

October 20, 2025

VIA EMAIL

Attention: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, 2015 (File #: PB/1199/2025)

On September 15, 2025, we received your request for access to the following records/information:

Looking for any documentation available concerning the discovery of an unidentified cylindrical object in the Churchill River circa summer 2012 that may be a U-Boat wreck. See: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/german-u-boat-may-be-at-bottom-of-labrador-river-1.1164735>

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/u-boat-search-in-labrador-river-remains-murky-1.1164732>

A series of emails were allegedly released around 2015-2016 but I've been unable to verify whether they're legitimate. Any other information on the topic of the potential U-Boat wreck(s) in the Churchill River would also be desirable, particularly with regard to investigation and exploration of the area.

Please be advised that access has been granted. Please see appendix A attached hereto.

Please be advised that you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the processing of your access request, as set out in section 42 of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 (the Act) (a copy of this section has been enclosed for your reference). A request to the Commissioner must be made in writing within 15 business days of the date of this letter or within a longer period that may be allowed by the Commissioner.

The appeal may be addressed to the Information and Privacy Commissioner as follows:

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner
2 Canada Drive
P. O. Box 13004, Stn. A
St. John's, NL, A1B 3V8

Telephone: (709) 729-6309
Toll-Free: 1-877-729-6309
Email: commissioner@oipc.nl.ca

You may also appeal directly to the Supreme Court within 15 business days after you receive the decision of the public body, pursuant to section 52 of the Act (a copy of this section has been enclosed for your reference).

If you have any further questions, please contact me by telephone at (709) 725-4859 or by email at cassandrahearn@nlh.nl.ca

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cassandra Hearn".

Cassandra Hearn
Access & Privacy Officer

Access or correction complaint

42. (1) A person who makes a request under this Act for access to a record or for correction of personal information may file a complaint with the commissioner respecting a decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request.

(2) A complaint under subsection (1) shall be filed in writing not later than 15 business days

(a) after the applicant is notified of the decision of the head of the public body, or the date of the act or failure to act; or

(b) after the date the head of the public body is considered to have refused the request under subsection 16 (2).

(3) A third party informed under section 19 of a decision of the head of a public body to grant access to a record or part of a record in response to a request may file a complaint with the commissioner respecting that decision.

(4) A complaint under subsection (3) shall be filed in writing not later than 15 business days after the third party is informed of the decision of the head of the public body.

(5) The commissioner may allow a longer time period for the filing of a complaint under this section.

(6) A person or third party who has appealed directly to the Trial Division under subsection 52 (1) or 53 (1) shall not file a complaint with the commissioner.

(7) The commissioner shall refuse to investigate a complaint where an appeal has been commenced in the Trial Division.

(8) A complaint shall not be filed under this section with respect to

(a) a request that is disregarded under section 21 ;

(b) a decision respecting an extension of time under section 23 ;

(c) a variation of a procedure under section 24 ; or

(d) an estimate of costs or a decision not to waive a cost under section 26 .

(9) The commissioner shall provide a copy of the complaint to the head of the public body concerned.

Direct appeal to Trial Division by an applicant

52. (1) Where an applicant has made a request to a public body for access to a record or correction of personal information and has not filed a complaint with the commissioner under section 42, the applicant may appeal the decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request directly to the Trial Division.

(2) An appeal shall be commenced under subsection (1) not later than 15 business days

(a) after the applicant is notified of the decision of the head of the public body, or the date of the act or failure to act; or

(b) after the date the head of the public body is considered to have refused the request under subsection 16 (2).

(3) Where an applicant has filed a complaint with the commissioner under section 42 and the commissioner has refused to investigate the complaint, the applicant may commence an appeal in the Trial Division of the decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request for access to a record or for correction of personal information.

(4) An appeal shall be commenced under subsection (3) not later than 15 business days after the applicant is notified of the commissioner's refusal under subsection 45 (2).

Appendix A

Briefing Note

Topic

Shipwreck at Muskrat Falls

Background

On Friday, June 29, 2012, I was notified of a possible shipwreck at Muskrat Falls by the VP-LCP. Transport Canada notified the Provincial Government who in turn notified Nalcor Energy officials. Upon further research I discovered that there have been several mentions of this in written literature (namely the Town of HV-GV website that mentions it). With the information from the Town website, I asked local diving professional Brian Corbin (who happens to be an environmental coordinator with SLI on the LCP) and he immediately knew what I was talking about as he was part of the original discovery team in the spring/summer of 2010.

It was discovered by the Stephan Hopkins Foundation, a Newfoundland and Labrador based foundation that uses side-scan sonar technology to locate bodies underwater. In 2007, Stephan Hopkins body was missing for 73 days in a Newfoundland lake and after acquiring the side-scan sonar equipment, they located his body in just 29 minutes.

Mr. Corbin was called upon by the foundation in May of 2010 to help locate the bodies of the 3 young men that were swept over Muskrat Falls. After several weeks of using the equipment, only one body was located. However, in searching for the bodies, the team discovered the shipwreck of what is believed to be the German U-Boat that has been spoken about since the Second World War.

Lawyers were engaged at the time to file a claim on the wreck but the Team at the time decided that given the sensitivities of the search they would leave the claim as is. They could not justify profiting off a Labrador-donation led search.

However, given the recent word that someone else is trying to come in and claim this wreck based on information that the Stephan Hopkins Foundation had, Chairperson Junior Pinksen has turned over all the information to me to pass along to the appropriate officials within all levels of government. Attached you will see the side-scan photograph of the submarine and also he has passed along the exact coordinates of the wreck. All photos are attached. The foundation believes it is German U-Boat U-1226 (all information attached).

Recommendations

1. I recommend passing along all the included information to the proper Government officials on behalf of the Stephan Hopkins Foundation as they are the rightful finders of this wreck.
2. I recommend acting on this immediately.

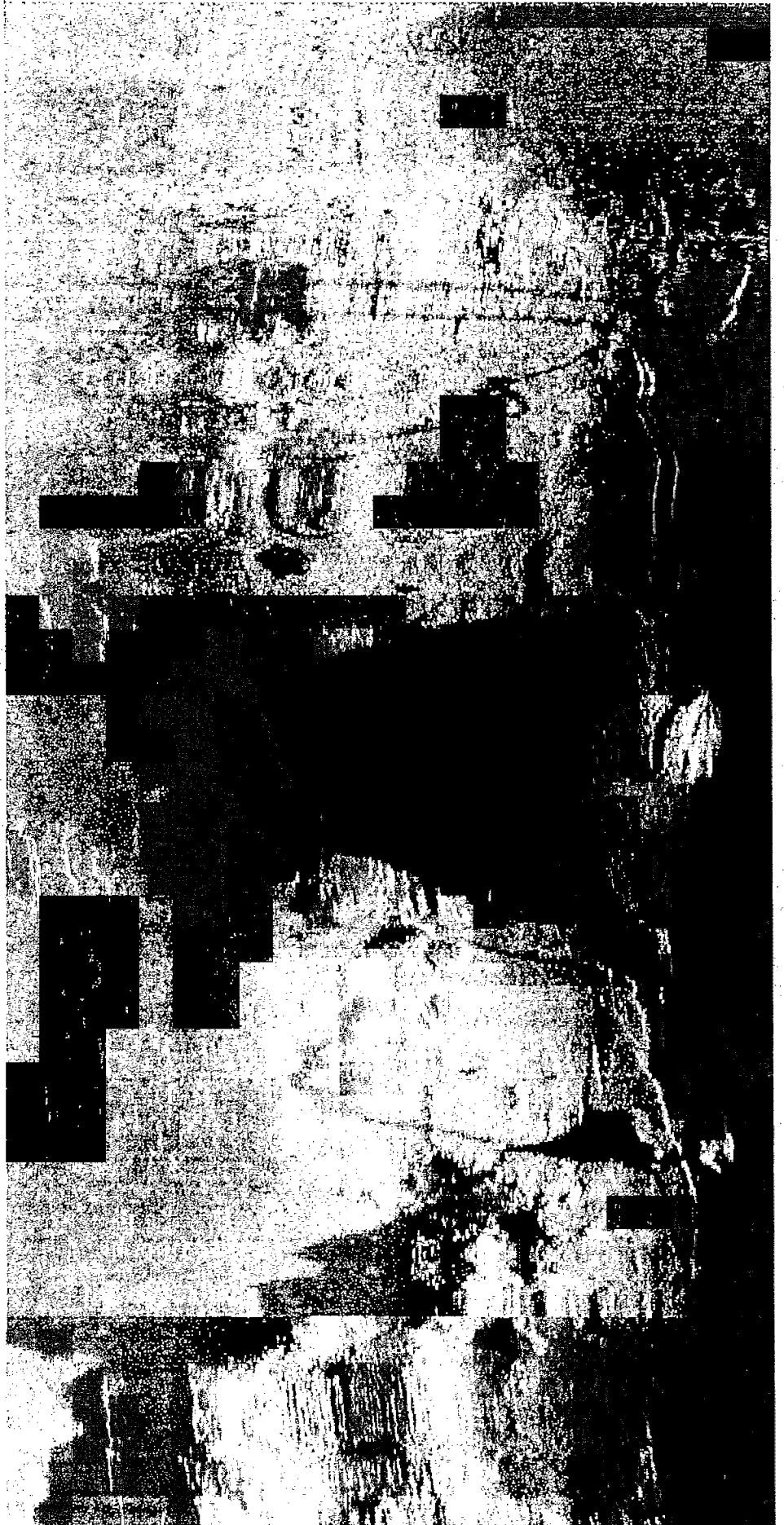
Written by: Matthew Pike, Community Relations Advisor, Nalcor Energy

Date: July 3, 2012

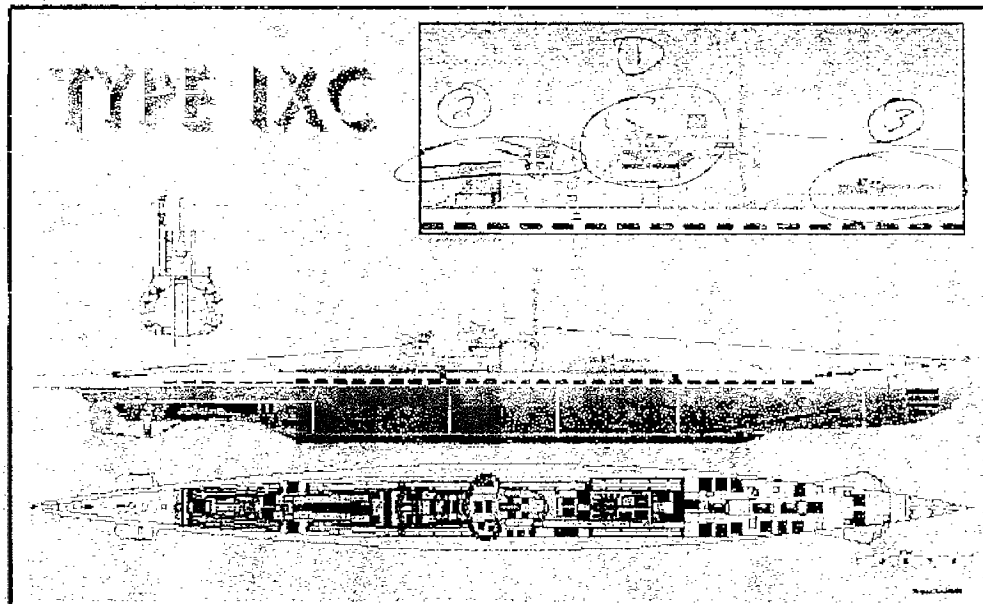


Google earth

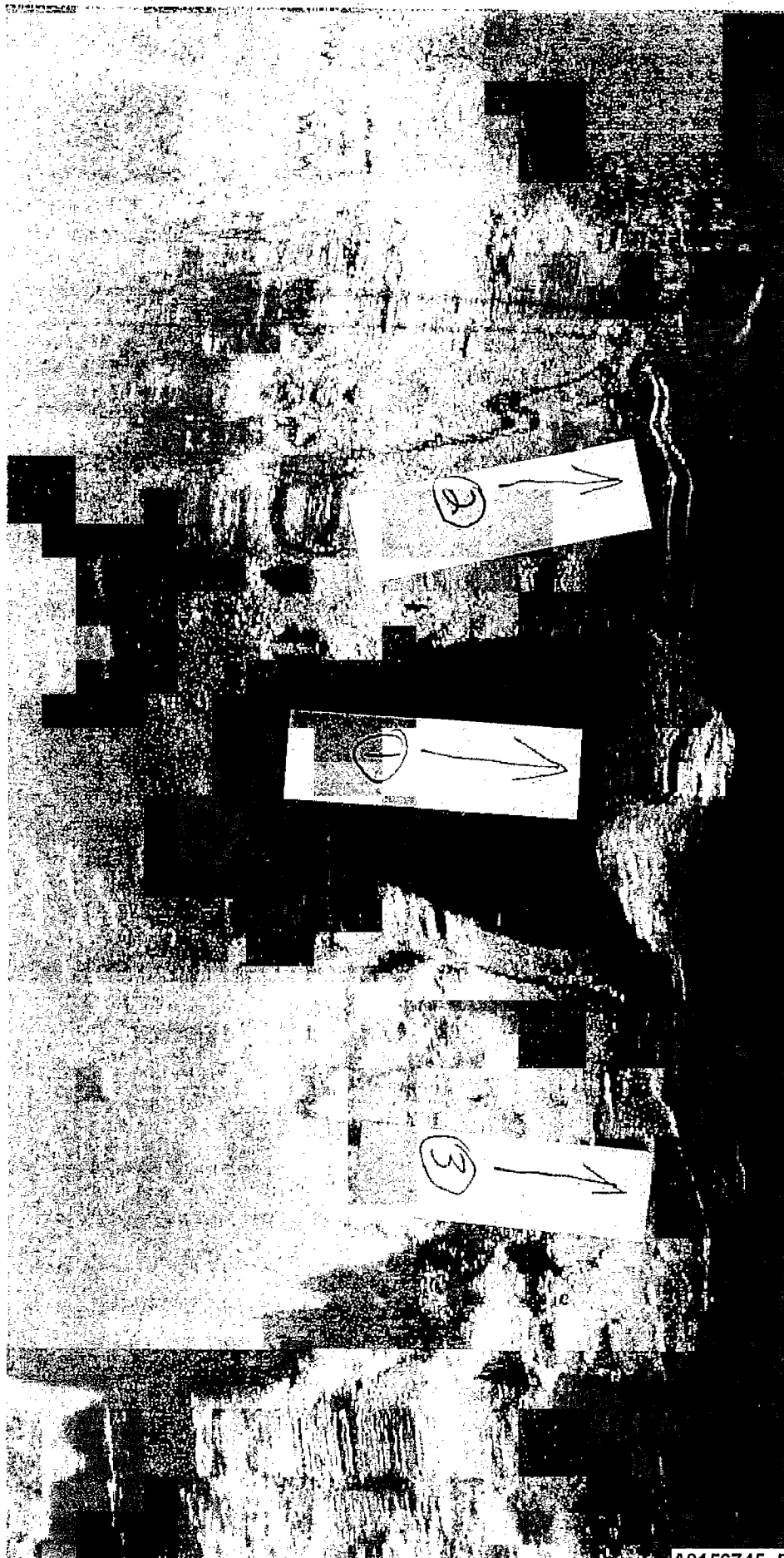




U-869/ U-WHO



The U-869 was a type IX-C 40 long range German u- boat. It was believed to have sunk off the coast of Gibraltar during the Second World War; however, it's discovery off New Jersey in 1991 and a search led by Capt. John Chatterton determined that the U-Who (as it was named prior to its identification) was indeed the wreck of the U-869. It is believed that the u boat was a victim of its own torpedo, which may have circled around and struck the sub. Today, the wreck is approximately 60 miles off the New Jersey coast resting in 230 feet of water.



German submarine U-1226

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

German submarine U-1226 was a Type IXC/40 U-boat of the German *Kriegsmarine* during World War II.

The U-boat, built for service in the Battle of the Atlantic, was completed in Hamburg in November 1943, and placed under the command of *Oberleutnant zur See* August-Wilhelm Claussen, whose brother Emil had been killed on board *U-469* the previous year. She underwent working up cruises in the Baltic Sea before embarking on her only operational patrol from Horten in Norway during September 1944.

Service history

This patrol was uneventful for the first three weeks during the Atlantic crossing as she deliberately avoided the highly-effective allied countermeasures. The last contact with the boat was on 23 October 1944 reporting trouble with its Schnorchel underwater-breathing apparatus after which nothing more was heard from her. It is possible she was sunk in an unrecorded encounter with an Allied ship or aircraft, or more likely she suffered some unknown catastrophic accident which claimed the boat and all its crew.^[4]

Whatever the cause, she was given up for lost in mid-November. Her remains were claimed to have been found east of Cape Cod, Massachusetts in 1993 however, this identification is unlikely. The vessels last radio contact instructed the submarine to maintain it's faulty Schnorkel in the upright position and return to base, giving *U-1226*'s position as 605 km (376 mi) south of Iceland at

56°00'N 20°00'W.^[5]

References

Notes

- ↑ *^ a b c d e f g h i j* Tarrant, p. 176.
- ↑ "The Type IXC/40 boat U-1226 - German U-boats of WWII -

Career (Nazi Germany)



Name:	<i>U-1226</i>
Ordered:	25 August 1941
Builder:	Deutsche Werft AG, Hamburg
Yard number:	389
Laid down:	11 January 1943
Launched:	21 August 1943
Commissioned:	24 November 1943
Fate:	Lost on, or shortly after, 23 October 1944

General characteristics

Class and type:	Type IXC/40 submarine
Displacement:	1,144 t (1,261 short tons), surfaced ^[1] 1,257 t (1,386 short tons), submerged
Length:	237 ft 2.15 in (72.2922 m) ^[1]
Beam:	22 ft 8.25 in (6.9152 m) ^[1]
Draft:	15 ft 4 in (4.67 m)
Speed:	18.3 knots (33.9 km/h), surfaced ^[1] 7.3 knots (13.5 km/h), submerged
Endurance:	16,800 nautical miles @ 10 knots, surfaced (31,100 km @ 19 km/h) ^[1] 63 nautical miles @ 4 knots, submerged (117 km @ 7.4 km/h) ^[1]
Test depth:	330 feet (100 m) ^[1]
Complement:	48 (standard) ^[1]
Armament:	6 × 21 in (53.3 cm) torpedo tubes (4 bow, 2 stern)