

# AUSSIES SINK AXIS RAIDER IN PACIFIC

Own Cruiser Sydney Believed to Have Gone Down;  
Admiralty Says Enemy Ship Powerfully Armed;  
Australian Sloop Sunk With 141.

LONDON, Dec. 2 (U.P.)—The Australian cruiser Sydney, scourge of the Italian Navy and hero of a score of engagements, has succumbed, it was believed today, to wounds suffered in sinking a crack German raider, destroyer of 10 Allied ships.

The raider was the Steiermark, 9400 tons. It was known until recently as the Kormoran. It was sunk in the South Pacific. There were no survivors off the Sydney, but some of the Steiermark were rescued.

The Ministry of Information said the enemy merchant raider was heavily armed and was sunk by gunfire.

It was presumed the Sydney too was sunk because "no subsequent information has been received from her."

At the same time Australian Premier John Curtin announced in Melbourne that H. M. A. S. Parramatta, modern war sloop of the Australian Navy, had been torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean with a loss of 141 of its complement of 161. The sloop, completed only last year, joined the British Mediterranean fleet only yesterday.

The action occurred some time before Nov. 26. The Ministry said the next of kin of those aboard Sydney had been informed on that date.

Sydney was of 6330 tons, built in 1934, had 550 officers and men. It was armed with eight six-inch guns, eight four-inch anti-aircraft guns and lesser armament.

The Sydney's first fight of this war was on June 28, 1940, when she sank the Italian destroyer Espero. Then she went through a dawn to dusk attack by Italian planes but reached Alexandria un-

scathed. She had used all of her anti-aircraft shells but foiled the Italian planes into keeping a distance by firing harmless smoke shells.

The Sydney's biggest success was in an engagement with two Italian cruisers on July 19, 1940. She sank Bartolomeo Colleoni and damaged the other.

The Admiralty said the Steiermark "like other raiders she indulged from time to time in various disguises and she had flown the flag of any nationality her captain deemed to suit his purpose."

The Steiermark was built in Hamburg in 1938 for the Hamburg-Amerika Line. She was designed with a view to her employment as an armed merchant raider in wartime.

## Powerful Raider'

The Admiralty said that before leaving Germany at the end of 1940 the Steiermark was armed in such a way as to make her "powerful raider."

It was known that she carried at least six 5.5-inch guns. Two aircraft and underwater torpedo tubes. In addition to torpedo tubes fitted to her deck. The vessel had a speed of 18 knots and carried 400 officers and men. She was a formidable vessel, the Admiralty said.

The Steiermark started her operations in the area of the Cape Verde Islands, sinking the Greek ship Antonis and two British steamers, British Union and Africa Star, the Admiralty said.

She then operated in company with another merchant raider and together they sank the British steamer Eurylochus before the end of January.

The Admiralty said Steiermark then went south to meet the tanker Nordmark in order to refuel and transfer prisoners. She transferred her operations to the South Atlantic, where she sank the steamers Acnita and Craftsman between the last week of March and the second week in April.

"In the next 2½ months she attempted only one attack, from which her intended victim escaped," the Admiralty said.

The Admiralty said Steiermark then sank the steamers Velerit and Mareeba between Ceylon and Sumatra after transferring its operations to the Indian Ocean.

"After these sinkings the raider made no attempts against shipping for three months," the Admiralty said. "She did not dare to go on the main trade routes for she realized she had given away her position."

Then the Admiralty said, she sank the Greek ships Stamatos and G. Eubios Sept. 26.

"Again her position was given away and she spent two months trying to evade the naval patrols which finally secured her destruction," the Admiralty said. "It is a remarkable tribute to the hunting power of our heavily employed naval forces that this powerful ship should have been so driven from pillar to post that she failed to do far greater damage."

The Sydney was commanded by Capt. Joseph Brunett. During the past year, during part of which time she was commanded by Capt. J. A. Collins, she traveled more than 80,000 miles and fought a score of actions, firing 40,000 shells and withstanding 60 bombing attacks without the loss of man. Until she met the Steiermark the only damage she suffered were shrapnel holes in her funnels.

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During her career, the Sydney bombarded the Italian base at Rhodes in the Dodecanese Islands. The Admiralty said Steiermark later sank the steamers Velerit and Mareeba between Ceylon and Sumatra after transferring its operations to the Indian Ocean.

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Other officers of the club are Grover Par, vice president; Mr. Kleifer, treasurer; Miss Lieper, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Cleary, recording secretary.

Committees Named

David M. Lewis, club president, has appointed the following committees:

Herbert Becker, general chairman; house committee, Wilbur Myers, chairman, Victor Hurtz, John Whitt, Maurice Reilly, Michael Lutz, Guy Barber and James P. Scott; refreshments, Robert Benedict, chairman, Mrs. Kathryn Coleman, Joseph Howard, Thomas F. Quinn, Mrs. Modessa Parr, Mrs. John Rice, Frank McCarthy and Walter Myers Jr.; publicity, John J. Cooper, chairman, Walter Truman, Arthur Sullivan, Fred Steiger and George Hopper.

Other Members

Reception, Mrs. Myrtle Hinesley, chairman, Mrs. Roberta Nicholson, Mrs. Ada Crider, George Rice and Mrs. Kirk McKinney; decorations, Miss Mary Killies, chairman, Miss Lenore Lorentz, Mrs. Frank E. McKinney and John Murphy; entertainment, Ralph Scanlon, chairman, Mrs. Helen Whitt, Jack Lansley, Jack Berger and Lynville Miles; invitations, Miss Mary Leiper, chairman, Mrs. Helen Cleary, Jacob Kleifer, Mrs. Omer Nichols and Miss Clara Lease.

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## IN INDIANAPOLIS—VITAL STATISTICS

### Here Is the Traffic Record

Year	Month	City	Total
1940	54	81	122
1941	61	62	122
Dec. 1—			
Accidents . . . . .	27	Arrests . . . . .	194
Injured . . . . .	10	Dead . . . . .	10

### MONDAY TRAFFIC COURT

Cases	Convic.	Fines
Violations	42	\$8
Speeding	42	\$8
Reckless driving	5	3
Failure to stop at	1	0
through street	1	0
Disobeying traffic	1	1
signals	1	1
Drunk driving	1	1
All others . . . . .	30	18
Totals . . . . .	80	62

### MEETINGS TODAY

Indiana Boys' Association, convention, Claypool Hotel, all day.

Hoosier Association of Finance Companies, meeting, Hotel Lincoln, all day.

Indiana Historical Society, lectures, State Library, 4 p.m.

Indiana Motor Truck Association, luncheon, Hotel Indiana, noon.

Indiana