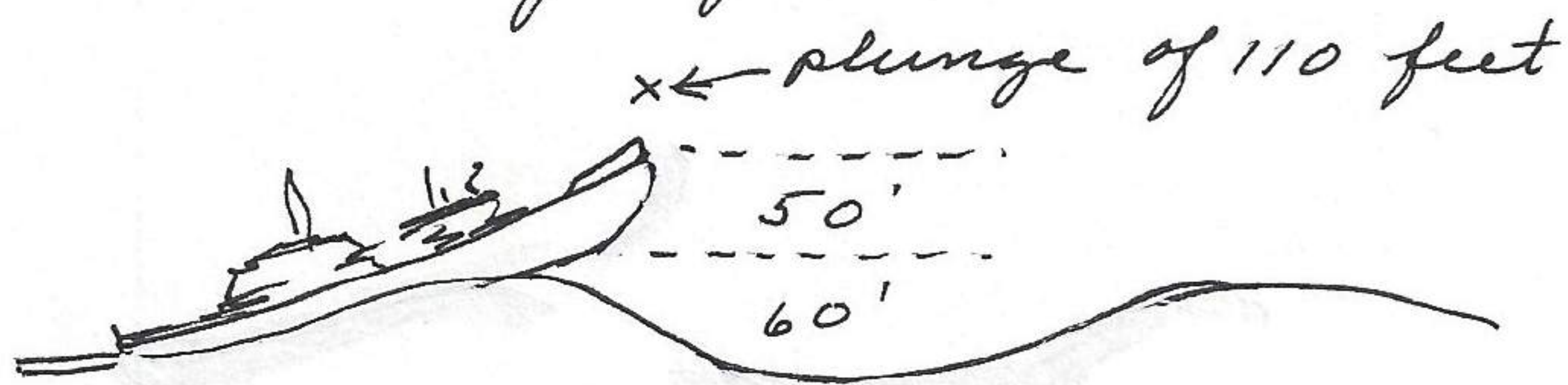


Dec. 19, 1945

Rough water. High winds and continuous.

Dec. 20, 1945

Have passed thru the storm area that blows from the north. Several attempts were made by the Captain to handle this storm. 1. move S beyond storm. This was counteracted by failure of the boat to handle the high waves when moving directly into them. The boat pitched excessively and dangerously and the boat striking the down grade waves plus running with propellers out of water on the crests created dangerous vibrations. 2. at 45° angle the boat swayed excessively to the point of capsizing. 3. For 4 days we stayed stationary without forward movement and rode the sea parallel the waves. why the boat does not capsize is a mystery. For 2-3 days no one could get to the dining room for food because of the impossibility of the deck. Sea sickness was serious because nearly all the plasma was already near exhaustion. nearly everyone was affected. The previous storms would indicate the hazardness and at times the impossibility of negotiating these waters in a small boat. The physical punishment would be unbearable. A boat should at least have three features 1. perfect structure for open sea environment, 2. waterproofed, 3. uprightness when turned over. Even this ship which was 525' long had serious trouble. I will never know why on a pitch it did not just keep going down. The boat would perch high on the crest of a wave and then drop down with a force that by rights should break the boat into fragments,



As the boat approaches a wave and at an angle the boat sways twice followed by an abrupt tilt upward. A second tilt places the boat on top of the wave. One senses the elevation with upright pressure on the stomach. As the boat levels out the pressure on the stomach ceases gradually. For a second or so you seem to hover motionless in air and then with a grabbing force you move forward and downward at a chilling rate. You are literally picked up and carried down with increasing velocity.