

[Five minutes later you had to be making twice as much easily.]

Yes within ten minutes all the boilers all the extra boilers were on the line. We were making flank speed, even that with that hole we probably weren't making over eighteen or twenty knots. That hole was slowing us down.

[How many people were in the place where you worked in the engineering and your particular boiler?]

Normally you had two burner men, a water tender, and a check man. That was what we had in the fireroom. Of course you had in the other side in the engine room, they had. . . .

[There were four of you where you were counting yourself?]

Yes, that was the normal steaming watch. In general quarters, I think there were, I don't even remember for sure, I guess maybe ten or twelve.

[Not all were there when you were hit, because you were not in general quarters, were you?]

No.

[Probably only four of you. In other words when you started putting the boiler on the line, there were only four of you there at the time.]

Right.

[Now you did the bulk of the work getting on the line that quick.]

Yes. Another thing too, I don't remember the name of the fire plate. You know your burner barrels in your boilers have different size fire plates. And I think 3905, that number sticks in my mind, that was a big plate. That thing was about the size of a pencil. Well that's what we lit off with, and of course you are never suppose to do that. You are suppose to use the smaller one to bring it up and then you change burners and use the bigger one. We led off with the biggest thing we had.

[Well, you were really were taking a risk, weren't you?]

I guess it was looking back on it, but at the time it didn't seem like that.