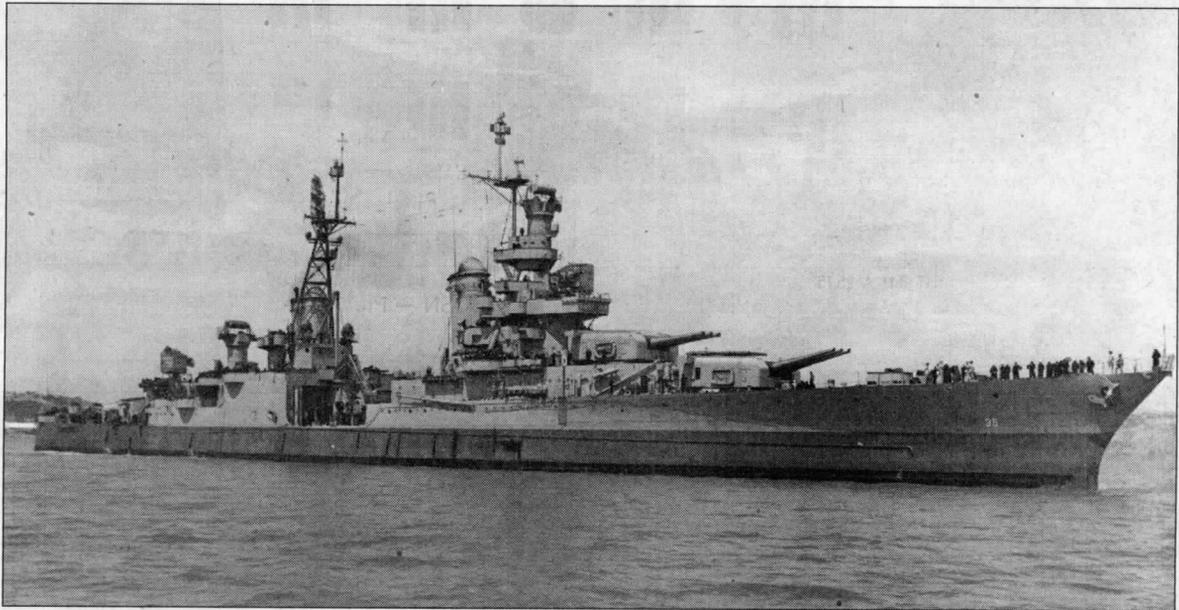


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USS INDIANAPOLIS



U.S. Navy

The **USS Indianapolis** is shown off the Mare Island Navy Yard, in Northern California, after her final overhaul and repair of combat damage. Civilian researchers say they have located the wreck of the **USS Indianapolis**, which was sailing the Philippine Sea between Guam and Leyte Gulf when two torpedoes from a Japanese submarine struck just after midnight on July 30, 1945.

WWII cruiser found

USS Indianapolis wreckage located 72 years after it was hit

BY DOUGLASS K. DANIEL

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Civilian researchers say they have located the wreck of the **USS Indianapolis**, the World War II heavy cruiser that played a critical role in the atomic bombing of Hiroshima before being struck by Japanese torpedoes.

The sinking of the **Indianapolis** remains the Navy's single worst loss at sea. The fate of its crew — nearly 900 were killed, many by sharks, and just 316 survived — was one of the Pacific war's more hor-

rible and fascinating tales.

The expedition crew of Research Vessel **Petrel**, which is owned by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, says it located the wreckage of the **Indianapolis** on the floor of the North Pacific Ocean, more than 18,000 feet below the surface, the U.S. Navy said in a news release Saturday.

"To be able to honor the brave men of the **USS Indianapolis** and their families through the discovery of a ship that played such a significant role in ending World War II is truly humbling," Allen said in the news release.

The **Indianapolis**, with 1,196 sailors and Marines on board, was sailing the Philippine Sea between Guam and Leyte Gulf



The Associated Press

Footage from a remotely operated underwater vehicle shows wreckage of the **USS Indianapolis, including the ship's bell at the bottom of the North Pacific Ocean. Civilian researchers say they have located the wreck of the World War II heavy cruiser that played a critical role in the atomic bombing of Hiroshima before being struck by Japanese torpedoes.**

when two torpedoes from a Japanese submarine struck just after midnight on July 30, 1945. It sank in

12 minutes, killing about 300. Survivors were left in the water, most of them with only life jackets.