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This Department of Defense photo depicts the German submarine, U-505, after she was captured by Americans off the coast of western Africa. Note the flags which are flying above her conning tower.

Keeping his <u>mission objective</u> in mind, <u>Captain Gallery</u> ordered a <u>boarding crew</u> from the USS <u>Pillsbury</u> to make ready to board the <u>505</u>. Germans were still aboard their extremely <u>close-quarters</u> vessel. Using "tommy guns" and hand grenades, the Americans cleared the ship of German sailors.

Descending through the <u>conning tower</u>, the boarding party learned the worst: <u>Departing Germans</u> had tried to scuttle <u>their ship</u> by opening one of the sea valves. 505 was taking on water. If the boarding crew did not quickly locate which valve was open, 505 would sink with her valuable code materials.

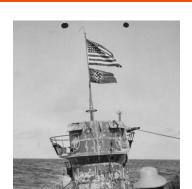
Ignoring the danger of booby traps, the crew had to <u>work quickly</u>. Reinforced with more men from the *Guadalcanal*, they repaired all leaks before they found their prize in 505's radio and sound room: an Enigma encoding machine plus a new, experimental machine. The Allies had what they needed to maintain naval supremacy. Surviving members0 of 505's crew, and <u>their gear</u>, were transferred to the *Guadalcanal*.

The <u>505</u> was <u>towed</u> (with the <u>American colors</u> flying above the flag of the Third Reich <u>by</u> the aircraft carrier *Guadalcanal*) to Port Royal Bay <u>in Bermuda</u>. (Don't miss this story about the capture written by Captain Gallery.) There she would be safe from German knowledge that the ship did not sink.

To make sure no one talked about the capture, Captain Gallery (Commander of Task Group 22.3) <u>issued an</u> <u>order</u> to "keep our mouths shut about it."

Like the 110, U-505 gave up what the Allies needed most - and their secrets remained hidden until well after the war. As late as 1980, <u>Admiral Doenitz</u> (chief commander of the German fleet and <u>President</u> after Hitler's death) did not believe Enigma had been compromised.

Today, *U-505* is at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry. (You can take a <u>virtual tour</u> of the ship by following this link.) Richard Cosby took this picture, in 1954, as the submarine was towed into the Chicago River.



THE CAPTURE OF U-505



The citizens of Chicago contributed \$250,000 to <u>save U-505</u> from destruction. She remains a permanent monument to the <u>monument to the bravery</u> (follow this link to read an eyewitness account) of the Americans who captured, raided and towed her 2,500 miles.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-CAPTURE-OF-U-505-Enigma-Machine-and-Its-U-b oat-Codes

## See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/THE-CAPTURE-OF-U-505-Enigma-Machine-and-Its-U-bo at-Codes

## Media Stream



<u>Captain Gallery</u> Image online, courtesy the U.S. National Archives. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Captain-Gallery</u>











<u>U-505 in Chicago</u> View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/</u>

<u>Pillsbury Boarding Crew</u> Image online, courtesy the U-boat Archive website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Pillsbury-Boarding-Crew</u>

<u>U-505 Living Quarters</u> Image online, courtesy the U-boat Archive website. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/U-505-Living-Quarters

Inside U-505 Image online, courtesy the U-boat Archive website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Inside-U-505</u>

<u>U-505 Conning Tower</u> Image online, courtesy the <u>U-boat Archive</u> website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/U-505-Conning-Tower</u>



<u>German Sailors From U-505</u> Image online, courtesy the U-boat Archive website. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/German-Sailors-From-U-505



<u>U-505 Taking on Water</u> Image online, courtesy navalhistory.org website. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/U-505-Taking-on-Water



**Boarding Party Working on U-505** 

Image online, courtesy the <u>U-boat Archive</u> website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Boarding-Party-Working-on-U-505</u>



<u>Gear Recovered From U-505</u> Image online, courtesy the U-boat Archive website. View this asset at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Gear-Recovered-From-U-505



<u>USS Guadalcanal</u> Image online, courtesy the <u>U-boat Archive</u> website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/USS-Guadalcanal</u>





### Towing the Captured U-505

Image online, courtesy the <u>U-boat Archive</u> website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Towing-the-Captured-U-505-</u>



Image online, courtesy the <u>U-boat Archive</u> website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Aircraft-Carrier-USS-Guadalcanal</u>



<u>American Colors</u> Image online, courtesy the <u>U-boat Archive</u> website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/American-Colors</u>



USS Guadalcanal Towing U-505

Image online, courtesy the <u>U-boat Archive</u> website. View this asset at: <u>http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/USS-Guadalcanal-Towing-U-505</u>



# THE CAPTURE OF U-505

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