

FLASHES%

There's very little Xmas atmosphere aboard destroyers of the anti submarine patrol. The fight against the U-boats, though no longer the life and death matter it used to be, is still waged day and night. At any hour the alarm bell calls the crew to action stations. U-boats have been detected and depth charges are dropped all round it.

Little bands of German survivors are brought back to port, lucky indeed to have escaped death. They are the remnants of the once powerful body of men whose deadly work has been all but stopped by the Royal Navy.

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Wrens ahey ! The most envied girls in the navy are the ones that go afloat. They man harbour craft, doing duty between men-o'-war anchored outside and the shore. The girls do all the work. Some of it's so different from housework they don't notice it.

(sv aftr rope) There are always sailors to be ferried to and fro and since the girls have been running the motor boats the demand for accommodation has gone up. At the wheel of the harbour vessel they appear to ~~XXXX~~ to be less deadly than driving cars in peacetime, otherwise the harbour might be strewn with floating sailors, who'd set out to go on leave. Well, Happy Christmas to the Wrens afloat.