

HNLMS O13

O13 was a submarine of the Royal Netherlands Navy. She was commissioned October 1st 1931.

On May 10th 1940, when Germany invaded the Netherlands, O13 made her way for the Downs at the Southwestern tip of the United Kingdom.

Specifications

Class and type	O12 class submarine
Displacement	Surfaced 562 tons Submerged 696 tons
Dimensions	Length 60,6 meters Beam 5,7 meters
Propulsion	2 diesel engines, 6 cilinders, 2 electric engines
Speed	Surfaced 16 knots Submerged 8 knots
Diving depth	60 meters



Monument and memory

The naval base in Den Helder has a monument to commemorate those who died during World War II while being in submarine service. A commemoration takes place at the monument each year on the 4th of May. The ceremony is attended by relatives and active serving submariners.



More information?

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STILL ON PATROL



During World War II, seven submarines of the Royal Netherlands Navy were lost.

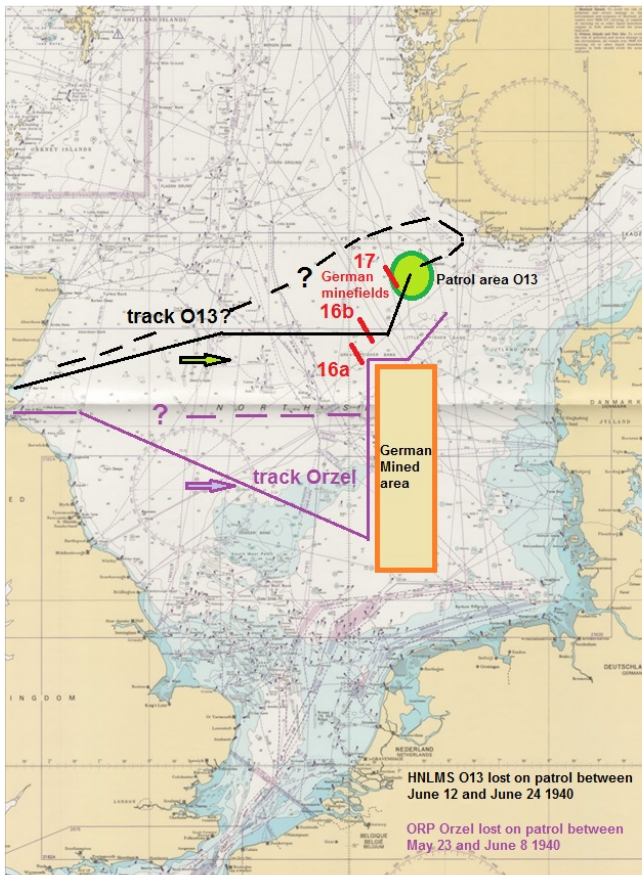
One of them is still missing:

HNLMS O13

Lost On Patrol

On June 12th 1940 the O13 sailed from Dundee, Scotland to conduct a war patrol in the North Sea. After she left, there had been no outgoing radio traffic from O13. The submarine was expected to return on June 21st.

After failing to return, HNLMS O13 was officially reported 'Lost On Patrol' to the War Cabinet by the Flag Admiral Submarines. Four days later, on June 28th 1940, Vice-Admiral Furstner, Commander of the Dutch Naval Forces, announced the loss of O13 to the Dutch troops.



Causes of loss

There are several theories about the disappearance of O13. Since there are no German reports of an attack on a submarine at the time, it was assumed that O13 had run into an unknown minefield.

It was also considered that O13 had been mistaken by the Polish submarine ORP Eagle, who some days after the incident claimed to have rammed and sunk a German U-boat. Stray mines or mechanical problems were also considered as a cause. Insofar none of these theories can be confirmed. We only learn when O13 will be found.

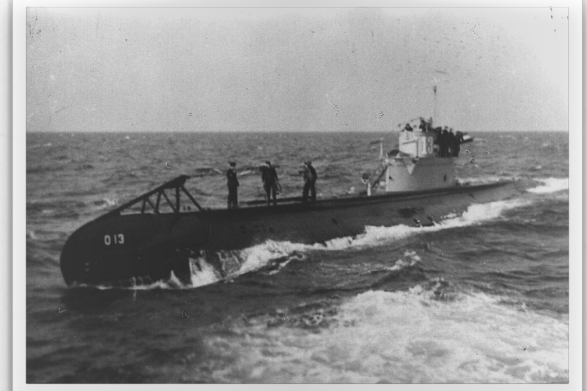
Search for the O13

The Royal Netherlands Navy has joined forces with the Foundation of Relatives of Submarines 1940 - 1945 (SNO) to find the wreck of O13.

Over the past years, various expeditions have been brought to sea to survey the areas of the former German minefields. Numerous wrecks have been investigated, sometimes leading to identification of other war wrecks and even submarines. Until now there is still no trace of O13.

An estimated 10 submarines were lost in the same area as O13. Including the Polish submarine ORP Eagle, which was built at the same shipyard as O13. Eagle went missing about three weeks before O13.

There are around 200 submarines lost in the entire North Sea. About 65 have been identified so far. With combined forces we try to locate all these lost submarines, to eventually solve all mysteries.



Still On Patrol

The SNO 1940 - 1945 and the Royal Netherlands Navy collaborate in the *Working Group Submarines*. They work together with fishing industry, recreational divers, offshore companies and researchers to find as many information about shipwreck locations in the North Sea and O13.

Now, more than 80 years later, the location of O13 remains unknown. The submarine is, as we call it: **Still On Patrol.**

