Canadian Merchant Ship Losses, 1939-1945

Robert C. Fisher

Introduction

The Canadian Merchant Marine had only forty-one ocean-going merchant ships at the outbreak of the Second World War. During the war this fleet expanded sharply because Canadian shipyards produced 403 merchant vessels. Most were taken over by Great Britain or the United States, but a significant number sailed under the Canadian flag. The cost of the war was high: fifty-eight Canadian-registered merchant ships were lost to enemy action - or probable enemy action — and 1146 Canadian merchant mariners perished at sea or in Axis prison camps. In addition, six Canadian government-owned, but British-registered, and eight Newfoundland-registered, merchantmen were lost to enemy action. Many other vessels serving the war effort were also lost at sea.

The following tables record the wartime losses of Canadian merchant ships. They are broken down by place of registry (Canada, Britain, Newfoundland), cause of loss (enemy action, marine accident), and extent of damage (total loss, repaired and returned to service). The lists provide the date, position, and cause of loss, the owner, tonnage, and whether the ship was sailing independently or in convoy. Information regarding crew size and casualties is included in the end notes if available. The quality of the sources for casualty and crew figures is uneven; hence, they must be used with caution. Discrepancies abound. The lists are as complete as possible but it is recognized that new information may come to light and some merchant ships may have slipped through the cracks of official records. Mystery still surrounds the fate of some of the vessels listed below.

Canadian-Registered Merchantmen Lost to Enemy Action

This list includes only merchant ships registered in Canada which were lost, or probably lost, to enemy action. It does not include ships registered in Newfoundland, Canadian-owned ships registered in Britain, or ships lost to marine causes. The Canadian government owned merchant ships through Canadian National Steamships, Canadian Government Merchant Marine, and Park Steamship Company. There is still some doubt regarding the circumstances of the loss of four of these merchant ships: Kenordoc, Proteus, Nereus, and Robert W. Pomeroy.

The Northern Mariner/Le Marin du nord, V, No. 3 (July 1995), 57-73.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship (Convoy)</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Cause of Loss</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Feb.</td>
<td><em>Canadian Cruiser</em></td>
<td>Canadian Tramp</td>
<td>Sunk by raider</td>
<td>7,178</td>
<td>Indian Ocean 06-36S 47-18E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Mar.</td>
<td><em>Canadolile</em> (HX-112)</td>
<td>Imperial Oil</td>
<td>Captured by raider (Kormoran)</td>
<td>11,309</td>
<td>Central Atlantic 02-30N 23-48W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Apr.</td>
<td><em>Portadoc</em></td>
<td>Paterson Steamships</td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-124</td>
<td>1,746</td>
<td>Off Sierra Leone 07-17N 16-53W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 May</td>
<td><em>Europa&quot;</em></td>
<td>Canadian Government</td>
<td>Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>10,224</td>
<td>Liverpool, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 July</td>
<td><em>Collingdoc</em></td>
<td>Paterson Steamships</td>
<td>Mined; salvaged and sunk as a blockship</td>
<td>1,780</td>
<td>Thames River, U (off Southend)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Nov.</td>
<td><em>Proteus&quot;</em></td>
<td>Saguenuay Terminals</td>
<td>Cause unknown, Sabotage suspected</td>
<td>10,653</td>
<td>Caribbean Sea (unknown)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Canadian Merchant Ship Losses, 1939-1945

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship (Convoy)</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Cause of Loss</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Dec.</td>
<td><em>Nereus</em></td>
<td>Saguenay Terminals</td>
<td>Cause unknown, Sabotage suspected</td>
<td>10,647</td>
<td>Caribbean Sea (unknown)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>35-00N 72-30W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>35-14N 60-05W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Feb.</td>
<td><em>Vicilolite</em></td>
<td>Imperial Oil</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-564</em></td>
<td>11,410</td>
<td>N.W. of Bermuda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>36-12N 67-14W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Feb.</td>
<td><em>George L. Torian</em></td>
<td>Upper Lakes Steamships</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>V-129</em></td>
<td>1,754</td>
<td>Off Guyana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>09-13N 59-04W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Feb.</td>
<td><em>Lennox</em></td>
<td>Imperial Oil</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-129</em></td>
<td>1,904</td>
<td>Off Guyana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>09-15N 58-30W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Mar.</td>
<td><em>Sarniadoc</em></td>
<td>Imperial Oil</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-161</em></td>
<td>1,940</td>
<td>Caribbean Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15-45N 65-00W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Apr.</td>
<td><em>Robert W. Pomeroy</em></td>
<td>Imperial Oil</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-154</em></td>
<td>5,587</td>
<td>North Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(FN-70)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>53-10N 01-10E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Apr.</td>
<td><em>Vineland</em></td>
<td>Markland Shipping</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-154</em></td>
<td>5,587</td>
<td>Caribbean Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>23-05N 72-20W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 May</td>
<td><em>James E. Newsom</em></td>
<td>Zwicker &amp; Geldert</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-69</em></td>
<td>671</td>
<td>N.E. of Bermuda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>35-50N 59-40W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 May</td>
<td><em>Lady Drake</em></td>
<td>Canadian National Steamships</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-106</em></td>
<td>7,985</td>
<td>North of Bermuda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>35-43N 64-43W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 May</td>
<td><em>Mildred Pauline</em></td>
<td>Imperial Oil</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-136</em></td>
<td>300</td>
<td>North Atlantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(FN-70)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>39-40N 55-00W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 May</td>
<td><em>Mont Louis</em></td>
<td>Hall Corp.</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-162</em></td>
<td>1,905</td>
<td>Off Guyana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>08-23N 58-44W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 May</td>
<td><em>Calgarolile</em></td>
<td>Hall Corp.</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-125</em></td>
<td>11,941</td>
<td>Caribbean Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19-24N 82-30W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 May</td>
<td><em>Ravondoc</em></td>
<td>Hall Corp.</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-69</em></td>
<td>1,927</td>
<td>Caribbean Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14-45N 62-15W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 May</td>
<td><em>Troisdoc</em></td>
<td>Hall Corp.</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-558</em></td>
<td>1,925</td>
<td>Caribbean Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>18-15N 79-20W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Ship (Convoy)</td>
<td>Owner</td>
<td>Cause or Loss</td>
<td>Tonnage</td>
<td>Position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
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<td>-------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>Frank B. Bairă</td>
<td>Upper Lakes</td>
<td>Shelled by U-158</td>
<td>1,748</td>
<td>S.E. of Bermuda 28-03N 58-50W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 May</td>
<td>Liverpool Packet™</td>
<td>Markland Shipping</td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-432</td>
<td>1,188</td>
<td>Off Cape Sable 43-20N 66-20W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 June</td>
<td>Mona Marie™</td>
<td>Lemuel J. Ricey</td>
<td>Shelled by U-126</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>Caribbean Sea 12-22N 60-10W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 July</td>
<td>Lucille U.™</td>
<td>Frederick Sutherland</td>
<td>Shelled by U-89</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Off Cape Sable 42-44N 65-38W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 July</td>
<td>Prescodoc™</td>
<td>Paterson Steamships</td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-160</td>
<td>1,938</td>
<td>Off Guyana 08-50N 59-05W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Aug.</td>
<td>Princess Marguerite™</td>
<td>Canadian Pacific</td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-83</td>
<td>5,875</td>
<td>Mediterranean Sea 32-03N 32-47E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Sept.</td>
<td>Donald Stewart™ (LN-7)</td>
<td>Canada Steamships</td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-517</td>
<td>1,781</td>
<td>Belle Isle Strait 50-32N 58-46W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Sept.</td>
<td>Lord Strathcona™</td>
<td>Dominion Shipping</td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-513</td>
<td>7,335</td>
<td>Conception Bay 47-35N 52-59W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Sept.</td>
<td>Oaklon™ (QS-33)</td>
<td>Gulf &amp; Lake Navigation</td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-517</td>
<td>1,727</td>
<td>Gulf St. Lawrence 48-50N 63-46W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Sept.</td>
<td>Norfolk™</td>
<td>Canada Steamships</td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-175</td>
<td>1,901</td>
<td>Off Guyana 08-36N 59-20W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Nov.</td>
<td>Rose Castle™</td>
<td>Dominion Shipping</td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-518</td>
<td>7,803</td>
<td>Conception Bay 47-36N 52-58W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1943

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Cause or Loss</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>Angelus™</td>
<td>Canadian Government</td>
<td>Shelled by U-161</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>North of Bermuda 38-40N 64-00W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 July</td>
<td>Jasper Park™</td>
<td>Park Steamship Company</td>
<td>Torpedoed by (7-)77</td>
<td>7,129</td>
<td>Indian Ocean 32-52S 42-15E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Canadian Merchant Ship Losses, 1939-1945

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship (Convoy)</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Cause of Loss</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 June</td>
<td><em>Albert C. Fielet</em> (EBC-14)</td>
<td>Upper Lakes</td>
<td>Torpedoed by German aircraft</td>
<td>1,764</td>
<td>English Channel 50-28N 01-46W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 May</td>
<td><em>Avondale Park</em></td>
<td>Park Steamship Company</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-2336</em></td>
<td>2,878</td>
<td>Firth of Forth 56-1 ON 02-32W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Newfoundland-Registry Ships Lost to Enemy Action

This list includes merchant ships registered in Newfoundland that were lost to enemy action during the war. These ships are not included in Canadian wartime records because Newfoundland did not join Confederation until 1949.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship (Convoy)</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Cause of Loss</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 July</td>
<td><em>Number Arm</em> (HX-53)</td>
<td>Bowater Paper</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-99</em></td>
<td>5,758</td>
<td>South of Ireland 50-36N 09-24W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 May</td>
<td><em>Esmond</em> (OB-318)</td>
<td>Donaldson Brothers</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-110</em></td>
<td>4,976</td>
<td>North Atlantic 60-45N 33-02W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Northern Mariner

Canadian-Registry Merchant Ships Lost to Marine Causes

This is a partial list of merchant ships registered in Canada which were lost during the war to marine accident or other causes not the result of enemy action. It does not include ships lost in the Great Lakes, less than 500 gross tons, or registered in Newfoundland.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Cause of Loss</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Nov.</td>
<td>Lisieu&quot;</td>
<td>Canadian Government</td>
<td>Lost in gale</td>
<td>2,594</td>
<td>North Atlantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>48-08N 47-50W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Dec.</td>
<td>Watkins F. Nisbet</td>
<td>Upper Lakes</td>
<td>Ran ashore and wrecked; Salved for scrap</td>
<td>1,747</td>
<td>Bristol Channel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Oct.</td>
<td>Mondoc&quot;</td>
<td>Paterson Steamships</td>
<td>Struck submerged object and grounded</td>
<td>1,926</td>
<td>Caribbean Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Jan.</td>
<td>R.J. Cullen</td>
<td>Atlantic Transportation</td>
<td>Wrecked two miles of Barra Island, Outer Hebrides</td>
<td>6,993</td>
<td>Sea of Hebrides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Oct.</td>
<td>Canatco66</td>
<td>Canada Atlantic Transit</td>
<td>Ran aground on Gannet Rock and sank</td>
<td>2,415</td>
<td>Labrador coast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(LN-11)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>53-56N 56-25W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Nov.</td>
<td>Lillian E. Kerr&quot;</td>
<td>James L. Publicover</td>
<td>Collision with Alcoa Pilot</td>
<td>521</td>
<td>Gulf of Maine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>42-27N 68-35W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Canadian Merchant Ship Losses, J939-1945

#### Date  Ship  Owner  Cause of Loss  Tonnage  Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Cause of Loss</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Jan.</td>
<td><em>Hamildoc</em></td>
<td>Paterson</td>
<td>Foundered in heavy seas; total loss</td>
<td>1,926</td>
<td>Off Trinidad 09-ION 60-30W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Canadian-Registry Merchant Ships Damaged in Action

This list includes merchantmen registered in Canada that were damaged by enemy action or other war-related causes but survived. It is subjective in that it only includes ships that suffered fairly severe damage. Ships marked with an asterisk (*) were lost at a later date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Cause of Damage</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Nov.</td>
<td><em>Sherbrooke</em></td>
<td>Canada Steamships</td>
<td>Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>2,052</td>
<td>North Sea (Off Orfordness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Dec.</td>
<td><em>Bic Island</em></td>
<td>Canadian Government</td>
<td>Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>North Atlantic 54-12N 17-45W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Dec.</td>
<td><em>Europa</em></td>
<td>Canadian Government</td>
<td>Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>10,224</td>
<td>Liverpool, UK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Cause of Damage</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Feb.</td>
<td><em>Weslcliffe</em></td>
<td>Hall Corp.</td>
<td>Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>North Sea (Off Whitby)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Aug.</td>
<td><em>Eaglescliffe</em></td>
<td>Hall Corp.</td>
<td>Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>North Sea (Off Sunderland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Aug.</td>
<td><em>Kindersley</em></td>
<td>Canada Steamships</td>
<td>Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>1,999</td>
<td>North Sea (Off Blyth)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Cause of Damage</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Feb.</td>
<td><em>Maurienne</em></td>
<td>Canadian Government</td>
<td>Caught fire and sank; Salvaged and repaired</td>
<td>3,259</td>
<td>Halifax harbour (Pier 27/28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Mar.</td>
<td><em>Lady Nelson</em></td>
<td>Canadian National Steamships</td>
<td>Torpedoed by 7-67; Salvaged and repaired</td>
<td>7,970</td>
<td>Port Castries, St. Lucia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Northern Mariner

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Cause of Damage</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Mar. 1945</td>
<td><em>Green Hill Park</em></td>
<td>Park Steamship Company</td>
<td>Explosion and Fire; Constructive total loss. Sold, repaired, and renamed <em>Phaeax II</em></td>
<td>7,168</td>
<td>Vancouver harbour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Apr. 1945</td>
<td><em>Silver Star Park</em></td>
<td>Park Steamship Company</td>
<td>Collision and Fire; Hulk sold, repaired, and renamed <em>Santa Cecil</em></td>
<td>7,243</td>
<td>Off New York</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Canadian Merchant Ships (British Registry) Lost to Enemy Action

This list includes merchantmen owned by the Canadian government but registered in Great Britain. These ships were owned by a crown corporation, Wartime Merchant Shipping Ltd., which chartered them to the British Ministry of War Transport.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Cause of Loss</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Dec. 1943</td>
<td><em>Fort Athabasca</em></td>
<td>Explosion of Ammunition ship bombed by aircraft</td>
<td>7,132</td>
<td>Bari harbour, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 May 1944</td>
<td><em>Fort Missanabie</em> (HA-43)</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-453</em></td>
<td>7,147</td>
<td>Mediterranean Sea 38-20N 16-28E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 June 1944</td>
<td><em>Fort Norfolk</em></td>
<td>Mined off assault beaches, Normandy</td>
<td>7,131</td>
<td>English Channel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Dec. 1944</td>
<td><em>Fort Maisonneuve</em></td>
<td>Mined, Scheldt Estuary</td>
<td>7,128</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Canadian Merchant Ships (British Registry) Damaged in Action

This list includes Canadian government-owned merchantmen registered in Great Britain. The list is subjective in that only those severely damaged by enemy action or other war-related mishaps are included. Ships suffering only superficial damage have been excluded.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Cause of Damage</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Apr.</td>
<td><em>Fort Crevier</em></td>
<td>Severely damaged by explosion of <em>Fort Stikine</em>; Used as a hulk, scrapped 1948</td>
<td>7,130</td>
<td>Bombay, India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 May</td>
<td><em>Fort Fidler</em></td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-616</em></td>
<td>7,127</td>
<td>Mediterranean Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>36-45N 00-55E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 June</td>
<td><em>Fort McPherson</em></td>
<td>Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>7,132</td>
<td>English Channel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>50-02N 00-36W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 July</td>
<td><em>Fort McPherson</em></td>
<td>Struck by flying bomb while under repair from the previous bombing</td>
<td>7,132</td>
<td>Victoria Dock,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>London, England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Aug.</td>
<td><em>Fort Gloucester'</em> (FTM-70)</td>
<td>Torpedoed by German E-boat</td>
<td>7,127</td>
<td>English Channel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Canadian Pacific Ships Lost or Damaged by Enemy Action

Two Canadian Pacific losses, *Princess Marguerite* and *Empress of Asia*, were Canadian-registered and are included in that list as well. The remaining vessels below were registered in Great Britain. *Niagara* was only part-owned by Canadian Pacific. *Montrose* was converted into an auxiliary cruiser and lost as HMS *Forfar* and is not included here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Cause and Fate</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Feb.</td>
<td><em>Beaverburn</em> (OA-84)</td>
<td>Lost; Torpedoed by <em>U-41</em></td>
<td>9,874</td>
<td>North Atlantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>49-20N 10-07W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 June</td>
<td><em>Niagara</em></td>
<td>Lost by Mine</td>
<td>13,415</td>
<td>Off New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>35-53S 174-53E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Ship</td>
<td>Cause and Fate</td>
<td>Tonnage</td>
<td>Position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Oct.</td>
<td>Empress of Britain</td>
<td>Lost; Torpedoed by U-32 after being bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>42,348</td>
<td>Off Ireland 55-16N 09-50W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Nov.</td>
<td>Beaverford (HX-84)</td>
<td>Lost; sunk by raider (Admiral Scheer)</td>
<td>10,042</td>
<td>North Atlantic 52-26N 32-34W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Nov.</td>
<td>Empress of Japan</td>
<td>Damaged; Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>26,032</td>
<td>North Atlantic 53-54N 14-28W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>Beaverbrae</td>
<td>Lost; Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>9,956</td>
<td>North Atlantic 60-12N 09-00W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Apr.</td>
<td>Beaverdale*</td>
<td>Lost; Torpedoed and shelled by U-48</td>
<td>9,957</td>
<td>North Atlantic 60-50N 29-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Oct.</td>
<td>Duchess of Atholl</td>
<td>Lost; Torpedoed by U-178</td>
<td>20,119</td>
<td>South Atlantic 07-03S 11-12W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>Empress of Asia</td>
<td>Lost; Bombed by Japanese aircraft</td>
<td>16,099</td>
<td>Off Singapore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Aug.</td>
<td>Princess Marguerite</td>
<td>Lost; Torpedoed by U-83</td>
<td>5,875</td>
<td>Mediterranean Sea 32-03N 32-47E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>Empress of Canada&quot;</td>
<td>Lost; Torpedoed by Italian submarine <em>Da Vinci</em></td>
<td>21,517</td>
<td>South Atlantic 01-13S 09-57W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Mar.</td>
<td>Duchess of York</td>
<td>Damaged; Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>20,021</td>
<td>Off Cape Finisterre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 July</td>
<td>Duchess of York&quot;</td>
<td>Lost; Bombed by German aircraft</td>
<td>20,021</td>
<td>North Atlantic 41-18N 15-24W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Canadian-Built, American-Owned Ships Lost to Enemy Action**

These "Fort" ships were built in Canada during the war and sold to the US Maritime Commission under the terms of the Hyde Park Declaration. The US loaned these ships under the lend-lease agreement to Great Britain, where they were registered.
### Canadian Merchant Ship Losses, 1939-1945

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Cause of Loss</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1942</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 May</td>
<td><em>Fort Qu Appelle</em></td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-135</td>
<td>7.127</td>
<td>North Atlantic 39-50N 63-30W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 June</td>
<td><em>Fort Good Hope</em></td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-139</td>
<td>7.130</td>
<td>Off Panama 10-19N 80-16W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Aug.</td>
<td><em>Fort la Reine</em> (PG-6)</td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-658</td>
<td>7.133</td>
<td>Caribbean Sea 18-80N 75-20W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1943</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Mar.</td>
<td><em>Fort Battle River</em> (KMS-10)</td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-410</td>
<td>7.133</td>
<td>Off Portugal 36-33N 10-22W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Mar.</td>
<td><em>Fort Mumford</em></td>
<td>Torpedoed by J-27 (Japanese submarine)</td>
<td>7.132</td>
<td>Indian Ocean 09-00N 71-00E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Mar.</td>
<td><em>Fort a la Come</em></td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-596</td>
<td>7.133</td>
<td>Mediterranean Sea 36-52N 01-47E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 July</td>
<td><em>Fort Franklin</em></td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-181</td>
<td>7.135</td>
<td>Indian Ocean 22-36S 51-22E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 July</td>
<td><em>Fort Pelly</em></td>
<td>Bombed by aircraft</td>
<td>7.131</td>
<td>Augusta, Sicily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 July</td>
<td><em>Fort Chilcotin</em></td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-172</td>
<td>7.133</td>
<td>South Atlantic 15-03S 32-35W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1943</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Aug.</td>
<td><em>Fort Halkett</em></td>
<td>Torpedoed and shelled by U-185</td>
<td>7.133</td>
<td>South Atlantic 09-30S 25-50W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Sept.</td>
<td><em>Fort Longueuil</em></td>
<td>Torpedoed by U-532</td>
<td>7.128</td>
<td>Indian Ocean 10-OOS 68-00E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Some Losses of Canadian Interest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Ship</th>
<th>Cause of Loss</th>
<th>Tonnage</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Dec.</td>
<td>Montrose</td>
<td>Torpedoed by <em>U-99</em></td>
<td>16,402</td>
<td>North Atlantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>54-35N 18-18W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[SS *Montrose* was owned by Canadian Pacific and registered in Britain. It was converted into an Armed Merchant Cruiser by the Royal Navy and serving as HMS *Forfar* when lost]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1941</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 July</td>
<td>Lady Somers</td>
<td>Torpedoed by</td>
<td>8,194</td>
<td>North Atlantic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Italian submarine</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>36-00N 21-00W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[SS *Lady Somers* was owned by Canadian National Steamships and registered in Canada, but was requisitioned by the Admiralty and converted into an ocean boarding vessel. It was serving in this capacity when lost. Thus, for official purposes it is considered a Royal Navy vessel, not a Canadian merchant ship]
Canadian Merchant Ship Losses, 1939-1945

1945

28 Feb. Soreldoc Torpedoed by U-1302 1926 English Channel
52-15N 05-35W

[Soreldoc had been Canadian-owned and registered until 1944. In that year it was acquired by the US War Shipping Administration. It was registered in Panama with an American crew when lost]

Statistics

Canadian-Registry Merchant Ships Lost to Enemy Action 58
Newfoundland-Registry Merchant Ships Lost to Enemy Action 8
Canadian Government (British-Registry) Ships Lost to Enemy Action 6
Canadian-Registry Merchant Ships Damaged in Action 13
Canadian (British-Registry) Merchant Ships Damaged in Action 5
Canadian-Registry Merchant Ships Lost to Marine Causes 7
Canadian Pacific Ships Lost to Enemy Action 11
Canadian-Built, American-Owned, Ships Lost to Enemy Action 22

Select Bibliography

Lloyd's of London. Lloyd's Register of Shipping. London, 1940-1-945.
NOTES

* Robert C. Fisher is a naval historian with the Directorate of History at National Defence Headquarters. He would like to thank Drs. Roger Sarty and Kenneth Mackenzie for their support and assistance.

1. There were no casualties. SS *Erik Boye* (ex-Danish) had been taken in prize by the RCN.

2. There were no fatalities.

3. There were no fatalities.

4. Ten men were killed and five wounded.

5. Seven men were killed and thirteen survived.

6. SS *Saint Malo* was a French vessel requisitioned by the Canadian Government. Twenty-eight of the forty-four crew were lost with the ship. Sixteen survivors (thirteen Canadians and three Free French) escaped in one lifeboat. Two days later they were taken in tow by a lifeboat from MV *Port Gisborne*. The survivors of *Saint Malo* boarded the other lifeboat on 21 October and were rescued by HM Tug *Salvonia* the following day, after being adrift for ten days.

7. Seven of the twenty-one crew were killed. Some sources state that the owner was Keystone Transports Ltd.

8. All thirty-seven crew were lost with the ship.

9. Two of the crew were killed and the rest taken prisoner.

10. There were thirty-eight survivors.

11. The forty-four crew were taken prisoner. The Germans renamed MV *Canadolitex Sudetenland*. The Royal Air Force bombed and sank it at Brest on 14 August 1944.

12. The survivors landed at French Guinea where they were held prisoner until exchanged for enemy prisoners six months later. One man died while incarcerated. SS *Portadoc* was *en route* from Saint John to Freetown, Sierra Leone.
13. There were no casualties. MV Europa (ex-Danish) had been taken in prize by the RCN.

14. There were no fatalities.

15. There were no survivors: sixty-five crew, eight DEMS gunners, and thirty-two passengers were lost with the ship. MV Vancouver Island (ex-German Weser) had been captured by HMCS Prince Robert on 25 September 1940.

16. SS Proteus sailed from St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands on 23 November with fifty-eight crew and a cargo of bauxite. It was lost without a trace. The Admiralty suspected sabotage because of the similar circumstances of the loss of SS Nereus but never confirmed it in either case.

17. SS Nereus sailed from St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands on 10 December with a cargo of bauxite and sixty-one persons on board. It was lost without a trace. See SS Proteus above.


19. SS Lady Hawkins carried 212 passengers and 109 crew en route to the West Indies. The survivors escaped in three lifeboats. Two were never found. The third lifeboat carried seventy-six persons but five died. SS Coamo rescued the seventy-one survivors on 20 January and landed them at San Juan, Puerto Rico. In total, 250 of the 321 persons on board were lost.

20. Twenty survivors were rescued by a freighter and landed at Halifax on 10 February. Twenty-seven crew and one DEMS gunner perished.

21. Seven persons were killed and 153 taken prisoner out of some 2200 on board.

22. All on board were killed: forty-five crew and two DEMS gunners.

23. Four survivors of the nineteen crew were rescued by a US Navy flying boat and landed at Trinidad. The German U-boat interrogated the survivors after the sinking and offered them directions, food, and water.

24. Two men were killed. SS Athelrill rescued the eighteen survivors. SS Lennox was en route from Paramaribo, Surinam to Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

25. There were no survivors.

26. One man was killed.

27. SS Vineland was on provisional registry when sunk. Thirty-six survivors landed at Turks Island. One man was lost with the ship.

28. The nine-man crew survived and reached Bermuda.

29. SS Lady Drake was en route from Bermuda to Saint John with 272 persons on board. Six passengers and six crew were killed.

30. There were no survivors. It was carrying a cargo of molasses from Barbados to St. John's.

31. Thirteen of the twenty-one crew were killed. The eight survivors landed at Georgetown, Guyana.

32. The crew of MV Calgarolite escaped in two lifeboats. Twenty-three survivors landed at Isla Mujeres, Mexico on 12 May. Twenty-two survivors reached Isla Pines, Cuba on 13 May.

33. There were no survivors from the twenty-one crew members.

34. The nineteen crew were all rescued.

35. The crew was rescued.

36. There were two fatalities. The nineteen survivors took to the boats and rowed to Seal Island, NS. SS Liverpool Packet (ex-Sonia) had sailed from New York bound for St. John's via Halifax.

37. The crew survived.
The eleven crew escaped, including four wounded, and rowed 100 miles to shore, landing at Shelburne, NS.

SS PredsednikKopajtic rescued five survivors. Fifteen men went down with the ship which was en route from Georgetown, Gvanya to Port-of-Spain, Trinidad with a cargo of bauxite.

Forty-nine persons were killed out of over 1000 on board.

There were three fatalities. HMCS Shawinigan and Trail rescued seventeen survivors.

SS Lord Strathcona was lying at anchor off Bell Island after loading a cargo of iron ore at Wabana, NF. The crew abandoned ship before the torpedoes struck.

Twenty-three of the twenty-four persons on board survived.

The escorts picked up all nineteen crew. SS Oakton had sailed from Montreal for Corner Brook with a cargo of coal.

US Navy records state that thirteen of nineteen crew survived. British sources claim that fourteen of twenty crew survived. In either case, six men were killed.

SS Carolus (prize ex-Finnish) had thirty crew on board, including six Canadians. HMCS Arrowhead and Hepática rescued the nineteen survivors.

SS Bic Island (prize ex-Italian Capo Noli) was lost with all hands as well as survivors picked up from SS Sourabaya and SS Gurney E. Newlin.

SS Rose Castle was lying at anchor off Bell Island after loading iron ore at Wabana, waiting to sail with convoy WB-12 for Sydney. Sources vary as to the size of the crew and number of survivors. Three DEMS gunners and either forty or forty-three crew were on board. Most of the survivors were rescued by RCN Fairmile Motor Launches. Canadian records state that twenty-seven crew and one gunner were lost. British sources state that twenty-three crew and one gunner went down with the ship. American records maintain that sixteen crew and two gunners survived.

USS Lea rescued eight survivors from the twenty-seven crew and landed them at Curacao. SS Chr. J. Kampmann (ex-Danish) had been taken in prize by the RCN.

USS Turner rescued two survivors from the nine crew and landed them at Portland, ME on 27 May 1943. The French barquentine Angelus had been seized as a prize at Sydney on 11 May 1942 and turned over to the Canadian Government Merchant Marine. It was carrying molasses from Barbados to Halifax when sunk.

HMS Quiberon and Quickmatch rescued forty-five crew and six DEMS gunners. Four crew were killed.

SS Watuka was carrying coal from Louisbourg to Halifax. HMS Anticosti rescued the twenty-five survivors from the twenty-six crew.

There were twenty-nine survivors from the thirty-three crew, most rescued by HMS Herschell.

Thirty-six crew and seven DEMS gunners were lost. There were five survivors. It was carrying a cargo of molasses and sugar from Barbados to Saint John.

Nine men were killed. HMSAS Africana and the fishing vessel Boy Russel rescued the forty-nine survivors.

Manned by a British crew. Twenty-four crew and four DEMS gunners were killed of the thirty-two on board.

Manned by a British crew. Apparently there were two or three fatalities.

There were no fatalities.

Twenty-two men were killed and one was wounded.
60. SS Kitty's Brook was en route from New York to Argentia. Nine crew were lost of the thirty-two on board. The survivors rowed into Lockeport, NS.

61. SS Waterton was en route from Corner Brook to Sydney. There were no fatalities. HMCS Vison rescued the twenty-seven survivors.

62. SS Caribou was a passenger ferry en route from Sydney to Port-aux-Basques, Newfoundland. HMCS Grandmere rescued 101 survivors from the 237 persons on board. In total thirty-one crew and 105 passengers were lost.

63. There were fourteen survivors. Thirteen crew and one DEMS gunner were killed.

64. There were seventeen survivors from the twenty-nine crew.

65. SS Mondoc probably struck Darien rock off the east coast of Trinidad.

66. SS Canatco sank on 25 October. HMCS Arrowhead recovered the entire crew. The crew stated that an explosion caused the accident.

67. SS Cyrus Field recovered one crew member, who died on board without recovering consciousness. No others were found.

68. There were no fatalities.

69. There were no fatalities. MV Maurienne re-entered service in 1943.

70. Fourteen passengers and three crew were killed. Eleven others were hospitalized.

71. The fore-part sank, but the after-part was salvaged and towed into Halifax on 5 January. As a result, MV Nipawan Park was not considered "lost." Two members of the thirty-one crew were killed and three others hospitalized. HMCS Kentville rescued the twenty-nine survivors.

72. Two crew and six longshoremen were killed. The initial explosion occurred on 6 March but it burned for several days afterwards.

73. Thirty-six crew and three gunners were killed.

74. Twenty-one crew, seven DEMS gunners, and two of the convoy commodore's staff were killed out of seventy-five persons on board.

75. There were no casualties among the sixty-three persons on board.

76. Forty-nine survived out of the sixty-one.

77. Eight crew were killed and five wounded.

78. There were no fatalities.

79. There were no fatalities.

80. Twenty-one persons were killed.

81. US Navy records state that there were 1477 survivors from the 1892 persons on board. However, British sources state the total loss of life was 392. HMS Corinthian rescued the survivors.

82. There were 819 survivors out of 908 persons on board. HMCS Iroquois picked up 628 of the survivors.