

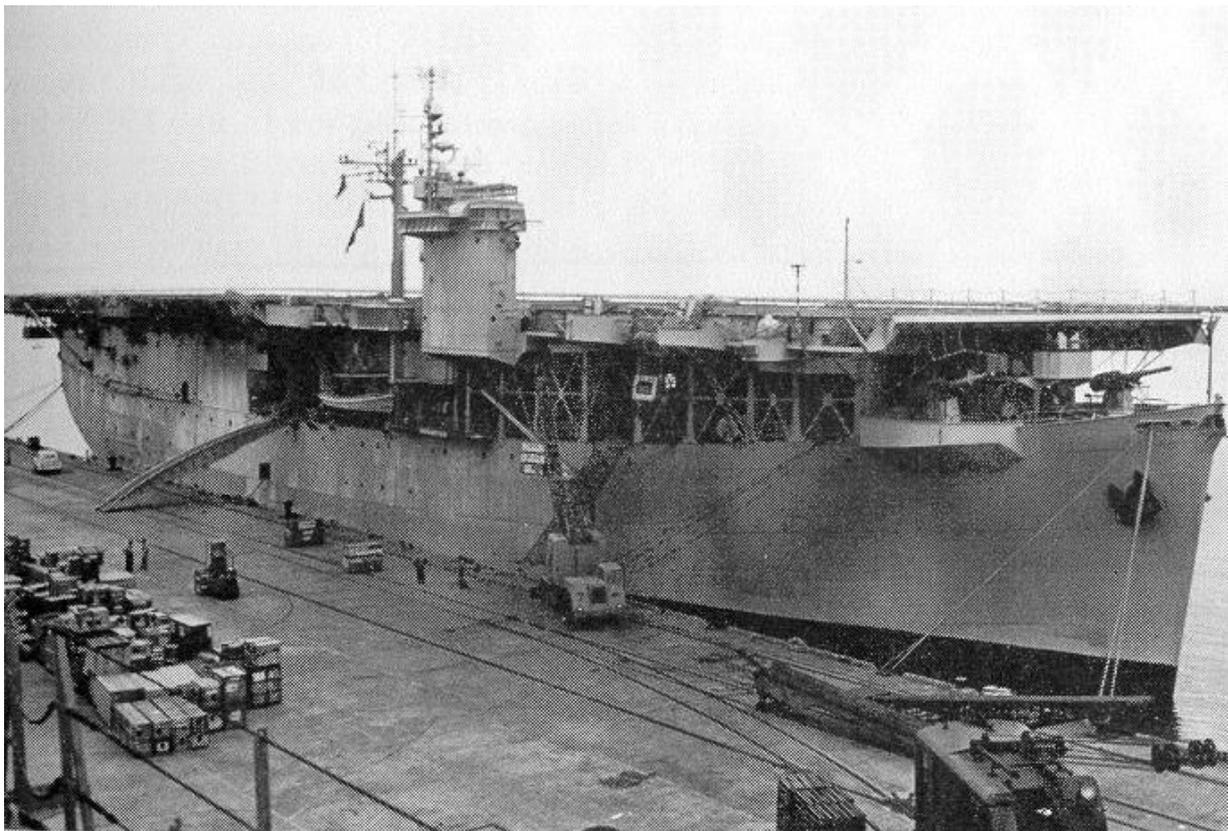
Avenger Class Escort Carrier¹

[1] [2] [3]

Ships of class	Commissioned	Ships lost
HMS Avenger ²	Mar 42	15 Nov 1942 (U 155 west of Gibraltar)
HMS Biter	May 42	
HMS Dasher	Jul 42	27 Mar 1943 (Internal explosion in the Clyde Estuary)
HMS Charger ³	Mar 42	



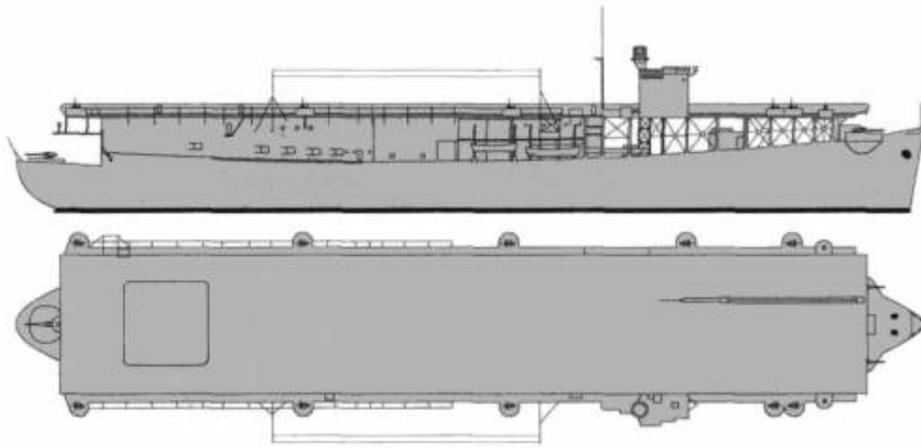
HMS Dasher [4]



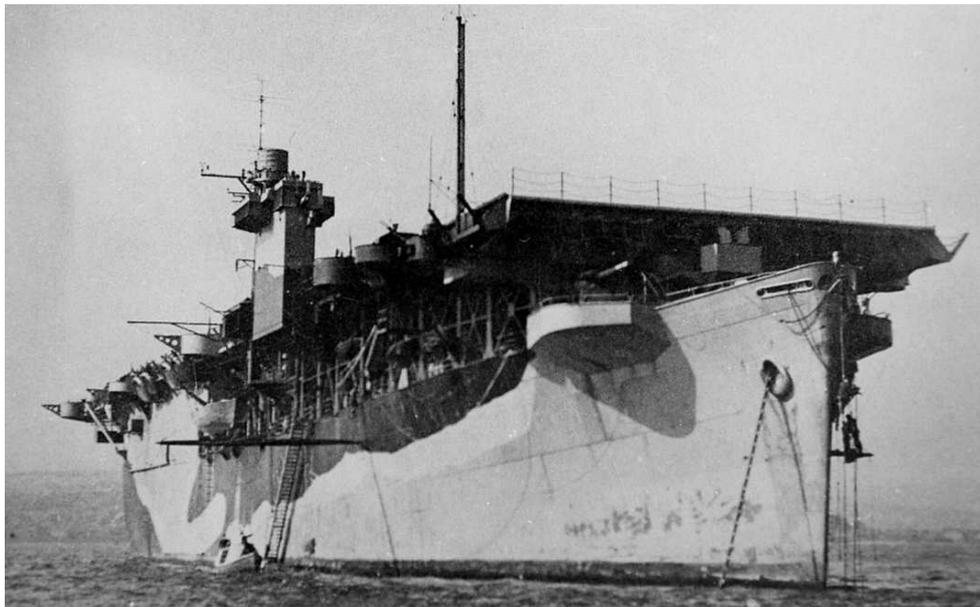
¹ Lend lease vessels built in US and converted from merchantmen whilst still in build. US classification was BAVG and it was a modified US Long Island Class.

² Avenger had no Island.

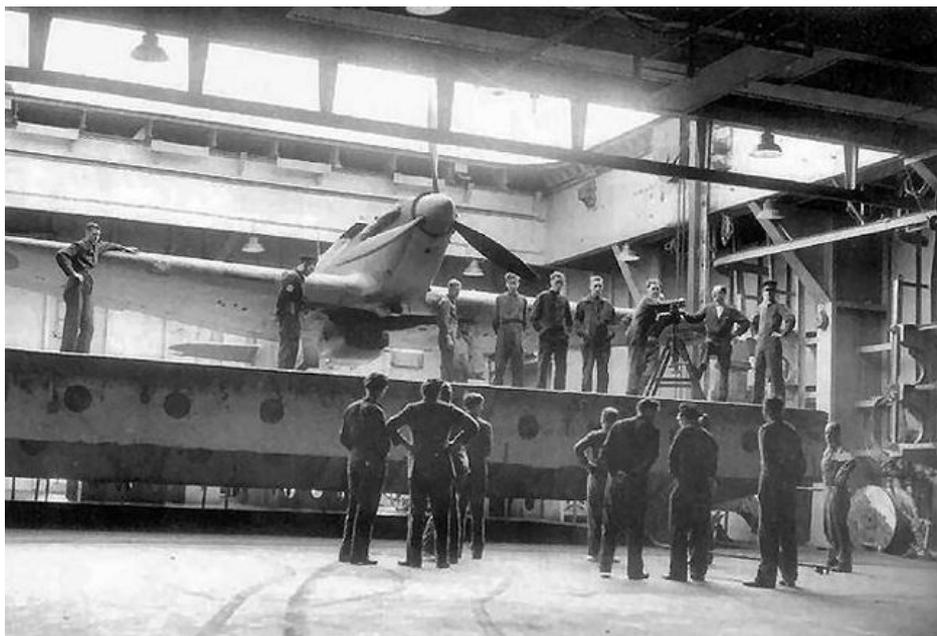
³ Retained in US and used for training of USN and FAA personnel.



HMS Dasher [4]



HMS Dasher [4]



Sea Hurricane Mk 1b, on lift of HMS Avenger, Sept 1942 [5]

HULL DATA		
Length (pp)		
Length (oa)	150.04 m [6]	
Beam	20.35 m [6]	
Full load displacement	9,144 tonne [1]	
Propulsion Machinery	4 x Diesel engines [6] ⁴	1 shaft [6]
	16.5 knots [6]	8,500 SHP [6]
Complement	555 [6]	
Aircraft ⁵⁶	15 [6]	

ARMAMENT DATA		
Main Armament [6]	3 x 4 inch	Single mountings [7]. 2 fwd and 1 aft.
Secondary Armament [6]	15 x 20 mm	4 x twin mounting 7 x single mounting [7]
4" outload [8, p. C5]	330 rpg	990
20 mm outload		15,000 estimated
Depth Charge [9, pp. a1-3]	Mk II*	104
Torpedo outload [10, pp. 13, Oct 44]	18 inch	14
Demolition Charges [11, p. 95]	Block TNT 1¼ lb	100
Bombs [12, p. ii a] ⁷		
	500 lb SAP	45
	250 lb SAP	90
	AS 100 lb Mk IV	180
	GP 250 lb Mk III or IV	90
	40lb GP MkIII	240

SHIPS LOST – HAZARD ASSESSMENT		
	SHIP/CLASS HAZARD SCORE	Remarks
HMS Avenger	14.58; 7.16 if all the ammunition in the bomb room is presumed destroyed.	Wreck in position 36°15'N, 07°45'W . [13] Avenger was hit on the port side amidships, which in turn ignited her bomb room, blowing out the centre section of the ship. Her bow and stern sections rose in the air and sunk within 2 minutes, leaving only 12 survivors. [14]
HMS Dasher	14.58 A reduced outfit for training purposes may have been on board.	Wreck in position 55° 37.747N 05°0.953W [15]. HMS Dasher is resting intact and upright max height of wreck 131 m seabed 170 m. The wreck has a considerable amount of netting

⁴ A comment on the Wikipedia website [6] indicates that the class may have had only two diesel engines (Sun-Doxford) connected to one shaft electrically.

⁵ Dasher was believed carrying 5 x Sea Hurricanes (891 Sqdn) and 6 x Swordfish (816 Sqdn) at time of loss [17].

⁶ Avenger had Sea Hurricanes of 802 and 883 Sqdn for Operation Torch but it is not clear what was embarked for return passage where she was escorting a return convoy [1]

⁷ Bomb outload for ship based upon 15 x Swordfish a/c

		<p>fouling the superstructure. [16]</p> <p>Two massive explosions aft threw the aircraft lift into the air (witnesses estimate up to 60 feet) and caused the immediate loss of main engine, electrical power, and lighting below deck. Attempts to fight the resultant fire proved unsuccessful and the ship was abandoned. The effect of the initial blast was immense, described as having peeled the flight back for half its length like a sardine can. [17]</p>
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