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TIRPITZ SUNK --- BOMBER COMMAND DESTROY THE GREATEST GERMAN BATTLESHIP.

There have been many hazardous jobs given to the Fleet Air Arm; but none more dangerous than the attacks on the German super-battleship Tirpitz. The sinking of the Tirpitz was accomplished by Lancasters of R.A.F. Bomber Command; but it is fitting at this time that we should also acknowledge the courageous attacks previously made by these gallant sailor-airmen. /

More than once, the Navy bombers flew over the surface-giant. But always they were foiled by heavy smoke-screen and ack-ack. Strange that among all our great inventions, we still cannot dispel a fog or smoke-screen.

This was the Tirpitz, about to be launched at Wilhelmshaven in April 1939. She was begun in 1936, the year after the Anglo-German Naval agreement. /

The launching was attended by Hitler, and it was naturally a great affair in the German newsreels of the time. /

The actual ceremony was performed by Frau von Hassel, daughter of the ruthless Admiral von Tirpitz of the last war. /

Something like forty-five thousand tons of German battleship lent pride to Hitler's Navy. This was part of the German rearmament plan for world conquest; Tirpitz was stated to be unsinkable. /

On November 12th 1944, R.A.F. Lancasters went out on business. ^
The Tirpitz had an undistinguished career in this war; but in her hide-outs in the Norwegian fjords she was always a grave danger to our convoys. There she lies; in Fromsøe Fjord. Twenty nine Lancasters are about to drop five-and-a-half ton bombs. /

Three or four bombs at least made direct hits; two film cameras were carried in this action and we present also the film taken by the second cameraman.

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Flak is coming up thick and fast. / 5½ tons each. The X
Tirpitz turned over and sank, with some seven hundred feet of
keel 1 showing above ^{THE} water. One of the most brilliant bombing
attacks by the Royal Air Force had been completely successful. /