

April 20th. 1944.

A. BRIEF REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS TO DATE.

In view of the approaching termination of our first committment, it may be of interest to recall a few facts in connection with our past movements over the last fifteen months.

We have had the opportunity, which not many H.M. Ships have in so short a time, of visiting four continents and twenty eight different places.

To do this we have travelled some twenty eight thousand miles, more than once round the World. This does not include the enumerable minor movements that have taken place in connection with our job of Work.

This has entailed making one hundred and thirty six trips, ranging from those of one hundred miles to one thousand nine hundred, six of which have been over one thousand miles.

Since arriving in the Mediterranean we have done nineteen thousand five hundred miles, making twenty five operational trips, a total of twenty six in all. The average for these trips has been rather long, it being six hundred mile, the Tripoli-Salerno ~~run~~ was the longest being over one thousand miles. During this period our Engines have done three thousand seven hundred hours each - without serious mishap.

For this we can show that our efforts have not been in vain as we have transported some six thousand five hundred Troops with their equipment together with two thousand three hundred Vehicles, Tanks, Guns and many tons of Ammunition.

This at the time, which must arise during all Amphibious Operations, when the whole operation is critical during the period of initial stabilisation.

We can truthfully say that from Sicily to Salerno and Anzio the part played by L.S.T. has been invaluable and the successfull completion of our part in it, as a Unit of the Whole, has been second to none.

Thank you all and the best of Luck. May we all have some decent Leave.

(signed) J. V. Machin, Lt. Cmdr. R.N.R.  
Commanding Officer.