

## BRITISH GUNBOAT SUNK.

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### SIX LIVES LOST BY THE STRIKING OF MINES IN NORTH SEA.

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The following was issued by the Press Bureau at 12.58 a.m. :—

A report from the commanding officer of H.M.S. Speedy states that the steam drifter Linsdell struck a mine this morning thirty miles off the east coast and sank.

A quarter of an hour later H.M.S. Speedy also struck a mine and sank.

The casualties reported are as follows :—

#### H.M.S. SPEEDY.

Missing.—E. A. Claxton, officers' steward, second-class pensioner, official No. 157283.

Seriously Injured.—Mr. Alfred S. Bright, gunner; Frederick Wm. Lee, petty officer, official No. 200081.

#### LINSDELL.

Missing.—Skipper, Mr. Woodgate, N.R.N.R., and four members of the crew.

The remainder of the crew had been picked up by the Speedy before she struck the second mine.

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The Speedy was an old torpedo-gunboat of 810 tons and moderate speed, and was built in 1893. Her armament consisted of two 4.7-inch guns and four 3-pounders. Prior to the declaration of war she was engaged on fishery protection duties in the North Sea.

Source : The Graphic 4<sup>th</sup> Sep 1914