

# ***YUSOSEN!***



(HOKKI MARU in 1931)

## **IJN HOKKI MARU: Tabular Record of Movement**

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**1918:**

Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, Great Britain. Laid down at Palmer's Shipbuilding & Iron Co. Ltd. as a 5,601-ton World War I Standard War "Z" Class tanker for Britain's Shipping Controller.

**1919:**

Launched and named WAR BEGUM.

**1919:**

Completed. Managed by British Tanker Co.

**1920:**

Sold to Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Co, London.

**1921:**

Renamed CONUS, same owner.

**1927:**

Sold to D/S A/S Jolund (S. Herlofson & Co.), Moss, Norway. Renamed HERBORG.

**1928:**

Sold to Tonnevolds Rederi A/S, Grimstad; Renamed THELMA.

**1937:**

Sold to Wheelock & Co, Singapore. Renamed WAR BEGUM again.

**1938:**

Sold to Kitagawa Sangyo Kaiun K.K. of Osaka. Renamed HOKKI MARU.

**1941-1944:**

Requisitioned by the IJA. Make voyages as Army No. 751. Returned to her owners.

**23 May 1943:**

**Departs Singapore in Convoy No. 692 consisting of HOKKI, SUEZ and TACHIBANA MARUs without escort.**

**27 May 1943:**

**At 1300, arrives at St Jacques.**

**5 September 1944:**

**At 1300, HOKKI MARU departs Singapore for Miri, Borneo in convoy SHIMI-10 also containing URAL, SHIKISAN, TATSUHARU, TENSHIN, SHOEI, OMINE, KYOEI and IMAHARU (ex-dutch De KLERK) MARUs and SHINSEI MARU No. 1, KYOEI MARU No. 6 and NANSHIN MARU No. 18 escorted by auxiliary minesweepers CHOUN MARU No. 6 and CHOUN MARU No. 7 and auxiliary minesweeper TOSHI MARU No. 2.**

**8 September 1944:**

**At 0530, arrives at Kuching, Borneo.**

**9 September 1944:**

**Departs at midnight.**

**11 September 1944:**

**At 1230, arrives at Miri.**

**15 September 1944:**

**At 1500, HOKKI MARU departs Miri for Manila, Philippines in convoy MIMA-11 (also called MI-16) also containing fleet oiler KAMOI and TACHIBANA, KYOKUHO, SHIKISAN, ZUIYO, TATSUHARU, TENSHIN, SHOEI, OMINE, URAL, KYOEI and IMAHARU (ex-Dutch De KLERK) MARUs and SHINSEI MARU No. 1, YAMAMIZU MARU No. 2 and KYOEI MARU No. 6 escorted by kaibokan CD-8, CD-25, and CD-32 and subchaser CH-28. The convoy hugs the coast calling at various small anchorages.**

**27 September 1944:**

**At 0807, USS FLASHER (SS-249) torpedoes and sinks transport URAL MARU and damages tanker TACHIBANA MARU at 15-45'N, 117-20E.**

**At 1007, LtCdr Donald G. Baer's LAPON (SS-260) fires three torpedoes at the fourth ship in line and gets two or three hits on HOKKI MARU at 15-45N, 117-48E. She catches fire and is abandoned. OMINE MARU takes her in tow, but she sinks at 15-50N, 117-41E. Two crewmen are KIA.**

**The escorts counterattack LAPON with depth charges, but Baer evades and escapes.**

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