

= HMS Tiptoe ( P332 ) =

HMS Tiptoe ( pennant number P332 ) was a British submarine of the third group of the T class . She was built by Vickers Armstrong , Barrow , and launched on 25 February 1944 . She was one of two submarines named by Winston Churchill , and so far has been the only ship of the Royal Navy to be named Tiptoe . In 1955 she was involved in a collision with a coastal steamer whilst in Tromsø harbour . She was involved in escape trials off Malta in 1962 , and the commanding officer was reprimanded in 1964 following an incident in the Firth of Clyde where she was run aground , and again in 1965 when she collided with HMS Yarmouth . Although originally named for the ability to sneak up on someone undetected , she maintained several links with ballet , including the Royal Ballet and ballet dancer Moira Shearer . She was scrapped in Portsmouth in 1975 , while her anchor is on display in Blyth , Northumberland .

= = Design and description = =

HMS Tiptoe was one of the group three of T @-@ class submarines . She was named by Winston Churchill , with the intention to imply that it could approach the enemy silently as if on tiptoe , although the Royal Navy naming committee was against the name , stating that " it was derogatory to one of His Majesty 's ships " , but the Prime Minister had his way . The only other Royal Navy vessel to be named by Churchill was HMS Varangian .

She was part of the second batch of the third group to be ordered , in 1941 . She was one of a number of boats which had an all @-@ welded hull which increased diving depth to 350 feet ( 110 m ) , an increase of 50 feet ( 15 m ) . The torpedo armament was the same as the earlier group two , although by the time group three was coming into service it was realised that external torpedo tubes had major problems and affected the streamlining of the boats ; the external tubes were abandoned in the following Amphion @-@ class submarines . Because of expected use in tropical climates , boats of group three were equipped with freon blowers in order to deal with the increased temperatures .

She was built by Vickers Armstrong and was laid down at their shipyard at Barrow on 10 November 1942 whilst still known as P332 . Following her launch on 25 February 1944 , she departed the builders yard on 10 June 1944 , arriving at Holy Loch on the following day , where she was commissioned on 12 June .

= = Service = =

= = = Second World War = = =

After completing training on 10 September , she returned to Barrow in order to correct some defects . Between 5 October and 12 January 1945 , she was equipped with new radar equipment and other equipment to prepare her for deployment in the Far East . She arrived in Trincomalee , Sri Lanka on 1 March 1945 prior to her first war patrol . En route from Britain , she had stopped at Gibraltar , Malta , Port Said and Ismailia in Egypt and Aden , Yemen .

Her first patrol centred around the west coast of Burma and the Andaman Islands before heading onto Fremantle , Australia , and was uneventful . She departed Australia for her second patrol on 6 May with orders to patrol the Flores Sea . On 15 May , she sank a Japanese coaster of around 100 tons with gunfire near Dompoy Bay , Sumbawa . The following day she sank another Japanese coaster with gunfire , this time around 200 tons , in Sepeh harbour . On 1 June , she approached and sank the Japanese merchant cargo ship Tobi Maru near Matasiri , one of the Laut Kecil Islands . Tiptoe was damaged during the attack as the cargo ship was about to rendezvous with an escort . The escort launched thirteen depth charges , putting all of Tiptoe 's torpedo tubes out of action and flooded her sonar equipment . She returned to Fremantle on 17 June , and remained there undergoing repairs until 16 July when she left on her third patrol in the Sunda Strait along with her

sister HMS Trump .

On 31 July she attacked two small Japanese vessels , but broke off the attack when an aircraft was sighted . On 2 August , Tiptoe and Trump together destroyed two small vessels totalling 600 tons with gunfire . On 3 August , she carried out a torpedo attack against the Japanese army cargo vessel Tencho Maru whilst it was in a convoy defended by a patrol boat . The final action of Tiptoe 's last war patrol was on 9 August , when together with Trump , they destroyed an 800 ton coastal tanker in the northern part of the Sunda Strait . She returned to Fremantle on 21 August 1945 .

= = = Post war = = =

During the royal inspection of the home fleet in 1947 by George VI , Tiptoe demonstrated diving and surfacing , along with the firing of her deck gun . In November of the same year , she was part of a group of seven submarines with destroyer HMS Opportune to take part in anti ? submarine training over the course of two weeks .

Tiptoe was one of several all @-@ welded T @-@ class submarines rebuilt for greater underwater performance . Extra batteries were installed below the control room and additional electric motors were accommodated by cutting through the pressure hull and adding in a new 20 ft ( 6 @.@ 1 m ) hull section inserted aft of the control room . The diesel engines were modified and supercharged with output increased by 300 BHP . The gun armaments and external torpedo tubes were removed , and the bow reshaped .

The submarine was used in filming the 1950 film , Morning Departure , a naval film directed by Roy Ward Baker . During the course of filming , the submarine depot ship HMS Maidstone was used as a mother ship for Tiptoe . In 1952 a further cinematic link was made when ballet dancer Moira Shearer presented a pair of size 3 @.@ 5 satin ballet shoes to Tiptoe that she had worn in the 1948 film The Red Shoes . These are now at the Royal Navy Submarine Museum . Whilst in Tromsø harbour on 18 July 1955 Tiptoe was damaged when a coastal steamer collided with her . The steamer , a 2 @,@ 162 tonne vessel called Nordlys , was entering the harbour when she collided with the British destroyer HMS Chevron . The steamer bounced off the destroyer and collided with Tiptoe , snapping her moorings as she was pushed halfway under a wooden quay .

She took part in escape trials in 1962 , which were a series of trials conducted off Malta into escape from a submarine at extreme depths . Tests were conducted with men escaping from Tiptoe at depth of up to 71 metres ( 233 ft ) with ascent rates of up to 2 m / s . The trials included the use of buoyant ascent suits which involved a suit pulled over the sailor 's head which fed them air as they ascended to the surface . For their work in the escape trials , Chief Petty Officer Christopher Crossman was awarded a commendation , and Lieutenant ? Commander L. Hamlyn was awarded an OBE .

Following a refit in Portsmouth , Tiptoe went to the Firth of Clyde for working up , arriving on 10 January 1964 , when she was ordered not to enter Gareloch due to dense fog . The boat was duly turned around and ran aground on a muddy bank . As the fog cleared it was realised the boat had run aground only 40 yards ( 37 m ) opposite that of the house of the Royal Navy 's Captain in Charge for the Clyde area , Captain G. D. Pound . Divers were sent out to assess damage , and after finding none , Tiptoe was refloated on the evening tide and pulled off the shore by two tugboats . The commanding officer at the time was Lieutenant ? Commander David Brazier , who was in his first command . He was later ordered to be severely reprimanded for negligence at a court @-@ martial where he pleaded guilty to the charge . His defence statement read , " The ship was not worked up and it was a very green company . Unfortunately he ran into fog . He took all the precautions he considered necessary . Although he had all the theoretical knowledge , he was short of that tangible instinct of which we are all aware . "

Tiptoe was also damaged in a collision with HMS Yarmouth on 13 July 1965 . Tiptoe was at periscope depth 10 miles ( 16 km ) SE of Portland Bill . Following the collision , the commanding officer , Lieutenant ? Commander Charles Henry Pope was ordered to be severely reprimanded after being found guilty of four out of five counts of negligence .

When she left for her final commission on 24 February 1967 , six ballet dancers from the Royal

Ballet attended the departure ceremony . At the time she was already the oldest submarine in service with the Royal Navy . She attended Portsmouth Navy Days later in 1967 .

By the time she was decommissioned in 1969 , Tiptoe was the last active T @-@ class submarine in the Royal Navy . As she arrived at Spithead for decommissioning on 29 August 1969 , a 13 @-@ year @-@ old ballet dancer named Judy Wright danced on her upper deck . She was sold in 1971 and scrapped at Portsmouth in 1975 . Her anchor was saved , and was mounted on stone in 1979 in Blyth , Northumberland . The town was used as a training base for submarines during both World Wars .

= = Commanding officers = =