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PIECES OF HISTORY

The *U-505 Submarine* exhibit contains nearly 200 artifacts that tell the story of the *U-505*. Below is a sampling of the items guests will be able to view as they learn of this vessel's compelling history and contribution to the Allied effort during World War II.

- **M4 Enigma Machine:** This is one of two M4 Enigma machines taken from the *U-505*. After the capture, the Enigma machines as well as 900 pounds of codebooks and publications removed from the sub were rushed to U.S. Naval Intelligence in Washington, D.C. to help the Allied code breaking effort.
- **Codebook with Lead Weight:** This codebook was intended to be used by U-boats and aircraft for communicating with each other. The cover is lined with a lead weight so the book would sink quickly in the ocean if it had to be thrown overboard or out of an airplane.
- **G7e (T5) Acoustic Torpedo:** The German Navy developed the T5 acoustic torpedo to fight the Allied warships that were driving U-boats away from merchant ships. The acoustic torpedo was equipped with sensors that could detect the sound of the propellers of enemy ships. Once a T5 locked onto the sound, it directed itself toward its target. The capture of the *U-505* marked the first time a T5 had fallen into Allied hands, and gaining access to the torpedo was one of the most important benefits of the *U-505*'s seizure.
- **Sea Strainer Cover:** The crew of the *U-505* removed this cover from a sea strainer in the control room as they abandoned the sub, letting a steady stream of water into the sub—a standard method of sinking a U-boat. Motor Machinist Mate 1st Class Zenon Lukosius, a member of the boarding party from the *USS Pillsbury*, located the cover and worked quickly to reinstall it. This action made it possible for the boarding party to secure the *U-505* and begin removing critical documents from the sub.
- **Aerial-Navigation Periscope from U-505:** This periscope, original to the *U-505*, was unearthed at San Diego's Artic Submarine Laboratory in 2002. The *U-505* had two periscopes that were operated from the conning tower: the aerial-navigation periscope and the attack periscope. The attack periscope was primarily used during the day for scanning the surface in search of ships to attack, while the aerial-navigation periscope was ideal for navigating at night. It was also able to search the sky overhead prior to surfacing to be certain there were no aircraft in the area.
- **Navy Cross Medal:** This Navy Cross, the second highest combat award for valor in the U.S. Navy, was awarded to Radio Man 2nd Class Stanley Wdowiak. Wdowiak, a member of the *USS Pillsbury* boarding party, was the second man down the sub's hatch.
- **Oath of Secrecy:** Within hours of *U-505*'s capture, the highest levels of Allied military intelligence had to grapple with the need to keep the event secret. Foremost in their minds was the imminent Allied invasion of Normandy, and a series of actions was undertaken to prevent the Germans from

suspecting a compromise in their codes. On board the ships in the USS *Guadalcanal* Task Group, an "Oath of Secrecy" was signed by every sailor to ensure he explicitly understood the ramifications should the secret get out. Violating this oath could result in a death sentence. This Oath was signed on June 8, 1944. After the German surrender, all sailors were released from their oath when the Navy put out a press release on May 16, 1945 announcing the capture of the U-505.

- **U-Boat "Scorecard":** This "scoreboard" was removed from the bridge of the USS *Guadalcanal* and represents the ship's action against U-boats during World War II.
- **Flight Suit:** Lieutenant Wolffe Roberts wore this flight suit during the air attack on the U-505.
- **Hitler Youth Day Badge, 1938:** This Hitler Youth Badge was for attendance at a rally in 1938. It was worn by Chief Engineer of the U-505, Joseph Hauser, when he was a member of the Hitler Youth, prior to joining the German Navy.
- **Can of bread:** Each U-boat departed for a patrol with an abundance of fresh food. After the fresh food ran out or spoiled, the crew resorted to canned food. This can of bread dough was discovered in the bilges in 1994.
- **Ink Stamp:** This ink stamp contains the U-505's Feldpost (mailing code)--M 46074. The stamp was used on all mail from the boat and on certain official documents.
- **Gold Dollar Cigarettes:** These cigarettes were found on board the U-505, along with many others. Advertising on this package states, "The best...tobacco...in the American style." American cigarettes were highly prized during the war and marketing reflected that feeling, even in wartime Germany.
- **Phonograph Record:** Listening to records was one of the most common forms of entertainment aboard the U-505. Eighty-seven records were retrieved from the sub. This record is titled Schoen ist die Nacht (The Night is Beautiful) and Ganz leise kommt die Nacht (Very Softly the Night Approaches).
- **Presidential Unit Citation Pennant:** The Guadalcanal Task Group 22.3 was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation (PUC) for its successful capture of the U-505. This PUC pennant was flown from the USS *Guadalcanal* and presented to the Museum by Admiral Daniel V. Gallery. It is heavily soiled from the smokestacks of the ship and frayed from whipping in the wind.
- **Josef Hauser POW Letter:** A letter written by Josef Hauser, the chief engineer of the U-505, in February 1946 informs his mother of his progress returning home from prison in the United States. Because the capture had been kept secret from the Germans, Hauser's family learned he was alive only a short time before this letter was written. (Translation included.)
- **KIA Notification:** The capture of the U-505 was kept so secret, neither the German Navy nor the families of the crew members knew until after the war that the crew, minus one, had survived. The German Navy sent a series of telegrams to the family of each crew member, stating first that the boat was missing, then that the crew was presumed dead and, finally, that they were officially declared dead. (Translation included.)

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