

ITALIAN SUB ESCAPES IN THRILLING CHASE

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Title: Surprise Attack.
Track: The Man I Killed.
Discs: 404.232.
Lines: Stagg.
Voice: Mellor.

In the Straits of Gibraltar an actual incident of naval warfare was filmed by a British Paramount News cameraman flying with a patrolling Hudson aircraft. Though pilots of these planes have given up hope of sighting Italian surface men-of-war they had the good luck on this occasion to spot a submarine. It was only a few miles off the friendly neutral coast of Spanish Morocco, As yet the sub appeared unaware that British destroyers were not far away.

The observer signalled to them. At full speed they gave chase. By this time the Italian knew his danger. He chose to rely on his surface speed rather than submerge and risk a depth-charge attack. He was in sight of Tangier and banking on British respect for neutral waters the submarine raced for harbour. Every yard he was being overhauled by the destroyers. It was touch and go. The luck was against us. As the Italian rounded the breakwater it was all the leading destroyer could do to turn sharply and avoid a breach of international law. So for the time being the sub got away. They used to run for their own harbours, but after Taranto they find other people's safer. All round, it's a tough war for Italy.