

RFI – GAUL – Underwater Survey 2002

Daily Report No 26

On board *SEISRANGER*

Date:	21.07.02	Time:	2359	Day No. (On Site):	21
Location:	N 72° 04.1' E 025° 05.3' (on wreck site)				
Weather: (past 24 hours)	Good visibility	Sea State:	3	Wind Speed & Direction:	10 knots NW'ly
Weather: (next 3-5 days)	NW'ly 10knts. becoming ENE'ly 20knts.				

Summary:

In order to try and minimise damage within the wreck, grit-cutting was again used to cut a 550mm hole in the accommodation, rather than use shaped explosive charges. Although hampered by a 3m swell, which made it very difficult to position the cutter and slowed the operation, access was achieved (see image). Several more similar sized holes will now be cut.

Internal survey of the wreck continued using the VideoRay mini-rov, and the Spyball camera mounted on a Work Class ROV. Over 90% of the accommodation areas have now been surveyed.

Progress over the last 24 hours:

- Internal examination of seven compartments within the wreck
- Cut a 550 mm diameter hole into the wrecks side.

Plan for the next 24 hours:

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

Keith Dixon
Team Leader