

Sargo's Repairs Well Underway; Completes Soon

Cutting a hole in the hull of a ship to speed up repairs is becoming routine in the Shipyard.

On the nuclear-powered submarine Sargo now in Drydock 2, a direct and easy access to the stern room was provided by cutting out a section of her hull. A platform was erected outside of this opening for plans, telephone, tools and material, saving many steps and valuable time.

The Sargo's stern room was damaged by fire June 14 while the submarine was taking on oxygen at her berth in Submarine Base. The stern of the submarine was submerged to cut off the blaze and cool off the area where the fire was concentrated.

Drydocked within a few days after the accident, the Sargo's stern room was almost completely stripped of equipment and sandblasted. New insulation and a fresh coat of paint improved its appearance.

After cleaning, a thorough inspection revealed that the damage was not as extensive as originally feared.

Repairs are progressing according to schedule with Shipyard workers busily reinstalling cables and piping. All major equipments have been put back into place and the large hull patch installed. Also included in her alterations is a change in her oxygen charging connections. All charging lines are being installed in the escape trunk. As it stands now, the Sargo should complete by the end of September.