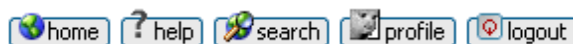




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March 25,
2010,
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« previous
next »

Pages: [1]



Author

Topic: JIN DD Oite questions (Read 53 times)

bbmelb

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JIN DD Oite questions

« on: Today at 09:39:18 am »



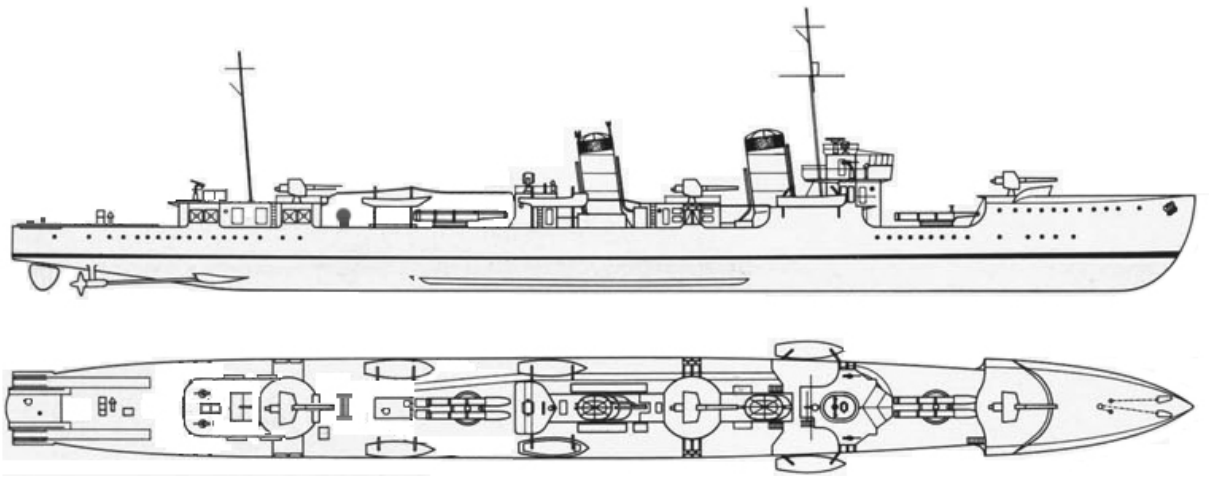
While working with recently captured video of Oite wreck, I found that the aft part of the ship profile as well as installed equipment demonstrate significant difference from what many sources represent as common Kamikaze class.

Sure, it is hard to reconstruct details from today's remains which are rest on a bottom of Truk Lagoon, covered with grown corals, however ...

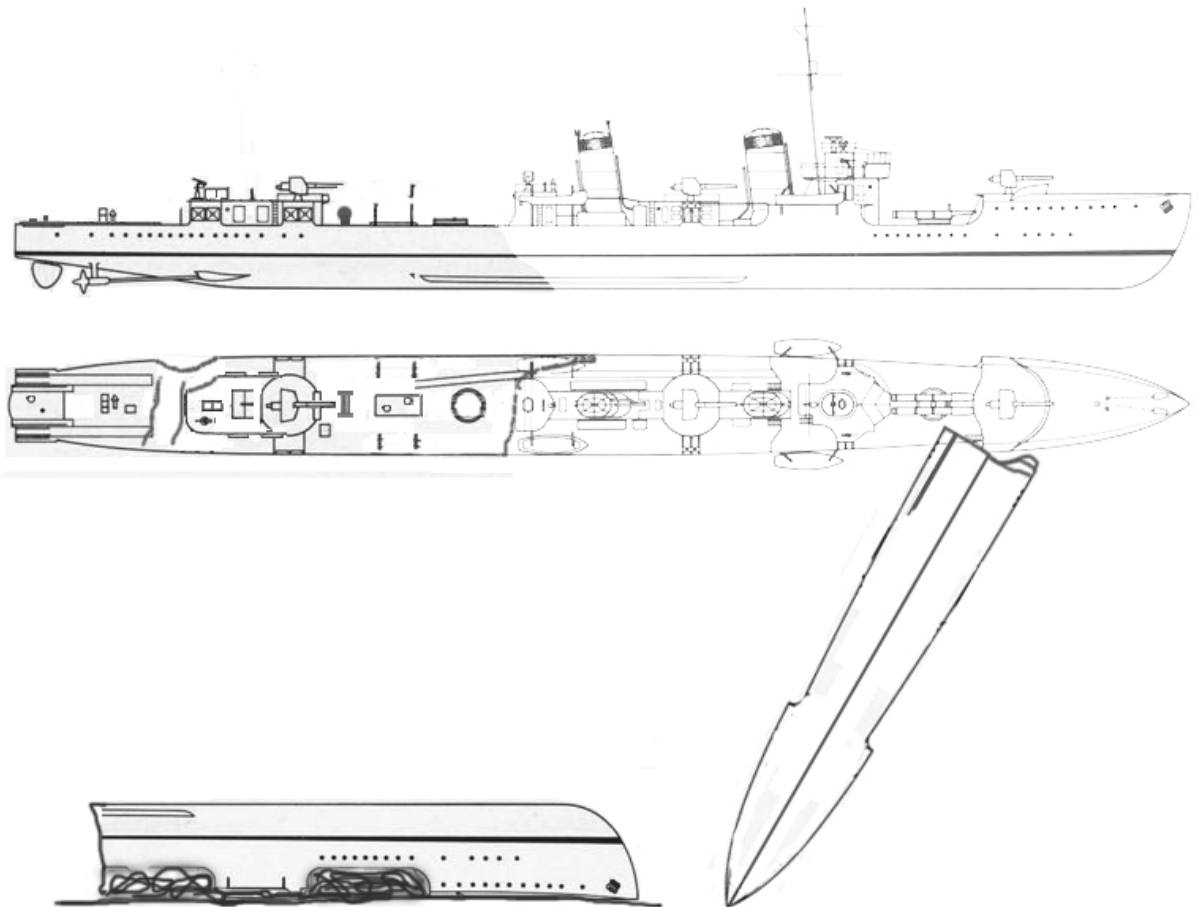
I have no doubt that in the day of her sinking at the aft section:

1. There was only one twin-mount torpedo tubes (common Kamikaze class has two)
2. There was only one (No.3) Main Battery 4.7 in gun "X"-position mounted forward (common Kamikaze class has two). Two twin-barrel Navy Type 96 Cannons being installed on a place of No.4 Main Battery 4.7 in gun "X"-position (backward).
3. Potentially there is only one depth charge loading stand with one depth charge apparatus (common Kamikaze class has two)

The following picture, I believe, shows the potential profile of Oite at her last day (this is my reconstruction and I may be very wrong):

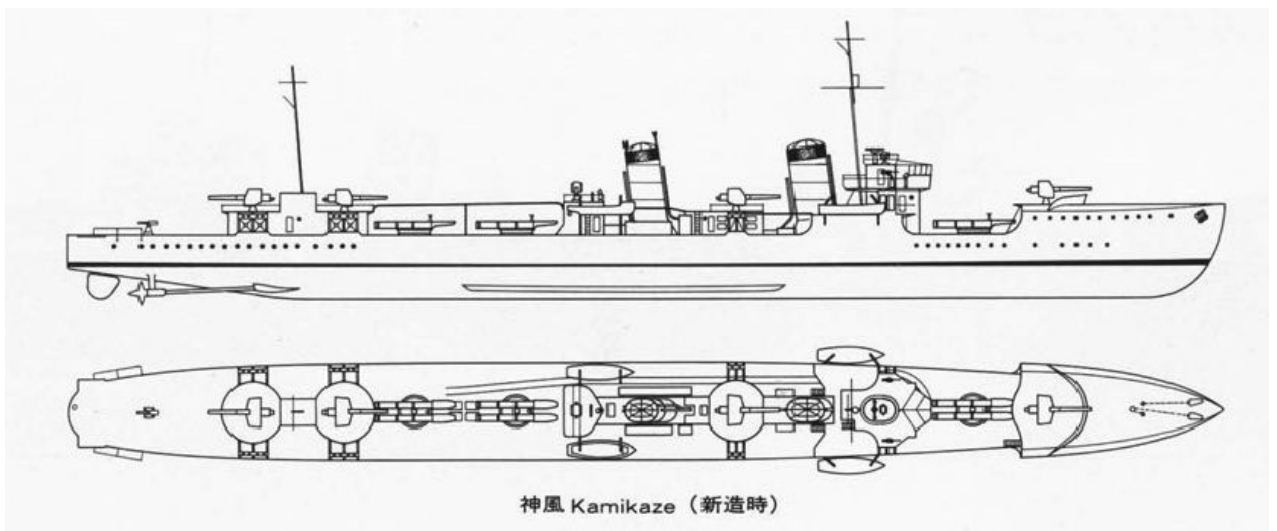


And this picture shows the wreck location and infrastructure remains on a seabed today:

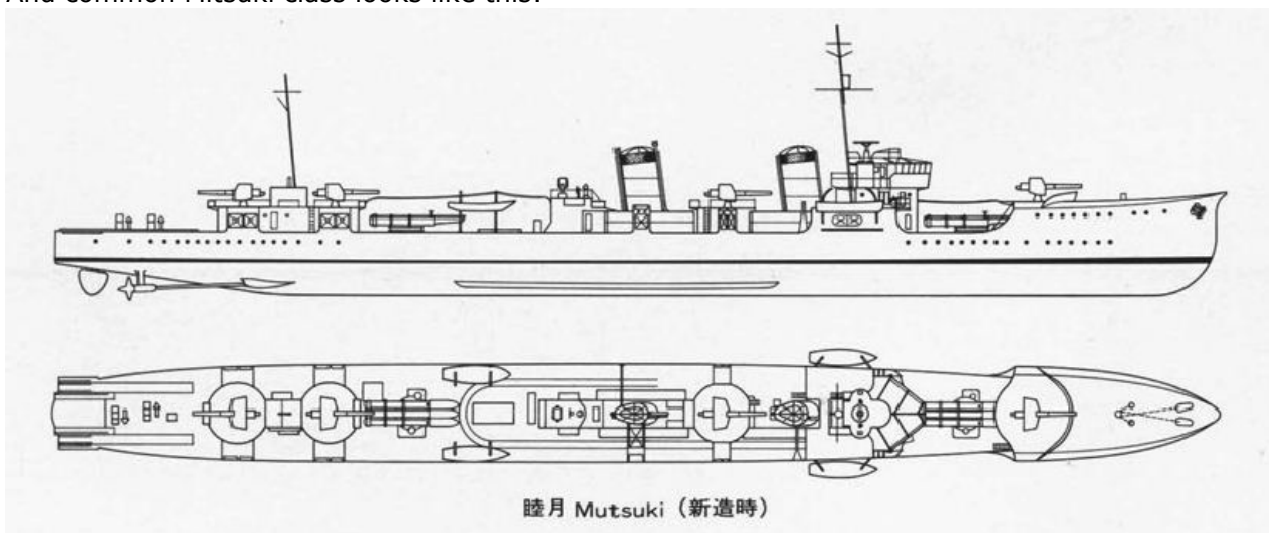


Oite been blown in a half after at least one torpedo hit and following explosion (there is the believe that boiler explosion been involved as well). Torpedo tubes disappeared (there is no sign of them even within approximately 100m round around the wreck), only base mount left. There is large damage on left side near end of guns superstructure which continues to the open deck damage across (may be caused either by another torpedo or self depth charge explosion). Left port twin-barrel Navy Type 96 Cannon disappeared. The foreship part was detached by explosion and lies upside down approximately 30 meter away from aft (there is no video yet on that part, planning complete it during next trip).

According many sources common Kamikaze class looks like this:



And common Mitsuki class looks like this:



Assuming my reconstruction the above, Oite represented a sort of hybrid hull and installations of both: Kamikaze class and Mitsuki class. I can support my position with video freeze frames or even with video source (if you are interested to see).

Question 1: Can anyone confirm or disprove the above?

Question 2: Does anyone know the facts or have some documents regarding her construction (or reconstruction) or may be photos which can be used to confirm configuration?

Unfortunately there is not so many documents around Oite's history (at least I can not find them) and none of the sources I know show any photo of her.

Question 3: There is the wrench on a deck approximately a meter away from No.3 Main Battery Gun. Does anyone know what is the main the purpose of this equipment? Similar installation I saw on Fumitsuki (which is Mitsuki class).

« Last Edit: **Today** at 09:44:28 am by bbmelb »

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Dan Kaplan

Member



Posts: 372



Re: JIN DD Oite questions

« **Reply #1 on: Today** at 11:51:18 am »



The Mutsuki class was the follow-on class to the Kamikaze class; equipment and layout were very similar, save for changes in the TT armament, bowform, and bridge layout.


More importantly, all of the older DDs received wartime refits to better utilize them as escorts. These refits increased AA protection at the expense of the main battery. Hence,

the #4 mount position was often replaced with 1-2 twin or triple 25mm mounts. Other mounts were likewise changed - it varies from ship to ship. Also, most times, the aft sets of TT tubes were landed to make way for deckload cargo space. And, roll-off depth charge racks were added to ASW work.

Grabbed from Wikipedia, Oite in her as built fit:



 IJN_DD_Oite_in_1927_off_Yokohama.jpg (15.45 KB, 600x270 - viewed 9 times.)

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Pages: [1]

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