

RFI – GAUL – Underwater Survey 2002

Daily Report No 25

On board *SEISRANGER*

Date:	20.07.02	Time:	2359	Day No. (On Site):	20
Location:	N 72° 04.1' E 025° 05.3' (on wreck site)				
Weather: (past 24 hours)	Good visibility	Sea State:	3	Wind Speed & Direction:	16 knots W'ly
Weather: (next 3-5 days)	W'ly 9-14knts. becoming NNW'ly 4-7knts. increasing E'ly 27knts.				

Summary:

Two attempts have been made to cut 1500mm holes in the wreck's side to allow access for the Tiger ROV. Unfortunately, while the wreck's side plating was cut without difficulty, the grit cutting failed to cut the strong supporting structure behind. An explosive specialist arrived onboard this evening, and shape charges will be used to try and complete the cut.

Progress over the last 24 hours:

- Cut with grit another 1500mm hole in the steel hull, but the structure behind the plate is still intact.
- Broken a number of portholes to gain access for a visual survey of cabins.
- The VideoRay mini ROV has viewed the hole in the engine room's side (see image)

Plan for the next 24 hours:

- Continue cutting holes into the hull in the vicinity of the cabins.
- Continue the search for samples from within the wreck, once access has been made.
- Continue internal examination of the wreck.

Keith Dixon
Team Leader