

## THE STORY

A transport ship equipped with non-functioning lifeboats and inadequate lifebelts was sunk by one of the first radio-guided missiles ever used in war. 1015 US soldiers were killed in the classified attack that remains the **greatest loss of life at sea in the history of any US war**. ROHNA CLASSIFIED is a new film that uncovers classified documents revealing that neglect and oversight contributed to the large number of casualties.

The government deflected responsibility by declaring the disaster classified indefinitely and ordering all survivors to remain silent. **The casualty families were stonewalled** and most of them went to their own graves never knowing what happened...their boys just never came home.

## **WHY THIS FILM**

This secret tragedy is a notable event in our nation's history that was left out of the history books. Most WWII enthusiasts and historians have never heard of the Rohna attack. This documentary not only honors the forgotten soldiers who were killed that day, it will also start conversations about Gold Star families learning the truth about how their loved ones died.

ROHNA CLASSIFIED takes an investigative turn when questions emerge around the **War Department's decision to mislead the families of the dead soldiers.** This film will finally bring answers to the 1015 Rohna Gold Star families. There are important lessons to be learned from the film; one of those lessons is the need for transparency when soldiers are killed in war. To this day Gold Star families continue to be misled by government officials.



The largest loss of life at sea in the history of any US war.



"It's not that we forgot.
It's that we never knew."
-Charles Osgood, CBS



Interviews with survivors bring a first-hand account of the Rohna story to life.



## BRING ROHNA CLASSIFIED TO YOUR COMMUNITY

## JOIN US

Partner with us as we bring the long buried story of the Rohna out to the world and into its rightful place in the history books. We are working on a National Outreach Campaign that will uncover WWII's secret tragedy while honoring the forgotten soldiers. With your support, we can get this story out to a national audience while educating the youth of our nation about the sacrifices that keep our country safe.

- Film festivals to build awareness
- Virtual screenings along with panel discussions
- Theatrical release in select cities with press coverage
- Screenings & discussions at top universities and libraries
- Discussion materials to facilitate important conversations
- Underwriting PBS National Television Broadcasts reaching millions of viewers
- In Schools by providing educators the tools to use the film as part of their WWII curriculum
- At the Workplace with companies who set up screenings and discussions for employees
- Digital release on Amazon, Apple TV and other streamers

"All of these men, who went through this, honored their country's request not to speak of this terrible tragedy. But after the war was over, why didn't their country honor them by bringing this story out?"

> -DARLENE BERUBE SURVIVOR'S WIFE



DIRECTOR / PRODUCER

I live in an old house that has been in my my wife's family for over 100 years. I found a box of letters in our attic from a soldier in training who wrote home to his mother. The soldier was my wife's great-uncle, an uncle she didn't know anything about. It was as if he never existed, but he existed to me. I heard his voice in those letters and I knew that I had to tell his story.

-JACK BALLO