#### THE CHANNEL DASH

#### 1517 12 February 1942

Background: Scharnhorst and Gneisenau arrived at the French harbor of Brest a successful cruise against British merchant shipping. Once at Brest, the two battlecruisers found themselves subject to increasingly effective RAF air attacks. Faced with continuing damage from the RAF and Hitler's sudden intuition that Norway was about to be invaded, the Kriegsmarine decided to send the ships straight through the Channel north to Wilhelmshaven in company with the cruiser Prinz Eugen.

The bold German move, conducted in poor visibility, took the British by surprise. RAF responses were feeble and uncoordinated; the Royal Navy pitched in with its only available forces – torpedo bombers, motor torpedo boats, and super-annuated World War I destroyers. The scenario depicts the destroyer attack.

Forces: Royal Navy Captain P. T. M. Pizey	Division 1	Campbell Vivacious Worcester	("Scott" Class flag) ("V/W" Class) ("V/W" Class)
	Division 2	Mackay Whitshed	("Scott" Class flag) ("V/W" Class)
Kriegsmarine	Division 1	Gneisenau	(Scharnhorst)
Vice-Admiral Cilax	Division 2	Prinz Eugen	(Prinz Eugen)

Set-up:
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German Division 1 is on a course of 030, 24 inches from the north edge and 30 inches from the west edge. German Division 2 is on a course of 030, 26 inches from the north edge and 32 inches from the west edge.

British Division 1 is in line ahead on a course of 060, 12 inches from the north edge and 14 inches from the west edge. British Division 2 is in line ahead following Division 1.

Victory Conditions: The British player gets 1 point for each torpedo hit. The German player gets 1 point for each British destroyer sunk.

#### Special Rules:

- 1. The British destroyers are equipped with WW I era Mark IV torpedoes having speeds and ranges of 4 inches at 5.50 inches/turn and 9 inches at 3.75 inches/turn.
- The German ships have no torpedoes.
- 3. The Scotts have 271 radar.
- 4. Visibility is rolled each turn on 1D6 -- an overcast afternoon with rain and mist. The gunfire factor is --5.

Outcome: The old destroyers bored in through poor visibility to attain launch positions against the Prinz Eugen and Gneisenau, but all of their torpedoes missed. Although German gunfire lashed the ships, miraculously, none were sunk. The German ships escaped to German ports, but only after the Scharnhorst took significant damage from two mines.

Scott

Navy Class Royal Navy Destroyer

<u>Date</u> 1942 <u>Armor</u> None

Surface Armament

Flotation

Main Battery: 4.7 inch guns in 5 single mounts
Torpedoes: 21 inch torpedoes in 2 triple mounts

16 inches 4 inches at 5.50" Fore Port and starboard

**Directors** 

9 inches at 3.75"

Ranges

Speed 3.75" 4 boilers

Total: 25

2 engines

Sinking: 16

Torpedo Hits 17.7"-18": ±1 20.5"-22.5": ±4 24": ±6

### **Armament Arrangement**

DIW: 13

#### **Notes**

- Later modified as escort vessels, but in this original configuration for the Channel Dash.
- AAMG is a 3 inch AA gun, only capabl of engaging aerial targets.

#### Hits

Fuel Oil 1 11-13 Void Fuel Oil 1 15-21 Main A Forward Main Magazine Main B 22-24 Fuel Oil 2 25 Bridge Fuel Oil 2 Bridge, Main Director 26 Fuel Oil 2 Search Radar 31 Boiler Room 1 32 Funnel Boiler Room 1 33-35 Main M Boiler Room 2 Funnel 36 Boiler Room 2 41-42 **AAMGs** Boiler Room 2 Torpedo A 43 Engine Room 1 44-45 Torpedo A Engine Room 1 46 Searchlight Engine Room 2 51-53 Torpedo B Main X Fuel Oil 3 54-55 Aft Magazine 56 Main X Aft Magazine 61-62 Main Y Fuel Oil 4, Propshaft 1 or 2 63 Main Y Fuel Oil 4, Propshaft 1 or 2 64 Void 65-66 Steering Steering

## **Internal Diagram**

FO1	FM	FO2	BR1	BR2	ER1	ER2	FO3	AM	FO4	ST
1FP	AB	3FP	B1	B3	E1	E2	1FP	XY	1FP	1FP
	1FP		B2	B4	4FP	4FP		1FP		
			4FP	4FP						

## W/V Classes

Navy Royal Navy Class Destroyer

Date 1942 Armor None

Surface Armament

Main Battery: 4.7 inch guns in 4 single mounts
Torpedoes: 21 inch torpedoes in 2 triple mounts

Ranges Directors
16 inches Fore

4 inches at 5.50"

Port and starboard

9 inches at 3.75"

Speed 4.25" 3 boilers 2 engines

Flotation Total: 25 DIW: 13 Sinking: 16

Torpedo Hits 17.7"-18": ±1 20.5"-22.5": ±4 24": ±6

#### **Armament Arrangement**



**Notes** 

Later modified as escort vessels, but in this original configuration for the Channel Dash.

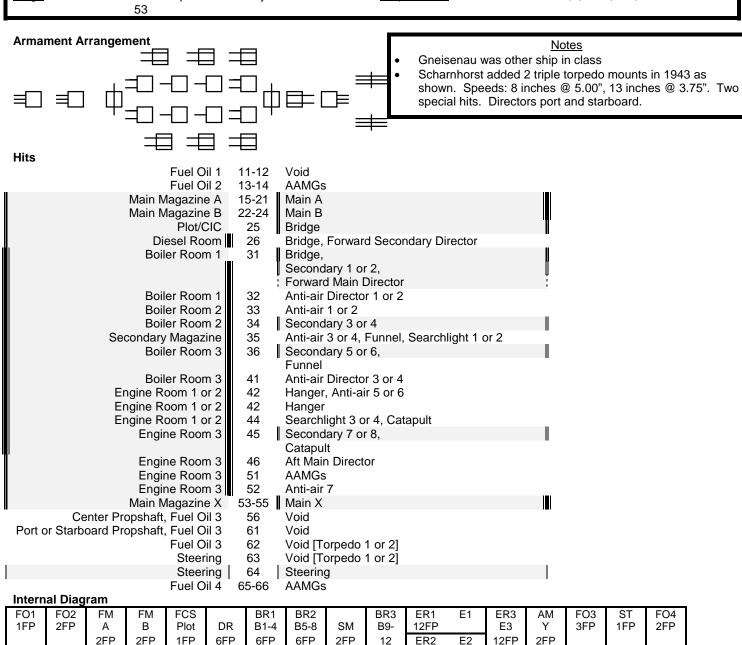
#### Hits

Fuel Oil 1 11-13 Void Fuel Oil 1 15-21 Main A Forward Main Magazine 22-24 Main B Fuel Oil 2 25-26 Bridge Fuel Oil 2 Bridge, Main Director 31 Boiler Room 1 32 Search Radar Boiler Room 1 33-34 Funnel Boiler Room 1 35-36 Torpedo A Boiler Room 2 41-42 Torpedo A Boiler Room 2 43 **Funnel** Engine Room 1 44-45 Searchlight Engine Room 1 46 Torpedo B Torpedo B Engine Room 2 51-53 Fuel Oil 3 Main X 54-56 Aft Main Magazine Main Y 61-63 Aft Main Magazine, Propshaft 1 or 2 63 Main Y Fuel Oil 4, Propshaft 1 or 2 64 Void Steering 65-66 Steering

**Internal Diagram** 

FO1	FM	FO2	BR1	BR2	ER1	ER2	FO3	AM	FO4	ST
1FP	AB	3FP	B1	B3	E1	E2	1FP	XY	1FP	1FP
	1FP		B2 5FP	3FP	4FP	4FP		1FP		

#### **Scharnhorst** Deutsches Kriegsmarine 1941 Navy <u>Date</u> Class Battleship Surface Armament Directors Ranges Main Battery: 11 inch guns in 3 triple turrets 45 inches Fore and aft Secondary Battery: 5.9 inch guns in 4 twin and 4 single 24 inches Fore and aft Anti-air Battery 4.1 inch guns in 7 twin mounts 16 inches Four-cornered 3.75" 12 boilers 3 engines Speed Total: 68 DIW: 34 Sinking: 46 **Flotation** Bulge -1 for torpedo hits in way of locations 24-Torpedo Hits 17.7"-18": 50% 20.5"-22.5": ±0 24": ±1



6FP

12FP

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# **Admiral Hipper/Prinz Eugen**

Navy Deutsches Kriegsmarine

<u>Class</u> Heavy cruiser

<u>Date</u> 1940

Surface Armament

Speed

Main Battery:
Secondary Battery:
4.1 inch guns in 4 twin turrets
4.1 inch guns in 6 twin turrets
21 inch torpedoes in 4 triple mounts
2 special hits

16 inches 8 inches at 5.00"

Ranges

39 inches

Directors
Fore and aft
Four Cornered
Port and starboard

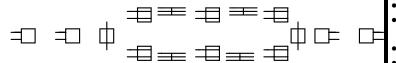
13 inches at 3.75"

4.00" 12 boilers 3 engines

Flotation Total: 63 DIW: 32 Sinking: 42

Torpedo Hits 17.7"-18": ±1 20.5"-22.5": ±2 24": ±3

#### **Armament Arrangement**



#### **Notes**

- Admiral Hipper and Blucher in class; Prinz Eugen similar.
- Forward secondary magazine for mounts 1 and 2, aft for mounts 3-6.
- Forward fire control controls A and B; aft controls X and Y.
- Engine room 1 drives shafts 1 and 2; engine room 2 drives shaft 3.

#### Hits

Void	11-12	Void	
Fuel Oil 1	13-14	Void	
Main Magazine A	15-21	Main A	
Main Magazine B	22-24	Main B	
Forward Fire Control	25	Bridge, AAMGs	
Generator Room	26	Bridge, Secondary 1 or 2	
Boiler Room 1	31	Bridge,	
		Forward Main Director, Secondary Director 1	
		or 2, Torpedo 1 or 2	
Boiler Room 1	32	Torpedo 1 or 2	
Boiler Room 2	33	Funnel	
Boiler Room 2	34	Funnel, Searchlight 1 or 2	
Forward Secondary Magazine	35	Hanger	
Boiler Room 3	36	Catapult, Aircraft	
Boiler Room 3	41	Catapult, Aircraft, Secondary 3 or 4	
Engine Room 1	42	Torpedo 3 or 4, Secondary Director 3 or 4,	
		Searchlight X	
Engine Room 1	43	Torpedo 3 or 4, AAMGs	
Engine Room 1	44	Secondary 5 or 6	
Aft Secondary Magazine, Aft Fire	45	Aft Main Director	
Control			
Engine Room 2	51-53	AAMGs	
Main Magazine X	54-55	Main X	
Main Magazine Y	56-62	Main Y	
Fuel Oil 3, Propshaft 1 or 2	63-64	Void	
Steering, Propshaft 3	65	Steering	
Void	66	Void	

#### **Internal Diagram**

				GR	BR1	BR2		BR3		AFC	ER1	ER2					
V1	FO1	PM	PM	FFC	B1,2	B5,6	SM1	B9	B11	SM2	E1	E3	PM	PM	FO3	ST	V2
1FP	2FP	Α	В	2FP	B3,4	B7,8	1FP	B10	B12	1FP	E2	5FP	Χ	Υ	2FP	1FP	0FP
		2FP	2FP		10FP	10FP		10FP			10FP		2FP	2FP			