14FP 14FP 10FP 10FP 2FP 2FP	V1 1FP	FO1 2FP	PM A 2FP	PM B 2FP	TR 1FP	FO2 2FP	BR1 B1 B2 14FP	B3 B4	BR2 B5 B6 14FP	B7 B8	SM 2FP	ER1 E1 E2 10FP	ER2 E3 E4 10FP	PM X 2FP	PM Y 2FP	FO2 2FP	ST 1FP	V2 0FP
---	-----------	------------	----------------	----------------	-----------	------------	-------------------------	----------	-------------------------	----------	-----------	-------------------------	-------------------------	----------------	----------------	------------	-----------	-----------

Navy Royal Navy Date 1942 Class Heavy cruiser

Surface ArmamentRangesDirectorsMain Battery:6 inch guns in 4 triple turrets25 inchesSee NotesSecondary Battery:4 inch guns in 4 twin mounts16 inchesSee Notes

Torpedoes: 21 inch torpedoes in 2 triple mounts 13 inches at 4.25" Port and starboard

2 special hits 16 inches at 2.75"

Speed 4.00" 4 boilers 4 engines

Flotation Total: 67 DIW: 33 Sinking: 44

<u>Torpedo Hits</u> 17.7"-18": ±1 20.5"-22.5": ±2 24": ±3

Armament Arrangement



Hits

Officers Berths 11-12 Void Fuel Oil 1 13-14 Void

Main Magazine A | 15-21 | Main A | Main Magazine B | 22-24 | Main B | Main Magazine B | 25 | Bridge

Transmitting Room 26 Bridge, Main Director

Boiler Room 1 31 Bridge, Forward Secondary Director 1 or 2

Boiler Room 1 32 Search Radar, Aaircraft Boiler Room 1 33 Funnel, AAMGs, Aircraft

Engine Room 1 34 AAMGs
Engine Room 1 35 Catapult
Engine Room 1 36 Void
Boiler Room 2 41-42 Funnel

Boiler Room 2 43 Secondary 1 or 2, Searchlight

Secondary Magazine 44 Torpedo 1 or 2
Secondary Magazine 45 Torpedo 1 or 2
Engine Room 2 46 Secondary 3 or 4

Engine Room 2 51 AAMGs [Aft Secondary Director]

Engine Room 2 | 52 [Aft Secondary Director] [Aft Primary Director]

Main Magazine X 53-55 Main X
Main Magazine Y 56-62 Main Y
Fuel Oil 2, Propshaft 1 or 2 63-64 Void

Steering, Propshaft 3 or 4 65 Steering Void 66 Void

Internal Diagram

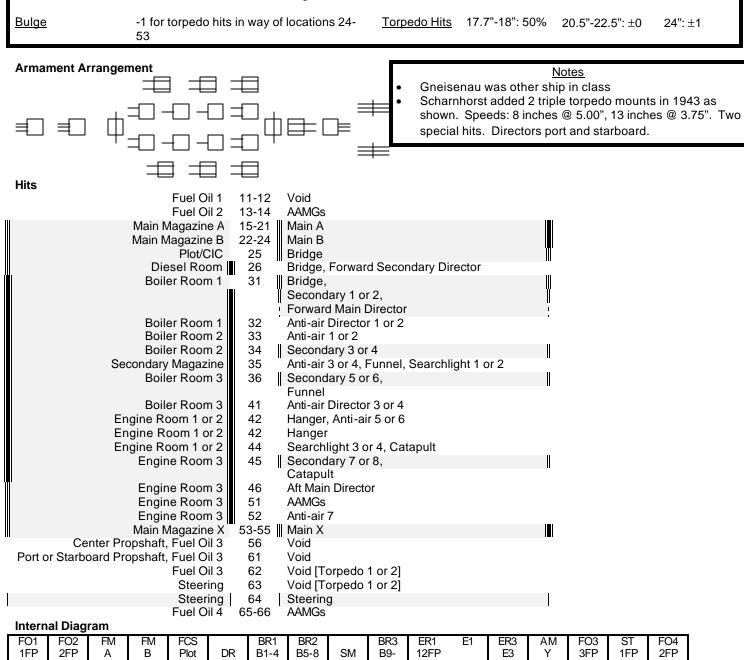
I						BR1	ER1	BR2		ER2					
	V1	FO1	FM	FM	TR	B1	E1	В3	SM	E3	AM	AM	FO2	ST	V
	1FP	2FP	Α	В	1FP	B2	E2	B4	2FP	E4	Χ	Υ	2FP	1FP	0FP
ı			2FP	2FP		14FP	11FP	14FP		11FP	2FP	2FP			

Notes

Eight ships in class, including Newcastle and Sheffield.

All has a forward primary director and port and starboard directors forward. Sheffield, Birmingham and Glasgow have a third secondary director aft. Manchester, Liverpool and Gloucester also had a second primary director aft.

			Schar	nhorst			
Navy Class		Deutsches Kriegsma Battleship	rine	<u>Date</u>	1941		
Surface Ar Main Batter Secondary	y:	11 inch guns in 3 triple 5.9 inch guns in 4 twi mounts		Ranges 45 inches 24 inches		<u>Directors</u> Fore and aft Fore and aft	
Anti-air Bat	tery	4.1 inch guns in 7 twir	n mounts	16 inches		Four-cornered	
<u>Speed</u>	3.75"	12 boilers	3 engines				
Flotation	Total: 68	DIW: 34	Sinking: 46				
<u>Bulge</u>		-1 for torpedo hits in wa	ay of locations 24-	Torpedo Hits	<u>s</u> 17.7"-18": 50%	6 20.5"-22.5": ±0	24": ±1



FO1 1FP	FO2 2FP	FM A	FM B	FCS Plot	DR	BR1 B1-4	BR2 B5-8	SM	BR3 B9-	ER1 12FP	E1	ER3 E3	AM Y	FO3 3FP	ST 1FP	FO4 2FP
		2FP	2FP	1FP	6FP	6FP	6FP	2FP	12 6FP	ER2 12FP	E2	12FP	2FP			

Type 36A Deutsches Kriegsmarine Date Navy

<u>Class</u> Destroyer

Surface Armament Main Battery: 5.9 inch guns in 1 twin and 3 single turrets Torpedoes:

Ranges 24 inches 21 inch torpedoes in 2 quadruple mounts 8 inches at 5.00"

13 inches at 3.75"

1942

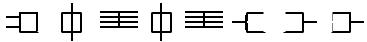
Directors Forward and aft Port and starboard

Speed 4.75" 6 boilers 2 engines

Total: 31 DIW: 16 Flotation Sinking: 20

> Torpedo Hits 17.7"-18": ±1 24": ±5 20.5"-22.5": ±3

Armament Arrangement



Hits

Notes

- Class included Z-23 through Z-39.
- First eight completed with 4 single gun mounts. Most received a forward turret in lieu of the forward single mount in 1942.
- At first glance, "super-destroyers"; but the class suffered from poor sea-keeping abilities, unreliable powerplant, and a main battery too large for the hulls
- -2 to main battery accuracy; -3 (rather than -2) optional modifier in heavy seas.
- Fuel tanks like cruisers, outboard of machinery spaces.

Void 1 11-14 Void Forward Main Magazine 15-22 Main A

23-24 Forward Main Magazine **AAMGs**

Boiler Room 1 25 Bridge, Torpedo Directors Boiler Room 1 26 Bridge, Forward Director

Boiler Room 2 31 **Funnel** Boiler Room 2 32 **Funnel** Turbogenerator Room 33 Torpedo A 34-35 Boiler Room 3 Torpedo A Boiler Room 3 36 Funnel

41 Engine Room 1 Searchlight, AAMGs

42-43 Engine Room 1 Torpedo B, Torpedo Director

Fuel Oil 44 Torpedo B 45 AAMGs, Main M Engine Room 2 Engine Room 2 46 Main M

Main M Engine Room 2 51 **AAMGs** Aft Main Magazine 52 53-55 Main X Aft Main Magazine

Void 2 56-62 Main Y 63-64 Void

Void 2, Propshaft 1 or 2

Steering 65-66 Steering

Internal Diagram

	FM	BR1	BR2		BR3	ER1		ER2	AM		
V1	Α	B1,B2	B3,B4	TR	B5,B6	E1	FO	E2	MXY	V2	ST
1FP	3FP	3FP	3FP	1FP	3FP	4FP	1FP	4FP	4FP	2FP	2FP