

Parting Shot 1

On a recent dive off the Plymouth Breakwater in Devon, here in the UK, my plan was to do some quick tests to establish which colour filter would best counteract the effect of a Magic Filter. The idea being that I could give my model a torch with the correct filter on and the light output would look the right colour rather than the normal deep magenta. I took down 4 different strengths and you can see the other three under a stone at the bottom of the photo.

The test shots wouldn't take long and after that I planned to go looking for some scallops for my supper. It's a good site for catching a few scallops - there aren't stacks of them but they are usually a good size and very tasty indeed.

During my test shots a diver from another nearby boat swam past and I took very little notice and carried on with my test shots.

With my test shots complete I pulled my goodie bag out of my leg pocket and went looking for supper. I spent the next 20 minutes scouring the seabed for scallops but only found one in the whole of that time which was very unusual. Now I have a rule



Nikon D700, Subal, 16mm F2.8 @ F8, 1/30th sec, Manual exposure, ISO 800 GreenWater Magic filter

that if I don't find 2 scallops I put the first one back so I returned to the boat emptyhanded.

When I got home I downloaded my pictures onto my computer and when I saw this shot enlarged on my

monitor I saw the reason why I had only found one scallop. The diver in the background is carrying a goodie bag full of scallops!

Peter Rowlands
www.magic-filters.com

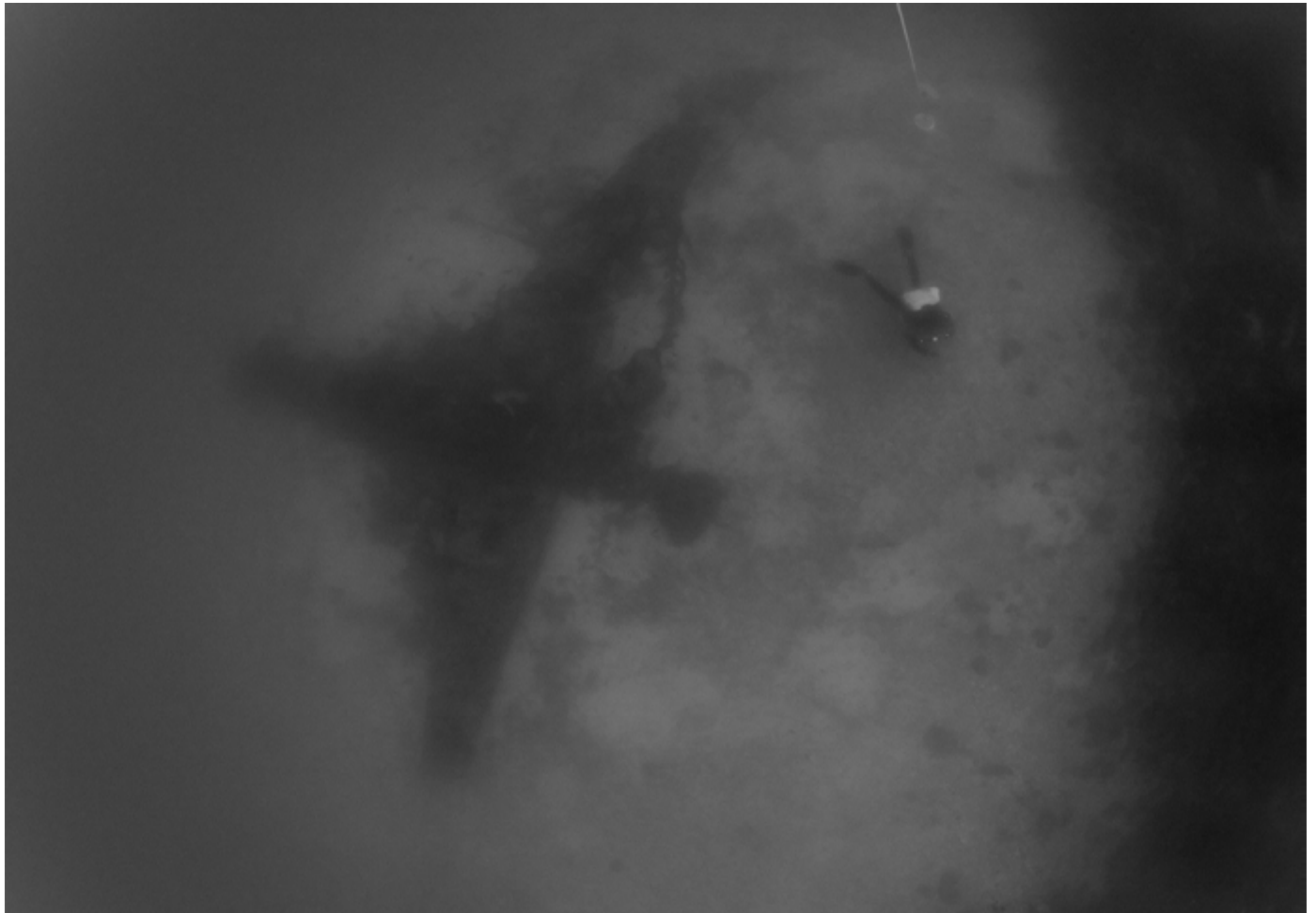
Parting Shots 2

Over the years the story circulated throughout the local dive community but its whereabouts were not generally known. Every once in awhile you'd hear about ol' "Charlie-you-know," who supposedly had the rear gunner's machine gun sitting in his garage. Eventually a small number of folks learned of the exact location but pretty much kept it to themselves. Now, a couple of commercial charter vessels will take select small groups to the site.

The wreckage is pretty much just that, wreckage. The Avenger is badly deteriorated and quite fragile. Little remains of a recognizable airplane. The forward engine area and most of the cockpit has been torn away with only scraps of metal lying about. The wings are laying flat on the sand and have become a refuge for an abundance of marine life. More fish than you'd think possible call the place home.

It doesn't take long to make a circumnavigation of the site. She lies near a non-descript rocky shelf pointing toward the island. Even a WWII history buff would have a hard time spending more than about 20 minutes checking out the 65 year old scrap metal heap. Since I've been to many ship and aircraft final resting places around the world, this at first seemed like just an amusing local morning dive.

Our first visit to the torpedo bomber was blessed with much better than average visibility and the sun was shining brightly. By the time our sojourn was over the sun ball had cleared Anacapa and climbed higher in the sky flooding us with muted light. On my way back up the anchor line, I



Nikon D700, Subal, 16mm F2.8 @ F8, 1/30th sec, Manual exposure, ISO 1600

took another look below and saw one of my diving partners still near the plane. Suddenly, the Avenger looked whole again in a ghostly way ready for its next mission. I've been there twice now and can't wait to go back again....

Joseph C. Dovala
www.jcdovala.com

Do you have a nice shot
with a short story behind it?
If so e mail me
and yours could be
the next "Parting shot".
peter@uwpmag.com