

NOT FOR PUBLICATION, BROADCAST, OR USE ON CLUB TAPES  
BEFORE 08.30 B.S.T. ON THURSDAY DECEMBER 2 1943.  
THIS EMBARGO SHOULD BE RESPECTED OVERSEAS BY PREFACING  
ANY MESSAGES FILED WITH THE EMBARGO

THREE PRIZED POSSESSIONS

H.M. Submarine UNRUFFLED, which has just returned to a home base after a year's campaigning in the Mediterranean, during which she sank at least 40,000 tons of enemy supply shipping and blew 60 feet off the bows of an Italian cruiser, had three prized possessions - a cat, an Italian ensign, and a replica of the Football Association Cup. Behind each is a story.

The Cat: The story is told by Able Seaman G. Dale, of Levenshulme, Manchester, who left his job as a butcher to join submarines;

"We called him 'Timo', which is short for Timoshenko. We gave him that name after we had seen him put an Alsatian to flight. He joined us at Gibraltar just before we started our Mediterranean campaign."

"'Timo' made his home, both in and out of action, on the torpedo tubes. The cat was incorporated in the UNRUFFLED's unofficial crest which depicts 'Timo' riding astride a torpedo and grasping a Jolly Roger flag in his paw.

"'Timo' had an uncanny sense which made him into a sort of living hydrophone on patrol. Long before we went into action he would pace the deck mewling. It was an unerring warning, and we never took our clothes off on nights when 'Timo' started to behave in that manner."

The end of the tale of 'Timo' is to be found in the Commanding Officer's report of the UNRUFFLED's passage home.

He writes: "It is regretted that Timoshenko, the ship's cat, who joined H.M.S. UNRUFFLED in July, 1942, deserted two hours prior to our leaving Gibraltar for the United Kingdom. The call of his birthplace was evidently too strong for him. He had been on board for every patrol."

The Ensign: The story is told by Petty Officer J. Bell, D.S.M. of Durham;

"It was the ambition of our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant J.S. Stevens,

/to...