

were to block the Bruges ship canal at its entrance into the harbour of Zeebrugge; to block the entrance from Ostend harbour to the sea; and to inflict as much damage as possible upon these two ports. Five obsolete cruisers were filled with concrete to be used as blocking ships. The expedition started from its secret point of concentration, sixty-three miles distant, on the afternoon of April 22, and under a cover of artificial screens of smoke and mist the vessels employed boldly entered the channels and at midnight succeeded in running alongside of the mole at Zeebrugge, where a storming party of marines and sailors was successfully landed. As a diversion to enable the blocking ships to enter the harbour, this attack was entirely successful; those vessels proceeded to their allotted stations and four of them were sunk in accordance with the plan. The entrance of the Bruges ship canal was completely blocked. The viaduct was blown up by the storming party, but the damage to the mole was not as complete as had been planned. The entrance of the Ostend channel was only partially blocked, but a second attempt made on May 9 was more successful. The old cruiser "Vindictive" was filled with concrete for the purpose and sunk in such a position as to block the entrance entirely. These daring enterprises and the establishment of an immense mine field in the North Sea extending from the Orkneys to the coast of Norway, a distance of two hundred and thirty miles, mainly carried out by the navy of the United States, contributed greatly to the defeat of the enemy's submarine campaign.

British war ships attacked the Turkish cruisers, formerly the "Goeben" and "Breslau" of the German navy, at the mouth of the Dardanelles on January 20. The "Breslau" was sunk in this action and the "Goeben" seriously damaged and driven ashore. The British lost two light monitors.

Another squadron of monitors shelled Ostend on March 22.

On May 14 Italian torpedo boats entered the harbour of Pola, and after destroying a dreadnought succeeded in making their escape. Other vessels of the same class attacked a squadron of battleships on June 10. One battleship was sunk and another seriously damaged. Still another successful attack was made in the harbour of Durazzo on October 2.

Three Russian battleships with a number of Russian and British submarines frozen up in the Baltic ports were destroyed on the approach of the Germans in April, but the remainder of the Russian fleet in that sea succeeded in escaping to Kronstadt. The whole of the Russian Black Sea Fleet was taken possession of by the Germans in June, but surrendered to the Allies on November 27. The first division of the German High Seas Fleet, in accordance with the terms of the armistice, was delivered to an allied fleet, commanded by Admiral Sir David Beatty, off the Firth of Forth. German submarines numbering one hundred and twenty-two, among them several of the largest cruiser type, were surrendered to a British squadron at Harwich.

The following table of the naval war losses of the Allies and Central Powers, although not official, has been derived from an authoritative source. All vessels lost through accident are included,