



Navigation

- [Home](#)
- [Countries](#)
- [Fleets](#)
- [War-time Stories](#)
- [Survivor Stories](#)
- [Shipping News](#)
- [Sitemap](#)

[Fleets](#) > [The Anglo Saxon Petroleum Company \(Shell\)](#) >

Ohio

Ohio 14,150 tons an American built tanker of the Eagle Oil Company under command Captain D.W.Mason with an all British crew of fifty three, reinforced with twenty four Naval and Military ratings as gun crew. August 1942 **Ohio** sailed from the Clyde as a unit of the classic convoy from Gibraltar to Malta, that was imperilled by enemy minefields, and continuous attack from enemy submarines, and aircraft. On 12 August she was torpedoed by U-boat attack on the port side, the crew had to combat fire that broke out in the pump room and kerosine tanks, impact of the near misses smashed the navigation equipment on the bridge.

Ohio now became a priority target for further enemy aerial attacks, near misses buckled her bow. Following bomb explosions tore a hole aft in the hull and carried away the rudder and further structural damage was sustained. That she would make port after such punishment over a further three days was unlikely, for she had settled low in the water with only two feet of freeboard. Navy Destroyers came to her assistance and finally, tugs made fast fore and aft and brought her into the Grand Harbour at Valetta to deliver the oil cargo that Malta needed so urgently. History of this kind is not made without cost in human lives. The guns of **Ohio** exacted a toll of enemy aircraft, at one period, she had a crashed Junkers 88 on her fore deck and a further Stuka divebomber on the poop deck. Tribute to the whole ships company was implied by Captain Mason, particularly the Chief Engineer and engine room staff.