

The battlefield on which the CAMPBELL fought was the Atlantic; her enemy, the lurking German submarine wolf-packs. On one convoy while leading 48 ships eastward through heavy seas, six vessels were sunk by stalking German submarine wolf-packs. Even the less eventful voyages noted in her war diary as an uneventful return trip meant no respite for the escorting ships, and no let-up in vigilance for the men of the CAMPBELL.



It was a return trip with a convoy from Ireland to New York which almost ended the CAMPBELL's career. On 22 February 1943 the CAMPBELL was screening the convoy when late in the evening a radar contact was made approximately 2 miles ahead. The CAMPBELL approached at full speed and shortly thereafter a submarine was sighted in the darkness. Full right rudder was ordered so as to ram the submarine. The submarine struck the CAMPBELL on the starboard side flooding the engine room, and short circuiting the electrical system.



Although the submarine was sunk, the CAMPBELL was in grave danger of following her to the bottom. The CAMPBELL, however, remained afloat and was towed to Newfoundland where she was repaired, and in a few months returned to convoy escort duty.

