

1. The arrangement of the War Diary is as follows:-

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|---|---|
| HOME COMMANDS
(Classification
by subjects) | - Policy
- Defence of United Kingdom
- Movements
- Operations
- Allied Air Activity
- Enemy Air Activity
- Mining
- Enemy Intelligence
- U-Boats
- Navigational
- Technical
- Casualties and Defects
- Shipping and Convoys |
| FOREIGN STATIONS
(Classification
by stations) | - North Atlantic
- South Atlantic
- Mediterranean
- East Indies
- America and West Indies
- Australia and New Zealand
- U-Boat Campaign |

Additional subject headings are sometimes employed temporarily, e.g. when an important operation is in progress.

2. The following volumes should be used to supplement the War Diary: the dates given in brackets are those on which the series held by War Diary commences:-

- (a) Movements of H.M. Ships (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (23 February 1940).
- (b) Western Approaches (daily) Situation Reports (1 September 1943).
- (c) Dispositions and Movements (Foreign Stations) (1 September 1943).
- (d) Convoy Returns (Positions of convoys and composition of escorts, positions of independent ships and H.M. ships: from Combined Plot) (1 March 1941).
- (e) Daily Convoy Summary (Report made by Admiralty to Connav, giving arrivals and departures, with composition of convoy) (21 June 1943).
- (f) Air Staff Operational Summary (prepared by Air Ministry War Room) (1 July 1941, No.222)
- (g) Daily Operations Report for First Lord (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (13 September 1939).
- (h) List of abbreviations.
- (i) List of Convoy letters.

War Diary

1.2.1941
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

British Air Activity

Bomber Command carried out no operations last night on account of bad weather.

Enemy Air Activity

No attacks on shipping are reported today.

Mining

Mines were detonated today in the Thames Estuary and off Liverpool.

North Atlantic

A surface raider was reported at 0320 today in 33.55 N., 30.05 W. (300 miles south of the Azores) shelling an unknown ship.

Ocean boarding vessel MARSDALE today intercepted SS CASTILLO ALMANSA (Spanish 1407 tons) with a cargo of empty oil drums, some 200 miles N.E. of Canary Is. and is sending her in to Gibraltar under armed guard.

South Atlantic

Raider

There is still doubt of the identity of the 2 enemy ships which sank EURYLOCHUS on 29/1, but some evidence indicates they may have been the pocket battleship ADMIRAL SCHEER and an armed merchant raider.

DORSETSHIRE left Freetown today to cover S.L. and S.L.S. convoys and to be within supporting distance of NORFOLK and DEVONSHIRE.

/MENDOZA.....

War Diary

1.2.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

South Atlantic-Contd.

MENDOZA

DRAGON arrived at Freetown escorting the French MENDOZA (intercepted 13/1 and boarded 18/1)

Tentative programme for flying boat and other additional air units in West Africa is contained in Admty. 1605/1.

Shipping route
past Cape Verde
Islands.

Shipping is being routed to eastward of Cape Verde Islands until further orders.

Mediterranean

Operation
M.C. 7.

M.05626/41

A battle squadron and EAGLE and a force of cruisers and destroyers under V.A.L.F. left Alexandria today to create a diversion in the Eastern Mediterranean to assist operation "Result" and to cover convoy movements in the Aegean.

Mining of
Suez Canal

Wellington aircraft today exploded 3 mines in the Suez Canal between Lake Timsah and Great Bitter Lakes. Traffic has been resumed in this section.

and Sollum

It is believed that magnetic mines were laid at Sollum early today.

Second attack
on DORSETSHIRE

Hospital ship DORSETSHIRE was bombed again today off the coast of Egypt and was damaged.

Air Attacks
on Malta

Two German aircraft raided Malta last night and dropped bombs without causing any damage or casualties.

Valona Bombed

Five Blenheims bombed targets at Valona today.

/Air.....

War Diary

1.2.1941.
Saturday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean-Contd.

Air
Situation

H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., today sent the Air Ministry an appreciation of the German air position in the Mediterranean.

Transport
German aircraft continue to operate between Sicily, Libya and probably Sardinia.

East Indies

M.06503/41.
M.06481/41.

FLAMINGO and PARRAMATTA left Aden last night and early this morning respectively to meet Convoy B.N.F. 1. (troops and stores for Middle East)

The British TROILUS made a "Q" distress signal about midday today from a position near the Seychelle Islands. Force K (FORMIDABLE and HAWKINS) have been ordered to this position from the vicinity of Mombasa and CAPETOWN from further north. (The message was cancelled later. The German-built Dutch SS ALPHARD was the cause of TROILUS's suspicions.)

Three Blenheims bombed Assab today.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.ARGUS.
Deck
Landing
Trials.Your 1544/31.
Request confirmation that D.L.T. is to be carried on without an attendant vessel. (ARGUS 0946/1 to Admty).Troop
Convoy
A/S
Escorts.Cancel Admty's 1355/31.
(D A/S W 1325/1).OperationRUBBLE."Rubble".
M02917/41.Keen desire here to repeat. Request early advice as to whether repetition possible. Following points should be borne in mind. (N.A. Stockholm 1555/1 to D.N.I.)
See Operations Volume.Defence of United Kingdom.Clyde.
Restric-
tion of
Lighting.

Reference report of meeting held 20/1 by District Commissioners to discuss Glasgow and Clyde-side lighting.

Request that immediate measures may be taken.

(a) To extinguish or effectively screen, on receipt of purple warning, all lights on shore which are the direct responsibility of the Admiralty.

(b) (i) To reduce drastically the power of riding lights in the anchorage, enforcing penalties for infringement.

(ii) To improvise method, by sound or light signal on shore, for extinguishing all riding lights on receipt of the purple warning. (A.C.N.S.T. 1659/1).

Movements.As Milford Haven is closed proceed direct to Cardiff.
(N.C.I.C. Cardiff 0055/1 to ASSINIBOINE).KELLY
KIPLING.Sailed from Plymouth 1912/31.
(C.in C. W.A. 0307/1).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. (Contd.)KEPPEL.Sailed from Scapa 0310.
(A.C.O.S. 0315/1).ESKIMO
ECLIPSE.Sailed Scapa 0820.
(A.C.O.S. 0847/1).PEGASUS.Arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1151/1).Northern
Patrol.Trawler Lines tonight.
(A.C.O.S. 1504/1).JACKAL.Entered, fuelled, and sailed.
(Capt: D. Londonderry 1530/1).Operations.Operation
N.C.Will be carried out, zero hour 0045.
(V.A.Dover 1355/1).Submarines.TIGRIS.Intend to sail TIGRIS escorted by
LA MOQUEUSE at 0845/3 for vicinity Wolf
Rock. E.T.A. 0200/5. Thence TIGRIS
to patrol LA MOQUEUSE to Plymouth.
(S.2. 1134/1).Positions.At 0800/2 and movements for following
24 hours.
(F.O.S. 1634/1).British Air Activity.801
Squadron.Six aircraft of 801 Squadron proceeding
now to St. Eval to arm and stand by.
(St. Merryn 1112/1 to R.A.N.A.S.)

WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. (Contd.)

Patrols.

^{"Unst"}
Patrol ~~UNST~~ will not be flown today as no aircraft available. Patrol ~~PAIR~~^{"Fair"} delayed until about 1500.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1124/1 to C.in C. H.F.)

^{"Fair"}
My 1124 Patrol ~~PAIR~~ cancelled for today.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1352/1 to C.in C. H.F.)

961. Air searches tomorrow. A/S patrol between Butt of Lewis and 56° 40'N., 6° 10'W. throughout daylight. Escort for convoy O.B.A. from 0930.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1924/1).

253 Squadron.

A.200 1/2. Admiralty 1232/19. Arrangements are being made to transfer 253 Squadron to Kirkwall Sector as soon as possible. Date of move will be notified in a further signal. Regretted that it was not possible to receive (?253) Squadron on 31/1 owing to accommodation difficulties.
(H.Q.F.C. 2110/1 to Air Ministry).

Enemy Air Activity.

STAD
ARNHEM.

Arrived S.C.19 Convoy.
(N.C.S.O. Belfast 0009/1).

Amber
Fireball
seen.

Bearing E.S.E. at least 10 miles at 0616/2.
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 0620/2.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)→ PANDION
(Bombed
28/1.)

PANDION broken in two. Gale during the night. Unable do (anything further?) Returning Cambeltown. (SALVONIA 0800/1 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

BELGIA
(Bombed
27/1).

M. 02390/41

Harwich E.B. 1st Departure. Rescue Tugs ST. MELLONS and KENIA and PM/S QUEEN EMPRESS at 1111. Salvage duties on S.S. BELGIA. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1115/1).

Failed to move BELGIA. ST. MELLONS caught grounded near BELGIA. Expect to get off Next high water. KENIA returning to harbour. (ST. MELLONS 1707/1).

→ S.S.
PANDION
(Bombed
28/1).

Anchored Close to S.S. PANDION in Loch Swilly and sent party aboard to prepare cable for slipping. On approaching vessel rifle shots were fired at the boat. On boarding the vessel it was found impossible to get on to the fore deck owing to the sniping from the shore. After about thirty minutes it was decided that it was hopeless to try to work on board in exposed position and the party left for SALVONIA.

On the way back two heavy fusilades of about some twenty shots each were fired at the boat from the shore at an approx. distance of 1200 yards. There were no casualties. Time from 1715 to 1815. (SALVONIA 1930/1 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

BARON
RENFREW.

TENACITY reports BARON RENFREW in 56° 20'N., 11° 50'W at 1800/1. Weather unfavourable for boarding. Endeavour to locate and escort to Clyde. (C.in C. W.A. 1905/1 and 2303/1 to CANDYTUFT).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Sweep
by
11th M/S
Flotilla.My 1832/31. Flotilla sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0435/1).My 0435/1. Operation postponed Flotilla
returned.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1000/1).Possible
Enemy
Mines off
Portland.Plots received from Worth Maltravers
between 0310 and 0450 of a vessel
proceeding at speed of 6 to 7 knots
indicate the possibility of a line of
mines having been laid on an approx. bearing
of 126 degrees from Portland Bill distance
5 to 12 miles depth of water 25 to 27 fathomTwo Minesweepers will be sent from Portland
to search area today.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 0805/1 to C.in C.
Portsmouth).My 0805/1, interrogations of Master of
Tug LYNCH shows that plots reported can
now be satisfactorily accounted for by his
movements while on passage from Dartmouth
to Weymouth.
(F.O.I.C. Portland 1320/1).Aberdeen
Area.My 2001/30/1. Position regarding Mines
and G.E.F. Aberdeen Sub Command, up to
1800 31/1/41, since my 2001/30/1.
(N.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1142/1).Experimental
S.A.Gear in
Destroyer.A/M 1810/24 and A/M 0123/31.
TYNDALE has been detailed.
(C.in C. Portsmouth 1154/1).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Harwich.
2 Mines
detonated
by L.L.
Trawlers.

2 mines reported dropped 1346/31 by Puffin were detonated in position 51 55.9'N., 01 26.2'E and 51 56'N., 01 24.7' E. at 0830 and 1000 respectively by L.L.Trawlers, both double pulsing. First mine red, second unknown. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1204/1).

Sunk
Head Buoy.
2 Mines
dropped
on 31/1
by enemy
aircraft.

On entering harbour today Master of S.S. GRASLIN reports seeing five mines dropped by aeroplane at 1400/31/1 about 2 miles W.S.W. of the Sunk Head Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1241/1 to C.in C. Nore).

GOSSAMER
SUTTON.Arrived 1247/1.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1300/1).Thames
Estuary.

Group Officer reports one Blue mine detonated by L.L.Trawlers at 2115/31, in position 041° B.4 Buoy 1.4 miles. (Capt: M/S Sheerness 1340/1).

Group Officer L.L.Drifters reports two Red Mines detonated in the following positions:-

(a) At 0914/1/41 270° No.2 Sea Reach Buoy 3 cables.

(b) At 1220/1/41 270° No.2 Sea Reach Buoy. (Capt: M/S Sheerness 1815/1).

My 1815. Position of these mines was swept over five times previously to detonation during the day. (Capt: M/S Sheerness 2310/1).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)B.S.50.
MEYNELL.Request you sail MEYNELL to Humber to act as escort for B.S.50.
(C.in C. Nore 1730/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).Firth of
Forth.Firth of Forth latest Searched Channels Oropesa as follows. Drifting mines continue to be reported off East Coast.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1845/1).Liverpool.Mine report to 1800/1. Total of 3 self detonated as follows:-
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2154/1).My 2154/1. Add 2 self detonated approx. 180° Bar Light Vessel 1 mile. 1 self detonated approx. 180° Formby Light Vessel 1 mile.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2315/1).Enemy Intelligence.Finnish steamship BRITA THOR^{DE}SEN which arrived here last night was stopped by two German armed trawlers 30/1 just outside territorial waters off this port and taken in Vardo but released next day.
(Petsamo 1837/1 to D.N.I).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Miscellaneous.Ships not
receiving
signals.

Your 1949/31. noted. According to my reading of S. 2/41 para. 14 thence ships were quite wrong in keeping area B wave. They were not escort to an ocean convoy and were well inside Area A.
(A.C.O.S. 1052/1 to C.in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.

1.2.1941.

Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.Route
"Calf".

For N.C.S.O's.
 My 1905/6/1. Following signal has been made by G.B.M.S. to ships in Areas 1 6A and 9. (Begins) Route ~~CALF~~ (Ends) Until further orders route to be followed is to be to Eastward of Cape Verde Islands.
 (D.T.D. 0008/1 to A.I.G. 47).

Route CALF.
 (D.T.D. 0009/1 to all Allied and Neutral Merchant ships in Areas 1, 6A and 9).

Swiss
Govnt.
Charters.

Your 1716/29/12. H.M. Govnt. have no objection in principle to ships being chartered to Swiss Govnt., for this trade, provided of course that they are ships warrant holders. Trade to Switzerland will not be permitted to take place via Italian Adriatic ports and it will be a condition of allowing ships to engage in this traffic that no other ships under same ownership trade to enemy, or enemy occupied or controlled territory.
 (1655/1 to A.N.A. Belgrade).
 (Head of M.)

Routeing
Instructions.

Desired to institute some check as to whether Masters adhere strictly to their routeing instructions. Periodically routeing instructions should be compared with secret logs. If any serious divergence is detected a brief report should be telegraphed to Admiralty.
 (D.T.D. 1926/1 to A.I.G. 48 and 47).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Coastal
Convoys.

→	F.S.100	Sailed. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0201/1) Absentees. (0947/1).
	W.N.77.	Passed Dunnet Head at 0845. (A.C.O.S. 0908/1).
→	F.S.100.	23 ships. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0946/1).
	O.B.283.	Your 1255/31. (Sailing of O.B.283.) Approved. (C.in C. W.A. 1005/1 to N.C.S.O. Mersey.)
	W.N.78.	0935/31. H.M.Trawlers HORNPIPE (S.O.) SPURS escorting two ships. No kites. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1015/31).
	E.N.64.	Loch Ewe, Section arrived 1030/1 8 ships. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1055/1).
→	F.S.99.	Humber and Wash ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 1114/1).
	F.N.95.	Humber and Wash ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1150/1).
→	F.S.99.	Convoy F.S.99 reported in Barrow Deep. 56 ships for London. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1205/1).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)K.C.
JOHN BAKKE
ashore.

Arrived ELIZABETH BAKKE, TAURUS, RANJA, TAI SHAN. JOHN BAKKE ashore at Farland Head. Salvage operations in hand. Escorts have proceeded in accordance with previous instructions.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1220/1).

W.N.77.

Expected time of arrival Kinnaird Head 1930/1 speed of advance 6 knots.
(ULLSWATER 1223/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).

F.N. and
F.S.

Cancel my 1546/30, additional escorts detailed as follows:-

F.N.	F.S.
-	1 (401) SHELDRAKE.
98 (398)	2 (402) LE TIGER, GREENFLY.
99 (399)	- SNAPDRAGON.
100 (400)	3 (403) TURQUOISE, AGATE.
1 (401)	4 (404) PUFFIN
2 (402)	5 (405) WIDGEON
3 (403)	6 (406) KINGSTON OLIVINE, LORD PLENDER, and GREENFLY.
-	7 (407) SHEARWATER.
4 (404)	8 (408) KITTIWAKE.

(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1308/1).

→ E.N.65.

S.O. of escort in BERKSHIRE informs me he damaged his bow in collision with unknown ship last night and is proceeding Aberdeen. In view of size of E.N.65 request additional escort may be sent.
(WESTON 1315/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).

→ E.N.65.

Now sole trawler escorting. Keeping wireless watch single operator periods.
(FANDANGO, 1415/1 to C.in C. W.A. etc.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)E.N.66.
W.N.79.

Act as additional A/A escort to E.N.66 sailing at 0700/3. After passing Dunnet Head proceed to Scapa. A.C.O.S. is requested to sail JASON to join W.N.79 due Duncansby Head 1400/5. Code word for E.N.66, ~~ROSEY~~, and W.N.79 ~~ROSEY~~ "Rusty" (C.in C. Rosyth 1500/1).

F.S.101.

E.S.1. sailed.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1504/1).

W.N.78
F.S.101.
F.N.96
W.N.77
→ E.N.65.

HASTINGS off Todhead 2000 to meet Convoy W.N.78.
Convoy F.S.1. off Tees 2000.
Convoy F.N.96 20 C. Buoy 1930.
Convoy W.N.77 Kinnaird Head 1930. CURACOA leaves this convoy at dark and returns Scapa.
Convoy E.N.65 Kinnaird Head 2000.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1514/1).

→ O.B.281.

1040 arrived VANQUISHER. 1245 sailed PIMPERNEL. 1530 sailed CAMPANULA. Escorts for O.B.281.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1530/1).

→ E.N.65.

1300/1 from BERKSHIRE and 1315/1 from WESTON. Continue with E.N.65 to 0550 25' N., proceed thence to destination.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1614/1 to WESTON).

→ E.N.65.

Passing Buchan Ness speed of advance 6 knots.
(FANDANGO 1630/1).

△ O.B.281.

Sailed 1611/1 five ships nine knots. One ship with kite.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey 1635/1) E.T.A. and destination (1636/1).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

→ F.S.100.

Sailed 3 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1728/1).

→ F.S.100

5 ships from Humber joining at Outer
Dowsing.
(N.C.S.O. Humber 1730/1).K.C.,
VANQUISHER.

M.02148/41.

VANQUISHER's 2126/31 requested permission to leave Convoy K.C. when it is passed Cumbræ and to return to Liverpool. This was approved by my 2235/31. At 0543 I was informed that S.S. JOHN BAKKE, a ship of the K.C. Convoy, had gone aground at Crawford Point, Farland Head, South of the Cumbræes. No report was received from VANQUISHER from which it would appear that VANQUISHER had left the Convoy prematurely. Request you will obtain from VANQUISHER a full report of the circumstances in which Convoy was left. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1759/1 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

W.N.77.
signals.

Signals giving names and destinations of all ships sailed in convoys are to be repeated to Admiralty. This information for WN.77 not yet received.
(D.T.D. 1839/1 to N.C.S.O. Aultbea).

W.N.78.
F.S.400

Rosyth 1/2 1941.
Departures. HASTINGS to meet W.N.78. My 2357/31. CELIA did not sail. WOOLSTON sailed with F.S.400 in addition to HOLDERNESS.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 1907/1).

F.S.99.

Convoy F.S.99 arrived (exceptions).
(N.C.S.O. Thames 1956/1).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

- W.N.78. Loch Ewe Section sailed 1900/1. Two ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 2129/1).
- F.N.96. Arrive May Island 0700 Request lights.
(VIMERA 2130/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).
- W.N.78. My 2129/1. W.N.78 Loch Ewe Section only 1 ship sailed.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 2230/1).
- O.B.C. 281. (a) 2300/1 (b) WILD SWAN (c) 20 ships
(eleven with kites).
(N.C.S.O. Clyde 2305/1).
- Ocean
Convoys.
- S.C.19. Your 1605/31 and my 1300/31. There will now be no onward escort Clyde portion SCIMITAR and SARDONYX are both short of fuel. ANEMONE detached and NORTHERN DAWN A/S gear out of action.
(JACKAL 0002/1 to C.in C. W.A.)
- H.X.105. Convoy sailing Telegram as amended by Admiralty.
(D.T.D. 1927/1).
- H.G.51. Your 1315/1 part three. My position 55° 45' 11° 00' Convoy H.G.51 not met. Aircraft report no convoy within 100 miles at 1700/1. S.S. SALAMAA straggler from S.L.S.62 with bow badly damaged by collision in position 55° 10' 11° 56' at 1700/1 hove to. LONDONDERRY is standing by her till further orders.
(EGRET 2200/1 to C.in C. W.A. etc.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Military
Convoys.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

H.X.104.

Londonderry departures 1/2 LINCOLN,
SHIKARI, SABRE, GLADIOLUS, CLARKA, NORTHERN
WAVE, WELLARD, for H.X.104. ^
(Capt: D. Londonderry 2214/1).Force Z.

M.07722/41.

Sailed GLENGYLE, GLENROY, GLENEARN
escorted by F.O.C. 10th C.S. in KENYA,
OTTAWA, RESTIGOUCHE, ST. LAURENT, SKEENA
in accordance with Admty's 1655/22 and
C.in C. W.A. 1231/28 and 1325/31.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0027/1).Organisation
and sailing
arrangements.Following A.M. is repeated to you for
information.
(D.T.D. 1840/1).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.ROCKPOOL.

(British 4892 tons). Aground south side of Little Cumbrae. Forward tanks flooded. Hold dry. Require assistance to refloat. Loaded.
(ROCKPOOL to C.in C. Greenock Recd. 0114/1).

A Salvage Tug is being sent to assist you and S.S. SNAR.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0228/1 to ROCKPOOL).

SNAR.

Your 2143/31. Salvage Tug is being sent.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0134/1 to SNAR).

JOHN
BAKKE.

(Norwegian 4718 tons). Ashore Crawford Point Earland Head. Holed No.2 making water. Send assistance soon possible. All attempts refloating failed.
(Port Patrick Radio 0547/1).

Assistance being sent.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0630/1)
See Coastal Convoys.

HOLLYHOCK.

(Corvette) A/S set out of action major defect. Unable to effect repairs. Request instructions. Approx. D.R. position 060° 35'N., 011° 40'W.
(HOLLYHOCK 1020/1 to ARROW).

PASS OF
LENY.

C.S.V.O. Lyness 1220/31. Request repair port may be allocated. No Tug can be spared from Scapa.
(A.C.O.S. 1137/1 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.ROSLIN
CASTLE.

N.T. in W.D. N.T. in W.D.

Cancel my 1615/30/1. and 1415/31/1.
ROSLIN CASTLE further delayed by engine defects. Expects to be ready to sail 3.2.41. Further signal will be made. (N.C.S.O. Glasgow 1200/1).

SANDHILL.

Rescue Tug SCHELDE left SANDHILL here and sailed for Cambeltown. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1251/1).

BERKSHIRE.

(A/S Trawler) Damaged bow in collision last night with unknown ship. Proceeding to Aberdeen. (WESTON 1315/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).

WOOLER.

Intend sailing Tug LYNCH and M/V WOOLER in tow at 0001/2 from Weymouth to Southampton. E.T.A. Main Needles 0800/2. Route. (N.C.S.O. Weymouth 1315/1).

KAI.

(Esthonian, 1251 tons). Struck submerged wreckage between Trevoise Head and Newquay and sank. Ten survivors landed Portrazth and ten on board S.S. ISLESMAN just arrived St. Ives. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1628/1).

ATHELREGENT.

(British Tanker 8881 tons). Reports defective D.G. (MALLOW 1700/1 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

M.L.1029.

M.L.1029 Padstow to Ardrishaig arrived Fleetwood 1200/1/2 with minor defects. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1730/1).

FAME.

Request you sail SHELDRAKE for Tyne to arrive daylight 3/2. She will form escort for FAME sailing from Tyne a.m./3, in tow of 2 tugs. (C.in C. Nore, 1740/1 to F.O.I.C. Yarmouth).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.FAME (cont.)

Intend to sail FAME in tow of WATERMEYER and FAIRPLAY I passing Sunderland Breakwater 0900/3. Request escort to arrive off Sunderland at that time. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1744/1 to C.in C. Rosyth).

DAMITO.

(M/S Trawler) My 1826/1. Grounded off Needles. Subject to refloating without damage expect to sail 2300/1. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1841/1 to F.O.I.C. Portland).

ST. MELLONS.

(rescue tug). Went aground whilst trying to tow S.S. BELGIA. Hoped she will be refloated at next high water. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1908/1).

W.B. WALKER.

ASSURANCE reports making contact at 1800 today, with fore part of W.B.WALKER in 55° 27' N., 16° 28' W. Proceed to her assistance. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2159/1 to ST. OLAVES, SHEMARA, ANEMONE).

SALAMANA.

(British 6676 tons). Straggler from S.L.S.62. Bow badly damaged in collision. LONDONDERRY standing by. (EGRET 2200/1). See Ocean Convoys.

VICEROY.

(Destroyer) Asdic equipment defective. (WESTERN ISLES 2336/1).

PALLAETER.

(Coaster) Reported abandoned in 055° 15' N., 005° 18' W at 2330/1. Drifting S.E. Keep sharp lookout. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2355/1 to WILD SWAN).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Operations Against Vichy French.Convoy.

French armed trawler LA SETOISE passed Gibraltar eastbound at 1815/1 escorting the French M/V's MEDIE II 5078 tons. OUED TIFLET 1194 tons and AISNE 3654 tons. (D.O.R. 3/2).

North Atlantic.Raider Report.

Following has been incompletely received. RRRR (Raider). 33.55N., 30.05W shelled. (Freetown W/T 0320Z/1).

Surface raider reported in position 033° 55' N., 030° 05' W at 0320. (F.O.C.N.A. 0556/1 to S. and A. North Atlantic.)

OTUS.

OTUS on patrol off Ponta Delgada. (F.O.C.N.A. 1050/1).

Air Report.

Daily return operations. (200 Group 1700/1).

CAMITO MARON.

My 1116/26.* CAMITO should be ready for service on 5/2. MARON on 8/2.
* Repairs to CAMITO.
(A.S. Gibraltar 1604/1).

Forces at Gibraltar.

Reply to F.O.C.N.A. 1258/31.
(D.O.D.(F) 2245/1) See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.BULOLO,
identity
of raiders.

A. Your 1905/31, is inconclusive evidence, as, for instance, we know that at least one ship could not have had heavier guns than six-inch as we know where all German eight-inch cruisers are.

B. Vitally important to determine whether one ship was a pocket battleship and most detailed interrogation of survivors is to be carried out. Evidence on following points is particularly required.

- (i) Conditions of light.
- (ii) Closest distance at which seen.
- (iii) Whether broadside view was obtained.
- (iv) Whether turrets were observed and if so how many.
- (v) Number of guns fired in each salvo.

C. Reply to above to be passed by visual to CARADOC and passed by latter to Admiralty when well clear of TAMERLANE.

D. If CARADOC has parted company from TAMEPLANE, BULOLO is to give above information to C.in C. S.A., on arrival in harbour.
(1st S.L. 0054/1 to BULOLO).

DORSETSHIRE)
KENYA)
DEVONSHIRE)
NORFOLK.)

Instructions until situation is clearer.
(D.O.D.(F) 0103/1 to C.in C. S.A.)
See Operations Volume.
Your 0103/1. Asking for information.
(C.in C. S.A. 1017N/1 to Admty).
See Operations Volume.

ADMIRAL
SCHEER.
(?).

M.03755/41.

S.S. EURYLOCHUS was sunk on 29/1 in 08° 15'N., 25° 04'W. by enemy raiders. There is evidence that these ships were the pocket battleship ADMIRAL SCHEER accompanied by an armed merchant raider.
(D.D.I.C. 0126/1).

MOST SECRET.1.2.1941.
Saturday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (Contd.)→ F.O.I.C.S.
DEVONSHIRE.

My 1609/31. after making contact with DEVONSHIRE remain in area between R/V and 006° 30' N., 023° 30' W., until 1800/1 then proceed to Freetown for fuel.
(C.in C. S.A. 0331/1 to F.O.I.C.S.)

HAVKONG.

Overdue shipping HAVKONG due Durban 27/1 from Abadan not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown 1006/1).

MARGUERITE.
CROCUS.

Are required for service on South Atlantic Station. Report earliest date on which they can be ready to leave U.K.
(C.in C. W.A. 1007/1 to F.O.I.C.'s Glasgow, Liverpool).

MUNCASTER
CASTLE,
WEIR BANK.

Overdue shipping my 1025/31. MUNCASTER CASTLE arrived Capetown. WEIR BANK due Capetown 28/1 from U.K. not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown 1011/1).

→ DORSETSHIRE
S.L.Convoy,
NORFOLK
DEVONSHIRE.

Proceed so as to arrive in position 009° 20' N., 022° 00' W., at 1800/2, then patrol between this position and 011° 40' N., 024° 10' W. Object is to provide cover to convoy S.L. and S.L.S.B and be within support distance of NORFOLK and DEVONSHIRE. NORFOLK and DEVONSHIRE leave patrol on a line between 004° N., 021° W. and 006° 30' N 023° 30' W at 1800/1 to return to Freetown.
(C.in C. S.A. 1107N/1 to DORSETSHIRE).

*See also next page*Entered on PERTH.PERTH
PRINCE, (no trace)
AFRICAN
PRINCE.

Overdue shipping M.of S. 0045/30/12. reports PERTH PRINCE due Capetown 24/1 My 1005/28 reports this ship overdue. AFRICAN PRINCE arrived Capetown 31/1 January unannounced suggest C.C.S.O. re-examines, please confirm.
(N.O.I.C. Capetown, 1158B/1).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (Contd.)DORSETSHIRE.

Departure 1400/1 DORSETSHIRE on patrol in accordance with C.in C. S.A. 1107/1. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1631N/1).

*See previous page.*AFRICAN PRINCE.

Ministry of Shipping Vesca 1530/28/12. Have you any news of AFRICAN PRINCE due Capetown 24/1 from Mersey departure 23/12? (S.O.(I) Freetown 1202/1 to S.O.(I) Capetown). (See P. 24)

AFRICA MARU suspicious conduct.

Suspicion of Japanese ship AFRICA MARU aroused by coincidence of her position with D/F estimate of raiders position. Examination of log by Union Inspector of ships W/T indicates that ship has been in communication with Nauen frequently. Material is being examined by S.O.(I) Simonstown. Considerable obstacles were put in the way of Inspector by master. In order to avoid arousing or increasing existing suspicion of reason for examination of log no effort is being made to detain ship and she sails this afternoon for Union ports, Mombasa, Colombo and Far East. (S.O.(I) Capetown 1240/1 to Admty).

Flying Boat and Air Squadrons W.Africa.

Your 1747/22/1. R.A.F. tentative target programme includes three flying boat squadrons for Freetown - Gibraltar area and one G.R. landplane and one fighter squadron Freetown. Impossible give even estimated dates for arrival although preparation aerodromes and certain essential buildings proceeding, Bathurst being developed as possible landing place for aircraft flown from America. Up to three Blenheim bombers being retained at Takoradi. No other R.A.F. plans for expansion West Africa other than three Sunderlands referred to in my 2303/16. (Head of M. 1605/1 to C.in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (Contd.)ELEANORA
MAERSK.

Further your 2041/29 tanker ELEANORA MAERSK must not be delayed and should therefore not be considered. See *South Atlantic Page 1015.29/1/41.* (D.S.T. 1634/1 to N.O.I.C's Durban etc.)

Dispositions.

Weekly state at 1200/1. (C.in C. S.A. 1647/1).

DRAGON.

To sail 1800/2 to relieve BULOLO escorting TAMERLANE.
(C.in C. S.A. 1719/1/N) See Operation Vol.

DELHI.

DELHI to sail 0900/2. Proceed to St. Helena arriving noon 5/2 to fuel thence Simonstown by direct route.
(C.in C. S.A. 1731N/1).

NORFOLK,
DEVONSHIRE,
DORSETSHIRE.

Your 1017/1. (? 1107N/1) Orders for these ships.
(1st S.L. 2312/1 to C.in C. S.A.)
See Operations Vol.

DORSETSHIRE.

Admiralty 2312/1. Return to Freetown so as to arrive a.m./3.
(C.in C. S.A. 2325N/1 to DORSETSHIRE).

Mediterranean.Genoa,
Enemy
Intelligence.

Following from Master and officers neutral ships which left Genoa on 25/1.

One Cavour Class Battleship in Genoa harbour (B.1).

On 25/1 this Battleship was in one of dry docks adjoining Molo Giano (C.2).

The number of identity of dry dock in question could not be established. On 25/1 six large secondary merchant vessels of six thousand/eight thousand tons were lying stern to Calata Gadda quay. (B.1).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)

No sign of any undue activity in Genoa or ports. (B.1)
 No LITTORIO class battleships seen. (Course of this neutral ship when approached Genoa). Existence of any contact minefield unlikely. (B.3).
 (S.O.(I) Gibraltar 0931/1 and 0934/1 to F.O. Force H).

German
Air
Position.

In the Mediterranean. Appreciation. (H.Q.R.A.F. M.E. 1056/1).
 See Mediterranean Volume.

Air Report,
M.V. with
prisoners
bombed.

1800/31. Steamship ^{Egyptian.} SOLLUM conveying Italian prisoners hit by several bombs from 2 aircraft type unidentified but most probably German and drifted ashore in neighbourhood Sidi Barrani. Prisoners panicked and about 50 drowned. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1246/1).

Turkey,
War
Material.

Your 1226/28. Are Items (d) to (k) inclusive for land or sea service? (Controller 1346/1 to N.A. Ankara.)

German
Aircraft,
Sicily.

American N.A. Vichy informs American N.A. here 9/1.

1. Chief of second bureau told him that 800 German dive bombers were already definitely in Southern Italy and Sicily for use in Albania, Libya, and against Mediterranean Fleet.

2. Aerial bombing range near Romagne Montfaucon where reputed (?practice) with gas bombs carried (?out) regularly. (N.A. Madrid 1613/1).

Convoy
B.S.F.1.

Sailing Telegram. 1300 G.M.T./1, 11 ships. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area, 1619/1).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)Malta
Air
Report,
Raids.

Raids. 2218 to 0016 2 enemy aircraft 1 of which identified in Searchlights as JU.88 circled over Malta. A.A. engaged. Some bombs in sea and 4 on land near Grand Harbour causing no damage or casualties.

Reconnaissance,
DIELPI,
Taranto,
Syracuse,
etc.*Lloyds gives
tonnage as
1,527 tons.*Reconnaissance. 0550 to 1231 Sunderland anti convoy patrol Eastern Tunisian coast with striking force standing by. At 0955 1 M/V 1,000 tons position 348 Zuara 116 miles course 180 speed 10 knots. At 1451 Sunderland took off to intercept and attack Italian DIELPI 2,000 tons reported to be leaving La Goulette Tunis at 1500 loaded with Toluol striking force also standing by. 0955 to 1530 photo reconnaissance Taranto. 0945 to 1159 reconnaissance Syracuse, Augusta, Catania and Messina for ships in harbour. 3 M/V's 10,000 tons each 10 miles west of Cape Vaticano course North.
(H.Q. Med., 1745/1 to Air Ministry).Summary
of German
Bomber
Activities.1/2 A.874. Summary of German Bomber activities over Egypt and Palestine already described in my Daily Operational Summaries and amplified by most recent information.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. (1856/1)).Mines in
Suez Canal.My 1059/1. D.W.I. Wellington aircraft exploded three mines red Polarity in canal between Lake Timsah and Great Bitter Lakes. Traffic has been resumed in this section. Hope to clear section Kabret to Port Tewfik on 2/2.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1931/1.)HUNTLEY
Sunk.C.C. reports HUNTLEY sunk 20 miles West at 1745/31 by two Heinkels. Captain and seven wounded, believed 14 ratings missing.
(N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 2227/1.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.B.N.F.1.
B.N.14.
M06483/41.Departure 31/1 2225Z, FLAMINGO for B.N.F.1.
1/2. 0010Z CALEDON, SHOREHAM, INDUS, and
RATNAGIRI for B.N.14, 0340Z PARRAMATTA for
B.N.F.1, 0253Z CHANTALA on patrol.
(N.O.I.C. Aden, 0345Z/1).HAWKINS.Mombasa arrived 1/2 0450 G.M.T. HAWKINS.
(N.O.I.C. Kilindini, 0530Z/1.)Operation "Canvas"
"CANVAS"My 0914/29. Intentions.
(C.in C. E.I. 0650Z/1 to Admty).
See Operations Volume.Convoy
B.N.14.Sailing telegram 0100Z/1. Ships.
(N.C.S.C. Aden, 0730Z/1).Persian
Gulf.
Contraband
Control.Your 0602/26. Remarks on preliminary
discussions with M.E.W. representative.
Khor Kuwait indicated as most effective point
of control since in any case it is the
focus of traffic. Armed dhows would be
most useful there. Are circumstances
suitable to consider use of Walrus
aircraft ?
(S.N.O. Persian Gulf 0802Z/1 to C.in C.E.I.).SHROPSHIRE.My 1000Z/30. Preliminary medical report
anticipates majority of cases will be fit
to return to the ship p.m./3.
(SHROPSHIRE 0830Z/1).TROILUS.
"Q" Report.British ship TROILUS (7422 tons) made a
"Q" distress signal in position 003° 26'S.,
052° 35'E. at 1107Z/1 and reported a
suspicious vessel.*
(C.in C. E.I. 1202/1 to E.I. Squadron,
Portishead Radio no T.O.O.) *See also 1940/1. Page 30.*

* (Possibly TANNENFELS, see C.C.E.I., 1922/12)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. (Contd.)→ Force K,
HAWKINS.

My 1202/1 as soon as HAWKINS has joined proceed at 18 knots towards this position. (C.in C. E.I. 1248Z/1 to S.O. Force K).

→ CAPETOWN,
Force K.

My 1202/1. No cancellation yet received. Following movements have been ordered.

(i) CAPETOWN from approx. 001° 20'N., 048° 48' at 1330Z/1 towards 003° 26'S., 052° 35' at 18 knots.

(ii) Force K from vicinity of Mombasa at about 1530Z/1 towards 003° 26'S., 052° 35' at 18 knots. (C.in C. E.I. 1440Z/1 to E.I. Squadron).

ORCADES.

Transport ORCADES sailed Bombay 31/1 due Capetown 12/2. (P.S.T.O. India 1902/1).

TROILUS.

My 1440/1. Efforts to get into W/T communication with TROILUS have failed. It must therefore be assumed there was a disguised raider in position 003° 26'S., 052° 35'E., at 1107 G.M.T./1. (C.in C. E.I. 1940/1 to E.I. Squadron).

→ Force K,
Raider.

Proposed cancelling of a certain operation to use for hunt. (C.in C. E.I. 1946Z/1 to C.in C. Med.) See Operations Volume.

CARTHAGE.

Your 0528/31. Re Reliefs for engineer officers and supply ratings. (D.S.T. 1618/1 to CARTHAGE.)

GALILEO
GALILEI.

Your 1645/23. (re Italian submarine# GALILEO GALILEI) Proceedings were merely formal to establish no cargo on board and vessel was handed over to Naval Authorities. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 1620Z/1 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. (Contd.)DELANE.

Store Carrier DELANE has left convoy W.S.5.A. and is returning to Durban. Piston cracked. Time required 4 days. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1650/1 to C.in C. E.I.)

China.O.B.
SORENSEN.

Your 1827/29. O.B. SORENSON is at Shell installation at Nonai. (Kobe, 0235Z/1 to D.N.I.)

Sourabaya
threat of
Japanese
Invasion.

Governor East Java states intercepted telephone conversation between two important Japanese at Sourabaya and Lawang referred to Japanese attack on 10/2. Both Japanese immediately arrested but deny conversation. Governor states that Japanese have recently shown increasing anxiety as to their safety during preliminary stages of possible invasion. He assures me that in the event of trouble no difficulty is expected in rounding up all Japanese here. (Consul, Sourabaya T.H.I. 2100/1).

America and West Indies.H.X.107
LACONIA.

Intend sailing LACONIA as ocean escort to H.X.107 subsequently returning to Halifax. (F.O.3.B.S. 0949/1).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.American and West Indies. (Contd.)LYLE PARK
S.C.20.British LYLE PARK returned from S.C.20 for repairs to life boat and accommodation. (N.C.S.O. Halifax 1107/1).RONIN.Should the Panamanian RONIN ^{now} trading on the East Coast of America put into a Dominion or Colonial port her arrival should be reported and all facilities refused pending instructions.
(D.T.D. 1118/1 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa
C.in C. A.W.I.) *Cancelled See Page 209. 4.3.41.*NAKO
MARU.^{N.T. W. 2.}
My 1049/21/1. Los Angeles reports 'U.S. Naval Intelligence Officer there states that consignment was listed on manifest as 'Arms and ammunition' followed by weight. No details given. He has received a report that vessel has false bottoms built into holds'.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1129/1).COMORIN.Your 1552/31 COMORIN arrived, sailing for destination 0700/2. Owing to length of route ordered it is not anticipated she will arrive Freetown before (date).
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad 1149/1 to C.in C. A.W.I.)BRASIL.Request reply to my 1157/25.
(News of Norwegian Tanker BRASIL).
(D.T.D. 1818/1 to Consul, Galveston).New Zealand.HOBART
and
Transport.Departure Wellington 0435Z/1. HOBART wearing flag of F.O.C.A.S. escorting H.T. NIEUW AMSTERDAM.
(N.Z.N.B. 0635Z/1).

MOST SECRET.1.2.1941.
Saturday.WAR DIARY.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.PORTLAND.

PORTLAND sailed from Talcahuano yesterday, 31/1.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo 1254Z/1 to S.A. Div.)

ANTARKTIS.

After discharging some cargo at the oil quay, had returned to her anchorage on 1/2.
(D.S. 576).

HAMBURG.

Trawler, 279 tons. Reported (B.2.) on 28/1 to be proceeding to Lofoten Islands to load fish and expected to be at Svolvær, due W. of Narvik, from 15/2 to 18/2.
(D.S. 515 amended D.S.517).

SALZBURG
ARKADIA.

SALZBURG arrived from Turkey, ARKADIA left for Burgas.
(Varna 1753/31).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.CELENO
(Tanker).Left Constanza.
(Varna 1140/1).BIELPI.Your 1537/15. Information received that Italian Ship BIELPI intends to leave La Goulette Tunis at 1500 today 1/2 with cargo Toluene.
(S.O.(I) Malta 1211/1 to Admty).
For Air Search, see Mediterranean.MAURO CROCE.Left Barcelona 29/1 for Genoa.
(D.S. 515).LIGURIA.Reported in The Times to be a wreck in Tobruk Harbour.
(D.S. 515).GIMMA.Arrival 1/1 GIMMA from Palma.
(Barcelona 1821/1).GIOVANNI
MARIA.280 tons, carrying ammunition and food, sunk off Libyan Coast near Tobruk and crew rescued by a naval unit.
(Lloyd's Gazette 31/1, D.S. 516).FORTUNATA.Reported that an Italian ship intended to leave La Goulette, Tunis, at 1500/1 with a cargo of Toluene. This is possibly part of cargo of FORTUNATA captured by French immediately before the Armistice.
(D.S.516).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.MENDOZA.Arrival 0800/1 DRAGON escorting MENDOZA.
(S.O.(I) Freetown 1109N/1).

Portugese S.S. ANGOLA is calling Freetown shortly carrying 115 French repatriates from South Africa to Casablanca. If accommodation available, personnel from MENDOZA should be repatriated by this means.

(Head of M. 1854/1 to C.in C. S.A.)

Passengers, Cargo, (Details).
Personnel friendly to Great Britain but not to extent yet of joining Free French they fear for their relatives.
(C.in C. S.A. 2357/1).

ALSIDA^N.

Your 1717/31. (ALSIDA^N leaving Marseilles).
I agree not to intercept in South American area.
(C.in C. S.A. 1341/1 to R.A.S.A.D.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships
Attacked.KING ROBERT
(torpedoed
29/1).

LADY MADELEINE arrived with 20 survivors from KING ROBERT.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0332/1)
KING ROBERT was in S.C.19, 22 survivors including master landed at Gourock in addition to the 20 reported above.
(D.S. 515 1/2).

W.B. WALKER.
(torpedoed
29/1.

If fuel permits proceed to vicinity of position 56° 00'N., 16° 05'W. to escort ST. OLAVES who is searching for W.B.WALKER.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1245/1 to SHEMARA).

Your 0900. Continue search for W.B. WALKER position 56° 00'N., 05' 16° W. at 1000/30.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1254/1 to ST. OLAVES).

Following received, from ASSURANCE.
Made contact with fore part of S.S. W.B. WALKER 055° 27'N., (016° ?)28'W.
Impossible to tow. Dangerous to navigation.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1800/1 to C.in C. W.A.)

If nothing yet seen join ST. OLAVES and ASSURANCE at daylight in position 056° 00'N 016° 12'W at 1200/1 searching for W.B. WALKER. Continue search until noon/2 then escort tugs to Greenock.
(C.in C. W.A. 1859/1 to HESPERUS).

BOTUSK
(torpedoed
31/1.)

VERBENA. Expected time of arrival Greenock 2400 today. Has 11 survivors on board from BOTUSK including one D.E.M.S. gunlayer. VERBENA required refuelling and repairs to W/T transmitter.
(GENTIAN 1500/1 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

BOTUSK (cont:)----

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN. (Contd.)BOTUSK.
(Contd.)Arrived VERBENA with 11 survivors from
S.S. BOTUSK.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2355/1 to Admty).Submarines
Reported.

1345/31.

Enemy submarines in position 040° 59' N.,
021° 15' W at 1245 G.M.T./31.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0101/1 to S. and A. N.A.Stan.)

0016.

53°-54° N., 18°- 30° W. indefinite position.
(D.S. 515).0322.)
0458.)Within 160' of 50° N., 18° W. indefinite
position. (D.S.515).Admiralty message AF. Position
40° N., 21° 15' W at 1245/31 G.M.T.
(D.D.I.C. 0248/1 to G.B.M.S.Area 1).

1217.

52.40 N., 21° W. position indefinite.
German. (D.S.516).

Freetown's 2213/31 and Ascension's 2248/31.

Bearings from home stations place unit
probably a U/Boat to the Westward of
Ireland.
(D.D.I.C. 0433/1 to C.in C. S.A.)

1337.

By D/F at 1337 BST position of German unit
possibly U/Boat was approx. 50° N., 27° W.
Unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 1535/1).

1817.

55° N., 15°- 21° W., position indefinite.
(German) (D.S.516).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.1.2.1941.
Saturday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN. (Contd.)Estimated
U/Boat
dispositions.German.

1 nearing Trondhjem or Bergen.
 1 between 58° N., and 60° N near 20° W.
 1 within 60 miles of 56° N., 21° W.
 1 within 30 miles of 54° N., 18° 30' W.
 1 within 30 miles of 52° 40' N., 21° W.
 1 within 60 miles of 51° N., 19° W.
 1 within 60 miles of 56° N., 13° W. or
 southbound from there.
 1 in 40° N., 21° 15' W at 1345/31.
 Possibly 1 near Cape Verde Islands.

Italian.

Possibly 1 near Canary Island.
 1 in Bay of Biscay patrolling.
 1 near 47° N., 10° W. bound for Gironde.
 2 in N.W. Approaches whereabouts unknown.
 (D.D.I.C. 1411/1).

War Diary2.2.1941.
SundaySITUATION REPORTBritish Air Activity

Bomber Command aircraft attacked Boulogne docks last night and again today. Ostend was also attacked last night.

Coastal Command aircraft last night attacked the ³⁰¹¹²²HIPPER ~~ships~~ (cruiser) in dock at Brest and estimate that they dropped mines in the target area.

C. in C., Nore expects night minelaying by enemy aircraft in the Thames Estuary to be resumed on or after 4/2. Fighter aircraft are to be kept clear and A/A ships will be stationed in three areas.

Enemy Air ActivityConvoy attacked on Northern Convoy Route

M 0 3 4 59/41.

Convoy O.B. A was attacked this morning on the Northerly Convoy Route and WAZIRISTAN was damaged. This is the first occasion on which a convoy has been attacked on this route which was adopted on 29/1. No tug was available in the Western Approaches Command, and Fleet tug BANDIT was sent from Scapa, leaving no rescue, salvage, Fleet or ocean going tug in the Orkneys or Shetlands area.

Attack in Thames Estuary

^{THE} SS, SULTAN was bombed and sunk this morning in the Thames Estuary.

2 F.W. aircraft destroyed

Two enemy F.W. Condor aircraft have been destroyed by fire from light A.A guns of a D.E.M.S. and a rescue tug. It appears that these aircraft are very vulnerable to close range A.A. fire, even from light M.G.'s, and the Admiralty have given orders for the rearrangement of close range weapons in warships and D.E.M.S. as necessary to deal with the form of attack usually adopted by F.W. aircraft

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundaySITUATION REPORTMiningOperation E. A.

Forces sailed this morning to carry out Operation E.A. but the operation had to be abandoned on account of the weather.

Mines were detonated today in the Thames Estuary and Harwich and Humber areas.

M/S Trawler ALMOND struck a moored mine and sank off Falmouth.

Newport and Barry Inlets were reopened today.

North Atlantic

Considerable delays are being experienced in the discharge of ships at Gibraltar.

Mediterranean

Operations
"Picket"
and "Result"
M.02438/41.

S.O. Force H reports today the result of operations "Picket" (Attack by F.A.A. on power plant in Sardinia) One Swordfish was lost. Operation "Result" was abandoned owing to heavy N.N.W. gale.

Reinforcements

Details of reinforcements of the Mediterranean Fleet are given today.

Mines in
Suez Canal

Further mines were exploded in the Suez Canal today.

East Indies

Operation
"Breach"

S.O. Force K today reported the attack on Mogadishu by F.A.A. from FORMIDABLE completed. There was little opposition. All aircraft returned.

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundaySITUATION REPORTU-BOAT CAMPAIGN

M02382/41.

SS EMPIRE CITIZEN a straggler from
Convoy O.B. 279 was torpedoed shortly
before midnight in the N.W. Approaches.
She had been incorrectly routed.

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayHOME COMMANDSPolicyFinnish
Ships for
Reykjavik

Your O.519 27/1. War Office agree provided you take special security steps to deal with incoming vessels. (W.O. 0345/2. to G.O.C., Iceland Force)

ARGUS
D.L.Trials
without
Attendant
Vessel

Your 0946/1. This is confirmed. (D.O.D. H. 1146/2 to ARGUS)

Tug Situation
on Orkneys
and Shetland
Areas.

With despatch of BANDIT to assist WAZIRISTAN there is now no rescue, salvage, Fleet, or ocean going tug in Orkneys or Shetlands area to deal with casualties. Request situation may be reviewed. (C.S.V.O. Scapa 2155/2 to A.C.O.S.)

Defence of U.K."Deluge"
DELUGE

At 1130/2 (D.C. 1203/2 and 1539/2)

Scapa
defence

Two indicator loops out of action. Request cable ship may be sent as soon as possible to effect repairs and lay H.D.A. "D". (A.C.O.S. 1110/2)

Progress Report 2/2 (R.A. Scapa 2015/2)

MovementsFURIOUS
NEPTUNE
JACKAL

Delayed by weather. E.T.A. your vicinity 2030. (JACKAL 1000/2 to FURIOUS)

My 1635/31. New R/V with FURIOUS, NEPTUNE and destroyers at 054° 30' N., 020° 40' W at 1100/3. B.S.T.

2. FURIOUS and NEPTUNE pass through 054° N 021° 40' W., to 056° N., 017° W., and thence as in my 1605/31. (C. in C., W.A., 1105/2 to JACKAL)

To avoid U-Boat reported in 052° 40' N., 021° 40' W., at 1217/1 proceed forthwith through following positions, to Clyde by Q.Z.S. 189 and 53. R/V for destroyers (as 1105/2). NEPTUNE to be detached to Scapa at position (n) (C. in C., W.A., 1449/2 to FURIOUS)

/My 1449.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayHOME COMMANDSMovementsFURIOUS
NEPTUNE
JACKAL-Contd.

706. My 1449. Amended position U-Boat should be 052° N., 021° 40' W., (C. in C., W.A., 1747/2 to FURIOUS)

712. Cancel my 1747. My 1449 position of U-Boat should read 052° 40' N., 021° W (C. in C., W.A., 1949/2 to FURIOUS)

Northern
Patrol

Trawler Lines tonight. 4 trawlers. (AC.O.S., 1509/2)

WORCESTERSHIRE
ISLE OF SARK

Intend sail WORCESTERSHIRE for R/V 180° Sanda 7' Times as follows. To reach R/V at 1700/5. VANOC and WIVERN escort. Air cover only arranged until dark/3. SS ISLE OF SARK sails in company for Falmouth. (C. in C., Portsmouth 1647/2)

EREBUS

Request fighter protection for EREBUS escorted by EGLINTON and QUORN sailing for Sheerness 1000/3. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1737/2 to C. in C., Nore)

C.S. 10

To avoid U-Boat reported in 053° 20' N. 021° 30' W., at 1736/2 proceed through 054° N., 025° W. and thence to R/V Q. (C. in C., W.A., 1957/2 to C.S. 10)

OperationsMINNIE DE
LARRINAGA

Sailing postponed 24 hours owing to unsuitable weather. (C. in C., Nore, 0936/2.)

Operation
N.C.

Will be carried out. Zero hour 0115/3. (V.A.Dover, 1415/2)

Operation
P.W. 2.

Is to be carried out as soon as weather permits. (C. in C., Nore, 2242/2 to BEEHIVE)

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayHOME COMMANDSSubmarinesForth
Sanctuary
Bombing
RestrictionsOps./154.2/2. Institute total S.B.R.
Forth Sanctuary immediately until 1900/2.
(H.Q.C.C. 0945/2 to 18-16 Groups.)TUNAF.O. (S) 1132/24. TUNA enters N.A.
Station and shifts W/T watch at 1200/4.
Route. Not entering patrol area until
a.m./6 (S.2. 1106/2)SUNFISHLeaves patrol 1800/2. Route to base.
Reference A.M. 1748/20/1 entering into
War Channel 0600/6. (S.6. 1155/2)You are not to close within 10 miles
of Norwegian coast when to North of
Lister. (F.O.S. 1303/2 to SUNFISH)OTUSA. On leaving Patrol after dark/5. proceed
W. of San Miguel and through following
positions to Portsmouth.
D. C. in C., W.A., and C. in C., Ports-
mouth requested to keep OTUS informed
of movements of own and enemy forces
while in the Home Station. (F.O.S. 1639/2
to OTUS)PositionsAt 0800/3 and movements for following
24 hours. (F.O.S. 1742/2)

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayHOME COMMANDSEnemy Air ActivityConvoy O. B. A.
WAZIRISTAN
DamagedHelp needed for convoy ^{"Robin"} ~~ROBIN~~ in 61° 22' N
10° 28' W., One F.W. (HAVELOCK 1000/2
1001/2)WAZIRISTAN (British, 5135 tons) damaged
by near miss and stopped in 061° 21' N.,
011° 12' W. Request Tug. (HAVELOCK 1041/
2 to A.C.O.S.)Is tug from W.A.C. being sent. (A.C.O.S.
1412/2 to C. in C., W.A.)My 1041. WAZIRISTAN has now 12 feet of
water in Engine room and Boiler room.
Has tug been sent. (HAVELOCK 1426/2 to
A.C.O.S.)Your 1412/2. Can you send tug from
Scapa as none available in W.A. (C. in C.,
W.A., 1635/2 to F.O.C.A.S.)

BANDIT is being sent. (A.C.O.S. 1705/2)

Sailing BANDIT (F.O.C.O.S. 2216/2 to HAVE-
LOCK)THE SULTAN(British, 824 tons) Rescue Tug ST. ^{THE}
MELLONS proceeding to assistance SS ^{THE} SULTAN
reported bombed near B 7 buoy Barrow Deep.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1043/2)^{THE}
Steamer ^{THE} SULTAN bombed and sunk at 1000
today. Position about 51° 43' 24" N.,
01° 26' 21" E. 12 survivors being
brought to Brightlingsea 1230/2)Following Casualties. (details) (N.O.I.C.
Brightlingsea, 1430/2)OLYMPIER
(Bombed 30/1)SS TOWARD recovered boat load of
survivors from OLYMPIER in 055° 30' N.,
009° 10' W., at 0600. Survivors report
another boat with 5 men adrift in area.
(FOLKESTONE 1101/2)Boat load of survivors picked up at 0600/2
Another boat with 15 men adrift in
vicinity. Search area as long as fuel
permits. (C. in C., W.A., 1437/2 to
KINGCUP and 1447/2 to Ships)

/Vulnerability....

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayHOME COMMANDSEnemy Air Activity-Contd.Vulnerability
of Condor
Aircraft

Two enemy F.W. Condor aircraft have been destroyed as a result of fire from light A.A. guns of a D.E.M.S. and a rescue tug. Interrogation of prisoners reveals that these aircraft are very vulnerable to close range A.A. fire even from light M/Gs. The two successes referred to were obtained through holding fire until range was point blank.

Form of attack preferred is generally from bow to stern. Height always very low.

Warships and D.E.M.S. should arrange that some of their close range weapons can fire forward if necessary transferring at least one M/G for this purpose. Kites and P.A.C. rockets are useful deterrents against these attacks. N.C.S.O.s to stress above points at Convoy conferences. (A.C.N.S. (H), 1332/2: A.G.M. H. 80 AZ)

Dover Area

Fighters have been sent to assistance of "SEMAPHORE" (2 trawlers in Dover Area) (Nore W/T 1523/2)

May Island
Proposed
C.H.L. Station

Your 1547/30. Matter is being represented to R.D.F. Committee. (D. of L.D. 1622/2)

Dover Bombed

At 1517 today a Dornier 215 dropped between 8 and 10 bombs on Dover. Damage. (no naval) (V.A. Dover 1841/2)

BARON RENFREW
(Bombed 28/1)

Boarded ship at 1400. Weather rapidly deteriorating. 4 attempts to connect unsuccessful. Motor lifeboat lost. 5 men remaining on BARON RENFREW awaiting abating of weather in 055° 30' N., 011° 50' W approx. (TENACITY 1914/2 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDSMiningOperation E.A.

Scapa departure ARETHUSA, AURORA, INTREPID, IMPULSIVE, MATABELE, TARTAR 0830/2. (A.C. O.S., 0851/2)

One section of three Blenheims from Sumburgh will afford protection within effective Fighter range during daylight 3rd and 4th. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1046/2 to ARETHUSA)

My 2234/31. Does information in Chief of Staff (41) 54 dated 22/1 para 16 refer to area in which operation EA is taking place. (C. in C., H.F., 1155/2 to Admty.)

Your 1155/2. No. Area referred to is that given in my 1258/16/1. (D.D.I.C. 1559/2 to C. in C., H.F.)

Operation abandoned owing to weather. (ARETHUSA 2116/2 to C. in C., H.F.)

Humber

M/S Trawler sank 1 drifting mine of Dutch 7 horn type between 62 F and 62 G buoys on 30/10. Mine apparently laid recently (F.O.Humber 0903/2)

Operation B.S. 50

Procedure for TEVIOT BANK and MEYNELL Laying will begin at 1200/3 (S.O.M/L Immingham 0950/2)

Operation postponed 24 hours on account of gale warning. All times in my 0950/2 to be 24 hours later accordingly (S.O. M/L Immingham 1120/2)

Operation S.N. 7.

R.A.M.L. 0021/30 and 1612/31. NIGERIA is to provide close escort for 1st M.L.S and is to R/V with R.A.M.L. at entrance to port Z.A. at 1830/4.

(2) RODNEY screened by 4 destroyers is to sail from Scapa Flow p.m/4 to cover operation.

(3) Para 2 of my 1828/29 is cancelled. (C. in C., H.F. 1027/2 to R.A.M.L.)

Thames Estuary

Mines detonated 1/2. (details) (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1125/2, 1140/2)

/Harwich.....

War Diary2.2.1941.
SundayHOME COMMANDSMining-Contd.Harwich
Area

One red mine detonated by LL drifters in 51° 55.3' N., 01° 22.2' W., at 1105 (F.O.I.C., Harwich 1159/2 and 1549/2)

Newport

Ships may now leave and enter Newport. (F.O.I.C., Cardiff, 1226/2)

TASMANIA
(Mined 24/1)

Intend sailing TASMANIA accompanied by tug CHARING CROSS from Leith Roads for Middlesboro at 1600/3. Speed adjusted so as to provide TASMANIA with protection of F.S. 3 which leaves Methil at 2300/3. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1235/2)

Barry

My 1842/30. Ships may now enter and leave Barry inlet. Precautions. (F.O.I.C., Cardiff 1559/2)

Milford Haven

My 1117/31. Hope to open Milford Haven to all ships from 1400/3. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1810/2)

Spurn Point
2 mines
detonated

Today LL Trawlers exploded 2 mines. (details) (F.O.Humber 1814/2)

ALMOND
Sunk

(M/S Trawler) Struck moored mine and sank in 50° 03' 30" N., 4° 55' W., 3 survivors. (F.O.I.C., Falmouth 1825/2)

War Channel
Sweep

Details. (A.C.O.S. 2151/2)

Expected
Minelaying by
A/C in Thames
Estuary after
4/2. Precautions.

Nore No332A/40/J. of 25/1/44. It is expected that night minelaying by enemy aircraft in the Thames Estuary may be resumed on or after 4/2. Request fighters may be kept clear of Thames Estuary at night from this date until further signal is made. Areas in which A.A. ships will be stationed nightly are as follows:-

/(A).....

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayHOME COMMANDSMiningExpected
Minelaying by
A/C in Thames
Estuary after
4/2. Precautions
Contd.

(A) Harwich. Area between lines joining Landguard point, Corton L.V., S.E. Shipwash buoy and B. 8 buoy.

(B) Barrow deep between B. 8 and B. 4 buoys.

(C) Thames Estuary East of $0^{\circ} 39'$ E. between parallels of $51^{\circ} 35'$ N., and $51^{\circ} 25'$ N., (C. in C., Nore, 2244/2 to H.Q.F.C.)Enemy IntelligencePencarci
LightPencar^c Light burning full brilliance on nights of 23rd 30th and 31st January. On 2nd latter nights light was burning from about 2000 onwards. (TAKU 2115/2)

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayHOME COMMANDSShipping and ConvoysOcean Convoys

O.B. 281 (a) 0500/2/2. (b) Unescorted (c) 2.
(N.C.S.O. Belfast 0815/2)

F.S. 100 Humber ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Humber
0935/2)

F.N. 96 Humber ships arrived (N.C.S.O. Humber,
0934/2)

F.S. 401 40 ships. (F.O.I.C., Tyne 0954/2)

O.B. 272 Your 1832/31. WELLINGTON reports your
2150/12 was not received. (C. in C., W.A
1109/2 to Admty.)

E.N. 66 (A) 0730/3
(B) Escorts
(C) 40 ships
(E) Code Words:-
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1121/2)

O.B. 279 Disperse when Escorts leave. (C. in C.,
W.A., 1125/2)

F.S. 401 Humber ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Humber
1157/2)

E.N. 96 Arrived 1145/2. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1206/2)

F.N. 92 1000/2 25 ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1229/2)

F.N. 98 Ships and destinations. (N.C.S.O. Thames
1301/2)

? No fighter escort this evening, kites
should be flown. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1340/2)

/W.N. 77.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayHOME COMMANDSShipping and ConvoysCoastal Convoys-Contd.

W.N. 77 Arrived 1500/2. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1516/2)

→ F.S. 2.402 Sailed 1445/2. 13 ships. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1549/2)
Ships and destinations (F.O.I.C., Tyne, 1651/2)

F.S. 399 Arrived except THE SULTAN
F.S. 100 Arrived all ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1929/2)
Mo 2.64 5/41.

→ F.S. 2 402 Sailed from Methil 1445 (F.O.I.C., Tyne 2108/2)

9 M.V's. 9 M/V's to sail 1630/3 for Hartland Gap and Bristol Channel ports. Escort. (N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 2141/2)

W.N. 79 1917/2. 17 ships. Eight with kites. Escorts. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 2150/2)

Ocean Convoys.

H.G. and S.L. Your 1546/27 H.G. and S.L. (S) convoys are both for ships which can maintain a speed of ~~7~~^{7½} knots in normal weather conditions. The slow speed of advance of some H.G. convoys is due to great effect of bad weather on the small ships comprising them. (D.T.D. 0107/2 to N.C.S.O. Freetown)

S.L. 62 Following ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Oban 0910/2)

H.G. 53 Ships and Destinations (V.A.C.N.A. 1243/2)

S.L. 62 Following ships arrived (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1538/2)

/H.X. 103.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayHOME COMMANDSShipping and ConvoysCoastal Convoys-Contd.

H.X. 103 Following arrived. (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1549/2)

S.L. 62 Following arrived (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1858/2)
H.X. 103

O.G.
Convoys Admty. 2017/21/12/40 slow ships for
North Atlantic and West Indies ports may
now also be included in O.G. Convoys.
Such ships are not to be detached from
the convoy until south of 50° N. (D.T.D.
1906/2)

Ø.C. 20 Meet. (C. in C., W.A., 1919/2 to
HARVESTER etc.)

B.H.X. 104 (D.T.D. 2204/2)

Military Convoys

W.S. 6. My 1932/1. Reformation in one group.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1526/2)

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayCASUALTIES & DEFECTSDESPINA

(Greek, 3016 tons) DESPINA asking for tug to enter Clyde with damaged rudder. (F.O.I.C., Greenock to Admty 0014/2)

ST. MELLONS

(tug) Refloated. (ST. MELLONS 0301/2)

Arrived 1010/2. (F.O.I.C., Harwich 1017/2)

WOOLER

My 1315/1. LYNCH with WOOLER in tow. Sailed at 0150/2. (N.C.S.O. Weymouth 0812/2)

NAROCZ(Polish, 1795tons)

Returned from S.C. 20 with engine trouble (N.C.S.O. Halifax N.S. 0825/2)

EMMY

(Greek, 3895 tons) Returned from S.C. 20 for repairs. (N.C.S.O. Halifax N.S. 0825/2)

CHURCHILL

E.T.A. Reykjavik 1630 B.S.T. today. Request repairs to Gyro and Magnetic compass before proceeding to join convoy. Degaussing cable and A/S equipment also broken. (CHURCHILL 0955/2 to F.O.Iceland)

PALLAETER
(Coaster)

(Belgian Coaster) Admty. 1323/13. For information. First begins:- ROSEMARY to C. in C., W.A. My position 055° 15' N., 005° 18' W. Have rescued crew of 5 from PALLAETER bound from Dublin to Ardrossan. She is derelict and drifting rapidly in S.E. direction. Suggest patrol vessels warn shipping. 2327/1 Ends. Second:- Keep sharp lookout. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2355/2 to WILD SWAN) Third: Endeavour to contact and warn shipping. Tug COCKSPUR has been ordered to proceed from Ardrossan. (F.O.I.C., Greenock 0104/2 to COILA) (F.O.I.C., Greenock, 1005/2 to Admty.)

JOHN BAKKE

Refloated and now in Rothesay Bay. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1151/2)

/CHULMLEIGH....

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayCASUALTIES & DEFECTS-Contd.CHULMLEIGH
(British, 5445
tons)

Aldergrove reports:- Aircraft reports CHULMLEIGH in 55° 45' N., 8° 25' W., at 1240/2. Destroyer standing by. When challenged, CHULMLEIGH made signal Londonderry reports me ashore. (F.O.I.C., Belfast 1450/2 to C. in C., W.A.,)

SALAMAUA

(British, 6676 tons) My position 1900 055° 32' N., 007° 21' W.

SALAMAUA damaged in collision in company. V.A. states leaks under control. Wish to proceed to make good 9 knots. Request instructions. (LONDONDERRY 1900/2)

Your 1900/ Continue in company of SALAMAUA. Trawler PENTLAND FIRTH will proceed with you off Belfast at 0800/3 approx. and escort her to Barry dock. When trawler joins return Londonderry. (C. in C., W.A., 2337/2 to LONDONDERRY)

HEIRE

(Norwegian, 807 tons) Sailed CAROLINE MOLLER to assist HEIRE. Lost propeller off Lands End. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1912/2)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.2.2.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.CASTILLO
ALMANSA.

Spanish CASTILLO ALMANSA sent in to Gibraltar. Sighted steering 225 Ceuta to Teneriffe. Boarded in 030° 30'N. 013° 20'W. at 1000/1. Ex STANCROFT.

Cargo of empty oil drums. No navicert. Speed 8 knots. Routed through 064° 10 miles Cape Spartel. Should arrive Gibraltar daylight Tuesday.
(MARSDALE 0800/2).Submarines.OTUS on patrol on surface Ponta Delgada. TUNA 044° N. 017° W. proceeding on surface to relieve OTUS speed 10 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1058/2).W/T Traffic.

F.O.C.N.A. 1102/2. See Operations Volume.

EMPIRE
TROOPER.

Date of sailing (F.O.C.N.A. 1334/2).

Discharge
of ships
at GibraltarConsiderable delays are being experienced in the discharge of ships at Gibraltar. In view of vital necessity for quick turn round of shipping request you will consider in conjunction with the Military and Shipping Authorities any arrangements that can be made to expedite matters.
(D.T.D. 1721/2 to F.O.C.N.A.).ORANGE LEAF.
ST. DAY.Recall Oiler ORANGE LEAF and Fleet Tug ST. DAY.
(S.O. Force H. 1835/2 to F.O.C.N.A.).Operations
"Picket" &
"Result".

M. 02438/41.

Operation ^{"Picket"}~~PICKET~~. 8 aircraft in attacking force experience heavy A.A. fire along approach valley and intense at target. Weather conditions bad overland. Three torpedoes probably hit dam. Results unobserved. One Swordfish failed to return.^{"Result"}~~Result~~ abandoned owing to heavy N.N.W. gale.
(S.O. Force H. 1922/2).

War Diary.

2.2.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

HAVKONG.

Overdue shipping cancel my 1006/1
HAVKONG arrived Durban.
(S.O.(I) Capetown 0910/2).

BRIDGEWATER.
towing
S.S. GOVERNOR.

Your 2055/1 Continue to tow to Lagos.
(C. in C. S.A. 0911/2 to BRIDGEWATER).

GOVERNOR
Cancel my 0911/2. Leave ~~Governor~~ at
Takoradi and proceed Lagos.
(C. in C. S.A. 1037/2 to BRIDGEWATER).

AFRICA
MARU.
Suspicious
Ship.

Re. S.O.(I) Capetown's 1210/1/2/41.
Ship's W/T log shows communications
received from NAUEN practically every other
day. The ship has also passed traffic to
NAUEN. Received on Frequencies on
0623Z/25/1 on 8300 kc/s, Simonstown
heard a ship JGJM (Unlisted) calling
AFRICA MARU bearing 285° Class 2. AFRICA
MARU replied bearing 265° Class 2, but no
traffic heard by us. These transmissions
were not recorded in the log under examin-
ation. It is suggested AFRICA MARU may
have been retransmitting raider signals
thus giving a false position by D/F bearings.
Ship is now being held at Capetown as
part of cargo is consigned by firms on
Statutory List. It might be possible
to photograph the W/T operators log with
a view to translation but this cannot
be done without suspicion of our motive.
Request immediate instructions.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1030B/2).

WEIR BANK.

Overdue Shipping. My 1011/1, WEIR BANK
arrived Capetown (S.O.I. Capetown 1117/2).

DELHI.

Departure 0900/2 DELHI in accordance with
C. in C. S.A. 1731/1. (S.O.(I) Freetown
1141/2).

/CAPETOWN.....

War Diary.2.2.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd).CAPETOWN.
CASTLE.

D. of S.T. 1744/27/1. CAPETOWN CASTLE proceeding Capetown not Durban. Adty 0303/22/1, 1000 tons bagged maize loaded Capetown October in lower holds now overstowed with military stores and 20 ton lift in number 2 hold. Ship estimates three days required discharge maize and reload stores.
(C. in C. S.A. 1321/2 to D. of S.T.).

DRAGON.

Departure 1800/2 DRAGON in accordance with C. in C. S.A.'s 1729N/1.
(S.O.(I) Freetown 1819N/2 to Admty).

Mediterranean.Reinforcements.

1st S.L. 0028/2, 0138/2. See Mediterranean Volume.

BANKURA.
BAMORA.
BARPETA.

^{NT in WD.}
Your 1508/1/2 Yes please.
(C. in C. Med 0753/2 to C. in C. E.I.).

R.C. of
Taranto etc.
M023897/40.

I.78 2/2. My 1.77 1/2.
Photos show following: Treat with reserve.
(H.Q. Med. 1030/2).

SANDICHIARA.

Attacked off Petzorai 30/1 (See Italian (S.O.(I) Alexandria 1143/2). Merchant Ships)

Mines exploded
in Suez Canal.
Valona bombed.

5 sweeps of Suez Canal by 2 Wellingtons exploded 3 mines laid by German aircraft night 29/30 Jan. between Ismailia and Bitter Lakes. R.C.'s reported 17 included 7 large ships Benghazi and Benina aerodrome almost deserted.
1/2 5 Blenheims bombed targets at Valona.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1226/2).

Suez Mining

My 1931/1. Aircraft exploded one mine in canal today between Geneffe and Shallufa Red Polarity. One additional unexploded mine discovered in same section in shallow water. Traffic delayed until this is dealt with.
(S.B.N.O. Suez 1902/2 to Admty etc).

/DORSETSHIRE.....

War Diary.

2.2.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (contd).

→ DORSETSHIRE
hospital
ship bombed.

Report details of bombings of Hospital ship DORSETSHIRE. (C. in C. Med 2017/2 to R.A. Alexandria).

Enemy Mines
→ DORSETSHIRE (H.S.)
bombed.
HUNTLEY sunk
UPHOLDER
Submarine
success.
S.S. DESMOULEA
torpedoed.

Situation report. Enemy minelaying activity by air developing. Anticipate Canal reopen to traffic 2/2. Mines believed magnetic laid 0630/1 at Sollum. Enemy air attacks also being made on Coastal traffic and Western Desert ports. Egyptian Transport Sollum carrying 746 prisoners attacked off Sidi Barrani 1830/31 and beached 11 prisoners killed 13 missing. Hospital ship DORSETSHIRE bombed at 1850/31 in Gulf of Sollum and again at 0630/1 in (Sollum, Sidi Barrani) some damage from near miss. HUNTLEY sunk 1800/31 30 miles West Mersa Matruh possibly by aircraft torpedoes no details yet. Clearance of Derna Harbour proceeding with raising the landing army supplies there 2/2. UPHOLDER sank 2 merchant ships 8000 and 5000 tons East coast Tunisia 0430/28 and 1620/30. Aircraft saw explosions in 10000 tons ship off Tripoli 29/1 still outside harbour 31. One heavily down by bows with lighters alongside. British tanker DESMOULEA carrying light oil to Greece torpedoed possibly by destroyer or E-boat in 035° 31'N. 025° 34'E. at 0400/31 towed to Suda Bay by DAINTY, cargo undamaged. (C. in C. Med., 2149/2).

DUISBURG,
German, 7389 tons
(G.D. 379)

Enemy Report.

From D/F bearings 2 Italian warships (All call sign 4 G Q and 9 G A) were in a position some 30 miles S.W. of Corfu at 1330 G.M.T./2. (Capt. O.S. Alexandria. 2210/2).

* DESMOULEA torpedoed by Italian T.B.
LUPO. (Italian information)

War Diary.

2.2.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

TROILUS's
raider
report
orders to
Force K.

Your 1440Z/1. In view of my 0103/30 and 1710/31 diversion of Force K. not approved as raider may be anywhere by the time Force K. gets to position of TROILUS. (1st S.L. 0027/2 to C. in C. E.I).

TROILUS
suspicious
ship report
cancelled.

My 1940/1 TROILUS Cancelled message in accordance with Adty message DV at 1345Z/2 It appears she was frightened of Dutch ship ALPHARD (German built). (C. in C. E.I. 1056/2).

Operation by Force
K.

Re Adty 0027/2 proceed now to Aden so as to arrive A.M./5 Mogadishu Sweep is cancelled. (C. in C. E.I. 0056Z/2 to ?S.O. Force K).

S.O. Force K. 0225Z/2 C. in C. E.I. 0248Z/2, 0442Z/2 See Operations Volume. Operation completed (S.O. Force K. 2055Z/2) See Operations Volume.

CARLISLE,
defect.

CARLISLE has reported lower half of starboard "A" Bracket Bush missing. Being sailed for docking Bombay. (C. in C. E.I. 0812/2).

SHROPSHIRE.

My 0830Z/1 total cases 124 Epidemic dying down. Details. (SHROPSHIRE 1000Z/2).

Force T.

My 0738/30/1. As it is desirable for force T. to operate on trade route as soon as possible, intend ENTERPRISE to escort W.S.5A. to latitude of Port Sudan only, then return to Aden (corrupt group) and as soon as convenient be sailed to Mombasa. Presume suitable escort can be provided for W.S.5A to Suez. (C. in C. E.I. 1200Z/2 to S.N.O. Red Sea).

/S.S. JARAGOLA.....

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

East Indies-Contd.

^K
SS ZARAGOLA
Raider Report

995. (1) British ship ^KZARAGOLA made a Q distress signal at 1020 G.M.T./2 in 001° 36' S., 049° 59' E.
(2) Message was cancelled by G.R.Z.M. at 1155 G.M.T. 2nd used Q.T.A. Transmitter believed same as at 1020 report. (C. in C., E.I., 1236Z/2)

Ship sighted was CAPETOWN,(see 1824/4)

My 1236/2. Ship cancelled route instructions in accordance with Admty. Message D.V. at 1300 G.M.T./2. (C. in C., E.I. 1326/2)

Your 1236Z/2 and my 1949/14/12 to G.B.M.S. Are you satisfied as to genuineness of cancellation. (D.S.O., 1933/2 to C. in C., E.I.)

CAPETOWN,
orders.

2. Proceed to Port Victoria Seychelles so as to arrive about 0600Z/4. (C. in C., E.I., 1750Z/2)

ALEXANDRE
ANDRE

Belgian tanker. Re using (D.T.D. 1720/2 to R.A. Malaya)

Kismayu

Photographic R.C. of Kismayu shows 16 ships on 30/1. (C. in C., E.I., 1936Z/2, to Admty.)

America & West Indies

Suspicious
Ship reported
by GLOUCESTER
CITY

The following has been read. QQQQ 51 45 N 41 29 W GLOUCESTER CITY suspicious vessel closing. (Lands End Radio 0034/2)

GLOUCESTER CITY 51.45 N., 41.16 W. Cancel my QQQQ 0034/2 Vessel has disappeared from sight ends. (Valentia Radio 0139/2, GLOUCESTER CITY T.O.R. 0240/2, 0252/2)

BRASIL

Your 1157/25/1. Following reply was sent to Fairmiss 1210/25- local agents report ship diverted from Bahrein Island to Galveston, E.T.A. early in February. (Galveston, 0955/2)

/LAUREANT MEADS.....

War Diary

2.2.1941.
Sunday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies-Contd.

LAUREANT MEADS

My 1513/29 (Belgian ship LAUREANT MEADS, aground in Kingston Harbour) Examination by divers revealed no damage. Cargo re-loaded intact and ship sailed 1/2 for Halifax convoy. (N.O.I.C., Kingston, 1205/2)

Bermuda
Contraband
Examination

Your 1945/30. Examination and detention of passengers in ships and aircraft calling at Bermuda has always been a function of Colonial Government and is exercised by custom officers on authority of Governor, who states he is unable to allow control to leave his hands. Colonial Office telegram No 12 of 4/1 only authorises Naval control in ships which are brought in or come in solely for contraband control. Suggest Admiralty confer with Colonial Office with a view to issuing instructions to all colonies where contraband control bases are or will be established. Following points should be made clear. Propose all communication from Imperial Government on these subjects to be sent through Admiralty to C. in C., America & West Indies at Bermuda or N.O.I/C at other ports. (C. in C., A.W.I., 1244/2 to Admty.)
See Page 313. 9.3.41.

Raider
Report

Surface raider reported in position 033° 55' N., 030° 05' W., at 0320/1 (F.O.S. 1313/2 to TUNA)

CHRISTIAN HOLM
SCANDIA

My 1825/7. Sparks reports CHRISTIAN HOLM and SCANDIA sailed either p.m./1st or today and that British Consul has kept you informed. Route as in your 1631/8 speed 7 to 8 knots. (D.T.D. 1830/2 to C. in C., A.W.I.)

Australia

SS SUVA

Your 1826/29/1. SUVA departed Noumea 2/2 due Vila 3/2. (A.C.N.B. 0754/2 to Admty.)

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayGERMAN MERCHANT SHIPSPORTLAND

PORTLAND which left Talcahuano at 0220Z/30, has 14 days fuel but this cannot be relied upon and ship may be proceeding Eastwards or Westwards. (C. in C., A.W.I., 1222/2 to Admty., etc.)

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPSSANDICHIARAAttackedESTERINAALBACHIARAGIUSEPPE DORMIO* GIUSEPPE DORMIO

Split reports:- Master of Yugo-Slavian vessel reports having observed SANDICHIARA (Sicilian) attacked off Petrovac afternoon 30/1 with 2 torpedoes but both missed. She is now at Bar (?Banare) C. 2. (See page 268) Following are now at Dubrovnik loading:- ESTERINA, ALBACHIARA and *GIUSEPPE DORMIO, Collier motor schooner also there loading for San Giovanni. (S.O.(I) Alexandria 1143/2)

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPSSONTAY,
Escort.

Your 2105/31/1 and 2256/29/1. With concurrence of S.N.O. Free French have approved SAVORGAN DE BRAZZA escorting SONTAY from Durban to Simonstown. My 2131/31/1 suggest if not required for other duty she should escort to Freetown if desired to send ship there. (C. in C., S.A., 2037/2 to Admty.)

MENDOZA

My 2357/1. MENDOZA's cargo as follows (list) (C. in C., S.A., 2355/2, to Admty.)

Following passengers are Air France staff recalled to France. Wish to proceed to Canada. (C. in C., S.A., 2359/2)

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayU-BOAT CAMPAIGNShips AttackedW.B.WALKER

Forepart of W.B.WALKER should be sunk. Make every endeavour to find and salve after part. (Adml. Devonport, 0029/2 to ASSURANCE)

Re my 2159/1 and 0029/2 W.B. WALKER broken in half in 055° 59' N., 015° 51' W., on 29/1. ST OLAVES and ASSURANCE searching for after-part which was reported salvable position of fore-part 055° 27' N., 016° 28' W., at 2159/1. (C. in C., W.A., 1047/2 to ANEMONE)

Have carried out widespread search in company with ~~SAINT~~ OLAVES including position given by G 22 for after part of W.B.WALKER without result my position 055° 20' N., 015° 20' W., 045° 4 knots. (ASSURANCE 2000/2 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)

EMMAPLEIN

Air search under favourable weather conditions has failed to locate EMMAPLEIN which has probably sunk. Further search will be carried out 3/2. (A.C.O.S. 1817/2)

EMPIRE CITIZEN

Following has been read. 58 R 12 N 23 R 22W EMPIRE CITIZEN torpedoed by S/M. (Lyness 2359/2)
British, 4684 tons, a straggler from Convoy O.B. 279 (D.O.R. 3/2)

Submarines Reported0900/29
1730/29

Captain E.C. Marsden survivor ex URLA reports whilst in boat 0900/29/1 approx. 054° 54' N., 019° 00' W., sighted two enemy submarines and at 1730 sighted another submarine heading west. (N.C.S.O. Oban 1510/2)

1339

By D/F at 1339 B.S.T. Position of German Unit, possibly U/B was approx. 53° N., 20° W. Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C., 1419/2)

/1512.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary2.2.1941.
SundayU-BOAT CAMPAIGNSubmarines Reported-Contd.

1512

At 1512 by D.F. enemy submarine in 062° N
003° W. (F.O.S/M's 1646/2 to s/m's area A)Estimated
U-Boat
DispositionsGerman: 1 within 150 miles of 58° N., 20° W
possibly 1 within 60 miles of 55° 30' N.,
21° W.

1 within 60 miles of 54° 30' N., 17° 30' W

1 within 60 miles of 53° 30' N., 21° 30' W

possibly 1 within 100 miles of 49° 30' N.,
27° W.

1 South of Ireland homeward bound.

1 to N.E. of Azores.

No news from Cape Verde area

Italian: No news from Canaries area

1 in Bay of Biscay patrolling

1 about 46° N., 5° W., bound for Gironde

1 in N.W. Approaches whereabouts unknown.

(D.D.I.C., 1315/2)

U-Boat Dispositions. German one South
of Ireland homeward bound Italian one in
Bay of Biscay patrolling one in about 046°
N., 005° W., bound Gironde. (F.O.S., 1534/2
to S/M's Area B.)

War Diary

3.2.1941.
Monday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Owing to the weather, A.P. vessels off Brightlingsea and Harwich sheltered in harbour tonight.

Very incomplete air reconnaissance today failed to locate the HIPPER ~~class~~ (cruiser) at Brest.

CRISPIN
Sunk

M.03290/41.

CRISPIN (Ocean boarding vessel- Special A.A.Vessel) was torpedoed and sunk tonight in the N.W. Approaches.

British Air Activity

Bad weather caused patrols in the southern half of the North Sea to be curtailed today.

Seven Hampdens out of 12 despatched, succeeded last night in attacking the estimated position of the HIPPER class cruiser at Brest, and one of the seven aircraft also attacked Cherbourg. Projected operations by 105 other bombers were cancelled owing to bad weather on the Continent.

Enemy Air Activity

Steam trawler ARCTIC TRAPPER was bombed and sunk off Ramsgate this morning.

SS DIONE II a straggler from S.C. 20 was bombed in the N.W. Approaches this afternoon.

War Diary3.2.1941.
MondaySITUATION REPORTMiningEnemy Mining

M.02623/41.

Hostile aircraft chased by our fighters dropped mines in the Thames Estuary this afternoon. A total of 28 enemy aircraft are suspected of minelaying in the Estuary this afternoon. Convoy F.S. 1 was machine gunned in the Thames Approaches this morning by an aircraft which dropped mines.

M/S trawler SOUTHERN CHIEF was damaged by the fifth mine which she detonated off Milford Haven today. M.A/S Boat 12 was also damaged by a mine in the area.

Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff and Barry were closed this evening and ships are not to sail from Swansea to the eastward. Aircraft minelaying between 1950 and 2200 hours is suspected.

SS CALYX (212 tons) was damaged by a mine off Liverpool today but reached port.

British Mining

One Hampden laid a mine off Lorient last night.

Operation E.A has been postponed for the present.

MOST SECRETWar Diary3.2.1941.
MondaySITUATION REPORTOperations Against Vichy FrenchOperation
"Ration"

M-02012/4).

Admty. 1036/3 outlines the policy of H.M. Govt. towards French ships.

MediterraneanMining of
Suez Canal.

Further mines were dropped in the Suez Canal today. An unexploded mine was counter mined this morning and shipping started moving from Bitter Lake to Suez. SS. DERWENT HALL was mined this afternoon and is obstructing shipping. It is hoped to get her alongside the bank so that traffic can proceed tomorrow.

Air Attack
on Castel Benito

Last night, 7 Wellingtons from Malta dropped over 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs on the aerodrome at Castel Benito (Tripoli), destroying at least 7 aircraft on the ground and damaging hangars.

East Indies

C. in C., E.I. 0058Z/3 making proposals regarding burning of navigation lights on the station.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Stornoway
Sub-Command.

It has been decided to transfer Stornoway sub-command from the Orkneys and Shetlands command to the W.A. command, When the new commands described in 65 AZ 61 AK of 26/1 are brought into force.

2. The northern limit of the Western Approaches Command, and of the Stornoway sub-command, will be a line drawn from Cape Wrath to a position 180° 10 miles from Portland (Dyrholae), Iceland, and thence to Cape Farewell, Greenland. This will be the southern limit of the Orkney and Shetland Command.

3. The Western Limit of the Western Approaches command will be the line drawn from Cape Farewell, Greenland to position 57° 43'N., 30° W and thence along the meridian of 30° W.

4. The Iceland sub-command will remain in the Orkney and Shetlands Command.

To Authorities at Home only.

5. It is hoped any small inconveniences that the above division entails will be accepted without further amendments being proposed.

(A.C.N.S. (H) 0030/3 "A" Mge.)

Warships
entering
Eire
territorial
waters.

If any ship flying White Ensign is likely to enter Eire territorial waters Admty. should if possible be informed in Advance.

(D.N.I. 2012/3).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Defence of United Kingdom."Deluge"
DELUGE.At 2330/2. (D.C. 0008/3).
At 1130/3. (D.C.1158/3).
At 2330/3. (D.C.2359/3).Defence of
Orkneys and
Shetlands.287. My 1615/31/1. (See Operations Volume). para.2 second sentence I consider I should be responsible for items (a) to (e) in para 2 of the annexe the two notes being deleted.
(A.C.O.S. 1150/3).Movements.FITZROY.
WILD SWAN.
ANEMONE.Return to Londonderry.
(C.in C. W.A. 0035/3).MINNIE DE
LARRINAGA.Sailing MINNIE DE LARRINAGA postponed, further 24 hours owing unsuitable weather.
(C.in C. Nore 0932/3).BROADWATER.On completion of oiling anchor in Mumbles Bay until further orders.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 0958/3).PHOEBE
EDINBURGH.

C.in C. H.F. 1041/3. See Operations Volume.

Patrols
Sheltering.Patrols proceeding to alternative positions for shelter.
(N.O.I.C. Brighlingsea 1105/3).Trawler
lines
tonight.4 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1551/3).Patrols
Sheltering.All Patrol sheltering in harbour for night.
(N.O.I.C. Brightlingsea 1650/3).

* This is in error. FITZROY had only just arrived at Sheerness (29 Jan 41) for extensive repairs after being mined off Harwich

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. (Contd.)

All A/P vessels sheltering in harbour
owing weather conditions.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1943/3).

Operations.

Attack on
certain
German
M/V's.

Asking whether URGE can be used.
(F.O.S. 1533/3 to A.C.C.S.) See Operations
Volume.

Submarines.TUNA.

Tuna proceeding to Azores, position
0800/3 044° 06'N., 016° 44'W.
(C.in C. W.A. 1103/3 to LEITH, ROCHESTER).

SNAPPER
→ TRIBUNE.

SNAPPER to remain in North Zone eastern
sector from 1200/5 to 1200/8. TRIBUNE
report if she will not be North of 047°
48' by 0800/8.
(Capt: (S) 2 1128/3).

→ TRIBUNE,
LA MOQUEUSE
TIGRIS.

TRIBUNE to leave patrol 6/2 (route)
R/V with L.A. MOQUEUSE (position) 0815/9.
Lights T.B.R. Position of TIGRIS.
(Capt: 'S) 2 1129/3).

Positions.

At 0800/4.
(F.O.S. 1617/3).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.Patrols.

Additional Patrols being flown today.
S.A.1.A. S.A.2. both a.m. A/S patrols
of Minches 0900 to 1745.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0920/3).

S.B.R.
T.B.R.

Request submerged bombing restrictions
30 miles either side of a line from
059° N., 023° W. through 049° N., 011° W.
to 056° 47' N., 007° 57' W. from 0900/5
to 1930/8 and total bombing restrictions
within 20 miles of 056° 47' N., 007° 57' W.
from 0001/9 to 1400/9.
(Capt:(S) 2 1007/3).

Brest.

Available aircraft No.53 and 217
Squadrons attack tonight 3rd/4th Feb.
cruiser in dry dock at Brest. Bombs
500 lb. S.A.P.
(H.Q.C.C. 1225/3, 1250/3).

British
aircraft
fired on at
Lowestoft.

Your 0014/26. N.O.I.C. Lowestoft now
reports spotters say Wellington A/C was
flying S.E. 800 feet with undercarriage
up and fire ceased from ships upon firing
of recognition signals.
(C.in C. Nore 1300/3).

Standing
Patrols.

Add Patrol Bailey (details) to my
0002/1/1.
(C.in C. Rosyth 2240/3. See Summaries
folder.

S.S.
LANRICK.

Aircraft reports one merchant ship
in position Z.G.M.Q. 1241 at 1020 course
310 degrees. Identify this ship.
(A.C.O.S. 1315/3 to N.O.I.C. Faroes).

*See next page.*S.S. LANRICK

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (Contd.)S.S. LANRICKYour 1315/3. Ship identified S.S. LANRICK
(N.O.I.C. Faroes 1748/3).Enemy Air Activity.BARON
RENFREW.
(Bombed
28/1).Tugs ASSURANCE and ST. OLAVES, and
SHEMARA are to be recalled, diverting
one to assist TENACITY with BARON
RENFREW if necessary.
(C.in C. W.A. 0037/3 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).Return to Campbeltown.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0107/3 to ASSURANCE,
SHEMARA).Connected with BARON RENFREW at 1400 in
055° 02'N., 011° 34'W. proceeding at
approx. 5 knots.
Men off TENACITY with 6 volunteers off
CANDYTUFT on board BARON RENFREW.
Chief Officer TENACITY reports unexploded
bomb on board otherwise little damaged.
(TENACITY 1530/3).My 0111/3. TENACITY towing BARON
RENFREW in position 055° 02'N., 011° 34'W
making 5 knots at 1400/today. CANDYTUFT
in company.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2022/3 to ST. OLAVES.)OLYMPIER
Survivors.My 1447/2. Keep good look-out for this
life-boat.
(C.in C. W.A. 0931/3 to ANEMONE, SHEMARA,
CANDYTUFT).GRELROSA.Arrived VOLUNTEER with 31 survivors
from GRELROSA.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0940/3).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)OLYMPIER
BARON
RENFREW.Arrived rescue ship TOWARD with 20 survivors from OLYMPIER and 12 from BARON RENFREW.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1044/3).ARCTIC
TRAPPER
(Steam
Trawler)
Sunk.ARCTIC TRAPPER sunk by bomb in approx. position 090° 3 miles from Ramsgate Pier Head. Fear no survivors.
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1000/3).ARCTIC TRAPPER attacked by plane with under-carriage, which dropped one bomb scoring direct hit amidships. Ship sank in 2 minutes, 3 survivors. Topmasts showing at low water 3½ miles 090° from Ramsgate Pier Head.
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1250/3).WAZIRISTAN
(Bombed
2/2).WAZIRISTAN in position 061° 04' N., 012° 09' W. Weather calm. HAVELOCK parting company.
(HAVELOCK 1101/3).Sunderland aircraft being sent to direct tug and act as A/S escort over ship 0930, E.T.A.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0242/3 to HAVELOCK).My 0242/3. Aircraft delayed by weather.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0546/3 to HAVELOCK).HAVELOCK's 1101/3. BANDIT cannot arrive in position till 2200/3 at earliest. Consider destroyer will be necessary to protect BANDIT and WAZIRISTAN and assist in making contact.
(A.C.O.S. 1241/3 to C.in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)WAZIRISTAN
(bombed 2/2)
Contd.

Detail one corvette to escort WAZIRISTAN reported in position 061° 04'N., 012° 09' W. at 1101/3 presumably stopped. BANDIT should meet about midnight tonight. (C.in C. W.A. 1603/3 to ARROW).

Your 1241/3. As HAVELOCK is required for Convoy O.B.A. ARROW is being ordered to detach one Corvette to escort WAZIRISTAN. (C.in C. W.A. 16D7/3 to A.C.O.S.)

Your 1603. Do not anticipate meeting WAZIRISTAN until 0900/4. (BANDIT 1900/3 to C.in C. W.A.)

Cancel my 1603 DOUGLAS is being sent to escort WAZIRISTAN. Corvette detached is to rejoin convoy. (C.in C. W.A. 1939/3 to ARROW).

GCZA WAZIRISTAN damaged by enemy aircraft and stopped in position 061° 04'N., 012° 09'W. at 1100/3.

Fleet tug BANDIT proceeding to assistance. Position at noon/3 059° 24'N., 006° 55' 56' W. Course 316° 7.5 knots. Proceed give protection to WAZIRISTAN and BANDIT. (C.in C. H.F. 2108/3 to DOUGLAS).

Correct my 2108 for WAZIRISTAN read WAZIRISTAN. Word before course. 006° 56'W. (C.in C. H.F. 2221/3 to DOUGLAS).

1 (one) Sunderland will patrol near WAZIRISTAN from daylight 4th until about 1600/4. (C.in C. Rosyth 2256/3).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)WAZIRISTAN
(bombed 2/2)
Cont:Your 2102/3. Am proceeding. E.T.A.
1800/4.
(DOUGLAS 2352/3 to C.in C. H.F.)Am standing by disabled WAZIRISTAN
until tugs arrive.
(LORD MIDDLETON 2357/3).Ramsgate
bombed.At 0905 today single enemy aircraft
dropped salvo of 4 H.E. bombs on
Ramsgate. Damage. (No naval casualties.)
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1150/3).DIONE II
(2660 tons
bombed).~~M~~ DIONE ~~3500~~^{II} 55.40
N. 14.23 W. bombed.
(Valentia Radio 1538/3 Port Patrick
1542/3, F.O.I.C. Belfast 1545/3).Cancel my 0107/3 proceed forthwith to
assist S.S. DIONE^{II} in 55° 40'N., 14° 23'W
at 1648/today.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1718/3 to ASSURANCE.)R.C. A/C
over
Firth of
Forth.Your 1547/30, and Admty. 1622/2. Request
approx. heights of aircraft reported
may be stated. Technicians at Fighter
Command now examining your report.
(D. of L.D. 2050/3 to C.in C. Rosyth).Mining.Aircraft
Mining in
Thames
Approaches.One enemy aircraft machine gunned convoy
laid parachute mine in position 051 47'N10"
001 28' 42" East second mine broke
adrift from parachute and probably dropped
approx. one mile N.W. of this position.
(WOOLSTON 0928/3).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)A/c Mining in
Thames Approaches
cont:

Following has been read. LAP 321.
One enemy aircraft bearing 321° from
EREBUS and EGLINTON in position 51° 45'N.,
10.26'E.
(EREBUS 1333/3).

Mines dropped 012 B.6 buoy 2 miles at
1345.
(EREBUS 1352/3).

My 1352. Mines were dropped by Hostile
Aircraft being chased by fighters.
(EREBUS 1404/3).

M/S 6 reports parachute mine dropped
position 234 B.8 1.4 miles.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 0936/3).

Milford
Haven,
SOUTHERN
CHIEF,
damaged.

Cancel my 1810/2. Trawler fitted with
S.A. gear detonated 5 mines this morning
the last one putting her out of action.
Approach Channel not yet been cleared.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1108/3).
Details of mines.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1725/3).

My 1108/3. Trawler SOUTHERN CHIEF will
be out of action for probably four days.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1751/3).

Western
Approaches.

Owing to presence of shallow mines in
Admty Mge. QZY 174 motor launches and
motor gunboats are only entering this
area for rescue work or if specially
ordered.
(C.in C. W.A. 1217/3).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Harwich.

Ground mine exploded 900 yds. astern of L.L.Drifter pulsing $51^{\circ} 55'N.$, $1^{\circ} 21.7E.$ Two destroyers half mile distant. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1253/3).

Sweeping Programme.

Request Fighter protection. For HARRIER and GASSAMER. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1253/3 to C.in C. Nore).

Operation S.N.7.

My 1027/2. NIGERIA is to R/V with R.A.M.L. at 1000/5 in position $059^{\circ} 39' N.$, $007^{\circ} 34' W.$ (C.in C. H.F. 1334/3 to R.A.M.L. NIGERIA).

Operation E.A.

Not now possible for mines to be laid during dark period, if Force is to be well clear of coast by daylight. Intend to postpone operation for the present and sail INTREPID and IMPULSIVE for Immingham. (C.in C. H.F. 1426/3).

Operation S.N.68.

Proposals. (R.A.M.L. 1428/3) See Operations Volume.

M A/S B.12 damaged.

Motor A/S boat 12 damaged by mine, extent of damage unknown at present, vessel is still afloat. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1544/3).

ALMOND (sunk 2/2). Milford Haven.

List of Survivors. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1546/3).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Operation
B.S.50.

Expect A/S escort 1 Hudson during daylight hours also fighter escort 2 Blenheims from daylight to 1500 tomorrow Tuesday.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1946/3 to TEVIOT BANK, MEYNELL).

Bristol
Channel.

Owing to suspected mine laying no ships are to leave Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff or Barry and no ships are to sail from Swansea to eastwards.
Incoming traffic is to anchor westward of Breaksea. Ships are not to enter Barry Roads.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 2116/3).

Enemy Intelligence.ADMIRAL HIPPER
(cruiser) at
Brest.

Very incomplete R.C. of Brest today failed to locate ^{ADMIRAL} HIPPER class (cruiser).
(D.D.I.C. 2155/3 to C.in C. H.F.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.Coastal
Convoys.

- F.N.99. VORTIGERN sails as escort to F.N.99 at 0900/3.
(C.in C. Nore 0002/3). *See below p. 51*
- F.S. 2.402 12 ships.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0937/3).
- E.N.66. (a) 0730/3. (b) H.M.T.'s STELLA CAPELLA, ST. APOLLO, extra escort H.M.T. CELIA additional escort JASON. (c) 34 ships, 20 with kites.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 0939/3).
- 9 M/V's. Request fighter protection.
(a) as in my 2141/2. (b) 1530/3 to dusk and daylight 4th to dusk. (c) Cover (d) as in my 2141/2.
(N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 0957/3 to H.Q.C.C. H.Q.F.C. etc.)
- F.N.99. Postponed 24 hours, weather.
(C.in C. Nore 1010/3). *See above p. 51*
- F.N.66. List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1022/3).
- W.N.79. List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Clyde 1037/3).
- F.N.96. Tyne ships arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 1041/3).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

- W.N.78. Arrived 1030/3.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1058/3).
- E.N.65. Loch Ewe section arrived 1050/3.
6 Ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1102/3).
- O.B.280. To keep clear of possible U/Boat in
056° 00'N., 021° 00'W. O.B.280 steer
direct for 056° 10' 025° 00'.
(C.in C. W.A. 1115/3 to HARVESTER for Cdre.
PHILANTE, ARBUTUS, ERICA, CAMELIA)
- O.B.A. Disperse in 026° 00'W., (C.in C. W.A.
1123/3 to HAVELOCK for Cdre, HESPERUS).
- O.B.281. Loch Ewe section 1120/3. Eight ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1131/3).
- F.S.3.403. My 1308/1/2 SNAPDRAGON will form
additional escort for F.S.3. from the
Outer Dowsing.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1140/3).
- E.N.67. Act as additional A/A escort to E.N.
W.N.80. 67 sailing at 2130/4. On meeting transfer
to W.N.80 due Cape Wrath 0500/6 and
Duncansby 1530/6. Code word for E.N.67
"Usage" ~~USAGE~~ and for W.N.80 ~~MUTUAL~~ "Mutual".
(C.in C. Rosyth 1215/3 to FOWEY).
- O.G.M.52. 1730/4 DERBY COUNTY, three.
(N.C.S.O. Milford Haven 1220/3).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

Western Channel night report.
 9 Merchant Vessels A/S Trawlers LORD
 ESSENDEN and CORNELIAN Falmouth to
 Dartmouth E.T.A. 0'30. One Tanker, A/S
 Trawler RUBY, Holyhead to Dartmouth
 E.T.A. 0900. 9 Merchant Vessels
 A/S Trawlers KINGSTON ANDALUSITE and
 VICTRIX Dartmouth to Hartland, leave 1630
 etc. 7 M/V's, unescorted, various
 destinations.
 (C.in C. W.A. 1335/3).

Code
Words.

A.F.O. S2/41. Add to list on convoys
 Loch Ewe portions of HX, OB and WN
 Convoys. Code words ^{"Survey"} SURVEY, ^{"Reason"} REASON, ^{"Reason"} REASON,
 "Office" OFFICE and call signs MHA, MHG, MHP
 respectively. These portions of above
 convoys and EN convoys will be known
 by the convoy letters followed by U e.g.
 WNU Convoy.
 (D.S.D. 1351/3 "A" Message Home).

O.B.279.
incorrect
routeing.

Study of routes given to ships OB.279
 after dispersal shows following ships were
 not routed in accordance with A.M.2235/12
 /40. ALHENA and EMPIRE CITIZEN routed
 by Liverpool, HOPE/RANGE routed by Oban
 and STANMORE routed by Belfast. As a
 result of this careless routeing a
 valuable ship has been torpedoed. Written
 report is to be rendered by N.C.S.O's
 Liverpool, Belfast and Oban as to why
 A.M.2235/19/12/40 was not complied with.
 (D.T.D. 1405/3).

F.N.99.
F.N.100.

Intend to sail F.N.100 (fast) escorts
 VANITY and VORTIGERN at 0900/4 immediately
 followed by F.N.99 (slow) escorts
 HOLDERNESS and WOOLSTON. If weather
 too bad for slow ships in ballast to
 sail tomorrow intend to cancel F.N.99
 and order HOLDERNESS and WOOLSTON to
 return to Rosyth with F.N.100.
 (C.in C. Nore, 1430/3).

MOST SECRET.3.2.1941.
Monday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

- O.B.O.282. 0830/4/2. Escort AY^RSHIRE. One ship
S.S. SURAT.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1603/3).
- Sailed 1625/3. 7 ships 9 knots, 3 ships
with kites.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey 1640/3).
- W.N.79 (0) Sailed 1430/3. Escort H.M.T. NOTTS
COUNTY, 8 ships (3 kites).
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1801/3).
- F.S.1.400. Arrived all ships.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1809/3).
- O.B.282. Escort for O.B.282. HEATHER from
Liverpool, GEORGETOWN, ANTELOPE, ANTHONY,
ACHATES, PICOT^{EE}, SNOWDROP, LADY MADELINE,
from Clyde and AYRSHIRE from Oban.
(Capt: D., Greenock 1914/3 to C.in C. W.A.)
- E.N.66. E.T.A. Duncansby Head 0730/4 speed of
advance 7.5 knots.
(STELLA CAPELLA, 2000/3).
- 8 M/Vs. Intend sailing at 1700/4 8 merchant vessels
including one large tanker via St.
Catherines E.T.A. Nab 0830/5 escorting
A/S trawler ST. CATHAN and CAPE COMORIN.
(N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 2004/3).
- F.S.3.403 Sailed 2300/3. 30 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 2322/3).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Ocean
Convoys.

- BHX.108. BHX.108. List and destinations.
(Navy Control, Bermuda, 1201/3).
- HX.107. Sailing telegram.
(S.C.N.O. Halifax, 1451/3).
- H.X.102. Delayed by heavy weather and large
alteration in route.
URLA straggler sunk by torpedo,
remaining ships now arrived.
(D.T.D. 1646/3 to N.S.H.q. Ottawa). (959).
- S.L.63. Extract from sailing telegram as amended
by Admiralty (D.T.D. 1835/3).
Latest Q.Z.S. received before sailing
No.203. Ends.
(D.T.D. (723) 1835/3).
- HX.104. Sunderland will make landfall at daylight
at Faroes then proceed to escort HX.104
until 1400. Provided aircraft locates
convoy a second Sorties will be sent to
reach convoy as soon after 1500 as
possible and escort till dark.
(C.in C. Rosyth 2204/3 to CHURCHILL, ARROW,
HOLLYHOCK, AUBRETIA.)
- HX.105. Expect A/S Air escort throughout daylight
4th first 2 sorties by 37 Hudson aircraft
third sortie by Whitley aircraft.
(C.in C. Rosyth 2246/3 to WITCH
MONTGOMERY, WILD SWAN, CAMPANULA, PIMPERNEL,
PERIWINKLE).
- HX.105. Meet. (List)
(C.in C. S.A. 2257/3 to WITCH, CAMPANULA,
MONTGOMERY, PIMPERNEL, WILD SWAN, PERIWINKLE.)

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Military
Convoys,
W.S.6.

CITY OF MARSEILLES, sailing date
(D.S.T.O, Liverpool 0940/3.)
See Operations Volume. Re escort.
(C. in C. H.F. 1117/3, 1502/3,
1341/3.) See Operations Volume. *Page 63,*
3.2.41.

MOST SECRET.3. 2. 41.
Monday.War Diary.CASUALTIES & DEFECTS.FAME.

My 1744/1. Sailing postponed on account of weather. SHELDRAKE at Sunderland. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0937/3.)

H.M.T.
HELIER II.

H.M.T. HELIER II on proceeding to sea today collided with L.M.S. Wharf, Larne Harbour, damage was done to wharf. (N.O.I.C. Larne 1500/3.)

S.S.EIBERGEN.

F.S.93. S.O.(I) Rosyth reports Yr.1736/2 EIBERGEN ran ashore off Sunderland. She is now in Sunderland Harbour. T.O.R. 2035/2. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1520/3)

A/P Drifter
MIDAS sunk.

Regret to report loss of MIDAS as result of collision at 0530/today with drifter GIRL GLADYS, who was patrolling in company in Dungeness East Roads. Dungeness S.S. reported sighting MIDAS still afloat at daylight but search of area has been unsuccessful. Crew taken off without casualty. (V.A. Dover 1637/3.)

S.S.VANCOUVER.

Damaged in Loch Long requires immediate assistance. (TORBAY 1800/3.)

S.S.HEIRE.

Arrival 1755. Rescue Tug CAROLINE MOLLER towing S.S.HEIRE.(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1820/3.

3. 2. 1941.Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.Operation
"Ration".

Your No. 1/3 of 1/1. Policy of H.M.G. re violation of territorial waters and use of force. (Hd. of M., 1036/3, to F.O.C. Force H.) See Operations Volume.

RESOLUTION.

My 1919/27 and F.O.C. N.A's 1758/30. RESOLUTION will be refitted at Portsmouth. F.O.C. N.A, requested to sail her for that port, passing South of Ireland. (Route.) (D.O.D.(H) 1206/3, to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A.) My 1206/3. Code Word "Parts". (D.O.D. (H) 1231/3.)

Azores
Patrol,
OTUS,
TUNA.

Position of S/M's at 0800/4 and movements for 24 hours. OTUS on patrol off Ponta Delgada. TUNA 041° 00' N. 020° 00' W., proceeding on surface to relieve OTUS speed ten knots. (F.O.C.N.A. 1312/3.)

Information. American EXCALIBUR left Lisbon 31/1 Bermuda. American ANDREW JACKSON left Santander 31/1 for Baltimore. TUNA from U.K. is proceeding East San Miguel, to relieve you arriving on patrol A.M./6. (Capt. S.S, 1316/3, to OTUS.)

Spain.

Liaison delegation for Gibraltar (D.N.I. 1622/3 to N.A. Madrid.)

Air Report.

Daily Summary Operations. Flying curtailed owing to weather. (200 Group, 1700/3.)

/ST. LINDSAY.....

3. 2. 1941.
Monday.

War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic Contd.

ST. LINDSAY,
Raider
report.

20 miles South St. Michaels Azores
ST. LINDSAY attacked by raider.
(ST. LINDSAY, 2335/3.)

Cancel my RRR 2335/3. (ST. LINDSAY.
0103/4.) ST. LINDSAY, British,
5370 tons, was ex-Convoy O.B.235.
(D.O.R. 4/2.)

South Atlantic.

French
Brigade.

F.O.C.N.A. 1334/2. Proposal in my
2153/31 no longer possible. Free
French suggestion for alternative
ships. (C. in C. S.A., 0145/3, to
Admty.) See Operations Volume.

NORFOLK.
DEVONSHIRE.
DORSETSHIRE.

Arrivals 0700/3, F.O.C. 1st. C.S. in
NORFOLK with DEVONSHIRE; 0730,
DORSETSHIRE. (S.O.I). Freetown, 0925N/3,
to Admty.)

COMMANDANT
DOMINE,
COMMANDANT
DUBOC.

My 1336/30. COMMANDANT DOMINE
should if ready accompany COMMANDANT
DUBOC. (D.O.D.(F) 1101/3 to C. in
C. S.A.)

POLYDORUS
LISBETH.
TUNISIA
MADURA.

Overdue shipping. Following not
arrived. Dutch ship POLYDORUS, Oban
14/1, due Freetown 28/1, Norwegian
Ship LISBETH, Milford Haven, 8/1
due Freetown 29/1, British Ships
TUNISIA, Milford Haven 8/1, due 29/1,
MADURA, Mersey, 12/1 due Freetown 30/1.
(Dummy) (S.O.I). Freetown, 1118/3,
to Admty.)

/Flying.....

Note. - South Atlantic continued on pp. 99 and 100.

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

Castel
Benito
bombed.

X 7991. Special Operational Summary, 7 Wellingtons 148 Sqdn., attacked Castel Benito Aerodrome night Feb. 2/3. At 1935 possible warship position 3318' N. 13 16 E. course South towards Tripoli. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 0720/3.)

Suez Canal
D.W.I.
Sweep.
HUNTLEY
sunk.

X.8066. Summary 238 up to 1200 hours 3/2.Feb. 2nd. Three sweeps by D.W.I. Wellingtons exploded one mine in Suez Canal between Kabrit and El Chatt. Night 1/2 Feb. two enemy aircraft believed Heinkel III sank minesweeper HUNTLEY, with torpedoes and bombs off Matruh, 7 officers and 51 sailors saved. (H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1233/3.)

Landingcraft
and Personnel.

Your 1615/24. Following craft are to be sent by freight to M.E. in addition to those carried in the three Glen ships and two Belgian carriers. Total personnel to be sent to the Middle East. Distribution of craft in M.E. (Head of M, 1236/3 to C. in C. Med.)

Bombardment
of Land
Targets.

Asking for a summary of experience gained with air and F.O.O. observation during ship bombardments of land targets, and any recommendations for improvement. (D.T.S.D.1534/3, to C. in C. Med.)

Malta
Air Raid.

(H.Q.R.A.F., Malta, 1700/3.)

URSUS
sunk.

Italian tug, sunk by 3/m, 31/1, (Consul, Split, 1840/3.) See Italian Merchant Ships.

/DERWENT.....

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

DERWENT
HALL,
Suez Canal
Mined.

My 1092. Unexploded mine was counter-mined A.M. today. Shipping started moving from Bitter Lake to Suez. 5th ship in line, DERWENT HALL, was mined at 1505B, at Kilometres 135.8 Rudder blown off, after peak flooded, one minor casualty. Bow is embedded in East Bank, stern half way across Canal obstructing passage of shipping. Expect to get ship alongside bank thus enabling traffic to proceed tomorrow 4/2, and later in day towing DERWENT HALL to Suez. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1939/3.)

East Indies.

Navigation
Lights.

My 1522/9/1, A.M. 1854/17/1., and C. in C. S.A. 1103/20/1. 1. Consider that the only part of East Indies portion of Area Six B. in which it is desirable for Merchant Ships to burn dimmed Navigation Lights is North of 20°S and West of 47° E, and that ships routed through areas Six B and Five A between South Africa and Australia should be fully darkened notwithstanding instructions laid down in A M S I. 2. Intend also that dimmed Navigation Lights should be burned in Gulf of Aden West of 55° provided they are extinguished before making landfall at Perim. (C. in C. E.1., 0658Z/3, to Admty.)

CHRISTIAN
HUYGENS.

D. of S.T. 1808/30, and S.S.T.O. Egypt 1919/30. S.N.O. Red Sea Force is requested to sail CHRISTIAN HUYGENS from Aden for Mombasa on 12/2 escorted by HECTOR. HECTOR is subsequently to escort CHRISTIAN HUYGENS from Mombasa to Durban. (C. in C. E.I., 0802/3, to S.N.O. Red Sea.)

/Operation.....

MOST SECRET.3. 2. 41.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies Contd.

Operation
"Canvas."
(Capture of Kismayu.)

My 0650/Force T, (SHROPSHIRE and HERMES) will sail from Durban for Mombasa a.m./4, or a.m./5, at S.O.'s discretion depending on return of SHROPSHIRE ratings from hospital after epidemic and will take part in operation "~~SHROPSHIRE~~". SHROPSHIRE does not expect to leave more than 40 ratings behind. (C. in C.E.I., 1016Z/3, to Admty.) *see also next page.*

BANKURA
BAMORA
BARPETA
SUI/SANG. ? BARJORA
see page 125

My 0532/2, and C. in C. Med.'s 0401/2. (No trace in W.R.) Four ships required in Mediterranean immediately. Unless there is special reason to the contrary, BANKURA, BAMORA, BARPETA, are selected and should be sailed for Aden as soon as possible. (SUI/SANG). Request you will report (SUI/SANG) expected date of arrival at Aden & Earmark two further ships which may be required later. (C. in C.E.I., 1028Z/3, to S.S.T.O, India, N.O.I.C. Calcutta.)

NANA MARU.

N.T. in W.D.
Your 1030/2, (C. in C.E.I., 1134Z/3, to N.O.I.C. Simonstown), from information received from A.C.N.B. Melbourne, ship J.G.J.M. is NANA MARU. (Radio traffic between J.G.J.M., AFRICA MARU, and Nauen W/T.) (C. in C.E.I. 1134Z/3 to *NOTE Simonstown*)

KANIMBLA.

My 1152/27, KANIMBLA is to leave patrol and proceed Durban so as to arrive a.m./5. (C. in C.E.I., 1242/3, to KANIMBLA.)

/CAPETOWN.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.3. 2. 41.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies Contd.CAPETOWN.

CAPETOWN is to leave Seychelles before dark 4/2, and proceed to Mombasa so as to arrive a.m./8. (C. in C. E.I., 1250Z/3. to CAPETOWN.)

Minesweepers.

Your 0717/31. Request M/S group 109 be sailed from Durban to Mombasa calling at Dar-Es-Salaam, where oiler APPLELEAF, will be sent to top up with Fuel and water. (C. in C. E.I., 1258Z/3. to N.O.I.C, Simonstown.)

Force T.

HERMES and SHROPSHIRE are to form Force T. (C. in C.E.I., 1310/3, to E.I, Station.) *See previous page.*

HAWKINS.
EMERALD.

Admty 0300/22. and C. in C. S.A, 2163/27
Proposals for HAWKINS and EMERALD, re Operation "Canvas" and escort of W.S.5B (C. in C. E.I., 1440Z/3 to Admty.)
See Operations Volume.

KARAGOLA.

Your 1933/2, (As to cancellation of distress signal) Re KARAGOLA distress signal, yes. See My 1326/2/2. (C. E.I. 18322/3 to A+4)

B.N.14.

M.06483/41

CALEDON and KINGSTON. E.T.A. 0400Z/4.
B.N. 14 ships arrive 0230Z/5.
(CALEDON, 1725Z/3, to N.O.LC.Port Sudan.)

Pilotage of Red Sea Force 1714Z. I rely on you to do this. Report at 0800Z/4, if not done. (CALEDON, 1845Z/3, to SHOREHAM.)

/B.S.F.I.....

MOST SECRET.3. 2. 41.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies Contd.B.S.F.I.M.06483/41 }
N.07830/ " }

S.N.O. Red Sea 1714Z/3. Am not in touch.
Am endeavouring to overtake but must
return at 0400Z to R/V with B.S.F.
NORSE LADY routed 12 miles to Port
Standard. (SHOREHAM, 1905/3, to CALEDON.)

My 1923/30. DOMINION MONARCH did not sail
with B.S.F.I. (S.S.T.O. Egypt, 1735/3,
to Admt.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.Inter-
Island Island
Air
Service.

Netherland authorities considering establishment of a direct air service between Trinidad Curacao and Jamaica and request information whether this would be welcomed and necessary facilities given K.L.M. to use air port at Kingston. (Jamaica).
(S.N.O. Curacao 1226/3 to C.in C. A.W.I.)

U.S.Navy
request
further
information
of ship
movements.

Your No.1114/31.* Navy Department informs me that no instructions have been issued to N.A. (?) at Curacao other than to obtain information of movements of ships in Venezuela ports from ordinary public sources. Department is communicating with N.A. who is not accredited to Curacao.
* (Requesting instructions given to U.S. Naval Attache Curacao).
(N.A. Washington 1239/3 to C.in C. A.W.I.)

Danish
T.B's
reported
taken over
by
Germans.

Navy Department report Germans have demanded 12 torpedo boats of Danes. Danes have agreed to transfer eight under protest and less Armament. Delivery held up by ice.
(N.A. Washington 1715/3).

MONOWAI
AORANGI.

Departure Suva MONOWAI escorting AORANGI 0945Z/2.
(S.O.(I) Wellington 0215Z/3).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.3.2.1941.
Monday.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.ATLAS.Arrived 2/2.
(Valencia, T.H.I. 2015/3).Ships at
Oslo.B.2. report of arrivals at Oslo from
Germany 31/12 to 22/1.
(D.S.518.)

MOST SECRET.3. 2. 41.Monday.War Diary.FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.ALSINA.

My 1711/1 from private telegrams received Rio de Janeiro from passengers on board, ALSINA left Marseilles 15/1, Dakar 25/1 and is expected Rio de Janeiro or Santos 3/2 or 4/2. She is full of Jews. From secret source (A.1.) The idea of sailing any further French ships from Buenos Aires has been abandoned for the present. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 1247/3, to D.N.1., etc.)

SONTAY
escort.

Your 2037/2, On completion of the escort duties referred to in your 2131/31, SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA is to be sailed for Suez. (D.O.D. (F) 1644/3, to C. in C.S.A.)

JEAN L.D.
SONTAY.

Admiralty 2256/29, and 2047/31, JEAN L.D. and SONTAY are still at Capetown and Durban respectively under Union Armed Guard. The High Commissioner is pressing the Union Govt., to issue immediately emergency regulations authorising requisition of any foreign ships. Thus objections to my re-assuming control of these ships. Request approval to be guided by recommendations of High Commissioner. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1810/3, to C. in C. S.A.)

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

BURMA.

4675 tons (forced ashore at Puerto Santa Maria, North of Cadiz, during gale on night of 20-21/1.) Master reported to his owners on 27/1 that hull was split and a crack had appeared in Starboard Deck, feared he would have to abandon ship. (D.S. 517, 3/2.)

GIMMA.

1542 tons, which took refuge at Palma, Majorca, on 11/6/40, is reported to have sailed for unknown destination, probably Genoa, on night of 30-31/1. (D.S.5184/2.)

URSUS
sunk by
S/M. ROQUAL
(see p. 399)

Italian Tug URSUS towing floating battery attacked by unidentified submarine 1230/31, off Korcula outside Yugoslav territorial waters. Tug sunk and battery towed by Yugo Slav Merchant Vessel into Hvar, whence 24 hours later she was removed after Italian Tug arrived from Lagosta. Enemy casualties about 35 of which 9 dead buried at Hvar, and 20 wounded landed at Hvar and Korcula. 6 missing. (Consul, Split, 1840/3, to Admty.)

ISARCO.

Susak arrival 2/2, ISARCO Trieste cargo unknown. (Susak, T.H.I.2000/3.)

MOST SECRET.3. 2. 1941.Monday.War Diary.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships attacked.

EMPIRE
CITIZEN.
 (torpedoed.)
 2/2.

British, 4683 tons. Detach one ship to
 EMPIRE CITIZEN torpedoed in position
 058° 12' North 023° 22' West at 0100/3.
 (C. in C. W.A., 0123/3, to LINCOLN.)

H.M.S.
CRISPIN.

(Ocean Boarding Vessel), 5652' N 2022' W,
 torpedoed 2239/3. (Valentia Radio, 2150/3.)

Following has been read. From CRISPIN.
 S/M Distress.

56 54 N.
 20 22 W.

Torpedoed.

(Scapa Base, 2239/3),
 (Ships.)

Following has been read. From CRISPIN.

56. 52 N. (? 54 N.) 20 22 W.
 Sinking require immediate assistance.
 (Scapa Base Ship, 2324/3.)
 56, 52 N. 20 22 W. Abandoning ship.
 (Plymouth, 2343/3.)

Following message read by Detling R.A.F.
 A/F D/F Station at 2251 B.S.T:- S S S S
 (CRISPIN) 56.52 N 20. 22 W torpedoed.
 (C. in C. Nore, 2329/3.)

H.M.S. CRISPIN torpedoed and sinking after
 having left OB 280 with PHILANTE, ARBUTUS,
 and COPELAND. 8 miles from convoy when hit.
 PHILANTE returning to convoy. Am searching
 with CAMELLIA and ERICA. (HARVESTER,
 2350/3.)

S/M's
Reported.

0846.

My D/F at 0846 Italian U Boat 045° 30'
 N. 003° W. (F.O.(S). 0902/3, to S/M's on
 Patrol Area B.)

/1521. By D/F.....

MOST SECRET.3. 2. 41.
Monday.War Diary.U BOAT CAMPAIGN.

1521.

By D/F at 1521 B.S.T. Italian U. Boat in position $53^{\circ} 50' N. 19^{\circ} 00' W.$ radius 25 miles. (D.D.I.C. 1602/3)

1045/29.

Following from Navy Department: U.S. Destroyer BIDDLE sighted periscope 1045/29, $8^{\circ} 23' N. 79^{\circ} 15' W.$ U.S. warships and planes searching. (N.A. Washington, 1700/3, to Admty.)

An enemy submarine has made a first sighting report of a large formation. (D.D.I.C./1909/3.)

My 1909/3, it is probable that formation reported was O.B.280 convoy or FURIOUS. (D.D.I.C. 1927/3.)

Estimated
U/B
dispositions.
German.

1 N.W. of Faroes outward bound.
1 in $52^{\circ} 12' N. 23^{\circ} 22' W.$ at 0001/3.
1 about $58^{\circ} 30' N. 17^{\circ} 30' W.$ at 0356/3.
1 about $53^{\circ} 20' N, 21^{\circ} 30' W.$ at 1736/2.
1 within 90 miles of $55^{\circ} 30' N, 17^{\circ} 30' W.$
1 within 100 miles of $50^{\circ} N, 27^{\circ} W,$
1 arriving Lorient tonight.
1 to N.E. of Azores. 1 arriving Gironde today. No news of others which may be at sea. (D.D.I.C. 1413/3.)

Italian.

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic (Contd. from p 87)

Flying Boats.

Re 3 Sunderlands leaving U.K. Freetown via Gibraltar and Bathurst when weather suitable. (26 (Signals) Group, 1156/3. to Cdr., Sierra Leone Area, Bathurst.)

Force Z.

M. 07722/41

My 1131/30. Cancel route from rendezvous Q, and substitute E.T.A. Freetown. (C. in C.S.A., 1255N/3, to KENYA, Force Z.)

My 1255/3. Leave Freetown at 1800/3 with NORFOLK, DEVONSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, and proceed in general direction of Force Z so as to rendezvous in position 024° 55' N, 019° 45' W, about 0800N/7, Force Z expected to reach rendezvous Q. at 1700 B.S.T./5. (C. in C. S.A., 1259N/3 to 1st. C.S.)

Departure 1930/3 F.O.C. 1st. C.S. in NORFOLK with DEVONSHIRE and DORSETSHIRE in accordance with C. in C. S.A.'s 1259/3. (S.O.I. Freetown, 2155N/3.)

AFRICA MARU.

In addition to details referred to in your 1030/2, request S.O.(I) Capetown may report names of consignors and consignees and weights. Detain ships pending further instructions. (D.E.W.D. 1415/3 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

My 1240/1 and N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1030/2. Ship was detained by Union Government on own initiative because of the following cargoes. (S.O.I., Capetown, 1543/3 to Admty.)

See also next page

ADMIRAL SCHEER MOEWE.

Source of my 1711/18, states he saw decode of a telegram from Rio De Janeiro on table of German Consul this morning informing him that German ships ADMIRAL SCHEER and MÖEWE are in this neighbourhood (E.O.) (Consul, Bahia, 1624/3, to Admty.)

/AFRIC STAR.....

3. 2. 41.
Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

AFRIC STAR.

Overdue shipping. British AFRIC STAR Montevideo departure 18/1, due St. Vincent 31/1 has not arrived. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1641/3, to Admty.)

CORNWALL.

Your 1553/12. Intended that CORNWALL should continue to be administered by you, but at present necessary for her to be operated by C. in C. E.I, in order to provide troop convoy escort on his station. (D.O.D. (F) 1647/3, to C. in C.S.A.)

AFRICA
MARU.

As log was not taken ashore and photographed whilst under examination, consider preferable not to take any action which may arouse suspicion and possibly hinder us from obtaining further operational intelligence. (C. in C. S.A., 1715/3, to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.) *See previous page*

EMPIRE
TROOPER
W.S.6.
FORT
BINGER.

C. in C. S.A.'s 2153/31. F.O.C. N.A. requested to advise as to earliest possible arrival date of EMPIRE TROOPER at Lagos. As W.S.6. will not now arrive Freetown until (date) and will remain five days for watering etc. C. in C.S.A. is requested to advise whether date to be notified by F.O.C. N.A. is acceptable. C. in C. S.A. also requested to advise as to (a) proposed date of sailing of FORT BINGER, and (b) what ships will be used for the local French moves. D. of S.T. 1752/3 to F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. S.A.)

R.A.F.
Freetown.

Re: headquarters, developements and liaison. (G.O.C., W.Africa, to W.O., 1905/3.) (D. of S.T. 1752/3 to F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. S.A.)

Bunkers,
Freetown.
S.L.S.66.

Your 2027/31/1. Collier TUNISIA not yet arrived. Delays in bunkering anticipated unless improvement in situation before 10/2. Intend to sail 4 ships of SLS 66? to St. Vincent for fuel sailing from there to join up with their convoy. (C. in C. S.A., 2359N/3, to Admty.)

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdaySITUATION REPORTHome CommandsADMIRAL HIPPER
(Cruiser) from
Brest

From photographs, it is believed that the ^{ADMIRAL} HIPPER ~~cruiser~~ (cruiser) is not in Brest. Reconnaissance shows that the ship is not in Bordeaux, La Rochelle or Cherbourg. Air patrols are to be flown p.m./5 in case she tries to pass the Iceland Faroes passage from the westward during the night 5/6 Feb.

Kiel Canal
Blocked

It is reported that the Kiel Canal is blocked by ice and that convoys are being organized round Jutland for traffic of German North Sea ports to Norway, Sweden and the Baltic. The Dutch Canals and north Dutch ports are also frozen over.

SS RINGHORN was torpedoed in the N.W. Approaches early this morning.

British Air Activity

Bad weather caused all patrols by Coastal Command last night to be cancelled, but Beauforts bombed the power station at Brest and Bomber Command also attacked the Brest Naval dockyard and Cherbourg.

Enemy Air ActivityAttacks on
Shipping

SS CALAFATIS (Greek 4443 tons) in Convoy S.C. 20 was attacked by F.W. aircraft in the N.W. Approaches today and is believed to have been sunk.

SS GWYNWOOD (1177 tons) was hit by a parachute mine today whilst at anchor in the Humber and is sinking in shallow water.

/Minesweepers....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdaySITUATION REPORTEnemy Air Activity-Contd.

Minesweepers GOSSAMER and HARRIER were ineffectively bombed today.

SOUTHDOWN and Convoy were attacked 18 miles E by N of Harwich. No damage is reported

VANITY and FN Convoy were bombed twice today off the North Foreland. VANITY shot down one and fighters two, of the enemy.

Lowestoft
Attacked

Bombs dropped at Lowestoft today caused some naval casualties. One enemy plane was brought down.

MiningOperation
B.S. 50

TEVIOT BANK and MEYNELL laid mines this afternoon in the East Coast Barrier.

INTREPID and IMPULSIVE are to disembark their mines and embark guns. With ICARUS they will be employed as minelaying escort for TEVIOT BANK.

Operation
S.N. 7.

1st M.L. Squadron and 4 destroyers left Port Z.A. today to carry out this operation NIGERIA left Scapa at 2130 to provide close escort, and RODNEY with 4 destroyers left at 2105 to provide cover.

Aircraft
Minelaying

Last night, 5 Hampdens laid mines successfully off Brest and 2 off Lorient.

Enemy
Mining

Mines were detonated today in the Thames Estuary and a large number off Liverpool.

The Humber is closed owing to minelaying.

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
Monday Tuesday.SITUATION REPORTOperations Against Vicy^A French

80% of French imports are passing to enemy countries.

South Atlantic

D.F. bearings indicate the possibility of an enemy raider within 200 miles of 11° N 23' W., and it is possible that cable ship LADY DENISON PENDER which left Bathurst 30/a.m. and has not reported since, may have been intercepted. 1st C.S. is to search, on the way to meet Force Z. (Note Communication with LADY DENISON PENDER was established 0940/6)

MediterraneanMining of Suez Canal

AGH105

Further mines were dropped in the Suez Canal today. Traffic was resumed throughout the Canal this morning after sweeping. Twelve ships reached Suez safely, but Greek SS ~~EMERSON~~ GEORGIOS (3800 tons) was mined at 1130 at km 143 and is across the Canal, stopping all navigation. It is hoped that small ships may be able to pass the wreck shortly and that normal navigation may be resumed in about 15 days time.

Operations against Libya

There are indications that the enemy are rapidly abandoning Benghazi. All available submarines have been ordered to concentrate in the Tripoli-Sicilian Channel route.

Mersa Tobruk was mined by enemy aircraft today, but owing to the urgency of providing army supplies the risk to shipping has been accepted until corvettes arrive which cannot be before 7/2.

Yugoslav neutrality

It is evident that full use is being made by the enemy both of Yugo-Slav ships and territorial waters.

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSPolicyAdmiralty
Meeting of 7/2.

My 1616/26/1. Agenda for meeting to be held at the Admiralty at 1115/7. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1333/4)

Stranraer
Examination
Service

Examination service at Stranraer will be operating from 0800/6. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1441/4)

"Deluge"
DELUGEDefence of U.K.At 1130/4 (D.C. 1147/4)
At 2330/4 (D.C. 2354/4)Scapa
Repair of
Loops

Your 1110/2. Anticipated that cable ship EMILE BAUDOT will be ready for service about 22/2 and will then be available for repairs to loops and laying of H.D.A. unit. (D.A/S.W 1148/4 to A.C.O.S)

MovementsSEALION

Leave patrol 1800/6. Route to Gap A. (S. 6 1030/4 to SEALION)

KING GEORGE VMy 1028/30. Request A/S air escort during daylight/5th for KING GEORGE V. Estimated position at 0900/5: 060° 39' N., 011° 32' W. Codeword ~~EMILE~~ (C. in C., H.F. 1545/4 to C. in C., Rosyth)JACKAL

Sail JACKAL to Plymouth when fuelled..(C. in C., Londonderry)

Expect A/S air escort by Hudson aircraft throughout daylight/5. (C. in C., Rosyth 1944/4 to KING GEORGE V)

Northern
Patrol

Trawler Lines tonight. 2 Trawlers. (A.CO.S. 1550/4)

/Submarine....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSMovements-Contd.Submarine
Positions

At 0800/5 and movements for following 24 hours. (F.O.S. 1716/4.)

RESOLUTION

Admiralty 1206/3. Concur in proposed route. Proposed R/V for destroyers. Arrangements for Air Escort. Consider it most desirable that some Hunt class destroyer should join the escort from daylight Z- 2.

Intend to ask H.Q.F.C. for fighter escort during daylight in channel. (C. in C., W.A. 1905/4)

OperationsOperation
P.X.

Operation ordered in AL. M/P.D. 09493/41 dated 1/2 will be known as P.X. Weather permitting it will be carried out tomorrow night. (C. in C., Nore, 1712/4)

British Air ActivityPatrols.
Search for
ADMIRAL HIPPER

Request preparation be made to establish air patrol R. 1. and R. 2. starting a datum point 061° N., 012° W., in a direction 300° p.m. today. Object is to watch for and report HIPPER if she tries to pass Iceland Faeroes Channel from westward during the night 4/5-2 (C. in C. H.F., 0212/4 to C. in C., Rosyth) (See 0715/4)

My 2240/3.

Patrol Baily will be flown today. (C. in C. Rosyth 0614/4 to C. in C., H.F.)

Patrol referred to in my 0212/4 will not be flown (C. in C., H.F. 0715/4 to KING GEORGE V)

My 0614/4. First aircraft returned owing to engine trouble. Second and final will take off from Wick about 1100. (C. in C., Rosyth 0810/4 to C. in C., H.F.)

My 0002/1/1. Owing to shortage of A/C Patrol ~~will~~ will seldom be flown and, as weather often stops Patrol ~~will~~, these two Patrols should no longer be regarded as being flown daily. When flown, they will be included in Daily Signal. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1310/4) See Summaries Folder

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSBritish Air Activity-Contd.

5 Patrol "Stand" is being flown to reach Norwegian coast at dusk. (C. in C., Rosyth 1632/4)

→ Search for
ADMIRAL HIPPER

Request patrols R 1 R 2 and ^{"Fugle"}~~FURIOUS~~ may be flown p.m/5. Object is to cover operation S.N. 7 and also to report German Cruiser ADMIRAL HIPPER if she tries to pass Iceland Faroes passage from westward during the night of 5/6. (C. in C., H.F. 2321/4 to C. in C., Rosyth)

Escort for
FURIOUS.

Expect escort of Whitley aircraft about 0930 and Sunderland later. (C. in C., W.A. 0805/4 to FURIOUS)

→ ADMIRAL HIPPER
At Brest
To be attacked

Available aircraft No 217 Squadron to attack tonight. Cruiser in dry dock at Brest with S.A.P. Bombs. Alternative target Submarines in U-Boat base at Lorient. (H.Q.C.C. 1207/4 to 15 Group, St. Eval)

Available aircraft No 53 Squadron to attack tonight cruiser in dry dock at Brest with S.A.P. bombs. Alternative target shipping in the Darse Transatlantique. Cherbourg. (H.Q.C.C. 1208/4 to 16 Group, Thorney Island)

Enemy Air ActivityGOSSAMER

Help. One enemy A/C bombing OEAB cable (?Table: GOSSAMER & HARRIER minesweepers) (GOSSAMER 0905/4)

Fighter aircraft have been despatched to the assistance of "Cable" (?Table) (Nore, 0929/4)

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSEnemy Air Activity-Contd.ConvoyOne enemy aircraft attacking Convoy in
51° 59' N., 1° 44' E. (SOUTHDOWN 0919/4)BARON RENFREW
(Bombed 28/1)TENACITY considers towing unnecessary in
present weather. Has requested me to
stand by. Have bunker for 3 days. (ST.
OLAVES 0925/4)BARON RENFREW (?) developed heavy port
list ST OLAVES standing by. (TENACITY
0935/4)ST. OLAVE's 0925/4 and TENACITY's 0935/4.
ST. OLAVES to stand by BARON RENFREW so
long as fuel permits proceeding as
necessary to Ardrossan to coal. TENACITY
to report if assistance of another tug
is required. If sufficiently seaworthy
BARON RENFREW is to be taken to
Rothesay Bay. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1240/4)Continue to escort BARON RENFREW landing
survivors at Rothesay. Report if BARON
RENFREW cannot be taken to Rothesay in
accordance with N.O.i/c Greenock's 1240/4.
(C. in C., W.A., 2005/4 to CANDYTUFT)WAZIRISTAN
(Bombed 2/2)Am approximately in position. No signs
of LORD MIDDLETON or WAZIRISTAN. Have
had to heave to owing to bad weather.
visibility two miles. (BANDIT 1020/4)Full gale and rain storms. Have to.
Course S.S.W. two knots. Estimated
position 61° N., 12° 9' W. (BANDIT 1300/4)BANDIT 1300/4. If BANDIT has not made
contact by tomorrow request aircraft if
available to assist her. DOUGLAS pass to
BANDIT. (A.C.O.S., 1854/4 to C. in C.,
Rosyth)

/Still unable....

War Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSEnemy Air ActivityWAZIRISTAN
(Bombed 2/2)
Contd.

Still unable to turn. (BANDIT 1950/4)

WAZIRISTAN reported by A/C at 1147/4 in
061° 20' N., 011° 56' W., Armed trawler in
company. DOUGLAS pass to BANDIT.
(C. in C., Rosyth 2348/4 to DOUGLAS)Lowestoft
BombedFollowing from N.O.I.C. Lowestoft. Enemy
aircraft dropped 4 bombs at 0925 on out-
skirts Waveney Docks. One direct hit on
dug out. Feared approx. 3 naval ratings
killed and buried. Excavation now pro-
ceeding. Enemy plane brought down and two
Germans picked up. (F.O.I.C., Gt. Yarmouth
1030/4 to C. in C., Nore)At 0925 Enemy Plane dropped 8 bombs
Lowestoft Harbour and Town.
3 Naval, 10 Civilian, casualties.
Enemy subsequently destroyed. Two Germans
picked up by Yarmouth Examination vessel,
one wounded, one dead. (N.O.I.C.,
Lowestoft 1045/4 to Admty.)Firth of Forth
Heights of R/C
Enemy A/CYour 2050/3.
On 24th reported by GARTH at 3000 feet
On 24th reported by Patrol craft at 1000 ft.
On 25th reported by Patrol craft as very low
On 27th reported by VALOROUS at 2000 feet
(C. in C., Rosyth 1041/4 to Admty.)Convoy ^FW.N.
EvenEnemy bombing Convoy in 51° 33' N., 1° 17'E
(VANITY 1137/4)1 Dornier shot down over Gunfleet. (VANITY
1150 to C. in C., Nore)Convoy being bombed by aircraft in 51°
49' N., 1° 32' E. (VANITY 1405/4)

/My 1405.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSEnemy Air ActivityConvoy K.N.
Even-Contd.My 1405. No hits. 1 Dornier shot down
by fighters. (VANITY 1409/4)My 1405. Another Dornier shot down by
fighters. (VANITY 1415/4)DIONE II
(Bombed 3/2)Have carried out searches without success
Have you any further information?
My p, c and s 055° 56' N., 014° 20' W.,
180° 1 knot. (ASSURANCE 1630/4 to F.O.I.C.
Greenock)Fireballs off
Lowestoft2 white fire & balls bearing 340° from
52° 23' N., 2° 1' E. (VANITY 1909/4)GWYNWOOD(British, 1177 tons) At 1915/4 while at
anchor in convoy anchorage was hit in
engine room aft by a parachute mine. Six
of crew saved. eleven missing at present
(F.O.Humber, 2145/4 to Admty.)MiningThames Estuary
2 minesRed mine detonated 2100/3 in 127° East
Shingles Buoy 3.6 miles. Simultaneously
explosion took place on starboard Quarter
of leader and abeam of ~~Oropesa~~ ^{Oropesa} trawler
following five cables astern of LL Trawlers.
Consider probably Green Mine, counter
mined. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1040/4)EMMAPLEINMy 1817/2. Complete air search of area
carried out yesterday without result.
EMMAPLEIN considered sunk. (A.C.O.S.,
1121/4)Sweep of
Thames ApproachesRequest you arrange to carry out an
Oropesa search of proposed new channel
from (A) to (D) with fast minesweepers.
(C. in C., Nore, 1144/4 to F.O.I.C.
Harwich)

/B.S. 50.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSMining-Contd.B.S. 50.

Operation completed. (TEVIOT BANK 1530/4)

^{D?}
F.N. 29

Your 2008/31. Extension you propose cannot be approved. At present there is a considerable flow of genuine neutral trade which it would be very unfortunate to disturb. (A.C.N.S. H. 1647/4 to F.O.S.)

DOUWE AUKES

Your 0943/1. DOUWE AUKES to return mines to Frater, and then to be sailed for Sheerness. (D.O.D., H. 1658/4 to C. in C., Portsmouth)

INTREPID
IMPULSIVE
ICARUS

1. On return to Immingham INTREPID and IMPULSIVE are to disembark present outfit of mines and embark guns. They will be employed together with ICARUS as a minelaying escort for TEVIOT BANK. (A.C.N.S. H. 1817/4 to Commander D.20)

Liverpool

3 mines exploded at 1010/4, 1012/4, 1023/4 Particulars. (F.O.I.C., Liverpool 1826/4)

SS CALYX
Damaged
9 Mines
Detonated.

Mine report to 1800/3 SS CALYX detonated one mine 045° Bar L.V. 8 miles. Ship slightly damaged now docked. To 1800/4. Total of 8 acoustic mines detonated by S.A. Gear. (Positions) (F.O.I.C., Liverpool 1848/4)

Operation
S.N. 7.

Departure Port Z.A. 1830/4 R.A.M.L. in SOUTHERN PRINCE, MENESTHEUS, PORT QUEBEC, AGAMEMNON, BRIGHTON, LANCASTER, ST. ALBANS, and CHARLESTOWN. (TRELAWNEY 1832/4)

Sailed from Scapa. NIGERIA, 2130, RODNEY, INGLEFIELD, ELECTRA, ECHO, BRILLIANT, at 2105. (A.C.O.S. 2135/4)

Humber
closed

Humber closed owing to Minelaying. (C. in U., Rosyth, 2307/4 to VERSATILE)

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSEnemy IntelligenceUnknown Vessel
2 LifeboatsFrom unknown station. S.O.S. 56.27,
13.40 west 2 Rettungsboote. (Valencia
Radio 1021/4)Detach one destroyer to investigate.
Destroyer should rejoin before dark.
(C. in C., W.A., 1143/4 and 1235/4 to
FURIOUS)Suspicious
TankerM/V's CHILEAN REEFER and AUTOLYCUS report
independently suspicious Tanker sighted
a.m. 2/2 in 060° 45' N., 019° 40' W.,
steering S.W. slow speed. Description.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1320/4)Two E-BoatsTwo enemy E-Boats bearing 130°, 2 miles
course 130°. My position 51° 54' N.,
1° 42' E. (Capt D. 16 1439/4)My 1439. Have lost touch with enemy.
(D. 16 1449/4)Your 1439. These were M.T.B's 14 and 18.
(C. in C., Nore, 1817/4 to D. 16)ADMIRAL HIPPER-class
(Cruiser)My 1400/4. ^{ADMIRAL} From photographs it is
believed that ^{ADMIRAL} HIPPER ~~class~~ (Cruiser)
is not in Brest. Reconnaissance shows
that ship is not in Bordeaux, La Rochelle
or Cherbourg. (D.D.I.C., 1745/4)VardoFinnish Motor Ship CAROLINA THORDEN stopped
by German Armed Trawler 15 miles off coast
and taken to Vardo 2/2 released next day.
Four trawlers appeared to be stationed there.
One brought in ship name and nationality
unknown probably Finnish SS WIPUNEN which
left here for Panama same day. (Consul,
Petsamo, 1757/4)

/By D.F.....

War Diary2. 2. 1941
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSEnemy Intelligence -Contd.

By D/F at 1836 B.S.T. unidentified
Enemy Unit minor surface vessel in 54°
05' N., 5° 15' E., (D.D.I.C., 1926/4)

Kiel Canal
Blocked
by Ice.

My 2013/4. (Ice Report) Owing to
blockage of Kiel Canal through Ice,
convoys are being organized round Jutland
for traffic of German North Sea ports
to Norway, Sweden, and Baltic B. 2.
(N.A. Stockholm, 2024/4)

N.I.D. Comment. As traffic through the
Canal has been restricted recently, and
large numbers of Merchant ships have
collected in Holtenau Roads, this report
is probably correct.

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSShipping & Convoys

- O.B.C. 282 0153/4. Escort ANTELOPE, ANTHONY, ACHATES, HEATHER, LADY MADELINE, PICOTEE, SNOWDROP. 10. (6 with kites) (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 0205/4, amended 0900/4) List and destinations (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1005/4)
- O.B.O. 282 Sailed 0830/4. escort AYRSHIRE. One ship for Capetown SURAT. No kites. (N.C.S.O. 0910/4)
- F.N. and F.S. Amend my 2040/31/1 and 1650/3/2 as follows:- Escorts of F.S.404 and F.N.403. HASTINGS, WALLACE. Escorts of F.S.406- VERDUN, VALOROUS. (C. in C., Rosyth, 0947/4)
- E.N. 67 2130/4. H.M.T's ULLSWATER, PAYNTER, extra escort H.M.T. BERKSHIRE joining ~~CHALLENGER~~. Additional escort FOWEY. 20 ships. Buchan Ness 1530/5. Duncansby Head 0615/6 Code Words:- EN 67 ~~USAGE~~ "Usage".
EN L Portion ~~MONITOR~~ "Monitor".
EN O Portion ~~MIXTURE~~ "Mixture".
Loch Ewe Portion ~~SLAVE~~ "Slave".
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 0949/4)
- My 0949/4. Add to Additional escort CHALLENGER. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1529/4)
See also p. 116
- W.N. 79 (0) 8 Ships. (List) (N.C.S.O. Oban 1010/4 to Admty.)
- F.N. 100 0915/4, 15 ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1041/4 Amended 1214/4)
- F.S.403. Proceed at 1400 today to overtake F.S.403 act as additional escort. Part company at Outer Dowsing and return to Rosyth adjusting speed to arrive daylight 6/2. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1123/4 to VIMIERA)
See also next page.
- E.N. 65 Arrived less BORGHOLM (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1143/4)

/My 1143.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSShipping & Convoys-Contd.

E.N. 65-Contd.

My 1143/4 BORGHOLM now arrived. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1502/4)

F.N. 98

Arrived 1145/4 (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1158/4)

28 M/V's

N.C.S.O. Dartmouth's 2004/3. Intend sailing WIVERN and VANSITTART at 1730 to cover the passage of these M.V's. (C. in C., W.A 1205/4 to C. in C., Portsmouth)

→ F.S. 403.

VIMIERA will act as additional escort for F.S. 403 from Latitude of Whitby to outer Dowsing. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1159/4)

See previous page

Western Channel Night Report. (C. in C., W.A., 1311/4 amended 1841/4)

→ F.N. 99

1115/4. 30 ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1329/4.)

?

Not met. Convoy must have passed East and been missed in low visibility. 61° 25' N. 20° 40' W. (Weather) (LINCOLN, 1401/4 to C. in C., W.A.)

→ F.N. 99

List and destinations. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1403/4.)

W.N. 80

1248/4. H.M.T. HUGH WALPOLE, INDIAN STAR, escorting 6 ships. 1 ship with Kite. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1415/4)

List and destinations. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1421/4)

→ F.S. 3.

Sailed (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1512/4)

C.E. 24
→ 8 M.V's

Portsmouth night movements 4/5th. C.E. 24 St Helens to Nore. VANOC and CLEVELAND acting as additional escort and returning to Spithead 0800/5. 2 A/S trawlers and 8 M/V's Dartmouth to Nab WIVERN and VANSITTART from Plymouth to Nab acting as cover. (C. in C., Portsmouth, 1613/4)

/F.N. 1.....

MOST SECRETWar DiaryZ. 2. 1941
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSShipping & Convoys

- F.N. 400 (4) Code word for F.N. one South of the Tyne R A D I O. (C. in C., Rosyth, 1623/4 to SOUTHDOWN, COTSWOLD)
- C.E. 24 Portsmouth to Southend (List) (N.C.S.O. Portsmouth, 1627/4)
- 8 M/V's My 2004/3. ~~FOOZE~~ "Loos" sailed seven M/V's and escorts. (N.C.S.O., Dartmouth, 1637/4)
- F.S. 3 List and destinations. (F.O.I.C., Tyne, 1656/4)
- F.S. 3. sailed 1500/4/2, estimated number of ships 52. (F.O.I.C., 1659/4)
- W.N. 79 Loch Ewe Section sailed 1700/4. 6 ships. (N.C.S.O., Aultbea, 1702/4)
- F.N. 99 15 ships, 1 H.M.D. and 8 trawlers from Humber joining at Outer Dowsing. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 1719/4)
- W.N. 79 Loch Ewe Section (List) (N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1749/4)
- F.N. 100)
F.N. 99)
C.E. 24)
→ F.S. 3)
→ F.N. 400) Convoy positions at 0800/5. (A.C.H.Q., Chatham, 1843/4)
- O.B. 282 My 1914/3 (escort for O.B. 282) delete PICOTEE and SNOWDROP. (Capt. (D) Greenock, 1902/4)
- O.B. 281 Remain with O.B. 281 until further orders. (A.C.W.A., 1903/4 to WITCH, MONTGOMERY, WILD SWAN)

/E.N. 66.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSShipping & Convoys-Contd.E.N. 66
(ROSLIN CASTLE
passed)

Ship passed E.N. 66 058° 42' N., 005° 38' W., estimated speed 18 knots, gave name ROSLIN CASTLE, approx course 275°. Reporting as have received no information. (STELLA CAPELLA, 1925/4 to C. in C., W.A.)

O.G.M. 52.

1927/4. H.M.T. DERBY COUNTY, Two, One with Kite. (N.C.S.O. Milford Haven, 1938/4)

→ E.N. 67

CHALLENGER acts as additional escort to E.N. 67 as far as Dunnet Head, thence proceeds independently to Clyde. (N.C.S.O Methil's 1529/4/2 refers. (C. in C., Rosyth 1941/4 to C. in C., W.A.) See p. 113

F.S.403.

Part company with TEVIOT BANK at Humber light vessel and proceed to join convoy F.S.403 due Outer Dowsing 1130/5. You are to form additional escort to Sheerness. (C. in C., Nore, 2224/4 to MEYNELL)

→ E.N. 67.

2130/4. H.M.T.'s ULLSWATER, PAYNTER. Extra escort H.M.T. BERKSHIRE, joining off Aberdeen additional escort FOWEY, CHALLENGER. 21 ships. 12 with kites. (N.C.S.O. Methil 2255/4) (List and destinations) 2302/4 See p. 113

Ocean Convoys

H.X. 108

Your 1201/3 Destinations. (D.T.D. 1934/4 to N.C.S.O. Bermuda)

H.X. 103

Made a bad landfall for Butt of Lewis and passed north of North Rona Island. Commodore stated he had no knowledge of QZX. 170 neither had the Master of his ship a notation of Admiralty Notice to Mariners 1768/40 on his charts. Request your remarks. (D.T.D. 1936/4 to C.O.A.C. Halifax)

/S.L. 65.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSShipping & ConvoysOcean Convoys-Contd.

S.L. 65.

Sailing destinations. (D.T.D. 2008/4 to N.C.S.O. Freetown)

Military Convoys

W.S. 6

My 2318/21. Para 2. Speed of slowest ship in convoy will be $10\frac{1}{2}$ knots.

Para 3. Amend as follows:-

Add tanker CYMBULA from Mersey.

Delete MAHANARDA from Mersey and LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE from Clyde. (1st S.L. 1146/4)

Admty. 2318/21.

(1) A/S escort W.S. 6 unescorted Bristol Channel portion BROADWATER (B) Liverpool portion RESTIGOUCHE, ST. LAURENT (C) Clyde portion, OTTAWA, LEGION, PIOURUN, GARLAND, SKEENA, NIZAM (D) KEPPEL, COTTESMORE, ATHERSTONE, also DOUGLAS if available to join from Londonderry as arranged by N.O.i/c Liverpool (ii) Senior Officer A/S escort OTTAWA. (C. in C., W.A., 1625/4)

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayCASUALTIES & DEFECTSSUNFISHRequest dock for repairs to Asdic.
(SUNFISH 0415/4 to Capt. S. 6.)ROCKPOOL
(Grounded 1/2)Request immediate assistance. Possibility
of abandoning ship. Tugs have not arrived.
(ROCKPOOL, 0759/5 to F.O.I.C. Greenock)FAMESailed for Chatham in tow of tugs WATERMEYER
and FAIRPLAY I and escorted by SHELDRAKE.
(N.O.I.C., Sunderland, 0955/4)Proceed daylight along Q.Z.S. 40 until SHEL-
DRAKE and FAME in tow tugs are met and form
additionaly escort to Sheerness.
Estimated position FAME Sheringham Light
Float 0430 speed of advance 9 knots.
(C. in C., Nore, 2300/4 to EXMOOR)TORBAY (S/M)
VANCOUVER
(British Tanker
5729 tons)
Beached.TORBAY was in collision with Tanker
VANCOUVER while carrying out independent
exercises in Loch Long at 1737/3.
TORBAY had only slight headway after
surfacing and damage to her bow is super-
ficial. Tanker holed in Engine Room
and had later to be beached. (S. 2. 1252/4
to F.O.S.)IMBAT(Wooden Steam Drifter) Sunk in collision
Cost of salvage and repair excessive and
success problematical. Intend to destroy
wreck. Request relief drifter may be sent.
(R.A.Scapa, 1725/4 to D.S.V.P.)

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSNorth AtlanticEnemy Unit

Following by D/F Bearing unknown unit reported by Admty. at 2137/3 Land's End 210, Scarborough 207. (F.O.C.N.A., 0104/4 to S and A North Atlantic)

CLAN CAMPBELL

British CLAN CAMPBELL Freetown 29/1. Liverpool 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ knots (Route) (F.O.C.N.A. 1200/4 to S and A N.A. Station)

Force Z

Your 1259/3 and your 1255/3. In view of A.C.W.A's 1659/1 giving E.T.A. of force Z in new position K 054° 30' N., 020° 40' W., as 1100Z-1/3, Force Z cannot reach position Q at 16 knots before 1300Z-16. Re Admty's 1049/29, amend position Q to read 035° 00' N., 022° 40' W. (F.O.C.N.A., 1650/4 to C. in C., S.A.)

Operation
"Ration"

Your 1036/3. This information makes situation quite clear as to action required. Unless there are objections I consider it would help locally if Captain of French escort and merchant ships can be informed by boarding officer that action is being taken because we are aware 80% of French imports are passing to enemy countries. (S.O. Force H., 1737/4 to Admty.)

EMPIRE TROOPER

D. of S.T's 1752/3. Earliest date of arrival of EMPIRE TROOPER at Lagos. (Route date) (F.O.C.N.A., 1800/4 to C. in C., S.A.)

RESOLUTION

My 1919/27. Departure postponed (date) (A.C.N.S. (F) 2308/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSSouth AtlanticEnemy Units

D/F bearing indicates enemy unit presumed surface vessel possibly auxiliary within 100 miles of 023° N., 020° W., at 2137Z/3 (C. in C., S.A., 0129N/4 to South Atlantic Stn. Squadron.)

By D/F on 5315 kcs. at 0027/4 G.M.T. Position of unknown enemy unit was approx. 7° 20' S., 22° 25' W., (bearings) (D.D.I.C. 0511/4)

D/F bearings indicates unknown enemy unit in approximately 007° 20' S., 022° 25' W., at 0027Z/4. (C. in C., S.A., 0715N/4, to S.A.Squadron)

Your 0511/4. Suggest that Raider position at 0027Z/4 was within 150 miles of either 4° S., 20° W., or 9° S., 26° W., reliability 40% for each area. Also bearings of the same message repeated on Nordeich frequency at 0157Z and? (0'36Z/4) may refer to auxiliary within 200 miles of 11° N., 23° W., reliability 40%. (C. in C., S.A., 1841/4 to Admty.)

My 0129/4. Consideration of further bearings indicates this unit was within 200 miles of 058° S., 018° E., reliability 45%. Possible a more Northerly unit was transmitting simultaneously. (C. in C., S.A., 1845/4 to S.A.Squadron)

AFRICA MARU

Your 1415/3. Details of cargo. (S.O.I. Capetown, 1703/4, 1705/4, to Admty.)

LADY DENISON
PENDER
C.S. 1 to
search.

My 1259/3. D/F bearings indicate possibility of enemy raider or auxiliary within 200 miles of position 011° N., 023° W., at 0236Z/4. Cable ship LADY DENISON PENDER left Bathurst a.m./30/1 to operate in position 014° 52' N., 023° 28' W should have been there 1/2 but has not reported, may have been intercepted on passage. Search area roughly between longitudes 019° 30' W., and 022° 00' W., as far as practicable on passage. Meeting with Force Z not to be delayed more than 5 hours. (C. in C., S.A., 1929N/4 to C.S.1)

/Possible Raiders....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSSouth Atlantic-Contd.Possible Raiders

Enemy activities on this coast appear to indicate presence or expected presence of German raiders this side of South Atlantic.

Secret sources report offers to divulge position of raider but no positions yet obtained though offers are being investigated.

Secret source (C.O) reports raider will fuel night of 8-9/2.

(S.O.I, Montevideo, 1941Z/4 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Enemy W/T Analysis

Your 1105/29.

Ref. para 1. During the period 20/12 to 28/1, 20 signals were intercepted originating in South Atlantic, South of the Equator.

2. Ref. Para 3. Types of ships cannot be identified by study of W/T traffic, but certain signals are characteristic of U-Boats, others are not. These characteristics are present in Freetown area and northward, and on the Halifax route. The identical features are therefore explained by probability that in both cases they originate from U-Boats. These features are absent South of the Equator, and it is probable that signals there were made by surface units.

3. It is thought that German Shore Authorities are not primarily interested in this traffic. Inference is that signals are intercommunications between ships.

4. Considered that traffic in the area South of the Equator originates, as suggested in your para. 2 a, from surface raiders intercommunicating or operating with supply ships, and it is possible that SCHEER and her Auxiliary were responsible. (Head of M. 2231/4 to C. in C., S.A.)

French S/M's & M/V's Positions

Telegrams intercepted by special French intercept station, indicate:-

1. L'ESPOIR and VENGEUR are at Diego-Saures.
2. VILLE DE ROUEN and LECONTE DE LISLE have either left or are about to leave Madagascar for Europe. (No. 20 Military Mission, Brazzaville, 1010/5)

MOST SECRET.4.2.1941.
Tuesday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Suez Canal.

My 1939/3. Traffic has been resumed throughout canal. Expected that DERWENT HALL will arrive at Tewfik p.m. today. (S.N.O. Suez Canal, 1033/4 to Admty. etc.) See also 1443/4.

Enemy Ships Bombed.

Operational summary No.239 up to 1200 hours 4/2. Egypt. Day 3/2. 8 Blenheims bombed 2 enemy ships off coast near Sirte and M.T. convoy in neighbourhood of Sirte. Reconnaissances Benghazi reported hospital ship and damaged ships. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1241/4).

Yugo Slav., neutrality.

It is evident that full use is being made by enemy both of Yugo Slav ships and territorial waters. Proposals. (C.in C. Med. 1245/4). See Mediterranean Volume.

A/S vessels.

Group 16 aux. A/S vessels and P.(? O) L vessels will be and five (as received) are very urgently required in Mediterranean. Request their completion and sailing may be hastened as much as possible. What is situation as regards (? crews). (C.in C. Med., 1305/4 to C.in C. S.A.)

Minesweepers Needed.

N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0717Z/31. 109th Minesweeping Group is very urgently required in Mediterranean to cope with magnetic mining. Request passage to Suez may be hastened. (C.in C. Med., 1307/4 to C.in C. E.I.)

Canal Sweeping, Greek ship Mined.

*AGHIOS.

My 1033/4. Canal between Kabret and Suez thoroughly swept with one sweep and D.W.I. Wellington aircraft before traffic started. 12 ships reached Suez safely. (? 13th). Ship, Greek INRIOS GEORGIOS 3800 (? tons) mined at kilometre 143 at 1130 and is across canal stopping all navigation. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1443/4 to Admty etc.)

See next page.

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean-Contd.W.S. 5 A.

Bunker and requirements at Suez. (S.S.T.D. Port Said, 1813/4)

INRIOS GEORGIOSAGHIOS GEORGIOS*intended**(B.R. 1337)*

My 1443/4. Ship nearly broken in two and after part towed partly clear leaving channel about 25 metres wide. Salvage and/or (? demolition) being undertaken and canal being widened by dredging. Hope small ships may be able to pass wreck shortly and normal navigation be resumed in about 15 days. (S.B.N.O., Suez Canal, 1903/4 to Admty. etc.)

Benghazi,
orders to
→ TRUANT
TETRARCH

Proceed Westward with all despatch as far as possible on surface TRUANT South and TETRARCH North of line 290° from Benghazi Light. Further orders following. (Capt. S. 1. 1805/4. to TRUANT, TETRARCH)

Ammunition
for Captured
Guns

Capture of Italian 20 mm. Breda guns raises problem of spare barrels and ammunition. Please indicate proposals. (D.T.S.D. 1851/4 to W.O.)

ILLUSTRIOUS

Re dispersal of ammunition. (D.T.S.D., 1852/4 to C. in C., Med.)

→ S/M Patrols

Operation B.S. Appendix One, para 4. Establish patrol lines as follows. (Capt. S.1. 1901/4 to TRIUMPH, TETRARCH, TRUANT)

→ Cancel my 1901/4. Operation B.S. Appendix 1 para. 4. Establish patrol lines as follows (Capt. S. 1. 2311/4 to TRIUMPH, TETRARCH, TRUANT)

URSULA

URSULA leaves Malta 0001/5 for J 035° 15'N. 011° 28' - 000° - 30 - 30. (S.O. (S) Malta, 2113/4, to UPRIGHT)

/Suez Canal.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean-Contd.Suez Canal
Mines Exploded

Your 1902/2 and 1939/3. Request for details of mines (D.M.S., 2203/4 to S.B.N.O., Suez Canal)

S/M Patrol
Benghazi

Indications are enemy rapidly abandoning Benghazi. All available submarines ordered to concentrate in Tripoli-Sicilian Channel route. Unless otherwise ordered carry out patrol ordered. (S.O.(S), Malta, 1847/4 to UTMOST)

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast IndiesEnemy Unit

Colombo's 1457/2. Transmission read by Mauritius W/T Station at 1457/2 G.M.T. was of control on 16350 kcs. and was not a series B transmission. (D.D.I.C. 0149/4 to C. in C., E.I.)

→ Four Ships
required in
Mediterranean
immediately.

Amendment to his 1028/3 (C. in C., E.I. 0740Z/4)

Bombing of
Mogadishu,
night of 2/2

A. 0367/41)
A 0727/41)

My 2005/2 and your 0652/3 not to Admty. A. Night dive bombing attack, 9 A/C Targets and Apparent Results.

No casualties. One A/C hit by single rifle-calibre bullet.
B. Corrosion "~~bullet~~". Circle 200 yard radius, centre 110° 9 cables from leading light. (S.O. Force K., 0717Z/4 to C. in C. E.I.)

Persian Gulf
Contraband
Control

S.N.O. Persian Gulf 0802/1 passed to Admty with reference to 1148/23/1.
(1) Concur generally. Experience may show one A.B.V to be necessary to augment present forces.
(11) Consider 2 dhows should be taken up and armed to deal with dhow traffic. Matter under investigation.
(111) Consider question of assistance by A/C should be deferred effectiveness of surface patrol has been tried out. (C. in C., E.I., 0850Z/4 to Admiralty, Repeated F.O.C., R.I.N., S.N.O., Persian Gulf, C. o S., Singapore)

→ BANKURA
BAMORA
BARPETA
BARJORA

Your 1028 and your 1856/3. Dates of arrival at Aden. (S.S.T.O. Bombay, 1012Z/4 to C. in C., E.I.)

FALMOUTH

My 0452/21/1. Date of readiness for service. (C. in C., E.I., 1056Z/4 to Admty.)

/SHROPSHIRE.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSEast Indies-Contd.SHROPSHIRE
HERMESSailed, E.T.A. Kilindini 0600/9.
(N.O.I.C., Durban, 1609Z/4)KARAGOLA
"Q" ReportMy 1236/2/2. Ship KARAGOLA sighted
was H.M.S. CAPETOWN. (C. in C., E.I.,
1824/4 to Admty.)FORMIDABLEIn view of S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1443/4
(Minesweeping in Canal) is FORMIDABLE
to proceed to Suez? (C. in C., E.I.,
1926Z/4 to C. in C., Med.)Enemy UnitBy D/F on 12700 kc/s at 1943 B.S.T.
bearings of enemy surface unit (details)
(D.D.I.C., 2339/4 to C. in C's E.I. and
S.A. etc.)ChinaAircraft
TenderAir Ministry 1028/25 and X 309 26/1 to
G.H.Q., Far East. Para 3, ship tender.
Requirements. Unable to obtain anything
oil-burning hear so have decided accept
one coal-burning. Another, oil-burning
is needed.Facilities at Nancowry, Maldives, Seychelles,
Mauritius, etc. (H.Q. Far East, 0130/4 to
Air Ministry)Enemy UnitD/F position 0027Z/4. German mobile unit.
018° N., 111° E., Vicinity reciprocal
position more likely. (C.O.S., Singapore,
0341Z/4, to C. in C., A.W.I.)Raider
IntelligenceAdmty's. 671A/4/1. Agree he had facts
regarding raiders A B and C. As raiders
A and B are reported to have met in the
vicinity of Marshall Island on 10/10.
(Navy Board Melbourne 1300/12/1) Consider
raider which captured OLE JACOB is not
(as suggested by C. in C., E.I., 1744/17/1
para one) connected with Pacific activity.
(C. in C., China, 0475Z/4 to Admty.)

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.2.1941.
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica & West IndiesU.S. Navy
Request for
information
of Ship
Movements.Your 1305/30/1. In view of N.A. Washington 1239/3, no action is to be taken.
(C. in C., A.W.I., 1002/4 to S.N.O. Curacao)D/F Signals

Re merchant ship receivers. (C.N.S., Canada 1203/4)

AORANGI)
AWATEA)Re protection of. Conveying New Zealand Air Force personnel, and employment of PRINCE ROBERT and PRINCE HENRY to escort (C. in C., A.W.I., 1301/4 to Admty.)
See Operations Volume. *Page 66.*Inter-Island
Air CommunicationS.N.O. Curacao 1226/3 being passed to you. This would be welcome and would greatly assist in improvement of inter-Island communication.
Recommend facilities be given later on to requirements of service aircraft.
(C. in C., A.W.I., 1732/4 to Admty.)Detach S/M
for A/S training

Your 1141/30. With concurrence of Dutch C. in C., it has now been decided that O.15 shall be retained in Canada after refit in order to assist in A/S training. Date of completion of refit of O.15 should be reported. (D.O.D. (H) 1741/4 to C.N.S. Canada)

DRAMATIST
BEAVERBRAE
PACIFIC SHIPPER
MANCHESTER
MERCHANT.Freightships (named) sailed with Aircraft Trinidad, St. John N.B. and Halifax N.S. (dates)
(D. of S.T. 2009/4 to C. in C., A.W.I., C.N.S., Ottawa)Shipping,
Canal Ports.Your 1056/30. Supplies of S.P. 02272 (10) and (11) not available at Colon, Curacao or Bermuda. Ships bound for U.K. from Canal were therefore routed via Jamaica where supplies were available. Bunkering at canal ports was arranged as a temporary measure to save time and expence. Small stocks of S.P.'s mentioned being sent from Jamaica to Colon by first opportunity, after which normal bunkering will be resumed.
(C. in C., A.W.I., 2246/4 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.4.2.1941.
Tuesday.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.BABITONGA,
DRESDEN.

Following received from Santos.
(A.3.) BABITONGA and DRESDEN were testing main engines for four hours today Monday. (S.O.(I) Montevideo 0124Z/4).

ERNA
OLDENDORFF.

My 1105/28. ERNA is now afloat at Marin and being pumped out. Spanish colours apparently painted on sides for the voyage have been removed. (Consul, Vigo 1030/4).

PLUS.

PLUS sailed tonight Tuesday. (N.V.Vigo, 1122/4 to Admty).

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.SONTAY.

Your 1810/3. In view of presence of invalids on board, SONTAY should proceed on voyage to Simonstown as soon as possible. Future commitments of SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA also render this desirable. (Head of M, 1051/4 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

MENDOZA.

Following from M.E.W.
Your 2355/2. MENDOZA and cargo to be seized with exception of following items which are released:- Instructions being sent to Governor through Colonial Office. (D.E.W.D. 1850/4 to C.in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.4.2.1941.
Tuesday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships
Attacked.RINGHORN
CRISPIN.

(Norwegian 1298 tons) Position 055 46'N., 022 36' W., picked up 5 survivors only of RINGHORN torpedoed at 0500/4. Have twice attacked doubtful contact. Am proceeding, CAMELIA in company. Have 121 survivors of H.M.S. CRISPIN some were picked up by other ship.
(HARVESTER 1320/4 to C.in C. W.A.)

RINGHORN has been in Convoy O.B.280 but was probably a straggler.
(D.S.519).

Unknown
Ship.

Reported at 1037/4 that she was being attacked by a U/Boat about 190' W.N.W. of Bloody Foreland. (D.O.R. 5/2).

Reporting
of
Attacks.

A convoy was recently attacked by a U/Boat and no W/T reports were made by the Merchant Ships although some of them sighted the submarine. Ref: A.M.S.I. 237, Masters are to be informed that in future if a U/Boat attacks a convoy when an anti-submarine escort is present, ships attacked or in the immediate vicinity must invariably report immediately by W/T on 500 Kc/s any useful information they may have to impart to the escort.
(D.T.D. 1952/4 to N.C.S.O's).

Submarines
Reported.

2347.

By D/F on 5660 kc/s. at 2347/3. Position of German U/Boat was near 58° 30'N., 10° W. Very indefinite fix.
(D.D.I.C. 0027/4).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.4.2.1941.
Tuesday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.

1737. Submarine reported on surface $\frac{1}{2}$ mile S.E. of Whiteness Hill Light $060^{\circ} 35'N.$, $001^{\circ} 00'W.$ at 1737 today. Submarine dived and proceeded in S.E. direction. (C.3.) (A.C.O.S. 1757/4).
0500. Message A.F. Position $55^{\circ} 46'N.$, $22^{\circ} 36'W.$ at 0400/4 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 1834/4 to G.B.M.S. Area 1).
1228. $58.10N.$, $19^{\circ} W.$ indefinite position (Germans) (D.S.519).
- 1622 and)
1708.) $58^{\circ} N.$, $19^{\circ} W.$

Estimated
U/Boat
Dispositions.German.

Possibly 1 between $60^{\circ} N.$, and $62^{\circ} N.$ $12^{\circ} W.$ and $15^{\circ} W.$
 Possibly 1 between $58^{\circ} 30'N.$, and $60^{\circ} 30'N$ $9^{\circ} W.$ and $11^{\circ} W.$
 1 within 60 miles of $58^{\circ} 10'N.$, $19^{\circ} W$ at 1228/4.
 1 within 60 miles of $58^{\circ} 30'N.$, $22^{\circ} W.$
 1 within $56^{\circ} 54'N.$, $20^{\circ} 22'W.$ at 2239/3.
 1 in about $53^{\circ} 30'N.$, $20^{\circ} 30'W$ at 1816/3 may have moved N.N.W.
 Possibly 1 within 100 miles of $50^{\circ} N.$, $27^{\circ} W.$
 1 near Azores.

Italian.

1 in $54^{\circ} N.$, $19^{\circ} W.$ at 1521/3.
 No news of others which may be at sea.
 (D.D.I.C. 1257/4).

Submarines
Attacked.

1320. By HARVESTER. See ships Attacked - RINGHORN.

MOST SECRETWar Diary5.2.1941.
WednesdaySITUATION REPORTHome Commands

FURIOUS arrived in the Clyde today. C. in C., Home Fleet refers in his 1909/5 to our control of Northern Waters.

British Air Activity

Bad weather caused the majority of standard patrols and convoy escorts to be cancelled today.

143 aircraft were despatched last night by Bomber Command to attack Channel Ports and aerodromes. A direct hit was obtained on the dry dock at Brest, but the dock was empty.

Coastal Command aircraft attacked shipping at Cherbourg last night. Ten direct hits were definitely observed, as well as two bursts in a shipbuilding yard. 6 Blenheims, despatched with fighter escort today to attack enemy destroyers reported near Calais, failed to locate the enemy owing to bad visibility.

War Diary5.2.1941.
WednesdaySITUATION REPORTEnemy Air Activity

Convoy C.E. 24 was attacked by some 12 dive bombers this morning off North Foreland. A/S trawler TOURMALINE was sunk. A/S trawler LADY PHILOMENA shot down one of the enemy and one was shot down by fighters.

M.02468/41.

Convoy F.N. 1. was attacked twice off the east coast today. No damage is reported.

A
IONNIS M. EMBIRICOS (Greek) in Convoy S.C. 20 was bombed and disabled in the N.W. Approaches this morning. *See Page 155*

MiningOperation
S.N. 7.

1st M.L. Squadron carried out this operation today. NIGERIA acting as close escort and RODNEY with 4 destroyers providing cover, whilst so engaged.

MENESTHEUS ^{developed main engine defect} ~~was damaged by a~~
in 60° 23' N., 8° 3' W., and is in tow of AGAMEMNON. No tugs are available in the Orkneys and Shetlands to tow her.

See p. 1414.

Five Hampdens laid mines off St. Nazaire last night.

Enemy
Minelaying

Mines were laid in daylight today by enemy aircraft off Southwold.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft in the Humber and Bristol Channel was suspected last night. Estimated 60 minelayers employed.

The Humber was opened soon after noon today. Six mines were exploded off Spurn Point during the day. Mines were also detonated off Milford Haven and Liverpool.

MOST SECRETWar Diary5.2.1941.
WednesdaySITUATION REPORTShippingStragglers

Instructions for ships which straggle from O.B. and O.G. convoys in the neighbourhood of the Minches are contained in D.T.D's 1621/5.

Junction of
S.L.S. and H.G.

A new scheme to facilitate the junction of S.L.S. and H.G. convoys is to begin with S.L.S. 65.

Invasion
Precautions

Procedure to be adopted for ocean convoys in the event of invasion is continued in D.T.D. 1926/5.

South Atlantic

All Axis and Danish ships in Santos, Brazil, are making preparations for departure, but there are no signs of activity at other ports on the coast.

Further evidence from survivors of EURYCLOCHUS (Attacked on 29/1) on their arrival at Freetown today suggests her assailants were probably a pocket battleship and armed merchant raider.

MOST SECRETWar Diary5.2.1941.
WednesdaySITUATION REPORTMediterraneanTunisian
Territorial
Waters.

Ships and aircraft may violate Tunisian territorial waters south of Susa for the purpose of attacking vessels identified as enemy. In order to avoid interference with bona fide French coastal traffic Tunisian territorial waters north of Susa are to be respected. Mines are not to be laid in Tunisian territorial waters. Identified enemy ships may be sunk at sight in all central Mediterranean waters south of 35° 46' N., whether escorted or not.

Mining of
Suez Canal

Further mines were dropped in the Suez Canal today. RANEE (transport) was mined this morning; all traffic except tugs and small craft has been stopped south of Ismailia.

Misuse of
Italian
Hospital Ships.

There is slight ground for belief that Italian hospital ships are being used for military purposes. Next time one is met at sea she is to be boarded and examined.

Malta Raid

Malta was raided last night by 3 large formations of JU 88's which bombed aerodromes and the Dockyard.

A hangar was damaged 3 aircraft destroyed on the ground and 4 Swordfish were damaged. Enemy aircraft losses were 3 certain and one probable.

MOST SECRETWar Diary5.2.1941.
WednesdaySITUATION REPORTEast IndiesFORMIDABLE

Owing to the mining of the Suez Canal, FORMIDABLE and her screening destroyers have been ordered to Aden.

S/M Attack
on B.N. 14.

M.06483/41.

Convoy B.N. 14 (troops and supplies for Suez) escorted by CALEDON, was attacked by a U-Boat p.m. 2/2 in the Red Sea. 3 underwater explosions were felt, but no damage was caused.

America & West Indies

Two Danish ships were seized today off Trinidad by VAN KINSBERGEN and HUSKY, by arrangement with the owner. Some disagreement occurred between the two warships as to who was the actual captor.

MOST SECRET.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Rona.
Minefield.
Proposed
amendment
of Notice
to
Marines.

Reference sinking of BOTUSK and EMMAPLEIN In Rona Minefield. Consider Notice to Mariners 1768 (T) altogether insufficient warning to merchant ships. Instructions in preamble might well be overlooked by ships from Atlantic proceeding through Minches. Also Rescue Ships believing BOTUSK and EMMAPLEIN to have been torpedoed proceeded into minefield and were themselves fortunate in not having been sunk. Request that Notice to Mariners may be drastically amended to deal with these points.
(A.C.O.S. 1125/5 to Admty).

Ineffective
control
of
Northern
Waters.

Admiralty 1345/12/1. Owing to shortage of trawlers and shore-based air reconnaissance our control of Northern Waters is dangerously ineffective. It is therefore important that the number of ships passing the patrol should be strictly limited both on grounds of effective control and to conceal our grave weakness.

I have no objection to a total of 6 ships monthly, but it should be regarded as maximum.
(C.in C. H.F. 1909/5 to Admty).

Suspicious
objects
at
night.

1. It must be impressed on all Commanding Officers and O.O.W's particularly in Convoys that any suspicious object sighted at night is to be illuminated and investigated immediately and a gun fired to draw attention to it.

2. Immediately enemy identity is established a report is to be made by W/T or R/T.
(C.in C. W.A. 2003/5).

Proposed
Minefield.

Request early consideration to laying of Deep Minefield N.W. of Cape Wrath.
(C.in C. W.A. 2017/5). See Mining.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy. (Contd.)H.F. and
W.A. Command.
Exchange
of Five
Destroyers.

In order to strengthen the destroyer force fitted with T.S.D.S. in the Home Fleet the five B.Class destroyers are to be relieved by ANTHONY, ACHATES, ARROW, ANTELOPE and ACTIVE from Western Approaches.

2. The latter are to have T.S.D.S. gear fitted and in working order.

3. C.in C. W.A. and C.in C. H.F. are requested to arrange the transfer.
(1st S.L. 2135/5).

Defence of United Kingdom."Deluge".
DELUGE.

At 1130/5.
(D.C.1221/5).
At 2330/5.
(D.C.0017/6).

Movements.BLUEBELL.

Am hove to off New Island owing to weather.
(BLUEBELL 0246/5).

CACHALOT.

Sailed escorted by CUTTY SARK at 0420 in accordance with S. 2's 1548/31/1.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0829/5).

My 1548/31. CUTTY SARK and CACHALOT delayed in Brodick Bay by stress of weather proceed at midnight. E.T.A. R/V 0830/7.
(S.2. 1821/5).

MOST SECRET.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. (Contd.)SALOPIAN.

Sailed SALOPIAN to R/V with WORCESTERSHIRE thence to Reykjavik and N.P.41 in accordance with F.O.C. N.P. 1856/2.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1314/5).

CIRCASSIA.
ATHELEMPRESS.

CIRCASSIA arrived 1215 ATHELEMPRESS arrived 1130.
(F.O.Iceland 1320/5).

Northern
Patrol.

Trawler Lines tonight.
3 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1531/5).

Submarines.

Positions at 0800/6 and movements for following 24 hours.
(F.O.S. 1701/5).

NEPTUNE.

Arrived Scapa 1730.
(A.C.O.S. 1745/5).

FURIOUS
OTTAWA.

Arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1754/5).

Operations.MINNIE
DE
LARRINAGA.

Arrived tugs LADY BRASSEY, ARCADIA, GAMECOCK, Drifters NETSUKIS, YOUNG MON and S.S. MINNIE DE LARRINAGA.
(V.A.Dover, 0429/5).

Operation
P.X.

Operation P.X. para.14 This will be done by aircraft of 16 Group.
(C.in C. Nore, 1101/5 to EREBUS, D.21).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. (Contd.)Operation postponed 24 hours.
(C.in C. Nore, 1409/5).Northern
Patrol.Cancel my 1115/20/1. Direction of patrols
is to be south westward during daylight.
(F.O.C.N.P. 1145/5 to Northern Patrol.)Operation
N.C.Will be carried out. Zero hour 0415/6.
(V.A.Dover 1514/5).SUNFISH
2 attacks
on M/V's.

M 02321 | 41.

SUNFISH reports. At 1353/30 fired 4
torpedoes at 4500 ton tanker in 58° 11 mins.
N., 8° 32 mins. E., range 4000 yards.
Attack unsuccessful. At 1131/2, fired 4
torpedoes at laden merchant vessel 2000 tons
in 58° 02' N., 6° 46' E., range 1200 yards.
One torpedo ran on surface. Ship took
avoiding action. Attack unsuccessful.
SUNFISH unsuccessfully counter attacked by
trawler.
(F.O.S. 1859/5).British Air Activity.Patrols.My 2144/4. Add R1 - R2 - ^{"Fugle"}~~FUGLE~~.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0102/5).My 2236/8/1. Patrol ^{"Fugle"}~~FUGLE~~ amend positions
as follows. Add Patrol R1. and R2. as
follows:
(C.in C. Rosyth 0326/5 to Admty).
(See Summaries Folder).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (Contd.)

No flying by number 18 group possible at present owing to weather.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 0920/5).

Your 0908/4 and C.in C. Western Approaches 0016/5. Regret weather unsuitable for flying this morning. Will carry out H.F.X. at 1400/5 if weather permits.
(R.A.N.A.S. Roborough (Plymouth) 1010/5 to Capt: D.5.)

A/S Air
Escort
for
S.N.7.
cancelled.

My 1006/4. A/S air escort for today cancelled, aircraft required for other duties. You will probably sight Sunderland, Whitleys, and Hudson proceeding to their patrol during day.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0226/5 to R.A.M.L.)

FURIOUS.

Intend flying off 2 Skuas to Prestwick at 1615. Please warn.
(FURIOUS 1351/5 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

Enemy Air Activity.

WAZIRISTAN
(Bombed
2/2).

Aircraft report WAZIRISTAN in 061° 20'N., 011° 56'W at 1147/4, hove to, drifting downwind.
(C.in C. W.A. 0105/5 to BANDIT).

Request aircraft assistance to locate WAZIRISTAN. Am remaining in vicinity.
(BANDIT 1155/5).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

My 1735. Swell at present too heavy.
LORD MIDDLETON, making an attempt.
DOUGLAS 1931/5 to C.in C. H.F.)

DIONE II.
(Bombed
3/2.)

Your 1630/4. No further information.
A/S escort is proceeding to stand by to
assist you.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0145/5 to ASSURANCE,
CAPE MARIATO).

BARON
RENFREW.
(Bombed
28/1).

TENACITY reports BARON RENFREW adrift
at 0100, wind S.S.E. 08, conditions
very adverse.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0157/5).

Report forthwith whether another tug
required. ST. OLAVES will be returning for
coal today Wednesday.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0415/5 to TENACITY).

Proceed with all despatch to assist TENACITY.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0925/5 to SEAMAN).

Sailed SEAMAN.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1113/5).

Cancel my 0855. Proceed immediately to
assist TENACITY.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1525/5).

Cancel my 1113. SEAMAN returned to
Cambeltown for shelter.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1601/5).

Convoy
C.E.24.

^{'Bosom'}
Convoy ~~BOSOM~~ being shadowed by one enemy A/C
bearing 300° distance 12 miles, in 51° 23'N.,
1 31'E.
(BLENCATHRE, 0926/5).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)Convoy C.E. 24
Cont:-Help in 51° 26'N., 1° 27'E.
(Rosyth W/T 0940/5).Fighter aircraft have been despatched.
(Nore W/T 0943/5).BLENCATHRA reports that during attack by
dive bombers on C.E. Convoy at about 0950
today one enemy aircraft was shot down by
fighters and one by H.M.T. LADY PHILOMENA.
(C.in C. Nore 1521/5).(Convoy
C.E. 24.)
TOURMALINE
Sunk.Following has been made. It is possible
that S.P's and C.B's from H.M.T. TOURMALINE
sunk in 138° 3/4 mile Hope Buoy today may
still be floating. All ships and shore
authorities are to be warned to keep a good
look out for these.
V.A. Dover is requested to take necessary
action. 2236/5/2 ends.
(C.in C. Nore 2318/5).Tugs off
Dover.Fighters have been sent to assistance of
~~SECRET~~ (Two tugs escorted by one trawler
off Dover).
(Nore 1241/5).Convoy
F.N. 1. 400Help convoy ^{"Radio"} ~~RADIO~~ in 51° 50'N., 1° 35'E.
(SOUTHDOWN 1416/5).No hits. Gone East.
(Convoy ~~RADIO~~ 1425/5).Help in 52° 13'N., 1° 56'E.
(SOUTHDOWN 1745/5).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

Fighter aircraft have been despatched.
(Nore 1756/5).

Help Convoy F.N.1008. of Tyne in 52°19'N.,
1° 56'E.
(Convoy 1817/5).

Ramsgate
bombed.

At 2110/5th. 4 H.E. bombs were dropped
in open land at Cliffsend Ramsgate.
No casualties. Electric cable telephone
wires and 8 bungalows slightly damaged.
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate, 2352/5).

Mining.A/C
Minelaying.

AP/809/5/2. For tonight.
(H.Q.C.C. 1130/5 to 16 Group, N.Coates).

Humber.

Humber open. Movement restricted to swept
Channel. Ships should arrive in the
Afternoon as far as possible.
(F.O. Humber, 1234/5).

KONIGSBERG
PREUSSEN.

(German) Reported (B.2) mined in Convoy off
West Jutland on 1/2. Report unconfirmed.
(N.A.Stockholm 1644/5 to D.N.I.)

Spurn Point.

The following six mines exploded today.
Spontaneous explosions observed at 2255/4 in
003° Spurn Point Lighthouse 0.4 miles and at
0047/5 in 120° Spurn Point Lighthouse 0.2
miles.
(F.O. Humber 2018/5).

MOST SECRET.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Milford Haven.

Three ground mines self detonated (positions) (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1731/5).

Parachute Mines off Southwold.2 Parachute mines dropped in 52° 16'N., 1° 58'E.
(SOUTHDOWN 1752/5).My 1752. Second aircraft probably laid further mines 2 miles to northward.
(SOUTHDOWN 1810/5).My 1810/3. Aircraft probably laid mines to port of swept Channel somewhat to the northward and west of last position.
(SOUTHDOWN 1830/5).Report received that enemy plane has been dropping magnetic mines vicinity No.9 Buoy.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1858/5 to C.in C. Nore).MENESTHEUS.(Minelayer). My position 060° 23'N., 008° 03' W. In tow of AGAMEMNON. Main engine defect. Request tug to tow to port Z.A. Intend to pass through 60° N., 008° 12'W. thence 142° to Butt of Lewis speed of advance 4 knots.
(MENESTHEUS 1800/5 to A.C.O.S.)MENESTHEUS 1800/5. No tugs are available in Orkneys and Shetlands area.
(A.C.O.S. 2008/5 to N.O.I.C. Greenock).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Liverpool.

At 1355/4 and 1358/4 two Mines exploded by S.A. 2 miles S. 60° West Bar Light Vessel. Details.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1840/5).

My 1848/4 for 286° read 227° . Mine report to 1800/5. One detonated by S.A. gear 244° Bar Light Vessel 1 mile. One self detonated between Queens Channel Pillar Buoy and Bar Light Vessel.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2102/5).

Proposed
new Deep
Minefield.

Request early consideration to laying a deep minefield (position), to cover northerly routed convoy track.
(C.in C. W.A. 2017/5 to Admty).

Operation
E.A.

29. TEVIOT BANK is to remain at anchor at Methil until finally sailing. TEVIOT BANK escorted by INTREPID and IMPULSIVE is to sail from Methil at 1600/6 and proceed to Humber so as to arrive before dark/7th.

D.20 is requested to sail INTREPID and IMPULSIVE so as to R/V with TEVIOT BANK accordingly.
(C.in C. Rosyth 2234/5).

Enemy Intelligence.

By D/F at 0008/5 S.T. bearings of enemy unit were as follows.

Fix indicates the Brest area. Frequently is usually associated with small craft, but not necessarily so.
(D.D.I.C. 0101/5.)

E/Boat.

E/Boat encountered in position 15 miles South Saint Catherines Point.
(CHESTERFIELD 0215/5.)
(C.in C. Portsmouth 0336/5 and 0550/5 to VANOC, etc.)

MOST SECRET.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence. (Contd.)ADMIRAL HIPPER
Cruiser.

German Cruiser ADMIRAL HIPPER ~~class~~ last reported at Brest believed to have sailed. Reconnaissance shows that she is not in either Bordeaux, La Rochelle or Cherbourg. (F.O.C.N.A.S. 0937/5).

Transmission
heard,

Transmissions heard on F.V. one at 1200/5 bearing 075° from 054° ($20'$ or $48'$) N. 005° $27'$ (?) W. Transmissions were clearly audible but were too weak to show on ammeter. (WORCESTERSHIRE 1220/5 to F.O.C.N.P.)

My 1220. Bearing at 1240 from 054° $55'N.$, 005° $28'$ W. was 090° very approx. and at 1405 from position 055° $12'N.$, 005° $20'W$ it was 170° . (WORCESTERSHIRE 1410/5).

Denmark.

Reports as to handing over of Danish T/B's and Minesweepers to Germany with N.I.D. comments. (N.A. Stockholm 1644/5 to D.N.I.)

Cancel my 1410 as these were not genuine 66 centimetre transmissions. But my 1220 stands. (WORCESTERSHIRE 1709/5).

3 Destroyers.

In confirmation of telephone message. Three Destroyers bearing 120° close to French Coast at 1345, steering East. (V.A.Dover, 1406/5 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Coastal
Convoys.

F.S.3.403

50 ships.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0926/5).

C.W.25.

My 2120/4. (Intend sailing C.W.25 Friday 7/2)
Timetable at 7 knots. Care to be taken
to keep convoy well closed up when
passing through the Downs.
Escorts destroyers BLENCATHRA, BERKELEY.
M/S Trawlers ACACIA, ASH, DEODAR, WALNUT, BAY.
M.B.B.V's HASLEMERE, ROEBUCK, FRATTON, ASTRAL,
MAMMOUTH, GATINAIS.
M.L's 171, 116, 118, 119, 113, 120, 117,
Chasseur 43. Will join convoy from Ramsgate
and Dover. Number of M/V's in convoy 16.
(C.in C. Nore 1050/5).

O.B.282.

Sailed PICOTREE to overtake O.B.282.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1055/5).

F.N.1.401

Sailed 0920/5. 28 Ships.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1117/5).

E.N.68.
W.N.81.

Act as additional A/A Escort to E.N.68
sailing at 0800/7. After passing Dunnet
Head proceed to Scapa. A.C.O.S. is requested
to sail GLEANER to join W.N.81 due Duncansby
Head 1100/9. Code word for E.N.68 ~~PADDLE~~ "PADDLE"
and W.N.81 ~~MATERIAL~~ "Material."
(C.in C. Rosyth 1107/5).

F.N. F.S.
Cancellation.

If an F.N. or F.S. convoy is cancelled, the
sailing of the additional escort from Harwich
will also automatically be cancelled and the
escort programme remain otherwise unchanged.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1126/5).

F.N.1.401

List.
(N.C.S.O. Thames 1142/5).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

→ 10 M/V's.

10 Merchant Vessels. A/S Trawlers.
 ST. CATHAN, CAPE COMORIN from Needles to
 Dartmouth E.T.A. 0900.
 (C.in C. W.A. 1205/5).

F.S.2. 402

All ships have arrived.
 (N.C.S.O. Thames. 1211/5).

O.B.281.

Disperse in 020° 00' West.
 (C.in C. W.A. 1229/5 to WITCH for Cmdre.
 MONTGOMERY, WILD SWAN.)

8 M/V's.

Your 2004/3 and 1639/4 arrived.
 (8 M/V's and escort sailing 1700/4).
 (C.in C. Portsmouth). (1238/5).

→ 10 M/V's.

Portsmouth night movements 5/6th.
 A/S Trawlers ST. CATHAN, CAPE COMORIN,
 H.M.S. VULCAN and 10 M/V's Needles to
 Dartmouth, leave 1800/5 due 0900/6.
 (C.in C. Portsmouth 1323/5).

→ W.N.79.

Convoy W.N.79 has scattered during snow
 storm my position 10 miles west of Dunnet
 Head with one ship one escort, waiting
 remainder which are not yet in sight.
 Visibility 10 miles.
 (JASON 1330/5 to A.C.O.S.)

→ W.N.79.

Dispersed during heavy snow-fall and storms
 awaiting Dunnet Head for their appearance
 with 3 ships, these 3 are now proceeding
 independently through Pentland Firth.
 With your approval suggest I (wait?)
 for rest of convoy 20 ships (until arrival?).
 (STELLA POLARIS, 1500/5 to A.C.O.S.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

W.N.79 anchored Thurso Bay.
(STELLA POLARIS 1912/5 to A.C.O.S.)

- C.E.²⁴25. Southend 5/2 arrival from Portsmouth with
convoy C.E.²⁴25 H.M.T.LADY PHILOMENA, H.M.S.
BRITTANY.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1415/5).
- E.N.67. My position at 1410/5, 243° Buchan Ness 10
miles have lost touch with Commodore of
E.N.67. I have six ships. Request instruct-
ions.
(ULLSWATER 1451/5 to C.in C. W.A.)
- C.E.24. All Merchant ships arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1500/5).
- F.N.1.400 List. (3 ships).
(N.C.S.O. Harwich, 1503/5).
- F.S.404 Sailed 1430/5th February. 6 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1612/5).
- W.N.79. 000° Dunnet Head 3 miles at 1425/5).
(A.C.O.S. 1618/5).
- F.S.4.404 List and destinations.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1709/5).
- F.N.99. List and Destinations.
F.N.100. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1711/5).

MOST SECRET.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

- F.N.1.400 15 ships from Humber joining at 62 D Buoy all for North of Blyth except 8 ships. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 1712/5).
- F.S.4.04 2 ships from Humber joining at 62 D Buoy. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1714/5) (C.in C. Rosyth 2155/5 to HASTINGS, WALLACE).
- B.H.X.104. Destinations. (D.T.D. 1807/5 to N.C.S.O. Aultbea and 1808/5 to F.O.I.C's Cardiff and Milford Haven).
- E.N.U.66. Arrived less BRITISH STATESMAN and EMPIRE CARIBU and PENTRIDGE HILL. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1830/5).
- O.B.283.
O.B.285.
congestion. 5 ships already in Loch Ewe and 7 more due ex E.N.67 have been crowded out of O.B.283 and unless otherwise ordered must be held until 13/2 for O.B. 285 when ships ex E.N.68 and E.N.69 may also cause further congestion and delay. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1948/5 to Admty).
- F.N.99. Five fishing trawlers from Humber sailed astern of F.N.99. (C.in C. Rosyth 2156/5 to HOLDERNESS, WOOLSTON.)
- F.S.3.403
→ F.S.4.04 Rosyth 5/2/1941. Departures. MEYNELL to overtake F.S.3.403 HASTINGS and WALLACE with F.S.4.04. (C.in C. Rosyth 2315/5).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)U/Boat
Rocket
alarm.

The use of two white rockets to denote an enemy submarine in the vicinity is to be extended to Coastal convoys and the restriction on firing white rockets for this purpose within 15 miles of the Coasts of the U.K. is withdrawn.

Admiralty message 631A, 24/12 and A.M.S.I. 279 should be amended accordingly.
(D.T.D. 2017/5 "A" Message).

Ocean
Convoys.

O.G.52.

Sailed BELMONT and VANQUISHER escorts for O.G.C.52. and O.G.O.52 respectively.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1146/5).

Sailed SCARBOROUGH, GENTIAN, WHITEHALL and WINCHELSEA escorting O.G.52.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1805/5).

O.G.52. sailed 1750/5 10 ships 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ knots
Commodore E.W.Leir in S.S. ARDEOLA for
Gibraltar 3 ships with kites.
(N.C.S.O. Liverpool, 1820/5).
List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1821/5).

H.X.108.

1531/5. S.S. BLACK TERN carrying aeroplanes.
(C.O.A.C. Halifax 1532/5 to Admty).

S.L.63.

Meet. (list)
(C.In C. W.A. 1841/5 to GEORGETOWN, ANTELOPE,
ANTHONY, ACHATES, FLEETWOOD, HEATHER, LADY
MADELINE, AYRESHIRE.)

H.G.52.

Extract from convoy sailing telegram as
amended by Admiralty.
(D.T.D. 1942/5 to C.in C. W.A. etc.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

H.X.104.

The attention of Commodores of H.X.104 and B.H.X. 104 is to be called to Q Z X 170, 233, 265.
(C.in C. W.A. 2303/5 to LINCOLN, CHURCHILL.)

Routes
for
Stragglers.

Ships which, through inability to maintain convoy speed for any reason, straggle and lose touch with OB and OG convoys (A) before reaching 8° West if routed through the Minches or (B) before reaching 10° West if routed outside the Minches, are to return to a U.K. port. Such ships should proceed to Loch Ewe or Oban, whichever is the nearest, for further orders.

In view of the volume of traffic in the approaches to the North Channel from the Minches and from the Westward, these ships should burn dimmed navigation lights.

All ships in OB and OG Convoys are to be provided with the necessary return routes in special envelopes. The above is to be explained to Masters at Convoy Conferences.
(D.T.D. 1621/5 to N.C.S.O's.)

Invasion.

Procedure for Ocean Convoys in event of invasion.
(D.T.D. 1926/5 to C.in C. W.A. etc.)
See Operations Volume.

S.L.S. and
H.G. Convoys.

Cancel my 1903/1/1 and 2026/31/1. Following scheme to assist junction of S.L.S. and H.G. convoys will be adopted commencing with S.L.S.65.
(D.T.D. 1937/5 to C.in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)
See Operations Volume.

Reports.

In order that Admiralty can maintain full information regarding Ocean Convoys it is requested that all signals made to them or their escorts at sea may be repeated to Admiralty.
(D.T.D. 1946/5 to C.in C. S.A. F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Military
Convoys.

W.S.6.

Escort arrangements.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1624/5).

WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.Raft and
Wreckage
Sighted.

My 1725/4. Sighted damaged raft and scattered wreckage in 058° 24'N., 023° 08'W. at 1600. Wide area searched without further result.
(CLARKIA 0600/5).

POLITICIAN.

(British 7939 tons). Abandoning ship. Making water. Engine room flooded.
(Port Patrick Radio 0739/5).

Ashore south of Barra Island pounding heavily.
(Plymouth W/T 0822/5).

Which side of Barra Islands, East or West?
(ABELIA 1020/5 to Admty).

Cannot make West side Barra Island daylight will investigate. Distress indefinite did not state East or West.
(ABELIA 1045/5).

Sailed SALVONIA to assist.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1113/5).

Your 1020. Last known position of POLITICIAN, South of Barra Island. Tug and A/S Trawler are closing.
(C.in C. W.A. 1157/5 to ABELIA).

POLITICIAN Ashore Barra Sound. Engine room flooded. Salvage possible if assistance of tugs and pumps sent immediately.
(~~Radio~~ Radio 1306/5).

EVELYN
ROSE.

(A/P Trawler) Sailed 0940/5 from Sheerness, in tow of tug ST. CLEARS for Harland and Wolff Yard W~~o~~lwich.
(Commodore, Sheerness, 1039/5).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.IOANNIS M.
EMBIRICOS.

(Greek 3734 tons) Bombed and disabled in 55° 41'N., 12° 26'W. approx. at 10 a.m. Have wounded.
(Valentia Radio 1123/5) (IOANNIS M. EMBIRICOS 1218/5).

If contact has not been made with DIONE II proceed to assistance of IOANNIS M. EMBIRICOS. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1237/5 to ASSURANCE, CAPE MARIATO).

PAYNTER.

(A/S Trawler.) Reports having been in collision with unknown vessel at 0310/30/1 in 55° 11'N., 05° 26'W.

PAYNTER slightly damaged but proceeding accordingly to schedule (N.O.I.C. Leith 1544/5).

MERCHANT
ROYAL.

(British 5008 tons). Require immediate assistance off Duncansby Head. (MERCHANT ROYAL, Recd. Scapa 1625/5).

Your 1644. I intercepted the S.O.S. and proceeded at 16.45. E.T.A. Duncansby Head 1730. Convoy scattered during snow and it is believed 3 ships passed through Pentland Firth. Escorts are sending remainder when found into Thurso Bay.
(JASON 1709/5 to A.C.O.S.)

Proceed to assistance of MERCHANT ROYAL 5 miles North West of Duncansby Head. Steering gear out of action. Ship was in convoy W.N.74 and 2 trawlers. JASON has been ordered to close by A.C.O.S.
(C.in C. H.F. 1806/5 to AURORA, JASON).

MERCHANT ROYAL has made temporary repairs to steering gear and is steering south east slowly. Weather at present too rough to take her in tow. Her position is 155° Duncansby Head 5 miles.
(AURORA 2103/5 to A.C.O.S.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.5.2.1941.
Wednesday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.FAME.Arrived Sheerness for Chatham 1935/5 in
tow of tugs.
(C.in C. Nore, 2140/5).EMPIRE
BREEZE.(British 7960 tons). Ashore.
(Cullercoates Radio. Recd. 2217/5).Ashore Bondicar Rocks. Needs immediate
assistance.
(Cullercoates Radio 2324/5).ALBERT
C.FIELD.(British 1764 tons).
Ashore south of Flamborough. Requires
immediate assistance.
(Humber Radio 2248/5).

MOST SECRET.5. 2. 41.
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Operations Against Vichy French.AJAX
PONCELET
repatriees.

Exchange of British Service personnel and merchant seamen in French Africa against survivors of French S/M's AJAX and PONCELET seems likely to succeed but French Admiralty have shown anxiety about C.O. of PONCELET, Lieut. Cmdr. De. Saussine, who is they understand in U.K. What shall I reply? (N.A. Madrid, 1047/5, to Admty.)

North Atlantic.S.L.G.1.

M 4496/41.

Gibraltar 5/2, 0930, arrival DUNEDIN JONQUIL, GERANIUM, VELOX, VIDETTE, escorting steamships KENYA and SOBIESKY. (S.O.I. Gib., 0936/5, to Admty etc.)

TUNA
OTUS.

Position of submarines at 0800/6, and movements for 24 hours. TUNA on patrol off Ponta Delgada. OTUS 039° 45' N. 024° west proceeding on the surface to 041° north 022°, 30' west thence course 70° speed 10 knots. (F.O.C.N.A., 1000/5.)

Air Report.

X.8811. Daily Summary Operations. (200 Group, 1700/5.)

GRETE,
ROMO.

Danish S.S. GRETE and ROMO at Valencia, now expected to agree secretly to be captured. Probably sail in ten days or two weeks. If necessary could you stage capture of both off Valencia or if not possible off Cartagena outside territorial waters? First ship has little coal and may have to be towed to Gibraltar. (N.A. Madrid 1914/5, to S.O.I., Gibraltar.)

/SANTAREM.....

MOST SECRET.5. 2. 1941.Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. Contd.SANTAREM,
suspicious
passenger.

S.S. SANTAREM (Brazilian) reported sailed from Lisbon at 0430/5, for South America. Frau Ochmeeberg, 3rd class passenger on board believed to be carrying mails which are to be removed if ship is encountered. (F.O.C.N.A., 2317/5, to N.A. Stn.) Cancelled by D.E.W.D, 1207/6, See 6/1.

South Atlantic.START
POINT.

Overdue shipping, START POINT Clyde departure 11/1 due Freetown 1/2 has not arrived. (S.O.I.Freetown, 0904/5.)

Force Z.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 1650/4. Last position Q, received by C. in C. South Atlantic was $035^{\circ} 40' N. 022^{\circ} 40' W.$, in C. in C. W.A.'s 1049/29/1. Last time of arrival Q1700 B.S.T. 5/2 in C. in C. W.A. 1325/31/1. Request early information of alteration to this information as position given by F.O.C.N.A, conflicts with that given by C. in C. W.A. C.S.1, has my 1159/3 and my 1255/3. (C. in C. S.A., 1047N/5, to C. in C. W.A., Admty.)

Your 1047/5, estimated position of Force Z at 1200 Zone plus 1, 7/2, will be $28^{\circ} 00' N. 20^{\circ} 30' W.$ Position Q is $35^{\circ} 40' N, 22^{\circ} 40' W.$ (D.O.D.(F) 1943/5, to C. in C.S.A.)

/Santos.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary5.2.1941.
WednesdayFOREIGN STATIONSSouth Atlantic-Contd.Santos
Enemy Shipping,
DRESDEN
BABITONGA.

All Axis and Danish ships in Santos making preparations for departure. On 4/2 I informed Brazilian Chief of Naval Staff that this activity is probably connected with ADMIRAL SCHEER presence between Natal and Dakar and stressed our belief that DRESDEN and BABITONGA whose interment was requested eleven to twelve months ago are supply ships (N.A. Monte Video, 1216/5, S.O.(I), Monte Video, 1314Z/5 to Admty., S.O.(I) Freetown, 2043N/5 to Admty.)

SS AFRICA
MARU

My 1705/4. Union Government prepared to hold ship 2 days longer but are asking reason. Ship cannot now reach port mentioned in C. in C., East Indies' 0804/2 in time to interfere even if sailing at once and direct. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1230/5 to Admty.)

TUNISIA
LISBETH
MADURA

My 1113/3, Delete TUNISIA LISBETH and MADURA which have arrived at Freetown. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1324/5)

Convoy
W.S. 6.

Your 0009/4. Re escort by CATHAY, CANTON or CHITRAL. Escort arrangements. (D.O.D. (F) to C. in C's S.A. E.I., H.F., 1624/5) (D.O.D. (F) 1834/5 to C. in C., S.A.,) See Operations Volume.

EMPRESS
OF CANADA
Defect

H.M.T. EMPRESS OF CANADA sailed for U.K. direct 5/2. Paravane gear now out of action unable to repair owing to congestion in the port. Delayed owing to

/engine.....

MOST SECRET.5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic Contd.EMPRESS
OF CANADA
defect.

engine repairs 28 hours and 12 hours on account of weather. Following passengers transferred to STRATHALLAN. (S.S.T.O. Capetown, 1637/5, to Admty.)

Employment
of "Vees".

Admiralty's 0138/2 (D) 2. When allocating Vees request consideration may be given to following. Most important shall have transmission and reception owing to difficulty in using L.F. on South Atlantic Station. Also suitability for service in tropics with sufficient fans and refrigeration. Endurance an important question. (C. in C.S.A. 1923N/5, to F.O.C.N.A.)

ALCANTARA.
QUEEN OF
BERMUDA.

My 1031/22, to R.A.S.A.D. Intended ALCANTARA carries out working up and gunnery practices Freetown for approximately ten days then proceeds to S.A. Division, S.A. Station, to relieve QUEEN OF BERMUDA probably arriving (date) (C. in C. S.A, 2111N/5, to R.A.S.A.D.)

CAPETOWN
CASTLE.

My 1744/27/1 reads CAPETOWN CASTLE arriving Durban in W.S.5.B. reports that she has on board approximately 1000 tons maize which could not be discharged during Turn-round in U.K., and which Master considers important should be discharged in South Africa. Request confirmation that discharge can be carried out during stay of convoy in Durban and if so that you arrange accordingly".

2. For Duban read Capetown.

3. Request report in view of 1321/2, from C. in C. S.A.(D. of S.T. 2118/5, to N.O.I.C, Capetown.) Reply See 1155/7.

/EURYLOCHUS.....

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

EURYLOCHUS.
(sunk 29/1.),
details of
raider.

Your 0054/1/2. BULOLO arrived Free-town 5/2, Report on evidence received from survivors of EURYLOCHUS as follows - no definite conclusion possible from evidence received but probable pocket battleship accompanied by armed merchant raider. One ship was very much larger than other. (Evidence on specific points.) Both ships fired, EURYLOCHUS was hit twelve times by large ship and number of times by smaller ship, unlikely that heavy armament was used possibly secondary armament by large ship and similar by small ship. (C. in C. S.A., 2305/5, to Admty.)

Darkening
ship.

Request your remarks on para. 1 of C. in C. East Indies 0658/3, and whether you consider that in Approaches to Durban and to the Cape from the Eastward on the South Atlantic Station sailing of ships fully darkened is desirable or whether any limit from either port should be laid down. (C. in C. S.A., 2355/5, to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

Mediterranean.

Tunis,
use of
territorial
waters.

South of Lat. 35° 46' North, Tunisian Territorial Waters may be violated.
(a) by submarines and surface ships for the purpose of attacking at sight any vessel identified as enemy.
(b) by aircraft for the purpose of attacking at sight any vessel of whose enemy character you are satisfied. Particularly desired to avoid interference with bona fide French Coastal traffic, and for this reason:-
(a) Tunisian Territorial Waters North of Lat. 35° 46' North must be respected.
(b) Mines should NOT be laid in Tunisian Territorial Waters.
(l. S.L. 0202/5, to C. in C. Med., etc.)

Operation B.S. para. 23 to 26 and Admiralty 0202/5. Presume S/Ms and A/C can now sink at sight in all Central Mediterranean Waters South

/of Latitude.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.5. 2. 41.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean Contd.

of latitude $035^{\circ} 46'$ North any ship whose enemy character is established whether these vessels are escorted or not. (V.A. Malta, 1015/5, to C. in C. Med.)

Your 1015/5. Yes. (C. in C. Med., 1614/5.) Informing S/M's on Patrol. (V.A. Malta, 1753/5.)

Reference V.A. Malta's 1015/5. South of latitude $35^{\circ} 46'$ N every enemy merchant ship may until further orders be assumed to be a military transport or auxiliary and sunk at sight. (Hd. of M., 2341/5, to C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta, A.O.C., Med.)

Enemy Unit.

P.c. and s. of enemy unit at 0905, G.M.T. was $033^{\circ} 04'$ N. $013^{\circ} 26'$ E. 270⁰ 10' knots. (V.A. Malta, 1035/5, to S/M's on Patrol.)

Suez Canal Mines.

Your 1443/4. Have sufficient watchers been detailed to watch the Canal so that the position of every mine which is laid is accurately known? (1st S.L. 1107/5, to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal.) Reply. See 1317/6.

Malta Air Raid.

Operational Summary No. 240 up to 1200 hrs. 5.2.41, Malta. Night 4/5th, 3 large formations Ju.88's bombed Halfar, Luqa, Kalafrana, and dockyard, destroying 1 hangar at Luqa and damaging buildings there and at Halfar. 1 Gladiator and Swordfish destroyed on ground but no casualties.

/3 Ju. 88's.....

MOST SECRET.5. 2. 41.
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Malta
Air
Raid.Mediterranean Contd.

3 Ju.88's destroyed, 1 probably destroyed, by our fighters and A.A. defences. (H.Q.R.A.F., M.E., 1144/5.)

War
Material
for Turkey.

Your 1346/1, Re additional war material for Turks. (N.A., Angora, 1221/5. to Admty.)

RANEE
Mined,
Suez.
Canal.

My 1903/4. Transport RANEE mined in canal at K.m.83, 0945/5, Ship is aground aft on Africa side bow waterborne in middle of canal. Last mine exploded in this section was p.m./1, since when section has been repeatedly swept and 23 ships have passed in safety. All traffic except tugs and small craft has been stopped south of Ismailia. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1257/5, to Admty, etc.)

Dive-Bomber
Attacks,
ILLUSTRIOUS
SOUTHAMPTON.In view of measures taken to fit P.A.C.'s in Mediterranean Fleet aircraft carriers it would be appreciated if the following further information with regard to D/B. attacks on ILLUSTRIOUS and SOUTHAMPTON could be forwarded. (D.T.S.D. 1336/5, to C. in C. Med.) *Reply, 1916/8/2, on page 262A*Genoa,
reported
closing.

Have you any information concerning the reported closing of the port of Genoa, to all commercial traffic? It is believed port has been closed for about a week and Swiss Authorities persist in this opinion despite Italian denials. (D.N.I. 1428/5, to N.A.'s Madrid, Lisbon.)

Air Report.

Operational Summary. 240 up to 1200 hours 5/2/41. (Egypt and Sudan) No naval items. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1455/5.)

/Malta Air.....

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Malta Air
Raid Damage.

Combined Services report Malta up to 1700 hours 5/2. All times G.M.T, Ref. my I.88. 4/2. They don't like us. Assessment Government property damaged completed as follows:- (details) Reconnaissance Reports. (H.Q., R.A.F, Med., 1710/5.)

UPRIGHT
UTMOST
USK
TRUANT
TETRARCH.

Disposition. Operation B.5, appendix one two - 033° 32' 012° (corrupt group) - 333° - 51" - 063° - 60 275 submarines are not to be attacked unless their hostile identity is unquestionably proved. (Capt. S.I, 1855/5, to S/M's on Patrol.)

FORMIDABLE.

C. in C. Med. 2207/5. See Operations Volume - East Indies. *See also next page*

Mines,
Suez
Canal.

Following information so far collected concerning mines in canal area. (details.)

14 mines accounted for. 7 or 8 exploded with red polarity by LL and D.W.I, sweep after covering water many times. The first mines dropped 30/1, successively mined 3rd 4th and 5th/2. (C. in C. Med., 2315/5, to Admty.)

SB No Suez Canal Area 1707/5 see East Indies.

East Indies.

CALCUTTA.

Admty. 0138/2, and my 0812/2. Re employment and refit. (C. in C. E.I., 0708Z/5 to Admty.) See Operations Volume.

CARLISLE.

/Enemy.....

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies Contd.

Enemy Unit.

Position of German surface unit by D/F on 12700 kc/s at 1843 G.M.T./4, was within 150 miles of position 003° South 048° East. 8 stations took bearings. (C. in C. E.l., 0720Z/5, to E. I. Sqdn.)

BANKURA.)
BAMORA.)
BARPETA.)
BARJORA.)

Dates of arrival Aden. (S.S.T.O, India, 0915/5, to C. in C. E.l.)

Air Strength.

Re scale of Air Attack on Eastern India. (Air H.Q., India, to Air Ministry, 0948/5.)

B.N.14.

Convoy arrival telegram B.N. 14 Port Sudan portion arrived 5/2, OBSERVER, ALCYONE, ELPIS, KRONVIKEN. (N.O.I.C. Port Sudan, 1156Z/5, to Admty.)

B.S.14.

Convoy sailing telegram (1) B.S.14, Port Sudan, portion, (2) 0300Z/5, (3) Port Sudan 080 deg. 30 miles 0800Z/5. (N.O.I.C. Port Sudan, 1200Z/5.)

F.A.A. on the Station.

C. in C. E.l. 1258Z/5. See Operations Volume.

FORMIDABLE.

Your 1926/4. (Whether FORMIDABLE proceed) No. (C. in C. Med. 1610/5, to C. in C. E. Indies.)

FORMIDABLE.
JUNO, GRIFFIN.

FORMIDABLE JUNO and GRIFFIN have been ordered to Aden. (C. in C. E.l, 1740Z/5, to Admty. Date of FORMIDABLE passing Canal, and proposed date of her leaving Aden. (C. in C. Med. to C. in C. E.l., 2207/5.) See Operations Volume.

/Suez Canal.....

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies Contd.

Suez Canal
Mines.

Your 2203 Feb. 4th. Unexploded mines type D. Existence of mines not known. Mine laid about 0500/ 30/1. Area swept 2/2 at 0830 by one D.W.I.4 run red, at 1245 by two D.W.I.5. run blue, at 1415 by two D.W.I.5 run red.
 (1707/5 S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area).

B.N.14.
attacked
by U/B.
2/2.

M. 06483/41.

Ref. Bari radio reports claiming Submarine obtained seven hits on Red Sea Convoy on 3/2, CALEDON reports at least three underwater explosions felt between 2210 and 2230z/2. No damage no splashes. All ships B.N.14 mustered. Position was about 016° North. Intend not to deny Italian reports as it is better they should not learn attacks must be pressed home. BALUCHISTAN straggled from B.N.14. Last seen 1600z/3. (C. in C. E.I., 1804z/5, to Admty.)

Force T.
SHROPSHIRE.

My 1016/3. Force T expects to arrive Mombasa 0600Z/9. SHROPSHIRE has left a total of 60 ratings sick at Durban. (C. in C.E.I., 2008Z/5, to Admty etc.-)

Operations
"Canvas"
"Composition".

Request I may now use Force ^{"K"} ~~"Canvas"~~ for either or both operations ~~"Canvas"~~ and ~~"Composition"~~. (C. in C. E.I., 2014Z/5, to Admty.)

America & West Indies.

VAN KINSBERGEN.

Leave Trinidad p.m./6, and visit St. Martin and St. Eustatius, proceeding thence to Port Castries St. Lucia so as to arrive 12/2. Then await further orders. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1022/5. to VAN KINSBERGEN.)

/CHRISTIAN HOLM..

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

CHRISTIAN-
HOLM
SCANDIA.

Danish tankers. Intercepted by VAN KINSBERGEN a.m./5, and being taken to Trinidad in prize. (D.O.R., 6/2.)

H.X.103.

Your 1936/4. Commodore H.X.103 in receipt of following Q messages. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1125/5, to Admty.)

PORTADOC.

In St. John N.B. due to sail shortly for Sierra Leone. Crew have given notice that they wish to be discharged and will not sail in ship. Request early information whether any action can be taken under existing British Regulations. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1126/5, to Admty.)

Route to
America.

Your 1807/3, (Alternative route to America.) concur. (D.T.D.1206/5, to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

Troop
Transport.

Re escort by ROYAL SOVEREIGN and RAMILLIES. (D.O.D.(H), 1249/5, to R.A.3.B.S), and reply B.S.3., 1747/5.) See Operations Volume.

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

- ITHAKA. Arrived from Istanbul, transit goods for Germany (Vice Consul, Varna, 1050/5.)
- SALZBURG. Left Varna in ballast, Turkish port. (Vice Consul, Varna, 1050/5.)
- ALTMARK. Arrived Trondhjem with aviation petrol from Mexico, end of December in damaged condition and still present 16/1. One U-boat had been in port. (B.2.) (N.A. Stockholm 1117/5.)
- TARONGA. Oslo, Norway - Stavanger Fjord reported 1/2, lying alongside, TARONGA at Akers Yard near Piperviken fitting out as troop transport. 'B.3.) (N.A. Stockholm 1117/5.)
- ARKADIA. Istanbul 4/2, arrivals. German ARKADIA. (N.C.S.O. Galatz, 1331/5.)
- DRESDEN. Mentioned in connection with Activity at Santos. (N.A. Monte Video, 1216/5), See South Atlantic.
- PLUS. PLUS sailed from Vigo on Tuesday night. (D.D.I.C. 2257/5, to F.O.C.N.A, etc.)
- ERNA
OLDENDORF. (Left Vigo night of 26/1, and ran aground at Marin early on 27/1.) Now reported afloat and being pumped out. Spanish colours painted on her sides on leaving Vigo now removed. (D.S.519.)
- PORTLAND. (Left Talcahuano, Chile, 30/1.) Has not been located. Reported to have 14 days fuel only, but this is not definite. (D.S.519.)

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

GIULIO
GIORDANI.

10,700 tons, tanker, reported to have struck a mine when entering Taranto last June necessitating her being in dock for 2 months. Is now said to be at Taranto. (D.S.519.)

2 ships.

Reported sinkings of ²Italian ships in Adriatic (unnamed)(D.S.519.)

MAYA.

Arrived Varna from Bat^{um}own with 5,000 tons gas oil for Germany, (V.Consul, Varna, 1050/5.)

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

MENDOZA.

Your 2104/31, your 1854/1 and my 2357/1 Total number to be repatriated is 82. Intend to send them to Casablanca in steamship ANGOLA due Freetown about 6/2, if accommodation is available. (C. in C. S.A.,1245N/5, to Admty.)

SONTAY,
JEAN L.D.

On receipt of your 1051/4, I requested High Commr. to approach Union Govt., to release ship for passage to Simons-town escorted by SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA. He was informed that matter was subjudice. He now informs me that Union Govt. are taking powers which will enable them to requisition this ship as well as JEAN L.D.in about two days for use by U.K. Authorities. Hoped they will then remove troops invalids and any members of crew not prepared to serve. Essential to remove Captain, 2nd. Officer, W/T Officer, and O.C. troops before sailing to avoid grave danger of scuttling. If this course is adopted escort by SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA will be unnecessary. Message No.148, from High Commr. to Dominions Office refers. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown,1839/5, to Admty.)

/JEAN L.D.....

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

JEAN L.D.,
assurance
from
Boarding
Officer.

Your 2047/31/1, From Boarding Officer's report it is learned that in order to overcome the objection of the Master of JEAN L.D., obtain his assistance in steaming his ship, and clear him in the eyes of his company and Vichy Govt., the Boarding Officer at the Master's request, gave him a signed statement, declaring on behalf of his Captain that JEAN L.D. would not be unnecessarily delayed at Capetown. Master gave the Boarding Officer the following written statement. "Having received from the Captain of H.M. Cruiser that my ship will not be unduly delayed at Capetown after her visit I promised to sail her to that Port". This action by the Boarding Officer was not authorised by Captain of NORFOLK who would not have authorised any written guarantee in such circumstances. Instructions will be issued on this point. (C. in C. S.A., 2047N/5, to Admty.)

5. 2. 1941.
Wednesday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships
Attacked.

PIZARRO.
(torpedoed 31/1.)

British, 1367 tons, in ballast from London to Gibraltar and Seville, reported torpedoed 31/1 in ? 49.30 N., 19-40 W. Six survivors including Master landed Lisbon 5/2, from MACBRAE, remaining 23 not yet accounted for. (N.C.S.C. Lisbon, 1715/5.) (D.S.521.)

EMPIRE
CITIZEN
(torpedoed
3/2.)

5 raft survivors of EMPIRE CITIZEN, one serious cot case picked up in position 058° 20' N, 021° 48' W, report ship sunk and one fully equipped lifeboat with 50 survivors including 2 women making for nearest land. Am continuing search to Eastward my position 058° 21' N. 020° 03' W, (CLARKIA, 1800/5, to C. in C. W.A.) Ship now presumed to have sunk. (D.S. 519.)

Red Sea.

2210/2.

Attack on Convoy B.N.14, 2210/2, to 2230Z/2. No hits or damage. (C. in C. E.1., 1804Z/5.) See East Indies.

S/M's Reported.

Submarine reported observed at 2000/4, in position 064° 10' N, 022° 40' W. Graded B.4. (F.O.Iceland, 1048/5, to Admty, and 1138/5, to CIRCASSIA.)

There is a U/B within 60 miles of 59° N. 19° W, which may make a signal shortly after noon B.S.T. on 7640 kcs. (D.D.I.C. 1057/5 to PORPOISE.)

/Source.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary5.2.1941
WednesdayU-BOAT CAMPAIGN-Contd.29/12
St Jean de Luz

Source regarded as reliable by Military Attache reports Italian Submarine entered St Jean de Luz 29/12 under escort of two small Italian armed vessels. S/M left within 24 hours ? (for Bayonne) to effect repairs.

Informant stated was down by stern had list to port and was pitted with bullet holes. (C. 3.) (N.A. Madrid, 1619/5 to D.N.I.)

Estimated
U-Boat
Dispositions

German 1 within 60 miles of 60° N., 10° W or between this position and Butt of Lewis
No direct evidence.

- 1 within 60 miles of 59° N., 19° W.
- 1 within 60 miles of 58° 30' N., 22° W
- 1 within 60 miles of 56° 30' N., 19° 30' W
- 1 within 40 miles of 55° 30' 21" W.,
- 1 near Azores.

Italian 1 within 60 miles of 54° N., 19° W

(D.D.I.C. 1335/5)

War Diary6.2.1941.
ThursdaySITUATION REPORTHome Commands

KING GEORGE V arrived at Scapa this afternoon

An unknown Enemy unit, possibly a surface craft, was located by D/F at 0856 this morning in 48° N., 25° W., near which position the Dutch PRINS FREDERIK HENDRIK had been detained by MANISTEE at 2100 last night.

The Germans claim in a broadcast that an E-Boat sank SS ANGULARITY (501 tons) The ship sailed in F.N. 401 and has not arrived.

British Air Activity

Patrols in the southern half of the North Sea were curtailed today by bad weather. Coastal Command aircraft covered the coast of Norway south of Trondheim but observed nothing of importance. All convoys in the N.W. Approaches were escorted during daylight today. All night patrols and offensive operations by Coastal Command were cancelled owing to bad weather; for the same reason Bomber Command carried out no operations last night or today.

Enemy Air Activity

There was very considerable Air activity in the Thames Estuary last night, a series of illuminating Flares being dropped over the North Kent Coast eastwards from the Swale as though a survey of the coast-line was being carried out; and unknown objects, either Mines or Incendiary Bombs, were dropped near the Thames and Medway Gates.

No attacks on shipping are reported.

War Diary6.2.1941.
ThursdaySITUATION REPORTMining

Minelaying on a considerably increased scale was carried out last night by enemy aircraft off the Humber, Thames Estuary, East Anglia and Yorkshire coast. Estimated 90 minelayers employed.

At Liverpool precautions are still required when entering the port; in the Bristol Channel it was ordered this evening that no ships are to leave Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff, or Barry until further orders and Swansea only if westbound; and it was decided this morning that the Humber should in future be closed daily from sunset until noon in view of the mining situation.

Shipping and Convoys

Steps to overcome delays in the operation of our limited number of tankers are being taken, and by agreement with the Petroleum Board discharges of tankers continues by night and in many places until enemy aircraft are engaged by gunfire.

M02404/41

SS SESOSTRIS which was missing from Convoy S.C. 19 after the U-Boat attacks on 29/1 is overdue and is presumed lost.

South Atlantic

DELHI has engine defects which reduce her maximum speed (in serious emergency) to about 20 knots.

MOST SECRETWar Diary6.2.1941.
ThursdaySITUATION REPORTMediterraneanSuez Canal

In addition to magnetic mines it is reported that the enemy have dropped in the Canal a new type of contact mine specially designed for use in the Canal.

2 minesweeping hoppers were mined today with some loss of life. Ships up to 8000 tons can pass the obstructions, but all movement in the canal except sweepers is stopped south of Lake Timsah.

Satisfactory arrangements for Canal watching have been made, and the A.A. defence of Suez is being improved. The 142nd Minesweeping Group have arrived at Suez from U.K. at this critical juncture, with their D.G. coils completely rotted; as a result the vessels cannot be used until their D.G. equipment has been renewed.

C. in C., Med. has asked for the urgent despatch of 2 D.W.I. Wellington aircraft.

Force H.

S.O. Force H in RENOWN left Gibraltar this afternoon with MALAYA, ARK ROYAL, SHEFFIELD and 10 destroyers for operations against Genoa.

Operation
M.C. 7.

C. in C., Mediterranean reports that Operation M.C. 7 (Diversion to assist operation "Result") was completed without incident. No enemy forces were sighted nor was the Fleet attacked although it was sighted and reported by an aircraft at 0830/2.

Air Raid
on Malta

3 enemy aircraft bombed the aerodromes from 1810 to 2035, causing no damage or casualties.

Sollum

Sollum Harbour is still mined.

War Diary6.2.1941
ThursdaySITUATION REPORTU-Boat Campaign

n.03948/41.

4 survivors from tanker BRITISH PREMIER, torpedoed on 24/12 off the West Coast of Africa, have been rescued after being in a small open boat for 41 days and after 25 days without food.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Rona
Minefield.
Proposed
Amendment
of Notice
to Mariners.A.C.O.S. 1125/5/2. Propose Notice to Mariners No. 1768 (T) of 1940 be amended to inform ships that it is dangerous to pass North and east of line joining Vestrahorn (Iceland) Sulisker and Brough of Birsay (Orkneys).
(C.in C. H.F. 1493/6 to Admty).Loch Ryan
Examination
anchorage.My 1441/4. Stranrach Loch Ryan. Examination anchorage established. Position.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1503/6 to Admty).Operational
Control of
Aircraft.Iceland letter 9/50/40 of 30/12/40 and A.C.O.S. letter 79/OS 178 of 23/1/41. Group Captain R.A.F. is under G.O.C. and entirely controlled by him. A/C envisaged in A.M. 1739/25/1. will presumably be under Group Captain and therefore under G.O.C. Unless control of A/C operating over sea is under F.O.I.C. there can be no certainty that they will be available when and where required or that their movements will be reported to C.in C.
(F.O.Iceland, 1741/6 to Admty).Defence of U.K.Green
Flares
off
Yarmouth.Re confusion caused.
(C.in C. Nore 0030/6 to Admty).

Following has been made to H.Q.F.C.

Your A.254 5/2. Enquiry has been made of F.O.I.C. Yarmouth and nothing is known of the origin of these signals. 0022. Ends.
(C.in C. Nore 0038/6 to Admty)."Deluge"
Deluge.At 1130/6.
(D.C.1208/6).
At 2330/6.
(D.C.2345/6 and 0905/7).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Defence of United Kingdom. (Contd.)Oban.
Proposed
alteration
of nets.

(N.O.I.C. Oban 1644/6 to Admty).

Movements.O.21.
MINERVE.

During your passage to Dundee the hostile identity of any submarine encountered must be established beyond doubt before it is attacked.

(S.9. 0941/6 to O.21 and MINERVE).

CIRCASSIA.Your 1930/5. Proceed direct to Liverpool.
(F.O.C.N.P. 1418/6 to CIRCASSIA).Northern
Patrol.Trawler lines tonight.
3 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1551/6).Submarines.Positions, at 0800/7 and movements, following 24 hours.
(F.O.S. 1719/6).Holyhead
and
Portsmouth.
S/M bombing
Restrictions.Ops. 169 6/2.
Institute total S.B.R. Holyhead Sanctuary from 0830 to 1730 daily from 7/2 to 9/2 incl; and Portsmouth Sanctuary from 0730/7 to 1130/7.
(H.Q.C.C. 1840/6).Information
for
CACHALOT.Situation at 2000 of ARROW and convoy and of HAVELOCK and convoy.
(S.2. 1847/6 to CACHALOT).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.PRINS)
FREDERIK)
HENDRIK.)(Dutch 1288 tons) Detained at 2100 in
47° 25'N., 22° 48'W.
Papers suspicious. Keeping in company to
join her up with convoy S.L.S. 63 at 1200/6.
(MANISTEE 0210/6 to F.O.C.N.P.)Operation
P.X.Postponed a further 24 hours.
(C.in C. Nore 1121/6).Western
Channel.
Patrol.On conclusion of practices tonight KELLY
KASHMIR and KIPLING are to patrol between
longitude Start Point and Lizard Head
returning Plymouth at 1000/7.
Object to cover shipping in Channel.
(C.in C. W.A. 1153/6).Patrol
O.Carry out O tomorrow night instead of
tonight.
(C.in C. Nore 1407/6 to D.16).British Air Activity.Air
Searches.Today.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0638/6).Air
Rescue
Craft in
Dover Area.
Proposed
increase.Desirable to concentrate more rescue craft
in Dover area. Request one each be sent,
Lerwick, Orkneys, Aberdeen, Blyth, Humber
and that consideration may be given to
transference of an M.L.Flottilla from the West.
(Air Ministry 1745/6 to Admty).Squadrons
804
and
253.Re Movements.
(5th S.L. 1843/6).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.IOANNIS M.
EMBRICOS.
(Bombed
5/2).Standing by in 056° 15'N., 011° 56'W. Timber laden. Floating well. Request tugs. 15 men remaining on board. Picked up boat with Master and 18 officers and men 2 wounded.
stet (LADY MADELINE 0025/6).Steamer settled by stern. Have taken off remainder of crew 30 all told. One man seriously injured, required medical assistance. PICOTTEE has 4. Am standing by awaiting tug. A/S out of action.
stet (LADY MADELINE 1112/6).056° 20'N., 011° 20'W. requested by LADY MADELINE to stand by whilst picking up survivors. Have 4 survivors on board remainder on board LADY MADELINE. Ship towable. No sign of tug. Am proceeding to join convoy.
stet
stet (PICOTTEE 1123/6).Proceeding Londonderry with seriously wounded leaving NORTHERN GEM with Derelict. E.T.A. 0930 7th.
stet (LADY MADELINE 1622/6).WAZIRISTAN
(Bombed
2/2.)Unless ship with D/F or air escort is sent it is improbable that Tug BANDIT will R/V LORD MIDDLETON, tow parted by swell. Will attempt to tow at daylight if weather continues to moderate. No check on position obtainable since 1600/4. Must leave 2000 tonight for fuel.
(DOUGLAS 0527/6 to C.in C. H.F.)DOUGLAS 0527/6. Proposed DOUGLAS refuel in Faroes tonight leaving LORD MIDDLETON in charge of WAZIRISTAN and rejoin her as soon as possible.
(A.C.O.S. 1031/6 to C.in C. W.A.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.WAZIRISTAN.
(Comms 2/2)
Cont:-

A.C.O.S. 1031/6. DOUGLAS is to comply unless otherwise ordered by C.in C. W.A. DOUGLAS has now joined W.A. Command. (C.in C. H.F. 1352/6 to DOUGLAS).

Proceed with WAZIRISTAN to Kirkwall DOUGLAS and MARAUDER join and remain with WAZIRISTAN till further orders. (A.C.O.S. 1721/6 to BANDIT).

My 1031/6. Oil from WAR PINDARI in Skaale Fiord. You should pass through Skopen Fiord keeping between 61° 45'N., and 62° 18'N. delaying your arrival till after daylight if necessary. (A.C.O.S. 1842/6 to DOUGLAS).

BANDIT has WAZIRISTAN in tow, speed 8 knots. LORD MIDDLETON ordered to return to patrol. Reference C.in C. H.F. 1352/6, A.C.O.S's 1031/6 not received. WAZIRISTAN seaworthy floating light but 20 feet of water in engine room and boiler room. Request instructions. Position 61° 38'N., 10° 57'E. (DOUGLAS 1930/6 to C.in C. W.A.)

Your 1930/6. XTX. LORD MIDDLETON has been ordered by S.O.Trawlers N.P. to rejoin Thursday. When she arrives comply with my 1031/6. (A.C.O.S. 2258/6 to DOUGLAS.)

Thames
Estuary.

Summary of aircraft activity in Thames Estuary for night of 5/6 Feb. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1306/6 to C.in C. Nore).

Attack
of 5/2
on C.E.24.

Your 1521/5. Request information as to number of Dive-Bombers which attacked C.E. Convoy at 0950/5 and confirmation that these aircraft were JU. 87's. (D.D.I.C. 1441/6 to C.in C. Nore).

MOST SECRET.6.2.1941.
Thursday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)Attack on
C.E. 24.5/2
cont.Your 1441/6. BLENCATHRA reports approx. 12 Aircraft attacked the convoy and that they were JU.87's.
(C.in C. Nore, 1821/6 to Admty).BARON
RENFREW
(Bombed
28/1.)Arrived Adrossan tug ST. OLAVES with 4 survivors from BARON RENFREW.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1825/6).Attack on 4/2
on F.N.
Convoy
off
Gunfleet.VANITY's 1150/4. Dornier was shot down by gunfire from VANITY.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1943/6).Mining.Liverpool.Do not arrive seaward end of Q.Z.S. 211 before 0800/7. Precautions.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1011/6 to VANOC).Approach
route.Cancel my 1007/2/12/40.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1146/6.)Humber
to be
closed for
a period
daily.Until a further signal is made it is intended owing to the Mining Situation to close the Humber daily from sunset until 1200 the following day.
(F.O. Humber 1015/6) (C.in C. Rosyth 1730/6).

MOST SECRET.6.2.1941.
Thursday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)MENESTHEUS
(Mined
5/2).Expect ^{Beaufort} ~~BEAUFORT~~ as A/S air escort about
1300.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1120/6 to MENESTHEUS).Join MENESTHEUS in tow of AGAMEMNON
estimated at 1200 today 059° 24'N., 007° 12'W
Course 142° speed 4 knots. Provide A/A escort
to destination.
(A.C.O.S. 1158/6 to BUTTERMERE, WINDERMERE).My position course and speed 058° 55'N.,
006° 35'W. 145° 7.5 knots. One engine
serviceable. ST. ALBANS and CHARLESTON in
company.
(MENESTHEUS 1500/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)Bristol
Channel.Ships may now enter and leave Avonmouth and
Barry Docks but are not to enter or leave
Cardiff or Newport until further orders.
Ships may now proceed from Swansea to the
Eastward subject to above instructions.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1145/6).Owing to suspected minelaying no ships are
to leave Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff or
Barry until further orders. Ships may leave
Swansea only if bound to westward. Incoming
ships are to anchor to westward of Breaksea
Light Vessel.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 2134/6).Operation
E.A.My 2234/5. Southern half of Q Z S 178 has
been swept and should be used.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1150/6 to TEVIOT BANK).M.A/S.B.
12.
(Mined 3/2).My 1544/3. Sunk while in tow. Reasonable
chance of salvage.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1159/6).

MOST SECRET.6.2.1941.
Thursday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.c/
INTREPID,
IZARUS,
IMPULSIVE.Mining. (Contd.)
INTREPID, IZARUS, IMPULSIVE. Intended
Operation. (V.C.N.S. 1202/6).
See Operations Volume. p. 70.P.W.2.Weather permitting M.T.B. Operations P.W.2.
will be carried out tonight.
(C.in C. Nore, 1440/6).M.T.B's 22, 32 and 34 sailed at 1809.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1813/6).Thames
Estuary.At 1719/5 Mine detonated by S.A. gear 1.4
miles 225° B.3. Buoy.
(Capt: M/S Sheerness 1532/6).Falmouth.3 ground mines exploded during heavy weather
p.m./5. Positions.
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1700/6).Enemy Intelligence.By D/F at 0856/6 position of unknown enemy
unit was approximately 48° N., 25° W.
Possible that this unit is a surface craft.
(D.D.I.C. 0947/6). (F.O.C.N.A. 1200/6
to ships.)Kiel
Canal.Repeating N.A. Stockholm's 2024/4.
Other information tends to confirm that Kiel
Canal is frozen.
(D.D.I.C. 1701/6 to C.in C. H.F. etc.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.General.
Ships
with ~~60~~⁶⁰ft.
stores.

(D.S.T. 1112/6.)

Coastal
Convoys.

E.N.67.

Route. (ULLSWATER 0515/6).

F.S. ~~4.104~~10 ships.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 0953/6.)
Absentees.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0954/6).
Escort.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1752/6).

E.N.68.

Sailed 0800/7. 20 ships and submarine L.23.
Code Words.
(N.C.S.O. Methil 0959/6).

F.N.100.

Arrived 1000.
(N.C.S.O. Methil 1020/6).

F.N.99.

Arrivals.
(N.C.S.O. Sunderland 1105/6, F.O.I.C. Tyne
1632/6, N.C.S.O. Methil 1716/6).F.N. ~~101~~List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Humber 1150/6, F.O.I.C. Tyne,
1547/6).
Arrivals.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1659/6).

E.N.66.

All arrived. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1204/6).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Ocean
Convoys.
(Contd.)

O.G.O.52. Sailed. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 0835/6).

O.G.52. Escort left. (Capt: D. Londonderry, 1635/6).

H.X.104. Asking position. (C.in C. W.A. 1231/6 to CHURCHILL).

H.G.53. Left. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar, 1330/6).

H.X.105. Not met. Position. (WITCH, 1400/6 to C.in C. W.A.)

S.L.63. Route for CANTON. (C.in C. W.A. 1507/6).

S.C.19. ✓ Summary, 5 ships torpedoed.
(D.T.D. 1607/6 to N.S.H.Q.Ottawa).

S.C.20. Destinations. (D.T.D. 1609/6).

H.X.106. Sailing telegram is amended by Admty.
(D.T.D. 1613/6).

H.X.103. Summary, 2 ships sunk.
(D.T.D. 1837/6 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

Tankers. Re expediting discharge at Falmouth.
(D.T.D. 1745/6).

Dangerous
Area. Warning to Commodores. (D.T.D. 2129/6).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Coastal
Convoys.Various
Sailings.C.in C. W.A. 1237/6, 1857/6, N.C.S.O.
Dartmouth 2014/6.

O.B.283.

Sailed 0300/9. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1405/6).

F.S.5.403

Humber and Wash ships arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Humber 1459/6, 1601/6) Escort.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1752/6, C.in C. Nore 2042/6)

W.N.79.

Arrivals. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1714/6).

W.N.81.

Sailed 1830/6.
(N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1840/6).

F.N.2.402

Escort. (C.in C. Nore, 2042/6).

C.W.25.

Postponed 24 hours.
(C.in C. Nore, 2134/6).

F.S.5.405

Sailed 2300/6, 195 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 2323/6).Ocean
Convoys.

O.G.C.

Sailed. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 0415/6 and list,
1033/6). 14 ships. (N.C.I.C. Greenock
0655/6).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Military
Convoys.

W.S.6.

My 1625/4. A/S Escort W.S.6. Add
NAPIER to Clyde portion.
(C.in C. W.A. 1819/6).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.MERCHANT
ROYAL.
(Steering
defect
5/2).Sail tug ABEILLE 4 to assist MERCHANT ROYAL
broken down in 155° Duncansby Head 5 miles
at 2103/5 steering S.E. slowly. One Cruiser
and a sloop standing by her.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0002/6 to N.O.I.C. Peterhead).Tug, ABEILLE No.4 sailed 0056/6.
(N.O.I.C. Peterhead, 0058/6).ROCKPOOL
(Grounded
1/2).Proceed forthwith to assistance of ROCKPOOL
aground on South end of Little Cumbrae and
now requiring assistance.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0520/5 to SCHELDE).STANHOPE.(British 2337 tons). Ashore Hammond Knoll
22 miles Cromer.
(Humber Radio 0527/6).No danger. No assistance required at
present.
(Humber Radio 0551/6).S.O.S. off South Lemn Buoy. Proceeding
slowly. Still required assistance.
(Portishead Radio 0846/6).Sailed tug ST. MELLONS to assist at
1035.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1054/6).Join ST. MELLONS proceeding to assist.
Afford A.A. protection.
(N.O.I.C. Harwich, 1143/6 to SNAPDRAGON).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.

E.T.A. 5 buoy about 1600/6. Reports water gaining gradually. Take her into Yarmouth Roads if necessary. ST. MELLONS informed. (C.in C. Nore, 1351/6 to SNAPDRAGON.)

Am making for Harwich with her. (SNAPDRAGON 1450/6 to N.O.I.C. Harwich).

Arrivals tug ST. MELLONS and STANHOPE - at 2340. Anchored in examination anchorage. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2347/6).

Lifeboat
sighted
5/2.

Whitley aircraft will be assisting search for life-boat between 015° and 020° W. (C.in C. W.A. 0909/6 to CLARKIA).

SCARBOROUGH.

Have defective wiring in A/S Control board.

Proceeding to Campbeltown for repair. Will rejoin convoy by p.m./7. (SCARBOROUGH 1045/6).

CHURCHILL.

Arrived. 24 hours, required to make good defects. (N.O.I.C. Stornoway 1219/6).

POLITICIAN
(Grounded
5/2).

Ship lying most easterly point of Eriskay Island South Uist Outer Hebrides. (Port Patrick Radio 1245/6).

SANDHURST.

One Corvette is to be sailed for Southend to arrive by 1600/7 to act as an escort for SANDHURST sailing in tow of WATERMEYER with F.N.⁴3. on 8/2 and will be required to proceed as far as Tyne where BRIGAND will take over the tow.

C.in C. Rosyth is requested to arrange onward passage of SANDHURST from Tyne and for Corvette to return to Harwich with first available F.S.Convoy.

Report name of Corvette detailed. (C.in C. Nore 1514/6).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.SANDHURST
Cont:Your 1514/6 SHEARWATER detailed.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1754/6 to C.in C. Nore).DELHI.Condenser trouble. Proceeding on one engine
only. (DELHI 2247/6).
See South Atlantic.ANGULARITY.(501 tons) Sailed in Convoy F.N.401, not
arrived. Germans claim in broadcast
sunk by E/Boat which took off survivors.
(B.M.S.E.298).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Raider Situation.

(1) Atlantic. EURYLOCHUS and AFRIC STAR attacked by one armed merchant raider, and a vessel possibly ADMIRAL SCHEER, and possibly one or both are moving towards east coast of South America. Some reports of their possible movement to this area received but they may be deliberately planted.

An R. distress signal from an unknown ship 350 miles S.W. of Azores on 1/2 and an incorrectly cancelled R distress signal from British ST. LINDSAY 20 miles south of Azores on 3/2 may indicate a raider in that area, but no definite proof.

Another raider identified by D/F on 28/1 near 7° S., 22° W.

(2) Southern Ocean.

This raider appears to be moving north eastwards towards Prince Edward Island.

(3) Indian Ocean.

D/F indicated that MANDASOR's raider had moved to west of Seychelles by 4/2.

(4) Pacific Ocean.

No news.

(5) ADMIRAL HIPPER

Left Brest possibly night 1/2nd/2 not yet located.
(D.D.I.C. 2318/6 to C.in C's H.F. S.A. etc.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Operations Against Vichy French.Degaussing
of Prizes
at
Gibraltar.

Whilst awaiting completion of crews should the more valuable French prizes detained at Gibraltar and destined for U.K. be degaussed before leaving? Provided no interference with important naval work is occasioned.
(A.S. Gibraltar 1304/6 to Admty).

Convoy
passing
Gibraltar.

French armed trawler DENIS PAPIN passed Gibraltar eastbound at 1230/6 escorting French M/V's BOURGES, 2910 tons, SAINT LOUIS 5202 tons, and ASTREE, 2147 tons.
(D.O.R. 7/1).

French
Ships'
movements.

Following from Navy Department from Dakar, 3/2, sailed French SAN PEDRO for South and MEDNOVARDA for Morocco. 4/2 arrived French MARAKE[^]SH from Morocco with African troops.
(N.A. Washington 1700/6, to Admty).

North Atlantic.OTUS
R. of P.,
Azores.

Conditions normal. No local patrol; Destroyer in Ponta Delgada. Unreliable report Italian submarines have fuelled Ponta Delgada.
(OTUS 0613/6 to Capt: (S) 8 S.F.)

Repeated to TUNA, adding "destroyer is probably Portuguese". (Capt: S.8 1212/6 to TUNA F.O (S) 1306/6 for Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (Contd.)Submarine
patrol
off Azores.TUNA on patrol off Ponta Delgada.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1004/6).SANTAREM
(Brazilian)My 2317/5. Ship was boarded off Lisbon
(Lisboa) by IMPERIALIST at 1220/5 but
released as reports concerning Frau
Schmeeberg not then been received. This
person is said to be carrying mail for South
America delivered to herself by Sitma.
It is these mails which are to be removed.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1031/6 to N.A.Stn).Your 2317/5 should be considered cancelled.
It is important that SANTAREM should not be
stopped.
(D.E.W.D. 1207/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)Cancel my 2317/5 and 1031/6. SANTAREM is
not to be molested.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1351/6).Convoy.12 hours early. E.T.A. Gibraltar 1200/8
with 4 ships in convoy.
(LEITH 1037/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)MARSDALE.Your 0900/6 not approved. Proceed to
Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.P. 1416/6 to MARSDALE).Enemy
Unit.Unknown enemy unit possible surface craft was
in approx. 048° N., 025° W. at 0900/6.
German ship PLUS left Vigo night of 4/5 Feb.
destination unknown.
(Capt: S.8. 1652/6 to OTUS).

MOST SECRET.

6.2.1941.

Thursday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (Contd.)Azores
Patrol.
PANDORA.

My 1019/25/1. Dockyard work on PANDORA will not be completed and she will not be ready till (date) to sail. Unless Admty. direct otherwise do not intend to extend TUNA's time on patrol and there will thus be a gap of 3 days in which no submarine will be on patrol.
(F.O.(S) 1656/6 to Admty etc.)

LOCH
OSKAIG.

Weather off Lisbon, mist, visibility varies $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15 miles. Request instructions should we return to port as previously arranged or remain in Patrol area until relieved?
(LOCH OSKAIG 2030/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Evacuation
of
Gibraltar.

Numbers. (in reply to Col. Off. No.3. of 1/1) (Gov. Gib. 2030/6).

South Atlantic.A/S
Vessels.

Your 1305/4. Auxiliary A/S group 16 is fully manned and will sail from Durban 10/2. POL I and POL V are ready for passage but awaiting crew from U.K. My 1147B/29 refers.
(N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0825B/6 to C.in C. Med.)

ARNDALE.

Proceed to enter Montevideo at 0900 ^z/_z + 3 Monday 10/2. 24 hour non-fuelling visit. Instructions.
(R.A.S.A.D. to ARNDALE 0918Z/6).

MANDASOR
overdue.

Overdue shipping. MANDASOR due Durban 4th from Calcutta not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown 0937B/6).

Aircraft
for
Takoradi.

GUDVIN sailed Glasgow 31/1 with 4 Blenheims for Takoradi. Freightship BARON SEMPLE sailed Leith 30/1, with 3 Blenheim aircraft for Takoradi.
(D.S.T. 1107/6 to S.T.O. I/C Takoradi).

MOST SECRET.6.2.1941.
Thursday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (Contd.)CANTON
CHITRAL.Your 1834/5. Programmes for refit etc.
(C.in C. S.A. to Admty, 1201/6).
See Operations Volume.Convoy
Information
for Admty.Your 1946/5. (Re maintainance full
information re Ocean Convoys.)
Request if any particular signals are in
mind so that matter may be investigated
or whether signal is precautionary only.
(C.in C. S.A. 1211N/6 to Admty).S.S. LANCING.Have you any news of Norwegian ship LANCING
due south Georgia 31/1 from Curacoa
departure 30/12.
(N.C.S.O.(I) Freetown 1359N/6 to N.O.I.C.
Falklands).CUMBERLAND
NEWCASTLE
ASTURIAS.Cruisers are at "Pig" CUMBERLAND transferring
fuel to NEWCASTLE. Intend to remain in
Rio area for the present but necessary to
fuel F.O. about 12/2. ASTURIAS close to
Santos now, fuel at Rio de Janeiro 12/2
normally resuming patrol in K 32, K 33. I
will arrange visit.
(R.A.S.A.D. 1435/6 to C.in C. S.A.)ASTURIAS,
Visit to
Rio.My 1749/31. Please ask permission for
24 hours visit entering 0900 local time
12/2. For C.G. (requirements). ASTURIAS
comply.
(R.A.S.A.D., 1619/6 to Ambassador, Rio de
Janeiro.)LADY
DENISON
PENDER.My 1929/4. St. Vincent C.V. report 0940/6.
communication established with LADY DENISON
PENDER.
(C.in C. S.A. 1601N/6 to I.C.S.)Raider
Identity.Your 2305/5. Decision as to whether raider
is ADMIRAL SCHEER is urgent. Request details
re triangular structure and tripod mast.
ADMIRAL SCHEER may have been modified and have an
overhanging bow.
(D.D.I.C. 1636/6 to C.in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (Contd.)Raider Identity
cont.:

My 2305/5 and your 1636/6.
Fourth Officer states triangular structure was a large structure arising from bridge level. Midshipman still states he saw a tripod mast in glare of searchlight at about level of light but unable to say in what position in ship this was or any other details.
(C.in C. S.A. 2027/6 to Admty).

AFRICA MARU.

Your 1705/4. Ask South African authorities to remove (details) Release remainder of cargo. Release ship when above items have been landed.
(D.E.W.D. 1652/6 to S.O.(I) Capetown).

Santos.

My 1314Z/5.* N.C.S.O. Santos reports there is no change in position at Santos.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo 1744/6).
* (Re Axis ships appear to have steam up or testing).

Axis
ships
at
Montevideo.

My 1314Z/5 with exception of Santos there are no signs of activity among enemy or Danish merchant vessels at other ports on this coast.
(N.S.O.(I) Montevideo 2053Z/6).

EURYLOCHUS
(sunk by
raider
29/1). n.03755/41

My 2305N/5/2. Survivors now in Freetown number 11 (details)
(C.in C. S.A. 2131/6 to Admty).

DELHI.
defects.

My position 021 00'S., 000 00'E. at 2000Z-1/6. Owing to serious and extensive trouble in Starboard condenser am proceeding on one engine only. Maximum speed available in serious emergency probably about 20 knots. Repairs impossible until all fires can be died out.
(DELHI 2247/6 to C.in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Operation
M.C.7.
Mining of
Tobruk and
Sollum.

My 1427/1/1 (1427/31 intended) and 2149/2. Operation M.C.7 completed without incident. No enemy force sighted by forces sweeping the patrol area Rhodes or by Battle Squadron throughout period at sea except that fleet was sighted and reported by an aircraft when S.W. of Gavdo Island at 0830/2. Report of sighting was broadcast on commercial wave which seems to indicate movement of merchant vessels was in progress or contemplated. Enemy aircraft mined Mersa Tobruk on 4/2 but owing to urgency of providing army supplies it has been necessary to continue movement of merchant ships and accept the risk pending arrival of Corvettes who cannot reach Mersa Tobruk until 7/2. Sollum harbour is still mined.

(C.-in-C. Med. 0329/6.)

CARLISLE

Your 0708/5 to Admty. Request you will inform me of nature of essential work to be carried out on CARLISLE. Your 0812/2 not received.

(C.-in-C. Med. 1209/6 to C.-in-C. E.I.)

Benghazi
BENGHAZI.

Indications that Italians are preparing to evacuate Benghazi.

(H.Q., R.A.F., M.E. 1217/6)

Instructions
for entering
Tobruk.

Ships visiting Tobruk are not to pass beyond position 032° 04' N. 024° 12' 30" E. unless escorted by a trawler or examination vessel. Ships are to make their E.T.A. in accordance with C.B. (two corrupt groups) Q to B.S.N.O. Tobruk Lighthouse.

(C.-in-C. Med. 1243/6).

Mining of
Suez Canal.

Reported B.2:- In addition to magnetic mines enemy dropped new type of contact mine specially designed for use in canal. This mine sinks to bottom on landing. Mercury ballast in it then leaks slowly and mine eventually begins to rise, rate of rising given as 5 metres every 96 hours. Informant believes not all mines have risen yet.

(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal. 1251/6 to C.-in-C. Med).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)Mining of
Suez Canal.
(Contd.)

H.M. Minesweeping Hopper No.39 mined ashore side of canal at k.m.136.2. Fear some casualties. Canal Company hopper mined and sunk at k.m.138.7. Skid exploded mine at k.m.83.4. Ships up to about 8,000 tons could pass all obstructions but all traffic stopped during sweeping operations. Two skid towing Tugs Conrad control are diesel and would be likely to explode acoustic mines but this has not happened. (S.B.N.O. Suez Can, 1303/6).

Your 1107/5. Satisfactory arrangements for Canal watching system have been made with military who are providing one Battalion for this service today. A.A. defence of Suez is also being improved. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1317/6 to Admty.)

Safety from acoustic mines may be achieved by stopping main engines and if possible diesel auxiliaries when passing known position of mine that has not responded to sweeping.

This may be of particular value in Suez Canal where accurate marking of mines is simple matter.

(D.M.S. 1653/6, to C.-in-C., Med. etc.)

All movement in Canal except that of sweeping craft is at present stopped south of Lake Timsah. Intend to sweep this position with all resources at my disposal on 7/2 and 8/2 and then resume traffic after a final sweep a.m./9. Risk of damage to ships gared up by any mines exploded being accepted.

(S.B.N.O., Suez Canal, 1953/6.)

Estimate of size of ships able to pass through Canal so far as obstructions are concerned (a) up to about 8,000 tons, now (b) up to about 15000 tons. on 18/2 (c) up to maximum tonnage 5/3.

Above liable to considerable revision as work proceeds.

(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 2010/6).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean (Contd.)Minesweepers
Defective.

142 nd minesweeping group have arrived Suez from U.K. at a most critical juncture with their D.G. coils completely rotted due to having been encased in cement and secured down to deck. As a result they cannot be used until their whole D.G. equipment has been renewed. Request confirmation that othe LL minesweeping units will arrive ready for service. (C.in C. Med. 2301/6 to Aqnty).

Request 2 D.W.I. Wellington fully modified be despatched to Egypt forthwith. Ring and generator plant will be fitted by R.A.F. at Ismailia. Urgently required. (C.in C. Med., 2215/6 to Aqnty).

URSULA.

Extend your patrol area 10 miles to westward to $011^{\circ} 15'$.
(Capt: S.l., 1425/6 to URSULA).

Convoy
S.V.One.

1500 G.M.T./6. Ships and destinations.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1613/6).

Genoa
reported
closing.

Your 1428/5. All Swiss Commercial traffic from Genoa to Switzerland has been suspended for the moment. As volume of traffic now being dealt with at Genoa is much below pre-war it would appear suspension is on account of military reasons and not due to any congestion of merchandise in Port. (N.A.Madrid 1621/6 to Aqnty.)

French
Govt.,
Policy.

B.2. information from Casablanca 4 and 5/2. (D.N.I. 1649/6 to C.in C. Med.)
See Mediterranean Volume.

DOMINION
MONARCH.

Your 0632/6. No objection to DOMINION MONARCH calling at Aden to embark U.K. passengers. She can also embark Abyssinians for Mombasa subject to C.in C. E.I, concurrence. (S.S.T.O. Egypt 1733/6 to S.N.O. Red Sea Force).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)Ammunition.

Re reserve. (C.in C. Med. 1733/6).

UPRIGHT
UNIQUE.

Leave patrol p.m./7 through (route) arrangements will be made for entering Marsamxett. UNIQUE will sail at 1800A/7 through (route).
(S.O.(S) Malta 2031/6 to UPRIGHT).

RORQUAL.

Visibility bad due to sand storm. Instructions, ~~if~~ D/F bearings are required. AJAX and PERTH are probably waiting near Sanctuary.
(Capt: S.l. 2207/6 to RORQUAL).

Italian
W/T
Activity.

Traffic on Italian ship wave today 6/2 is unusually heavy, particularly on 153 kc/s. D/F bearings are indeterminate but there is a general indication of activity to N.W. of Malta.
(C.O.I.S. Alexandria 2348/6 to C.in C. Med.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.FORMIDABLE.

Your 2014Z/5, not to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area. Comply with C.in C. Med., 2207/5 not to S.O. Force K.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 0100/6 to C.in C. E.I.)

Operation
"Composition".

C.in C. Med. 2207/5. Plan for "Composition" and let me know as soon as possible intended date.
(C.in C. E.I. 0402Z/6 to S.N.O. Red Sea).

HAWKINS.

My 0402/6 and 2016/5 (not to Admiralty). I presume HAWKINS is not required for "Composition". If you agree sail her to comply with my 1440/3.
(C.in C. E.I. 0414Z/6 to S.N.C. Red Sea).

ALICE
MOLLER
overdue.

Overdue shipping. British ALICE MOLLER Lourenco Marques to Aden.
(C.in C. E.I. 0416/6 to Admty).

Persian
Gulf,
Contraband
Control.

Your 0602/26. Remarks on preliminary discussions with M.E.W. representative.
(S.N.C. Persian Gulf 0802Z/6 to C.in C. E.I.)

Convoys
W.S.5.B.
W.S.5.B.X.

Route from Durban. Escorts etc.
(C.in C. E.I. 1141Z/6. See Operations Volume.

Italian
Situation.

If collapse of I.E.A. takes place reported arrangements made with Marshal Petai~~l~~ for Italian Destroyers and Submarines to be interned Madagascar.
(C.in C. M.E. 1110/6.)

HERMES
ENTERPRISE.

Your 2351/30. In view of future projected movements I think it is better to make transfer complete. My 1258/5 refers.
(C.in C. E.I. 1232Z/6 to C.in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. (Contd.)CAPETOWN
Mogadishu.

CAPETOWN is to reconnoitre Mogadishu about sunset on 7/2. Object to ascertain whether any shipping there, but keep outside range of coast defence guns. If shipping is sighted you may test effectiveness of your fire on it but ammunition is not to be wasted. Town is not to be bombarded. After withdrawal proceed towards Seychelles at 12 knots.
(C.in C. E.I. 1236Z/6. to CAPETOWN).

Mogadishu
Operation
"Breach".

Your 0717/4. Was position for Cucumbers (? chosen) for a particular reason or unintentionally. My 0634/28/1 para. 4 refers.
(C.in C. E.I. 1620Z/6 to S.O.Force K).

America and West Indies.Troop
Transport.

Your 1747/5. Second alternative proposed. (D.O.D.(H) 1657/6 to R.A.3.B.S.) See Operations Volume.

T.C.9.

Date of sailing postponed. (D.O.D.(H) 1832/6 to R.A.3.B.S. etc.) See Operations Volume.

HUSKY
VAN KINSBERGEN.

Officer Administering Govt., of Trinidad tel. 145 of 5/2 to Col. Off. HUSKY was detailed by me to take part in operation under orders of VAN KINSBERGEN. Consider question as to whether Canadian or Dutch were captors should be immaterial.
(C.in C. A.W.I. 1721/6 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia.U.S.9.

M.06607/41

Departure 5/2. SYDNEY 0801Z from Fremantle for Sydney, WARREGO, SWAN, ORARA, BATHURST, 1300Z from Melbourne for Sydney, H.M. Transport MAURETANIA 1950Z from Port Phillip Bay for R/V with U.S.9. (A.C.N.B. 0216Z/6 to C.in C. China, E.I. etc.)

WESTRALIA escorting local transport ZEALANDIA arrived Darwin 0600Z/5. (A.C.N.B. 0644Z/6 to Admty).

AUSTRALIA.

Your 1723/31/12/40. Re future employment (1st naval member 0715Z/6 to Admty). See Operations Volume.

WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.PLUS.

Vigo reports PLUS sailed from there night of 4/5. Destination unknown.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1033/6 to N.A.Station.

PROCIDA.

Arrival PROCIDA, 5/2.
(Valencia, T.H.I. 2010/6).

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.LELLO

C.2.Report LELLO has been sunk trading between Barcelona and Genoa.
(N.A.Madrid, 1201/6).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships
Attacked.BRITISH
PREMIER
(torpedoed
24/12)
Survivors
found
after 41
days.

M. 0394c / 41.

My 2109/9/1. Four more survivors from BRITISH PREMIER were picked up on 3/2 in position 4.33'N., 10.33'W. (names) Men had been in a small open boat for 41 days with only one tin of biscuits and no water except provided by rain. They had no food for the last 25 days. Though in a very emaciated condition they are progressing satisfactorily and appear little affected by their experience.
(C.in C. S.A., 1237N/6 to Admty).

EMPIRE
CITIZEN
(torpedoed
3/2).

Native Seaman required^s urgent medical assistance. Should no information be received from Aircraft intend to discontinue search at 1700 on reaching 058°N., 016°W., and proceed Londonderry.
(CLARKIA, 1353/6 to C.in C. W.A.)

Your 1216/6 (? 1353/6). proceed Londonderry at best speed.
(C.in C. W.A. 1643/6 to CLARKIA).

MAPLE
COURT.

Following has been read. SSSS. Position 55° 39'N., 15° 56'W. MAPLE COURT.
(Valentia W/T 1553/6).
British 3388 tons, from Boston to Preston with general cargo. (D.S. 521).

If MAPLE COURT was not in company detach portion of escort to hunt U/Boat in 055° 39'N., 015° 56'W at 1700.
(C.in C. W.A. 1741/6 to HARVESTER.).

My 1741/ . If not in contact at dark, ship detached rejoin convoy.
(C.in C. W.A. 1841/6 to HARVESTER).

WAR DIARY.6.2.1941.
Thursday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.S/u's reported.

1536. Am over enemy S/m in 55.16 N., 9.42 W.
(1536/6).
1648. Am investigating contact in 090 Inistrahull
19.
(WESTON, 1648/6 to WHITEHALL).
1655. Admty. Message A.F. position 55° 39'N.,
15° 56'W. at 1555/6 G.M.T.
(D.D.I.C. 1734/6).
1757. By D/F at 1757 B.S.T. position of enemy
unit, probably U/Boat was approx. 55° 30'N.,
19° 40'W. Unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 1830/6).
- Mexico 30/1. Following from Navy Dept., press reports from
Tepic state that S/M unknown nationality
arrived ~~at Casca~~ near San Blas, Mexico 30/1.
and obtained water. Confirmation difficult
to obtain but similar reports current.
(N.A. Washington 1630/6).

Estimated
U/Boat
dispositions.German.

- 1 between Shetlands and Faeroes.
Possibly 1 within 60 miles of 59° 30'N.,
10° 30'W.
1 within 60 miles of 59° N., 19° W.
1 within 100 miles of 58° 30'N., 22° W.
1 within 40 miles of 56° N., 19° 30'W.
1 within 60 miles of 55° N., 21° 30'W.
1 about 52° N., west of 25° W.
1 near Azores.

Italian.

- 1 in N.W. Approaches may be south of 55° N.,
East of 20° W.
(D.D.I.C. 1334/6).

Submarines
Attacked.

1555. U/Boat submerged Co.250 attacked.
(A/C 207 Squadron Duty X. 16 1555/6).
(To Stranraer).

1. The arrangement of the War Diary is as follows:-

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| HOME COMMANDS | - Policy |
| (Classification | - Defence of United Kingdom |
| by subjects) | - Movements |
| | - Operations |
| | - Allied Air Activity |
| | - Enemy Air Activity |
| | - Mining |
| | - Enemy Intelligence |
| | - U-Boats |
| | - Navigational |
| | - Technical |
| | - Casualties and Defects |
| | - Shipping and Convoys |
| FOREIGN STATIONS | - North Atlantic |
| (Classification | - South Atlantic |
| by stations) | - Mediterranean |
| | - East Indies |
| | - America and West Indies |
| | - Australia and New Zealand |
| | - U-Boat Campaign |

Additional subject headings are sometimes employed temporarily, e.g. when an important operation is in progress.

2. The following volumes should be used to supplement the War Diary: the dates given in brackets are those on which the series held by War Diary commences:-

- (a) Movements of H.M. Ships (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (23 February 1940).
- (b) Western Approaches (daily) Situation Reports (1 September 1943).
- (c) Dispositions and Movements (Foreign Stations) (1 September 1943).
- (d) Convoy Returns (Positions of convoys and composition of escorts, positions of independent ships and H.M. ships: from Combined Plot) (1 March 1941).
- (e) Daily Convoy Summary (Report made by Admiralty to Connav, giving arrivals and departures, with composition of convoy) (21 June 1943).
- (f) Air Staff Operational Summary (prepared by Air Ministry War Room) (1 July 1941, No.222)
- (g) Daily Operations Report for First Lord (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (13 September 1939).
- (h) List of abbreviations.
- (i) List of Convoy letters.

MOST SECRETWar Diary7.2.1941.
FridaySITUATION REPORTHome CommandsWestern Channel
Patrol

Three destroyers patrolled last night between the longitudes of Start Point and the Lizard, to cover shipping in the Channel.

LONDON commissioned today at Chatham.

British Air Activity

Owing to bad weather certain Coastal Command patrols were cancelled today; several convoy escorts returned early and others were cancelled. A Whitley escorting S.C. 20 50 miles from Bloody Foreland was reported missing: HARVESTER picked up the crew.

49 aircraft of Bomber Command were despatched to Boulogne and Dunkirk last night. Calais and Dieppe were also attacked as alternative targets. Bad weather caused operations by Bomber Command today to be cancelled

Enemy Air Activity

M.T.B. 100 attacked an aeroplane off Copinsay and saw it come down, apparently crashed.

A single enemy plane bombed Lowestoft harbour this afternoon and damaged the swing bridge, preventing the entry and egress of ships for a few hours. The enemy aircraft was hit and is thought to have come down in the sea.

/SS BAY FISHER...

War Diary

7.2.1941.
Friday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

SS BAY FISHER following Convoy W.N. 80 was attacked and sunk this morning off Bell Rock.

Mining

Enemy minelaying by aircraft last night was on a small scale and occurred only on the south west coast .

The report that H.M.T. RONSO was mined on 23/1 is incorrect.

SS SCOTTISH COOPERATOR was mined this evening off Workington harbour, (Liverpool area) and was beached.

Operation
P.W. 2.

M.T.B's from the Nore laid mines off the Belgian coast last night.

Mediterranean

Operations
in Libya

Benghazi was occupied today by our troops. A large number of prisoners and a quantity of stores and equipment were captured. There are said to be two wrecked Italian destroyers in the Harbour.

Mining of
Suez Canal

16 mines have so far been accounted for in the Canal.

Minesweeper
Situation

C. in C., Med. today draws attention to his serious shortage of mine sweepers, and he asks that in view of the time taken to send sweepers from the U.K. craft may be withdrawn from stations near the Mediterranean where the threat from mines is not serious. He also urgently requires balloons, short range A.A. weapons, and minesweeping equipment.

/ADINDA.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary7.2.1941.
FridaySITUATION REPORTMediterranean-Contd.ADINDA
Mined

Dutch tanker ADINDA was mined off Tobruk today. Damage not known.

Air Raid on
Malta

7 enemy aircraft dropped bombs on various parts of the island between dusk and mid-night today, but caused no damage other than 2 civilian casualties.

East Indies

Air reconnaissance has revealed considerable activity amongst German ships at Kismayu. TANNENFELS is reported to have sailed between 30/1 and 5/2. A second ship, which may be UCKERMARK, may also have sailed, since the Italian situation may have decided German ships to seek refuge elsewhere. The only other German ships known to be at Kismayu are the two small vessels ASKARI and KIONGA.

7. 2. 41.
Friday.

War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.

CILICIA
CHITRAL.

My 1011/11/1, paras. 5 and 6.
CILICIA is to join Freetown Convoy Escort Force and CHITRAL to join the Halifax C.E.F. 2. F.O.C. N.P. is requested to inform C. in C. S.A. and R.A. 3rd B.S. when vessels may be expected and to sail them accordingly.

4. Confirmation is requested that CHITRAL will sail for Iceland vice CILICIA on 17/2. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1624/7.)

NAPIER
NIZAM.

NAPIER and NIZAM are to join Mediterranean Fleet as soon as working up is completed. NIZAM should be sailed for Scapa on completion of present duties. (A.C.N.S.H.1728/7.)

NORFOLK.
8-inch
Cruisers
In Home
Waters.

My 0029/7. On arrival at Scapa NORFOLK will join the Home Fleet as Flagship of F.O.C. 1st. C.S. 2. From the date of NORFOLK's arrival at Scapa all 8" cruisers in Home Waters will be administered by F.O.C. 1st. C.S.(V.C.N.S. 1921/7.)

Defence of U.K.

Green Flares
seen off
Yarmouth.

1. H.Q.F.C. 1935/5. As aircraft two star cartridge was two green for the period in question little doubt is felt that the light was fired by an aircraft.

If further investigation needed request fuller information including time of occurrence. (C. in C. Nore 0846/7.)

'Deluge'

At 1130/7. (D.C. 1210/7.)

/Crustan.....

MOST SECRET.7. 2. 41.Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Defence of U.K.Contd.Crustan.
A.M.E.S.

M.O.3. 7/2, 0/241. Please inform Commander O and S. Defences. - Air Min. request immediate provision of military guard at A.M.E. Station Crustan. Report if this guard can be provided from your existing garrison. (War Office 1836/7, to Admty.)

Faroos.
A/A.
Defences.

96. A Message 1921/12/12. Information requested whether A/A Guns can now be spared for the defence of Skaale Fjord. 2. The threat from submarine attack can be accepted if it can be reduced by creating the impression of the existence of a controlled minefield by fitting dummy net defences. 3. But risk of keeping an oiler in Skaale Fjord without A/A defences must not be accepted. (C. in C. H.F.2327/7.)

Movements.SNAPPER.

To leave patrol.(S.2. 1233/7.)

LYCIA.
(Blockship.)

Intend HEBE to escort LYCIA in tow Tug ALLIGATOR from May Island to Scapa.

N.O.I.C. Blyth is to sail LYCIA from Blyth as requisite 9/2.(C. in C. Rosyth 1300/7) (A.C.O.S. 1724/7.)

L.23.
URGE.

L.23 escorted by GLEANER, E.T.A.^{Scapa} 1030/8, from convoy E.N.68. URGE escorted by HAMLET is expected to sail ^{Scapa} P.M./8. (route). (A.C.O.S. 1409/7.) Cancel my 1352/27/1.

/NEPTUNE.....

7. 2. 41.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements Contd.

NEPTUNE.

To sail passing Hoxa Boom at 0100/8th,
for Sheerness. (C. in C. H.F. 1441/7.)

Your 1441/7. Fighter protection arranged.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1536/7.)

Submarines.

Positions at 0800/8, and movement for
following 24 hours. (F.O.S.1654/7.)

State of
B-class.
Destroyers.

Admiralty 2135/5. Following is state of
(B) Class Destroyers.

4. Request you inform me if "A" Class
destroyers can be sailed to Scapa to
conform with these dates. (C. in C.H.F.
1816/7, to C. in C.W.A.)

Operations.

Suspicious
Trawler.

CURACOA reports. Trawler A221 was stopped
and apparently fishing at 0410 today, in
118° Duncansby Head 7 miles. Ends.

This is suspiciously close to the No.1.
submarine cable which broke down 0900/27/1,
at approximately this point. N.O.I.C.
Aberdeen is requested to investigate.
(A.C.O.S. 1308/7.)

Operation "Ceiling".
~~Operation~~

Training Torpedoes may be used.
(D.N.A.D.1708/7, to R.A.N.A.S.)

Operation.
P. X.

Postponed a further 24 hours. (C. in C.
Nore 1408/7.)

Jan Mayen.

My 1709/18/1. Request that a powerful
transmitter may be sent at once. Reason.
(F.O. Iceland 1731/7.)

MOST SECRET.7. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.Patrols.

Following now in operation:-
"Fair;" S.A.1 A, S.A.2, S.A.3.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1006/7.)

Air Rescue
Craft at
Dover.

Cancel previous instructions for 5th
M.L. Flotilla. To strengthen forces
available for air rescue they should be
sailed forthwith to Newhaven and placed
under the orders of V.A.Dover.
(A.C.N.S(H). 1347/7 to R.A.C.F.)

At request of Air Ministry the rescue
craft at Dover are to be reinforced by
moving one R.A.F. N.S.L. from Blyth and
Humber respectively. Request F.O's
concerned to arrange this forthwith
using boats now serviceable. The 5th
Flotilla of 8 M.L's is being moved from
Holyhead to Newhaven for Air Sea Rescue
work. (A.C.N.S(H). 1852/7.)

Adty. 1852/7. Request you will sail
1 H.S.L. for Dover and report time of
sailing. (C. in C. Rosyth 2215/7 to
N.O.I.C. Blyth.)

A/C Torpedo
Distribution.

Distribution of aircraft torpedoes, heads,
and dummies at R.N. Air Stations at
home is to be as follows. (D.N.A.D.1708/7
to R.A.N.S.)

804.Squadron.

My 1843/6. As one flight of 253 Squadron
has arrived at Castletown request you
will now move 804 Squadron to Yeovilton.
(D.N.A.D. 1709/7.)

Enemy Air Activity.

BARON
RENFREW
(Bombed 28/1.)

Has been towed by ABELIA to Loch
Lathaich, Ross of Mull and anchored.
Proceed forthwith to assist.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0113/7 to SALVONIA,
TENACITY.)

/ABELIA.....

MOST SECRET.7. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity Contd.BARON
RENFREW
(Bombed 28/1.)ABELIA has found BARON RENFREW and is standing by. Return to harbour and land survivors. (C. in C. W.A. 0143/7 to CANDYTUFT.) *See also p. 217.*

Found BARON RENFREW. Awaiting gale to moderate. (SALVONIA 0920/7.)

IOANNIS M.
EMBIRICOS.
(Bombed 5/2.)

Cancel my 2151. Proceed to assist NORTHERN GEM standing by IOANNIS M. EMBIRICOS. (C. in C. W.A. 0209/7 to CAPE MARIATO.)

Own a/c fired
at.

C. in C. W.A. 1114/7 in reply to Admty, 0409/6.

A/C attacked
off Copinsay.

One Aeroplane, Height 5000 feet. Position N.E. Copinsay 3. (M.T.B. 100. 1111/7.)

My 1110. Smoke coming from port engine. Am making search. Believe plane crashed. (M.T.B. 100. 1125/7.)

WAZIRISTAN
(Bombed 2/2.)

In tow of BANDIT estimated in 59° 53' N. 08° 58' W. at 1200 today. Course 162° speed 8 knots. LORD MIDDLETON in company later DOUGLAS. Proceed to assist. (A.C.O.S. 1131/7, to MARAUDER.)

MARAUDER sailed. (N.O.I.C. Kirkwall 1342/7.)

My 1721. Admty informs me WAZIRISTAN should go to Kirkwall. I have not passed your 1547 to BANDIT. (A.C.O.S. 1951/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

/Cancel.....

MOST SECRET.7. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity Contd.WAZIRISTAN
(bombed 2/2)
cont:-Cancel my (? 1547) 7 comply with A.C.O.S.
1721/7. (C. in C. W.A. 2047/7 to BANDIT.)My 1721/6. Estimated position of BANDIT,
at 0800/8, 059° 16' N. 007° 06' W.
Speed of advance 8 knots. BANDIT steer to
pass through 058° 44' 005° 12' W.MARAUDER report p.c. and s. (A.C.O.S.
2341/7, to MARAUDER, BANDIT.)Lowestoft
Lowestoftbombed.At 1315 single enemy plane dropped bombs
Lowestoft Harbour. (A) No movement of
ships to or from inner harbour possible
until repairs effected. No naval casual-
ties. (D). Swing bridge and Control
Station also Customs House damaged, but
traffic can pass over Bridge. (N.O.I.C.
Lowestoft 1351/7.)My 1351. L.N.E.R. workshop badly damaged.
I unexploded bomb on railway line near
Station. Enemy glided into attack, no
Alert or Observer Corps warning in
operation. Enemy hit and probably down in
sea. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 1458/7.)My 1351. Swing Bridge now workable with
hand gear. Casualties (injured 1 Naval)
My 1458. U.B. reported by Military to be
1000 pounds of new type. (N.O.I.C.
Lowestoft 1730/7.)BAY FISHER.(British, 575 Tons.) On passage from
Scapa to Rosyth with Government Stores
in W.N.80 was attacked by enemy A/C at
1100/7 227° degrees Bell Rock. 2-1/2,
miles and sunk. Four survivors landed
Dundee. (C. in C. Rosyth 1444/7.)

59. My 1444/7.....

MOST SECRET.7. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity Contd.BAY FISHER
cont:.

59. My 1444/7. BAY FISHER was following convoy when attacked by single enemy A/C. Two bombs dropped one hit aft. One near miss. Ship sank in 10 minutes. Crew of 12. Names of four survivors. (C. in C. Rosyth 1746/7.)

BARON
RENFREW.
(Bombed
28/1.)

Arrived CANDYTUFT with BARON RENFREW survivors. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1621/7.)

CALAFATIS.
(Bombed
4/2.)

(Greek, 4443 Tons.) Detach one ship to search for boat with 18 survivors from CALAFATIS bombed, and sunk. Boat, last seen in 55° 40' N. 14° 35' W yesterday, time unknown. Ship detached report name when well clear of convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 1747/7 to PHILANTE.)

Your 1747/7. CAMELLIA and ERICA not yet rejoined from MAPLECOURT. Request you order them to CALAFATIS. (HARVESTER 2012/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

Proceed to search for boat. (details repeated as 1747/7.) (C. in C.W.A. 2335/7, to CAMELIA, ERICA.)

DIONE II.
(Bombed 3/2.)

If contact has not been made return to base. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1845/7.)

Mining.MENESTHEUS.
(Departed ~~mined~~ 5/2.)

Expect to arrive Port Z.A. 0930, under own power. ST.ALBANS in company. Request tug outside harbour entrance. (MENESTHEUS 0015/7.)

/At 1300/5.....

MOST SECRET.7. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining Contd.MENESTHEUS
Cont:

At 1300/5, in 60° 14' N. 08° 14' W.
 MENESTHEUS exploded a mark twenty mine
 in Port P/V causing certain engine room
 damage. She was taken in tow by AGAMEMNON,
 and is at present anchored outside Port
 Z.A. Damage apparently not extensive,
 no hull damage, no casualties. (R.A.M.L.
 2147/7.)

RONSO
not
mined.

(H.M. Trawler) Was shown in D.S.N.E. as
 having been sunk by mine but this is
 incorrect. She was reported sunk in
 Exercise Victor in Dover message 1831/23/1.
 (V.A. Dover 1029/7.)

Sweeps of
War Channel.

By SELKIRK, SPEEDWELL, HUSSAR, SUTTON,
 Details. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1120/7.)

Aberdeen
Area.

S.S. TIOGA on arrival at Inverness
 reports having seen mines apparently
 similar to German X type originally black
 now rusty. One in each position:-
 (A) A.M. 5/2 57° 12' N. 1° - 43' W.
 (B) 57° 28' N. 1° - 32' W.
 (C) P.M. 5/2. 57° 40' N. 1° - 37' W.

(F.O.I.C. Invergordon 1149/7.)

Invergordon's 1149/7. Take necessary ac-
 tion to dispose of these mines.
 (C. in C. Rosyth 1238/7 to N.O.I.C.
 Aberdeen.)

INTREPID.
TEVIOTBANK.
IMPULSIVE.

Arrived 1410/7. (F.O. Humber 1429/7.)

/Operation.....

7. 2. 41.
Friday.

War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining Contd.

→ Operation.
S. N. 7.

Scapa arrivals. At 1614 RODNEY, NIGERIA.
At 1622 INGLEFIELD, ECHO, ELECTRA,
BRILLIANT. (A.C.O.S. 1645/7.)

→ Port Z.A. arrivals 1730/7, R.A.M.L. in
SOUTHERN PRINCE, PORT QUEBEC, SCOTT,
BRIGHTON, and LANCASTER. (TRELAWNEY
1732/7.)

Iceland.

My 1745/29, British Mark XX mine rendered
safe at Fell. Unidentified mine ashore
near Siglufjordur. Many other unconfirmed
reports of drifting mines on North coast.
Mines almost certainly broken adrift
from field in Denmark Straits as result
of recent heavy weather. (F.O.Iceland
1859/8.)

→ SOUTHERN PRINCE and PORT QUEBEC laid
S.E. half of S.N.7. (R.A.M.L. 2147/7.)

B.S.50.

East Coast Mine Barrage. Serial Number
74. Line B.S.50 has been laid as follows.
(D.D.O.D.M. 1835/7.)

SCOTTISH
CO-OPERATOR.

(British, 513 Tons.) Mined in Workington
Harbour, entrance 1 mile at 2102 today.
Damage and reported now beached.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2254/7.)

Orkneys.

HORNPIPE reports:- Commodore of convoy
has just reported sighted other mine
1545/7, in about 58° 48' N. 02° W, T.O.O.
2200 Ends. (Aberdeen W/T 2347/7 to A.C.O.S.)

BISMARCK.

Enemy Intelligence.
Reported at Gdynia 6/2. B.2. (Stockholm
1847/7.)

War Diary.

7.2.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Coastal
Convoys.

W.N. 82. Escort (F.O.I.C. Belfast 0021/7).

E.N. 67. E.T.A. Loch Ewe. (ULLSWATER 0124/7)
Loch Ewe portion arrived (ULLSWATER 1331/7).

E.N.U. 67. Arrived (N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1520/7).

W.N.81. List (N.C.S.O. Clyde 0948/7).

W.N. 81 (O) Sailed (N.C.S.O. Oban 1715/7).

W.N.U. 81. Time of Sailing (N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1150/7).

E.N. 68. Sailed (N.C.S.O. Methil 1005/7). List
(N.C.S.O. Methil 1022/7). Position
(C. in C. Rosyth 1610/7).

O.B.C. 284. Sailing telegram (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1100/7).

O.B.M. 284 " " (N.C.S.O. Milford 1147/7.)

F.N. 2.402 Sailed. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1136/7.)
List (1413/7, 1417/7.)

E.N.69. A/A. Escort. (C. in C. Rosyth 1151/7.)

O.B.282. To disperse. (C. in C. W.A., 1219/7.)

O.B.284. Time of sailing. (N.C.S.O. Belfast, 1800/7.)

/F.N.1. Arrived,.....

MOST SECRET.7. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys Contd.

F.N.1.401 Arrived. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1250/7.)

F.S.3.403 Position. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1312/7.)
Arrived. (2048/7.)

F.S.4.404 Position. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1441/7.)
Arrived. (2048/7.)

W.N.79. Clyde and Oban portions arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Methil 1448/7.)

F.S.5.405 Sailed. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1504/7.)
List (1641/7.) WIDGEON as additional
escort. (C. in C. Nore, 2205/7.)

3.M.V.'s. Escort and E.T.A. (C. in C. Portsmouth
1523/7.)

W.N.80. Arrived. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1540/7.)

Ocean Convoys.
H.G.53. List. (F.O.C.N.A.1603/7.)

H.G.52. Meet. (C. in C. W.A., 1643/7.)

O.G.53. ENCHANTRESS to escort. (Capt. D.
Liverpool, 1830/7.)

H.X.108. Destinations. (D.T.D., 1843/7.)

S.C.22. Destinations. (D.T.D. 2004/7.)

/B.H.X.109.....

7. 2. 41.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys Contd.

B.H.X.109.

List. (Navy Control, Bermuda, 1201/7.)

General.
Stragglers.

Procedure for. (D.T.D., 2005/7.)

W/T.

Sealing of Offices. (D.T.D., 0032/7.)

"

Proposed instructions for Icelandic
and Faroese fishing vessels. (F.O.C.N.P.,
1653/7.)

War Diary.7.2.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys.MILITARY CONVOYS.

W.S.6.

Escort. (C. in C. W.A. 1057/7).

Unable complete conference. Postponement essential. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 1608/7)
Postponement of 24 hours in sailing of convoy imperative.

C. in C. W.A. is requested to issue necessary instructions to those portions of convoy now at sea.

(A.C.N.S.H. 1723/7).

Clyde section delayed 24 hours. Proceed to Belfast Lough with Liverpool and Bristol Channel portions.

(C. in C. W.A. 1757/7 to BROADWATER etc).

Sailed ST. LAURENT, RESTIGOUCHE with 7 ships of W.S.6. YOMA 140 NORTHUMBERLAND not sailed.

(F.O. Liverpool 1801/7).

"Silent" ~~SILENT~~ sailed 1615/7 6 ships (names)
CYMBULA in charge of escort.

(N.C.S.O. Mersey 1910/7).

Request special air protection for Bristol Channel and Liverpool portions of W.S.6. in Belfast Lough from daylight/8 till convoy sails.

(C. in C. W.A. 2013/7).

Intend sailing remaining ships NORTHUMBERLAND BURMA and YOMA escorted by CANDYTUFT as follows to R/V.

(F.O. Liverpool 2212/7)

Request Fighter protection as follows.

(F.O. Liverpool 2253/7 to H.Q.F.C).

T.C.9.

A.M. 1907/30, 2312/1 and 0029/7.

NORFOLK and DEVONSHIRE will not meet or escort T.C. 9 as previously arranged.

2. C. in C.H.F. is requested to provide ocean escort for T.C. 9 to relieve ROYAL SOVEREIGN in (position). ROYAL SOVEREIGN will then return to Halifax.

3. R.A. 5rd B.S. is requested to arrange R.V. positions and time for the Home Fleet escort to meet T.C.9.

(A.C.N.S.H. 1952/7).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.7.2.1941.
Friday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.CADILLAC.

Returned from B.H.X. 107 for repairs to steering gear.
(N.C.S.O. Halifax N.S. 0937/7).

ANASTASSIOS
PATERAS.

(Greek, 3382 tons). Broken ahead mast. Position not yet ascertained.
(Valentia Radio 1334/7 F.O.I.C. Greenock 1353/7).

Returning Belfast with defects.
(C. in C., W.A. 1815/7).

SINGAPORE 3
Sunk.

Collision between M.F.S. 96 and Despatch Boat SINGAPORE 3 at about 1215 between No. 28 buoy and No. 3 buoy, latter was sunk.
(Commodore Sheerness 1837/7).

BURMA.

Returned to harbour defective.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1905/7).

GREYFRIARS.

In tow of Tug SCOTSMAN arrived 1830.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 2057/7).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.7.1.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Operations Against Vichy French.WINNIPEG
ratings for
Martinique.

Following from Navy Dept. from Casablanca. French ship WINNIPEG sailed 5/2 for Martinique with 800 Naval ratings for French warships now in Carriibbean. Ship routed to South as if for Dakar and will pass Canary Islands before turning West. (N.A. Washington 1450/7 to Admty).

ROSE SCHIAFFINO.

Re grant of money to crew. (F.O.C.N.A. 1958/7).

North Atlantic.

NORFOLK.)
DEVONSHIRE.)
DORSETSHIRE.)
KENYA.)

My 2312/1. Movements to take place after C.S.1. in NORFOLK with DEVONSHIRE make contact with Force Z. (D.O.D.(F) 0029/7 to F.O.C.N.A. C. in C. S.A., C. in C. W.A.) See Operations Volume. Admty 0029/7. Pass through following positions. (F.O.C.N.A. 0326/7). See Operations Volume.

TUNA.

TUNA on patrol off Ponta Delgada. (F.O.C.N.A. 0954/7).

Air Report.

1 A.S. patrol in Straits following contact by H.D.A. negative result. (200 Group 1700/7).

Explosion at Gibraltar.

In military explosives store. Damage of W/T station and casualties. (F.O.C.N.A. 1706/7).

Enemy Units.

C. in C. S.A. reports D/F bearing at 0908Z/7 indicates possible enemy surface unit within 100 miles 025° N. 025° W. Considered unreliable.

N.A. Lisbon reports submarine sighted submerged steering east 6 miles south of St. Miguel Azores at 1800/6 (A.1). (F.O.C.N.A. 2300/7 to N.A. Stn).

S.S. BELGIQUE.
(Belgian).

Loaded 6000 tons wheat and 300 tons oats, speed 6½ knots due to foul bottom, crew refuse to sail U.K. without convoy. Ship cannot be docked laden. Propose cargo be disposed of to Spain. Ship could then be docked at Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 2342/8 to Admty).

War Diary.

7.2.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

NORFOLK.
DEVONSHIRE.
ROYAL SOVEREIGN.

Cancel my 1907/30.
(D.O.D.(F) 0031/7 to C. in C. S.A. R.A.3 BS).

S.S. LANCING.

(Norwegian). Have no information here.
(N.O.I.C. Port Stanley 0927/7).

My 0927/7 South Georgia reports no news.
(N.O.I.C. Port Stanley 1449/7).

Enemy Unit.

D/F bearings apparently of a single
transmission at 1817Z/6/2 indicate German
surface unit possibly auxiliary within
300 miles of 15° S. 3° W. probability 30%
(C. in C. S.A. 1135N/7 to Admty etc).

Within 220 miles of 25 N. 50 W. probability
25% within 190 miles of 36. S. 23 E.
probability 10%, within 100 miles of 36° N.
15° W. probability 10%, elsewhere 25%.
Bearing from Jamaica possibly of Norddeich
has been detected. The same bearings from
Simonstown and Durban were taken also
at 1736Z/6/2. Request any further
information.
(C. in C. S.A. 1137/7 to Admty).

Your 1137/7 Bearings from Simonstown and
Durban not received. Bearings from U.K.
(details). No fix obtainable, but area
to North Westward at St. Paul Rocks
suggested.
(D.D.I.C. 2341/7 to C. in C. S.A).

S.S. ANGOLA.

Details of mails carried etc. (C. in C. S.A.
1851/7, 1947/7).

AJAX. (framed 2/19)

Re exchange of prisoners.
(C. in C. S.A. 2347/7).

/CAPETOWN.....

War Diary.

7.2.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (contd).

CAPETOWN
CASTLE.

Your 2118/5. Discharge will be carried out in Capetown.
(N.O.I.C. Capetown 1155/7 to D. of S.T).

START POINT.

Overdue shipping. Cancel my 0904/5.
(S.O.(I) Freetown 1202/7 to Admty).

DRAGON.
TAMERLANE.

DRAGON escorting TAMERLANE arrived Takoradi 0800/7.
(C. in C. S.A. 1325N/7).

DRAGON.

Your 0805/7. N/T in W.R. Proceed to Lagos and complete with fuel. Leave Lagos p.m./9 and return to Freetown adjusting speed to arrive 1600/12.
(C. in C. S.A. 1329N/7 to DRAGON).

Force Z.
FAULKNOR.
FORESTER.

FAULKNOR and FORESTER are to leave Freetown at 0800/8 proceed to rendezvous with Force Z escorted by KENYA and DORSETSHIRE at 0700N/9 and escort to Freetown. Force Z expected to be in position 012° 35'N. 018° 10'W. at 0700N/9 Z. routed through 014° 42'N. 019° 00'W. 010° 40'N. 017° 25'W. Speed of advance 17 knots.
(C. in C. S.A. 1411N/7 to Capt D.8).

AFRICA MARU.

Your 1652/6. Ship will be released p.m./7 after being held up 7 days and clear for Lourenco Marques. ~~Japanese~~ Government fear further delay would cause open rupture.
(S.O.(I) Capetown 1458/7 to Admty).

C. in C. A.W.I. 1152/5. Cancel words "South Africa and North America" in my 1954/1 and substitute "North America and South and West African ports south of and including Freetown".
(D.T.D. 1537/7 to C. in C. S.A.).

/Force.....

War Diary.

7.2.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (contd).

Force Z.

A.T. 1655 of 22/1 para 5. At which port is it intended Force "Z" will call at the Cape?

(D.O.D.(F) 1616/7 to C. in C. S.A.).

Your 1616/7. Intended Force Z shall call at Capetown as diesel fuel not available at Simonstown.

(C. in C. S.A. 2055N/7 to Admty).

Reserve Aircraft.

C. in C. S.A.'s 1247/3/2 and C. in C. E.I. 0404/31/1. Allocated reserve aircraft are being distributed as they become available to provide and maintain following numbers at strategic points.
(D.N.A.D. 1621/7 to C. in C. S.A. E.I.China).

Convoy Information.

Your 1211/6. As far as South Atlantic is concerned, precautionary so as to avoid duplication.

(D.T.D. 1849/7 to C. in C. S.A.).

Mediterranean.

Convoy A.S.F.14.
Troops for
Malta.

Arrived 6/2. (N.O.I.C. Port Said 0919/7) Chiefs of Staff No. 54 (1 S.L. 1036/7 to C. in C. Med) See Mediterranean Volume.

ADINDA.

Dutch Tanker (3359 tons) mined off Tobruk today. Damage not stated. (Trade Divn. Cas. Sect).

Convoy A.S. 14.

Arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Port Said 1503/7 amended 1047/9).

/Malta.....

War Diary.7.2.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).Malta
Air Raid.

From 1810/6 to 2025/6 3 enemy aircraft flew over in very bad weather. Bombs dropped Luqa Kalafrana and Delimara causing no damage or casualties. (H.Q. R.A.F. Med. 1715/7).

Suez Canal
Minesweeping.

My 2315/5. Canal has been Swept as follows. (Details of Ships mined.) 16 mines so far accounted for. Some bombs dropped also. (C. in C. Med. 2023/7 to Admty).

Minesweeping
Situation.

Again invite attention to serious position in Mediterranean regarding minesweeping craft. I now have following ports to keep swept: Malta, Alexandria, the Canal ports, Haifa, Suda Bay, Tobruk, and the advance of the Army to Benghazi now necessitates endeavour to develop that port to maximum extent possible. Now have for contact minesweeping only six twin screw mine sweepers (? eight) trawlers and a few local fitted auxiliary sweepers. M.S. flotilla for magnetic minesweeping two double A. trawlers, four LL whalers, (142 ~~And~~ M.S. group) just arrived, three Hoppers local fitted but still without generators coming from U.K. and two drifters fitted LL at Malta. Also four corvettes which are urgently required for escort work and which in any case cannot use LL sweep in less than 8 or 10 fathoms.

(iv) In view of time taken to send sweepers from U.K. in present circumstances request very urgent consideration may be given to withdrawing (? craft) from stations near to Meditn. where threat from mines is not serious. (v) I have no further news of ABERDARE and HARROW from China since C. in C. China's 0405/7/1. The 109th M.S. Group is not likely to arrive till well into March and BATHURST and LISMORE are not due till April vide Naval Board, Melbourne, 1130/30/1. (C. in C. Med 2331/7 to Admty)

/Mining.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.7.2.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).Mining.
Counter
Messages.

The seriousness of mining in Suez Canal will be clear from S.B.N.O. Suez Canal signalled reports. Vital importance of canal to Middle East War effort warrants most energetic measures being taken to remedy situation. Requirements are:-

- (a) A large number of balloons and personnel for them.
- (b) Plenty of short range A/A weapons such as (?U) P and P A C projectors, and any form of light guns with personnel to man them.
- (c) More D.W.I. 719.
- (d) Cables, batteries etc. for making L.L. Sweep and skids.
- (e) Non magnetic shallow water diving suit.
- (f) Echo sounding set.
- (g) The latest devices for dealing with acoustic mines.

2. Request urgent consideration be given to possibility of rushing out above equipment by cruiser via Cape.
(C. in C. Med. 2555/7 to Admty).

Turkey
Anti-Invasion
Device.

A.L.M./L.D. 01407/40 of 22/11/40. Is there any objection communicating contents of this letter confidentially to Turkish?.

N.A. Ankara, has seen letter and thinks Turkish might make good use of power of anti-Invasion device in Bosphorus and Sea of Marmora area.

(C. in C. Med, 2559/7 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.7.2.1941.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Information
from prisoners.Desperate situation in Italian East Africa.
Plan of invasion of U.K. (C. in C. M.E.
0215/7).Operation
"Composition".
Force K.Units taking part in operation ^{"Composition"}~~"COMPOST"~~
are to form Force K. Ships who are required
to decode such signals will be so informed
by S.N.O. Red Sea.
(C. in C. E.I. 0532Z/7 to E.I. Sqdn).HAWKINS.HAWKINS proceeding Aden to Mombasa routed
through positions 010° 20', 052° 10' and
003° N. 048° speed 25 knots, expected to
arrive Mombasa about 0900Z/9.
(C. in C. E.I. 0658Z/7 to ENTERPRISE, HECTOR
CAPETOWN).Kismayu.Activity among German ships.
(C. in C. E.I. 0748Z/7) See German
Merchant Ships.U.S. 8.
U.S. 9.Re U.S. 8 ships required for transshipment
of U.S. 9 at Bombay.
(P.S.T.O. E.I. Bombay 0952Z/7 to C. in C.E.I)
See Operations Volume.W.S. 5B.
B.A. One.
U.S. 9.Various sailing arrangements.
(C. in C. E.I. 1128Z/7).CAPETOWN.To patrol off Kismayu.
(C. in C. E.I. 0942Z/7 to CAPETOWN).
See Operations Volume.S/M attack
on Red
Sea Convoy.My 1804/5. RATNAGIRI also heard 5 under
water explosions at 2315Z in approx.
same position (C. in C. E.I. 1056Z/7).BANORA.
BANKURA.Transports. Sailed Bombay for Aden 7/2.
Details. (S.S.T.O. Bombay 1132Z/7).

/ESQUILINO.....

War Diary.7.2.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. (contd).ESQUILINO.
KARCA.
NIEUW HOLLAND.

Ships carrying personnel etc. requiring protection. (C. in C. E.I. 1136Z/7).

Reunion.

C. in C. E.I. 1106Z/7 See Operations Volume.

Operation
"Canvas".

M012941/41

My 0650/1. Modified plan. (C. in C. E.I. 1300Z/7 to Admt). Date of D.I. (C. in C. E.I. 1302Z/7). See Operations Volume.

S/M reported
off Italian
Somaliland.

A native source of information hitherto reliable and recent D.F. bearing point to possibility of an Italian submarine working off Kismayu Mogadishu area. Air r.c. of Kismayu on 6/2 failed to confirm. (C. in C. E.I. 1124Z/7 to Force T).

DOMINION
MONARCH.

S.S.T.O. Egypt (Port Said) 1733/7 Concur. DOMINION MONARCH will proceed from Aden to Mombasa unescorted. (C. in C. E.I. 1248Z/7th).

East Africa.

Possibility of Italian surrender. (C. in C. E.I. 1416Z/7) See Operations Volume.

CAPETOWN.
off Mogadishu.

My 1236/6. No shipping sighted Mogadishu on 7/2. (CAPETOWN 1740Z/7 C. in C. E.I. 2120Z/7 to Force T).

ALICE MOLLER.

My 0416 (re overdue shipping) Arrived Aden. (C. in C. E.I. 1726Z/7).

INGRIA.

Sailed from New York 24/1. with (cargo) for Mombasa agreed. (D.S.T. 2319/7 to D.S.T.O. Mombasa).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.7.2.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.Minelaying.Admty 1845/9/1. Proposals. (C. in C.
China 0457Z/7).
See Operations Volume.THORSHOVDI.
FERNWOOD.Have you any news of Norwegian ships
THORSHOVDI and FERNWOOD due Yokohama?
(D.T.D. 1759/7 to Consul General Kobe).SALABANGKA.
BENCLEUCH.Freightship SALABANGKA sailed Clyde 1/2
with following stores for Singapore.
2. Freightship BENCLEUCH sailed Tees 1/2
with following stores for Singapore.
(D. of S.T. 2520/7 to Commodore, Malaya).America & West Indies.LETITIA.
grounding.LETITIA grounded on Lichfield Shoal in
Halifax approach in thick weather at 0125/7
Stokehold and No. two and four holds flooded.
Every effort being made to lighten ship
sufficiently to tow ship off at high
water today.
(R.A.3. B.S. 0953/7 to Admty).Convoy
Route.Can it be assumed your 2129/6 is not intended
to affect your 1933/11/9/40? (N.S.H.Q.
Ottawa, 1136/7 to Admty).ANJA.NORFOLK's explanation of his routeing Fin.
ANJA in his 1743/5 is ship had neither
chart of Faroes nor ship warrant and master
did not wish to wait for permission for
issue of chart and wished to keep as far
North as possible. NORFOLK's attention
has been drawn to Notice to Mariners 1768 of
1940.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1214/7 to Admty).

/Convoy.....

War Diary.7.2.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. (contd).Convoy
S.C.22.

Intend sailing SEVERN as ocean escort, leaving convoy in 25° W. and returning to Halifax. (R.A.3. B.S. 1216/7).

T.C.9.

Reply to Admty 1832/6. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1253/7) See Operations Volume.

Broadcasting
Receivers in
Merchant Ships.

Your 1203/4. Concur in principle with your proposals. Legislation to implement them will be introduced shortly. (D.S.D. 1857/7 to C.N.S. Canada).

Seaplane for
Free French.

French Naval seaplane has arrived at Castries Saint Lucia from Martinique to join Free French. Embark sufficient fuel and oil for aircraft to fly to Trinidad and proceed to Saint Lucia A.M/8. Then proceed as in my 1121/6. If aircraft cannot be flown to Trinidad remain at Saint Lucia and report situation. (C. in C. A.W.I. 2001/7 to CARADOC).

Troop
Transport.

D. of S.T.'s 2135/20/1. Transport is required for 150 Free French volunteers from French Guiana, and a small number from Windward Islands, to West Africa. D. of S.T. proposes NEW NORTHLAND be used and that vessel be supplied additional rifles or pistols as recommended by Governor British Guiana. 4. If proposals suitable request you will co-ordinate arrangements. (D.O.D.(F) 2233/7 to C. in C. A.W.I. and S.A)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.7.2.1941.
Friday.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.LIVORNO.
GALILEA.German Ship.
7/2 arrival Gandia LIVORNO, arrival Castellon
De La Plana GALILEA.
(Valencia 0400/7).TANNENFELS.
UCKERMARK.Air reconnaissances reveal considerable
activity among ships in Kismayu.
TANNENFELS recently repainted, is reported
to have sailed between 30/1 and 5/2. A
second unknown ship may also have sailed.
This might be UCKERMARK since Italian
situation may have decided German ships
to seek refuge elsewhere. Most probable
destinations (a) Madagascar (b) Marmagoa
(c) Portuguese East Africa. (d) Japan
via Timor Sea. Persian Gulf considered
unlikely.
(C. in C. E.I. 0748Z/7 to E.I. Station).PLUS.Arrived from Vigo in ballast 6/2.
(Bilbao 1305/7 1824/7).NORDERNEY.My 2053Z/6 Para reports NORDERNEY would
be able to sail at short notice but
no signs of preparation. Brazilian press
today states she will load German cargo
awaiting shipment.
(S.O.I. Montevideo 2234Z/7).ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.CITTA DI
BARI.Arrived 7/2 Trieste.
(Susak T.H.I. 1300/7).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.7.2.1941.
Friday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

1800/6.

Submarine sighted submerged steering East six miles South Sao Miguel Azores 1800/6 (A.1).
(N.A. Lisbon 1829/7 to Admty)
Informing TUNA (F.O.C.N.A. 2258/7).

1745.

D/F bearings indicate Italian U-Boat in area 55° 00' N. to 56° 30' N. 19° 00' W. to 23° 00' W. at 1745 B.S.T.
(D.D.I.C. 1908/7).

2348.

Following has been read:- SSS Position 55.14 N. 18.57 W. Submarine sighted astern.
(ELMDEANE. 2348/7).

Estimated U/B dispositions.

No evidence since 3/2 of any U/B to North Westward of Hebrides, but one or two U/Bs. may have begun their patrols without being reported.

German.

1 possibly still between Shetlands and Faroes.
1 within 100 miles of 58° 30' N. 21° W.
1 within 40 miles of 55° 30' N. 19° 40' W.
1 within 40 miles of 56° N. 16° W.
1 about 52° N. - 55° N. west of 25° W.
1 about 51° N. 15° W. probably bound for Lorient.
1 possibly still near Azores.

Italian.

1 in N.W. Approaches whereabouts unknown.
1 may be returning to Gironde from patrol near Azores.
(D.D.I.C. 1348/7).

MOST SECRETWar Diary8.2.1941.
SaturdaySITUATION REPORTHome CommandsEnemy Cruiser
sighted.
Operations
by Home Fleet

At 1100 today RAMILLIES ^{escorting HX. 106} in 52° 55' N., 34° W., sighted very briefly at 20 miles distance the mast and top of a warship possibly a German HIPPER class Cruiser apparently steering 030°.

The HIPPER class Cruiser, which is believed to have left Brest between 1st and 4th Feb. could have reached this position as could also the ADMIRAL SCHEER if, as is thought probable she was the raider which sank SS EUYLOCHUS on 29/1 in 8° 15' N., 25° 14' W. The ADMIRAL SCHEER has possibly been away from home for four months and may be returning to Germany.

The following dispositions were made. C.S. 2 in GALATEA, with AURORA, ARETHUSA, NIGERIA, REPULSE, MATABELE, PUNJABI and ESKIMO sailed from Scapa at 1830 today for a position in 62° 30' N., 16° W., followed at 2000 by C. in C., H.F., in NELSON with DIDO, MAURITIUS, ELECTRA, ECLIPSE and TARTAR for a position 70 miles 140° from the above. The two forces will aim to reach these positions during daylight tomorrow, make ground to the North Eastward during the night 9/10 and, failing other developments, regain them at 0900/10; intending to maintain the positions subsequently by day in order to take action on any air reports received.

Special Air Patrols are to watch the Iceland Faeroes passage by night and during daylight on the 9th and 10th; and air patrols are also to be flown from Iceland during daylight, RODNEY and KING GEORGE V are to operate from daylight on the 10th in about 65° N., 8° 30' W.

20 German Warships
reported in Kristiansand.
Orders to S/M's.

20 German Warships, including one Battleship, were reported on the 6th to be lying in Kristiansand, South Norway; and to deal with these the S/M's URGE, CACHALOT, STURGEON, MINERVE and SEALION have been ordered to patrol off the S.W. coasts of Norway.

/Meanwhile.....

MOST SECRETWar Diary8.2.1941.
SaturdaySITUATION REPORTHome Commands-Contd.

Meanwhile F.O. 18th C.S. in EDINBURGH from Convoy W.S. 6 at Greenock and 4 destroyers of the 5th D.F. from Plymouth have sailed tonight for Scapa to await orders from C. in C., H.F.

British Air Activity

37 Wellingtons attacked docks and shipping at Boulogne last night. 22 Hampdens attacked docks and shipping at Dunkirk; Damage was done amongst small vessels. Minor attacks were made on Calais and Ostend.

Petrol stores at Flushing and Petroleum Harbour at Rotterdam were attacked today.

Routine and special patrols by Coastal Command today were restricted by bad weather. The Norwegian Coast was patrolled from Bergen to Stavanger, and three Beauforts flew an offensive R.C. from Stavanger to Egersund. One of these Beauforts unsuccessfully attacked one of two destroyers escorting a convoy of 4 merchant ships south of Obrestad.

Enemy Air Activity

No attacks on shipping are reported today.

MOST SECRETWar Diary8.2.1941.
SaturdaySITUATION REPORTMining.

There were no reports of enemy aircraft minelaying last night.

SS HENRI JASPAR was mined today off Cardiff and was beached. The port was closed this afternoon as were also Barry and Bristol Channel ports to the eastward. Mines were exploded off Swansea.

Workington (Liverpool area) was closed soon after midnight 7/8 until this evening

Mines were detonated today in the Thames Estuary, off Milford Haven and in the Wash.

East Indies

CAPETOWN was apparently attacked by a submarine this morning (unsuccessfully) in Mozambique Channel. A dhow which was believed to be acting as a decoy for U-Boat was rendered useless for further activities of this nature by gunfire from B.D.V. ALDGATE .

America & West Indies

Preparations for sea by Axis ships at Santos have ceased and all ships appear to have reverted to normal conditions.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Iceland
Control
of
Aircraft.

Your 1741/6. Confirmed that aircraft allotted to Iceland will be under the G.O.C. Iceland for operational purposes but a re-arrangement will be necessary as Iceland becomes a more important base for air forces. (Head of M. 1936/8 to F.O.I.C. Iceland).

Defence of United Kingdom."Deluge".

At 1130/8.
(D.C.1154/8.
At 2230/8.
(D.C.2334/8).

Movements.ATHERSTONE
COTTESMORE
KEPPEL.

Return to Lough Foyle.
(N.O.I.C. Londonderry 0820/8).

BEAGLE.

Return forthwith.
(R.A.D. H.F. 0832/8 to BEAGLE).

Northern
Patrol.

Trawler lines tonight. 3 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1335/8).

URGE.

Sailed 1400/8. Route.
(A.C.O.S. 1428/8).

Submarines.

Positions at 0800/9.
(F.O.S. 1722/8, 1903/8, 2137/8).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. (Contd.)SEALION.My 1634. Delayed 24 hours.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 2024/8).CANTON
CILICIA.C.in C. S.A. 1201/6. advisable to postpone
the boiler cleaning of CANTON.
CILICIA will not now be able to sail for
Freetown before (date).
(D.D.O.F. 2209/8).REPULSE.Have reduced 16 knots to avoid damage.
(REPULSE 2339/8 to F.O.C.2.C.S.)Operations.Operation
P.X.Operation postponed a further 24 hours.
(C.in C. Nore 1035/8 to EREBUS).Enemy
cruiser
sighted.At 1100Z in 052° 55'N., 34° W. had brief
glimpse of mast and top of warship possibly
HIPPER Class. Bearing and distance on
sight 330° 20 miles. Estimated course 030° .
RAMILLIES 1150Z/8 to Admty).Dispositions
Ordered.RAMILLIES in 052° 55'N., 034° W. at 1100Z/8
reports masts and tops of possible HIPPER
Class Cruiser bearing 330° 20 miles estimated
course 030° .(ii) C.S.2. in GALATEA with REPULSE,
NIGERIA, ARETHUSA, AURORA and 3 destroyers
is to sail at 1800/8 and proceed to a mid
position (X) 062° 30'N., 016° W.(iii) C.in C. H.F. in NELSON with
MAURITIUS, DIDO and 3 destroyers will
proceed at 1900 similarly 70 miles 140° from
position (X).
(C.in C. H.F. 1703/8).

MOST SECRET.8.2.1941.
Saturday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. (Contd.)Dispositions
ordered.
Cont:-Part two and final. My 1709. ¹⁷⁰³

(iv) Forces will aim to reach the above positions in daylight/9 and make ground to the North Eastward during night, turning in time to reach the original line at 0900/10 failing other developments.

(v) Subsequent intention is to maintain a position near original line by day in order to take action on air reports.

(vi) RODNEY and KING GEORGE V will be operating similarly 065° N., 008° 30' W., from daylight/10.

(vii) Fuel is available for returning to Skaale Fiord and Sollum Voe.

(viii) Failing other instructions F.O.C. 2nd C.S. Force is to leave their area at 2300/11, RODNEY'S Force at 2000/12, and return to harbour.
(C.in C. H.F. 1709/8).

RODNEY with KING GEORGE V and 6 destroyers is to proceed as necessary to comply with para.6. of my 1709/8.

Position is to be adjusted if necessary in the light of any information from air reconnaissance.
(C.in C. H.F. 1718/8 to RODNEY).

20 German
Warships
reported
in
Kristiansand.
Orders to
STURGEON.

20 German Warships including 1 battleship reported in Kristiansand South (South Norway) on 6/2. B.2. Patrol about 10 miles off Coast between Lister and Lindesnes. Object to attack German Warships and transports. It is particularly important not to compromise your position, and coastal traffic should not be interfered with.
(F.O.S. 1901/8 to STURGEON).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. (Contd.)Orders to D.5.

D.5. and all available destroyers of 5th D.F. are to raise steam and proceed to Scapa with all convenient despatch.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1916/8 to C.in C. W.A.)

Orders to C.S.18.

If satisfied that C.O.BIRMINGHAM has all necessary information regarding W.S.6. it is preferable that you proceed to Scapa in EDINBURGH. Otherwise BIRMINGHAM is to be detached.
(1st S.L. 1945/8 to C.S.18).

One 6/12 inch cruiser from Convoy W.S.6. and 4 destroyers of 5th Flotilla have been ordered to Scapa to await your orders. Further signal indicating their E.T.A. at Scapa will be made.
(1st S.L. 1947/8 to C.in C. H.F.)

Forces sail.

Scapa departures 1830 C.S.2. in GALATEA with AURORA, ARETHUSA, NIGERIA, REPULSE, MATABELE, PUNJABI and ESKIMO. 2000 C.in C. H.F. in NELSON with DIDO, MAURITIUS, ELECTRA, ECLIPSE, and TARTAR, 2030 SOMALI for Rosyth.
(A.C.O.S. 2054/8).

Dispositions of Submarines.

URGE proceed with despatch to patrol about 10 miles off Stadtlandet. CACHALOT proceed with despatch to patrol within 15 miles of 64° 35'N., 09° 45'E. CACHALOT may receive further orders to lay mines on bank about 5 miles North of Kya Light.
(F.O.S. 2114/8 to URGE, CACHALOT).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. (Contd.)Dispositions of s/m's
Cont:-

My 1722/8. Amend following items to read

A. CACHALOT vicinity 63° 38'N., 04° East, proceeding on surface for patrol near 64° 35'N., 09° 45'E.

B. URGE vicinity 61 10'N., 01 40'W. proceeding on surface for patrol off Stadtlandet.

C. STURGEON vicinity 58° 10'N., 05° 30'E. proceeding submerged by day for patrol between Lister and Lindesnes.

E. MINERVE vicinity 58° 55'N., 03° 06'E. proceeding submerged by day for patrol in Zone C.3.

F. SEALION vicinity 57°40'N., 01° 05'E. proceeding submerged by day through 56° 40'N., 01° E. E.T.A. War Channel 0600/10. (F.O.S. 2137/8).

EDINBURGH.

Admiralty 1945/8. EDINBURGH will pass through gate at 2300, 1800/9, E.T.A. (C.S.18, 2143/8 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

KELLY
KASHMIR
KIPLING.

Sailed 2135/8. E.T.A.Scapa, A.M./10. (C.in C. W.A. 2149/8).

EDINBURGH
Sailed.

Sailed F.O.18 C.S. in EDINBURGH as by Admiralty 1945/8. E.T.A. Scapa 1800/8. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 2315/8).

→ Orders
to
Submarines.

A. HIPPER Class cruiser reported Atlantic today may be returning to Norwegian coast. 20 German Warships reported being in Kristiansand(S) South on 6/2 may come north to meet the cruiser.

B. Object is to attack and then report enemy main units. Do not therefore disclose position by attacking lesser units or coastal traffic.

→ C. MINERVE is to patrol about 10 miles West of Kors Fiord.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations . (Contd.)Orders to
Submarines.
(Contd.)

D. CACHALOT will not be ordered to lay non flooder mines off ~~France~~ Havet . She may be required to lay F.D.29 on completion of patrol off ~~France~~ Havet. (V.A.S. 2359/8 to CACHALOT, URGE, MINERVE, STURGEON.).

British Air Activity.Bombing
Restrictions.

Capt: (S) 2.1007/3. Request immediate T.B.R. within 20 miles of 056° 47'N., 007° 57'W. until 1400/9. (C.in C. W.A. 0623/8 to H.Q.C.C.)

Patrols.

Following Air Patrols being flown today. A/S Patrol of Minches during daylight. "Fair", FAIR, ~~FAIR~~, ~~FAIR~~ A.M. (C.in C. Rosyth 0912/8).

Three Beaufort aircraft left Wick 1030 for offensive patrol between Stavanger and Lister. (C.in C. Rosyth 1050/8).

RAMILLIES 1150/8. Request Air Patrol, object to report and shadow enemy warship if she attempts the Iceland Faroes passage by night.

2. Following are requirements. Request, they may be met as far as practicable.

(A) Patrols similar to R1 and R2 shifted to a line passing through position 60° 30'N., 16° W. in Z direction 310° .

To be maintained during daylight 9th and 10th. The Northwestern Section and the afternoon patrol are the more important requirements.

/B.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (Contd.)Patrols cont:

(B) Patrol similar to "Fugle" shifted to cover line between 63° 20'N., 8° W. and 64° 50'N., 12° 20'W.

To be maintained during daylight on 10th, and 11th.

3. Request patrol (B) may be adjusted to intercept enemy after daylight 10th according to any enemy reports received on 9th.

(C.in C. H.F. 1744/8 to C.in C. Rosyth).

Crossover patrol will be flown by 2 Sunderland A/C between 61° 28'N., 18° 20'W. and 62° 20'N., 20° 30'W. from 1400/9. (C.in C. Rosyth 1800/8).

50820 Cypher M.O.8/2. C.in C. Coastal Command requests 98 Squadron carry out cross-over patrol during daylight hours daily until further notice through following positions, and return to base One aircraft to leave S.J.Q.A. 2542 one hour before dawn 9/2 and other aircraft at intervals of 3¼ hours. If possible also keep watch on Denmark Strait. Object to locate enemy cruiser believed breaking through into Norway. (War Office (M.O.8) 2115/8 to Iceland Force).

Cross-Over patrols will be flown by 2 Sunderland aircraft between 061° 28'N., 018° 20'W. and 062° 20'N., 020° 30'W. from 1400/9 - 1800/9. (C.in C. Rosyth 2310/8).

O.545 Cypher 8/2. Your 50820 (M.O.8).8/2. Only 6 air crews available in 98 Squadron. Will carry out spirit of your instructions as far as resources permit. (G.O.C.Iceland, 2345/8 to War Office).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (Contd.)Boulogne
Dunkirk
Ostend
Calais.

During night 7/8 37 Wellingtons attacked docks and shipping at Boulogne. Many bursts explosions and fires were seen in and around the docks, large buildings gutted and large fires seen.

26 Hampdens attacked docks and shipping at Dunkirk, Ostend and Calais. At Dunkirk many bursts seen in the docks. One A/C observed small vessels blown into the air. (H.Q.B.C. 1430/8).

804
Squadron.

Q.171. 8/2. Your 1709/70. Agree to your moving 804 from 14 Group to Yeovilton. (H.Q.F.C. 1810/8 to Admty).

801
Squadron.

All available aircraft of 801 Squadron are to be prepared to move to Hatston at one hours notice from 0800/9 and operate against ship target after arrival. (D.N.A.D. 2121/8).

Enemy Air Activity.WAZIRISTAN.
(Bombed
2/2.)

Your 1721/7. BANDIT, WAZIRISTAN, LORD MIDDLETON in company approx. position at 0001/8 059° 56'N., 009° W. course 137 degs. 6 knots. (BANDIT 0015/8 to A.C.O.S.)

MARAUDER is to take over the tow. BANDIT is to be sent back to Scapa as soon as you are satisfied that one Tug is necessary for the safety of WAZARISTAN. (A.C.O.S. 1104/8 to DOUGLAS).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)BARON RENFREW.
TENACITY.

Loah Lathhaish?
Arrived ~~LOCH LATHACH~~ at 1700 moored
alongside BARON RENFREW 1730 assisted in
disposal of bombs at anchor 1845. BARON
RENFREW 0270, Port List, water in engineroom
and (doubtful) (but?) probably ballast in
wash-over tunnel as apparently vessel is not
making water. Require assistance, RENFREW
difficult to tow with present list.
(TENACITY, 2000/8).

CALAFATIS
(bombed
4/2).

Your 2335/7. Have ordered ERICA to search
for boats independently as I have insufficient
fuel for extra journey. My approximate
position 055 48'N., 009 28'W. Am
endeavouring to rejoin convoy.
(CAMELIA 0100/8 to C.in C. W.A.)

Mining.Workington.

R.N.O. Workington reports Port of Workington
closed owing to enemy mines. T.O.O. 2135/7.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 0146/8).

Operations
P.W.3.
P.W.4.

Operation P.W.3. is cancelled. P.W.4
(Details) to be carried out as soon as
M.T.B's are ready and weather conditions are
suitable.
(C.in C. Nore, 1032/8 to BEEHIVE).

Thames
Estuary.

S.A. mine detonated at 2116/7 in 135° E.,
Shingles Buoy 1.8 miles.
(Capt: M/S Sheerness 1045/8).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Harwich
Area
Search.

Cancel my 1156/7/2. Intend Search of War Channel by SELKIRK (S.C.) SPEEDWELL, ELGIN, HUSSAR and SUTTON. (Details) 0800/9 to 1430/9. Request Fighter Protection. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1045/8).

Your 1209/3 and 1144/4. Four fast minesweepers searched 6 cables either side of centre line. Results. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1609/8 to C.in C. Nore).

Milford
Haven.

At 1610/7 Mine detonated in 065° St. Ann's Head Light 9.8 cables. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1147/8).

At 1055/8 one Mine detonated in 236° Great Castle Head Low Light 12.5 cables. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1819/8).

Operation
B.S.51.Details.

TEVIOT BANK escorted by one destroyer of the 20th D.F. as detailed by D.20. C.in C. Nore, is requested to arrange air escort in conjunction with C.in C. Rosyth. To be carried out on 10/2 or as soon after as practicable. (V.C.N.S. 1528/8).

Liverpool.

Instructions for entering. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1630/8 D.T.D. 1931/8).

Your TO.7569/40. 5 mines 1030/4. 1040/4. 1115/4. 0900/5. 1200/6. Details. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1744/8 to Admty).

Cardiff.

No ships are to be sailed to or from Cardiff until further orders. (F.O.I.C. Cardiff 1635/8).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Bristol
Channel
Ports.
HENRI
JASPAR
mined and
beached.

(2) HENRI JASPAR (Belgian) beached in 51° 23' N., 3° 9' 30" W.

(3) Barry and Bristol Channel ports to the eastward are closed.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1737/8).

3. Acoustic mines exploded simultaneously by Erimo with Jury rigged S.A. gear at 1125 in 083° 1.8 miles, 120° 1.3 miles, 176° 2.0 miles all from Flatholm Light.

Another at 1430 187 degs. distant 1.25 miles from Flatholm Light Red 010° distant 220 yards.

(N.O.I.C. Swansea 1840/8).

Iceland.One British Mark XX mine rendered safe at Fell 066° 05' N., 021° 33' W. Two Mark XX mines sunk in 066° 16' N., 023° 49' W. and 066° 12' N., 023° 56' W. respectively. Unidentified mine ashore near Siglufjordur 066° 12' N., 018° 50' W. Many other unconfirmed reports of drifting mines on North Coast. Mines almost certainly broken adrift from field in Denmark Straits as result of recent heavy weather.
(F.O.Iceland 1859/8).S.N.7.B.
S.N.68.A.My 1428/3. Consequent on defect to MENESTHEUS, only 3 minelayers will be available for next few operations. Propose if cover is available to sail 1900/12 and lay S.N.7.B. 68A (positions) both on 14/2.
(R.A.M.L. 1929/8).INTREPID
ICARUS
IMPULSIVE.

1. To embark gun armament and reduced outfits of mines with all despatch and come to two hours notice for steam.

2. D.20 report when ready.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1952/8 to D.20).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)INTREPID.
IMPULSIVE.

1. As soon as Humber is open tomorrow Sunday 9th February INTREPID and IMPULSIVE are to be sailed for Scapa to await orders.

2. Each ship will carry gun armament and reduced outfit of twenty six mines.
(A.C.N.S. H. 2221/8).

The
Wash.

H.S.L.142 detonated an acoustic mine at 1650/8 in 53° 08' N., 0° 40' 30" E. up.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 2109/8).

Enemy Intelligence.E/Boats.

Indication of possible presence of E/Boats off North Foreland at 2318.
(C.in C. Nore 0001/8 to WORCESTER).

Fighter Command report indications of a possible E/Boat approaching coast in direction of Haisborough at 2025.
(C.in C. Nore 2041/8).

German,
Norwegian
Transit
Traffic.

On account of Trelleborg-Sassnitz ferry being stopped by ice, trains of 12 to 15 coaches of unarmed German troops now arrive and depart Helsingborg daily.

Danish ferries, of which 3 or 5 are working convoy troops across as follows.

These ferries are apparently degaussed and proceed shortest route across Sound, to Helsingor, where, I understand, troops entrain for passage over Great Belt.

Personnel observation. A.One.
(N.A.Stockholm 1005/8 to D.N.I.)

MOST SECRET.8.2.1941.
Saturday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence. (Contd.)Brest.

No pocket battleship or other new naval units in Port Militaire. Destroyer probably present. Sub. of 280 ft. seen at usual mooring.
(Plymouth A.C.H.Q. 1715/8 to H.Q.C.C.)

Technical.Use of
Smoke.

Admty's. 1706/23/1.

1. The use of smoke, particularly at night, is worth further investigation. Information on the following points is requested.

2. Request A.C.O.S. may be kept informed of progress or result of any smoke trials which may have been carried out recently in the South.

(C.in C. H.F. 1117/8).

MOST SECRET.8.2.1941.
Saturday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.Coastal
Convoys.F.N. and
F.S.Events. Amendment to 1308/1.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1225/8).

F.S. 5.405

Numbers. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0932/8).
Humber ships arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1621/8).

F.S. 6.406

Sailed 1400/8, 22 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1551/8).
Ships Joining.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1721/8).

E.N.69.

Sailing telegram, escorts, code words.
(N.C.S.O. Methil 0951/8).

F.N. 2.402

Humber ships arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Humber 1622/8).

F.N. 3.403

0940/8, 40 ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1203/8)
Ships Joining. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1729/8).

C.W.25.

1205/8, 16 ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1210/8).

O.B.283.

Sailed 1230/8. 17 Ships.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey 1251/8).

W.N.U.81.

Sailed 1530/8, 16 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1610/8).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Coastal
Convoys.
(Contd.)

O.B.0283.

0900/9, 2 ships, Escort.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1653/8).

F.N.1.401

Tyne ships arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1803/8).Escorted
M/V's.

(C.in C. Portsmouth, 1837/8).

F.S.7.407

Sailed. 7 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 2337/8).

W.N.82.

Sailed.
(N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1351/8).

E.N.U.68.

Arrived. 12 Ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1249/8).Ocean
Convoys.

H.X.U.105.

Arrived less BLACK HERON and NEW TORONTO.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1132/8).O.G.52.
H.G.52.Escorts.
(C.in C. W.A. 1205/8).H.X.104.)
B.H.X.104.)
B.X.105.)Arrivals.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey 1940/8, N.C.S.O. Clyde,
2125/8).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Ocean
Convoys.
(Contd.)SUDERHOLM
B.H.X.104.

Appears SUDERHOLM, Straggler from B.H.X.104 proceeded south of Hebrides whereas convoy was routed North via Minches. Investigate and report if Master complied with his route instructions.
(C.in C. W.A. 1113/8 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

Military
Convoys.

W.S.6.

Screen station as follows.
(Capt: D.7. 1027/8).

Arrived RESTIGOUCHE, ST. LAURENT with seven ships from Liverpool for W.S.6.
(F.O. Belfast 1030/8).

Water Tanker CYMBULA which has returned to Liverpool with engine defects will not sail with W.S.6. Further instructions for sailing this ship will be signalled.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1749/8).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.THALA.

(British 4399 tons). Boats in readiness.
Ship not yet abandoned.
(Wick Radio 0323/8).

Ashore S.E. corner island of South Uist
West Coast Scotland. Preparing to
abandon ship.
(Port Patrick Radio 0356/8).

Proceed with despatch to assist.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0435/8 to SCHELDE).

Detail one trawler to stand by THALA.
SEAMAN is being sent from Stornoway.
(C.in C. W.A. 0535/8 to GLEANER).

20 feet water in forepeak and tow high
water but useless. Tug cannot do anything.
Awaiting further orders.
(SCHELDE 1750/8).

MACLAREN.

(British 2330 tons). Struck Southern
Colonsay Island. Require tug. Rudder
gone.
(C.G.Port Patrick 0344/8).

Proceed to assist.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0500/8 to SALVONIA).

Now have MACLAREN in tow.
(SALVONIA 1400/8).

Your 1400/8. If ship is seaworthy proceed to
Rothesay Bay.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1550/8 to SALVONIA).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS. (Contd.)Life-Boat
seen.

Keep look out for life boat(s) last seen in 55° 14'N., 014° 35'W. 6/2. Time unknown. (C.in C. W.A. 0747/8 and 0929/8 to GEORGETOWN).

LETITIA.

My 0953/7. Attempt to tow off yesterday failed. Gale now blowing. Anticipated ship will be total loss. (F.O.3.B.S. 0926/8).

DELAPOLE.

(Trawler). Sailed tug KROOMAN at 0950/8 to assist A/T DELAPOLE aground Corton Sands. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1007/8).

SANDHURST.

Departure for Tyne. SANDHURST in tow tug WATERMEYER escorted by SHEARWATER with convoy F.N.3. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1137/8).

CYMBULA.

(British Tanker, 8082 tons). Your 0935. CYMBULA has returned with defects. (C.in C. W.A. 1203/8 to RESTIGOUCHE).

ANASTASSIOS
PATERAS.

Arrived Belfast Lough having lost convoy, slight deck damage. (N.C.S.O. Belfast, 1318/8).

Burning
Ship.

Detach one ship to investigate ship reported burning in 055° 18'N., 012° 58'W. at 1325. (C.in C. W.A. 1453/8 to ANTELOPE).

TAI
HING.

Derelict stern half in 056° 20'N., 012° 45'W. Drifting slowly north eastwards dangerous to navigation. Wreck is floating well and appears salvageable. No sign of survivors. (WINCHELSEA 1713/8 to C.in C. W.A.)

BOADICEA.

My 1223/5. BOADICEA delayed owing to defects. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1807/8).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS. (Contd.)PRINS
FREDERIK
HENDRIK.Detach 1 ship to assist.
In distress in 054° 20'N., 017° 30'W. at 2014.
(C.in C. W.A. 2103/8 to BELMONT).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Operations Against Vichy French.Operation
"Ration".Your 1737/4. No objections.
(A.C.N.S.(T), 1725/8).Convoy.French destroyer L'ALCYON passed Gibraltar westbound at 1020/8 escorting French M/V's LORRAINE, 9512 tons and CAPITAINE ST. MARTIN 3450 tons.
(D.O.R. 10/2.)North Atlantic.Interception
of Danish
Ships.Your 1914/4/1. Off Cartagena would be preferable. Subject to other commitments anticipate interception can be arranged. Important to know exact date when they will be ready to sail. At least three days notice, must be given of actual sailing in order operations may be cancelled if no forces available.
(F.O.I.C. Gibraltar, 1026/8 to N.A.Madrid).General.COLDHARBOR.U.S. proceeding to Cadiz with Red Cross supplies. Route. Markings.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1245/8).KENYA
SOBIESKI.Re sailing.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1314/8).
See Operations Volume. *Page 75.*Delay in
Discharge
of Ships
at
Gibraltar.Your 1721/2. Governing factors (shortage of Labour inadequate cranae etc.)
Every effort being made to improve matters.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1620/8).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (Contd.)Submarine
sighted
1755/6.

F.O.C.N.A. 1717/8. See U/Boat Campaign.

South Atlantic.HERMES
and
ENTERPRISE.Your 1232/6. I concur.
(C.in C. S.A. 0954/8 to C.in C. E.I.)Enemy
Unit.

My 1137N/7. With additional bearings from the U.K. indicated position is within 150 miles of 10° N., 35° W., 20% within 700 miles of same position 75%, elsewhere 5%. Further bearings from Ascension and Simonstown suggest following position at 0457Z/8. Within 150 miles of 10°N., 23° W., 20%, within 500 miles of this position 60%, elsewhere 20%. This may refer to a raider auxiliary 50%, raider itself 20% or some other transmitter 10%. Suggest on very slight grounds that this raider first received or sent a message from a position near the Meridan of Ascension at 1936Z/1/1. (C.in C. S.A. 1041/8).

D/F bearings at 1718Z/6 indicate enemy surface unit within 150 miles 010° N., 035° W, reliability 20%. At 0457Z/8 indicate surface unit within 150 miles 010° N., 023° W. reliability 20%. Bearings possibly refer to two different units.
(C.in C. S.A. 1051N/8 to S.A. Squadron).

Transport
for Free
French
Volunteers.

Admty 2233/7 no objection provided no further delay is caused to NEW NORTHLAND which is urgently required and should be sailed for Freetown from Trinidad.
(C.in C. S.A. 1315N/8 to C.in C. A.W.I.)

MOST SECRET.8.2.1941.
Saturday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (Contd.)BULOLO,
escorting
S.L.65.To proceed Greenock.
(C.in C. S.A. 1625/7).Convoy
W.S.6.
and
Movement
of French
Personnel.Re C.in C. S.A. 1752/3, F.O.C.N.A. 1800/4.
Transhipment to EMPIRE TROOPER and proposing
other ships.
(D. of S.T.1716/8).{ Mo 3193/41
Mo 5811/41German
Ships
at
Santos.S.O.(I) Montevideo 1321Z/8, 2006Z/8.
See German Merchant ships.Dispositions.Weekly State at 1200/8.
(C.in C. S.A. 1325N/8).COMORIN.N.O.I.C. Bermuda's 1118/30/1. If new
furnace available by the 12/3 COMORIN can
be spared 14 days from this date for fitting
in U.K. Then intend COMORIN should
escort W.S.8.
(C.in C. S.A. 1905N/8).Mediterranean.UPRIGHT.Your 0046/8. (Not to Admty). Acknowledged.
Proceed into harbour. UNIQUE sailed at
(1730 or 2230)/7.
(V.A. Malta, 0338/8 to UPRIGHT).UNIQUE.Carry out previous orders. UPRIGHT reports
nothing of interest.
(S.C.(S) Malta 0341/8 to UNIQUE).*See also next page -*

MOST SECRET.8.2.1941.
Saturday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)Mining
of
Suez Canal.

My 1953/6. Sweeping operations have been delayed owing to defect in degaussing of sweepers. Intend to delay movements of ships by 24 hours until a.m./10.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1321/8).

Report
by
UPRIGHT.

UPRIGHT reports unsuccessful attack on northbound escorted merchant ship night 4/5 Feb. on same night unidentified ship made R/V with two trawlers off Kerkenah Bank and observed distant signalling.
((S) 1 1443/8 to UNIQUE).

Enemy
shipping
Intelligence.

Result of Aircraft R/C 8/2 Tripoli, Palermo, Trapani and sea areas.
(V.A.Malta 1631/8 to S/MS. on patrol, H.Q., R.A.F. M.E. 1715/8).

Air Raid
on Malta.

Nuisance raid. No service damage or casualties.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1715/8).

Convoy
B.N.14.

Arrived 7/2 and 8/2. Less EMBIRICOS NICOLAOS and JULIA.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1831/8).

Aircraft
attacks
on Fleet
on 10/1,
11/1, 24/1.

Details, in reply to Admty 1336/5.
(C.in C. Med., 1916/8).
(In Lion copy only).

Attack on
convoy by
URSULA.

Unsuccessfully attacked convoy 3 merchant ships escorted by 2 T/B's. P.C. and S. 035° 15'N., 011° 30'E. 135° 11 knots.
(URSULA 1940/8).

SECRET

MESSAGE 1916/8 February IN

262A

From C. in C. Mediterranean

DATE+ 11.2.41.

REC'D 1755

Naval Cypher (D) by Cable

Addressed Admiralty Repeated S.O. Force H.

BASEGRAM.

185 Your 1336 5th February not to S.O. Force (H).
Following summary of air attacks on 10th, 11th and 24th January
amplifies my 1015 13th January and my (T.O.O.omitted) 26th
January.

One Torpedo aircraft attack at 1223/10 was of usual
Italian type with steady level approach from six miles on a
bearing abaft Destroyer screen at height of 150 feet to drop
torpedoes at 2500 yards from Battle Fleet. Fighters gave chase
damaging one aircraft. No apparent damage from gunfire.

2. Relief fighters were being flown off at L 35 when
dive bomber aircraft were sighted at long range at height of 12
thousand feet in two very loose and flexible formations. On
being engaged they worked round positions on each quarter of
Battle Fleet where they circled while waiting their turn to
attack. Diving attack started at L 40 concentrated mainly on
H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS (18 to 24 aircraft) but H.M.S. WARSPITE and
H.M.S. VALIANT were also attacked (3 to six aircraft each). Both
Both junkers 87 B and Junkers 88 were employed. The attack on
H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS developed in 3 main waves in each of which at
least 10 sub - flights of three each carried out synchronized
attacks in different sectors. Aircraft of each sub flight attacked
in succession from bearings 5 to 10° apart. Main weight of
attack came from astern and it appeared in each wave one or two
sub flights attacked from astern and one from either beam. Each
wave lasted about 1½ minutes and interval between waves about 30
seconds. Some aircraft dived straight from 12000 feet to release
bombs at 1500 feet but most spiralled down to about 5000 feet
before turning into aiming dive. Bomb release in some cases was
as low as 800 feet. Many aircraft continued their dive across
ship to flatten out at 100 feet and zigzagged away flying low.
Angle of dives varied between 50 and 80 Degrees. Confirmed 3
aircraft shot down and 2 damaged by gunfire and three unconfirmed.
Fulmars engaging retiring aircraft shot down five certain two
probable and damaged two.

3. High level bombing at 1330 by seven aircraft each on
H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS and the Battle Fleet and three on convoy
EXCESS was ineffectual. Aircraft variously reported Savoia
79 Heinkel 111 and Junker 88. One damaged by gunfire from H.M.S.
CALCUTTA escorting convoy.

4. Dive bombing attacks at 1515 on H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS
and at 1715 on the Battle Fleet were small scale repetition of
the 1240 attack. That on H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS was markedly less
determined and less synchronized. That on Battle Fleet compar-
able in skill and determined but the bomb release was at or
above 500 feet. At least one aircraft was damaged by gunfire
and three by Fulmar which intercepted after attack.

5.000000

262 B

5. Probably isolated light torpedo aircraft attacks on H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS in Malta searched channel by two aircraft which were heard and seen. No torpedoes or tracks observed.

6. Attack on H.M.S. GLOUCESTER and H.M.S. SOUTHAMPTON on 11th January. Six Junkers 88 attacked each ship from direction of sun broad on starboard quarter at an angle of diving about 50 Degrees. Aircraft pulled out of dives and released bombs at between 800 and 1500 feet and then broke away. It was possibly these same aircraft which carried out an ineffectual attack half an hour later.

7. Attack on Cruiser force on 24th January. High level bombing attack by 12 Heinkel 111 between 13 thousand and 16 thousand feet. The first five attacked in a loose formation and subsequent aircraft independently at irregular intervals. There was a short lull between high level bombing and dive bombing attacks. Latter were carried out independently by Heinkels 111 and Junkers 88 without any apparent attempt at synchronisation. Angle for diving varied between 25 and 45 degrees and aircraft pulled out of dive to release bomb at or above 3000 feet. No ship hit but eight misses within 20 yards. Damage claimed eight aircraft.

1916/8

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.
- 5th S.L.
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- Naval Secretary
- C.S.O. to 1st S.L.
- Ops (4)
- C.D. (5)
- D.N.I. (4)
- O.I. (3)
- D.S.D. 9.
- D.T. S.D.
- D. & P. (3)
- D.N.A.D.
- L.P. (3)
- W.D.

M. B. B

MOST SECRET.8.2.1941.
Saturday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.ATHELSTANE.

Cancel my 0616/7. Received Undecypherable.
Following is repetition of my 1321/6.
Arrival ATHELSTANE.
(N.O.I.C. Trincomalee. 0500Z/8).

Composition
of Red
Sea Forces.

My 0942/14/12/40. delete CARLISLE.
(C.in C. E.I. 0534Z/9).

Mogadishu.
Operation
"Breach".

Your 1620Z/6. Position "Cucumbers" based
on information supplied by S.O.(I)
Kilindini that photographs had shown ships
anchored well to northwards of leading line.
(S.O. Force K, 0621Z/8 to C.in C. E.I.)

M.S.
Group
109.

My 1258/3, and N.O.I.C. Durban 1525/6.

(i) M.S.Group 109 are urgently required in
Mediterranean and their passage is to be
hastened as much as possible. They will not
now call at Mombasa but are to complete
with fuel and water from Oiler APPLELEAF which
will arrive Dar-es-Salaam a.m./14.

(ii) After which, and provisioning, they are
to proceed to Port Victoria Seychelles and
then to Aden. Request you route them
accordingly. Oiler APPLELEAF is to be
sailed for Port Victoria.
(C.in C. E.I. 0654Z/8 to N.O.I.C. Africa and
Zanzibar.)

Zigzagging.

Ships in area 3 sailing independently are to
zigzag when within 100 miles off Mombasa by
day and in moonlight.
(C.in C. E.I. 0920/9 to G.B.M.S.3.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. (Contd.)Conjectured
attack on
CAPETOWN.

CAPETOWN while close to a dhow in 000°17'S., 043° E. at 0750Z/8 observed two under water explosions, considered to have been torpedoes fired from a submarine exploding at end of their run. My 1124/7th to Force T only refers.

(C.in C. E.I. 1412Z/8).
My 1412/8 dhow was damaged by gunfire from B.D.V. ALDGATE. If she was being used as a decoy consider she will be of little further use for the purpose.
(C.in C. E.I. 1652Z/8).

Operation
"Canvas"
KANDAHAR.
H012941 | 41

C.in C. E.I. 1450Z/8. See Operations Volume. p. 75.

YAMAHUZI
MARU.

Have removed mail from YAMAHUZI MARU and allowed her to proceed. Unable to obtain manifest. Request you will obtain copy at Bahrein.
(SEABELLE 2045/8 to S.N.O. Persian Gulf).

AUSTRALIA
for
East Indies.
CORNWALL
for U.K.
SHROPSHIRE.

At the request of A.C.N.B., to facilitate drafting and crossing reliefs, AUSTRALIA is to join the E.I. Station.

CORNWALL is to sail for U.K. to join Home Fleet on completion of refit.

Intend SHROPSHIRE will later take the place of CORNWALL in the S.A. Command.
(1st S.L. 2300/8).

China.Fleet
Communications.

U.S.A. - Dutch - British. Inquiring Admty. policy.
(C.in C. China, 0441/8).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.HUSKY -
VAN
KINSBERGEN
incident.

Occurred off Trinidad on 5/2. VAN KINSBERGEN, BISON and HUSKY were ordered by me to intercept by arrangement with Owner the two Danish ships proceeding to Carapito from St. Thomas. VAN KINSBERGEN was instructed to take BISON and HUSKY under his orders. Interception was effected about daylight/5 and Danish ships were boarded by HUSKY whilst VAN KINSBERGEN was in sight and approaching. HUSKY'S Boarding Officer ordered ships to proceed Trinidad but does not seem to have formally seized the ships in prize. Boarding parties were then placed on board by VAN KINSBERGEN, Dutch Ensign was hoisted and the ships formally seized in prize. Report states that Boarding Officer from VAN KINSBERGEN was obstructed by C.O. of HUSKY who also made strong protest against hoisting of Dutch Ensign. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1132/8).

RAMILLIES
report
of enemy
cruiser.

At 110Z in position 052° 55'N., 034° 00'W. had brief glimpse of mast and top of warship possibly German HIPPER Class. Bearing and distance on sight 330 20 miles. Estimated course 030° . (RAMILLIES 1150Z/8 to Admty).

T.C.9.

Reply to Ottawa, 1253/7. (D.O.D.(H) 1203/8 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) See Operations Volume.

Periscope
sighted by
U.S.Destroyer.
1045/29.

1700/3. Navy Dept: reports search 0600/30 till 31/1 by United States S/M's destroyers and aircraft. No further information obtained. 19 hours elapsed from sighting till search began. (N.A. Washington 1235/8).

WELLS
NEWARK
damaged.

NEWARK and WELLS sailed for U.K. via St. John's N.F. on 4/2 encountered heavy gale WELLS lost top mast and returned to Halifax. NEWARK had condenser trouble and was towed back. Expect both ships ready to sail 13/2. (R.A.3.B.S.1404/8).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.8.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. (Contd.)Trinidad.

Asking whether information concerning defences is to be repeated to U.S. Officers. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1602/5).

Convoy
Route.

Your 1136/7. Yes.
My 1933/11/9/40 remains in force.
(D.T.D. 1751/8 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

Australia.AUSTRALIA.

Your 0715/6 arrangements will be made for AUSTRALIA to join E.I. Station and for her place in the Home Fleet to be taken by another 8" Cruiser now serving abroad. (1st S.L. 2301/8 to A.C.N.B.)

8. 2. 41.
Saturday.

War Diary.

GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

At Santos.

Santos reports today that ships appear to have banked fires and that there are no further signs of activity. (N.S.O.(1) Mont Video 1321Z/8.)

My 1321Z/8, Santos now reports all ships appear to have reverted to normal conditions. (N.S.O.(1) Monte Video 2006Z/8.)

8. 2. 41.
Saturday.

War Diary.

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

SANDICHIARA.
NERUCCI.

My 1143/2. First named ship reported by Split to be NERUCCI, she was still at Bar on 6/2. (Cargo) Information re cargo A.1. (II) at 1230/6/1. 1 Italian tug and 6 lighters (?) passed through Korcula Channel in territorial waters southbound. (?) A.1. (S.O.(1) Alexandria 1155/8.)

TORCELLO
MAYA.

Arrived from Batoum (TORCELLO) with cargo 5000 tons of gas oil. Departure for Batoum (MAYA) in ballast. (Varna 1610/8.)

MOST SECRET.8. 2. 41.
Saturday.War Diary.FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.FORT
RICHEPANSE.

FORT^{RI}CHEPANSE from Martinique bound for Casablanca may be in 031° N. 018° W, on 9/2. Speed 16 knots. If unescorted ship is to be sent in. (F.O.C.N.P. 1650/8 to Western Patrol except Trawlers.)

8. 2. 1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M's Reported.

00. 48.

Detach one destroyer to attack submarine reported in position 055° 14' N, 018° 57' W, at 0048 reliable fix. (C. in C.W.A. 0127/8, to GEORGETOWN.

My 0127. If not in contact Destroyer detached is to rejoin convoy before dark. (C. in C. W.A., 0821/8, to GEORGETOWN, ANTHONY, ANTELOPE, ACHATES.)

Mediterranean.

0845.

Coast Watcher reports enemy submarine off Cape Prosino (Amorgos) 0845, course 270° (N.A. Athens, 0933/8.)

Estimated dispositions.

German - 1 Shetlands - Faroes. 1 58° N. - 60° N. 16° W. 23° W. 1 30 miles of 55° 14' N. 18° 57' W. 1 55° 14' N. 15° 56' W. 1655/6.. possibly southbound. 1,100 miles of 51° N. 26° W. 148° 30' N. 11° W. bound for Lorient. 1 from Azores approaching Lorient.

Italian. 1 60 miles of 56° N. 21° W. 1 North Western Approaches. 1 Approaching Gironde. (D.D.I.C. 1257/8, 2208/8.)

MOST SECRET.8. 2. 41.Saturday.War Diary.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.CAPETOWN.

See East Indies.

MAPLECOURT.

IMPORTANT. If contact was made with MAPLECOURT report whether she was attacked by submarine and degree of reliability of report. (C. in C. W.A., 1041/8, to ERICA, CAMELIA.)
MAPLECOURT was in Convoy S.C.20, with general cargo for Preston. Attacked about 250' W. of Bloody Foreland. (D.O.R., 7/1.)

SESOSTRIS.

Egyptian, 2962 tons. In Convoy S.C.19, with general cargo for Liverpool, is overdue and presumed lost. Missing from convoy after U-boat attacks on 29/1. (D.S.521.)

W.B.WALKER.

Your 1453 burning wreck is bow portion of W.B. WALKER. S.L.63 passed it in 055° 16' N. 013° 34' W, at 1845. Consider AYRSHIRE'S 1005/8 was reporting same wreck. (ANTELOPE 1846/8, to C. in C. W.A.)

Proceed to R.V. with SOUTHERN PRIDE in 56° 00' N 08° 15' W at 0900/9, then proceed in company to assist stern half W.B.WALKER, floating well in 56° 20' N, 12° 45' W, and drifting slowly N.E. at 1700/8. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2255/8, to SEAMAN.)

S/M's reported.1045/29.

See A & W.1.

1755
G.M.T./6.

Master British Merchant Ship, reports sighting pc. of s/m. at 1755 G.M.T./6, in 034° 55' N. 013° 22' W. B.2. (F.O.C.N.A. 1717/8.)

/S/M's Reported....

War Diary

9.2.1941.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Search for
Enemy Cruiser

At 1240 today a Coastal Command aircraft reported a warship, believed to be a HIPPER class cruiser, escorted by 3 destroyers 10 miles south of Lister steering S.W. at 15 knots. The W.T. report failed to get through and was not sent to C. in C., H.F. and F.O.S. until 1936 today.

RODNEY and destroyers left Scapa at 0904 today and KING GEORGE V at 1023 for operational sweep from daylight tomorrow in about 65° N., 8° 30' W.

Aircraft R.C. of Kristiansand today was unsuccessful.

F.O. Iceland had insufficient aircraft to patrol the Denmark Straits as ordered, and therefore arranged to patrol further to the westward. Nothing was sighted.

British Air Activity

Four Blenheims attacked docks and shipping today at Le Havre, Antwerp, Boulogne and Calais and petroleum store at Flushing. The remaining aircraft which were despatched abandoned the operation on account of bad weather.

Aircraft reported 4 destroyers off Stavanger at 1008 and 6 destroyers and a merchant ship off Stavanger at 1008. 6 Beauforts were sent to attack with torpedoes, and torpedoed one of the 6 destroyers (fate not known)

Owing to the weather air escorts were curtailed.

War Diary

9.2.1941.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Activity

PYTCHLEY today shot down a H.E. 111 which approached Convoy F.S. 5 in the Thames estuary.

NEPTUNE received slight damage when attacked by a dive bomber today in the North Channel and she damaged her attacker.

SS PRINCESS MAUD was attacked 5 miles S.W. of Corsewall at 2302. No details are reported.

A Heinkel III on R.C. machine gunned troops near Reykjavik today causing 2 casualties.

Mining

It is estimated that 10 enemy aircraft were engaged in minelaying in the Bristol Channel last night.

Milford Haven was opened about noon today but was closed at 2042 owing to enemy aircraft minelaying. One mine was detonated.

Mines were also exploded in Firth of Forth and off Spurn Point.

Liverpool was closed at 2221, Holyhead at 2300, and Campbeltown at 2344.

War Diary

9.2.1941.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

North Atlantic

Attack on
Convoy H.G. 53

M03378/41

Convoy H.G. 53 was attacked by a U-Boat this morning about 160 miles W.S.W. of Cape St. Vincent and SS ESTRELLAND and COURLAND were sunk.

During the afternoon the convoy was bombed by 6 F.W. aircraft. SS TEJO, JURA and BRITANNIC were sunk, DAGMAR I was damaged and abandoned, and VARNA was damaged.

A Sunderland from Gibraltar was sent to escort the convoy.

South Atlantic

D/F bearings indicate German unit or units to the westward or south westward of Cape Verde Is.

Mediterranean

Operations
in Libya

~~Five~~
Four Italian auxiliary schooners which were employed on look out and/or supply service duty have been captured during the course of naval and military operations in Libya.

Mining of
Suez Canal

Owing to breakdown of sweeping craft the resumption of traffic in the Canal other than tugs, lighters and small craft is postponed by a further 24 hours.

/Operation....

War Diary9.2.1941.
SundaySITUATION REPORTMediterranean-Contd.

Operation
"Result"
(Bombardment
of Genoa)
(For details
see F.O. Force
H. 2229/10) (page 329)

M03333/41.

F.O. Force H (see 6/2) bombarded Genoa at dawn today, effected complete surprise and reported excellent results. 273 rounds of 15 inch were fired. No battleship was seen in the harbour. The only opposition was ineffective fire from two 6 inch guns and slight A.A. fire against the spotting aircraft.

F.A.A. aircraft from ARK ROYAL mined the entrances to Spezia harbour and bombed the important A.N.I.C. oil refinery at Leghorn and Pisa aerodrome and railway junction.

One Swordfish is missing. No damage is reported to any of our ships.

During the withdrawal, two enemy shadowing aircraft were shot down by fighters. Two Fiat bombers attacked the force ineffectively at 1140.

Air Attack
on Rhodes.

Wellingtons attacked aerodromes in Rhodes last night.

Air Raid
on Malta

Malta and aerodromes were attacked last night for 9 hours by a force estimated at 45 aircraft, some of which were identified as J.U. 88's, others probably H.E. 111's. Some damage was caused and 2 aircraft were severely damaged on the ground.

America & West Indies

LETITIA (A.M.C.) which grounded in the Approaches to Halifax on 7/2 was refloated today. The ship is seriously damaged.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Tug Situation.

Your 1100/8. Other arrangements to meet temporary requirements at Loch Ewe are being made. Nine additional Commercial Tugs have recently been sent to Clyde. In view of general shortage of tugs it is necessary that Naval requirements for tugs be merged with commercial requirements. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1522/9 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow).

Defence of U.K."Deluge".
DELUGE.

At 1130/9 (D.C. 1134/9) At 2330/9
(D.C. 0001/10 and 0555/10).

Scapa.

Progress Report 9th February 1941.
(R.A. Scapa 2015/9).

Movements.TALISMAN.
LA CAPRICIEUSE.

Sailed as by (S) 2 1232/7 and 0952/8.
E.T.A. Bishops Rock 0500/11.
(F.O. Greenock 1000/9).

TRIBUNE.

Sailed 1742/8 LA MOQUEUSE to R/V with and
escort TRIBUNE to Clyde.
(C. in C. W.A. 1017/9).

PORPOISE.

Report time you will R/V CUTTY SARK in
270° Barra Head 10 miles.
(S.2. 1056/9 to PORPOISE).
Your 1056/9 1730.
(PORPOISE 1249/9).

JACKAL.

Sailed ^{Plymouth} 0819. E.T.A. Scapa P.M./10.
(C. in C. W.A. 1117/9).
Proceed to Skaale Fiord Faroes. Complete
with oil and await further orders. Before
leaving Minches report E.T.A. Skaale Fiord
to Capt. D.(5), C. in C. H.F. and R.A.(D) H.F.
(R.A.D. H.F. 1805/9 to JACKAL)

/LYCIA.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. (contd).LYCIA.

N.O.I.C. Blyth 2045/8 and my 0955/8.
Estimate LYCIA could sail from Tyne p.m./10.
As HEBE not completed until 16/2 request you
provide suitable escort to Scapa as no
ship is available in Rosyth Command.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1207/9 to A.C.O.S).

UNBEATEN.

Intend to sail UNBEATEN from Portsmouth
unescorted diving by day at 1700/10 via
Needles Channel. Route to R/V with
three destroyers 110° Start Point 3 miles
at 0930/11.
(S.5. 1405/9).

Northern
Patrol.

Trawler lines tonight. 4 trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1539/9).

Submarines.

Positions at 0800/10 and movements for
following 24 hours.
(F.O.S. 1659/9).

QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Following revised programme has been
approved.
QUEEN ELIZABETH will work up at Scapa under
orders of C. in C. H.F.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1738/9).

LONDONDERRY.
CYMBULA.

My 1759/8. LONDONDERRY is to replace
corvette in escort of CYMBULA.
(C. in C. W.A. 1847/9).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.Home Fleet.
Operation.

Scapa departure 0904 RODNEY, BEDOUIN, ZULU, MACRI, INGLEFIELD, BRILLIANT, BOREAS. 1023 KING GEORGE V. for operational sweep to northward.
(A.C.O.S. 1025/9).

My 2359/8 Para C. For 10 miles read 15 miles.
(F.O.S.1119/9 to MINERVE).

A/C report sighting enemy cruiser believed HIPPER class escorted by three destroyers in 57° 57'N, 6° 42'E. course 145° speed 15 at 1240/9.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1936/9 to C. in C. H.F. Adty, A.C.O.S., F.O.S. C. in C. Nore).

E.T.A. Skaale Fiord, Faeroes, in KELLY with KASHMIR and KIPLING about 1800/10.
(Capt. D.5. 2001/9 to R.A.D.H.F).

Operation P.X.

Postponed a further 24 hours.
(C. in C. Nore 1135/9 to EREBUS).

Thames
Estuary.

As requested by telephone by Captain M.S. Sheerness STARLIGHT RAYS will be as near Elbow Buoy as safety permits (patrol Re) tonight carrying white light on Fore Stay.
(N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1536/9).

War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.Patrols.

Battle Aircraft may be sent up at dawn ?
to patrol between Westman Islands and
position 200 miles South.
(F.O. Iceland 0054/9).

My 0054/9 Patrol will be flown at daylight
and at intervals of 3 hours throughout
the day through following positions.
(F.O. Iceland 0149/9).

Your 0149/9. Patrols ordered therein do
not appear to comply with C. in C. Coastal
Command's request stated in War Office's
message of January 9th to Iceland Force.
Please explain discrepancies.
(A.C.N.S.H.) 1909/9 to F.O.I.C. Iceland).

Following ~~patrols ordered~~ to be flown
A.M. today ~~STAB, STAB, BART~~ "Fair", Special Recco
Kristiansand FAIR.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0228/9).

O. 546 Cipher 9/2. My O.545/8/2. My
limited resources carrying out patrol
required starting 0700 hours Icelandic
time. No patrol available for Denmark
Strait.
(G.O.C. Iceland 0253/9 to War Office).

My 0228/9. Patrol ^{"Fair"} ~~FAIR~~ cancelled.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0822/9).

Patrol ^{"Hornet"} ~~HORNET~~ is being flown today.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1032/9).

My 2310/8. Patrol will be discontinued
at 1600 as second aircraft returning to
base with engine trouble.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1532/9).

Patrol S.T.2. at 0900 and S.T. One at
1400 tomorrow.
(N.A. Station, Stornoway 1625/9).

/My.....

War Diary.

9.2.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. (contd).

Patrols contd.

My 0149/9. This patrol will be flown daily during daylight hours until further notice.
(F.O. Iceland 1747/9).

C. in C. H.F.'s 1744/8. As 1 Sunderland only is available Patrol Fugle as requested in Part B. will be flown tomorrow and patrol by Battles as in F.O. Iceland's 0149/9. If more aircraft become available Patrol R2 as in Part A will also be flown.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1842/9).

My 0149/9. Patrol returned nothing to report.
(F.O. Iceland 2047/9).

My 2240/3/2. One Sortie will be flown from first light tomorrow.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2246/9).

801 Squadron
to Hatston.

My 2121/8. 801 Squadron is to proceed to Hatston forthwith.
(A.C.N.S.H. 1140/9).
Admiralty's 2121/8 not to C.D.B. 801 Squadron at St. Merryn has 15 pilots and 14 serviceable and operationally complete aircraft available to fly to Hatston. In addition L.2895 is expected to be serviceable and complete a.m./10. Intend to retain L.2982 and L. 2979 at St. Merryn as A.R. for 801 Squadron.
(St. Merryn 1204/9 to R.A.N.A.S).
Admiralty's 1140/9. Stores and maintenance personnel are to stand by to move at short notice and are not to proceed till further orders.
(R.A.N.A.S. 1225/9 to St. Merryn).
Your 1140/9. 801 Squadron unable to proceed due to weather.
(St. Merryn 1309/9 to Adty).

/20.....

MOST SECRET.9.2.1941.
Sunday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (contd).20 Hurricanes
to D.A.M.

ZA589 9/2. Request you allot twenty Hurricane mark 1 Aircraft to D.A.M. Admiralty. Aircraft to be operationally equipped.
(Air Ministry 1400/9 to M.A.P).

R.C. of
Kristiansand.

My 0228/9. Recco of Kristiansand unsuccessful. One aircraft lost, the other did not reach objective.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1642/9 to C. in C. H.F).

Escorts.

Owing to weather air escorts have been discontinued today.
(C. in C. Nore 1451/9 to HASTINGS, WALLACE, VALOROUS, VERDUN).

Blenheim Fighters providing close escort to W.N. 81 part 2 and cover for W.N. 81 part one and E.N. 69 combined at dusk. Details re Hurricanes later.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1618/9).

My 1618/9. Hurricane will combine close escort for W.N. 81 part one and E.N. 69 from dusk to dark to-day from dusk to dark fighter league green after dark fighter Methil minor green.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1714/9 to PIROUETTE, etc).

Air escort will be continued throughout tonight.
(C. in C. W.A. 1813/9 to BIRMINGHAM).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.BARON RENFREW.
(Bombed 28/1).

Your 1750/8. Proceed forthwith to assist TENACITY with BARON RENFREW. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0040/9/2 to SCHELDE). BARON RENFREW unfit for towing until list corrected; and lying safely. On boarding found ship. Apparently looted. SCHELDE confirming. (TENACITY 1840/9 to F.O.I. C. Greenock).

CALAFATIS.
(bombed 4/2).

Searched the area no result. Returning. (ERICA 0927/9 to C. in C. W.A).

A/C shot down.

One unknown Aircraft bearing 180° Distance 5 miles position 52° 43'N. 1° 25'E. (PYTCHLEY 1120/9).

My 1120. Aircraft shot down. (PYTCHLEY 1125/9).

Following received, from PYTCHLEY. My 1125. Aircraft Heinkel 111 K observed to crash near B.D.2. buoy. Search made. No survivors. 1138/9 Ends. (C. in C. Nore 1245/9).

NEPTUNE
attacked.

Fighter protection is being sent to the aid of one Cruiser. (Nore W/T 1129/9).

NEPTUNE attacked by one Dornier 215 dive bomber (?350)miles east Portrush east Barrow Beacon. Near miss. Slight damage. Enemy was seen to be damaged. No casualties. (NEPTUNE 1140/9 to C. in C. Nore).

Iceland.

German aircraft attacked troops S.E. of Reykjavik at 1100Z + 1 today. Description of machine.

(F.O.I.C. Iceland, 1230/9).

O.549 cipher 9/2. Description of attack. 2 Casualties. Attempts to intercept by available Battle aircraft failed. During this time two of our aircraft were absent on patrol asked for in your 50820 (M.O.8) of 8/2.

(G.O.C. Iceland 1611/9 to War Office).

/Restrictions.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (contd).Restrictions
on use of
A/A Guns.
Newcastle-
on-Tyne.

A.274 9/2. Your A327 1/2 and Adty. 1512/31/1 re attack on Vickers Naval Yard Newcastle-on-Tyne on 27/1. Owing to possible confusion in R.D.F. filtering, aircraft was identified as returning friendly bomber until attack proved error. Prior to attack aircraft was never recognised as hostile owing to bad visibility. It is not correct therefore to state that "enemy aircraft was under aim" as it was not known to be/or suspected of being hostile and no warning had been given. (H.Q.F.C. 1515/9 to Air Ministry).

Convoy O.G.52.

There are indications that Convoy O.G. 52 may have been reported by aircraft working with U/Boat. (D.D.I.C. 1546/9 to SCARBOROUGH, WHITEHALL).

Scapa.

No enemy aircraft over Scapa today. (A.C.O.S. 1751/9).

Convoys.
E.N. Odd.
W.N. Odd.

Send fighters to assistance of ~~W/T~~^{"night"} and ~~MATERIAL.~~^{"material."} (Lyness W/T 1800/9).

WAZIRISTAN.
(Bombed 2/2).

Destination Kirkwall. (D.T.D. 2008/9).

Avonmouth.

Air attack on shipping off Avonmouth may be expected tonight. (D.D.I.C. 2211/9 to N.O.I.C. Avonmouth).

PRINCESS MAUD.

(British 2885 Tons) Attacked by A/C 5 miles 248° from Corsewall. (PRINCESS MAUD 2302/9).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.INTREPID.
IMPULSIVE.
ICARUS.

Your 1952/8. Ready at 2 hours notice.
(D.20 0245/9 to Adty).
Departures D.20 in INTREPID, ICARUS, and
IMPULSIVE in company at 1450 in accordance
with Adty's 2221/8. E.T.A. Scapa 1130/10.
(F.O. Humber 1501/9).

1st M/F.

C. in C. Rosyth 1214/7. If continuous
sweeping can be carried out on 9th and
10th the 1st M.F. will be ready to sail
from Scapa on 12th.
(A.C.O.S. 1202/9).

Milford
Haven.

Open to all ships subject to local
restrictions.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1234/9).
It is desirable that ships should not
arrive before noon.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1308/9).

At 0945/9 one Mine detonated by Trawler in
128° Great Castle Head Lower Light 7 cables.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1504/9).

Port closed owing to minelaying by enemy
aircraft.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 2042/9).

Firth of
Forth.

One red mine detonated by L.L. Sweepers
1109 today in 056° 10' 24"N. 002° 46' 48"W.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1535/9).

Harwich
Area.

5 fast minesweepers searched channel detailed
in my 1045/8 covering front off 12 cables.
No mines found 1 sweep cut by conical float
in 51° 53'N. 01° 45'E.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1743/9).

/Spurn.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (contd).Spurn
Point.At 1155 LL Trawlers exploded a mine in
178° Spurn Point Lighthouse 2 miles.
(F.O. Humber 1805/9).Workington.Port opened at 1720/8.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1830/9).LiverpoolPort closed.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2221/9).Holyhead.Port closed due to suspected mine-laying
by enemy aircraft.
(N.O.I.C. Holyhead 2300/9).B.S. 51.WHITSHED is to be sailed for Humber to
arrive 1800 tomorrow to act as escort for
passage to Humber.
(C. in C. Nore 2314/9 to D.16).Campbeltown.Port is closed owing to enemy minelaying.
(N.O.I.C. Campbeltown 2344/9).Enemy Intelligence.Aircraft reports at 1008 in 058° 54'N. 005°
10'E. four destroyers course 305°. In
position 058° 55'N. 005° 22'E. six
destroyers and one merchant ship 4000 tons
course 170°. Aircraft are being sent to
attack with torpedoes.
(F.O.S. 1106/9 and C. in C. Rosyth 1108/9).4 enemy destroyers bearing 350 distance
7 miles course 350. Position 58° 30'N. 5°E.
(A/C Duty E. 1226/9 to No. 18 Group H.Q).Danish
T.B's to
Germany.Reported that Denmark surrendered to Germany
on 6/2 under strong protest 9 T.B's
whose armament has been or will be removed.
Boats are in unknown port in Denmark
probably ice bound, B.1.
(D.N.I. 2148/9).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys.General.Foreign Ships.

Not to be selected as Commodore's ships without the concurrence of Adty. (D.T.D. 1050/9 to A.I.G. 47).

Escort Groups.

Order of sailing, O.B. and O.G. to 7/3/41. (C. in C. W.A. 1135/9).

Night Anchorage, Rosyth.

From noon 10/2, alternative "night convoy arrival anchorage" will be available. Limits. (C. in C. Rosyth 2259/9).

Coastal Convoys.

E.N. 69.

Sailed. Escorts and numbers. (N.C.S.O. Methil 0157/9) List (0200/9 amended 0958/9 1202/9). Position and speed. (STELLA POLARIS, 1930/9).

F.S. 6.406

Sailed (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0201/9) Absentees (0948/9) 29 ships (0950/9) 2 ships to join. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1851/9).

O.B.C. 283.
O.B.O. 283.

Sailed escort, numbers (N.C.S.O. Clyde 0323/9) List and E.T.A. (1214/9). Sailed escort, 1 ship. (N.C.S.O. Oban 0836/9).

E.N. 67.

All 5 ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Oban 0655/9) 3 ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1920/9).

F.S. 5.405

Wash ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Humber 0914/9) Arrived except DONA ISABEL. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1839/9).

F.N. 1.401

ANGULARITY not arrived (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0947/9)

F.S. 8.408

SHEARWATER as additional escort. (C. in C. Rosyth 1811/9).

/F.S.7.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys.Coastal Convoys.
(contd).

F.S. 7. 407

My 2537/8, read 12 ships (N.C.S.O. Methil 0957/9) Numbers joining from Blyth Tyne, etc (C. in C. Rosyth 1351/9) Code word. (C. in C. Rosyth 1419/9). Sailed (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1507/9) List (1658/9) Ships joining from Humber (N.C.S.O. Humber 1750/9).

F.N. 2. 402

Arrived (N.C.S.O. Methil 1046/9 F.O.I.C. Tyne 1137/9).

O.B.C. 285.

Date, escorts, number. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1235/9).

W.N. 81.

In 2 parts code words (C. in C. Rosyth 1236/9) E.T.A. (CURACOA 1315/9) Air escort (N.O.I.C. Invergordon 1618/9). GLEANER to join. (C. in C. Rosyth 1629/9).

O.B. 284.

O.B.O. 284.

O.B.C. 284.

Sailed (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1242/9) Escort (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1510/9). Date and escort (N.C.S.O. Oban 1603/9). Sailed escort (N.C.S.O. Clyde 2235/9).

F.N. 3. 403

Numbers from Tyne, Blyth, Middlesbrough. (C. in C. Rosyth 1353/9). Destinations. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1540/9) Humber ships arrived (1554/9). Ships to join. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1659/9).

E.N. 69.

Ships to join (N.C.S.O. Aberdeen 1431/9). Air escort (N.O.I.C. Invergordon 1618/9).

F.N. and

F.S.

Additional escorts. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1546/9 amended 1247/11 and 1612/11).

W.N.U. 82.

Sailed, escort, number (N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1853/9).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. (contd).Ocean Convoys.

- O.G. Slow ships for N. America to join O.G. Convoys. (D.T.D. 1048/9).
- O.G. 52. WESTON to report position. (C. in C. W.A. 1149/9) May have been reported by German A/C working with U/B. (D.D.I.C. 1546/9). GENTIAN to continue as extra escort. (C. in C. W.A. 2105/9 to SCARBOROUGH).
- H.G. 53. Position reported by German A/C working with U.B (D.D.I.C. 1422/9) Attack by A/C see North Atlantic. Attack by S/M see U.B. campaign.
- H.X. 109. Destinations of certain ships (D.T.D. 1736/9).
- S.L. 63. B.M. One corvette to escort. (C. in C. W.A. 1449/9).
- H.X. 104.)
B.H.X. 104.)
S.C.20.) List of arrivals. (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1523/9)
S.C.20 List (N.C.S.O. Clyde 2000/9)
B.H.X. 104 arrivals (N.C.S.O. Barry 2340/9).
- H.X. 108. Sailing telegram. (S.C.N.O. Halifax 1605/9).
- S.C. 21. Sailing telegram as amended by Admty. (D.T.D. 1740/9).
- H.X. 106. Meet (C. in C. W.A. 1857/9 to MALCOLM, BURNHAM, etc).
- H.G. 52. GENTIAN to R.V. (WESTON 2350/9).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping & Convoys. (contd).MILITARY CONVOYS.

W.S.6.

(a) 0158/9 (b) Clyde portion escort.
 (c) 18 (7 with kites).
 (N.C.S.O. Clyde 0159/9).
 Sailed Clyde section as by Adty 1357/31/1.
 Escort BIRMINGHAM, CATHAY, Capt D.7 in
 NAPIER, OTTAWA, LEGION, PIORUN, SKEENA,
 GARLAND, NIZAM.
 (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0205/9).
 Departures up to 1600/9. 17 Ships.
 (Adty. Berthing Officer, Greenock 1701/9).
 Asking why S.S.YOMA did not sail.
 (A.C.N.S(H) 1757/9).
 My 2212/7. NORTHUMBERLAND and BURMA have
 not sailed and will return to harbour A.M./10.
 (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 2024/9).
 A.T. 1624/5. Delete all reference to
 EDINBURGH (C.S. 18). 2. Convoy less
 LLANSTEPHAN CASTLE, YOMA, BURMA, NORTHUMBERLAND
 and tanker CYMBULA sailed 8/2.
 (A.C.N.S. F. 2238/9).
 Your 2024/9. Request you report by signal
 reason for failure of NORTHUMBERLAND
 and BURMAN to join convoy.
 (A.C.N.S(H) 2257/9 to N.O.I.C. Liverpool).
 Troopships NORTHUMBERLAND and BURMA
 who failed to sail with W.S.6. should be
 sailed to Clyde.
 C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange
 necessary escort.
 (A.C.N.S. (H) 2319/9).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.2.1941.
Sunday.CASUALTIES & DEFECTS.THALA.
(Grounded 8/2.).Arrived Tobermory PIMPERNEL with 35 survivors.
(WESTERN ISLES 0030/9).PRINS FREDERIK.
HENDRIK.Detach one ship to assist in 054° 20' N.
017° 30' W. at 2014.
(C. in C. W.A. 0117/9 to SCARBOROUGH).
My 0130/9. My speed reduced by weather
to 11 knots. Request air assistance in
search from 1500/9. My A/S out of action.
(WINCHELSEA 0801/9 to CEDAR).
Your 0801/9. Air assistance not available
today.
(C. in C. W.A. 1251/9).
Your 2103/8. Am searching the area to
the South and East during the night.
Nothing yet sighted.
(WINCHELSEA, 2001/9 to C. in C. W.A).LETITIA.(A.M.C) My 0926/8. Gale abated. Ship
unexpectedly refloated and berthed alongside.
Full extent of damage not yet ascertained
but very serious.
(R.A. 3rd B.S. 0131/9).S.S. ERICA. ? *Norwegian.*Floated this mornings tide. Proceeding
Kings Lynn to discharge.
(F.O. Humber 1012/9).POLITICIAN.
(Grounded 5/2)P.C. 74 has been detailed to escort salvage
vessel RANGER to POLITICIAN aground in
Eriskay sound.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1030/9).M.L. 140.
M.L. 141.
M.L. 142.
M.L. 144.M.L. 140 defects 7/10 days. M.L. 141
defects 4/7 days. M.L. 142 damaged completion
date uncertain. M.L. 144 defects 5/7 days.
(R.A.C.F. 1200/9).NESSUS.(Salvage vessel) Out of commission owing
to broken dynamo shafts.
(Salvage Officer, Hull 1355/9).

MOST SECRET.9. 2. 1941.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Operations Against Vichy French.FORT RICHEPANSE

My 1812/8, not to Adty. Now reported that French FORT RICHEPANSE left St. Thomas 7/2, bound for Casablanca via Martinique. (F.O.C.N.A., 1248/9, to N.A, Stn.)

Degaussing
of French
Prizes at
Gibraltar.

Your 1304/6. Yes. (A.C.N.S.(T), 1411/9, to A.S. Gib.)

Oiler,
S/M's.

My 1212/20/1. (No trace in W.R.) U.S. Ship ALGIC probably sighted French Naval Oiler and S/M; MONGE, PEGASE, VENGEUR and L'ESPOIR bound Tamatave from Dakar. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1501/9, to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

North Atlantic.COLD HARBOR.
(Red Cross
for Spain.)

My 1702/5. U.S. Ship COLD HARBOR (details of marking) due Cadiz 14/2. (Capt. S.8, 1140/9, to TUNA.)

AFRICAN
REEFER.

Consul, Funchal, unable to persuade Master of Danish ship AFRICAN REEFER to sail for a British Port. A southerly gale may force her to sea and give an opportunity of seizing her. Ships on Western Patrol should be instructed accordingly. (D.O.D.(F) 1323/9, to F.O.C.N.P., F.O.C.N.A.) Order to Western Patrol. (F.O.C.N.P., 1450/9.)

H.G.53.

Position of convoy was reported by German Aircraft co-operating with U/Boat at 1316A/9, B.S.T.(D.D.I.C. 1422/9.)

/Convoy.....

MOST SECRET.9. 2. 1941.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic Contd.Convoy
H.G.53. M03378/41
Bombed.Enemy bombing convoy ^{"Camel"}~~GAMBE~~ in 35° 42'
N. 14° 38' W. (DEPTFORD 1500/9.)TEJO)
JURO) sunk.
DAGMAR ONE,
abandoned.
VARNA
damaged.
BRITANNIC
sunk.My 1500. 6 F.W.'s have attacked convoy.
TEJO and JURA sunk, DAGMAR ONE abandoned,
VARNA damaged. (DEPTFORD 1520/9.)My 1520/9. Add BRITANNIC sunk. DAGMAR
engine out of action but still afloat
salvage possible. Suggest salvage tug to
be sent now to 035° 42' N. 014° 38' W.
(DEPTFORD, 1200Z/10.)Used Sunderland at Gibraltar en route to
Bathurst to escort, convoy H.G.53, which
was attacked by s/m, and a/c, in 35.53.N.
13.13 W a.m. 9/2. Weather curtailed
flying at Gibraltar. (200 Group, 1700/9.)KENYA
SOBIESKI
DUNEDIN.Your 1314/8. Date of sailing. Concur
RESOLUTION to sail separately. (D.O.D.
(F) to F.O.C.N.A., 1739/9.) See Operations
Volume. *See Page 75.*South Atlantic.Air Bases.R.A.F. long term policy for W. Africa.
(W.O., 0130/9 to G.O.C., W. Africa.)CANTON.Your 2209/8. Essential should arrive
Freetown by (date). (C. in C. S.A., to
Admty etc., 0945N/9) See Operations
Volume.

/Disposition.....

MOST SECRET.9. 2. 41.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic Contd.Dispositions.

Weekly state at 1200/8. (C. in C. S.A., 1325N/8.)

EMPIRE TROOPER.)→ CAPO OLMO.)→ TOUAREG)CUBA.)FORT-BINGER.)Employment of, for French Brigade, and transport of other troops. (C. in C. S.A., 1409/9.) See Operations Volume. *Page 76.*EURYLOCHUS
Survivors.

Spanish MONTEFIEDE reported bound for Buenos Aires probably due 16/2, has survivors from EURYLOCHUS. Request they may be interrogated about features of enemy ships. (C. in C. S.A., 1437N/9, to N.A. Buenos Aires.)

BULLFINCH.
KIRRIEMOOR,
CROCUS,
MARGUERITE.

Admty. 1632/5. Intend sailing for Freetown on 13/2, (route.) (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1519/9.)

BULOLO.

To escort S.L.65, then to Greenock. (C. in C. S.A., to BULOLO, 1811/9.)

DRAGON
→ CAPO-OLMO.
→ TOUAREG.

My 2017/8. Intend DRAGON shall visit Duala arriving a.m./11, subsequently fuel at Lagos and then meet CAPO-OLMO, and TOUAREG at sea and escort to Freetown. Request early information if any objection to DRAGON'S visit. (C. in C. S.A., 1819/9, to N.C.S.O. Duala.)

/Merchant.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9. 2. 41.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic Contd.Merchant Shipping.

Present system of "proceed signals" as laid down in South Atlantic Station memorandum 34 will be discontinued and instead "shipping information signals" will be sent out daily on and after 12/2, giving information of British, Allied and Neutral shipping. Details.
(C. in C. S.A., 1921N/9, to S.A.Sqdn., amended 1651N/12.)

Enemy Unit.

D/F Bearings at 1817Z/9, suggest surface unit within 150 miles equator 020° W, reliability 30% and that this may be the unit indicated near 010° N., 023° W, at 0457z/8, in my 1051/8.
(C. in C. S.A., 2237N/9, to S.A. Stn.)

Mediterranean.Enemy Convoy.

Convoy of three enemy merchant ships escorted by two T.B.'s p.s. and c. 035° $15'$ 011° $30'$ 99 , 11 knots at 1940.
(Capt. S.I. 0022/9, to S/M's on Patrol.)

Operation "Result"*(Bombardment of Genoa)*

Bombardment completed. (F.O.Force H, 0745/9.)

My 0745/9. ^{"Result"}~~"Result"~~ reported excellent. No Battleship present. (F.O.Force H, 0752/9.)

My 0745/9, From all accounts Genoa is in a bloody fine mess. (F.O.Force H, 0817/9.)

/My 0745/9.....

9. 2. 1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean Contd.

Op: "Result"
cont.-

My 0745/9. 273 rounds of 15 inch fired. Observed results: Genoa large fires in both Ansaldo electric works and boiler works, main power Station, dry docks and round inner harbour. Hits on oil tanks, marshalling yard and merchant ships. 782 rounds six inch H.E. 400 rounds 4.5 in H.E. fired. F.A.A.-Spezzia, Mines laid in harbour exits; Leghorn, five tons H.E., 150 incendiary, on Azionda refinery. Incendiaries in industrial area. Pisa, aerodrome and railway junction hit. One Swordfish missing. Two Cant shot down. (S.O. Force H., 1227/9.)

TRUANT
TETRARCH.

TRUANT will be recalled from patrol to arrive at Malta 15/2. TETRARCH will leave patrol 15/2, to arrive at Alexandria 20/2. (Capt. S.1, 0929/9.)

JUNO
GRIFFIN.

Your 1450Z/8. Cannot be spared. (C. in C. Med. to C. in C. E.1., 0949/9) See Mediterranean Volume.

T.L.C.

Your 1218/4/1. Asking destination for stores and spares. (D.O.D. (F) 1202/9, to S.B.N.O., Suez.)

Valona.

R.A.F. Reconnaissance Valona 8/2, (Results.) (N.A. Athens, 1206/9, to S.O.I, Alexandria.)

Mines,
Suez
Canal.

Your 2333/7. Steps being taken. (D.M.S., to C. in C. Med., 1236/9). See Mediterranean. Volume. (~~original in Lion copy only.~~)

/Mines

9. 2. 1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Mine
Explosion.

Explosion of 2 mines, 1 while being prepared for laying at R.A.F. Station Halfar, Casualties, Mines were near end of their safe life. (V.A. Malta, 1418/9, to C. in C. Med.)

Minesweepers.

My 2331/7 and my 2320/9. Apart from strengthening our own resources desirable that a reserve should be built up as rapidly as possible for dealing with magnetic mine attacks on Greek and Turkish Ports and on Straits. (C. in C. Med., 1531/9, to Admty.)

Malta
Air Raid.

Combined Services report Malta up to 1700 9/2 all times G.M.T. From 1710 to 0215 approximately 45 aircraft approached Island from North singly or at times in pairs. Some identified as JU 88s others probably H.E. 111s. Bombs dropped. Luqa damage to runway and two Glenn Martins unserviceable for considerable period. Hal Far hangar hit. Casualties. Fighters destroyed 2 JU 88s confirmed and damaged one other. While loading Swordfish morning 9/2 at Hal Far one Cucumber exploded killed 7 naval 1 civilian personnel. (H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1715/9.)

ZIN GARELLA
TIBERIO.
MARIA
GIOVANNA.
MADRE DEL RAZIE
captured.

Following Italian auxiliary schooners employed on look out and/or supply service have been (captured) during course of naval and military operation in Libya. ZIN GARELLA, TIBERIO, MARIA GIOVANNA, MADRE DEL RAZIE. Military necessity required immediate employment of these craft for prosecution of the war. Owing to rapid advance in Libya, not yet possible to carry out procedure laid down in Naval Prize Manual, appendix 5. (C. in C. Med., 1731/9, to Admty.)

/Canal.....

9. 2. 1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Naval
Situation
in Libya.

My 2149/2. Naval forces were not directly concerned in capture of Benghazi. Naval support has consisted of patrolling coast, moving up supplies and opening up of coast ports after recent mining. Tobruk is now open, Derna can be used by very small ships, Sollum is likely to be opened as soon as sweepers available. Considerable trouble still being experienced at Tobruk, RODI ADINDA and a prize schooner having been mined; RODI slightly damaged details of ADINDA not known.

Benghazi.

2. APHIS arriving Benghazi 10th. Port is being opened as soon as practicable and it is hoped to pass in a convoy in a few days time. (C. in C. Med. 1635/9.)

9. 2. 1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Canal
Traffic.

My 1321/8, Owing to breakdowns of sweeping craft resumption of canal traffic is postponed by a further 24 hours. Intend first ship to move 0630/11. Tugs Lighters and small craft may proceed freely throughout canal. (S.B.N.O. Suez, 1909/9, to C. in C. Med.)

Movements
Summary.

C. in C. Med. 1927/9.

Training
Turks.

Turkish G.S. enquire whether officers could be given training in dealing with magnetic mines. There are advantages in proposal as should enemy start magnetic mining in Straits, the Sea of Marmora and Turkish Ports, we have neither personnel or sweepers available to provide any assistance whatsoever. (C. in C. Med. 2320/9.)

East Indies.

B.N.15.

Departures 2325Z/8, YARRA, 0030Z/9, SHOREHAM, with B.N.15. (N.O.I.C. Aden., 0034Z/9, to Admty etc.) (Cargos, etc. (N.C.S.O. Aden. 0650/9, 0751Z/9.)

CAPETOWN.

My 0942/7, CAPETOWN is to leave patrol, so as to arrive Mombasa a.m./11. (C. in C. E.1., 0546Z/9, to Force T.)

U.S.9.)
U.S.8.)

Re dates. (C. in C. E.1., 0706/9, S.B.N.O. Suez 1921/9.) See Operations Volume.

/Raider.....

1416Z/7th February

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

From C. in C. East Indies

Date 9.2.41.

Recd. 1030.

INTERSERVICE (X) BY CABLE

Addressed Admiralty Repeated S.N.O. Red Sea, C. in C. Middle East, C. in C. Mediterranean.

NITE

96. It appears possible that Italians in East Africa may in due course seek to make a conditional surrender (possibly based on administration remaining in their hands under a force of occupation) and that it may be expedient to accept this. In such event I consider the terms should include following Naval Clauses - (A) All warships and Naval Auxiliaries to be handed over intact. Ammunition, torpedoes, etc., to be landed and disposed of as decided by British Senior Naval Officer. Vessels fit for sea (with exceptions mentioned at (C) below) to be sailed by their crews under R.N. Escort to such harbour (e.g. Aden) as I may direct - on arrival Maintenance Parties only to remain so long as required, remainder sent back to whence they sailed. Vessels unfit for sea to be rendered innocuous under British supervision. (B) All Italian and German merchant ships to be handed over intact. Pending British Government decision as to disposal of vessels, Italian Maintenance Parties only to remain on board under guard. Italian Maintenance Parties to be provided for German ships if required (but preferable to have British if available). (C) All minefields laid by Italians South of Suez to be indicated on chart, and Italians to render whatever assistance is required of them to clear the minefields, their warships and Naval Auxiliaries manned by own crews being used as requisite. (D) All Coast Defences to be rendered unserviceable under British supervision, and all Boom Defences and underwater obstructions to be disclosed and disposed of as may be directed by the British Senior Naval Officer. (E) Guarantees to be given that no warships, Naval Auxiliaries nor merchant vessels, nor the floating dock will be scuttled or otherwise damaged, nor any sabotage committed in the naval yard or commercial port, after the terms of surrender have been accepted. (F) All stocks of naval ammunition, explosives and fuel on shore or afloat to be placed under British guard. (2) In event of unconditional surrender it will of course not be possible to exercise compulsion of personnel implied in most of foregoing clauses, but the general outline of the aims holds good and our forces on the spot should do what they can to achieve them.

1416Z/7

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1st Lord | D.O.D.(F). | Head of M.(30). |
| 1st S.L. | D.D.O.D.(F). | D.T.S.D. |
| 2nd S.L. | D.O.D.(H). | D.D.I.C. |
| 3rd S.L. | D.N.I.(4). | E.P.S. |
| 4th S.L. | D.S.D. | D.T.D. |
| 5th S.L. | D.N.A.D. | |
| V.C.N.S. | D. of L.D. | |
| A.C.N.S.(H). | D.A/S.W. | |
| A.C.N.S.(F). | D.M.S. | |
| A.C.N.S.(T). | I.P. | |
| C.S.O. to 1st S.L. | W.D. | |
| D. of P.(2). | Duty Captain. | |

MOST SECRET.9. 2. 1941.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. Contd.Raider,
TANNENFELS.

Your 2318/6, para 3, (ships attacked by one armed merchant Raider.) (Now consider this D/F position was of German Ship TANNENFELS escaped from Kismayu. My 0748/7 refers. (C. in C.E.1., 0812Z/9, to Admty.) Use as raider, (C. in C. E.1., 0812Z/9.)

→ DESPATCH.

Departure DESPATCH for patrol in accordance with my 1121/6. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1003/9.)

KANIMBLA.

Durban departure KANIMBLA in accordance with C. in C. E.I. 1118Z/8. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1357/9.)

A.S.14.

Cancel my 1503/7 (A.N.14 arrived.) Convoy A.S.14 arrived 7/2, February. (N.O.I.C. Port Said, 1047/9.)

B.S.15.

Sailed. List. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1719/9.)

Force Z.
W. S. 6.

Re-arrangement of escorts necessary. (D.O.D. (F) 2359/9, to C. in C.E.1.) See Operations Volume.

America and West Indies.GEORGIC.

Naval Freightship GEORGIC sailed U.K. 31/1, with following for Bermuda:-
Onward conveyance to Trinidad arranged. Request you arrange onward conveyance as necessary. (D. of S.T. 0031/9, to N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)

/Ships.....

9. 2. 1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West
East Indies Contd.

Ships
passing
to South
Atlantic.

In arranging cover for important ships passing from A. & W. I. Station to S.A. Station it would assist me to have information of your affairs in area North of Equator and West of 030^o, W. Suggest repeating to me operation signals made to ships in this area. (C. in C.A.W.I, 1132/9, to C. in C. S. A.)

TILAPA
(H.X.98.)

Asking why ship was not sailed independently. (D.T.D. 1734/9, to N.C.S.O, Bermuda) (Reply: 1348/10.)

CRISTALES
CORRALES
TACHEE.
DIONE II.

My 1838/14. Request reason for action taken re , inclusion in convoy. (D.T.D.1741/9, to C.O.A.C. Halifax.) (Reply: 1523/10.)

Australia.

Policy.

Re Telegram 50 of 28/1, from S. of S, for Dominions. Remarks of Chiefs of Staff submitted to Commonwealth Govt, re plans for defence of S.W. Pacific Area, Indian Ocean, etc. (C.N.S., A.C.N.B., to Admty, for 1 S.L., 0130Z/9) See Operations Volume. Original in Lion copy only.

MOST SECRET.9. 2. 41.
Sunday.War Diary.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.TANNENFELS.

My 0748/7, TANNENFELS appearance as follows: (details) (C. in C. E.1., 0526Z/9, to E.1. Stn.) Use as raider, (C. in C. E.1., 08122/9) See East Indies.

PLUS.

Your 1305/7. Please indicate port of arrival. (F.O.C.N.A. 1045/9, to Admty.)

BELLONA.

Arrived 7/2. (Valencia, T.H.I. 1320/9.)

TRAPANI.

(855 tons, was expected to complete loading at Genoa on 8/2. (D.S.524.)

NORDERNEY.

At Papa, reported about to load, rubber, etc. (D.S.524.)

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.FIANONA

6660 tons, reported between 0130 and 0155/9 that she was being attacked in position 35.41 N, 11.16 E.
(OS., 523, 9/2)

9. 2. 41.
Sunday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

RINGHORN.
 (torpedoed
 4/2.)

Arrived CAMELIA with five survivors
 of RINGHORN. (F.O.I.C. Greenock,
 0107/9.)

Convoy
H.G.53.
attacked
ESTRELLANO.
COURLAND,
torpedoed.

U.37.

British 1983, tons A.Z. (A) 035°
 53' N, 012° 13' W. amended see 0830/9.)
 (B) 0440/9. (C) ESTRELLANO, 51. (D) 282°
 (E) 8 hours. (F) DEPTFORD ahead, VELOX
 astern. (DEPTFORD, 0630/9, to Admty.)

DEPTFORD reports convoy H.G.53,
 attacked by U boat in 035° 53' N.
 012° 13' W. ESTRELLANO sunk.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 0718/9, 0812/9.)

British 1325 tons. My 0630/9. (A)
 should read 035° 53' N, 013° 13' W,
 (C) add COURLAND No. 11. 30 survivors
 from COURLAND 21 survivors from
 ESTRELLANO picked up (H) attack was
 from port side. (DEPTFORD, 0830/9.)

See also next page.

PIZARRO.

Your 1715/5. Request whether D.E.M.S.
 Gun-layer is among survivors landed
 Lisbon. (D.T.D. 1238/9, to Consul,
 Lisbon.)

W.B.WALKER,
 (torpedoed 29/1.)

Stern half of W.B. WALKER reported in
 056° 30' N. 011° 00' W. at 1620/9.
 (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2350/9, to SEAMAN.)

9. 2. 1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M's Reported.
 2035/8.

From D/F Bearings on Italian s/m, was in approx. $038^{\circ} 20' N$, $016^{\circ} 50' E$. at 1935 G.M.T.8/2. (Capt. O.S. Alexandria, 0200/9, to C. in C. Med. etc.)

0430.

U. Boat was in $035^{\circ} 53' N$, $012^{\circ} 13' W$, at 0430/9. (F.O.C.N.A. 0753/9, to N.A. Stn.)

0430.

Message A.F. Position $35^{\circ} 53' N$, $12^{\circ} 13' W$, at 0330/9, G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 1017/9, to G.B.M.S. Area I.)

1127.

D/1 indicates U-boat possibly damaged within 25 miles of $048^{\circ} N$, $007^{\circ} W$, homeward bound. (F.O. (S). 1127/9.)

1315.

Bearings of enemy unit indicate that U/B may still be following H.G.53. (D.D.I.C. 1315/9, to F.O.C.N.A., DEPTFORD.) *See previous page*

1104.

U-Boat around area $53.40. N.$, $17.00W$. 1104/9 - D/F. unreliable. (19 Group, 2200/9, to Air Ministry.)

1932.

C.A.F.O. 3105/39. Non sub-contact established in $035^{\circ} 54' N$, $014^{\circ} 36' 30'' E$. (C. in C. Med., 1932/9.)

/Estimated.....

9. 2. 1941.
Sunday.

War Diary.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Estimated
U/B dispositions.

German.

1 possibly Shetlands - Faroes.
1 58° N - 60° N: 16° W - 19° W.
1 possibly 58° N - 60° N:
21° W - 24° W. 1 60 miles of 55"
N: 19° W. 1 40 miles of 53° 40' N:
17° W. 1 60 miles of 51° N: 31° W.
1 30 miles of 48° N: 7° W. en route to
Lorient. 1 35° 53' N: 12° 13' W.
0430/9.

Italian.

1 60 miles of 56° N: 21° W. 1 N.W.
Approaches. (D.D.I.C. 1357/9.)

War Diary10.2.1941.
MondaySITUATION REPORTHome Commands

Ice conditions in Europe in so far as they affect possible invasion, are summarised today in O.I.C. Report.

Search for
Enemy Cruiser

An aircraft sighted cruiser at 0730 in position 62° 58' N., 15° 0' W., steering rapidly W.S.W. C. in C., Rosyth passed on the report at 1248.

At 1641 C. in C., H.F. ordered EDINBURGH, RODNEY and KING GEORGE to return to Scapa. NELSON abandoned the operation at 1739, NIGERIA and ARETHUSA are to remain on patrol in the ~~Denmark Straits~~ *Island Faroes passage* until 2100/12.

Operation
P.V. 1.

This operation was carried out between 2030 and 2359.

British Air Activity

Bomber Command operations last night included attacks on the naval centre at Wilhelmshaven. Bad weather caused the operations to be severely curtailed.

Belgium & Calais more each
Dunkirk ^{was} attacked today by 6 Blenheims with fighter escort.

Enemy Air Activity

Convoy F.N. 4⁰⁴ was bombed this evening off Winterton and SS BENMACDHUI was damaged.

MOST SECRETWar Diary10.2.1941.
MondaySITUATION REPORTMiningSituation
in Humber

Further minelaying occurred in the Humber tonight. It is suspected that 60 mines were dropped. 20 were seen to fall, 7 of which exploded spontaneously.

F.O. Humber reports that the situation regarding A.A. fire against minelaying aircraft at the Humber mouth has become intolerable. Two hundred mines have been laid with practically no opposition owing to the refusal of the R.A.F. to allow fire to be opened *at mine layers.*

F.O. Humber asks that some vessels with good A.A. armament may be sent to provide some defence. C. in C., Nore agrees with F.O. Humber and remarks that "this is not the best way to win the war."

Minelaying by enemy aircraft last night was suspected in the areas of Liverpool, Isle of Man, Clyde and Arran. Bay

Liverpool was reopened this morning. Some mines were detonated.

Milford Haven was opened about noon; one mine was detonated.

Holyhead was opened at 1255 and Avonmouth, Newport, Cardiff and Barry at 1600.

Moored mines were swept up $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.W. of St. Catherines. This position is about 3 miles N.E. of the position where ACHERON sank after an explosion on 17/12/40.

MOST SECRETWar Diary10.2.1941.
MondaySITUATION REPORTSouth Atlantic

Force Z arrived at Freetown this forenoon, escorted by C.S. 10 in KENYA with DORSETSHIRE and 2 destroyers. One ship has sustained some damage from the weather.

Mediterranean

Enemy aircraft are carrying out continual reconnaissances during daylight hours all round Malta, particularly the South Approaches.

Wellingtons last night again attacked Calato aerodrome (Rhodes) with good effect.

The threat of seaborne attack on the southern entrance to the Suez Canal is considered to be slight, and C. in C., Med. proposes to withdraw the 6 inch guns at Port Tewfik and use them for coast defence at Cyrenaica.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.1st. M/S F.
6th M/S. F.
9th M/S. F.
SALAMANDER.
GOSSAMER.

A.L. M/M/S 023/41 of 25/1. C.in C. Nore's 1130/31/1 and C.in C. H.F's 1424/2/2. Intend 1st M.S.F. be sailed to Harwich direct on the completion of operation proposed in C.in C., Rosyth's 1214/7.

2. SALAMANDER and GOSSAMER are to transfer to 6th M.S.F. forthwith.

3. Reconstituted 6th M.S.F. should be sailed to Scapa or as desired by C.in C. H.F. concurrently with movement of 1st M.S.F. South. C.in C. Rosyth is requested to inform C.in C. Nore, of intended sailing date.

4. SALAMANDER fitting 'LL' will join 6th M.S.F. on completion about 3rd March.

5. 9th M.S.F. will remain until arrival of 6th M.S.F. and will carry out operation proposed by R.A.M.L. on 50/M.L. 01040 addressed Admiralty, during passage south. (A.C.N.S.H. 2003/10).

4 Corvettes
for
Gibraltar.

Four corvettes are required to Gibraltar to increase the escort available for Home - Gibraltar convoys.

2. These ships will be based on Gibraltar.

3. They should not be fitted for minesweeping but should mount the best A/A armament available.

4. The first two should sail with O.G.53 and the second pair with O.G.54. (A.C.N.S.(T) 2248/10).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Defence of United Kingdom."Deluge"
DELUCE.At 1130/10.
(D.C. 1153/10).
At 2330/10.
(D.C. 2343/10).Movements.WHITSHED.Sail at 0730 today. Route to arrive Humber by 1800 to comply with C.in C. Nore's 2314/9.
(D.16 0114/10 to WHITSHED).OTUS
SNAPPER.

Estimate OTUS in 048° 15'N., 007° 08'W. at 0800/10 proceeding for Portsmouth. SNAPPER leaves patrol after dark today within 30 miles of Ushant to Wolf Rock. (S.2. 1039/10).

Northern
Patrol.Trawler Line tonight. 4 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1539/10).Submarines.Positions, at 0800/11 and movements for following 24 hours.
(F.O.S. 1838/10).Operations.PX.Carry out operation PX tonight Zero Time 0100/11.
(C.in C. Nore 1110/10 to EREBUS).P.V.l.Operation will be carried out tonight, between 2030/10 and 2359/10.
(C.in C. Nore 1155/10).Home Fleet.
Operation.Following intercept received from 98 Squadron. Cruiser sighted 0730 62° 58'N., 15° W. steering rapid W.S.W. T.O.O. 1005.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1248/10).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. (Contd.)Home Fleet Op:
Cont:-

Intend to proceed on completion of fuelling 1930 today. Request R/V.
(D.5. 1516/10 to R.A.D. H.F.)

C.S.18 in EDINBURGH with RODNEY and KING GEORGE V are to return to Scapa.
(C.in C. H.F. 1641/10 to C.S.18).

NELSON is returning to Scapa. P.C. and S. at 1730/10 061° 32'N., 014° 26'W. 126° 17½ knots.

(ii) Leave area with your force at 2000/11.

(iii) A.C.O.S. pass my 1641 to F.O.Iceland.
(C.in C. H.F. 1739/10 to C.S.2.)

Your 1516/10 unless otherwise ordered proceed to R/V with RODNEY in 065 N., 008 30'W., at 0900/11 vide C.in C. H.F. 1709/8 para. 6 to C.S.2.
(R.A.D. H.F. 1741/10 to D.5.)

C.in C. H.F. 1641/10. Remain at Faroes. Await further orders.
(R.A.D. H.F. 1925/10 to D.5.)

Operation "Rubble". My 1555/1 para. (a). (? unobtainable)
RUBBLE. there are indications that present weather, which seems likely to continue for a while on West Coast, may ease and possibly break up ice field off Gothenburg Skeduvies.
(N.A.Stockholm, 1809/10 to D.N.I.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.

Havre,)
 Antwerp,)
 Boulogne,)
 Calais,)
 Flushing.)

On 9/2 four Blenheims attacked docks and shipping. Direct hit claimed on Patroleum store at Flushing, and Bombs seem to fall on quay at Antwerp. Results at other ports not observed. (H.Q.B.C. 0002/10 to Air Ministry).

Patrols.

Following patrols ordered to be flown A.M. today: "Stab", Special recco Kristiansand "Fair". (C.in C. Rosyth, 0346/10).

Your 1909/9. Following are positions quoted in my 0149/9.

Patrol of Denmark Straits impossible owing to lack of aircraft. (F.O. Iceland, 0835/10 to Admty).

To my 0346/10 add reconnaissance Trondheim. (C.in C. Rosyth 1107/10).

Patrols S.T. One 0900 and S.T.2. at 1400 for 11/2. (N.A.Station, Stornoway 1804/10).

A cross over patrol will be flown from 0845 tomorrow by one Whitley through 63° 13'N., 08° 15'W., 64° 15'N., 10° 02'W., 64° 00'N., 10° 30'W., 63° 28'N., 07° 45'W. One Sunderland will fly two circuits of a cross over patrol over top half of "Fugle" A/C to commence patrol in position 64° 42'N., 12° 32'W. at 0910/11 returning to Sullom Voe through 63° 20'N., 08° 00'W. One Sunderland to be on patrol at 1500/11 in position 63° 13'N., 08° 15'W. to fly complete "Fugle" leaving patrol at 1900/11 for Invergorden. One Sunderland standing by for possible shadowing. (C.in C. Rosyth 1931/10).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (Contd.)Patrols cont.

My 0149/9. G.O.C. informs me one patrol will be flown from first light tomorrow. Second patrol is to stand by at 30 minutes notice but will not fly without further orders.
(F.O.Iceland 2031/10).

801
Squadron
for
Hatston.

Your 1140/9. 801 Squadron 15 aircraft left at (?) 70930.
(St. Merryn 1001/10).

Admty. 1140/9. 9 Skuas of No. 801 Squadron (F.A.A.) arrived p.m. today.
(R.A.N.A.S. Hatston 2015/10).

Bombing
Restriction.

Request T.B.R. in area 24 from 0400 to 1200/12.
(S.2. 1014/10 to C.in C. W.A.)

Escort
for
BIRMINGHAM.

Air escort will be continued tonight except between midnight and 0200 approx.
(C.in C. W.A. 1845/10 to BIRMINGHAM).

Enemy Air Activity.

WAZIRISTAN
(Bombed
2/2).

Tug MARAUDER and WAZIRISTAN arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Kirkwall 0902/10).
State of WAZIRISTAN anchored Isbister Bay
Ship is no danger.
(C.S.V.O. Scapa, 2050/10).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)Aircraft firing recognition signals.

Your 1225/17. My 1111/15. Guns crew reported three green signal lights. Proceeded to investigate. Nothing further seen. Suspicious. Consider correct recognition signals or imitation 0700-1300 15/1 three star grenade.
(MANISTEE 1155/10 to Admt).

Air Reconnaissance.

Enemy air reconnaissance at 1255 today reported no Naval Forces between North Rhona, 58° 45'N., 07° 00'W., and the East of Pentland Firth.
(D.D.I.C. 1347/10 to C.in C. H.F.)

NEPTUNE.

Following report from NEPTUNE on aircraft attack yesterday. One Near miss estimated 500 lb. bomb with delay action fuse burst about 20 to 30 feet from port side abreast main mast and shook ship heavily. Possibly slight increase to damage already sustained in O.F. tanks and after W/T compartments in Eastern Mediterranean.
(C.in C. Nore, 1655/10).

BARON RENFREW.
(Bombed 28/1.)

TENACITY on boarding BARON RENFREW in Loch Lathaich reports that looting had taken place. A written report is to be forwarded stating whether any light can be thrown on this matter and nature of assistance rendered by DAKOTA IN.
(C.in C. W.A. 2001/10 to ABELIA).

Convoy F.N.4.404 BENMACDHUI (British 6869 tons) damaged.

Convoy "Agent" being bombed by aircraft. my position 52° 37'N., 1° 55'E.
(PYTCHLEY 2101/10).
My 2101 no damage.
(PYTCHLEY 2114/10).
Convoy being bombed.
(PYTCHLEY 2132/10).
My 2132. Aircraft recognition colours believed compromised.
(PYTCHLEY 2140/10).

MOST SECRET.10.2.1941.
Monday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.Convoy F.N.404
cont:-

My 2132. BENMACDHUI damaged forward making water in number one hold no casualties. She is endeavouring to make Middlesborough. (PYTCHLEY 2210/10 and 2235/10).
Your 2210. Report if tug is required. (C.in C. Nore 2237/10 to PYTCHLEY).
No tug required. Engines in working order. (PYTCHLEY 2325/10).

Convoy
positions
reported.

Enemy aircraft have reported position of convoys. Keep look out for aircraft minelaying also E/Boats. (C.in C. Nore 2117/10 to WORCESTER, etc.)

Mining.SCOTTISH
CO-OPERATOR.
(Mined
7/2.)

My 2254/7. Docked at Workington. Internal damage sustained. Hull not leaking. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1020/10).

Liverpool.

Port re-opened. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1030/10).

Mine report to 1800/9. Detonated 53° 38'N., 3° 21'W.

2. detonated 53° 42'N., 3° 24'W.
All by S.A. Gear. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1044/10).

Operation
B.S.51.

Intend TEVIOTBANK and WHITSHED to sail from Spurn Point at 1600/11. Laying will begin at 1100/12. (S.O. M/L Immingham 1135/10).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Operation
Z.M.E.16.

Particulars. To be carried out on the night of 11/2 or as soon after as practicable.
(D.D.O.D.(H) 1227/10 to C.in C. W.A., PLOVER).

Milford
Haven.

Port is open to all ships subject to local restrictions. It is desirable that ships should not arrive before noon.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1231/10).

At 1225/10 One mine detonated by sweeper in 130° Great Castle Head Low Light 4 cables.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1525/10).

Holyhead.

Port open subject to local restrictions.
(N.O.I.C. Holyhead 1255/10).

Bristol
Channel.

Ships may leave and enter Avonmouth Newport Cardiff Barry from 1600 today. They should not anchor in Barry Roads or compass adjusting area.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff, 1404/10).

Harwich
Area.

Fleet Sweepers on 117 Q.Z.S. searched from South Falls to 53 buoy covering a front of 15 cables. One German X type Mine cut and sunk in 51° 35' 30" N., 01° 47' 12" E.
Mine appeared to be an old one.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1538/10).

Intend sailing GOSSAMER at 0730 tomorrow Tuesday to R/V with HARRIER at 52 buoy for L.L. Sweep 202 Q.Z.S. Details. Request fighter protection.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1552/10).

MOST SECRET.10.2.1941.
Monday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Future
Minelaying
Operations.R.A.M.L.'s 1929/8/2/41.
Concur in positions proposed.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1737/10 to R.A.M.L.)Isle
of
Wight.Two moored mines German type X swept up and
sunk 6½ miles 258 degs. from St. Catherines.
Mines 400 yds. apart.
(C.in C. Portsmouth, 1832/10).BLACK
WATCH.(Norwegian 5035 tons) Reported sunk by
mine in Vest Fjord sometime between 3/12/40
and 1/2/41. E.2.
(D.D.I.C. 2307/10).Humber.Further minelaying tonight. Suspected
60 mines of which 20 mines observed to
drop and seven exploded spontaneously.
Height of aircraft up to 8,000 feet.
(F.O. Humber 2316/10).Protection
Against
Minelaying
in
Humber.The situation regarding A/A fire against
minelaying aircraft at the Humber Mouth has
become intolerable. It is established that
140 hostile aircraft have operated over the
mouth of the Humber during the last eight
days. Two hundred mines have been laid
with practically no opposition although
patrol craft armed with lewis guns have done
their best and have prevented the aircraft
coming low in their immediate vicinity. I
am informed that the army are forbidden to
open fire until an aircraft has committed
an hostile act and then only if permission
has been obtained from Fighter Command.
It appears that minelaying is not considered
an hostile act.Request that some vessels with good A/A
armament may be sent to Humber to provide
some defence. Local military A/A Command
deplores restrictions and desires to
co-operate.
(F.O.Humber, 2353/10 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.Trawler
sighted
by
CURACOA.Your 1300/7. Trawler A.221. SUNLIGHT is requisitioned for naval service, and could not have been in position stated. Request confirmation that number was A. 221.
(N.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1552/10).BISMARCK.Russian N.A. presumably Berlin, stated completed trials and joined fleet about 10/11/40.
(N.A.Washington 1515/1+0.)(See Mediterranean)TIRPITZ.Undergoing trials and expected to join fleet about 1/2.
(N.A. Washington 1515/10).
See Mediterranean.Stadlandet.SEALION reports a number of patrol boats round Stadlandet and trawlers patrolling in Vanelv Gabet. No aircraft seen.
(F.O.S. 2334/10 to URGE).Off
Stavanger.

The following area is reported prohibited for all Norwegian ships. Graded B.2.

An area identical with WZ 460 is prohibited to Norwegian vessels, (fishing). Graded C.3. These prohibitions, are believed to be operative now but the dates of issue of order are not known.

Swedish press now reports German Authorities forbid use of strong working lights by fishing vessels.
(D.D.I.C. 2347/10).

MOST SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

10.2.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Miscellaneous.

Dummy
Messages.

Dummy messages bearing an indication of priority will be made at different hours daily on port wave to simulate passing sailing orders and information to ships at short notice.

(v) Text of all messages will commence and end with phrase "dummy message."
(C.in C. W.A. 2225/10).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Coastal
Convoys.

O.B.284.)
O.B.O.284.)
O.B.C.284.)

Sailed unescorted. 1 ship.
(F.O. Belfast 0525/10).
Sailed escort CALDWELL. 9 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1910/10).
List, destinations. E.T.A.
(N.C.S.O. Clyde, 0945/10).

E.N.70. FOWEY additional A/A escort.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0900/10).

F.N.4.404 Sailed, 39 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 0929/10).
List. (1341/10).
Humber ships joining.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1741/10).

F.S.7.407 Absentees.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0937/10).
35 ships.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0939/10).

F.N.3.403 Absentees.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0938/10).

F.S.6.406 Humber ships arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 0959/10).
Position, 24 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Thames 1157/10).
F.S.6. arrived. (exception).
(N.C.S.O. Thames 2358/10).

O.B.C.283. My 1214/9. PEPEL did not sail.
(N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1157/10).

MOST SECRET.10.2.1941.
Monday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Coastal
Convoys.
(Contd.)

W.N.81. Clyde portion arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1202/10).
Loch Ewe and Oban portions arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1330/10).

O.B.U.283. Sailed unescorted 23 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1206/10).

O.B.287 288,
289 291 292.) Re sailing dates.
(C.in C. W.A. 1335/10).

2 Tankers. Sailing and route, escort LONDONDERRY.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1421/10, 1507/10).

F.S.8.408 Sailed 1400/10, 7 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1531/10).
List and destinations.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1634/10).
2 Ships from Humber.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1735/10).

O.B.285 ST. APOLLO to R/V.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1606/10).
Clyde departures.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2345/10).

F.N.3.403 Arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1618/10).
Tyne Ships arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1638/10).

F.S.7.407 Humber ships arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1641/10).

MOST SECRET.10.2.1941.
Monday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Coastal
Convoys.
(Contd.)O.B.287.
O.B.294.Order of escort groups.
(C.in C. W.A. 1739/10).

C.E.25.

Programme etc.
(C.in C. Nore, 1438/10, 1804/10).

W.N.83.

Sailed, 14 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1942/10).

10 M/V's.

Sailing.
(N.C.S.O. Dartmouth, 2132/10).

F.S.9.409

Sailed, 16 ships,
(N.C.S.O. Methil 2323/10).Ocean
Convoys.

O.G.52.

GENTIAN to rejoin.
(C.in C. W.A.0405/10).
Route.
(C.in C. W.A. 1347/10).

S.L.S.65.

Sailing telegram.
(N.C.S.O. Freetown, 0936/10).

H.X.106.

2 tankers for Southampton.
(D.O.D.(H) 1145/10).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Ocean
Convoys.
(Contd.)

S.L.63. Arrivals.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1230/10, N.C.S.O. Clyde,
1405/10).

H.X.105. Arrivals.
(N.O.I.C. Barry, 1350/10, N.C.S.O. Mersey,
1732/10).

S.C.20. Arrivals.
(N.O.I.C. Barry, 1350/10).

H.G.52. Final destinations.
(D.T.D. 1623/10, 1626/10).

H.X. S.C.,)
and S.L.) Order of sailing escort groups.
(C.in C. W.A. 1739/10).

H.X.109. Destinations.
(D.T.D. to C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1851/10).

~~etc~~ Ocean
Convoys.H.G. convoys
to bunker
for 26
days.

To allow for possible further diversion of H.G. Convoys to enable them to evade U/Boat patrol south of Cape St. Vincent, necessary for ships to bunker for 26 days if possible instead of 24 days. Ministry of Shipping asked to implement this policy as far as possible for H.G.54. (D.T.D. 2014/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Sea Ocean
Convoys.
(Contd.)Routes to
Plate
Ports.

Ships sailing for Plate ports have recently been routed as far as 60° 00'S. only. For Admiralty to keep an accurate track essential that ships be given further points on their ocean routes nearer destinations.
(D.T.D. 1156/10 to N.C.S.O. Oban).

Ships for
Sweden,
Faroes
to be
held.

Certain neutral ships bound for Sweden from westward have been routed through Skopen Fiord. Arrival of all such ships should be reported to Admty. and ships held pending further instructions.
(D.O.D.(H) 1832/10 to N.O.I.C. Faroese).

Procedure
for
stragglers.

Your 2005/7. This must cause a loss in security leading to enemy deducing valuable information. Considered undesirable to adopt a system entailing such risks until other methods of dealing with stragglers have been exhausted. Proposed that the following action be taken:
(C.in C. W.A. 2305/10 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.NEWMARKET.

Am proceeding to Oban. Request permission to make good defect and sail at dawn/11. (NEWMARKET 1000/10).

GLENEARN.

H.M.S. GLENEARN sustained following damage due to bad weather. (S.O.Force Z, 1002/10).

MACLAREN.
(Grounded
8/2).

Arrived SALVONIA with MACLAREN in tow. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1025/10).

VIVA II.

(A/S Yacht).
B.D.V. PHYLISSIA collided with VIVA II. Lattermaking water badly will not be available for escort duty. (N.O.I.C. Falmouth 1540/10).

BOY ALAN.
Sunk.

(M/S Drifter). Sunk in collision today with H.M.T. BEN GLAS in 51° 29' 33" N., 00° 48' 21" E. (Cdre. Sheerness 1728/10).

M.L.196.

Your 0842/10.M.L. 196 has not arrived. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2355/10 to N.O.I.C. Oban).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.2.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Operations Against Vichy French.French Ships
passing Gib.

C. in C. A. and W.I. 2223/30 Gibraltar 0930/
10 French light cruiser ALBATROSescorting
French ships PIERRE-L-D, WYOMING, CHARLES-
L-D, all in ballast, CHAMPAGNE loaded,
passed Westbound.
(S.O.I. Gibraltar 1100/10 to Admty etc).

North Atlantic.Convoy H.G.53.

Remain with convoy as long as fuel
situation permits. Report e.t.a. Gibraltar
when 200 miles from convoy.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0948/10 to VELOX).
Submarine attack on H.G. 53. (See U-BOAT
CAMPAIGN).

Las Palmas.

Bi-Weekly report. Military defence work
principally machine gun posts in Northern
and Southern areas of this Island continues.
(Las Palmas 1230/10 to Admty).

Interception
of Danish
Ships.

Your 1026/8. Agreed off Cartagena. At
least three days notice will be given.
Valencia knows nothing about it, matter
being arranged from here.
(N.A. Madrid 1315/10 to F.O.C.N.A).

RENOWN.

Report present condition of RENOWN's
bulges as affecting raider hunting opera-
tions in the Atlantic.
(C.N.S. 1649/10 to F.O. Force H).

MALAYA.

Report present state of MALAYA's condensers.
How long is it considered that she can
continue to operate without retubing?
(C.N.S. 1650/10 to F.O. Force H) Reply:
1615/12.

/BELGIQUE.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.2.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (contd).BELGIQUE

Your 2342/8. U.K. Commercial Corporation being instructed to dispose of cargo of BELGIQUE in Spain.

(D.E.W.D. 1652/10 to F.O.C.N.A).

Your 2342/8. Ministry of Shipping are reluctant discharge BELGIQUE in Spain view possibility crew desertion and ask that possibility of docking ship laden to enable her to make convoy speed be further considered.

(D.T.D. 2015/10 to F.O.C.N.A).

Las Palmas,
Arrival of
war material.

Spanish collier CONTRAMAESTRE CASADO left for Teneriffe 8/2 having discharged here following aircraft and war material (details) (Consul Las Palmas 1700/10 to Admty).

H
AGIOS SPYRIDON
^

Your 1326/8. Request report state Greek AGIOS SPYRIDON and prospects sailing. (Shipminder 1736/10 to F.O.C.N.A).

COURLAND.
ESTRELLANO.
(torpedoed
9/2)

Your 1603/8. Cargoes of COURLAND and ESTRELLANO as received were General Red Cross Manual and General Manual please confirm and explain term manual. (D.T.D. 2017/10 to N.C.S.O. Gibraltar).

South Atlantic.Enemy Units

My 2237/9. Further bearings at 1817z and 1957z/9 indicate German unit or units in area between 010° - 020° N. 030° - 040° W. (C. in C. S.A. 0425N/10 to S.A. Sqdn).

POLYDORUS.

My 1118/3 Dutch ship POLYDORUS arrived Capetown 7/2. (S.O.I. Freetown 0928/10).

/DRAGON.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.2.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd).DRAGON.

Your 1819/9. Visit of DRAGON extremely welcome. Civil and Military (?population) expressed keen desire for such a visit in view of valuable service rendered by DRAGON at Duala in July last. Visit should have good propaganda value. No units of Free French Navy are here at present. (N.C.S.O. Duala 1039/10).

Force Z.

1707722/41.

Arrival 1100/10, C.S.10 in KENYA with DORSETSHIRE, FAULKNOR and FORESTER escorting Force Z. (S.O.(I) Freetown 1137N/10).

CILICIA.
CANTON.

C. in C. S.A.'s 0945/9. Propose CILICIA sails from Clyde 16/2 with special A/S escort arriving Freetown (date). Examination of CANTON'S boilers indicates desirability of completion of boiler cleaning. CILICIA'S endurance now 34 days. (F.O.C.N.P. 1230/10 to Admty).

LANCING
time on
passage.

Request enquire from Master of S.S.LANCING why he has taken 38 days on passage from Curacao to Rio de Janeiro. (D.T.D. 1708/10 to Consul Rio de Janeiro). Reply: see 1421/11.

CYMBULA

N.O.I.C. Liverpool's 1421/10 (Sailing of tanker CYMBULA for Freetown) Will CYMBULA contain water? (C. in C. S.A. 1951/10).

SCOTTISH
TRADER.

SS SCOTTISH TRADER should be questioned on arrival whether she sighted U.S. Ship CHARLES.H.CRAMP, on about 14/1 in 00°N. 19° W. (D.T.D. 2016/10 to N.C.S.O. Oban) Reply 1819/11.

/Information.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.2.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd).Information
for U.S.

Your 1240/27. (Re information regarding movements of foreign merchant ships required by American Consul) Approved to give information.
(Head of M. 2026/10 to S.O.I. Capetown).

KENYA. (Cruiser)

To leave Freetown 1000N/11 for Plymouth. Route. (C. in C. S.A. 2021N/10).

EMPIRE TROOPER.

Your 1409/9 has been passed to F.O.C.N.A. for him to take action on para: 1.
(D.O.D.(F) 2118/10 to C. in C. S.A).

Mediterranean.Enemy Units.

One large transport escorted by two destroyers p.c. and s. (groups missing) 520° 14.
(UNIQUE 0345/10 to V.A. Malta).

Shipping for
Military Needs.

Your 2356/31. Request 4 ships maybe sent at once. It may be necessary to ask for a further 2 ships later.
(C. in C. Med 0401/10 to Admty).

T.L.C. Stores.

A.T. 1202/9. Request stores be sent in STAG.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 0935/10 to Admty).

10th M.T.B.
Flotilla.

Your 2245/28/1. Date (Head of M. to C. in C. Med 1557/10) See Mediterranean Volume.

CONSTANTZA
S/M DELFINUL
German
inspection and
possible acquisition

Now established that German naval personnel inspected Roumanian S/M depot ship CONSTANZA in Constantza harbour about 1/2. Reported German taking over Roumanian submarine DOLFINUL and first of two submarines building Galatz when ready in Spring. Germans calling for 800 Roumanian volunteers, ratings. Battalions sent to Germany for training.
(Wolffson, Beyoglu, 1230/10 amended 1115/11)

/DIULIO.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.2.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).

DUILIO.
GIULIO CESARE.
LITTORIO.
BISMARCK.
TIRPITZ.

GIULIO

Following from Navy Department. Rome 7/2
DUILIO arrived Genoa from Taranto 30/1
for extensive repairs and docking.
GIULIO ~~GIULIO~~ CESARE left Genoa last week
for unknown destination. LITTORIO at
Taranto. Russian Naval Attache presumably
Berlin stated BISMARCK completed trials
and joined fleet about 10/11. TIRPITZ
undergoing trials and expected to join
fleet about 1/2.
(Washington 1515/10).

N.I.D. Comment. DUILIO left Taranto
between 10-16/1 and is thought to have
gone to Trieste. ^{GIULIO} CESARE left Genoa after
25/1 for an unknown destination.
LITTORIO is in dock at Taranto. BISMARCK
is not thought to have completed trials
as early as November. She may have done
so now. TIRPITZ. Judging by the time
taken by BISMARCK she is unlikely to be
ready by 1/2. She may have done basin
trials but had not carried out any sea
trials up to 5/2.

Spain.

Bi-weekly Report. Meeting of Franco and
Mussolini. (N.A. Madrid 1637/10).

Malta, Enemy
Air Recco.

Combined Services report Malta up to 1700/
10/2. Enemy aircraft are carrying out con-
tinual reconnaissances during daylight
hours all round Malta particularly south
approaching at times sufficiently close
to cause air alarm.
(H.C. Malta 1730/10).

Oilers.

Your 1239/6. Oilers BRITISH LORD cargo
9,100 tons and HOEGH HOOD cargo 14048
tons Furnace oil due Aden about 17/2. are
allocated for first available convoy to
Suez.
(D. of S. 1836/10 to C. in C. Med).

/USK.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.2.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).USK.
TRUANT.
UTMOST.
UPHOLDER.To leave patrol and proceed to Malta as follows.
(Comdr. (S) 1 1903/10 to USK, TRUANT, UTMOST, UPHOLDER).Minesweepers
arrived
from U.K.
with defective
D.G.Your 2301/6. Breakdown of D.G. Gear regretted. Each ship carries ~~A~~ D.G. Certificate giving full details of wiring. The work of fitting temporary coils to these ships should not take more than 24 hours, using any commercial cable. Later ships are fitted with improved method of securing cable.
(D.M.S. 1928/10 to C. in C. Med).Coast Defence
Cyrenica.In present circumstances threat of seaborne attack on Southern entrance of Suez Canal is considered so slight that 6-inch guns at Port Tewfik could be more usefully employed elsewhere. Subject to concurrence of S.B.N.O. Canal Area propose these guns be withdrawn and used for coast defence of Cyrenican ports.
(C. in C. Med. 2100/10 To G.H.Q. M.E.).Operation
"Result"
9/2.Following in amplification of my 1227/9. Operation ~~SECRET~~. Afternoon D.1, six destroyers in units of one or two ships sailed unobtrusively eastwards to rendezvous with rest of force on D.3. Remaining ships sailed dusk feinting to westward as if covering convoy H.G.53. Turned east after dark in 3 units to avoid detection.

(ii) D.2. no aircraft detected and fleet altered to N.E. after dark passing between Iviza and Majorca.

(iii) D.3. flat calm extreme visibility. The six destroyers joined A.M. (?) (Cover) made ground to north east turning south of east whenever aircraft detected by R.D/F. During day one civil and 2 French Military planes sighted fleet. One Fulmar and one Skua crashed on landing no one hurt. After dark proceeded towards Genoa 21 knots. 2 destroyers carried out W/T diversion east of Minorca at 2345.

/(iv).....

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)Operation
"Result"
9/2.
(Contd.)

(iv) D.4. phenomenally good visibility till moon set at 0519. Subsequently slight haze and visibility decreased considerably. No patrol encountered. ARK ROYAL detached independently with 3 destroyers at 0400. Navigational fix passing Hyeres Light and excellent navigation brought bombarding force into exact position, off Portofino as dawn broke.

(v) Fire opened 0714, continued till 0744, when force withdrew southward. Sole opposition ineffective fire from about two six-inch guns and slight A/A fire against spotting aircraft. Evidently complete surprise achieved. Bombardment indirect using back horizon laying and gyro training. Target obscured from firing ships by morning haze. Aircraft reported no battleship present. Initial Salvoes fell as anticipated and greatly facilitated by aircraft spotting.

(vi) Swordfish from ARK ROYAL as follows: Spezia 3 mined West and one mined East exit. 11 attacked Leghorn refinery, 1 Pisa aerodrome and 1 Pisa railway junction. One Swordfish failed to return.

(vii) ARK ROYAL rejoined 0900 and force withdrew at MALAYA's best speed. 2 shadowers shot down by fighters. 2 Fiat B.R.20 bombers attacked at 1140, dropping 4 bombs 1500 yards from nearest ship and retired northwards.

(viii) Fleet entered low cloud and reduced visibility at 1300. Throughout afternoon and forenoon, R/D.F. indicated air formations seeking Force H but probably prevented by lack of shadowers and poor visibility. No further attack.

(ix) Convoy of 7 merchant vessels sighted and examined at noon. Outward bound 6 French 1 Turkish. Allowed to proceed. All other merchant vessels sighted were in territorial waters or sufficiently close thereto to avoid interception.

(x) I attribute success of bombardment under difficult conditions to meticulous care taken by officers concerned in exercising bombardment detailed and success of operation to unbelievable laxity on part of enemy, coupled with very favourable weather conditions during withdrawal.
(F.O.Force H., 2229/10 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.10. 2. 41.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.YAMAHUZI
MARU.

~~7. 7. in W.D.~~
My 0646/9. Master at Bahrein was unwilling to surrender manifest. To avoid possible recourse to force matter was not pressed. (C. in C. E.1, 0608Z/10, to Admty.)

HERMES)
HAWKINS)

Left Mombasa, 1032/10, G.M.T. (N.O.I.C. Kilindini, 1038Z/10.)

Kismayu,
TANNENFELS,
ASKARI.

My 0748/7. Air R.C. of Kismayu 7/2, revealed that German Ship TANNENFELS has sailed and ASKARI was not identified in the photograph which showed a total of 14 ships only in harbour. (C. in C. E.1., 1056Z/10.)

Swordfish
A/C.

Your 0406.Z/31/1. It is not intended to disband this unit until "Canvas has been completed when further signal will be made. (Head of M. 1416/10, to C. in C. E.1.)

10. 2. 1941.

Monday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Villiers
Net.

Suggestion that Villiers net fitted to merchant vessels for protection from submarine torpedo attack in 1918, should again be made use of. (N.O.I.C. Hong Kong, 0423Z/10, to Admty.)

Flying
Boat
Facilities.

Reply to his 0495 dated 3/2. Admty. Offer, of CITY OF DURBAN. (Air Ministry 1425/10, to A.H.Q, Far East.)

America and West Indies.

HUSKY
VAN
KINSBERGEN.
Incident
5/2.

Your 1132/8. This would appear to be result of lack of knowledge, and experience and over-abundance of zeal on part of HUSKY. Concur with you that question as to who were captors should be immaterial. Request you take such steps as you consider necessary to prevent recurrence of such incidents. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1153/10, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Swedish
SWEDISH
ship
OSCAR
GORTHEN.

Your 1916/28, Information given by a member of the crew; Captain and Chief Engineer strongly pro-Nazi. 27/1 at at 18° N, 146° E, sighted ship believed to be raider southbound 4 miles away black about 6000 tons 1 funnel clipper bow regular stern 1 gun uncertain of calibre smaller one aft no signs of aeroplane. (Honolulu, 1330z/10, to Admty.)

TILAPA.
(H.X.98.)

Your 1734/9. I have a note that Master expressed his inability to maintain necessity speed. (N.C.S.O. Bermuda, 1348/10, to Admty.)

/CRISTALES.....

MOST SECRET.10. 2. 1941.Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies Contd.CRISTALES.
CORRALES.
TACHEE.
^

Your 1741/9. Both vessels declared $12\frac{1}{2}$ knots on their convoy forms M signed by Captain Gracie for CRISTALES and Captain Legge for CORRALES. Our special boarding forms show 13 knots and 12 knots respectively, also signed by above Master. No Master has so far been ordered into any H.X convoy. Your 1602/29, concerning TACHEE was answered by my 1506/30, repetition follows: Declared speed of DIONE 11 was 9 knots, but not ready for H.X.104 therefore sailed next S.C. (C. O.A.C. Halifax, 1523/10, to Admty.)

Japanese
Arms for
Callao.

Your 1529Z/27/1, Following from San Francisco (begins) U.S.N. Authorities report that Honolulu advised order was consigned to Ministry of War Callao for Peruvian Army. 660 cases 3-ins. and 1-pounder projectile in No.1 hold, 38 cases detonators in No. 2 hold. Japanese very perturbed about cases being opened, implying that another shipment was due next month. (Ends.) (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1639/10, to Capt. O.S, Singapore.)

RAMON DE
LARRINAGA.

(British) capsized and sunk in Delaware River. Books are being recovered by divers. (N.C.S.O. Philadelphia, 1740/10, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.10. 2. 1941.
Monday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia.Convoy
U.S.9.

HOBART escorting U.S.9, arrived Fremantle 2326Z/9. (A.C.N.B., 0553Z/10. to Admty etc.)

Independent
Sailings.

Adty. 1628/23. Week ending 17/2, class (ii) Greek GEORGE LIVANOS, Melbourne 14/2, for Colombo and Suez. Ex. Danish WESTRALIA Melbourne 12/2, for Singapore. British NARBADA Melbourne 15/2, for Colombo and Suez. (A.C.N.B, 1200Z/10.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.SPICA.

Reported from Villa Real De Santo Antonio, to be preparing for sea. Reported destination Huelva.C.2. (N.C.S.O. Lisbon, 1639/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)

TANNENFELS.

Has left Kismayu. (C.in C. E.I. 1056Z/10) See East Indies.

CORDELIA.

Arrived from Turkey. Departed for Burgas Istanbul in ballast embark Officers and men Batoum. (Vice-Consul Verna, 1830/10).

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.CONTE GRANDE.

At Santos received 300 tons oil fuel 10/2. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1446Z/10).

CLIZIA.

Reported sailed 9/2 destination unknown. (Vice-Consul, Gijon T.H.I. 2130/10).

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.WINNIPEG
and
WYOMING.

C.in C. America and West Indies 1223/9. See my 0931/31 (WINNIPEG westwards San Antonio) and my 1100/10 (WYOMING etc. passed westbound). (1751/10).

(FOCNA. to Admiralty.)

10.1.1941.
Monday.

WAR DIARY.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships
Attacked.H.G.53.

M03378/41

Convoy H.G.53 attacked by submarine 036° N., 016° W.
(VELOX, 0641Z/10 to Admty, F.O.C.N.A.)
Informing North Atlantic Station.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0849/10).
My 0849/10. Amend position to read
036° 24' N., 016° 38' W.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0943/10 to N.A.Station).
Convoy H.G.53 again attacked by U/Boat in
036° (10' 24' N) 016° 38' W.
(DEPTFORD 0700/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)
D/F bearings at 1311/10 indicate that
U/Boat is still in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 1756/10 to VELOX, DEPTFORD).
DEPTFORD 1200/10 (No trace). Have asked
(?Oporto) Lisbon and Punta Delgada if any
tug is available. Intend to carry out
reconnaissance by Sunderland Flying Boat
at daylight tomorrow and to sail Fleet
Tug ST. DAY (? On arrival of) Force H at
Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1804/10 to Admty).
My 1804. (Corrupt Group) is sending tug,
should reach ship a.m./12.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1902/10 to Admty).
Your 1804/10. Fleet tug ST. DAY not
required by Force H.
(S.O. Force H., 2025/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)
D/F bearings at 2308/10 indicate that
U/Boat is still in your vicinity.
(D.D.I.C. 2342/10 to VELOX, DEPTFORD).

W.B. WALKER
(torpedoed
29/1).

Attempted this morning to reach position
indicated in your 2350/9. (stern half
of W.B. WALKER). Weather too bad.
Returning to South Minch with escort.
(SEAMAN 1130/10 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).
Your 1130/10. Stern half of W.B.WALKER
reported well afloat in 56° 47' N., 10° 55' W.
A.M./10. This ship is of great value
and it is important that you should proceed
as soon as possible.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1725/10 to SEAMAN).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.PIZZARO.
(Sunk
31/1).** see B.R. 1337 Page 46
Sunk by 5/M. 31/1/41.*Your 1649/9 S.S. PIZZARO* believed sunk 31/1
Six survivors including Master landed Lisbon
5/2, remaining 23 not yet accounted for.
(D.T.D. 2013/10 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway).Submarines
Reported.

1448.

An over enemy Submarine in position
54.21N., 15.50W.
(A/C 214 Squadron 1448/10 to Oban).

2050.

One submarine in sight bearing 120° 3 miles
course unknown. My position based on
reference position of Admiral 60.59N.,
12.44W.

(NELSON, 2050/10).

NELSON 2050. Proceed and search.

(C.in C.H.F. 2218/10 to Capt: D.5.)

Join KELLY searching for submarine in
approximate position 060°59'N.,
012° 44'W.

(R.A.D.H.F. 2325/10 to JACKAL).

C.in C. Home Fleet, 2218. Request air
search.

(Capt: D.5. 2340/10 to C.in C. W.A.)

2156.

An enemy submarine has made a first sighting
report of a large formation.

(D.D.I.C. 2156/10).

My 2156/10 Bearing of U/B 346/1 from Lands
Ends. Probable that units of Home Fleet
were being reported.

(D.D.I.C. 2215/10).

2214.

D/F bearing 306° second class Italian
submarine probably.

(F.O.C.N.A. 2214/10 to S. and A. N. Atlantic)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.10.2.1941.
Monday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Estimated numbers and positions are unreliable.

Estimated
U/Boat
Dispositions.German.

1 90 miles of 53 30'N., 17 30'W.
 1 60 miles of 55 30'N., 18 W.
 1 or possibly two 58°N., 60° N., 16° W., 24°W.
 1 50° N., 53° W., 30° W., 34° W.
 1 36° 24'N., 16° 38' W. 0700/10 following H.G.53.

Italian.

2 N.W. Approaches.
 (D.D.I.C. 1238/10).

Submarines
Attacked.

By Aircraft
 1650.

Have attacked enemy submarine with bombs level estimated 2 hits in 56.30N., 14.38 W. surfaced on fire. A/C 218 Sdn. 1650/10/Aldergrove Submarine sank stern first on fire. Am returning to base.

(A/C 218 Sqn., 1745/10 to Aldergrove.)
A/C 218 Sqn., Duty T 1745/10. After having questioned Captain of Aircraft no doubt object attacked was a U/Boat and from his description of incident it would appear that she was destroyed. Only doubt is that about 4 men were seen on Conning tower and were not subsequently seen in the water.

(C.in C. W.A. 2331/10 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.

11.2.1941.

Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.Operation P.X.

EREBUS, escorted by destroyers, bombarded targets at Ostend early this morning after bombing attack by aircraft. Spotting was carried out by Swordfish of F.A.A. 40 rounds are estimated to have fallen in the target area. The enemy took no action.

S.S. RYFYLKE
torpedoed by
SEALION.

SEALION reports that she attacked 2 merchant vessels off the coast of Norway on 1/2 and possibly torpedoed one of them. On 5/2 she torpedoed Norwegian S.S. RYFYLKE, evacuated the crew and passengers and set the ship on fire with 30 rounds of H.E.

British Air Activity.

Beauforts of Coastal Command attacked the power station and docks at Cherbourg last night, and Blenheims bombed Ostend prior to bombardment by EREBUS. 35 aircraft bombed Rotterdam Petroleum Harbour. Invasion ports were also attacked. Hudsons bombed the docks at Kristiansand South today. One destroyer and 26 merchant vessels were seen in the harbour. A special patrol to intercept enemy warships was again flown South-East of Iceland this forenoon.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.Enemy Air Activity.

Very slight damage was caused in the dockyard during an attack on Chatham last night.

S.S. KINGSTOWN was attacked 8 miles S.W. of Milford Haven this morning, but was not damaged.

Fleetwood Trawler EAMONT was attacked this evening off Dunbeath and is anchored in Lybster with a U.X.B. on board.

Trawler JOHN DUNKIN was bombed this evening 13 miles N. by E. of Buckie; the crew were taken off and the vessel is believed to have sunk later, A.P. trawler ARNOLD BENNETT was machine gunned this evening 10 miles north of Lossiemouth (no details), and

S.S. CANTICKHEAD was machine gunned this evening 30 miles N.W. of Kinnaird Head but suffered no damage, though her master was wounded.

Trawler ARACARI was slightly damaged by air attack 25 miles S.W. of Fastnet this afternoon.

Mining.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft last night is suspected off the north coast of Norfolk and towards Skegness and the Humber. It is estimated that 40 aircraft were employed.

27 mines were detonated off the Humber today, 9 magnetic and 18 acoustic. The river is closed to navigation.

3 magnetic mines were exploded between the Mull of Kintyre and Davaar Lt. (near Campbeltown).

6 Beauforts dropped mines in the Ems last night.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.North Atlantic.DAGMAR I.

A Portuguese tug is proceeding to British DAGMAR I, abandoned after the air attack on Convoy H.G.53 on 9/2 but still afloat, and expects to reach the position tomorrow morning.

RENOWN

F.O. Force H, considers RENOWN can be used for hunting in Atlantic for a limited period, but there is risk of repeating previous damage to her bulge if high speed is necessary in rough weather.

South Atlantic.Force Z.

Escorted by DORSETSHIRE, left Freetown this morning for Capetown. KENYA, which had escorted Force Z to Freetown, left this morning to return to Plymouth.

LANCING

The Master of the Norwegian LANCING has returned to Rio de Janeiro as a result of a message from New York while on passage to the Antarctic whaling ground. There appears to be some doubt as to its authenticity.

Enemy M.V.'s

German and Italian merchant vessels at Para have raised steam.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Cyrenaica
Ports.

Some 3,000 tons of supplies per day, apart from the conveyance of personnel and tanks, are required for the Army and R.A.F. in Cyrenaica. Tobruk is to be developed as the main base, with Derna and Sollum or Bardia as subsidiaries. C.in C. Mediterranean has summarised requirements for a reasonable port organisation.

SOUTHERN FLOE

(A/S Trawler) was lost off Tobruk today, presumably by a mine.

GLASGOW

Is to sail for Suez tomorrow after repair. C.in C. East Indies has asked if he may keep her to help meet demands for ocean escorts.

Suez Canal.

Six ships including one of 15000 tons, which had been held up have arrived at Suez. It is intended to start traffic northwards from Suez at daylight tomorrow.

C.in C. Med. reports that the problem of watching the Canal for enemy aircraft minelayers is complicated by the lack of sufficient personnel. The Egyptians are useless in air raids, and 3 or 4 battalions of infantry will be required, though it is doubtful whether more than one can be spared for any length of time. The Army have patrol vessels and S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area is acquiring what boats he can for the Lakes.

A balloon unit and a P.A.C. unit intended for Malta are being diverted to the Canal Zone.

Air attacks
on Malta.

Last night, 3 enemy aircraft dropped bombs at the aerodromes, but no damage was caused. This afternoon a petrol lighter in St. Paul's Bay Sunderland Sub-station was slightly damaged by air attack.

Air attack on
Rhodes.

The aerodromes at Rhodes were again successfully attacked last night.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies.HAWKINS
Capture of
3 Italian m/vs.

HAWKINS this morning captured three Italian ships, S.S. ADRIA, ERMINIA MAZZELA, and SAVOIA, off Kismayu and is sending them to Mombasa, (See also 12/2).

MOST SECRET.11. 2. 41.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.SUFFOLK.

To be sailed for Scapa to work up when ready for sea. 2. When ready for service she will join the 1st. C.S. in the Home Fleet. (D.O.D.(H) 1223/11.)

Destroyer
for 17th
Divn.

Request you will detail one further Town Class Destroyer to join 17th Div. 2. Ship selected should if possible complete Stage II before the end of February. (A.C.N.S.(H).1225/11, to C. in C. W.A.)

AVONVALE
ERIDGE
FARNDALE
HEYTHROP.

To proceed to Scapa on completion of trials to work up prior to proceeding to the Red Sea, where they are urgently required. (D.O.D. (H) 1338/11.)

Defence of U.K."Deluge"
DELUGE.

At 1130/11. (D.C.1215/11.) At 2330/11. (D.C. 0003/12.)

Movements.Orders to
URGE.

Proceed to patrol about 15 miles west of Utvaer. Intelligence.(F.O.S. 1059/11, to URGE.)

SOUTHDOWN.

Do not arrive at Nore L.V. before 1400/12. (C. in C. Nore 1227/11.)

TUNA.

TUNA leaves patrol after dark 20/2, (route). TUNA enters home station at 0600 B.S.T. /22. (Capt. (S) 2 1511/11, 1512/11.)

Northern
Patrol.

Trawler line occupied tonight. 4 Trawlers (A.C.O.S. 1539/11.)

CANTON.

C. in C. S.A. 0945/9 CANTON completes boiler cleaning (date) and will be ready to sail (date) (F.O.C.N.P. 1626/11.)

S/M's. Positions.....

11. 2. 41.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements Contd.

S/M's.

Positions at 0800/12 and movements for following 24 hours. (F.O.(S.)1639/11.)

RESOLUTION
and destroyers.

My 1739/9. Request necessary A/S escort and R/V may be arranged. (D.O.D.(H) 1755/11. to C. in C. W.A.)

CACHALOT
to patrol
off Fro
Havet.

Your 1241/11/2/41, para B. (See Mining) Concur. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1759/11, to F.O.(S))

Operations.

Search for
Enemy
Cruiser.

Your 0300. At 0530 my p.c. and s. will be $059^{\circ} 11' N$, $009^{\circ} 57' W$, $110^{\circ} 20$ knots. (C. in C. H.F. 0424/11, to C. in C. Rosyth.)

My 1739/10, para. 2. NIGERIA and ARETHUSA are to remain on patrol in area until 2100/12, and are then to proceed to Reykjavik to refuel. (C. in C. H.F. 1741/11. to NIGERIA, ARETHUSA, C.S.2.)

Scapa arrivals. 1825. C. in C. H.F. in NELSON, ELECTRA, ECLIPSE, TARTAR. 1850 EDINBURGH. 2045 RODNEY, KING GEORGE V., BEDOUIN, ZULU, MAORI, INGLEFIELD, BRILLIANT. (A.C.O.S. 2048/11.)

Operation
"P.X."

Cancel my CH/W8/11/2, and substitute: "A/C carried out operation PX over Ostend between 0100 and 0140 hours. Shells were seen to burst well in target area. Several fires were started. Explosions also seen, one of which was followed by intense blue flash. (A.C.H.Q. Chatham 0830/11.)

/Operation.....

MOST SECRET.11. 2. 1941.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.*operations*
Movements Contd.Op: "P.X." contd.

Operation P.X. Of 54 rounds fired 24 hits were observed on target area with 6 observed hits on Pens themselves. In all 40 rounds considered to have fallen in target area with one large warehouse fire. Spotting conditions good, but results almost entirely dependent on initial use of H.E, and later results were partly unobserved due again to unsuitability of C.P.C.shell. No enemy action. (EREBUS 1516/11.)

S.S RYFYLKE
torpedoed
by SEA/LION.

SEALION reports. 1/2 attacked, two merchant vessels 352° Kvitenaes Point 1½ miles. Possibly one hit. 5/2 attacked, Norwegian s.s RYFYLKE 2 miles North Kvitenaes Point one hit. Evacuated crew and passengers then set ship on fire with 30 rounds H.E. No aircraft seen. Enemy Intelligence. (F.O.S.1102/11.)

British Air Activity.

Attack on
Wilhelmshaven.

Night 9/10 Feb. 14 Hampdens attacked estimated positions of the naval centre at Wilhelmshaven. Two Hampdens attacked oil storage at Norderdenham. Day 10/2. One Blenheim Attacked docks and shipping at Calais, and 6 Blenheims attacked Dunkirk with Fighter escort. 4 Blenheims attacked Docks and shipping at Emden, Den Helder. (H.Q.B.C. ~~1115~~ 0115/11).

Patrols.

Additional patrols being flown today, "Fair", "Unst", "Stand" p.m. Recco. Kristiansand. (C. in C. Rosyth 0810/11.)

My 1931/10. ~~SUNDERLAND~~ *Sunderland* will not fly second Sortie 1500 to 1900 owing to weather. (C. in C. Rosyth 1146/11.)

/Hornli.....

MOST SECRET.11. 2. 41.Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity Contd.Patrols cont.

"Hornli" now in operation one A/C also offensive recco of Kristiansand South and adjacent coastline by six A/C. (C. in C. Rosyth 1902/11.)

O.561. If the weather permits I will have one patrol standing by 12/2, for southward areas specified W.O. 50820 (M.O.8.) 8/2, This patrol will not be sent unless specially requested by you. W.O. please pass to Coastal Command. (G.O.C. Iceland Force 2025/11.)

Your 1936/8. (repeating G.O.C. I.F. 2025/11.) (F.O.i/c Iceland 2031/11.to Admty.)

My 0149/9. G.O.C. informs me that both patrols have returned with negative reports. First patrol: 061° 00' N, 019° 00' W, 060° (?50') 021° 00' 062° 00' 019° 00' 062° 00' 013° 30'. Second Patrol carried out as far as 061° 48' N. 021° 10' W. Visibility various 2-15 miles. Saw trawler with marking PY 88 in position 062° 20' N, 021° 14' W. (F.O.I.C, Iceland 2117/10.)

Patrol ^{"Fugle"} ~~RUOIS~~ as for today 11/2, and Iceland Patrol will be flown tomorrow 12/2. (C. in C. Rosyth 2314/11.)

Enemy Air Activity.Convoy F.S.

Fighter aircraft being sent to assistance of convoy ~~RUOIS~~ (F.S.Convoy). (Rosyth /W/T. 0848/11.)

Attack on Chatham 10/2.

Attack on Chatham at 2245/10. Slight damage. Chatham dockyard. (details.) (C. in C. Nore 1712/11.)

/ARACARI.....

MOST SECRET.11. 2. 41.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. Contd.ARACARI.

M03977/41.

(British Trawler 245), was slightly damaged by air attacks and had one casualty 1500/11, 25 miles S.W. of Fastnet. (D.O.R.)

S.S. KINGSTOWN
attacked.

S.S. KINGSTOWN reports attack by aircraft 8 miles S.W. of Milford at 1100 dropped two bombs, and opened fire with machine gun. No damage, no casualties. (N.O.I.C. Barry 1940/11.)

EAMONT.
bombed.

P.V. HARMONY landed 10 survivors of Fleetwood Trawler EAMONT at Helmsdale at 2000 Reports, 2 miles off Dunbeath German bomber dropped 3 bombs on trawler one direct on wheelhouse still unexploded in Wheelhouse. 2 exploded alongside trawler anchored 24 fathoms fishing craft in Lybster told not to go near her. (F.O.I.C. Invergordon. 2237/11.)

Mining.Humber.

Humber will remain closed to navigation today. (F.O. Humber 0945/11, 27 mines exploded today. Positions etc.(F.O. Humber 2302/11, 0955/12.)

Ref. F.O. Humber. 2353/10. (Refusal of Coastal Command to allow (minelaying) aircraft to be fired at.)

I fully appreciate R.A.F. point of view but this is not the best way to win the war. We have many Aerodromes but few harbours and the safe arrival of cargoes is vital.

/Situation.....

MOST SECRET.11. 2. 1941.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining Contd.

Situation has been reached where grave shipping and mine-sweeper losses must be expected or alternatively there must be some inconvenience to two aerodromes and a measure of risk to some of our aircraft. Even if we shot down every night one British and three enemy bombers, we should be winning the war more quickly than with present procedure.

The loss of life and material due to constant mining in our harbours and their approaches is immensely in excess of anything that has occurred or might occur in British Aircraft fired at in error by our guns. (C. in C. Nore 1120/11.)

Operation
B. S. 51.

Postponed 24 hours on account of Humber being closed to navigation. All times in my 1135/10 to be 24 hours later accordingly. (S.O. M.L. Immingham 1030/11.)

Sweep off
Kinnaird
Head.

A.C.O.S. 2151/2. Low percentage search of area lying between Western Edge of Eastern mine barrier and Q.Z.S.160, extended to Kinnaird Head has been completed without result. (M.S. One 1031/11.)

Thames
Estuary.

Blue mine detonated by L.L. Trawlers EMILION and EARL ESSEX at 0120/11 in position 034° B.5 buoy 6 cables near outside (50Yards). Capt. M/S Sheerness 1055/11.)

Sweep of
Gap A.

My 1214/7 and A.C.O.S. 1202/9, and Admty., 2003/10. On 14/2, or as soon afterwards as practicable the 1st and 5th M.S.F's are to carry out single Oropesa exploratory sweeps of Gap A and its Eastern Approaches as follows:-

On completion of the operation the 1st. M.S.F. is to proceed Harwich and the 5th M.S.F. to Aberdeen. (C. in C. Rosyth 1059/11.)

/Operation.....

MOST SECRET.11. 2. 1941.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining Contd.Operation
P. W. 4.

Weather permitting Operation P.W4, will be carried out tonight Tuesday by MTB's 22 32 and 34 leaving Harwich 1800.
(C. in C. Nore 1133/11.)

Operation P.W.4, cancelled owing to fog.
(C. in C. Nore 1851/11.)

Operation
Z.M.E.16.

Intend leaving Milford Haven at 1900/today for operation Z.M.E.16 to lay at 2240, returning on completion about 0230/12.
(PLOVER 1141/11.)

Mine barrier
South of 55° N.

Your 2230/10. Least depth is 7 feet below M.L.W.S.(D.D.O.D.(M) 1235/11, to C in C. Nore.)

Operation by
CACHALOT.

A. As CACHALOT may be required to patrol off Fro Havet for a few more days it seems unlikely she will be able to carry out F.D.29. B. Observing she is loaded with non-flooders propose on leaving patrol she lays close southwest of Flatoy (67° 55' N, 14° 46' E.)
(F.O.S. 1241/11.)

Operations
by 20th D.F.

If you do not require 20th D.F. request you will sail them to arrive Plymouth by 18/2, to carry out operations detailed in my 1202/6. Mines now on board will be used for first operation.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1258/11. to C. in C. H.F.)

Operations
S.N. 7 B.
S.N. 68A.

Your 1929/8, not to all addressees. Cover will not be available until 13/2.
(ii) Intend F.O.C. 18th C.S. in EDINBURGH will provide close escort and RODNEY will cover operation.
(iii) A fourth destroyer will be sailed to augment your A/S screen. (C. in C. H.F. 1944/11. to R.A.M.L.)

/Mull of

MOST SECRET.11. 2. 41.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mining Contd.Mull of
Kintyre
to Davaar
Lt.

N.O.I.C. Campbeltown's 0001/10.
 Three enemy D. magnetic mines destroyed
 as follows. Main channel from Trevor
 Head point to position 330° 6.5 cables
 from Ottarara Rock Buoy swept 6 red 6
 blue 280 yards wide. Also through
 position (A) twice swept with S (A)
 Mark 1 gear. (F.O.I.C. Greenock
 1955/11.)

Enemy Intelligence.Trawler
A221 SUNLIGHT.
Sighted by
CURACOA.

Your 1552/10. Trawler was painted green
 hull and red bottom. Number in white
 paint was read by signalling projector.
 (A.C.O.S. 1236/11. to N.O.I.C. Aberdeen)

Aircraft
reports.

1 M V 500 tons 1 flakship 090 - 1 270
 55° 9' N 7° 22'E. 1 M.V. 3000 tons
 1 flakship 301 2 280. (P/235 Sqn. 55°
 $9'$ N. 7° 0'E 1245/11.)

MOST SECRET.11. 2. 1941.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.

Coastal Convoys.

F. S. ~~B.408~~ Sailed 0201, 9 ships. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0206/11, 0936/11.) Absentees (0937/11.)

F. S. ~~7.407~~ Position, 34 ships for London. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1005/11.) Arrived (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1846/11.)

F. N. ~~4.404~~ Destinations. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 1059/11) Ships to join. (F.O.I.C., Tyne, 1806/11.)

W. N.84. COLOMBIA to join, (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1100/11.) Your 1100/11. COLOMBIA not to join, to remain Clyde. (C. in C. W.A., 1951/11.)

W. N.82. Arrived 1200. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1230/11.)

F. S. ~~9.409~~ Numbers joining. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1252/11.)

Topdalsfjord. Route for stragglers from Topdalsfjord Convoy. (D.T.D., 1339/11.)

E. N. 70. Loch Ewe ships to be diverted to Oban. (D.T.D., 1445/11.) EDINA sailed to join. (N.C.S.O. Aberdeen, 2005/11.)

O. B. C. 286. Sailing date. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 0953/11.) 10 ships ex E.N.U. 69, to join. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1205/11.)

O. B. 286. Sailing dates (N.C.S.O. Belfast 1800/11.)

W. N. 83. List. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1008/11.)

W. N. 83(0) Sailed (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1615/11.) List 1700/11.)

/E.N.U.69.....

MOST SECRET.11. 2. 1941.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys Contd.

E.N.U.69.

2308/10, unescorted, 1 ship. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1106/11.)

10 ships Ex E.N.U.69, sailing Oban, in E.N.70, to join O.B. 286. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1205/11.) E.N.U. 69, arrived 1200/11, N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1447/11.

E.N.70.

List and destinations. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1434/11.) Sailed 1100/11. Escorts. 15 ships. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1455/11.)

F.N. 5.405

0945/11, 40 ships, (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1306/11.) List and destinations. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1552/11.)

O.B.285.

Sailed 1330/11. 8 ships. (N.C.S.O. Mersey 1453/11.)

O.B.O.285.

Sailing date, 1 ship, (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1650/11.)

F.S. 9.409

Sailed 1500. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1504/11.) List (1759/11.)

F.N. & F.S.
Escorts.

Amending 1546/9. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1612/11.)

Ocean Convoys.
H.X.107.

Sailing telegram as amended by Admty., (D.T.D, 1331/11.)

S.L.65.

Sailing telegram. (N.C.S.O. Freetown, 1149/11.) Absentees. (N.C.S.O. Freetown 1512/11.)

/S.L.63.....

11. 2. 1941.

Tuesday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys Contd.

S.L.63. 2 arrivals. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1231/11.)
8 arrivals. (N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1431/11.)
6 arrivals. (N.O.I.C. Barry, 1730/11.)

H.G.54. List and destinations. (F.O.C.N.A.,
1631/11.)

S.C.21. Meet. (C. in C. W.A, 1703/11, to
VANOC, VOLUNTEER, etc.)

H.X.104. 1 arrival. (N.O.I.C. Barry, 1730/11.)
All ships (21) arrived. (details)
(D.S. 526.)

B.H.X.104. All arrived (34 ships) (details)
(D.S.526.)

H.X.105. All arrived. (35 ships) (details.)
(D.S.526.)

H.X.109. AUSONIA to escort. (F.O.3 B. S.1611/11.)

CYMBULA
H.G.53. F.O.I.C. Liverpool's 1421/10, You will
probably escort CYMBULA until p.m./15,
joining DEPTFORD on H.G.53 on 16/2.
(C. in C. W.A. 1121/11, to LONDONDERRY,
FREESIA.)

H.X.106. There is danger to eastward of line
joining Sulisker Rock and Vestrafiord
Iceland. (C. in C. W.A. 1139/11, to
MALCOLM for Cdre. H.X.106.)

/SPICA.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11. 2. 1941.Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys Contd.SPICA.Sailing 11/2, (Route) to Scrabster.
(N.C.S.O. Reykjavik 1249/11. to Admty.)NARVA.Sailing 12th/13th/2. (Route) to Clyde.
(N.C.S.O. Reykjavik, 1249/11. to Admty.)ANJA.Route through Skopen Fiord, Faroes.
(D.T.D., 1728/11. 1830/11.)Route
Signals.To reduce cyphering, signals to Admty,
requesting routes to be in following form.
(1) Word "Route", (2) Name of ship, (3)
speed, (4) distinction, (5) sailing date.
(D.T.D, 2020/11 to C. in C.'s Rosyth
and W.A.)Military Convoys.
W. S. 6. (B)

V.C.N.S. 1335/11. See Operations Volume.

11. 2. 41.
Tuesday.

War Diary.

CASUALTIES & DEFECTS.

S.S. STANFORTH.

Ashore P.B. 1 Buoy. (STANFORTH 0745/11.)

Now afloat B.D. one (STANFORTH 0810/11.)

Aground again 194° 1 mile B.D.1. buoy,
uncertain my position. (STANFORTH 0850/11.)

Proceed to afford cover to S.S. STANFORTH
reported aground vicinity of B.7. buoy.
Tug proceeding. You are not to leave
swept channel. If ship gets off escort
her to the Nore. (C. in C. Nore 1051/11.
to VICEROY.)

Received De (STANFORTH. Cancel my 0745/11
0810/11, 0850/11. Ends. (N. Foreland Radio
T.O.R. 1105/11.)

Aground 125° $\frac{3}{4}$ mile B.7, Buoy. Require
assistance (STANFORTH 1110/11.) Am being
assisted by Adty.trawler EAGER.(STANFORTH
1125/11.)

My 1051, STANFORTH reported afloat and
proceeding. Escort her to Nore L.V.
(C. in C. Nore 1137/11, to VICEROY.)

Your 1051. STANFORTH last seen at 0500.
She was not seen aground to southward of
B.7. ST. ALBANS did not pass any ship
aground. Am returning to investigate.
(VICEROY 1155/11 to C. in C. Nore.)

Your 1155. S.S. STANFORTH reported
aground 125° $\frac{3}{4}$ miles B.7 buoy at 1110, and
being assisted by EAGER at 1125.
(C. in C. Nore 1327/11. to VICEROY.)

S.S.DALEMOOR
BORGFRED.

DALEMOOR returned from HX.108 BORGFRED
from SC22 leaking and engine repairs,
respectively. (N.C.S.C. Halifax 0944/11.)

/M.L. 196.....

MOST SECRET.11. 2. 41.
Tuesday.War Diary.CASUALTIES & DEFECTS.M.L.196.

Your 2355/10, presume M.L.196, unable make destination in daylight yesterday and anchored as requisite. (N.O.I.C. Oban 1030/11. to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

SINGAPORE 3.

My 1837/7, and D. of S.T's 1544/10, search for SINGAPORE 3, unsuccessful, must be considered a total loss. No casualties. (Cdre i/c. Sheerness 1039/11.)

S.S.FLIMSON
KELSO.

S.S. FLIMSON and S.S. KELSO both in convoy WN 82, in collision of May Island a.m./11. S.S. FLIMSON holed and beached in Largo Bay at 0715, leaking badly. Cargo lorries and steel plates and in view of valuable nature master requests salvage tug, and divers may be sent as soon as possible. No suitable tug available at Methil. Ship is lying on sandy bottom and still has use of engines. Nothing known of S.S. KELSO since collision. (N.O.I.C. Methil, 1110/11.)

UBEROUS
(ashore 11/1.)

N.O. i/c Londonderry's 2222/10. Salvage of L.L. Sweeper UBEROUS at Londonderry will seriously delay Clyde mooring work if undertaken by MOORFOWL. Mooring programme is already much behind schedule owing to unfavourable weather. (A.S. Rosyth 1125/11.)

M.L. 147.

Your 0748/11. M.L.147 arrived Newhaven with engine trouble. M.L.153 and 186 proceeding. (N.O. i/c Newhaven 1433/11 to V.A. Dover.)

S.S. ALLENDE.

Arrival ex S.C.20 degaussing defective. (N.C.S.O. Swansea 1445/11.)

BLYSKAWICA

Complete. Has proceeded to Greenock. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1616/11.)

MOST SECRETWar Diary11.2.1941.
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSNorth AtlanticAttack on
Convoy
H.G. 53
9/2.

British ship DAGMAR I was abandoned after damage sustained in air attack in 035° 42' N., 14° 38' W., p.m. 9/2. Portuguese tug GAVIAO from Funchal expects to reach position a.m. 12/2. (F.O.C.N.S., 1152/11 to S. and A. N. Atlantic)

→ BELGIQUE

Your 2015/10. In view of age and condition of ship am not prepared to accept risk of docking laden. (F.O.C.N.A. 1241/11 to Admty.)

COURLAND
ESTRELLANO

Your 2017/10 (Re cargoes) Confirmed explanation ref. a.m. 1332/27/12/40. (N.C.S.O. Gibraltar 1641/11)

Daily Summary Operations. Used Sunderland waiting Gibraltar for Bathurst to locate abandoned ship ex H.G. 53. (200 Group 1700/11)

Force H
(Operation
"Result")

Times of arrival and ammunition required (S.O. Force H., 0907/11, to F.O.C.N.A. etc.,) Arrived. (S.O.I. Gib., 1620/11)

→ BELGIQUE's
Cargo

Action on my 1652/10 suspended until receipt of your reply to my 2015/10. (D.T.D. 1340/11 to F.O.C.N.A.,)

^H
AGIOS SPYRIDON

Your 1736/10. Present speed of ship 5½ knots, bottom very foul, not considered possible to increase speed appreciably by scraping by divers, in view of age of ship am not prepared to accept risk of docking her laden with ore. (F.O.C.N.A., 1702/11 to Admty.)

RENOWN

State of, in connection with use for raider hunting (F.O. Force H 1924/11) See Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.Darkening
Ship.

Consider all Merchant Vessels not in Company should burn dimmed navigation lights near coast of Union of South Africa as follows:
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0825Z/11 to C.inC. S.A.)

Force Z.

M07722/41

Freetown departure 0600/11 DORSETSHIRE and Force Z direct route to Capetown E.T.A.
(C.in C. S.A. 0851/11 to Admty, N.C.I.C. Simonstown).

KENYA.

My 2021/10/2. For Speed of advance 20 knots read 18.7 knots.
(C.in C. S.A. 1000/11 to C.S.10).
Departure 1000/11/2 F.O.C.S.10 in KENYA in accordance with C.in C. S.A. 2021N/10.
(S.O.(I) Freetown 1119N/11 to Admty).
Your 1210/11. Following is repetition of position (C) in my 2021/10.
(C.in C. S.A. 2231N/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

CORNWALL.

Date of readiness for sea Admty. 2300/8.
(F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1430/11).

LANCING,
why 38
days on
passage.

Your 1708/10. Master of Norwegian ship LANCING (states:) while on passage from Curacao to Antarctic Whaling Ground and when in about 050 S., 010 W., about 26/1. Master received W/T signal en clair from ~~XXXXXXXX~~ SHIP, New York, instructing him to proceed to nearest South American Port. Master doubtful as to authenticity of this signal and requested repetition in private code, upon receipt of which course was shaped for Rio de Janeiro. Master also states that he intercepted W/T signal from ~~XXXXXXXX~~ SHIP, New York, in private code addressed to Norwegian ship PELAGOS advising Norwegian factory ships OLE WEGGER and SOLGLIMT had been (as received) and suggesting Norwegian ship PELAGOS should stand further south into ice to evade raider. (Ends). Ship is now awaiting orders.
(N.C.S.C. Rio de Janeiro 1421/11 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (Contd.)ASTURIAS.Your 1619Z/6. Visit approved.
(N.A. Rio de Janeiro 1505/11 to R.A.S.A.D.)NORSEMAN.Cable ship NORSEMAN now proceeding
Pernambuco where due 16/2.
(N.C.S.O. Rio de Janeiro 1551/11).Enemy
Unit.D/F bearings at 0358Z/11 indicated
presumed Enemy Auxiliary within 150 miles
of 022° S., 10° W. reliability 60%.
Within 500 miles of this position
reliability 95%.
(C.in C. S.A. 1635N/11 to S.A.Squadron.)CYMBULA.Your 1951/10 CYMBULA will contain 6770 tons
drinking 2750 tons boiler water.
(D. of S.T. 1711/11 to C.in C. S.A.)
CYMBULA left escorted by FREESIA.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1144/11).Whalers.Important that the 4 LL Whalers converting
in S. Africa should arrive at Alexandria
at earliest possible date.
Request early report as to expected date of
sailing.
(D.M.S. 1722/11 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).SCOTTISH
TRADER
sighting
of U.S.
ship.Your 2016/10. Master's report SCOTTISH
TRADER was in 00° 50'N., 18° 59'W, on 11/1,
course N. (true) speed 9 knots, time 0700.
Ship observed distant 8 to 10 miles.
Apparently steaming S.E. at estimated speed
10 knots - visibility very good.
(description of ship). Flag painted
amidships barely discernible through telescope
as U.S. Vessel kept under observation from
0700 to 0800. SCOTTISH TRADER must have
been sighted by this vessel but no attempt
was made to increase speed or alter course.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1819/11).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (Contd.)CILICIA.

F.O.C.N.P.'s 1230/10.

Special escort cannot be made available and CILICIA is being sailed in accordance with para. 5 of A.T. 1335/11.
(D.O.D.(F) 1906/11 to C.in C. S.A.)

GUDRUN
MAERSK.

11/2 departure for Clyde. (Route.)
(N.C.S.O. Freetown 1959/11 to Admty etc.)

Mediterranean.Cyrenaica
Base
Requirements.

Capture of Cyrenaica necessitates Army operating in that area being supplied almost entirely by sea. Tobruk has to be developed as main base, with Derna and Sollum or Bardia as subsidiaries. Also necessary to develop Benghazi. Requirements of Army and Air Force amount to some 3000 tons of supplies per day apart from conveyance of personnel and tanks etc. to and fro. Development of defences and running of these ports requires naval staff which it is quite beyond available resources to supply. Request officers for various duties shown in following list may be sent from U.K. as soon as possible. Necessary ratings can be found by reducing number to be drafted to U.K. except (a) Signal ratings, 20 required (b) - Writers, 5 required. The matter is urgent as maintenance of Army in Cyrenaica and its further operations depend entirely on the security of recently acquired ports, on their development to maximum capacity possible, and on their efficient organization.

(C.in C. Med., 0003/11 to Admty).

URSULA
TRIUMPH.

Your 0230/11. Proceed into harbour. TRIUMPH leaves Malta 1200/11 proceeding North West.
(V.A.Malta, 0728/11 to URSULA, amended 1003/11).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)Coast
Defences
Cyrenaica.Your 2100/10 to H.Q. Middle East. Concur.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 0938/11 to C.in C.
Med.)GLASGOW.My 1215/26. Intend sailing GLASGOW for
Suez 12/2. Request her future
programme may be signalled.
(C.in C. Med., 0951/11 to Admty).
See East Indies, 1832/11.Turkish
Boom
Equipment.N.A. Ankara's 1226/28/1. Following position
regards Mediterranean and Turkish boom
equipment.
(D.B.D. 1036/11 to C.in C. Med.).Air
Report.Operational Summary 246 to 1200/11.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1156/11).Suez Canal,
Watching.Admty. 1236/9. Plans and proposals for
watching for parachute mines.
(C.in C. Med., 1105/11 to Admty).Prohibited
area.Submarines may proceed on the surface by
day South of (?) 034° 00' and East of
020° 00' 10 miles normal precautions are
in no way to be relaxed and attention is
called against the necessity of maintaining
an efficient zigzag both by day and by
night.
(Capt: (S) 1 1433/11).Malta
Air
Raids.Night 10/2. 3 enemy aircraft dropped bombs
at Hal Far and Kalafrana others in sea no
damage or casualties. 11/2. 1515, 4
enemy aircraft approached from S.W. crossed
Island, 1600 2 JU. 88's 1 Ju 87 attacked
Sunderland sub-station St. Paul's Bay with-
out success. Petrol lighter in Bay slightly
damaged but serviceable. Fighters on
patrol unable to make contact.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1735/11).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)ILLUSTRIOUS.
damage 10/1.

A0655/41.

Your 1855/10. Hits as follows.
 (Details of damage in dive bombing attacks
 on 10/1/41.
 (ILLUSTRIOUS 1751/11 to Admty. Personal
 for Controller).
 Original in Lion copy only. *overleaf*

Use of
French
Aircraft.

Your A.460 10/2 not to Malta. If
 practicable French Glenn Martin should
 proceed Malta for employment there.
 (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1751/11 to 200 Group).

Alexandria,
Channel
Clearance.

Admty. 1614/9/6/1940. (Two possible
 methods of keeping clear Channel Alexandria's
 Great Pass to boom, owing to shortage of
 magnetic minesweeping vessels. Consider
 scheme should be proceeded with. No material
 can be provided from local sources as
 reported in my 1437/18/6/40. Request similar
 installations to that fitted in Firth of
 Clyde may be sent urgently.
 (C.in C. Med., 1045/11 to Admty).

Asdics
for
Greece.

Your 1950/30/1. Plan to equip 10
 destroyers and 1 submarine with asdics.
 A.M.'s 1657/12/12 and 2359/23/12 and C.in C.
 Meds. 1855/31/1 refer. Request Greek
 port to which sets should be diverted.
 (D.A/S W. 1850/11 to N.A.Athens).

Defence of
Canal.

Further to my O.506 8/2 and C.in C. Meds.,
 2333/7. Both Balloon Units and P.A.C.
 Unit intended for Malta will be diverted to
 canal zone. One additional unit each type
 required for Malta.
 (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1852/11 to Air Ministry).

Suez
Canal
Traffic.

Six ships including CHRISTIAN HUYGENS of
 15000 tons held up by block in southern
 part of canal have arrived Suez. Intended
 to start traffic northwards Suez at daylight
 12/2.
 (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1901/11).

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

IN

363 A

1751/11th February

FROM: - H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS

DATE: - 12.2.41.

RECD: - 1647

NAVAL CYPHER C BY CABLE RECIRCULATION

ADDRESSED: - Admiralty Personal for Controller

ADAC

Your 1855/10.

Hits as follows.

First dive bombing attack 10th January. Attack developed whilst aircraft being flown at high speed which prevented full gunfire and early hits damaged 4 pom-poms.

- (1) 500 pound direct on S 2 pom-pom destroyed gun killing crew and most of crew of S 1 B Director damaged splinters deck split not penetrating. Bridge saved by splinter-proof plating.
- (2) 1000 pound through port forward end of flight deck at 10 station exploding 10 feet above water outside ship 150 splinter holes in side W.L. to U.G. Deck caused flooding below and fire in lamp room.
- (3) 1000 pound through after lift exploding 10 to 20 feet down. Heavy (object). After repair parties casualties. Damaged after end of conveyor. Cut every electric lead upper deck and above.
- (4) 1000 pounds through armoured flight deck centre line 131 station and store below. Exploded 10 feet above hangar deck blowing 15 ft. diameter hole. Destroyed section of conveyor outside ward room. Destroyed spray in ~~after hangar~~. Scattered hangar fire curtains. Blew forward lift up and deck below down. Fierce fire in after hangar, 4 aircraft burnt out. 9 aircraft forward end damaged by blast and splinters. Fire in flats below wardroom. Many casualties hangars, wardroom and flats (?star-board.). Cut every electric lead above upper deck and degaussing.
- (5) 500 pound edge of after lift well exploded high up in well increasing previous damage.
- (6) 1000 pound through P 1 pom-pom platform putting gun out of action temporarily. Hit top of armour and split side plating but did not explode. Caused severe fire in F.A.A. C.P.O.'s Mess possibly from damaged pom-pom ammunition.
- (7) 1000 pound near miss starboard side aft nine splinter holes below water (corrupt group) after part and electric steering.

Second dive bombing attack 10th January.

- (8) 500 pound down after lift completing destruction of lift structure. Caused failure steam steering. Exploded six feet above hangar deck. Fires aft and many casualties on quarter deck where wounded being attended. Ship steered to Malta on engine.

Third attack 16th January several near misses.

Fourth attack 16th January

- (9) 1000 pounds through flight deck aft exploded in my day cabin 13 feet below consequently wrecked everything upper G.D., blew Q.D. in and 50 splinter holes in side above water. After capstan written off. All supports on Q.D. to deck above broken.

Fifth/.....

Fifth attack several near misses.

Sixth attack 19th January.

(1C) 1000 pound near miss 75 station port lifting whole ship caused immediate list 5° port. Damage already reported by A.S. Alexandria. Cracked port turbine feet and auxiliary machinery. Damaged oil pip suction line. Ship arrived Alexandria only 40 tons left in consequence. Message ends.

1751/11

✓ as recd. - might be "fire"

Advance copy sent Duty Captain

1st Lord
 1st S.L.
 2nd S.L.
 3rd S.L. (6)
 4th S.L.
 5th S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (H)
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 A.C.N.S. (T)
 C.S.O. to 1st S.L.
 D. of P. (2)
 D.O.D. (F)
 D.D.O.D. (F)
 D.O.D. (H)
 D.N.I. (4)
 D.S.D.
 D.N.A.D.
 D. of L.D.
 D.A./S.W.
 D.M.S.
 I.P.
 W.D.
 Duty Captain
 Head of M.
 D.T.S.D.
 D.D.I.C.
 E.P.S.
 D.T.D.
 Hd. of S.W.R. (Bath)

MOST SECRET.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)Enemy
Ships
at
Para.

German and Italian merchant vessels at Para have raised steam.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo 2005Z/11). Ships present are German NORDERNEY, Italian MONBALDO. (D.S.526).

East Indies.Operation
"Composition".

My 0402/6. Operation ^{"Composition"}~~COMPOSITION~~ planned to take place night of 12/13th takes place probably just before dawn 13/2.
(C.in C. E.I. 0430Z/11 to Admty).

Operation
"Canvas".

Amending his 1300/7.
(C.in C. E.I. 0432Z/11) See Operations Volume.

YAMA
HUZI
MARU.

My 0608/10. Copy of manifest now obtained. Being forwarded.
(C.in C. E.I. 0516/Z/11 to Admty).

W.S.5.B.

My 1121/7. One day ahead of time. E.T.A. Aden and Suez.
(C.in C. E.I. 0702Z/11).
My 1141/6. R/V for Capetown and Durban portion and HAWKINS.
(C.in C. E.I. 0756/11).

Convoy
B.S.F.1½.

1300 G.M.T. 11/2. VACPORT Ballast, Abadan. EGRA Prisoners of war, Bombay.
(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1603/11 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. (Contd.)ADRIA
ERMINIA E. MAZZELA
SAVOIA
MANON.Capture by HAWKINS.
(C.in C. E.I. 1740Z/11, 1804/11, 0226Z/12).
See Italian Merchant Ships.GLASGOW.C.in C. Med., 0951/11. Hope I may keep
GLASGOW. Increasingly difficult to meet
demands for Ocean Escorts and give
reasonable protection to shipping. Offensive
operations such as "Canvas" can only be
undertaken hurriedly between or at the expense
of other commitments. No margin if break-
down or casualties occur.
(C.in C. E.I. 1832Z/11 to Admtty).China.Villiers
Net
Defence.Your 0423Z/10. Tried in 1939 and 1940.
Decided not to continue (reason)
(D. A/S W. 1337/11 to N.O.I.C. Hong Kong).U.S.
Co-operation.Your 0441/8. Signal publications
prepared for possible co-operation with
U.S. and intentions with regard to the
Dutch. Proposed conference at Manila.
(Head of M., 1909/11 to N.A. Washington).America and West Indies.DALEMOOR
BORGFRED.N.C.S.O. Halifax, 0944/11. See Casualties
and Defects.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. (Contd.)DIOMEDE.

Leave patrol so as to arrive Valparaiso 14/2. Leave Valparaiso 15/2 and resume patrol off Talcahuano. Request N.A. Santiago De Chile give verbal notification to Chilean authorities. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1002/11 to DIOMEDE).

B.H.X.109.

Bermuda departure, Ocean escort PRINCE DAVID, returning Bermuda (route) (date). (C.in C. A.W.I. 1203/11 to Admty).

NEW NORTHLAND, C.in C. S.A. 1315N/8 and C.in C. A.W.I. 1722
HIGHLAND BRIGADE./9. Plans for embarkation of French volunteers for Freetown. (D.C.D.(F) 1545/11 to C.in C. A.W.I. and S.A.) See Operations Volume. *Page 79.*

Australia.AQUITANIA.

My 0200Z/11. Request advice whether work on AQUITANIA can be taken in hand. Anticipate she would arrive Singapore (date). (A.C.N.B. 0230Z/11 to C.in C. China). Your 0230/11. Ship can be docked and a certain amount of (?boiler) attention given. (C.in C. China, 0901Z/11 to A.C.N.B. Melbourne).

QUEEN MARY.

Most important that arrival of QUEEN MARY with reinforcements for Malaya shall not be delayed. (D.O.D.(F) 1332/11 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.PATAGONIA.

Reported in Emden at beginning of January. Was believed to have been mined in Baltic but owing to cargo of timber remained afloat and reached harbour. (C.2.) May have been the ship attacked by a Beaufort off Terschelling at 0800/27/11/40 and which was thought to have sunk. (D.S.526).

NORDERNEY.

At Para, has raised steam.
(S.C.(I) Montevideo 2005Z/11. D.S.526).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.CLIZIA.

(Tanker) Sailed from Gijon 9/2, destination unknown.

(V.A.N.P. 1248/11 to Western Patrol).
(F.C.(S) 1232/11 to TALISMAN, TIGRIS).
(F.O.C.N.A. 1741/11 to N.A. Station).
CLIZIA arrived from Vigo 10/2 with about 3000 tons of petroleum on board.
(Consul, Bilbao, 1256/11 to D.N.I.)
My 1232. Ship has arrived Bilbao.
(F.O.(S) 1916/11 to TALISMAN, TIGRIS amended 0227/12).GIOVANNI
BOTIGLIERI.

^

Susak sailing 11/2, to Pola with cargo timber,
(Susak, 1930/11).Capture
of
ADRIA,
ERMINIA,
MAZZELA,
SAVOIA.

? HAWKINS

? See 9-6-40
p. 156

HAWKINS captured ADRIA in position 001° 02'S., 043° 46'E., a.m. today, Tuesday.

ADRIA later intercepted ERMINIA MAZZELA. Both proceeding in company to Mombasa. (C.in C. E.I. 1740Z/11 to Admt. (Note: ADRIA, 3809 tons, at Kismayu since July, 1940, ERMINIA MAZZELA, 5644 tons, left Liverpool for Colombo 5/6/40 refuging at Kismayu since July.) My 1740/11. SAVOIA and MANON also captured. (C.in C. E.I. 1804/11). SAVOIA, 5490 tons, left Genoa for Colombo 6/6/40, refuging at Kismayu since July. (D.S.526). My 1804/11. Cancel reference to MANON. Ship was reported in error.) (C.in C. E.I.0226Z/12).

but see 1926/12. p. 404.

Schooners
MONBALDO.

For auxiliary schooners captured off Libya. See Mediterranean, 9/2/41. [At Para, has raised steam. (S.O.(+) Montevideo, 2005Z/11 D.S.526).

MOST SECRET.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.WAR DIARY.ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS. (Contd.)CONTE
GRANDE.

S.O.(I) Montevideo 1436/10. Intercepted letter 13/12 from Italian Line, New York, to Head Office Genoa. Standard Oil Co. refused supply of 1,000 tons fuel to CONTE GRANDE but under pressure instructed Caloric Co., Santos, supply 300 tons monthly required for auxiliary machinery. Italian Line continued to press for 1,000 tons at once, purpose suspected.
(S.O.(I) Freetown 1859/11 to Admty).

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.MENDOZA.

Your 1850/4 and S.of S's No.78 to O.A.G. Sierra Leona. Prize proceedings against MENDOZA and cargo now instituted. Request early instructions if ship to be requisitioned.
(C.in C. S.A. 1911N/11 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships
Attacked.JAMAICA
PRODUCER.0140.

The following has been read.
59.25 N., 07 W. attacked by submarine,
being chased.
(Lyness W/T 0040/11).
Detach one destroyer to attack enemy
submarine in position, reliably fixed
059° 25' N., 009° 07' W at 0140/11.
(C.in C. W.A. 0239/11 to BURNHAM).
Am proceeding to search for U/Boat
chasing JAMAICA PRODUCER in position
059° 25' 009° 07' request Sunderland and
JACKAL conform.
(Capt: D.5. 0309/11 to JACKAL, C.in C.
Rosyth).
Your 0239. Am in position given. Nothing
sighted yet.
(BURNHAM, 0503/11 to C.in C. W.A.)
Your 0239/11. Propose searching area until
1600 then proceeding to R/V H.X.106.
(BURNHAM, 1017/11 to C.in C. W.A.)
My 1936/11. JAMAICA PRODUCER reports attack
by enemy S/M between 0040/11 and 0140/11 in
059° 25' N., 009° 07' W. Ship undamaged.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 2227/11 to Admtly).

Submarines
Reported.2218/10.

C.in C. H.F. 2218/10. (Sighting of submarine
by NELSON). One Sunderland due submarine
position 0900/11 ordered to make contact
and obtain co-operation instructions.
If not met aircraft will carry out square
search visibility distance 5 miles.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0100/11 to Capt: D.5.)
My 0100/11/2. Orders for Sunderland
altered in accordance with your 0309/11.
(C.in C. Rosyth 0456/11 to D.5.)
Request Air co-operation for D.5. may be
continued during tonight.
(C.in C. H.F. 1559/11 to C.in C. Rosyth).
Your 2325/10, have searched vicinity of this
position since 1330 but have not made
contact with Capt: D.5. Intend proceeding
to Skale Fiord at dark to fuel as only
33% now remaining.
(JACKAL, 1700/11 to R.A.D.H.F.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Your 1559/11. Regret owing to weather conditions not considered practicable to continue aircraft co-operation tonight. (C.in C. Rosyth 1834/11 to C.in C. H.F.) One Sunderland A/C will co-operate with D.5. tomorrow 12/2 from 1000 approx. (C.in C. Rosyth 2140/11 to C.in C. H.F.) My 2140/11. A/C will R/V with Capt: D.5. at dawn. (C.in C. Rosyth 2318/11 to C.in C. H.F.)

0120.

Admiralty Message A/F.
59° 25'N., 9° 7'W. at 0120/11. G.M.T.
(D.D.I.C. 0326/11 to G.B.M.S. Area 1).

0336.

By D/F at 0336/11 position of U/Boat was
52° - 53° N. 20° - 23° W. Unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 0425/11).

1237.

D/F at 1237 B.S.T. position of enemy
unit probably U/B approximately 56° N.,
18° 30'W. Unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 1341/11 to BIRMINGHAM, C.in C. W.A.
1407/11).

~~etc~~
~~submarine~~
~~report~~

1437.

About 54° N., 14° - 16° W. indefinite
position.
(D.S.526).

1757.

About 57° N., 24° W. indefinite position.
(D.S.526).

2136.

About 37° N., 20° W. indefinite position.
(D.S.526).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.11.2.1941.
Tuesday.U/BOAT CAMPAIGN.A/S
Sweep.

My 0130 not to OTTAWA. Have not made definite contact. Gyro Compass defective D/G Wire out, deviation very uncertain. Intend proceed East of position approx. 316 G.J.B.M. 26 759 4 - 515 366 - 200 7.
(BROADWATER 1130/11 to C.in C. W.A.)
Destroyer escort continue to prudent limits of endurance then proceed as follows (ii) NAPIER, NIZAM, to Scapa passing North of Rockall. (iii) KEPPEL, COTTESMORE, ATHERSTONE to Londonderry (iv) OTTAWA, ST. LAURENT, RESTIGOUCHE, SKEENA, through area 52° to 53° N., 20° to 23° W. thence to Greenock through position 53° N., 15° W. (v) LEGION, BROADWATER, ~~22~~ GARLAND, PIORUN through position 57° N., 19° W. thence to Greenock passing north of Rockall (vi) Each group carry A/S sweep through most probable U/Boat positions (vii) Each group report p.c. and s when well clear of convoy. (C.in C. W.A. 1207/11 to BIRMINGHAM).

Estimated
U/Boat
Dispositions.GERMAN.

1 40 miles of 60° 57'N., 12° 37' W.
1 30 miles of 59° 25'N., 9° 07'W.
1 in 54° 21'N., 15° 50'W. 1447/10.
1 40 miles of 56° 20'N., 19° W.
1 52° N., 53° N., 21° W., - 23° W.
1 possibly North of 58° N., 18° W. - 23° W.
1 possibly 51° N., 53° N., West of 30° W.
1 about 37° 18° W.

ITALIAN OR GERMAN.

1 in 56° 30'N., 14° 38'W. at 1647/10.
possibly ineffective.

ITALIAN.

1 or 2 in N.W.Approaches.
(D.D.I.C. 1255/11).

1. The arrangement of the War Diary is as follows:-

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| HOME COMMANDS | - Policy |
| (Classification | - Defence of United Kingdom |
| by subjects) | - Movements |
| | - Operations |
| | - Allied Air Activity |
| | - Enemy Air Activity |
| | - Mining |
| | - Enemy Intelligence |
| | - U-Boats |
| | - Navigational |
| | - Technical |
| | - Casualties and Defects |
| | - Shipping and Convoys |
| FOREIGN STATIONS | - North Atlantic |
| (Classification | - South Atlantic |
| by stations) | - Mediterranean |
| | - East Indies |
| | - America and West Indies |
| | - Australia and New Zealand |
| | - U-Boat Campaign |

Additional subject headings are sometimes employed temporarily, e.g. when an important operation is in progress.

2. The following volumes should be used to supplement the War Diary: the dates given in brackets are those on which the series held by War Diary commences:-

- (a) Movements of H.M. Ships (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (23 February 1940).
- (b) Western Approaches (daily) Situation Reports (1 September 1943).
- (c) Dispositions and Movements (Foreign Stations) (1 September 1943).
- (d) Convoy Returns (Positions of convoys and composition of escorts, positions of independent ships and H.M. ships: from Combined Plot) (1 March 1941).
- (e) Daily Convoy Summary (Report made by Admiralty to Connav, giving arrivals and departures, with composition of convoy) (21 June 1943).
- (f) Air Staff Operational Summary (prepared by Air Ministry War Room) (1 July 1941, No.222)
- (g) Daily Operations Report for First Lord (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (13 September 1939).
- (h) List of abbreviations.
- (i) List of Convoy letters.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.British Air Activity.

Bomber Command aircraft attacked the Focke Wulf Aircraft Factory and other targets at Bremen last night. The petroleum harbour at Rotterdam and docks at Wilhelmshaven were other naval targets attacked. Out of a total of 109 aircraft despatched 22 crashed in U.K., on return in fog, though only 5 personnel were killed and 2 injured. 5 Coastal Command aircraft are missing from operations last night and today. One Hudson bombed the seaplane base at Thisted (Denmark) last night. Patrols today were curtailed by bad weather and all operations for tonight were cancelled.

Enemy Air Activity.

A/P Drifter EAGER reports that she destroyed a Ju.88 which attacked her in the Thames Estuary this afternoon. EAGER was slightly damaged by machine gun and cannon fire. BANGOR (9th M/S.F.) was unsuccessfully bombed today off the Moray Firth and trawler STRATHLYON 10 to 12 miles S.E. by S. from Bard Head, Bressay. The wreck of the BARON MINTO (aground and abandoned 30/10/40) was bombed and machine gunned at Rattray Head.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.Mining.

Two Beauforts last night laid mines in Hubert Gat.

Operation
Z.M.E.16.

PLOVER laid mines last night off the Bristol Channel.

Enemy
minelaying.

An acoustic mine was detonated off Yarmouth harbour entrance this morning and the port was closed to vessels with I.C. engines. Sweeping at the Humber was delayed by fog and the port remained closed. Six mines were exploded.

Operation B.S.51 was consequently postponed, owing to the inability of R.A.M.L. to sail. Mines were destroyed off Iceland and the area to North and East of a line from Sulisker Rock to Vestrahorn is dangerous. Mines were detonated in the Thames Estuary.

North Atlantic.Attack on
Convoy
S.L.S.64.

A German raider today attacked Convoy S.L.S.64 in 37° 12' N. 21° 20' W. (about 200 miles east of the Azores). At 1035 G.M.T. S.S. POTARO reported that the convoy was being shelled and "several ships" had been sunk or were sinking. At 1227 G.M.T. Funchal W/T intercepted a wireless message from S.S. MARGOT reporting that the convoy was being shelled. A German communique states that "warships" carried out the attack and that 13 ships were sunk. There were 19 ships in the Convoy.

/ Force H at ...

MOST SECRET.War Diary.

12.2.1941.

Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.North Atlantic. (Contd.)Attack on
Convoy
S.L.S.64.
(Contd.)

Force H at Gibraltar was ordered to raise steam; SHEFFIELD and some destroyers are to rescue Convoy S.L.S.64 and then to cover H.G.53 which is near S.L.S.64, and RENOWN and ARK ROYAL to R.V. with Convoy W.S.6 from the U.K. which is to be joined by RODNEY as soon as possible until relieved by S.O. Force H. FAULKNER and FORESTER are to come up to Gibraltar from Freetown. Four O.B.V.'s were ordered to search for survivors of Convoy S.L.S. 64. DEPTFORD (escorting Convoy H.G.53) was ordered to steer to the north eastward until dark, unless he considered any other course desirable.

KENYA on the way home to U.K. after escorting Force Z to Freetown yesterday morning, is to join BULOLO and escort Convoy S.L.65 to U.K., both portions of this convoy being joined up with one.

O.B.V.'s

s CORINTHIAN, CAVINA, CAMITO and MARON on Western Patrol were ordered to proceed towards the Azores. TUNA on patrol off Ponta Delgada is to proceed to Gibraltar, and will probably be employed to escort a convoy to U.K.

Approx. positions at 1200/13 of convoys in or near the area are:-

H.G. 53	39° 30' N.	20° 30' W.	
S.L. 64	43° 30' N.	23° 00' W.	(Escort ARAWA)
O.G. 52	48° 20' N.	22° 0' W.	

It is now reported that a third ship, BRANDENBURG was sunk when Convoy H.G.53 was attacked on the morning of ~~12/2~~ 10/2.

War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Air
Operations.

R.A.F. last night again bombed the aerodromes at Rhodes. These repeated attacks are intended to prevent the German dive bombers from establishing themselves.

Comiso and Catania were also successfully attacked. An attack was made on Malta, but all bombs fell in the sea.

Ships began to pass through the Suez Canal today in both directions, though with some delay, the largest ship being one of 15000 tons.

Mersa Tobruk and the Gulf of Sollum are open though not yet safe.

East Indies.Capture of
enemy ships
off Kismayu.

It is now reported that two further Italian ships MANON and LEONARDO DA VINCI have been captured off Kismayu. The German UCKERMARK was intercepted and attempted to scuttle herself; (sank 14/2) and 37 prisoners from the ship are being sent to Mombasa with LEONARDO DA VINCI.

At 0645Z today 4 ships were steering north from the coast, and end ^{carrier} carrier is being made to round them up. 4 ships are reported to be still in Kismayu. CERES's maximum speed is reduced to 22 knots by boiler defect.

China.

Owing to the deterioration of the situation with Japan C.in C. China has taken certain steps to safeguard shipping.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.American
ammunition.

E.T.A. Humber 1740.
Have on board full outfit of Q.F. ammunition
18 American depth charges 6 American torpedoes.
Is it intended .5 A.A. ammunition be retained
(corrupt group) for emergency use during refit?
(NEWMARKET 1125/12 to N.O.I.C. Humber).

*See also next page -*Warning re
use of gas
by enemy.

In view of indications that enemy may employ
gas (vide my 1829/24/1) all A/G organisations,
training, and preparations should be maintained
at a high state of efficiency.
Experts will be employed in visiting H.M. Ships
and outlying Naval Shore Estabs. to assist and
advise on A/G training and organisation.
(Head of C.W. 2035/12).

Defence of U.K."Deluge".
~~DELUGE.~~

At 1130/12. (D.C. 1146/12) At 2330/12
(D.C. 0003/13).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.ST. APOLLO.
O.B. 185.(A/S) Trawler) 0500 sailed to R/V 000⁰
8 miles from Altacarry at 1020/12.
0815/12.SNAPPER.SNAPPER not yet arrived rendezvous.
Surface visibility four miles.
(LA CAPRICIEUSE 1015/12).
Your 1015/12. If SNAPPER not already in
company be at rendezvous at 0815 to-morrow.
(S.2. 1833/12 to LA CAPRICIEUSE).
Your 1015. Remain at R/V until ordered to
contrary by Capt. S.2.
(C.in C. W.A. 2115/12 to LA CAPRICIEUSE).L.26.Subject to replacement of gun being
satisfactorily completed L 26 is to sail
from Rosyth 0800/13 for Dundee and proceed
unescorted on surface (except in emergency)
to arrive Buddon Ness at 1600/13. Route.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1145/12).O. 23.Passed Bell Rock 1830/12 routed for patrol about
15 miles West of Kors Fiord.
(S.9. 1401/12 to S/M's Area A).Northern
Patrol.Trawler line tonight. 4 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1539/12).WRESTLER.Your 1657/11.
WRESTLER should be sailed to Plymouth when
ready. After fuelling there she should be
sailed as soon as convenient to Gibraltar.
(D.O.D.H. 1624/12).6th M/S.F.Adty. 2003/10. Para. 3. (To sail for) Scapa.
(C.in C. H.F. 1640/12).NEWMARKET.Remain at Humber L.V. until further orders.
(N.O.I.C. Humber 1705/12 to NEWMARKET)
Am vicinity Humber Light Vessel. Have only
25 tons fuel remaining.
(NEWMARKET 1830/12 to N.O.I.C. Humber).
Your 1830. Hope to open Humber noon /13.
Fighter cover has been requested for you.
Give what protection you can to ships
anchored at Humber L.V. (N.O.I.C. Humber
2236/12 to NEWMARKET).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. (Contd.)S/M's.

Positions at 0800/13 and movements for following 24 hours.
(F.O.S. 1902/12 and 2038/12).

C.S.2.

C.S.2 Force is approaching Scapa from westward now. (A.C.O.S. 1935/12 to RODNEY).

URGE
MINERVE
STURGEON
O.23.

Movements. Submarines are not to be attacked unless their hostile identity is established. (F.O.S. 2101/12 to S/M's Area A).

Operations.Ramsgate shelled.

Between 1230 and 1245 today explosions occurred in Ramsgate assumed to be shells and salvos as follows. 1230 one in Whitehall Road, 1239 one in harbour, 1245 one in Wilfred Road. No whistling sound or other warning and approximately 5 or 6 seconds after the 1239 salvo a dull distant boom was heard from seaward. 5 houses damaged but no casualties. R.A.F. H.S.L 101 and 120 received superficial damage and various fragments of shell have been picked up including large pieces of side and base. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1603/12).

/ E-Boats in

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. (Contd.)E-Boats in
Western
Channel.

Indications of E Boats operating in the Channel tonight. All available M.G.B's from Fowey are to proceed as soon as possible and patrol between 50°N. 40'W. and 49° 45' N. 05° 15' W. All available M.L's from Dartmouth are to proceed as soon as possible to patrol between 50° 10' N. 30' W. and 50° N. 03° 45' W. (C.in C. W.A. 2227/12).

S/M Patrols
Area A.

Object of submarines on patrol is now that given in F.S.B. One.
(F.O.S. 2242/12 to S/M's Area A).

British Air Activity.Patrols.

My 2314/11 which refers to my 1931/10. First sortie of patrol ~~FLIGHT~~ by one Sunderland and one Whitley cancelled owing to weather. (C.in C. Rosyth 0306/12).

Your 1936/8 and my 2031/11. ^{"Larch"} ~~LARCH~~ Patrol as set out in my 0149/9 will leave 0830 if the weather suitable.
(F.O.I.C. Iceland 0448/12).

Patrol ^{"Larch"} ~~ENST~~ and Trondheim reconnaissance now in operation. (C.in C. Rosyth 0900/12).

Your 1936/8 and my 0448/12. G.O.C. informs me patrol will not be flown today owing to bad weather. (F.O. Iceland 0913/12).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.

12.2.1941.

Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (Contd.)Patrols cont:
0.562.

Your 51267 (M.O.8) 12/2.
Patrol not sent out today owing to heavy
thaw having rendered aerodrome
unservicable. (C.C. F.O.I.C. Iceland
0945/12 to War Office).

51336 Cipher M.O. 8. 12/2.
Re 50820 (M.O. 8) 8/2.
Coastal Command require no further
patrols after today.
(War Office 1620/12 to G.O.C. Iceland).

Your 1936/8. Assumed no further A/C
patrols are being made at present.
(F.O. Iceland 2146/12 to Adty.).

A/C to R/V
with
Capt. D.5.

My 2318/11. A/C cannot take off before
0900. (C.in C. Rosyth 0624/12 to D.5).

A/C fired
on by vessel
on 10/1.

FO 6 X 914 12/2.
Without prejudice to current or subsequent
action request you submit any information
available concerning Wellington one CT
2460 149 Squadron which was fired at by
surface vessel over Thames Estuary at
0130/10/1. (Air Ministry 1733/12 to
H.Q.B.C.).

Belfast and
Liverpool
Night
Artillery
Zones.

X.888. Night Artillery Zones at Belfast
and Liverpool as laid down in Air Min. Sig-
nal X.63 21/11 and para. 4 of Appendix F
to S.D.158(2) respectively are to remain in
force until new regulations for opening of
fire come into force at 1200 hours B.S.T./
15. (Air Ministry FO.6. 1814/12).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.

12.2.1941.

Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

→ EAMONT
ARNOLD BENNETT
CANTICK HEAD
JOHN DUN~~KAN~~
 attacked 11/2.

Following Air Attacks have been reported
 (1) Fleetwood Trawler EAMONT bombed 3 miles off Dunbeath (58° 15' N. 03° 26' W.) at 2000/11 three bombs dropped two exploded alongside one unexploded in wheelhouse. Vessel now anchored crew of ten landed at Helmsdale by patrol craft HARMONY.

(2) A/P trawler ARNOLD BENNETT machine gunned 10 miles north of Lossiemouth at 2015/11.

(3) S.S. CANTICK HEAD bound Kirkwall to Leith in ballast machine gunned 30 miles NW of Kinnaird Head at 2030/11 master wounded no other casualties. Vessel now at Fraserburgh two bombs dropped by same aircraft about 2 miles from ship apparently aimed at 2 trawlers. ^{K1}

(4) Trawler JOHN DUN~~KAN~~ bombed 13 miles N. by E. of Buckie at 2100/11 now a derelict may have sunk. Trawler WHITE-EAR started to tow having picked up 8 of crew (ong? engineer missing) but slipped tow on being machine gunned and entered Buckie with casualties. (C.in C. Rosyth 0525/12).

→ EAMONT.

Patrol Vessel HARMONY reports landed ten survivors of EAMONT at Helmsdale at 2000. 2 miles off Dunbeath German Bomber dropped three bombs on trawler, one direct on wheelhouse still unexploded in wheelhouse, two exploded alongside. Trawler anchored, 24 fathoms. Fishing craft in Lybster told not to go near her.

(F.O.I.C. Invergordon 2237/12).

BARON RENFREW
(bombed 28/1).

Not yet commenced pumping. Attempted yesterday but was forced to leave. BARON RENFREW listed on and (damaged) TENACITY. Not much hope for today. ^{*BARON} Dangerous to be alongside RENFREW. (TENACITY 0711/12).

TENACITY to return Greenock. SCHELDE to stand by and attempt to pump out BARON RENFREW when weather moderates.

(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1142/12).

My 1142/12. If you arrive off Campbeltown after 0900 tomorrow proceed into Campbeltown. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1450/12 to TENACITY).

War Diary.

12.2.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.).

BANGOR.

(9th M/S Flotilla). Have been bombed.
No damage. W/T out of action.
My position 058° 10' N. 002° 40' W.
(BANGOR 1105/12).

STRATHLYON.

N.O.I.C. Lerwick reports:-
Trawler STRATHLYON whilst fishing 10 to
12 miles S.E. by S. from Bard Head
Bressay was attacked at 1100 today by an
aircraft thought to be a Heinkel which
attacked from ahead raked it fore and aft
with machine gun fire and dropped two
bombs which fell a ships length astern.
Coming round again the enemy A/C again
machine gunned the vessel and made off.
No hits or casualties on either occasion.
Ends. (A.C.O.S. 1725/12).

BARON MINTO.

Enemy A/C bombing and machine gunning the
wreck of BARON MINTO at Rattray Head at
1845. (C.in C. Rosyth 2019/12).

IOANNIS
M. EMBIRICOS
(Bombed 5/2).

Arrived PICOTEE with 4 survivors from
IOANNIS M. EMBIRICOS.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 2108/12).

EAGER.
(A/P Drifter)
destroyers a/c.

M04468 (41)
M02779 (41)

N.O.I.C. Brightlingsea reports 1937/12
that EAGER reports having destroyed
J.U.88 near B.7 buoy. at 1430. No
survivors, vessel slightly damaged by
bullets and cannon. One soldier
wounded landed Clacton Hospital.
(C.in C. Nore 2243/12).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Z.M.E.16.Operation completed.
(PLOVER 0320/12).Rosyth Command
Mines and
Floats dealt
with.Following mines and anti-sweeping explosive floats have been washed ashore or dealt with at sea in this Command from 4/2 to 11/2 inclusive.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1049/12).Milford
Haven.F.O.I.C. Milford Haven's 1231/10.
My 1937/24 is still in force.
(C.in C. W.A. 1137/12).Yarmouth.At 1010/12 one Acoustic Mine detonated 400 yards N.E. of Harbour Entrance.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1147/12).
Until further orders the Port of Yarmouth is closed to vessels with internal combustion engines.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1149/12).Humber.Sweeping delayed by fog.
Anticipate Humber will be open to navigation at 1200/13. (F.O. Humber 1214/12).Campbeltown.My 2344/9. Port will be opened at 0900/13.
(N.O.I.C. Campbeltown 1224/12).B.S.51.Sailing is postponed till tomorrow on account of Humber being closed to navigation. All times in my 1135/10 to be 48 hours later accordingly.
(S.O. M/L. Immingham 1325/12).Iceland.

My 1859/8. One 827 Mark XX mine rendered safe at Engjanes 066° 08' N. 021° 45' W. (GYIT) NORTHERN ISLES sunk British mine A.M./9 in 063° 24' N. 015° 12' W. Another sunk P.M. yesterday by local naval craft in 066° 12' N. 018° 50' W. (F.O.I.C. Iceland 1430/12).

/ Area to North

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Iceland contd.

Area to North and east of line from Sulisker Rock to Vestrahorn (Iceland) is dangerous.
(C.in C. W.A. 1609/12 to ARROW for H.X.107).

Humber
Protection
against
Minelaying.

Your 2353/10.
Director of Local Defence is being sent to obtain your views so that all possible improvements in existing arrangements can be made.
He will arrive Immingham by road A.M. tomorrow, Wednesday. (A.C.N.S. H. 1520/11 to F.O.I.C. Humber).

Thames
Estuary.

At 1137/12/2, one Mine detonated by S.A. Gear in 186° Yantlet North Buoy 1/2 Cable. (Capt M/S. Sheerness 1540/12).
One red mine detonated by L L Sweepers at 1520/12, 039° No. 2 Sea Reach Buoy 3.7 cables. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1750/12).

Operation
Z.M.E.17.

Particulars. To be carried out on Night 14/2 or soon after. (A.C.N.S. H. 1628/12 to C.in C. W.A., PLOVER) See Operations Volume.

11th M/S.F.

My 1847/23/1/41. 11th M.S.F. is to be sailed as ordered therein as soon as possible, further operations being abandoned. (V.C.N.S. 1650/12).

Spurn
Point.

The following six mines exploded today. Details. (F.O. Humber 1755/12).

Littlehampton.

Admiralty Letter T.O. 6375/40 of 2/12/40. Observation minefield at Littlehampton is laid and ready to operate. (C.in C. Portsmouth 1757/12).

5th M/S.F.

Arrived. (N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1815/12).

F.D.30.
(Operation by
CACHALOT)

CACHALOT is to proceed now to carry out Lay given in my 1241/11 para B.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)F.D.30.
(Operation
by CACHALOT)
(Contd.).Number of operation to be F.D.30.
(F.O.S. 1934/12).
Proceed now and carry out lay in position
close south west of Flatoy (67 deg. 55'
North, 14 deg. 46' East).
(S.2. 2221/12 to CACHALOT).Enemy Intelligence.Speed boat.Following reports received during night
11/12.2155 military on Wellington Pier
Yarmouth, speed boat moving Southwards.
2156 Coast guards at Caistor, motor engines
heard N.E. of station.
2233 Coast guards Caistor report motor boat
engines last heard at 2230 East of station.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1147/12).Indication of possible E Boat bearing 295°
from 5 Buoy at 2240.
(C.in C. Nore 2251/12).E.Boat.At 0415/11 and 0720/12 a fast Motor Boat
reported by Inshore Patrol Craft 4 miles
S.S.W. of Hengistbury Head. (D.S. 527).Technical.Fitting of
R D/F to
destroyers.

D.S.D. 1545/12 see Operations Volume.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Coastal Convoys. (Contd.)

- E.N.71. Programme, numbers, codes. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1027/12).
- F.S.B.408 Position, thick fog. (SOUTHDOWN, 1240/12)
Proceeded. (SOUTHDOWN, 1445/12)
Directions (C.in C. Nore, 1850/12 to SOUTHDOWN) (C.in C. Nore 2058/12 to GARTH, SOUTHDOWN, etc.)
- F.N.6.406 1115/12, 13 ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1319/12) List (1508/12).
- E.N.69. All four ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1410/12).
- F.S.10.410 Sailed. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1545/12) List (1552/12) List and destinations (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1613/12). Escort. (C.in C. Rosyth, 2303/12).
- F.N.7.407 List. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1626/12).
- C.E.24. Escort vessels, and number. (C.in C. Portsmouth, 1743/12 amended 2132/12).
- F.N.5.405 Position (VERDUN, 1802/12).
- W.N.U.83. Sailed unescorted, 1 ship (N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1841/12, 1845/12).
- O.B.U.285. Sailed unescorted, 26 ships. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1843/12).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.Military Convoys.

W.S.6.

A Capital ship is required to proceed immediately to escort convoy W.S.6 which will probably be turned temporarily to Northward.

Force H will subsequently take over escort. (1st S.L. 1402/12 to C.in C. H.F.).

Convoy to be turned as follows. Route till 0900/16, when RODNEY to be relieved by Force H. Route thereafter. (1st S.L. 1909/12).

See Operations Volume.

Coastal Convoys.E.N.71)
W.N.84.)

GLEANER additional A/A escort. (C.in C. Rosyth 0902/12).

O.B.O.285.
O.B.C.285.

Sailed, escort DANEMAN, 1 ship. (N.C.S.O. Oban 0905/12). List and destinations (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1200/12).

W.N.84.

List. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 0951/12). Sailed (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1515/12). May cross H.G.52(0) (C.in C. W.A., 1825/12).

F.N.4.404

Arrived (N.C.S.O. Methil 0954/12) Tyne ships arrived (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1014/12) Escort arrived (C.in C. Rosyth, 2303/12).

F.S.9.409

33 ships. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0958/12).

F.S.7.407

Wash ships arrived. (N.C.S.O. Humber, 1001/12).

/ E.N. 71.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.Ocean Convoys.

O.G.53. VULCAN to join. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1034/12).

H.X.106. Not met. (MALCOLM, 1246/12, BURNHAM, 1410/12) Destinations (D.T.D., 1507/12, 1509/12) SALADIN and SKATE detached from search. (MALCOLM, 1557/12) SALADIN and SKATE to rejoin H.X.106. (C.in C. W.A., 2219/12).

H.X.104. 50 hours late at R.V. Heavy weather. (D.T.D., 1636/12).

B.H.X.104. 24 hours late at R.V. Heavy weather. (D.T.D. 1637/12).

H.X.105. On time at R.V. (D.T.D. 1638/12).

S.C.21. Altered destinations. (D.T.D., 1640/12).

H.G.52(0) May cross W.N.84 (C.in C. W.A. 1825/12).

H.G.54. Destinations (D.T.D., 1857/12).

H.G.51. Lisbon requests information whether Swedish Ships GARM, NORITA, and TABERG, Ex H.G.51, have arrived U.K. safely. This in order to combat German propoganda which is unsettling Scandinavian crews. Routine reports of H.G. arrivals would be appreciated. (F.O.C.N.A. 1704/12 to Admty.).

H.G. bunkers. My 2014/10. Min. of Shipping agree that if this results in slight submersion of winter load line of any ships no objection need be taken. (D.T.D. 2050/12 to F.O.C.N.A.).

MOST SECRET.12. 2. 41.
Wednesday.War Diary.CASUALTIES & DEFECTS.EDINA.

(British, 489 Tons). My 2005/11.
Returned Aberdeen owing to engine
trouble. (N.C.S.O. Aberdeen 0654/12.)

STANFORTH.
(Grounded 11/2.)

Your 1327/11. STANFORTH in 051° 44'
N, 001° 24' E. proceeding to Southend.
No serious damage. (VALOROUS 0745/12,
to C. in C. Nore.)

BOREAS.

Take BOREAS in tow. BANDIT will meet
you off Cantick Head. (F.O.C.D.F.H.F.
1232/12, to KIPLING.)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.Convoy attacked by Raider.

M/V.
Nov: ~~S.S.~~ BORGESTAD
3924 G.T.

Convoy S.L.S. 64, consisting of 19 ships (12 British, 3 Norwegian, 4 Greek) was attacked at 1135/12 in 37.12 N., 21.20 W. (between Lisbon and the Azores about 200 miles E. of Azores)
For sailing telegram of S.L.S. 64 see N.C.S.O. Freetown 1718/30/1.

Report from
POTARO. ~~Jan 20/12~~

Raider Signal. 1035 G.M.T. 37. 12 N., 21.20 W
Convoy shelled, several ships sunk or sinking (S.S. POTARO via Lyness W/T, T.O.R. 1146/12) (POTARO, British 5410 tons).

Report from
MARGOT

Received by Funchal W/T 1227/12 G.M.T. RRRR 037° 10' N. 021° 20' W. British MARGOT (4545 tons) shelled, also others in convoy. (N.C.S.O. Funchal 1146/12 to S.O. (I) Gibraltar) (D.S.O. T.O.R. 1227Z/12 to Ships in Area B. N. Atlantic and S. Atlantic)

TUNA
orders.

Raider reported attacking convoy in position 037° 12' N. 021° 20' W. at 1035 G.M.T/12. (F.O.C.N.A. 1212/12 to TUNA) (On patrol off Ponta Delgada).
German raider attacking convoy in position 37° 12' N. 21° 20' W. at 1035/12. Close vicinity with despatch. RENOWN and ARK ROYAL at present at Gibraltar will leave shortly to attack.
(F.O.(S) 1221/12 to TUNA) Repeated to C. in C. S.A. and KENYA (F.O.(S) 1341/12) 1221/12 cancelled see 1922/12.

KENYA.

Increase speed.
(D.C. 1235/12 to KENYA) Cancelled see 1740/12.

Force H.

Proceed to assistance of Convoy H.G.53. (V.C.N.S. 1240/12 to S.O. Force H).
Ref. Raider report, Force "H" ready to proceed 1630.
(S.O. Force H. 1245/12 to Admty).

/My.....

War Diary.

12.2.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Convoy attacked by Raider.

→ Force H.
(contd).

My 1245/12. Owing to oiling delay caused by listing RENOWN to examine bulge and changing unsatisfactory oil in ARK ROYAL, amend time of departure to 1730. Your 1240/12. Intend to make contact with H.G. 53 a.m./14 retaining Destroyers only if weather is suitable.
(S.O. Force H., 1656/12 to Admty).
Proceed towards the Azores.
(V.C.N.S. 1247/12).

→ CORINTHIAN.
CAVINA.
CAMITO.
MARON.

Orders to
DEPTFORD.
(H.G. 53).

Ref. Raider Signal T.O.R. 1146 from MOPN. It is believed convoy referred to is S.L.S. 64 in 37° 12'N. 21° 20'W. Force H. is proceeding to your assistance. Steer to N.E. till dark unless you consider any other course preferable.
(V.C.N.S. 1302/12 to DEPTFORD).

TUNA.

S/M position 0800/13 TUNA from Ponta Delgada in approx 037° 15'N. 022° 30'W. proceeding on surface to vicinity of 037° 12'N. 021° 20'W.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1620/12 to N.A. Station).

KENYA.
to escort.
S.L. 65.

Cancel my 1235/12. KENYA is to join BULOLO and escort S.L. 65 to U.K. Both portion of S.L. 65 are to be joined into one convoy.
(D.O.D.(F) (Approved by A.C.N.S.(T)) 1740/12 to C.S.10, C. in C. S.A, KENYA, BULOLO).

→ CAMITO
CORINTHIAN.
CAVINA.
MARON.

My 1247/12. Proceed to position 37° 12'N. 21° 20'W. to search for survivors of S.L.S. 64 attacked by surface raider. Every possible assistance should be given to damaged ships, and condition reported.
(D.O.D.(F), 1801/12 to CAMITO, etc).

→ Force H.
leaves
Gib.

Mo 3379/41

Gibraltar 12/2 1800, departure S.O. Force H in RENOWN, ARK ROYAL, SHEFFIELD, FOXHOUND, FURY, FIREDRAKE, JERSEY, WISHART in accordance with Adty's 1240/12.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1806/12).

/TUNA.....

War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (contd).TUNA
ordered
to Gib.

Cancel my 1221/12. TUNA proceed direct to Gibraltar with despatch. F.O.C.N.A. requested to order route. (F.O.(S) 1922/12 to TUNA).

Situation as
regards convoys.

A. (1) S.L. Slow 64 attacked by Raider in 37° 12'N. 21° 20'W. Some ships sunk, convoy probably dispersed.
(2) Four O.B.Vs (CAMITO etc) have been ordered to search for survivors.
(3) Approx. position of H.G. 53 noon/13, 39° 30'N. 20° 30'W.
(4) S.L. 64 escorted by ARAWA, approx. position noon/13 45° 30'N. 23° 30'W. (Amended see 1358/13).
(5) O.G. 52 approx. position noon/13. 48° 20'N. 22° 00'W.

B. (1) RENOWN and ARK ROYAL are to R.V. with W.S.6. in 50° 30'N. 31° 00'W. at 0900/16.
(2) SHEFFIELD and some destroyers are to be detached to the rescue of S.L.S. 64 and then to cover H.G. 53.
(3) Unless you require MALAYA she should return to Gibraltar.

C. TUNA ordered to Gibraltar.
(D.O.D. (F) 2014/12 to F.O. Force H).

Destroyers.

My 2014/2. Any destroyers you do not require should return to Gibraltar to facilitate the following sailings (A) RESOLUTION (B) ISIS and ENCOUNTER (C) ~~SHEPHERD~~ Force.
(D.O.D. (F) 2015/12 to S.O. Force H).

KENYA.

A.M. 1740/12 KENYA will meet S.L.S. 65 at 2330/12 and escort to join S.L. 65. Combined convoy will follow route of S.L. 65.
(C.S.10 2022N/12 to C. in C. S.A).
A.M. 1740/12. Date when KENYA will have to leave convoy to refuel.
(C.S.10, 2023/12 to Admty).

/S.L.65.....

War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (contd).S,L.65.

Admty. 1740/12. Convoy S.L.S. 65, 15 ships Cmdre. in DEIDO instructed to R.V. with SL 65 in $015^{\circ} 20'N$. $020^{\circ} 33'W$. At 1000 Z (+) one. 14/2. Both convoys will then proceed as one convoy by route for SL 65. S.L. 65 should pass through R.V. on course 349° . SLS 65 should have passed through $010^{\circ} 49'N$, $019^{\circ} 10'W$. at approx 1800 zone (+) one 12/2 course 350° speed of advance 7 knots. BULOLO pass to Cmdre. SL 65. KENYA provides cover for S.L.S. 65 until Junction is made.
(C. in C. S.A. 2043N/12 to KENYA, BULOLO, F.O. 10 C.S).

FAULKNER and FORESTER.

Should be sailed for Gibraltar as soon as available. Two Veas referred to in A.T. 0138/2 para D. should be sailed in time to escort W.S.6. into Freetown.
(D.O.D.(F) 2125/12 to C. in C S.A. F.O.C.N.A)

TUNA.
H.G. 54.

TUNA has been ordered to Gibraltar to fuel and is subsequently to escort H.G. 54. Sailing of convoy may have to be delayed to await TUNA. F.O.C.N.A. to retain operational control of TUNA until she leaves N.A. station.
(D.O.D. (H) 2322/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)
1. F.O.S. 1922/12. Pass through following positions (a) $034^{\circ} 00'N$. $010^{\circ} 00'W$. (b) $035^{\circ} 45'N$. $006^{\circ} 20'W$. Report e.t.a. in position. (b) 24 hours in advance. Adjust speed to pass Straits of Gibraltar during daylight.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2342/12 to TUNA) Informing North Atlantic of route.
(F.O.C.N.A. 2358/12).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.QUEEN OF
BERMUDA.

Suggests THORSHAMMER might proceed to "Ice" to work there and ~~ADMIRAL LATTER~~ bring him at least 500 tons of oil fuel and up to 1000 tons of fresh water. Request instructions. (N.O.I.C. Falklands 0117Z/12 to Admty C in C S.A. R.A.S.A.D).

CLEODORA.

Overdue shipping. Dutch Tanker CLEODORA due Freetown 8/2 from Trinidad departure 26/1 has not arrived. (S.O.I. Freetown 0928/12).

Reserve
Aircraft.

My 1621/7 para 2 (e) add 2 Walrus. (D.N.A.D. 1543/12 to C. in C.'s S.A. E.I. China).

W.S.6.
W.S.6.B.

Your 1355/11/2. Margin for W.S.6B overtaking W.S.6. is small and once W.S.6. is complete with water very undesirable to keep ships at Freetown. Possible that it will be necessary to sail W.S.6. before W.S.6B from Freetown though if everything goes according to plan, including arrival of water, this should not happen. (C. in C. S.A. 1611N/12 to Admty).

KENYA.

C. in C. S.A.'s 2021N/10. From position, (c) KENYA is to proceed through (d) 049° 30' N. 10° 00' W. Time of arrival Plymouth to be 1000 and ship to proceed at best speed during night before arrival. (C. in C. W.A. 1613/12 to F.O.10. C.S) (Note:- For later instructions to KENYA see Raider Attack on Convoy).

FORT BINGER.

Point Noire reports French sloop COMMANDANT DUBOC and armed trawler PRESIDENT HOUDOUCE escorting French ship FORT BINGER sailed 11/2 for Capetown direct six knots. C. in C. S.A. 1409/9 refers. (S.O.I. Freetown 1701N/12 to Admty etc).

/Italian.....

War Diary.

12.2.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (contd).

Italian Troopship.

Telegram (? received) states large Italian military troopship leaves Sal 13/2 (?for) north, time of departure not known. (British Consul (Via Freetown W/T) 1745/12 to F.O.C.N.A).

QUEEN OF BERMUDA.

QUEEN OF BERMUDA 1203/5 is being passed to you. QUEEN OF BERMUDA position on 5/2 was 064° 30' S. 048° 30' W. with whale factory SOUTHERN EMPRESS and SVEND FOYN in company. (C. in C. S. 1801N/12 to Admty).

Navigation Lights.

Your 0658/3/2. I concur with N.O.I.C. Simonstown. (C. in C. S.A. 1714/12 to C. in C. E.I).

CUBA.

My 1409/9. Expected to sail from Freetown 15/2 for Lagos and Takoradi to embark British W. African Troops. Date E.T.A. Lagos and Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 2041/12 to D. of S.T).

BULOLO S.L. 65.

Your 1625/7 (BULOLO to escort S.L. 65 to Greenock) No objection to proposed arrangements. If vessel can be berthed alongside, wood ballast will be removed, but replacement by steel drums cannot be undertaken. (D.O.D.(F) 2354/12 to C. in C.S.A).

War Diary.

12.2 1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Air Report.

3 Swordfish 830 Sqn. F.A.A. carried out anti-ship patrol round Sicily and S.E. Italy. No ships seen. No opposition. Night February 11/12. 4 Wellingtons 148 Squadron attacked Comiso and Catania aerodromes. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 0730/12).

Personnel for Cyrenaica.

Your 0003/11 officers are being appointed. Approved to retain the ratings required. It is hoped that air transport can be arranged. (D.P.S. 1139/12 to C. in C. Med).

Rhodes Aerodromes bombed.

Night 10th/11th. 6 Wellingtons dropped 15,000 lbs. of bombs on Maritza, Calato and Kattavia Aerodromes (Rhodes). (H.Q.R.A.F.M.E, 1216/12).

MALAYA. Condensers.

State of. Reply to Admtly 1650/10. (S.O. Force H. 1615/12) See Operations Volume. p. 62.

Libya Convoys.

West going convoys between Egyptian and Libyan ports will be known as (?A) (?C) convoys. East going convoys as C A convoys. S.N.O. inshore squadron pass to N.O.I.C. Benghazi. (C. in C. Med, 1613/12 to R.A.(D) Med. etc).

Landing Craft.

Your 1236/3. Figures given differ considerably from those in your 1039/1012 and from information supplied to D.C.O. representative. Request repetition of actual numbers to be expected. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1615/12 to Admtly).

SOUTHERN FLOE. sunk.

Regret to report loss of South African Whaler (A/S Trawler) SOUTHERN FLOE off Mersa Tobruk on 11/2 presumably due to striking a mine. Only one survivor, lent from GLOUCESTER, states ship broke in half and no boat lowered and thinks he is only survivor. (C. in C. Med 1638/12).

/Malta.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).Malta Raids.

1915 to 2306 several nuisance raids plotted. Some bombs dropped in sea. No damage no casualties. Fighters up but no interceptions. 1430 to 1510 approx. 3 JU 88's and 12 fighters believed M.E. 109's and Macchi 200's flew over the island. 8 Hurricanes up. Several engagements. Bombs dropped in sea. 2 Hurricanes missing. 3rd Hurricane forced landed Luqa. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1800/12).

Balloon Sites, Suez Canal.

Request for additional personnel. (H.Q. R.A.F., M.E. to Air Min. 1838/12)
Balloon establishment recommended. (H.Q. R.A.F., M.E. to Air Min. 1839/12)

ILLUSTRIOUS.

Admty 1852/4. Ammunition outfit adjusted. (C. in C. Med 1632/12).

Stampalia bombed. RORQUAL sunk enemy tug.

Situation report. 3 Swordfish based at Crete attacked Stampalia during night reconnaissance on 10/11. A freight ship was hit other damage not observed. On 31/1 RORQUAL, who had been minelaying in Adriatic, attacked by gunfire and sank Tug URSUS towing a floating battery. Whilst fighting the Tug floating battery came in to action and RORQUAL had to submerge. Battery subsequently drifted into Hvar whence it was later removed by Italians. Reported 20 out of 68 killed in Tug.

Libya Ports Clearance.

2. Mersa Tobruk and Gulf of Sollum now open though not yet safe. Regret to report sinking of SOUTHERN FLOE off Mersa Tobruk Swept Channel at 0400/11. Fear only one survivor. APHIS has now entered Benghazi. First report of alternative harbour and appliances fairly promising but what mining done by enemy not yet known. S.O. Force I in CHAKLA with DECOY HEReward, FAREHAM, PEONY, HYACINTH, and M/S Trawlers arrives a.m./15 for Operation of Clearing Harbour. It is hoped to run first convoy to arrive on 18/2.

Canal Open.

3. Ships have now passed through Canal in both directions with some delay, largest ship 15,000 tons southward.

4. Dodecanese)
Benghazi)5. S/M's.

See Operations Volume. (C. in C. Med 2230/12).

MOST SECRET.12.2.1941;
Wednesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.MANON.Captured (C. in C. E.I. 0226/12, 1926/12)
See Italian Merchant Ships.French
Flying
Boat.Messages between Massawa radio and French
tanker ELORN at Djibouti indicated that
French Flying Boat call sign Farap or
Farip forced landed 9/2 bearing 116° from
Massawa and possibly on line Jedda-Djibouti.
Intercepted message in p.l. from Massawa
at 0957Z/10 stating craft had already
left to tow her. KINGSTON searched for
Flying Boat without success.
(C. in C. E.I. 1452Z/12 to Admty).GLASGOW.
HAWKINS.GLASGOW and HAWKINS are to come under the
operational control of C. in C. E.I. and
are, therefore, to join his command
temporarily.
(D.O.D.(F) 1709/12 to C. in C's E.I. Med, S.A)Kismayu,
Operation
"Canvas".Situation of enemy shipping. (C. in C. E.I.
1852Z/12) See German Merchant Ships,
Italian Merchant Ships.CERES.Maximum speed 22 knots due to boiler
defect. (C. in C. E.I. 1852Z/12).CITY OF
ROUBAIX.N.C.S.O. Aden 0715/9 CITY OF ROUBAIX has
fire on board and is proceeding to Port
Sudan.
(C. in C. E.I., 1830Z/12 to Admty etc).HILDA MOLLER.To be retained Colombo. If already
sailed to be recalled. Report action
taken.
(D.T.D. 1919/12 to C. in C. E.I). *See p. 439.*TROIUS.
"Q" Report
possibly
TANNENFELS.My 0748/7/1. Now appears likely from
report from Master of TROIUS that
TANNENFELS was suspicious ship indicated
in my 1940/1. If this is the case
the D/F fix in my 0720/5 can only have
been TANNENFELS if she doubled back to
disguise her ultimate course. It is now
considered probable that TANNENFELS (A)
left Kismayu on 50/1, and destination (D)
in my 0748/7 appears most likely.
(C. in C. E.I. 1822/12 to E.I. Stn).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.Orders to
Shipping.C. in C. China 0325Z/12, 0329/13 D.T.D.
1133/12. See Operations, Volume.OSCAR
GORTHEN.My 1916/28 to Consul-General Honolulu.
Honolulu reports following information
given by a member of crew of OSCAR GORTHEN
Begins.Captain and Chief Engineer strongly pro-
Nazi. On 27/1 in 18° N. 146° E. sighted
ship believed to be raider southbound 4
miles away, black, about 6000 tons, 1 funnel,
clipper bow, regular stern, 1 gun uncertain
of calibre, smaller one aft, no signs of
aeroplane.

(D.D.I.C. 1130/12 to C.O.I.S. Singapore).

ABERDARE.
HARROW.My 1807/1/1 and S.O.(I) Singapore
1101/9/2. ABERDARE and HARROW are to
return to Singapore and remain on your
station.

(D.M.S. 1837/12 to C. in C. China).

America & West Indies.NORTHLAND.
HIGHLAND
BRIGADE.Your 1545/11. In view of Governor
British Guiana tel. 58 9/2 to S. of S. for
Colonies, reporting that transport for
volunteers has been arranged from Beira?
to Trinidad via Demerara, intend that
arrangements made in my 1722/9 should
be adhered to.

(C. in C. W.I. 0942/12 to Admty).

VAN KINSBERGEN.Leave St. Lucia 14/2 to patrol independently
shipping route between Lesser Antilles
and 500 miles from Cape Orange vide my
1522/2/1. Leave patrol so as to arrive
Paramaribo 19/2.

(C. in C. W.I. 0952/12 to VAN KINSBERGEN).

/French.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. (contd).French
Seaplane.

My 2001/7 (French Naval seaplane to join Free French) Seaplane is to be taken over by natives for general use at Trinidad. Report arrangements made by Trinidad Gov. re disposal of pilot and 2 air mechanics. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1122/12 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad).

LETITIA
damage.

My 0131/9 (Casaulties) LETITIA very seriously damaged under boiler and engine rooms and boiler and engine have shifted. Salvage slow pending receipt of further pumps.
(R.A.S.B.S. 1631/12 to Admty).

Piarco Naval
Air Station.

Request policy regarding secrecy of existence of Naval Air Station Piarco may be (?stated). Do not consider it possible to maintain any degree of secrecy for long. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1714/12 to Admty).

CROMARTY.

Request assistance may be rendered to expedite sailing of M.V. CROMARTY, arrived Bermuda 7/2 with machinery defect. If assistance impossible new assembly to water cooling system being sent in KINROSS leaving U.K. next week. (D.T.D. 1805/12 to C. in C. A.W.I).

Shipping.

Arrivals for Convoy and independent sailing (list and routes) (N.C.S.O. Halifax, 2301/12).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.PROCIDA.11/2 departure PROCIDA for Marseilles.
(Valencia THI. 0634/12).UCKERMARK.(at Kismayu since 1939) Attempted to scuttle
herself when intercepted. Unlikely to
remain afloat.
(C. in C. E.I. 1832Z/12 to Admty etc).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.

VRUH (Name of ship not known in W.R.)
Still loading castor oil and tin ingots all
ex Italian ship.
(Consul-Gen., Las Palmas, 1230/12).

CLIZIA.

My 1741/11, CLIZIA arrived Bilbao.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1717/12 to N.A.Station).

LUCIA C.
CAPO LENA.

LUCIA C is taking water 280 tons and CAPO
LENA 140 tons suggesting preparations for
sailing.
(Consul, Vigo. 1829/12 to D.N.I.)

CAPO LENA sailed from Vigo 2300 today.
(Consul, Vigo, 2325/12).

ADRIA
ERMINIA
MAZELLA
SAVOIA
LEONARDO
DA VINCI.

My 0226/12 (See Diary 11/2) Present situa-
tion with regard to Kismayu enemy shipping is
(a) ADRIA, ERMINIA MAZELLA, and SAVOIA due
Mombasa p.m. today (b) LEONARDO DA VINCI
captured and is being sent to Mombasa with
37 German prisoners from UCKERMARK.
(c) German ship UCKERMARK attempted to
scuttle herself when intercepted. Unlikely
to remain afloat.
At 0645Z/12 4 ships were steering North from
coast. Furthest was 137 miles, nearest was
25 miles from Kismayu. Endeavour is being
made to round them up. (e) 4 ships
reported still in Kismayu. (ii) CERES
maximum speed 22 knots due to boiler defect.
(C.in C. E.I. 1832Z/12 to Admty etc.)

MANON.

My 1832, / 12 Italian ship MANON also captured.
(C.in C. E.I. 1926Z/12 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.BRANDENBURG.
H.G. 53.

U.37

Following received from DEPTFORD before leaving convoy. Admiralty F.O.C.N.A. from DEPTFORD 936 A.Z. (a) No results from star shell search. Utility pattern dropped on good asdic contact 38 minutes after the attack. Contact 3 miles astern of convoy near position of sunk ship.
 (b) Port side, not signalled.
 (c) DEPTFORD starboard side VELOX port side.
 (d) British ship BRANDENBURG (corrupt group) sunk.
 (e) 0635/10 036° 10'N. 016° 38'W.
 (f) 282° 10 hours.
 (VELOX 1448/12 to Admty F.O.C.N.A).
 BRANDENBURG, British 1475 tons.

JAMAICA
PRODUCER.
(attacked 11/2).

My 2227/11 to Admiralty, Master of JAMAICA PRODUCER confirms without doubt sighting submarine and saw torpedo break surface under stern.
 (N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1514/12 to C. in C. H.F).
 N.C.S.O. Aultbea's 1514/12 and Capt D.5's 0901/12. Very important to confirm whether JAMAICA PRODUCER was attacked by submarine. Request information on following details.
 (C. in C. H.F. 2209/12 to Admty for A.C.N.S(T)

W.B. WALKER.
(torpedoed 29/1)

SEAMAN return to Campbeltown. SOUTHERN PRIDE proceed to W.B. WALKER reported in 56° 25'N. 09° 40'W. at 1102/11. You will be met by tug SALVONIA about 1700/13.
 (F O.I.C. Greenock 1715/12).
 My 1715/12 Tug SALVONIA delayed 12 hours.
 (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2103/12).

Submarines Reported.2034/11.

D/F bearing at 2034/11 indicates Italian submarine in area 150 miles radius of Cape Finisterre.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 0121/12).

Search for
S/M sighted
by NELSON.

Your 2358/11. Intend proceeding direct to Scapa as the distance is the same.
 (JACKAL 0210/12 to F.O.C.D.F. H.F.).
 Request KELLY, KASHMIR, KIPLING and JACKAL may be ordered to Londonderry on completion of present A/S hunt.
 (C. in C.W.A. 1027/12 to C. in C. H.F).

/My.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported. (contd).Search for s/m
Sighted by NELSON.
Cont:-

My 2140/11 and 2318/11. A/S Escort today cancelled.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1100/12 to D.5.).
As weather makes detection by R.D.F. at night unlikely and report is now 2 days old propose to proceed to Londonderry after dark in accordance with C. in C. W.A.'s. 1027/12 detach BOREAS to search between Scapa request JACKAL may meet me at Londonderry.
(Capt D.5 1725/12 to C. in C. H.F).
Your 1725/12 Approved.
(C. in C. H.F. 1847/12 to Capt D.5).
My 1725/12. Have abandoned search as BOREAS has excessive density in boilers. Have detached BOREAS escorted by KIPLING to Scapa, E.T.A. 0500/13. Request JACKAL may rendezvous with KIPLING off Dunnet Head 0500/13 and both ships proceed Londonderry. KELLY and KASHMIR proceeding Londonderry through Minches.
(Capt D.5. 2051/12 to C. in C. H.F. R.A.D.H.F)

Wreck
possibly
mistaken
for U/B.

Bow capsized wreck found at noon 11/2 in position 059° 23' 008° 45' could well have been mistaken for U.Boat. Gunfire holed hull but wreck remained awash.
(Capt D.5. 0901/12).

1252.

One unknown submarine course unknown.
5.02 N. 12. 48W.
(LA. CHRISTENSEN T.O.R1252Z/12 to Freetown W/T)

1925.

One submarine Like T. Class in position 035° 26'w.014° 17'w.mean course and speed 020° 6. Challenge not answered.
(UPHOLDER 1925/12 to V.A. Malta).

2034.

D/F bearings indicate Italian U/B call sign 67D in area 150 miles radius Cape Finisterre.
(D.D.I.C. 2216/12).

/Estimated U/B.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.2.1941.
Wednesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported. (contd).Estimated U/B
dispositions.

GERMAN: 1 60 miles of 60° 57'N. 12° 37'W.
 1 60 miles of 58° N. 24° 30'W.
 1 30 miles of 55° 30' N. 18° 30'W.
 1 40 miles of 54° 30'N. 14° 30'W.
 1 60 miles of 52° 30'N. 22° 30'W.
 1 near 38° N. 21° 30'W.
 ITALIAN: 1 N.W. Approaches.
 1 possibly Madeira - Canaries.
 (D.D.I.C. 1333/12).

Submarines Attacked.By NORTHERN CHIEF.

Following received S.O. Trawlers from
 NORTHERN CHIEF. Investigated contact 282° C.W.
 H. 59 miles T.O.O. 0035.
 (Scapa W/T 0155/12).

My 0035/12. Have attacked twice oil seen
 on the surface. Still in contact position
 058° 49'N. 006° 53'W.
 (NORTHERN CHIEF 0240/12)

My 0035/12 consider contact to be wreck
 indicated in your 0350/12 (word omitted
 ?continuing) to patrol.
 (NORTHERN CHIEF 0650/12 to S.O. Trawlers N.P)

By DEPTFORD.

In 36.10 N., 16. 38 W. on 10/2. (See
 VELOX 1448/12 under Ships Attacked).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.Search for
enemy
cruiser.

NIGERIA and ARETHUSA who left patrol at 2100/12 went into Reykjavik this morning to fuel and were ordered to proceed at 0900 tomorrow and to remain on patrol in ^(alt. J. Faras range) ~~Denmark Straits~~ until 2100/15.
Air co-operation is being arranged.

E.boats
off Ostend.

12 possible E. or R. boats escorting 2 small merchant vessels and 18 small motor craft were reported manoeuvring about 3 miles off Ostend at 1520/13.

Enemy main
units.

There were possible indications today that German main units may be attempting to reach Biscay ports and of a movement from Oslo Fiord through the Skagerrak northwards. Air R.C. was carried out today off the approaches to the English Channel and Bay of Biscay.

SNAPPER
overdue.

SNAPPER has failed to R.V. from patrol in the Bay of Biscay and has not been heard of since 31/1. If SNAPPER does not arrive by 1000/14 she must be considered lost.

U-boat
attacks.

ARTHUR F. CORWIN (Tanker 10516 tons) a straggler from H.X.106 was torpedoed this afternoon 180 miles N.N.W. of Rockall. BURNHAM, which went to her assistance reported that she was on fire and sinking and that two other ships were on fire.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.British Air Activity.

Bad weather caused some curtailment of routine patrols today, particularly in the Channel and North Sea. Special reconnaissances were made this morning to Kristiansand and Trondheim. 6 Hudsons attacked Hoyanger (Norway) last night.

Enemy Air Activity.

L.26 was unsuccessfully bombed by a Ju.88 near Fiden Light this morning. Convoy F.N.6 was unsuccessfully bombed off the Humber this morning. S.S. WESTCLIFFE HALL was bombed off Whitby this afternoon and was damaged. She has 2 U.X.B. in her hold. It was reported today that trawler ERMINE was unsuccessfully bombed on 9/2 off Kinsale Old Head; and trawler WILLIAM BUNCE was machine gunned and bombed on 10/2 20 miles S.S.E. of the Fastnet and hit and drove off her attacker without damage to herself. Submarine L.26 was unsuccessfully bombed 2 miles north of Fiden light today. Convoy E.N.71 was attacked this evening off Girdleness and bombs fell in Aberdeen. S.S. DALDORCH had one man killed; S.S. CAPE RODNEY was damaged and anchored in Leith Roads; and a bomb exploded in Victoria Basin, Aberdeen. Another hit S.S. WELSH ROSE lying alongside and did not explode; all vessels near by have been cleared.

/ A/S Trawler RUBENS ...

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

A/S Trawler RUBENS was bombed this afternoon about 230 miles S.W. of Fastnet and is reported to be sinking.

The Nab Tower was machine gunned today. No damage was caused.

Plymouth was attacked early this morning a few bombs being dropped. No naval damage is reported.

Minor damage was caused by attack on the Minesweeping Base at Yarmouth this afternoon.

Mining.

Minelaying by enemy aircraft today is suspected off Aberdeen; and in the Irish Sea and off Liverpool last night.

Milford Haven and Preston are closed. Entry into Liverpool is prohibited during the dark hours.

Three acoustic mines were swept in the entrance to Campbeltown harbour this morning and the port is closed. The Humber was opened at 1226. The Convoy North and South Examination anchorages remain closed.

M.T.B.41 was mined and sunk off Harwich
S.m. today. 14/2. See pp. 449 & 458

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.North Atlantic.

CAMITO this afternoon rescued from a raft a few survivors from SHREWSBURY, WARLABY and PERSEUS, three of the ships sunk yesterday by raider 200 miles east of the Azores.

South Atlantic.

The scheme for facilitating the junction of S.L.S. and H.G. Convoys (See 5/2) is temporarily in abeyance.

Mediterranean.Air
Operations.

2 Wellingtons bombed Rhodes naval and commercial harbour last night.
German aircraft dropped 8 mines at Benghazi.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies.Operation
"Canvas".

Air R.C. of Kismayu this morning showed the town apparently being evacuated, one ship scuttled in harbour and oil all over the harbour from tanks which had been drained. There was no A.A. fire.

KANDAHAR fired 3 salvos at Kismayu Island today to see if the shore batteries were still in action.

SHROPSHIRE bombarded Mogadishu today and obtained several straddles on a merchant ship but could not observe the results. She also bombarded motor transport and encampments near Brava.

There was no reply from the shore batteries on either occasion.

CAPETOWN was bombed unsuccessfully off Brava today. One enemy ship is aground south of Brava.

S.A.A.F. bombed Berbera in support of Operations in Italian Somaliland.

F.A.A.
attack on
Massawa
Operation
"Composition".

A0726/41
A0696(41)

Massawa was attacked by 14 Albacores from FORMIDABLE early this morning. The attack was badly hampered by enemy aircraft. Probably one hit was made with torpedo on ship at Jetty where a S/M and supply ship were reported by reconnaissance. One merchant ship possibly sunk either by torpedo or bomb. Bombing attack was made on destroyers in main Harbour. One probable hit on large destroyer. Heavy close range fire, especially in Northern Harbour. 2 aircraft did not return.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.China.

Certain redistribution of forces is under consideration.

. 30th
Japanese shipping traffic is still normal, though only old ships are trading west of Singapore. Important reinforcements from Japan are with the South China Fleet.

MOST SECRET.13.2.1941.
Thursday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Defence of U.K."Deluge!"
~~DELUGE.~~At 1130/13.
(D.C. 1206/13).
At 2330/13.
(D.C. 2337/13).A.A.
Defence
of Scapa.

Your 1802/11 to C.in C. H.F. If it was known that there was a weakness in detecting low flying aircraft approaching from a North Westerly direction it is not understood why guns are not kept manned. (1st S.L. 2338/13 to A.C.O.S.)

Movements.ARGUS.Progress 12th and 13th nil. Weather unsuitable.
(ARGUS, 0946/13).OTTAWA.P.C. and S. 052° 30'N., 023° 00'W. 090° 16 knots. Altering to 050° at 1615.
RESTIGOUCHE, SKEENA, ST. LAURENT in company.
(OTTAWA 1001/13).CACHALOT.My 2221/12. On completion of operation F.D.30 proceed through following positions, to Muckle Flugga, thence as in F.D.29. Following S.B.R. and T.B.R. arranged:-
(S.2. 1108/13 to CACHALOT).Northern
Patrol.Trawler Lines tonight.
5 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1539/13).

MOST SECRET..WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.Submarines.Positions at 0800/14 and movements for the following 24 hours.
(F.O.S. 1634/13).5th M/S
Flotilla.
SPEEDY.My 1059/11. S.O. 5th M/S Flotilla and SPEEDY may be delayed sailing on account of weather. Proceed in accordance with my 1059/11 if the weather is suitable.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1859/13). *See also p. 422*BULLFINCH
KIRRIEMOOR.Sailed escorted by CROCUS and MARGUERITE for Freetown in accordance with Admiralty 1632/5/2 and my 1519/9/2.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1917/13).LA CAPRICIEUSE
(R/V with
SNAPPER).Your 1031/13. Remain in vicinity of R/V until 1000/14.
(S.2. 2213/13 to LA CAPRICIEUSE).Operations.Search
for
Enemy
Cruiser.Arrivals, Scapa. GALATEA, AURORA ~~0310~~. REPULSE, MATABELE, ESKIMO, PUNJABI, 0310.
(A.C.O.S. 0311/13).
NIGERIA and ARETHUSA are to proceed to original patrol area leaving Reykjavik at 0900/14. Patrol is to be continued until 2100/15, when ships are to return to Scapa.F.O.I.C. Iceland is requested to embark REPULSE's aircraft in NIGERIA.
(C.in C. H.F. 1004/13).
NIGERIA and ARETHUSA arrived 0925 G.M.T.
(F.O.Iceland 1015/13).
NORFOLK arrived Scapa 1555.
(A.C.O.S. 1635/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. (Contd.)Operation
P.V.1.

Three Motor Launches patrolling to eastward of Aldeburgh Light Float returning Yarmouth at daylight. M.T.B's may be met returning to Harwich at daylight.
(C.in C. Nore, 1807/13 to SOUTHDOWN, etc.)

British Air Activity.Patrols.

Patrols being flown today: Kristiansand Recco., Trondheim, Recco., ~~SATA~~, UNST. ^{Unit}.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 0954/13).

From 2000 tonight aircraft will patrol in area bounded by following positions:
047°45'N., 007° 15'W., 047° 45'N., 007° 45'W.
046° 30'N., 007° 45'W., 046° 30'N., 007° 15'W.
(F.O.S. 1534/13 to S/M's Area B).

My 1004/13. ^{Island-Faroes} (~~Denmark Strait~~ Patrol) Request air co-operation, and suggest following patrols. 14/2, ~~PAGE~~ and R one, the latter being as far westwards as practicable. 15/2 ~~PAGE~~. ^{7ugle}.

(ii) If patrols cannot be maintained throughout daylight, prefer ~~PAGE~~ should be P.M. and R one A.M.
(C.in C. H.F. 1553/13 to C.in C. Rosyth).

The following patrol will be flown tomorrow with the object of locating enemy surface vessels which may be attempting to reach Brest.

Cross over patrol from 48° 10'N., 6° 45' W., through 46° 30'N., 6° 15'W., 46° 30'N., 6° 45'W., and 48° 10'N., 6° 15'W.
First sortie using ASV to be on patrol at dawn, and patrol to be continued throughout the day so far as availability of aircraft permits.
(H.Q.C.C. 1719/13 to 19 Group) (Plymouth A.C.H.Q. 2140/13 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (Contd.)Off Thames
Estuary.

Believed from German intercept that assistance is being sent to a German airman in the sea in area bounded by 51° 15' N., 45' N., 51° 01' 30' E., and 02° 30' E.

(3) One cannon Anson escorted by three fighter Blenheims are to take off forthwith to attack the ships and air or surface craft going to assist the German airman. (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1645/13).

Own A/C
engaged
by
A/A
Batteries.

X.916. Further to our A.887 30/10. Request your observations on C.in C. W.A. Postagram 1114/7/2. (Air Ministry F.O.6. 1730/12 to Admty).

Enemy Air Activity.Plymouth.

Several hostile aircraft passed over Plymouth on southerly course, between 0330 and 0350 and again between 0530 and 0545 and dropped 7 H.E. and believed 1 parachute mine.

(No naval damage reported).
(Group Controller, Plymouth 0603/13 to Emregeom, Bristol).

EAMONT
(Bombed
11/2).
JOHN DUNKIN
(Bombed
11/2).
Presumed
Sunk.

Your 0525/2 to Admty.

1. Sea was too rough yesterday for Bomb Safety Officer to board Trawler EAMONT which dragged ashore North of Latheron Wheel Harbour during the night. Further action to render bomb safe and salvage attempt will be made when weather moderates.

2. Search has been made for Trawler JOHN DUNKIN but no trace found and she is now presumed sunk. (F.O.I.C. Invergordon 0958/13 to C.in C. Rosyth.)

M02850/41.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)Convoy
F.N.Even.

Enemy aircraft bombing Convoy ^{"Agent"} ~~AGENT~~ in
53° 52'N., 0° 44'E.
(HOLDERNESS 1155/13).
My 1155. No hits.
(HOLDERNESS, 1203/13).

BARON
RENFREW.
(Bombed
28/1).

Cancel all previous signals. Campbeltown
closed. Proceed to Ardrossan for fuel and
await further instructions.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1210/13 to SEAMAN,
TENACITY).

A/C
report
of
Convoy.

My 39/992 of 21/1/41. At 1210 G.M.T.
Enemy A/C reporting to base six medium
size ships accompanied by one destroyer
on a Northerly course.

At 1224 G.M.T. Position Ships 100 miles E.
of Middlesborough.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1340/13 to C.in C. Nore).

WESTCLIFFE
HALL.

(British 1900 tons). Bombed off Whitby.
(Nore W/T 1423/13).
Am returning to assist.
(VALOROUS 1546/13).
My 1546. WESTCLIFFE/HALL bombed off Whitby.
Steering gear damaged. Two unexploded
bombs in hold. Request tug. Trawler
HAWTHORN standing by. Am rejoining
F.N.5.
(VALOROUS 1701/13 to C.in C. Rosyth).

RUBENS.

(A/S Trawler). Sinking approx. 48° 50'N.,
14° 20'W.
(RUBENS, 1428/13).
Help 1412/13 G.M.T. de GLD.
(RUBENS Recd., Lands End, 1516/13).

Automatic AAAA signal heard at 1451/13
strength 4 bearing 348° Lands End.
(Lands End, 1454/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)ERMINE.
WILLIAM
BUNCE.

Trawler ERMINE bombed by Dornier 215 and large plane probably Focke Wulf, when fishing 10 miles S. by W. 1/2 W Kinsale Old Head 1515/9. No damage or casualties. Trawler WILLIAM BUNCE machine gunned and bombed by Dornier 215 20'S.S.E. Fastnet 1430/10. Plane hit by Trawlers Hotchkiss and made off.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1526/13).

Convoy
E.N.71.

Help convoy in 57° 20'N., 10° 40'W.
(Convoy ~~USAGE~~ 1725/13 and 1836/13).
Fighter aircraft has been sent.
(Plymouth W/T 1836/13).

S.S.
DALDORCH.

(5571 tons). One man killed. No damage, to ship. (B.M.S.E. 305).

Nab
Tower.

Nab Tower reports a JU 88 approached at 1549 from the East at height 300 feet. Aircraft steered steady course passed Nab Tower and opened fire on them with machine gun and then turned off eastwards. No casualties and no damage sustained.
(C.in C. Portsmouth 1734/13).

Yarmouth
Bombed.

Damage by enemy action 1545/13. Bomb dropped on Port and Harbour Commissions Quay not requisitioned. Damage to Admiralty property at Minesweeping Base minor only. Repairs estimated pounds ten in hand. Two unexploded bombs fell in river adjacent.
(Works, Shotley Gate, 1803/13).

L.26
attacked
in Firth
of Forth.

Following received from S.9. begins. L.26 reports attacked by JU 88 2 miles due North of Fidra Light. Four bombs dropped. No machine-gunning. Height of aircraft approximately 100 feet, nearest bomb 100 yards on starboard bow. No damage or casualties.
(F.O.S. 1941/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)Aberdeen
bombed.
Convoy
E.N.71
attacked.
WELSHROSE
hit.(M02626/41.
M03665/41.E.N.71 attacked by enemy A/C approx. between 090 degs. Girdleness, and 090 degs. Belhelvie approx. 1830. 2 Bombs dropped in centre of Aberdeen 1900. No known damage to Admiralty property. ABEILLE IV from Peterhead and ATTENTIF from Aberdeen proceeding to search in area above denoted in reply to W/T message from H.M.T. PIROUETTE received 1901/13. (N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2039/13). *See also p-430*

My 2039/13. One bomb exploded in Victoria Basin; another hit S.S. WELSHROSE lying alongside in Victoria Basin fracturing main mast thence hit No.1. hatch ricocheted and passed through bulwarks and overboard. Bomb did not explode. Have cleared all vessels in vicinity. D.G. wiping range may be damaged in Basin but no report of any damage in dock area. (N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2120/13).

Mining.Milford
Haven.

Port closed owing to mines laid by enemy aircraft. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 0434/13).

Preston.

Port closed. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 0900/13).

Campbeltown.

Port closed owing to enemy minelaying. (N.O.I.C. Campbeltown 1002/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Campbeltown.
(Contd.)

Three acoustic mines swept in entrance to Harbour this morning. Intend carrying out sweep of Exercise Areas. This will delay sea training for a further three days. (N.O.I.C. Campbeltown, 1440/13). Intend to open Port 0900 tomorrow. (N.O.I.C. Campbeltown 1740/13).

P.W.4.
(Belgian
Coast.)

My 1133/11. Weather permitting operation P.W.4. will be carried out tonight. (C.in C. Nore, 1121/13).

Liverpool.

Entry into Liverpool during dark hours prohibited. Precautions on entry. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1151/13 to DEVONSHIRE).

S.N.7.B.
and
S.N.68.A.

My 1624/12. Cover, cruiser escort, and additional destroyers will be available if 1st M/L Squadron sails for operation p.m./15. (C.in C. H.F. 1221/13 to R.A.M.L.) Amend my 0925/12 (being passed to H.M.S. REPULSE), as follows. Item G to read 1815/15. All port of destination times to be 48 hours later than shown originally. (R.A.M.L. 1538/13).

Humber.

Open to navigation. Convoy North and South Examination anchorages remain closed. (F.O. Humber 1226/13).

Explosion .

Patrol H.T. reports loud under-water explosion $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.W. of 54 A Buoy. Unable to transmit. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1415/13).

B.S.51.
(Firth
of
Perth.)

Operation B.S.51 postponed owing to fog. Intend TEVIOT BANK and WHITSHED to sail from Spurn Point at 1700/14 and take departure from 21 Buoy at 0930/15. Returning to 21 Buoy and thence to Humber. Laying will begin at 1100/15. (S.O. M/L Immingham, 1500/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Yarmouth.Cancel my 1149/12. Port now open.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1801/13).Two L.L. drifters detonated ground mine
position 100° 7 cables south Pier Head.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1921/13).Spurn Point.The following four mines exploded today.
Details.
(F.O. Humber 1900/13).Sweep
of
Gap A.Your 1059/11. Owing to weather conditions
preventing my making good more than four
knots intend postponing operation 24 hours.
Intend anchoring Fraserburgh. S.O. 5th M/S F.
inform SPEEDY.
(S.O. 1st M/S F. 1911/13). *See p. 415*Aberdeen
Area.Suspected minelaying by enemy A/C in area
Catterline 090 degs. between 3 and 4½ miles
Catterline 090 degs. confirmed by plotting.
(N.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 2021/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.Enemy
Main
Units.

Activity of enemy long range aircraft indicates possibility that German main units may be attempting to make Biscay ports.
(F.O.S. 1409/13 to S/M's Area B).

Enemy
Units.

W/T activity indicates possibility of movement of enemy units from Oslo Fiord through Skagerrak Northwards today.
(F.O.S. 1431/13 to S/M's Area A).

Off Ostend.

P.R.U. reports at 1520, 30 ships of which 12 are probably E/Boats, the others being smaller, operating 2 to 4 miles off Ostend.
(Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1645/13 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.Coastal
Convoys.

F.N.5.405

Positions.
 (C.in C. Rosyth 1626/13).
 E.T.A.
 (VERDUN 0130/13 to N.O.I.C. Tyne)
 Ships to join.
 (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1656/13).
 E.T.A.
 (VERDUN 1900/13 to C.in C. Rosyth).

F.S.10.410

Sailed.
 (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0207/13)
 29 ships.
 (0932/13).
 Absentees.
 (0934/13).

E.N.71.

Sailed, escorts, 31 ships.
 (N.C.S.O. Methil 0635/13 amended 1530/13).
 Lists.
 (N.C.S.O. Methil 0738/13 N.C.S.O. Oban 1302/13)
 1 joining from Aberdeen.
 (C.in C. Rosyth, 2237/13 to PIROUETTE).

F.N.7.407

Code word "Radio".
 (C.in C. Nore, 0723/13)
 Sailed, 36 ships.
 (N.C.S.O. Thames, 0931/13).
 2 ships sailed.
 (N.C.S.O. Harwich 1511/13).
 List.
 (N.C.S.O. Thames 1626/13).
 Ships joining.
 (N.C.S.O. Humber 1724/13). (C.in C. Rosyth
 1742/13).

E.N.U.70.

Sailed unescorted, 5 ships.
 (N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 0944/13).
 List.
 (1155/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)F.N.10.) 410
F.S.11.) 411
F.S.12.) 412Escorts.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 0945/13).

O.B.U.285.

Sailed unescorted. 26 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1022/13).
List and Destination (1813/13).

W.N.83.

JAMAICA PRODUCER to sail at 1700/13.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1105/13).
Sailed. (1822/13).
Position.
(A.C.O.S. 1159/13).
→ CURACOA leaves 2330/13 for E.N.71.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1626/13).
E.T.A. Kinnaird Head.
(ELLESMERE, 1630/13).

O.B.284.

ABERDEEN to rejoin.
(C.in C. W.A. 1213/13). *See also p 427.*

F.S.8.406

Position, 8 ships for London.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1246/13).

C.E.25.

Postponed 24 hours, fog.
(C.in C. Portsmouth, 1307/13).

W.N.84.

2 ships to join.
(N.C.S.O. Lyness, 1331/13).
→ CURACOA to join.
(R.A.D.H.F. 2101/13).

F.S.9.409

Proceeding.
(VERSATILE, 1348/13).
E.T.A. Nore.
(VERSATILE, 1450/13).

MOST SECRET.13.2.1941.
Thursday.WAR DIARY.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Coastal
Convoys.
(Contd.)

O.B.286. Sailed CAMELIA escort.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1500/13, N.C.S.O.
Mersey, 2315/13).

O.B.O.286. Time of sailing, 4 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1717/13).

F.S.11.) Probable sailing time.
E.N.72.) (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1603/13).
F.S.12.)
F.S.13.)

F.N.6.406 Ships to join.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1656/13).

W.N.U.84. 1700/13 unescorted. 1 Ship.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1823/13).

E.N.70. Amending WHITEHALL 1801/12.
(ROCHESTER 1247/13).
Approaching route K.
(A.C.W.A. 1913/13 to ROCHESTER, WHITEHALL).
11 ships arrived from Methil, ships from
Loch Ewe not arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1956/13).

F.S.11.411 Sailed, 17 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 2315/13).

F.N.8.408 About 12 ships, VERSATILE and WESTMINSTER to
escort.
(C.in C. Nore, 2141/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Ocean
Convoys.

- S.C.21. P.C. and S. at 2212/12.
(MONTCALM 0402/13).
ABERDEEN to rejoin 14/2.
(C.in C. W.A. 1213/13). *See p 425*
- H.G.53. U/Boat probably moving to intercept.
(D.D.I.C. 1244/13).
- O.G.53. 3 ships to join.
(C.in C. W.A. 1127/13 to PIROUETTE for
Commodore).
- B.H.X.110. List.
(Navy Control Bermuda 1201/13 to Adty.)
- H.G.52. Fr. CHARLES PLUMIER arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Belfast, 1430/13).
- H.G.54. Add to my 1631/11 (list).
(F.O.C.N.A. 1443/13).
- H.X.109. Sailing telegram.
(S.C.N.O. Halifax 1511/13).
- H.X.107. Meet.
(C.in C. W.A. 1735/13 to ARROW, MISTRAL, etc).
- S.I.64. Sailing telegram as amended by Admty.
(D.T.D., 1808/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Ocean
Convoys.
(Contd.)

H.G.50.

Approaching Route K.
(A.C.W.A. 1913/13 to ROCHESTER, WHITEHALL).

H.X.106.

Search for.
(MALCOLM, 1919/13 BURNHAM, 2320/13).Stragglers.Instructions for those unable to rejoin
Convoy which have preceded on their
standard route.
(D.T.D. 1349/13 to C.O.A.C. Halifax,
N.C.S.O. Bermuda).Docking
of
Slow
Ships.Essential that ships which are not armed or
Degaussed and which are too slow owing to
foul bottom should be docked before being
loaded and sent to convoy assembly Port.
A number of these ships, mostly Allied,
are of such an age that it is not advisable
to dock them when full of cargo.
(M.S.R. Freetown, 1640/13 to M. of Shipping).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.SKATE.

C.in C. W.A. 2219/12. Distiller plant out of action. Am returning to Londonderry. (SKATE 0020/13).

BOREAS.

Capt: (D) 5's 2057. Shall be 6 hours late. BOREAS best speed 4 knots. (KIPLING 0050/13).

BROADWATER.

Arrived with boiler defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0850/13).

SNAPPER
(Presumed
Lost).SNAPPER was ordered to leave patrol in Bay of Biscay North Zone on 10/2 and R/V with ESCORT off Trevoise Head at 0815/12. SNAPPER has not arrived at R/V and has not replied to signal during night 12th to 13th February ordering her to report her expected time of arrival. Escort is remaining at R/V until 1000/14. If nothing is heard of SNAPPER by that time it is regretted that she must be considered lost. Nothing has been heard of SNAPPER since parting company with Escort on 31/1.
(F.O.S. 1224/13).BELGIA.
(Swedish
2076 tons).

Mo2390/41.

(Swedish 2076 tons). Intend sailing tugs ST.MELLONS and KENIA escorted by Paddle M/S DUCHESS OF ROTHSAI at 0830/14/2 to salve S.S. BELGIA ashore off Walton Pier arriving at 1100 to commence towing thence returning to Harwich by dark. Request fighter protection.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1536/13).KIRIN.(Balloon Barrage Yacht). Sustained damage from S.S. KIRKWOOD in Methil dock Fairway at 1700/12.
(N.O.I.C. Methil 1550/13).AURETTA.(British 4571 tons) Grounded at Crail 0620/12. Refloated.
(N.C.S.O. Methil 1603/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS. (Contd.)SCOTTISH
STANDARD.(British Tanker, 6999 tons).
Arrived with engine breakdown ex OBC 285.
Will be sailed to join OB287.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea 1805/13).Unknown
Vessel.Tug ABELLE IV sailed to vessel believed
in distress position War Channel 140° .
Bullars of Buchan.
(N.O.I.C. Peterhead 2035/13).*See p. 420.*MACON.(4727 tons). Latitude 41° 37'N.,
(?longitude) (? 27°) (?24) minutes W.
Boiler and (2 corrupt groups). (?require)
(?assistance).
(MACON 2230/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Enemy Raiders, Situation.

My 2318/6.

North
Atlantic.

(1) H.M.S. RAMILLIES caught brief glimpse of mast and top of German warship in 52° 55'N 34° 00'W. at 1250 B.S.T./8. This may have been the HIPPER class (Cruiser) from Brest, of SCHEER.

(2) Convoy S.L.S.64 attacked 200 miles East of Azores at 1135B.S.T./12. No further information, but German Communique referring to attack mentions warships, so possibly the 2 vessels which attacked EURYLOCHUS were responsible.

(3) D/F indications on 9/2 of raider in area 10° - 20° N., 30° to 40° W.

South
Atlantic.

D/F fix on 9/2 indicates unit probably S.S.W. of St. Helena.

Southern
Ocean.

No fresh news. Raider must have captured 700 men, 150,000 barrels of whale oil and 10,000 tons fuel oil.

Indian
and
Pacific
Ocean.

No fresh information.
(D.D.I.C. 1826/13).

Attack on Convoy S.L.S.64 by Raider 12/2.Convoy
Situation
S.L.64.

My 2014/12. Para. A.4. For 45° 30'N., 23° 30'W. read 43° 30'N., 23° 00'W.
(D.O.D.(F) 1358/13 to F.O.Force H).

TUNA.

My 2342/12. (A) in view of possible movement of own forces in your vicinity endeavour to pass through following positions at 0800 daily, 14/2 035° 30'N., 016° 20'W., 15/2 034° 15'N., 011° W. 16/2 035° 45'N., 006° 20'W. Report your p.c. and s. if unable to pass through position within four hours of time stated. All times B.S.T. (B) Escort to Gibraltar will be provided from R/V. (C) TUNA will be required to leave Gibraltar probably 48 hours after arrival escorting convoy to U.K.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1444/13 to TUNA).

MOST SECRET.13.2.1941.
Thursday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.Attack on Convoy S.L.S. 64 cont:Portuguese
Report.Reporting the attack. Portuguese
Naval source. A.O.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1801 /13 to Admty).Weather.
German
Claim.My 1801/12. For information, estimated
direction of wind force in area of attack.2. German broadcast claims that 13 ships
were sunk.
(D.O.D.(F) 1801/13 to SHEFFIELD, CAMITO,
CORINTHIAN, CAVINA, MARON).SHREWSBURY,
WARLABY,
PERSEUS,
survivors.Rescued from raft in 037° 14'N., 021° 08'W.
at 1400 four survivors from British ship
SHREWSBURY one from British ship WARLABY
one from Greek ship PERSEUS. All state
emphatically from silhouettes that raider
was German Cruiser BLUCHER class. Also
that four ships were undamaged and picked
up many survivors. Wind (? group omitted)
07/13 W., 2000/13 N.W. 7-8 moderate.
(CAMITO 2100/13 to Admty).
SHREWSBURY, 4542 tons, Wheat, for Oban.
WARLABY, 4876 tons, Oil cake, for Oban.
PERSEUS, 5172 tons, General, for Belfast.

MOST SECRET.13.2.1941.
Thursday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.Operations Against Vichy French.Convoy.

Gibraltar 13/2 1220 French Destroyer
TEMPETE escorting French ship ALICE ROBERT
laden, with MARECHAL LYAUTEY full, passing
W. to E.
(S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1503/13).

French
Forces.
N.Africa.

V.A. Godfrey 11/2 volunteered statement
that though French Forces were fairly well
equipped in North Africa they were very
short of petrol.
(C.in C. Med., 2005/13 to Admty).

Intructions
when
boarding
French
Ships.

Officer i/c Boarding party or armed guard
placed on board French Merchant Vessels
not to give any guarantee as to ultimate
action that may be taken with regard to
ship's cargo or crew. Instructions are
that ship is to be sent[^] for examination.
Any attempt to scuttle will be regarded
as resistance to visit and search. Any
report made by ship by W/T is an unneutral
act as for any neutral ship.
Officer i/c can let it be known that
opportunity will be given for any that wish
to join Free French or serve in allied
ships. No guarantee should be given as to
where ship will be taken. Otherwise attitude
should be friendly in pursuance of exercise
of belligerent rights under International
Law, and co-operation invited.
(C.in C. S.A. 2031/12 to S.A.Station).

North Atlantic.TUNA.

TUNA 035° 30'N., 016° 20'W. proceeding on
surface, course 106° speed 11 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1214/13 to N.A. Station).

MOST SECRET.13.2.1941.
Thursday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.RESOLUTION.

Admty. 1206/3 and 1919/27. C.in C. W.A's 1905/4. JUPITER will not be available owing to defects. Intend to sail RESOLUTION escorted by JERSEY, FEARLESS, FOXHOUND, FIREDRAKE, p.m./14 routed in accordance with Admty. 1206/3 to R/V in 0420 33'N., 0170 15'W. at 1100 Zone - One/18. Request that FEARLESS, FOXHOUND, FIREDRAKE be relieved in this position as it is necessary that they should all return to Gibraltar. E.T.A. Nab Tower. C.in C. W.A. 1905/4 para.4. Request confirmation that HUNT Class will join escort. (F.O.C.N.A. 1246/13 to C.in C. W.A.)

EMPIRE
TROOPER,
ENCOUNTER,
"Vees".

Admty 2125/12 and 2015/12. Subject to completion of defects intend sailing EMPIRE TROOPER with two "Vees" routed East of Canary Islands for Freetown p.m./18. ISIS and ENCOUNTER complete defects p.m./18. In order to have a screen available to meet Force H. intended to retain ISIS, ENCOUNTER until the return of destroyers escorting (a) RESOLUTION (b) Troop ships KENYA and SOBIESKI. Anticipated date of ISIS and ENCOUNTER to sail for Freetown. (F.O.C.N.A., 1532/13 to C.in C. S.A.) Your 1325/13 and my 1532/13. Intend sailing only 2 Vees available p.m./14 to comply with your 1325/13. EMPIRE TROOPER will be sailed on completion of defects probably p.m./18 without escort and routed east of Canary Islands. (F.O.C.N.A. 2316/13 to C.in C. S.A.)

South Atlantic.W.S.6.

Re water supply at Freetown and use of DOMINION MONARCH and ORCADES. (D. of S.T. 0042/13 to N.O.I.C's Simonstown and Durban).

MOST SECRET.13.2.1941.
Thursday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (Contd.)KETTY
BROVIG
Overdue.

KETTY BROVIG due at Lourenço Marques 9/2 not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 0902/13).

Enemy
Unit.

D/F at 0236Z/13 indicates enemy unit (? possibly) surface within 150 miles of (I) 01⁶° N., 020° W. reliability 30% or (II) 025° N., 027° W. reliability 25% or (III) N.W. of Ascension reliability 40%.
(C.in C. S.A. 1129N/13 to S.A. Sqdn.)

CHATEAU
ROUX.

Free French, cargo cotton and rubber for U.K. is too slow for Convoy owing to foul bottom is not degaussed and has no ammunition guns. Consider chance of safe arrival small and that such ships should not be sent to U.K. in that condition. Min. of Shipping representative Freetown concurs.
(N.C.S.O. Freetown, 1404/13 to Admty for M. of Shipping).

Shipping W.
Africa to
Cape.

West African Governor's conference have approached Secretary of State with a view to employment of a ship on run West African ports - Cape. From Naval point of view definite advantage in establishing a regular service between W. Africa and Cape. TOUAREG would be suitable ship as a start as suggested.
(C.in C. S.A. 1821/13 to Admty).

Fresh
Water
Freetown.

Masters of transports should be instructed to control the expenditure of fresh water so that replenishments at Freetown shall not exceed those for which provision has been made on the basis of a twenty day voyage.
(D.O.D.(F) 1846/13 to BIRMINGHAM, PHOEBE etc.)

Shipping.

Information signal.
(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1901N/13).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (Contd.)EURYLOCHUS
(sunk 29/1)

M03755/41

Your 1437N/9. 17 survivors of EURYLOCHUS landed today February 14th from Spanish MONTE TIEDE. Master reports that steamer sank. 1900/29/1 8° 15'N., 25° 4'W by shell fire from two enemy ships. Only one ship seen by survivors. This appeared to be a pocket Battleship but owing to darkness was not clearly seen and no description could be given.

All C.B's including bag from Dominions Secretary destroyed.

Replying to your questions (a) quite dark no moon (b) closest distance at which seen 500 yards. (c) broadside view only obtained by survivors after steamer sank (d) appeared to have one turret on fore deck unable to see if any on after deck (e) Each ship fired salvo of two guns (f) very high super structure by fore bridge but unable to distinguish if Tripod mast. (g) unable to distinguish any triangular structure forward.

(N.C.S.O. Buenos Aires 1930/13).

S.L.S. and
H.G.Convoys,
junction.

Scheme for the junction of S.L.S. and H.G. convoys is temporarily in abeyance. Until further orders S.L. and S.L.S. convoys must be sailed as one convoy.
(D.T.D. 1946/13 to C.in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.Mine
Accident.

My 1418/9 and 1608/10. Conclusions of technical enquiry.
(V.A.Malta, 0905/13).

MOST SECRET.13.2.1941.
Thursday.WAR DIARY.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)Rhodes
bombed.

Op. Summ. O.248 up to 1200 hours 13/2.
Night 11/12. 10 Wellingtons dropped
24750 lbs. of bombs on Calato, Maritza and
Kattavia aerodromes (Rhodes).
(H.Q. R.A.F., M.E. 1206/13).

Harbour
Defence.

Summary of harbour defence material being
sent to Mediterranean. Policy is to send
as much as possible leaving its application
to you.
(D. of L.D. 1211/13 to C.in C. Med.)

TRIUMPH.

Operation cancelled. Return to Malta.
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 1656/13 to TRIUMPH).

Malta
Air
Report.

Combined services report Malta up to 1700
hours 13/2. Sunderland patrolled Western
Ionian Sea sighted at 0927/13 Italian
Hospital ship 12000 tons 36° N., 16° 14' E.
course 25° speed 10 knots.
1807/12. One enemy aircraft dropped
bombs Luga seriously damaging 1 Wellington
slight damage 1 Whitley, no casualties,
night Hurricane up no interception.
1408/13 R.C. by 5 German A/C, probably from
Comiso.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1715/13).

A/C
Operation
UNIQUE.

Swordfish aircraft will be operating from
Kuriat to 034° 33' 011° 50' between about
0100 and 0200 A/14. UNIQUE is to retire to
to S.W. and remain to West of 011° 30' until
latter time.
(Commndr(S) 1, 1755/13 to S/M's on Patrol).

Anti-
Invasion
Device.

Your 2359/7. (Re contents of A.L.M./L.D.
01407/40 being communicated to Turkish
authorities.). No objection.
(Head of M. 1920/13 to C.in C. Med.).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.13.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)UPHOLDER.

USK report blank. Carry out (? previous) orders.
(Commdr.(S) 1, 2037/13 to UPHOLDER).

Enemy
Mines.
Benghazi.

My 2230/12. (No trace in War Reg).
Magnetic mines were laid by enemy aircraft in Benghazi harbour during night 12/13./2.
(C.in C. Med., 2145/13).

Germans
in
Morocco.

From ^{Wagon}~~Wagon~~, from reliable source in Casablanca. Arrival of Germans in French Morocco.
(Telegram No. 2399). (Consul-General New York, 2325/13 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.RANCHI

My 1244/3 RANCHI is to leave patrol so as to arrive Durban 1400Z/15.
(C.in C. E.I., 0650Z/13, to RANCHI).

HILDA MOLLER.

A.M.1919/12 sailed 10/2 for Singapore and has been recalled to Colombo.
(C.in C. E.I. 0722/13.).

Shipment of Prisoners.

C.in C. E.I. 0706/9 para 2 confirmed
(P.S.T.O. India, 0821Z/13).

B.N.15.

Convoy arrival telegram Port Sudan portion arrived 13/2. (N.O.I.C. Port Sudan, 0850Z/13).

Operation
"Composition"
F.A.A. attack
on Massawa.

A0726/41 }
A0696/41 }

Massawa attacked by 14 Albacores at 0130Z/13. Attack badly hampered by Cants. Result torpedo attack Northern Harbour. Ships of convoy not sighted. Probably one hit on ship at Jetty where S/M and supply ship reported by reconnaissance. One merchant ship sunk outside Northern Harbour. Second Merchantship possibly sunk either by torpedo or bomb. Bombing attack on destroyers in main Harbour. One probable hit on large destroyer. Heavy close range fire, especially in Northern Harbour. 2 aircraft did not return of which one reported forced landing engine trouble 330 Massawa 20 miles.
(FORMIDABLE 1614/13).

Operation
"Canvas",
Kismayu,
Mogadishu.

My 1926/12 (see Italian Merchant Ships) Situation report 1730Z/13 (i) CERES boiler defects repaired. (ii) CAPETOWN bombed off Brava, no damage. (iii) SHROPSHIRE fired on a merchant ship at Mogadishu several straddled. Results not observed. No reply from shore batteries (iv) KANDAHAR fired 3 salvoes at Kismayu Island. No reply from shore batteries. (V) SHROPSHIRE will demonstrate off Kismayu 0230Z/14 (VI) UCKERMARK is still afloat on even keel.

/ CERES

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. (Contd.).Operation
"Canvas",
Kismayu
Mogadishu.
(contd.)

CERES will attempt tow to Mombasa tomorrow Friday (VII) One enemy ship 1,000 tons aground 4 miles south of Brava (VIII) Military progress report not yet received and above naval report is probably incomplete.

(C.in C. E.I., 1820Z/13, to Admty.).
My 1820/13.

(1) Air reconnaissance Kismayu a.m./13 showed one ship scuttled in harbour, oil all over the harbour from tanks which have been drained. No A/A fire, and town apparently been evacuated.

2. KANDAHAR's three salvos were to test if shore batteries still in action.

(C.in C. E.I., 2020Z/13, to Admty., etc.).

Re attack
on whale
factory ships
15/1.

Believed Whale Factory Ships, Supply Ship and 11 catchers were taken by enemy raider on 15/1 about 700 men will have been made prisoner, and 150,000 barrels of whale oil captured.

Opinion in South Georgia amongst local whalers is that these ships taken to either Prince Edward Island 047° S. 038° E., Crozet Island, 047° S. 050° E., or Kerguelen Island, 049° S. 07° E. where whale oil will be transferred to Japanese ships Japanese whale factory ships are known to have been working near 090° E.

(D.N.I. 1937/13, to C.in C. E.I.).

GLASGOW.

Request GLASGOW be sailed for Aden as soon as possible after arrival at Suez at best speed. (C.in C. E.I., 2010Z/13 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal.).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.→ DANAE.

Your 1805/12/11 and 1837/12. Request I may also retain DANAE due to sail 15/2. (C.in C. China, 0243Z/13).

Japanese Preparations.

F.E.W. 17. At request of C.in C. F.E., F.E.Weekly Report will be supplemented by daily signal while present tension continues. (c) Hainan. About 50 transports in November, no later reports. Warships available as escort to potential expeditionary force varies daily, but following important reinforcements from Japan are with South China Fleet: - 4 cruisers MOGAMI class, ABUKUMA with First Destroyer Squadron, Japanese aircraft carrier HIRYU and one unit thought to be a battleship. (d) Hong Kong about 6000 Japanese troops on border but recent operations offer no further strategic threat. (h) Rumours of early recall of Japanese shipping as yet unconfirmed. Present traffic normal but only old ships trading west of Singapore. Numbers of Japanese returning home increasing slightly. (C.O.I.S., Singapore, 0311Z/13, to Admty. etc.).

Flying-Boat Tenders.

⁶ SHENKING to be requisitioned as flying boat tender. Second tender required, CITY OF DURBAN not suitable. (A.H.Q., Far East, 1028/13 to Air Ministry).

→ DANAE
DELHI

My 1805/12/11/1940. Certain re-distribution of forces is under consideration. Sailing of DANAE to join South Atlantic Command is to be held in abeyance. Movement of DELHI to refit at Singapore is to continue. (D.O.D.(F) 1709/13 to C.in C's, China, S.A., E.I.).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.

Ice Reports. Field of ice necessitating reduction in speed of ships reported 5/2 in (049° ?) 00' N. 050° 00' W. and 7/2 in position 045° 15' N. 060° 45' W. (F.O. 3 B.S., 0933/13, to N.A. Escort Force).

CARADOC. CARADOC leaves Aruba 16/2 to rendezvous with DESPATCH for exercises. (C.in C. A.W.I. 1142/13).

Australia.

SYDNEY Has arrived at Sydney after nearly a year of war service abroad. In many encounters with enemy, no member of crew lost. Navy Minister, Mr. Hughes, states that while abroad SYDNEY had steamed 80,000 miles, fought a score of actions against enemy craft and shore batteries, fired 4,000 shells, and withstood 60 bombing attacks. (The Times, 14/2/41).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.NORBURG
LARISSA
ARKADIAIstanbul 12/2 arrivals German NORBURG,
German LARISSA. Departures German ARKADIA,
Burgas. (Galatz, 1414/13).BABITONGASantos reports BABITONGA is alongside
ILHA BARNABE and receiving 986 tons diesel
oil drums. Oil was discharged Santos from
Montevideo by Brazilian ships CABADELLO and
ALEGRETE.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo 1424Z/13).UCKERMARK.Still afloat on an even keel. CERES will
attempt to tow to Mombasa tomorrow.
(C.in C. E.I., 1820Z/13 to Admty.).ASKARIReport of an enemy ship of 1,000 tons
ashore 4 miles S. of Brava, 100' S.W. of
Mogadishu, possibly refers to ASKARI, 590
G.T. (D.S. 528).ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.CAPO LENA.Reported that CAPO LENA sailed from Vigo
2300/12. Destination unknown.
(D.D.I.C. 0501/13, to F.O.C.N.A. etc.).
Informing N. Atlantic Station (F.O.C.N.A.,
0750/13).ERNANI
CHERCAYour 0047/13 (Asking for name of ship
mentioned in 1230/12). Name is Spanish
Government Transport CONTRAMAERSTRE CASADO.
Vessel left last night, presumably (? for)
Spain, loaded here glycerine, castor seed
and castor oil ex enemy ERNANI, also tin
ingots ex enemy CHERCA. Woermann lighters
and personnel employed in loading cargo.
(Consul, Las Palmas, 1200/13, to Admty.).GERARCHIA.Report of "large Italian military troopship"
leaving Sal on 13/2 for North, if correct,
probably refers to GERARCHIA, refuging in
Cape Verde Islands since July 1940. (D.S.528).GARIBALDI5278 tons. Reported hit in dry dock during
the recent bombardment of Genoa. (D.S.528).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.W.B. WALKER
(torpedoed
29/1).Sailed Tug SALVONIA to stern half of
W.B. WALKER in position 56° 27' N.
09° 40' W. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0855/13,
to C.in C. W.A.).JAMAICA
PRODUCER.Your 2209/12. Re alleged attack by
submarine.

- (a) 118° estimated from route
- (b) U-boat
- (c) Approximately ahead
- (d) Turned 180° to starboard.
- (e) No. U-boat crash dived.
- (f) No.
- (g) No.

Further information should be available
later. (D. A/S. W., 1210/13, to C.in C.
H.F.).H.G.53.Gibraltar 13/2 1130, arrival VELOX with
26 survivors from ships of convoy H.G.53.
Further signals follow.
(S.O.I., Gib., 1400/13, to Admty.).ARTHUR F.
CORWIN.British tanker, 10516 tons. (Straggler
from Convoy H.X.106) Following has been
read: 60.20 N., 17.11 W., ARTHUR F. CORWIN
torpedoed. (? Scapa, 1429/13).
Detach one ship to assist ^{ARTHUR F.} CORWIN torpedoed
in 060° 20' N. 017° 11' W. at 1529/13, ship
detached to report name when well clear of
convoy. (C.in C. W.A., 1603/13, to MALCOLM)
On arrival of MARAUDER and ST. OLAVES
request you sail them forthwith in company
to assistance of ARTHUR F. CORWIN, torpedoed
60° 20' N., 17° 11' W. at 1530 today.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1709/13, to N.O.I.C.
Aultbea).Am proceeding to assistance of ^{ARTHUR F.} CORWIN.
(BURNHAM, 1715/13, to C.in C. W.A.).Met EDWARD T. JOHNSON 060° 50' N. 015° 50' W.
With ^{ARTHUR F.} CORWIN when attacked, position given
35 miles too far West. Am proceeding full
speed to correct position. KINGCUP and
3 trawlers escorting tanker 090° 8 knots.
(LA MALOUINE, 1745/13, to A.C.W.A.).

ARTHUR F. CORWIN on fire ...

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2.1941.
Thursday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked (Contd.)ARTHUR F.
CORWIN.
(contd.).

CORWIN on fire sinking, no survivors found. Cannot now locate two other ships seen to be on fire near her. LA MALOUINE searching area until daylight. Am proceeding to Loch Ewe to oil. (BURNHAM, 2116/13, to C.in C. W.A.).
1756. D/F at 1756/13 position of German U/Boat approx. 56° 30' N. 21° to 23° W. Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C. 1834/13 (amended 2155/13) (C.in C. W.A. 1959/13 to ABERDEEN). Arrival Tug ST. OLAVES. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 2327/13).

Submarines Reported.

2040/12.

Submarine reported by Greek Ministry of Marine, South East of Phleva 2040/12. Greek Torpedo Boat was sent out. (N.A. Athens, 0118/13).

1600/12.

Ponta Delgada reports submarine in 037° 35' N. 025° 17' W. at 1500 G.M.T./12 Graded A.1. This may be TUNA. (F.O.C.N.A. 0210/13, to N. Atlantic Station). (F.O.C.N.A. 0222/13 to TUNA).

U-Boat estimated in position 54° 35' N. 14° 35' W. may be proceeding South. (C.in C. W.A., 1135/13, to LONDONDERRY, FREESIA).

Estimated U Boat dispositions 1300/12
One German near 038° N. 021° 30' W.
One Italian possibly near Madeira. Italian steamship CAPO LENA 4820 tons left Vigo 1300 February 12th for unknown destination speed 12½ knots. (Capt. S. 8. 1216/13, to TUNA).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.2. 1941.
Thursday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported. (Contd.)

1447. Message A.F.
Position 60° 20' N: 17° 11' W. at 1347/13.
G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 1615/13).

1513. D/F at 1413/13 G.M.T.
Position of German U-Boat was in the vicinity
of Finisterre. Unreliable fix.
(D.D.I.C. 1636/13.) (F.O.C.N.A., 1831/13
to N.A. Stn.).

By D/F at 1930/13 position of German U-boat
approx. 47° N. 6° 30' W., possibly homeward
bound. (D.D.I.C. 2017/13.).

Estimated U/B
dispositions.German.

One 40 miles of 58° N. 24° 30' W.
One 40 miles of 56° 30' N. 23° W.
One 40 miles of 55° 30' N. 18° 30' W.
One 60 miles of 54° 30' N. 14° 30' W.
may move to southward.
One 60 miles of 52° 30' N. 22° 30' W.
Possibly one 90 miles of 61° N. 13° W.
One about 40° 30' N. 21° 30' W.

Italian.

3 about 45° N. 10° W. at 2034/12,
probably moving to intercept H.G.53.
One N.W. Approaches.
(D.D.I.C. 1244/13.).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.U-Boat
North
of 60°N.

A Submarine has appeared north of 60°N; S.S. ARTHUR F CORWIN was torpedoed yesterday and there have been recent reports of sighting. BURNHAM, sent to assist A.F. CORWIN reported two other ships on fire near her which she was unable later to locate. The area is vital, not only because of congestion of shipping but also because it covers the route constantly used by the Fleet. C. in C. Home Fleet urges the need for effective action at once.

Two Mine-sweeping Corvettes have been detailed as Escort to the U.K.-Gibraltar Convoy O.G. 53, there being at present no other Corvettes available with the necessary A/A armament.

Search for
enemy cruiser.

NIGERIA and ARETHUSA, after fuelling at Reykjavik, sailed from there at 0810 this morning to resume their patrol of the ~~Denmark Strait, Iceland-Faroes passage.~~

German W/T activity suggests coastal movements on the French coast south of Brest which may be connected with the ADMIRAL SCHEER or an 8-inch Cruiser.

British Air Activity.

Blenheim A/C made a R/C today of Brest; and also of the S.W. Approaches as far as 7° 30'W. with the object of locating an Enemy Surface Raider. Visibility was very bad and nothing was sighted.

A Blenheim fighter on patrol today attacked and damaged with 20lb bombs a small tanker off Bergen. A Blenheim attacked and hit a ship off the Texel: the Texel was bombed by other Blenheims.

/Barges.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.British Air Activity. (contd).

Barges and docks were attacked at Calais at 0030 and Ostend docks this evening.

A. F.A.A. Swordfish bombed Dunkirk harbour this evening.

Enemy Air Activity.

Three F.W. aircraft carried out a R/C yesterday between 45° and 49° N. to as far West as $16^{\circ} 40' W.$, sometimes reporting that no Naval Forces had been seen.

Several Convoys were attacked during the day without result, The Minelayer TEVIOT BANK was slightly damaged by a near miss off Flamborough Head just before midnight; operation B.S. 51 was abandoned in consequence. Unknown vessels were also attacked this morning off the Moray Firth and in the Atlantic 200 miles West of Malin Head. S.S. MOORLANDS (420 tons) was slightly damaged when attacked off Benff this morning.

French Trawler ELISABETH MARIE, ^{as trawler from} ~~in~~ Convoy S.C. 21 was sunk by aircraft W.N.W. of Blacksod Bay today.

Incendiary bombs were dropped today on a convoy near the Longships Light, by an aircraft believed to be identical with one which had given the correct reply to challenge 3 minutes earlier.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.Mining.

Many enemy aircraft were over the Humber before midnight 14/15 and minelaying on a minor scale is suspected. 4 Mines were exploded today by Sweepers off Spurn Point one in the Bristol Channel, one off Girdleness, and one 4 miles from the Bar Light Vessel at Liverpool; and off Harwich M.T.B. 41 struck a floating Mine this morning and sank, only 3 ratings being saved.

Operation
P.W.4.

The mining operation on the Belgian coast by 3 M.T.B's was completed this morning.

Operation
B.S.51

TEVIOT BANK and WHITSHED left the Humber at 1730 to lay mines off the north-east coast. TEVIOT BANK returned after being damaged by air attack off Flamborough Head and the operation was postponed.

Aircraft
minelaying.

Beauforts laid mines early this morning in Karsund Fiord near Haugesund under cover of a diversion by bombing.

Atlantic Convoys.Protection
of convoys
against
raiders.

Arrangements have been made for the reinforcement of the North Atlantic convoys. (H.G, O.G, H.X.) against surface raiders.

Attack on
Convoy S.L.S.64.

Four British and 2 Greek ships of the convoy which was attacked by a raider on 12/2 have arrived at Funchal. One of the British ships, S.S. VOLTURNO is slightly damaged.

MARON, searching for survivors of S.L.S.64 reports that two torpedoes passed ahead of her this evening.

War Diary.

14.2.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

A decision was arrived at to-day concerning the submarine patrol off Ponta Delgada.

Mediterranean.

Swordfish
Attack on
convoy.

A force of 4 Swordfish with torpedoes and flares last night attacked a convoy of 4 merchant vessels escorted by 2 destroyers on the Tripoli trade route, and torpedoed and probably sank one merchant ship.

Air raid
on Malta.

^{(?) in Malta}
Pime^zfarfa Hospital was damaged and some patients were killed and injured during an air raid last night.

Convoy for
Benghazi.

^{c.}
Convoy A.N.1 left Alexandria p.m. to-day for Benghazi escorted by COVENTRY and 2 corvettes. Light forces are covering this convoy and the Piraeus convoy A.N.15.

Coast defence
of Suda.

The Army are now taking over the coast defence of Suda from LIVERPOOL's landing party.

Valetta
Harbour
mined.

Mines were laid off Valetta Harbour during an air raid on the harbour between 1940 to 2340 today. The Grand Harbour has been closed; one mine is reported in the harbour.

Rhodes
bombed.

3 Wellingtons last night bombed the aerodromes on Rhodes.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies.Operation
"Canvas".

Kismayu was occupied by our Troops this afternoon. There are 3 scuttled ships there and possibly a fourth afloat. One is aground near Brava and it is thought 2 at Mogadishu. Coastal batteries at Kismayu and Muanga were bombarded at a range of 2-3000 yards, but there was no reply from the enemy. CAPETOWN and SHROPSHIRE were bombed by enemy aircraft from Merca which harassed our ships.

America & West Indies.

In view of the Japanese situation, DIOMEDE, who has been patrolling off Talcahuano, has been ordered to move north and establish a patrol off Callao when she leaves Valparaiso.

Australia.

Mines have been swept up in 35°17' 30" S. 151° 47'E. (about 70 miles East of C.Howe Victoria) *H.V.** NIBLIN was sunk near this position on 5/12/40. **NIMBIN intended see B.R.1337.*

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.2 Corvettes
for Gibraltar
Convoys.

Your 2248/10. VERBENA and DELPHINIUM are detailed for O.G. 53. Both of these are fitted for mine sweeping but there are no corvettes at present available not so fitted who have requisite A/A armament.

2. Intend to relieve VERBENA and DELPHINIUM as soon as more suitable corvettes are available.

(C. in C. W.A. 1152/14 to Adty).

Anti-U-Boat
Measures.

Need for Hunting Group with Air R/C.
(C. in C. H.F. 1154/14 to C. in C. W.A)
See U-Boat Campaign.

KEPPEL.

As BOADICEA has sailed to join your command propose KEPPEL be transferred to W.A. Command. (C. in C. W.A. 1306/14 to C. in C.H.F)

Defence of U.K.Scapa A/A
Defences.

Your 2338/13 and my 1802/11. Guns are kept at very short notice and warning at 8 miles was received by G.L. Set continually on look out to the North West for this purpose. There was no appreciable delay in opening fire and guns within range fired 140 rounds.

My 1802/11 to C. in C. H.F. was intended to emphasise that until our R.D.F. cover to the North West has been improved additional precautions are necessary in the Fleet in this direction. These precautions have already been taken.

(A.C.O.S. 1142/14 to Adty).

"Deluge".
DELUGE.

At 1130/14 (D.C. 1154/14) At 2300/14
(D.C. 2345/14).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.BOREAS.Arrived Scapa 2200/13.
(A.C.O.S. 0052/14).11th M/S F.Sailing postponed owing to weather.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0400/14)LA CAPRICIEUSE
(R/V with SNAPPER).My 2213/13. Return to the Clyde.
(S.2. 0902/14 to LA CAPRICIEUSE).5th D.F.KELLY, JACKAL, KASHMIR, and KIPLING will
be required to sail about noon tomorrow.
(C. in C. W.A. 1106/14).One ship of 5th D.F. is to proceed with
despatch to Plymouth.
(D.O.D.H. 1129/14).
Your 1129/14 JACKAL detailed.
(D.5. 1134/14 to Adty).UNBEATEN.Intend sailing at 1830/15 diving by day.
Route. E.T.A. Needles 0800/16. Request
escort to meet her.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1441/14).Northern
Patrol.Trawler lines tonight. 5 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1539/14).RESOLUTION.F.O.C.N.A. 1246/13 and 1022/14, and C. in
C. W.A. 1905/4.
1 A/A protection is of great importance.
2. Request therefore you arrange with
C. in C. W.A. for one HUNT, or if possible
two, from Portsmouth to meet RESOLUTION
in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1905/4
para 4.
(D.O.D. H. 1547/14 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

/SURCOUF.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.(contd).SURCOUF.
for Halifax.

My 1914/15/1. SURCOUF is to be sailed on 19/2 for Halifax routed as follows. SURCOUF will enter A. and W.I. Station at 1200/25/2. (F.O.S. 1549/14 to S.3).

O.23.

Leave patrol after dark today routed as follows to arrive Gap A 0400/17. (S.9. 1601/14 to O.43).

S/M's.

Positions at 0800/15 and Movements for following 24 hours. (F.O.S. 1724/14 and 2129/14).

TEVIOT BANK.
WHITSHED.

Sailed 1730. (F.O. Humber 1745/14/2).

TALISMAN.

Leave patrol now through 048° 22'N. 006° 02'W. and R/V with escort in 325°. Pendeen Light eight miles at 0800/16. (S.2. 1908/14 to TALISMAN). My 1908. Your escort is LA CAPRICIEUSE. (S.2. 1923/14 to TALISMAN).

Operations.Patrol of Iceland.
Denmark Faroes Passage.
Strait.

NIGERIA and ARETHUSA sailed 0810 G.M.T. (F.O. Iceland 0720/14).

Jan Mayen.

Re. W/T communication. (A.C.N.S.(H.) 1203/14 to F.O.I.C. Iceland).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.Patrols.

C. in C. H.F. 1553/13. Following patrols arranged today.
R.2. a.m. by one Sunderland. ~~FOGLE~~ "Fugle"
(as in my 1931/10) p.m. by one Sunderland.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0016/14).

Air Patrol today, in addition to my 0016/14. ~~FOGLE~~, ~~FOGLE~~, reconnaissance Kristiansand (S. Norway) South. These are in operation now.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1030/14).
My 0016/14. Patrol ~~FOGLE~~ cancelled owing to weather.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1124/14).

My 0016/14. Now "Fugle" will be flown during daylight by two Sunderlands. First Sunderland arriving on patrol at 0900/15. Second Sunderland about 1500/15.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2116/15 to NIGERIA, ARETHUSA).

R.C. of Brest & S.W. Approaches.

C. As soon as weather permits one section of Blenheims to carry out reconnaissance of Brest. If no enemy cruiser is present aircraft to sweep down track 232° T. as far as $07^{\circ} 30' W.$ and thence to Base, object to locate enemy surface raider. (H.Q.C.C. 0928/14 to 19 Group). Blenheim Aircraft will be carrying out reconnaissance of Brest and S.W. Approaches to Kerry Head today.
(F.O.S. 1016/14 to S/M's Area B).

Minelaying Operations.
S.N. 7 B.
S.N. 68A.

My 1446/14. Request air R.C. to cover approach of enemy surface force towards R.A.M.L. from Eastward during daylight 17/2.
(C. in C. H.F. 1448/14 to C. in C. Rosyth).

Occult 12.

F.O.6 X 165 14th Feb. Occult 12 commencing operations 18th Feb. as detailed in S.D. 214.
(Air Ministry 0940/14).

/801.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (contd).801 Squadron.

801 Squadron at an I.E. of twelve aircraft is to be moved forthwith to St. Merryn.
(5th S.L. 1315/14 to A.C.O.S).

Own A/C
fired on
10/1.

Following from Air Ministry:- Begins. X914 12/2. Without prejudice to current or subsequent action request you submit any information available concerning Wellington 1 C.T. 2460 149 Squadron which was fired at by surface vessel over Thames Estuary at 0130/10/1. 1733/12. Ends.
2. Request any information available may be forwarded.
(D. of L.D. 1633/14 to C. in C. Nore).

Enemy Air Activity.

R.C. of
S.W. Approaches

3 F.W. Aircraft carried out a reconnaissance as far as 16° 40' W. between 43° and 49° today 13/2.
Comprehensive weather reports including the state of the sea were made and in many instances they reported no naval forces observed.
(D.D.I.C. 0004/14).

Unknown Ship.

Automatic AAAA signal heard at 1005 strength 3 bearing Wick 161°.
(Lyness 1009/14).

MOORLANDS.

(British, 420 Tons) Unknown Vessel being bombed off Banff 1045/14.
(Lyness, Recd. 1150/14).
MOORLANDS on passage from Dundee to Lyness with cargo of stone and sand entered Buckie Harbour at 1225/14 after being attacked by a single enemy aircraft at 1045/14 2 miles North of Sands End Bay. Aircraft dropped one bomb which fell 25 feet from starboard bow and machine gunned vessel. No casualties but vessel is making water in forward compartment. Skipper states aircraft was twin engined with single tail fin.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1431/14).

/Unknown.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)

Unknown Ship. S.O.S. in 54° 50' N. 14° 10' W.
Crew has abandoned ship (Text in German or Dutch).
(Valentia Radio 1135/14) (Port Patrick Radio 1155/14).
Detach one ship to assist unknown ship bombed in 054° 50' N. 014° 10' W. at 1237/14. (C.in C. W.A. 1312/14 to VANOC).

CAPE RODNEY.

(British, 4500 tons). N.O.I.C. Leith reports at 1800/14 CAPE RODNEY in ballast anchored Leith Roads. After hold flooded, will be pumped out by tomorrow. At 1830/13 ship sustained damage by near miss 10 feet on starboard quarter causing 4 inch gun to go overboard and leak in after hold. Two other bombs dropped astern of ship did not explode.
Ship was also machine gunned and Hotchkiss gun was hit.
No casualties. Ship opened fire with Hotchkiss. Results uncertain.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1929/14).

Unknown Ship.

Unknown vessel bombed in 57° 5' N. 9° 7' W. (Port Patrick Radio 1350/14).
Proceed forthwith to assist unknown vessel in 57° 05' N. 09° 08' W. at 1459 today.
(G.F.O.I.C. Greenock 1935/14 to SALVONIA, SOUTHERN PRIDE).

Convoy E.N. Odd.

Air raid imminent ^{"Usage"}~~usage~~. (Lyness 1702/14).
Fighters being sent. (Lyness 1704/14).
Negative Air Raid imminent ~~usage~~ ^{"Usage"}. (Lyness 1724/14).

3 Tankers
1 M/V
2 A/S Trawlers)

^{"Loose"}~~Loose~~ 270° Lands End 2.
(DERBY COUNTY 1920/14).

TEVIOT BANK.

Injured by near miss.
(WHITSHED 2325/14 to N.O.I.C. Humber).

/ Convoy F.N. Even. ...

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.).Convoy F.N.
Even.

"Agent"
Convoy ~~XXXX~~, being bombed.
My position 52° 51' N. 1° 43' E. course
343° speed 8 knots.
2345/14. (from whom?)

Convoy F.N.7.

Being attacked by aircraft. My position
54° 18' N. (?longitude).
(SOUTHDOWN 2352/14).

WHITSHED.

Am being attacked by Air Attack, my
position 54° 11' N. (?longitude).
(WHITSHED 2355/14).

Mining.M.T.B.41
(Mined and
sunk).

M.T.B.41 in 51° 57' 30" N. 2° 27' 30" E.
from initial report struck a floating
mine blowing to pieces and sinking in a
few seconds. Three ratings only saved.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1031/14).

Bristol
Channel.

Acoustic mine exploded by S.A. gear
339° distant 2.45 miles from Flathom Light.
(N.O.I.C. Swansea 1101/14).

Obstruction
on 12/2.

Master of S.S. RUDBY reports that at
1945/12 he struck an obstruction between
7 and 7A buoys. Ship had sailed from
Ipswich to join FN5⁴ - was not damaged.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 1219/14).

P.W.4.
(Belgian
Coast).

Operation completed.
(C.in C. Nore 1420/14).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)S.N. 7 B.
and
S.N. 68 A.

R.A.M.L's 0925/12 Para. D.2. Delete C.S.18 in EDINBURGH and RODNEY. Substitute AURORA and REPULSE.
 (ii) AURORA is to rendezvous with R.A. Minelayers at 0930/16.
 (iii) REPULSE screened by three destroyers is to sail P.M./15th to cover operation. (C.in C. H.F. 1446/14).

Sweep of
Gap A.

My 1911/13 and my 1017/14. In view of weather report from Aberdeen operations postponed a further 24 hours. S.P.5th M/S Flotilla inform SPEEDY. Am remaining at Fraserburgh. (S.O. 1st M/S. F. 1729/14).

Aberdeen
Area.

One drifting German X Mine has been sunk half a mile east of Girdleness in 15 fathoms. Mine appears in new condition. (N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1758/14 and 1852/14).

Spurn
Point.

The following four mines exploded today. Particulars. (F.O. Humber 1840/14).

Liverpool.

Mine report to 1800/14. One detonated by L L in 275° Bar Light Vessel 4 miles. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2245/14).

Humber.

Many enemy aeroplanes over Humber tonight Friday. Suspected minelaying on a minor scale. (F.O. Humber 2345/14).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence.Biscay
Coast.

German W/T activity suggests coastal movements on French coast south of Brest. This may be in connection with ADMIRAL SCHEER or an 8 inch cruiser. (D.D.I.C. 1421/14).

Nickel Ore.

Information from two members of crew of Finnish WIPUNEN at different times indicates clearly nickel ore P is now being transported in considerable quantities from Finland by road to Kirkeness. Full report will follow. (C.C.S.O. Kirkwall 2210/14.).

MOST SECRETWar Diary14.2.1941.
FridayHOME COMMANDSShipping and ConvoysGeneralSubmarines,
as Convoy
Escorts.

Policy re use of submarines in existing ocean convoys for anti-raider operations. (D.A./S.W., 1040/14 to F.O.S., F.O.C.N.A., B.S. 3.) See Operations Volume.

Position of submarines in a convoy when a close escort is present. (D.A./S.W. 1141/14 amending A.L.M. 0446/40 of 29/3/1940.)

Darkening
Ship.

Reference AUSONIA's 143/23 of 28/12 the method employed of enforcing the darkening of the ships appears to be so successful that it is suggested that it should be adopted by other ocean escorts. (D.T.D., 1122/14 to R.A. (3))

Stragglings

Admty. 1713/29/1. Stragglings has become so grave a danger that it is considered that the arrival of the convoy at the rendezvous complete is of greater importance than arrival on time with ships missing. (D.T.D., 1123/14 to A.I.G., 47 etc.)

U-Boat
Disposition
Signals

Capt. D. Liverpool reports. Recent U-Boat disposition signals have not been received by convoy escorts until the following morning. Request they may be transmitted as soon as possible after being originated in order that early action may be taken when necessary by S.O. escorts. 1130/14 ends. (C. in C., W.A., 1526/14 to Admty.)

Ice Report

Following from Ottawa. Field ice necessitating reduction in speed of ships reported 5/2 in position 49° 00' N., 50° 00' W., and 7/2 in position 45° 15' N., 60° 45' W., (D.T.D. 1226/14 to N.C.S.O.'s)

/Divisions...

MOST SECRETWar Diary14.2.1941.
FridayHOME COMMANDSShipping & ConvoysGeneral-Contd.Diversions

A.M. 1629/24/1. Masters of ships should be given an approximate estimation of the length of their voyages based on a diversion taking them north of 59° N. (D.T.D., 2027/14, to N.C.S.O., Freetown)

Coastal Convoys

O.B.C. 286.

Sailed 0325/13, escort ERICA, 18 ships. (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 0335/14 amended 0928/14) List of ships (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1400/14)

F.N. 7.407

Position, thick fog. (SOUTHDOWN, 0350/14) Proceeding. (SOUTHDOWN 0858/14) Destinations. (N.C.S.O. Humber 1620/14)

F.S. 410.

Position, thick fog. (VORTIGERN, 0522/14) Arrivals (N.C.S.O. Humber 1744/14)

W.N. 83.

Position. (ELLESMERE, 0540/14)

O.B. 286

Sailed 0615/14 unescorted (N.C.S.O. Belfast 0901/14) List. (N.C.S.O., Mersey, 1057/14)

E.N. 71.

Addition and absentees. (C. in C., Rosyth 0910/14) CURACOA reports no trawlers. (C. in C., W.A., 1256/14 to PIROUETTE) Absentees (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1126/14)

F.N. 5.405

Arrived 0830/14. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 0932/14) Tyne ships arrivals. (F.O.I.C., Tyne, 0946/14) (N.C.S.O. Sunderland 1030/14, N.C.S.O., Humber, 0950/14)

F.S. 9.409

Position, 22 ships for London. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1000/14) Arrivals. (N.C.S.O. Humber 0948/14)

F.N. 6.406

Arrived 1000/14. (N.C.S.O. Methil, 1012/14) Arrivals (N.C.S.O., Sunderland, 1030/14, N.C.S.O. Humber, 0948/14)

/F.N. 8.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14. 2. 1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Coastal Convoys Contd.

F.N.B.406

Shipping and Convoys Contd.

Sailed 0900/14, 16 ships. (N.C.S.O. Thames 1043/14.) List. (N.C.S.O. Thames, 1113/14.) 11 ships to join at 62 Buoy, (N.C.S.O. Humber 1721/14.)

E.N.72.)
W.N.85.)

JASON as additional A/A escort. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0945/14.) E.N.72, time, escorts, 18 ships, codes. (N.C.S.O. Methil 1215/14.)

F.S. & F.N.

Forecast of sailings and escorts.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2017/14.)

O.B.O. 286.

Sailed 0620/14, Escort list of ships.
(N.C.S.O. Oban 0915/14.)

F.S. & 408

Arrivals. (N.C.S.O. Humber 0948/14.)

F.N.4,3.404,403

Arrivals. (N.C.S.O. Humber 0950/14.)

O.B.C.287.

2355/16, 5 ships, (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1105/14.)

W.N.85.

Code word "Rusty" (C. in C. Rosyth 1259/14.) 1924/14, 20 ships. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 2015/14.) See also E.N.72.

E.N.70.

Arrivals. (N.C.S.O. Oban 1431/14.)

F.S.11.411

Sailed (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1507/14.) 7 ships from Humber to join at 62 D buoy (N.C.S.O. Humber 1716/14) List of ships. (F.O.i/c. Tyne 1718/14, C. in C. Rosyth 1333/14.)

W.N.81.

Non arrivals (N.C.S.O. Methil 1610/14.)
See Page 501.

/C.E.25.....

MOST SECRET.14. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Coastal Convoys Contd.
C.E.25.

11. M.V's.

O.B.283.

Ocean Convoys.
COPTIC.

S. C. 20.

H.G.51.

H X 10⁷.

(See 1/2/41 p.31)

Shipping and Convoys Contd.

Sailed, less L'INCOMPRISE. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1644/14.) Destinations (N.C.S.O. Portsmouth 1747/14.)

To sail 1830/15. (N.C.S.O. Dartmouth 2258/14.)

List of ships. (N.C.S.O. Aultbea 2300/14.)

Sailing for Capetown. Route. (N.C.S.O. Clyde 1283/14.)

(Late)
48 hours at rendezvous heavy weather. Stragglers ahead of convoy bombed and sunk DIONE II, CALAFATIS and IOANNIS M. EMBIRICOS. Torpedoed and sunk MAPLECOURT. Convoy was not attacked. EMPIRE ENGINEER not yet reported. (D.T.D. 1636/14. to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

Your 1704/12. All ships HG.51. arrived U.K. except HOMESIDE which sprung a leak and sank and NEVA which broke convoy and proceeded Lisbon. (D.T.D. 1637/14. to F.O.C.N.A.)

Reported at 1700/14 (7055°) 28' N.029° 32' W.000° 9 knots. Convoy dispersed by successive gales. Have lost touch with (?Commodore), passed through and searched vicinity of his rendezvous today and collected one ship. SAN AMADO now in company. Commodore has not repetition not received Admty. 1854/10 or your 1147/13. (LACONIA 1840/14 to C. in C.W.A.)

/SALADIN.....

14. 2. 1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping.

Ocean Convoys, Contd.

H. X. 106.

SALADIN as S.O. local escort during absence of MALCOLM and BURNHAM. (MALCOLM, 1051/14.)

My 1554 and my 1633 corrected position of Convoy H X 106 reported by aircraft at 1406/14 is 061° 10' N, 016° 30' W. Ships should adjust their search as necessary. (C.in C. W.A. 1916/14 to SALADIN.)

→ H. X. 108.

RODNEY to cover. (A.C.N.S.(H) 2332/14.) See FOREIGN STATIONS, Raider Attack on S.L.S.64.)

Military Convoys.

Shipping and Convoys.

W. S. 6.

Messages for W.S.6, Force H and RODNEY and escort will continue to be routed in accordance with W/T organisation for Home Station while temporarily in A and W.I Station and operating with W.S.6. (D.S.D. 1145/14, to S.O. Force H, etc.)

1. My 1909/12. It is intended that on relief as escort to W.S.6. by Force H. RODNEY should proceed to cover convoy H.X.108. 2. RODNEY subsequently to leave convoy in 25°W. and return to Scapa as ordered by you. 3. Request your remarks. (A.C.N.S.H. 1200/14 to C. in C. H.F.)

Your 1200/14. Concur. (C. in C. H.F. 1957/14 to Adty.)

W. S. 6B.

Admiralty 1335/11c, para. three. MAURITIUS is detailed and is to sail from Scapa to arrive Clyde p.m./16. (C. in C. H.F.1450/14.)

COLUMBIA.

Admiralty 1040. Request sailing of S.S. COLUMBIA to Dundee be cancelled. (F.O.S. 1258/14 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.NORTHERN
PRINCESS.

Proceed with all despatch to assist NORTHERN PRINCESS position 061° 03' N. 011° 04' W.
(S.O. Trawlers N.P. 0011/14 to NORTHERN CHIEF).
Have contacted. (NORTHERN CHIEF 0940/14).
Position 061° 06' N. 012° 31' W. by observation. (NORTHERN CHIEF 1030/14).

FAXFLEET.

(British, 843 tons) Coastguard Blakeney Point reports refloated at 0740 and proceeding N.W. in tow of tug.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0825/14).

BEAUMANOIR.

(French, 2324 tons) At anchor in Dunnet Bay reports unable to make good engine room defects without shore assistance. Consider undesirable for her to remain in exposed anchorage. Suggest Metal Industries be informed and vessel towed to Scapa for repairs.
(N.C.S.O. Kirkwall 1025/14).

PRINS
FREDERIK
HENDRIK

Arrived 1135. (N.C.S.O. Barry 1201/14).

BELGIA
(Grounded
13/2).

Arrival KENIA and ST. MELLONS towing derelict S.S. BELGIA and PM/S DUCHESS OF ROTHESAY, at 1808.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1817/14).

Wreck on
Trapegeer
Bank.

M.T.B's on operation P.W.4 report a wreck of ship about 10,000 tons on West end of Trapegeer Bank 200° 1 mile approximately from l.E. Buoy. Wreck not there on last visit. Photographic reconnaissance of this area will be carried out as soon as weather permits. No. 1 E Buoy no longer in position. (C.in C. Nore 1544/14 and 2234/14).

/ ST. LAURENT ...

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.2.1941.
Friday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS. (Contd.)ST. LAURENT.

Has frame buckled marked fore magazine, hull leaking. A/S out of action dome suspected. 7.
(OTTAWA 1631/14).

JAMAICA
PLANTER.

(British, 4098 tons). Intend to make use of H.M. Tug SEINE to assist in salvage of JAMAICA PLANTER a.m./15th.
(F.O.I.C. Cardiff 2000/14).

ATTENTIF.
Unknown ship.

(Rescue Tug). Position about three miles east of Girdleness. Unable to cope with inrush of water unable keep steam. Lights failing. Send immediate assistance. (Cleethorpes Radio 2028/14).
Lying with 2 anchors down Girdleness Light bearing S.W. 3 miles. Fires drawn and no lighting. She appears to be keeping her position. (ATTENTIF 2342/14 to N.O.I.C. Aberdeen).

DROMARA.
(Foundered).

(British, 723 tons). S.S. DROMARA on passage from Londonderry to London after passing Duncansby Head shipped big sea causing cargo to shift giving her a very heavy starboard list. Armed trawler LADY ROSEMARY contacted and escorted her as far as Wick. Unable to enter Wick owing to her draught and state of sea she carried on towards Invergordon with Wick lifeboat standing by but a couple of miles south she had to be abandoned, drifted ashore, and foundered at foot of Old Man of Wick at 1630/14/2 where she now lies a total loss. Wick lifeboat took off crew 13 all told and returned to Wick.
(R.N.O. Wick, 2330/14).

MOST SECRET.14. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Attack by Raider on Convoy S.L.S.64 on
12/2.Raider said
to be HIPPER -
Class.CAMITO rescued from rafts in 37° 14' N,
21° 08' W. at 1400/13, some survivors
from British SHREWSBURY, WARLABY and
Greek PERSEUS of convoy SLS.64. They
state emphatically from silhouettes that
raider was cruiser of HIPPER class.
(D.D.I.C. 0815/14, to C. in C. H.F. etc.)VOLTURNO
arrived.British VOLTURNO, Convoy Freetown to
Oban, arrived Funchal. Attacked 037°
10' N, 021° 20' W. daybreak 12/2, by
Pocket Battleship Type. No casualties,
Slight damage above waterline. Three
other ships expected here. (N.C.S.O.
Funchal, 0904/14, to Admty.)Raider said
to be
BLUCHER - Class.Raider which attacked S.L.S.64 probably
BLUCHER class cruiser. (F.O.C.N.A,
1136/14, to N. Atlantic Stn.)4 ships
arrived.
(S.L.S. 64.)Additional to my 0904/14, arrival four
British ships, (a) VOLTURNO, (b)
BLAIRATHOLL, (c) CLUNEPARK, (d) MARGOT.
Arrival two Greek Ships. (e) ANNA MAZARAKI
(f) POLYKTOR all from Convoy No. S.L.S.
64. Damage (a) Slight (e) and (f) small
engine trouble. List of survivors follow
also names of eight missing from?
(N.C.S.O. Funchal 1644/14.)REGISTAN (O.B.V.)
to join
search.REGISTAN decypher Adty., 1801/12, and
1801/13, and join search. (F.O.C.N.P.
1750/14 to Western Patrol.)

/MARON.....

MOST SECRET.14. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Attack by Raider on Convoy Contd.MARON.

Missed by 2 torpedoes 1845/14, (See U-BOAT CAMPAIGN, 14/2, and also 0154/15.)

Asking description of raider.

Your 0904/14, please endeavour to obtain full description of raider and telegraph to me repeated Adty. (Gibraltar 1857/14, to N.C.S.O. Funchal.)

Raider said to be Battle Cruiser.

Your 1857/14, from Masters interviewed independently with O U publications 6118 German Battle cruiser SCHARNHORST type seems probable. (N.C.S.O. Funchal 1954/14.)

Orders to SHEFFIELD KENYA.

V.C.N.S. 2005/14, C.S.10, 2301N/14, See Operations Volume.

Orders to O.B.V.'s.

Adty., 1801/12, and CAMITO 2100/13. Organise O.B.V.s. named to search area throughout 15/2. 2. At dark 15th O.B.V.s are to return to patrol or to Gibraltar should the number and condition of survivors make this necessary. (V.C.N.S. 2006/14. to CAVINA.)

Unless otherwise ordered by F.O.C.N.P. resume patrol forthwith. (F.O.C.N.A. 2234/14 to O.B.V.'s.) Cancelled See 0239/15.

Orders to RODNEY.

My 1909/12. On relief as escort to W.S.6, by Force H RODNEY is to proceed to cover convoy H.X.108. Estimated p.c. and s. of convoy at 1200/17. 54° 40' N, 37° 10' W, 038°, 8½ knots. (Route) RODNEY is to leave convoy in 25° W. and return to Scapa as ordered by C. in C. H.F. (A.C.N.S.H 2332/14)

14. 2. 41.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

RESOLUTION
delayed.

My 1246/13. Sailing of RESOLUTION postponed owing to heavy south-westerly weather. (F.O.C.N.A. 1022/14, to C. in C. W.A.)

ARK ROYAL
FURIOUS.

F.O.C.N.A. 0958/28/1, and S.O. Force H. 1412/28/1. Decision re transfer of a/c squadrons. (D.N.A.D, 1404/14, to F.O.C.NA)

Air patrols.

1 routine A/S Patrol. 1 moonlight A/S Patrol Area covered Straits. No further flying weather. (200 Group 1700/14.)

WISHART
VIDETTE.

Gibraltar 1910/14, departures WISHART VIDETTE, E.T.A. at Freetown. (Route.) (F.O.C.N.A. 1956/14.)

Germans
in
Morocco.

My No. 6674/13/2. Following C.3. Germans boast they will control French Air Force in Morocco. French Air Force said to be anxious to reach Gibraltar given opportunity and sufficient petrol. (Telegram No. 7750.) (Wagon, Tangier, 2110/14, to Admty.)

Destroyer
reported.

One unknown destroyer reported at 1730/14, in 037° 32' N, 009° 10' W. course South. (F.O.C.N.A. 2350/14, to TUNA.)

MOST SECRET.14. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.EMPIRE
TROOPER.

Your 1409/9, and M.S.R. Freetown's 1102/14/1, to D. of S.T. only. (Accommodation.) (D.S.T. 0154/14, to C. in C. S.A.)

CUBA.
FORT DE
TROYON.

Your 1441/9, CUBA was transmitted in your 0145/3, as MONSIGNORE LAGO. Your 2041/12, as CUBA is urgently required in U.K. for conversion to troop transport could FORT DE TROYON be used instead of CUBA? (D.S.T. 0155/14 to C. in C. in C.S.A.) Your 0155/14. CUBA has been referred to in four signals on this subject to D. of S.T. all arrangements have been made, too late for alteration and CUBA sails 15/2. Further FORT DE TROYON is not suitable. (C. in C. S.A. 1151/14, to D. of S.T.)

SPEYBANK
overdue.

SPEYBANK due Port Elizabeth 10th from Cochin not arrived. (S.O. (1) Capetown 0922/14.)

Shipping
routes
Signals.

My 1921/9. Routes in shipping information signals will be given to nearest degrees only. Discretion may be used in omitting positions on route near the point on arrival and departure. (C. in C. S.A. 1117/14 to S.A. Station Sqn., etc.)

CORNWALL.

Re ammunition to be re-embarked for return passage to U.K. (D.T.S.D. 1139/14, to F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

/EVINOS.....

14. 2. 1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

EVINOS
overdue.

Greek EVINOS due Durban 9/2, from Fremantle not arrived. (S.O.(1) Capetown 1220/14.)

FURIOUS.

Projected employment.(V.C.N.S.1403/14.)
See Operations Volume.

SANDEFJORD.

Request reason for non sailing of tanker SANDEFJORD in S.L.65. Arrived Freetown 27/1. There is a shortage of homeward bound tankers. (D.T.D. 1654/14, to N.C.S.O. Freetown.)

Route for
S.L. Escort.

Request new route and rendezvous for local escort for combined S.L convoy, since S.L.S. ships will be unable to steam the additional distance and can only make $6\frac{1}{2}$ knots under most favourable circumstances. (F.O. 10. C.S., 1700N/14. to C. in C. S.A.)

MOST SECRET.14. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.Mediterranean.Orders to
TRIUMPH
UTMOST.Both to proceed to Malta. Route, etc.
(Cdr. (S) 1 1158/14 to TRIUMPH.)Toras.Re their employment. (C. in C. Med.
1250/14 to Adty.,)Swordfish
attack on
convoy.

Torpedo attack by one Swordfish with flares and three Swordfish with torpedoes on Tripoli (Africa) trade route night of 13/14 Feb., on convoy about four merchant vessels and two escorting destroyers in 035° 00' N, 012° 24' E, at 0125 on course 15°. One definite hit claimed and another possible hit. After attack 3 merchant vessels and one destroyer proceeded leaving second destroyer where attack was making smoke. No sinking ship or wreckage observed.

2. The reports of the aircraft participating were conflicting as visibility was not good and A/A fire from destroyers was intense. Consider there were probably four merchant vessels in convoy one of which was sunk.

3. Another force of four Swordfish despatched to intercept failed to locate the target. (N.O.I.C. Malta 1431/14, H.Q. R.A.F., Malta 2245/14.)

Coast
defence.Suda, ^bTobruk, Benghazi, Present situation
(C. in C. Med. 1628/14.)Greece
Enemy
Propaganda.

For C.O.S. from C. in C. Med. C. in C. M.E, and A.O.C. in C. State of British propaganda in Greece is causing us concern. Unless something done immediately danger that every growing fear of Germany may be seriously exploited to our disadvantage. (C. in C. M.E, 1810/14, to W.O.)

/Tobruk.....

14. 2. 41.
Friday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Tobruk,)
Derna,)
Sollum,)
Benghazi.)

State of clearance for traffic.
(D.O.R., 15/2.) (D.S. 529)

Air Raid
on
Malta.

Night 13/14, 5 enemy aircraft bombed island individually causing slight damage and 9 casualties, Pimearfa Hospital. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1815/14.)

Spain.

Political situation, (N.A. Madrid, 2047/14. to D.N.I.)

Convoys
A.N.15.
A.C. one
ULSTER
PRINCE.

F.O. 2/i.c. Med. Fleet with YORK, BONAVENTURE, AJAX, Capt. (D) 14 and 27th Dn. Dest. split in Aegean and covered A. N. 15, and A.C. one. A.N.15, 5 hours late left Alexandria and Port Said 14th for Piraeus (route) escort CALCUTTA, GREYHOUND, WATERHEN, HERD. A.C. One left Alexandria 14th (route) for Benghazi, escort COVENTRY, SALVIA GLOXINIA, SOUTHERN MAID and ISLES. ULSTER PRINCE with H.M.S. ILEX and H.M.S. HASTY leave Alexandria P.M./16 for Suda Bay and Piraeus (route) Inshore Squadron at Benghazi. S.N.O. inshore Squadron in CHAKLA. (C. in C. Med. 2052/14.)

Air
Operations.

Night 12/13 Feb. 2 Wellingtons dropped 5,000 lbs of bombs on naval and commercial harbour Rhodes. Germans dropped 8 mines Benghazi. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1148/14.)

14. 2. 41.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Raider report.

INGE MAERSK made Q distress signals at 0158Z/14, in 015° 57' N, 058° 43' E, and word suspect. (C. in C. E.I. 0224/14, to E.I. Squadron except Force T.)

Following has been read, ^{Disguised Raider} DISGUISED RAIDER, following intercepted at 0200 G.M.T/14, QQQQQ 1557N, 58. 43E, in German suspect de VWC or VMK(VWC Calcutta Radio VMK??) (Alexandria W/T, No. T.O.O./Recd. 1120/14.)

My 0224/14, passed to Adty., message cancelled at 0825 Z/ 14. Cancellation genuine. (C. in C. E.I. 1444/14, to E.I. Squadron less Force T, 1446/14, to Adty.)

CITY OF ROUBAIX.

My 1830/12. CITY OF ROUBAIX, arrived Port Sudan, fire under control (C. in C. E.I, 0428Z/14, to Admty.)

Operations
"Canvas"
"~~Canvas~~"

My 2020/13. Operation ^{"Canvas"} "CANVAS" (i) Kismayu and Muanga batteries were bombarded at a range about 23,000 yards a.m./14. No reply from shore batteries. (ii) Military are accelerating programme (iii) SHROPSHIRE was bombed when at (Mogadishu?) no damage. (iv) CAPETOWN was bombed at 0615Z/14, no damage. (C. in C. E.I., 0820/14 to Admty., Amended 1806Z/16.)

My 0820/14, (i) Military advanced H.Q. are being moved to Amfadu and they are reconnoitring Kismayu with ground troops. (ii) General situation appears to be that Italians have abandoned Kismayu and are moving what they can to Mogadishu. (iii) UCKERMARCK sank at 1230z/14, after having been in tow for 4 hours. (iv) State of Enemy shipping is believed to be (a) Captured 6 (included UCKERMARCK) (b) At Kismayu 3 scuttled and possibly a 4th afloat (c) Near Brava one aground (d). At Mogadishu 2 (Subject to confirmation.)

/One was.....

MOST SECRET.14. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies Contd.Operation "Canvas"
Cont:-

One was bombarded by SHROPSHIRE 13/2, (e) Unaccounted for, TANNENFELS and one tug. (v) Enemy bombers from Merca are a nuisance to H.M. Ships (vi) SHROPSHIRE successfully bombarded motor transport and encampments near Brava on 13/2. (C. in C. E. I. 1010z/14.)

Kismayu was occupied by our troops at 1415/14. (See 0648/15.) Note in D.S. 529: Kismayu was British until transferred to the Italians on 29/6/1925 in virtue of the Treaty of 15/7/1924.

Convoy
B.S.F. 1½

Sailing telegram B.S.F. 1½ Port Sudan portion (ii) 0330Z/14, Prisoners of War, (N.O.I.C. Port Sudan, 0920Z/14.)

FALMOUTH.

Bombay departure 1200Z/14, for Khor, Kuwait. (S.O.(I) Bombay 1202Z/14.)

4 ships
required
in Medn.

Re C. in C. E.I. 1028/3, and your 0915/5th. Does BARJORA replace SUISANG or is she additional? (D. of S.T. 2130/14, to P.S.T.O. India.)

Assab.
bombed.

Daily Ops. Summ. for 24 hours ending 1500 G.M.T. 14/2. Bombing 2 Blenheim I's 2000 lbs. Assab. (A.H.Q. Aden 2146/14.)

COPY.

MINISTERIE VAN MARINE

Historical Section, Koninginnegracht 60.

Rear-Admiral R. M. BELLAIRS, C.B., C.M.G., R.N. Retd.
Head of Historical Section,
Admiralty, Whitehall, LONDON, S.W.1

Ref. 168/F 13

8th July, 1952

Subject: British Minefields on the East Coast of Malaya.

Sir,

Among the documents handed to me by Mr. Elmers to be seen at your office in last May, I came across a Track Chart of H.M.S. THANET and VAMPIRE concerning an encounter with the enemy on 26-27th January, 1942.

2. On this chart, which was attached to Report H & A 329/42 about recommendations of Honours to H.M.S. VAMPIRE and THANET, between the island minefield have been marked which have not been separately mentioned in the enclosure of your letter, dated 11th December, 1951, No. HSL 298/51. Furthermore, the chart reveals that a safe channel along the coast had been left open in the area.

Of this track chart I also requested a photo copy.

3. I should like to know whether these minefields between the islands were already included in the declaration area "dangerous to navigation" on 16th February, 1941, as referred to in the enclosure of your above mentioned letter.

4. If such is the case, also H.N.M. S/M "0.16" may have struck one of these mines.

I remain, Sir,
Yours very sincerely,
HEAD OF HISTORICAL SECTION, NAVAL STAFF

(Sd) J. C. d'Engelbrommer

Captain, R.Neth.N., (Retd)

H.S. Note.-- Copy of A.M. 0237/14th February to C. in C., China, obtained from Record Office (Mr. S. E. Phillips).

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

0237/14th February OUT

To: Commander-in-Chief, China
Repeated: Commander-in-Chief, Far East
F.O., Malaya.

Date 14.2.41

NAVAL CYPHER (F)

From Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE.

Your 0801Z/17 January, not to F.O., Malaya. Proposed area is not concurred in. It is considered that it defines the position of the minefield too closely, and also that another declaration would be necessary before any reinforcement of the southern portion of the field would be possible.

2. A declaration in the following terms will be broadcast at 1300 G.M.T. on 16th February, and will also be published in the Press:-

"His Majesty's Government give notice that the following area is dangerous to navigation, namely, all the area bounded -
on the North by the parallel of 02° 44' North;
on the East by the meridian of 104° 30' East;
on the South by the parallel of 01° 35' North;
on the West by the coast of Malaya.

Mines will be laid in the above area without further notice and vessels wishing to pass through the area must apply to the British Naval Authorities at Singapore for a route. Vessels disregarding these instructions will do so at their risk and peril".

3. Request you will arrange for similar action to be taken at Singapore, and inform Dutch Naval Authorities.

4. As declared area includes territorial waters of Johore, Sultan should be informed before publication of declaration. Request you consult with High Commissioner on procedure for notifying him. He should also be told for his personal information that mines will not actually be laid in territorial waters except after prior consultation with him.

5. Actual siting of the minefield, routing instructions, and limits of fishing areas within the declared area are at your discretion.

6. Minelaying can be commenced as soon as the declaration has been made.

7. In preparing minelaying plan, request you will give consideration to the following points:-

- (a) the ultimate laying of as compact a field as possible.
- (b) individual lays should be sited as close together as the safe approach of the minelayer to the previous lay will permit.
- (c) adequate room is left for the minefield to be reinforced from the inshore side.

0237/14
for Head of M. (M.0990/41)
Approved by 1st Sea Lord.

14. 2. 1941.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Minefield
Off Johore.

Your 0801Z/17. Proposed area not concurred in. Declaration (text) to be broadcast at 1300 G.M.T/16. Instructions re minelaying. (Hd. of M., 0237/14, to C. in C. China.) See ~~Operations Volume~~ *opposite*.

Shipping.

My 0323/12 and your 1133/12, presume you will arrange any necessary diversion of British and Allied ships en route for Japanese controlled waters from distant ports. (C. in C. China 0513Z/14 to Adty.)

Situation.

My 0311/13. U.S.A. Ambassador Tokio states Germany increasing pressure on Japan. Prince Konoye Premier reported ill. Japanese Consul General Singapore received instructions 6/2, to prepare for "emergency." M.B.K. Head Office Tokio has warned all South Seas Branches crisis coming April or May. Families of Singapore Staff ordered to return to Japan at an early date. Singapore office to cease all new business and sell stocks. (C.O.I.S. Singapore 0707/14.)

14. 2. 41.
Friday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

DIOMEDE
to
patrol
off Callao.

My 1002/11. In view of Japanese situation it is desirable that you should move to the Northward. On leaving Valparaiso you should contact SAN ADOLFO and then proceed to establish patrol off Callao. N.C.S.O. Valparaiso pass to H.M.S. DIOMEDE. (C. in C. A.W.I 1001/14 to DIOMEDE.)

CORDELIA.
Sabotage.
suspected.

(M.F.A.) reports probable Sabotage, while in Queen Dock, Glasgow. (B.S.N.O. Curacao, 1312/14.)

WASHINGTON EXPRESS.
Report of
Suspicious
Ship.

On arrival Balbao reports at 0100/8, in 010° N, 087° W, cargo ship estimated 5000 tons two masted one funnel believed flush deck forward passed on opposite course. Master suspicious owing to alteration first toward then away. Stranger fired three signal lights white turning red in flight also flashed morse continuously ending signal N.C. once. No W/T heard. (S.O.(1) Kingston Jamaica 1556/14.) *See Page 947.*

Australia.

Mines
Swept.

Q.F.30. Mines have been swept up in position 0330 17' 30" S. 151° 47' E. (A.C.N.B. 1058/14.) * (NIBLIN was sunk in this vicinity on 5/12/1940, D.S.529.)
* NIMBIN intended see BR. 1337.

MOST SECRET.14. 2. 41.
Friday.War Diary.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.NORDERNEY
MONBALDO.

Para. Reports NORDERNEY is maintaining steam. Italian ship MONBALDO has drawn fires and discharged 100 tons pitch. Cargo still arriving to German firms who are purchasing rubber above market prices. (S.O.(I) Monte Video 1454z/14.)

BELLONA.

Valencia 14/2. 1341 departure BELLONA for Marseilles. (S.O.I. Gib., 2323/14.)

ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.MONBALDO.

See German Merchant Ships.

GUISEPPINA
GHIRARDI.

Arrived from Constanza, with cargo 5000 tons benzine for Germany. (Varna 1129/14.)

DERNA.

Arrival 14/2, DERNA from Genoa. (Barcelona, 1626/14.)

CAPO LENA.

Arrived here 14/2. (Bilbao 1905/14.)

14. 2. 41.
Friday.

War Diary.

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

SONTAY.

Your 2103/31/1. Consider that if Naval and Military fit personnel remain on board ship should be escorted. (C. in C. S.A. 1305N/14 to Adnty.)

Your 1540/9/12 and 2103/31/1, (re passengers from SONTAY being tran-shipped to OXFORDSHIRE) H.M.H.S.VASNA expected to arrive Freetown. Request information whether OXFORDSHIRE should proceed to Capetown on relief as previously arranged. (C. in C. S.A.1309N/14, to Adnty.)

ERDAN.

Intercepted letter states ERIDAN left Marseilles 22/1, for Saigon. (C. in C.A.W.) 1833/14.)

MOST SECRET.14. 2. 1941.
Friday.War Diary.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.ARTHUR
F. CORWIN.(torpedoed
13/2.)

MARAUDER and ST. OLAVES are on the way to you. Continue to search for survivors and stragglers. (from H.X.106.) (C. in C. W.A. 0029/14, to LA MALOUINE.)

Departure MARAUDER and ST. OLAVES in accordance with your 1709/13. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea, 0355/14, to F.C.I.C. Greenock.)

1. The torpedoing of ARTHUR F. CORWIN, coupled with recent reports of sightings, suggests strong probability that serious threat from U boats will develop in this area, an area which is vital not only because of the congestion of shipping but also because it covers the route constantly used by The Fleet.

2. I cannot stress too strongly the need for effective action from the start and conditions appear very suitable for the operation of a hunting group, with air reconnaissance.

3. I will give every assistance I can, although at present, this is likely to be limited to destroyers carrying out A/3 sweeps on passage to and from other commitments. (C. in C. H.F. 1154/14 to C. in C. W.A.) Your 0029/14, My position 060° 26' N, 016° 30' W, ^{ARTHUR F.} CORWIN gone, no survivors searching to 20 miles leeward indication, unlikely left ship. Sweeping eastward for stragglers into moderate gale. (LA MALOUINE 1501/14. to MALCOLM etc.).

* Reply see
page 586.Unknown
Ship.

? Belcrest

Following has been read, SSSS 55.16 N. 18, 5, Position doubtful, signal ceased. (Valentia, 0240/14.) (C. in C. W.A., 0403/14, to CALDWELL, TULIP, FLEUR DE LYS.)

/W.B.WALKER.....

MOST SECRET.

14. 2. 1941.
Friday.War Diary.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked. (Contd.).W.B.WALKER.
(torpedoed 29/1.)

Aircraft report W.B WALKER in position 58° 15' N. 07° 01' W. at 1445/13. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0701/14, to SALVONIA, SOUTHERN PRIDE, Amended 1131/14.)

Cancel all previous signals. MARAUDER and ST. OLAVES are to proceed forthwith to assistance of stern half of W.B. WALKER, reported in 58° 15' N. 09° 01' W. at 1445/13. Acknowledge. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1945/14, to MARAUDER, ST. OLAVES.)

MARON.
O.B.V.

Sighted two torpedoes passing ahead at 1745 G.M.T. position 036° 41' N, 020° 24' W. (MARON 1830/14.)

MARON reports 2 torpedoes ahead 1845/14, in 036° 41' N, 020° 42' W. (F.O.C.N.A.2216A/14, (Note different longitude from MARON'S Signal)

S/M's. Reported.

0707.

By D/F at 0707/14, position of Italian U-Boat approx. 45° 30' N, 4° W. This unit is one of the three referred to in Adty's., 1244/13, as being in about 45° N, 10° W (DD.IC. 0755/14.)

1920.

45.30 N, 2.30 W, indefinite position of Italian U/B. (D.S.529.).

Estimated
U/B.
dispositions.

German - 1 40 miles of 60° 20' N. 16° W. may move slowly west. 1 60 miles of 58° N. 24° W. 1 60 miles of 56° 30' N. 22° W. 1 30 miles of 55° 16' N. 18° 50' W. 1 60 miles of 52° 30' N. 22° 30' W. Possibly 1 90 miles of 49° 30' N. 31° 30' W. 1 about 47° N. 5° W. homeward bound. 1 off Finisterre. 1 40 miles of 40° N, 18° W. may be bound north eastward.

Italian - No further evidence that 3 U/Bs. are trying to intercept HG.53. 1 approaching Gironde. 2. May be in Western Area of Bay of Biscay. 1 N.W. Approaches. (D.D.I.C. 1313/14.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.Protection of Ocean Convoys.

The policy to be adopted for the protection of ocean convoys against surface raiders was announced by the Admiralty today. Owing to the scarcity of tonnage Commanders in Chief abroad have been informed that it is important that any captured enemy shipping should be got into our service as rapidly as possible.

Home Commands.

Photographic air Reconnaissance 15/2 revealed a HIPPER cruiser again in Dry Dock at Brest.

British Air Activity.

Six Blenheims of Coastal Command bombed barges and docks at Ostend last night, St. Nazaire was bombed by 4 Beauforts.

Three offensive sorties were sent to attack a convoy of 20 merchant vessels of 5000 and 15000 tons steering 340° 40 miles 224° Horns Reef at 1505, but bad visibility prevented the attack being carried out.

MOST SECRET.15.2.1941.
Saturday.WAR DIARY.SITUATION REPORT.Enemy Air Activity.

There were one or two attacks on shipping today, but no damage is reported so far.

Mining.Enemy
Minelaying.

Enemy aircraft estimated to number 40, carried out minelaying operations in the Humber and Wash areas last night. 35 mines were exploded off Spurn Point today.

Mines were also exploded in Bristol Channel Harwich area, off Milford Haven, Plymouth, and Liverpool.

Exmouth Approaches, Torbay, Aberdeen, Tyne, and Blyth were closed.

Preston was reopened this evening.

British
Minelaying.

10 Hampdens laid mines in the Verdon (Gironde) area last night.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.North Atlantic.

A southwesterly gale is blowing at Gibraltar. The sailing of RESOLUTION for U.K. has been held up since yesterday and a Sunderland due at Gibraltar at 1000 today force landed in Portugal. All flying at Gibraltar was cancelled today owing to bad weather.

Mediterranean.

ROVER today reported that she had successfully attacked a Tanker off the South Coast of Italy. ^{SS}CESCO (Tanker). See Pages 515, 517.

Benghazi was heavily and indiscriminately bombed before dawn today.

Arrangements for the reinforcement of minesweeping forces in the Mediterranean are given in Admty. 0116/15 to C.in C. Med., E.I. China, etc.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.China.

Aircraft have been despatched from India to the Far East.

Preliminary arrangements are being made in respect of signalling procedure between the British and U.S. Naval Forces.

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.KEPPEL.
Transfer to
W.A.Command.Your 1306/14 Concur.
(C.in C. H.F. 0307/15).Escorts for
Ocean Convoys.Cancel my 1040/14. Amendment of policy.
(1st S.L. 1214/15 and 1714/15).
See Operations Volume.Admty. 1214/15. Disposition of S/M Flotillas
will be as follows.
(F.O.S. 1459/15).
See Operations Volume.Decision.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1232/15).
See Operations Volume.Troops for
Reykjavik.Request anticipated dates of sailing of A.M.C.s
from Clyde to Reykjavik during March and
April and the maximum number of troops that
can be carried in each ship.
(D.O.D.(H) 1437/15 to F.O.C.N.P.)Aberdeen.My 1241/2. No further work can be taken in
hand at Aberdeen before end of this month.
(N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1532/15).PRIMULA }
SNAPDRAGON }
ERICA }
DELPHINIUM. }2. (L.L.Corvettes). Are required for
service in the Mediterranean.To be fitted for tropical service at highest
priority.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1747/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Defence of United Kingdom.~~"Deluge".~~
~~B-LUGS.~~At 1130/15.
(D.C.1137/15).
At 2330/15.
(D.C.2359/15).Brough of
Burray
R.D.F.
Station.A.C.O.S. 1802/11. Work proceeding
as rapidly as circumstances permit.
(Air Ministry 1258/15 to Admty).Demonstra-
tion
of
Flares.A.O.C.in C. Coastal Command has requested a
practical demonstration of flares
identification at C.C. Stations. Request
permission to comply. It is not considered
that the burning of these flares ashore
should be connected with their true purpose
if observed by unauthorised persons.
(F.O.S. 1731/15 to Admty).Orkneys.
Defence
Organisation.Your 1615/31. Chiefs of Staffs at their
meeting 13/2 decided -
"the C.in C. Home Forces, should make the
report on the defence requirements of the
Island and the effect of finding any proposed
reinforcements, and that he should work out,
in consultation with A.C.O.S., a suggested
chain of command which would place the Islands
under operational control of Home Forces, but
would leave A.C.O.S. in local control as at
present".2. Request you will report arrangements
made in due course.
(D. of L.D. 1807/15 to A.C.O.S.)Campbeltown
A/A
Defences.In view of air raid on Campbeltown on 9/2
request the provision of A/A defences be
treated as a matter of urgency.
(C.in C. W.A. 2319/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2 1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.Transfer
of A.
and B.
Class
Destroyers.C.in C. H.F's 1816/7, and Capt: D. Greenock's
2015/10. Propose transfer as follows.
(R.A.D. 1115/15).THUNDERBOLT
SURCOUF

My 1549/14.

2. THUNDERBOLT is to sail for Halifax on
19/2 in company with SURCOUF and escort as
far as 10° W. B. Submarines are to proceed
thence independently. Cin C. W.A. is
requested to indicate route for THUNDERBOLT
which should be well clear of that ordered
for SURCOUF.
(F.O.S. 1129/15 to S.2.)

Your 1129/15. Route.

F.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange
escorts.
(C.in C. W.A. 1938/15 to F.O.S.)PRINCE
OF WALES.
HOOD.A.M. 1815/11. Programme of PRINCE OF WALES
in A.S.C.B.S. 447/2 of 10/2 is being adhered
to except as follows. Programme of HOOD is as
(A.S. Rosyth, 1230/15). follows:Northern
Patrol.Trawler Lines, tonight. 5 Trawlers.
(A.C.O.S. 1539/15).S/M's.Positions at 0800/16 and movements for
following 24 hours.
(F.O.S. 1551/15).REPULSE
HOOD.My 1232/15. Request you will sail REPULSE
for Rosyth so as to arrive 18/2 for quick
docking on 19/2. *See also p. 491*2. HOOD is to be undocked if necessary and
resulting delay in her completion accepted.3. On completion of docking REPULSE is to be
sailed for Clyde to fuel and to sail on 28/2
as ocean escort to FURIOUS and a transport.4. Ship is to complete with stores for
/foreign

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. (Contd.)REPULSE
HOOD.
(Contd.)foreign service.
(Controller, 1745/15 to C.in C. H.F.)SANDHURST.In tow of tug WATERMEYER sailed for Rosyth
in F.N.B. 408.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1820/15).UNBEATEN.My 1441/14. Sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1830/15).
Chaser 43 will R/V with you at N one Buoy
0800/16.
(S.5. 1855/15 to UNBEATEN).TEVIOT
BANK.Arrival 1855/15.
(F.O. Humber, 1935/15).D.20.Sailed D.20 in INTREPID with ICARUS
IMPULSIVE for Plymouth. E.T.A. 090/18.
(R.A.D. H.F. 2115/15).CILICIA.Sailed. E.T.A. Clyde boom, 0600/16.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 2120/15).S.S.
STRATHNAVER
FURIOUS
ALCANTARA
REPULSE.Prospective movements.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 2144/15). See Operations Volume.
(15.2.41. Page 86)S.S.
BATORY
FORTH
RAMILLIES.Prospective movements.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 2249/15). See Operations Volume.
(15.2.41. Page 86)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. (Contd.)MAURITIUS.

Admty's. 1335/11 para (vi). Request confirmation that MAURITIUS will be relieved in latitude of Azores. If this is known she can she can use a higher speed when in S/M waters.
(C.in C. H.F. 2254/15 to Admty).

REPULSE.

Your 1745/15.

As REPULSE has not refitted for 23 months every extra day she can be given at Rosyth will be a great advantage. Subject to concurrence of C.in C. Rosyth intended to sail REPULSE to arrive Rosyth 17/2.
(C.in C. H.F. 2309/15). See p. 469

Operations.

P.V.1.
P.V.3.
Cancelled.

Operations P.V.One and P.V.Three are cancelled Orders for two new operations to be known as Q.A. and Q.B. will be issued shortly.
Cancel my 2200/16/12 and 2252/16/12.
(C.in C. Nore, 0945/15).
Cancel REF.7 and REF.8.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1747/15 to R.E.Force No.72).

Air
Rescue
Patrol
off
Dungeness.

A daily Air Sea Rescue Patrol of two M/LS has been established one mile off Dungeness and will be maintained unless weather conditions are too bad. For the present M/LS leave Newhaven at 0700 and return at 2200.
(V.A.Dover, 1036/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. (Contd.)Patrol
off
Aldeburgh.

1st. M.L. Flotilla of 3 boats will sail from Yarmouth 15/2 to 052° 11'N., 002° 15'E. arriving before dark. They will patrol on a line 050° and 230° for a distance 5 miles on each side of this position returning to Yarmouth at daylight.
(N.O.I.C. Harwich, 1502/15 to EGLINTON, QUORN.)

Channel
Patrol.

VANSITTART, TYNEDALE, leave Needles 1830/15 to patrol southward of group of merchant vessels which leaves Dartmouth 1820/15 arrives Needles 0830/16 routed North of QZX 267 and 180 degrees Portland Bill 4'.

Destroyers arrive Needles 0745/16.
(C.in C. Portsmouth 1533/15).

O Patrol.

Do not enter Harwich. EGLINTON and QUORN proceed on O patrol.
(D.16 1623/15 to EGLINTON).

Exercise "Targe".
PURGE.

Being carried out tonight between harbour entrance and south Shipwash.
(N.O.I.C. Harwich, 1710/15 to EGLINTON).

British Air Activity.Air
Search.

One Sunderland from Sullom Voe searching vicinity 60° 26'N., 16° 30'W. 1030 to 1430 today.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 0720/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (Contd.)Patrols.

Patrol ^{"Unst"}~~Unst~~ is being flown today.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 0934/15).

My 2116/14. Second Sortie of "Fugle" will not be flown owing to weather.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 1150/15 to NIGERIA, ARETHUSA).

Your 1448/14. Cross over patrol between positions 062° 27'N., 006° 09'W., 062° 32'N., 005° 28'W., 063° 43'N., 006° 54'W., 063° 48'N 006° 09'W., will be flown by Sunderland from 0800/17 until 1500/17.

Aircraft will make landfall at N.E. extremity of Faroes at 90 minute intervals.
(C.in C. Rosyth 1310/15 to C.in C. H.F.)

Engagement
of A/C
by A/A
Guns.

F.O. Humber's 2353/10, my 1120/11 and F.O. Humber's 2345/14. Can any improvement in this dangerous situation may be hoped for? Two further letters bearing on this subject from F.O. Humber and F.O. Yarmouth respectively are being forwarded to Admty by courier today.
(C.in C. Nore, 1015/15 to Admty).
Your 1120/11 and 1015/15. Matter is under consideration by Chiefs of Staff.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 2310/15 to C.in C. Nore).

801
Squadron.

My 1315/14/2. On arrival at St. Merryn 801 Squadron is to be placed under the operational control of C.in C. Coastal Command who is requested to allow training to continue as far as possible.
(5th S.L. 1150/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (Contd.)S.N.7.B.
A/S
Air
Escort.

Your 0925/12. Weather permitting arrangements for A/S Air Escort during daylight hours as follows aircraft being relieved periodically. On 16/2 by one Whitley, 17/2 by one Sunderland, on 18/2 by one Hudson or Whitley.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 1410/15 to R.A.M.L.)

Enemy Air Activity.Convoys
HARBOR "Hatch"
and
F.N.7.

Fighters are being sent to Convoys "Hatch" (WHITSHED and TEVIOT BANK) and Radio (F.N.7).
(Rosyth 0013/15).

TEVIOT
BANK.
(Bombed
14/2).

My 0042/15. Believe only sustained minor damage, but inadvisable to steam more than 8 knots owing to cracked bearing.
(TEVIOT BANK, 0044/15).

Lowestoft
bombed.

Single enemy plane dropped about four H.E. bombs on Lowestoft. No naval casualties or damage.

B. Three civilian casualties.
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0250/15).

Unknown
Ship.

AAAA. Automatic signal from unknown ship bearing approx. 151° .
(Wick Radio 1137/15).

CURACOA.

One aircraft shadowing course 200 position 56° 39'N., 2° 10'W.
(CURACOA 1146/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)Convoy
F.S. Odd.

One Aircraft in 53° 35'N., 0° 55'E.
(Convoy "~~Bobby~~" 1147/15).
M.1147 JU 88 chased away by Anson to S.W.
when out of range of WOLFHOUND.
(Convoy "~~Bobby~~" 1156/15).
Fighter protection is being sent.
(1159/15).

ELISABETH
MARIE.
(French
Trawler).

Arrived. OTTAWA with 25 survivors from
French ship ELISABETH MARIE.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 1230/15).
Sunk in approx. 54° 58'N., 12° 30'W. in
convoy S.C.21.
(B.M.S.E.305).

C.in C.
Nore.
0817/15.

This signal was at first circulated as
2131/14, q.v.

Convoy
F.N.Odd.

One enemy aircraft. Convoy "Pilot", in
51° 46'N., 1° 28'E.
(HASTINGS 1450/15).
Intercept 1411 G.M.T. Help "Pilot".
(N.Foreland 1510/15).
My 1512. 1 enemy aircraft circling
overhead. No bombs dropped.
(VORTIGERN 1514/15).
Fighter aircraft has been sent to Convoy
"Pilot".
(C.in C. Nore, 1516/15).

CAPE
COMORIN.
Convoy
Attacked
14/2.

C.O. CAPE COMORIN reports:-

3 miles West of Longships Light at 1915/14
whilst escorting 4 ships in company with
H.M.T. DERBY COUNTY, a single unidentified
aircraft approached from S.W. When challenged
replied correctly and disappeared over the
land. Presumably the same aircraft
returned 3 minutes later and when again
challenged dropped 4 incendiary bombs astern
of motor vessel DAVILA from about 4000 feet.
An R/T call was made for help and acknowledged
but no fighter protection was sent. Ends.
(N.O.I.C. Dartmouth 1737/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. (Contd.)JASON.

3 bombs dropped without effect in 2 attacks.
Weather conditions very poor.
(JASON, 1850/15).

Search
for
Unknown
Vessel.

Your 1905/-. Continue search to southward
of position given.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2148/15 to SALVONIA,
SOUTHERN PRIDE.)

Mining.B.S. 51.

Operation is postponed. Am returning to
Humber after near miss by torpedo or bomb.
(TEVIOT BANK. 0042/15).

Exmouth.

Approaches to Exmouth are closed owing to
suspected minelaying. Ships are not to
approach the coast within a radius of 5
miles from Start Point.
(C.in C. W.A. 0312/15).

Torbay.

Torbay is closed to shipping owing to
suspected mine-laying. Ships are to keep
to seaward of a line drawn 4 miles due North
from a point 090° Barry Head 4 miles.
(C.in C. W.A. 0316/15).

Z.M.E. 17.

Intend leaving Milford Haven at 1745 today,
for Operation Z.M.E. 17 to lay at 2240
returning on completion about 0230/16.
(PLOVER 1056/15).

North
Norway.

Varangerfjord North Norway.
Also notice states mines have been laid in
an area limited by following points;
Helsingfors please repeat to Petsamo.
(N.A. Stockholm, 1117/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Start
Point
Area.

A danger area due to enemy mines exists within circle of radius $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles about position $050^{\circ} 25' 51''$ N., $003^{\circ} 27' 45''$ W. Cancel my 0316/15.
(C.in C. W.A. 1120/15).

Dover.

No routine sweeping carried out to 0800/15.
(V.A.Dover, 1156/15).

S.N.7.B.

My 1446/14 para. (iii) is cancelled.

Cover for operations is to be provided by C.S.18 in EDINBURGH and NIGERIA.

(ii) C.S.18 is to sail p.m. today and is to arrange to R/V in daylight 16th, with NIGERIA who is patrolling about a mid position $062^{\circ} 30'N.$, $016^{\circ} W.$ with ARETHUSA in company.

(iii) ARETHUSA is to comply with my 1004/13.

(iv) Admiralty pass to H.Q.C.C.
(C.in C. H.F. 1220/15).

C.in C. H.F. 1220/15 1st M.S.L. will pass through $060^{\circ} 05'N.$, $004^{\circ} 54'W.$ steering 340° $11\frac{1}{2}$ knots at 0930 tomorrow.

(R.A.M.L. 1533/15 to F.O.C. 18th C.S.)

S.N.68A.

Propose to sail p.m./22 and lay as follows: at 1230/24. Only three of 17th Div. Dest. will be available for this operation.
(R.A.M.L. 1726/15).

Departure Port Z.A. 1815/15 R.A.M.L. in SOUTHERN PRINCE, PORT QUEBEC, AGAMEMNON, BRIGHTON, LANCASTER, ECHO, CHARLESTOWN, and SCOTT, to carry out S.N.7.B. and 68A.
(TRELAWNEY 1817/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (Contd.)Bristol Channel.

At 1025 Acoustic mine exploded by S/A Mark Two 164 1.85 miles from Flatholm Light. (N.O.I.C. Swansea 1308/15).

Harwich Area.

Red mine detonated by L.L.Drifters at 0955 in 51° 56' 03" N. 01° 27' 36" E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1348/15).
Mine detonated by S.A.gear. At 1422/15 in 51° 56' 36" N., 01° 27' 26" E. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1651/15).

1st M/S Flotilla.

4 Ships of 1st M /S Flotilla anchored Ludan Bay. Intend weighing for operations at 0145 tomorrow. (S.O. 1st M/S F. 1547/15).

Milford Haven.

At 1014/15. One Green Mine detonated by sweeper in 059° St. Anns Head Light 14.3 cables.
At 1016/15 One Red Mine detonated by Sweeper in 062° St. Anne Head Light 13.3 cables. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1619/15).

Preston.

Port re-opened. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1840/15).

Plymouth.

Blue mine detonated 1005 266° Breakwater Light 8 cables. (C.in C. W.A. 1925/15).

P.W.5.

My 1544/14 report on P.W.4. Presence of Pillar Buoy may indicate diversion of traffic due to P.W.1. Propose therefore that P.W.5. takes place to the south westward of F.D.X.Y. 1030 if possible in 8 fathoms or less. This should make further diversion difficult. (C.in C. Nore, 2220/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining cont:-Aberdeen
Area.One German X Mine in new condition rendered safe on beach at Black Dog.
(N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2022/15).Aberdeen
closed.Suspected minelaying by enemy A/C. Near entrance Channel, Port of Aberdeen closed.
(N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2033/15).Liverpool.Mine report to 1800/15. One explosion observed 2400 Bar Light Vessel 4/12 miles. No vessel near.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 2223/15).Spurn
Point.The following 35 mines were exploded today. Particulars.
(F.O. Humber, 2321/15).Tyne
closed.Port of Tyne closed owing to suspected minelaying.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 2329/15).Blyth
Closed.Port of Blyth closed from 2351/15 due to enemy action.
(N.O.I.C. Blyth, 2352/15).Enemy Intelligence.12 M/V's
off
Gironde.At 0430 own aircraft sighted twelve merchant vessels course 320° in 045° 18'N., 000° 40'W.
(V.A.S. 0826/15 to TIGRIS).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence. (Contd.)8 to 10
M/V's
off the
Ems.A/C reported at 0550 in 53 38'N., 6 30'E.
sighted in haze down moon 8-10 M/V's
(2 3000/4000 tons other smaller).
(Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1107/15 to H.Q.C.C.)20 M/Vs.20 M/Vs. minimum tonnage 5000 course 340°
magnetic, speed 10 knots unescorted.
Position of ship is 55° 5'N., 6° 50'E.
(J/235. 1505/15 to Chatham).GNEISENAU.
SCHARNHORST.
5 Danish
T/Bs.(1) Swedish authorities have report of
GNEISENAU and SCHARNHORST being in Oslo
Fjord 31/1. They have had no report since.
B.3.(2) 5 Danish T/Bs. left Copenhagen on
11/2 in tow. They have been held up at
Hellerup by ice. B.3.
(N.A. Stockholm 1907/15).Technical.Failure
of
R.D.F.
screen.X.458 15/2. C.in C. Rosyth 1547/30.
Explanation.
(Air Ministry, 1550/15 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)General.Submarines
as Convoy
Escorts.

Cancel my 1040/14. Amended policy re use of submarines to escort ocean convoys and for anti-raider operations.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1214/15 to F.O.(S) F.O.C.N.A. B.S.3.) See Operations Volume.
Orders to Submarines.
(F.O.(S) 1803/15). See Operations Volume.

All Convoys
to have
warship
escort.

Decided to provide ocean escort for every convoy of a battleship cruiser or submarine.
(D.O.D.(H) 1232/15 to C.in C. H.F.)
See Operations Volume.

Scarcity
of
Tonnage.

Losses of merchant ships by enemy action and marine accidents, considerable number of ships under repair and large amount of tonnage requisitioned for Service use combine to make shipping position very serious. It is important that any enemy shipping which can be captured should be got into our service as rapidly as possible.
(D.T.D.1850/15 to C.in C's China, E.I., S.A. A.W.I. Med., F.O.C.N.A.)

Coastal
Convoys.

E.N.72.

Proposed time of sailings, etc.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1603/15).
Sailed 0600/15, escorts, 16 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 0635/15.)
List.
(1036/15).

F.S.9.409

Arrived except CITY OF MALINES.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 0826/15).
E.T.A. 2 A/S ships escorting.
(N.O.I.C. Harwich, 1710/15).

W.N.81.

Methil's 1610/14. THALA stranded.
KYLEBROOK not from Oban.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 0856/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)

F.S.11.411 Absentees.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0929/15).
56 Ships.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0930/15).
List. (6 Ships).
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1550/15).
E.T.A. PUFFIN escorting.
(N.O.I.C. Harwich, 1710/15).

F.N.7.407 Humber ships arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Humber 0929/15).
E.T.A. May Island.
(SOUTHDOWN, 1230/15).
Tyne ships arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1542/15).
Arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1938/15).

F.S.10.410 Position, 22 ships for London.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 0950/15).
Arrived, Absentees.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1802/15).

W.N.85. List and destinations.
W.N.85 (O). (N.C.S.O. Clyde, 0958/15. N.C.S.O. Oban,
1739/15.)
Addition.
(N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1109/15).
Sailed 1430/15.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1736/15).

W.N.83. Arrived, 1045/15.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1112/15).

F.N.9.409 0911/15, 26 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1115/15).
List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1245/15).
List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Harwich, 1537/15).

WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Coastal
Convoys.
(Contd.)

W.N.84. Arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1226/15).

Channel. Western Channel Night Report.
(C.in C. W.A. 1228/15, 2112/15).

E.N.U.71. Arrived 7 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Aultbea, 1229/15).

E.N.71. 3 ships detached arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1504/15).

O.B.283. List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1430/15).

C.E.25. Arrived.
(N.C.S.O. Thames, 1439/15).

F.S.12.412 Numbers from Tyne etc.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 1450/15 to VIVIEN, VANITY).
Sailed 1400/15, 11 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Methil, 1605/15).
List.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1654/15).

F.N.84(?) 4 from Middlesborough.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 1451/15 to VERSATILE,
WESTMINSTER).

F.N.8.408 List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Humber, 1556/15).
To join.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1655/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Coastal
Convoys.
(Contd.)C.W.26. Sailing 19/2.
(C.in C. Nore, 1738/15).E.N.73.)
W.N.86.) FOWEY as additional A/A escort.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 1827/15).Rosyth. Arrivals and departure.
(C.in C. Rosyth, 2327/15).Ocean
Convoys.S.L.66. Destinations.
(D.T.D. 0029/15 and 2027/15 to N.C.S.O.
Freetown).O.G.53. 3 ships to join.
(C.in C. W.A. 1127/13 to PIROUETTE).
H.M.S. VULCAN sailed in.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1301/15).
List and destinations.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1440/15).
Sailed 6 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey, 1441/15).
Ocean escort.
(C.in C. W.A. 1556/15) (F.O.I.C. Liverpool,
1711/15, 1811/15).9 S.C.110. Advance sailing telegram.
(S.C.N.O. Halifax, 1146/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Ocean
Convoys.
(Contd.)

- H.G.52. Arrivals.
(N.C.S.O. Mersey. 1211/15).
(N.C.S.O. Clyde, 1932/15).
- O.G.O.53. 0730/16, escort NORTHERN GEM, 19 ships.
(N.C.S.O. Oban, 1603/15).
- H.G.53. Sailing telegram as amended Admty.
(D.T.D. 1758/15).
LONDONDERRY to join DEPTFORD as escort.
(C.in C. W.A. 2252/15).
- S.L.64. Meet.
(C.in C. W.A. 1914/15 to HARVESTER, WOLVERINE
etc.)
- S.C.23. Destinations.
(D.T.D. to C.O.A.C. Halifax, 2006/15).
- S.C.20. Signalling. Understood that H.M.S. RANPURA made
signals by secret position method to
collect her stragglers. These signals
were intercepted by H.X.105 stragglers and
confused them. Request you give
instructions to (a) Normally restrict W/T
signals to the usual D/F procedure.
(b) If considered desirable to give a R/V
by W/T when well to the westward such signal
should be prefixed by the name of the
Commodore's ship.
(D.T.D. 1412/15 to R.A.3.)

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. (Contd.)Ocean
Convoys.
(Contd.)

H.X.106.

Departure BURNHAM.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1447/15).
Departure MALCOLM.
(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1545/15).
P.C. and S. $060^{\circ} 20' N. 014^{\circ} 00' W. 090^{\circ}$, 5
knots, gale still persisting, aircraft
report convoy 110 miles ahead. Intend to
steer to base at dusk.
(LA MALOUINE, 1901/15 to C.in C. W.A.)

Military.
Convoys.

W.S.6.

A.M. 2257/9/2 and 1737/9/2. Failure
to sail principally due to CANDYPUFT
failing to find transport in or outside
the Swept Channels. Visibility poor.
Written report follows.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1441/15).

WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.WOODSTOCK.

(British 958 tons).
Of F.S. Convoy 4II. Sunk in collision
with ship of F.N. 407 in 54° 26'N., 0° 24'W.
WOODSTOCK floating on her side. All crew
rescued.
(WOOLSTON, 0135/15, 0217/15).

BLYSKAWICA.

Compelled by defect to return to Clyde
refuelling Loch Ewe.
(BLYSKAWICA 0201/15).

Arrived.

(N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1442/15).

CORYTON.

(British 4553 tons).
Ashore Longstone.
(Cullercoats Radio 0652/16).

ATHELQUEEN.

(British Tanker, 8780 tons).
In 50° 37'N., 38° 40'W. hove to in
difficulties very heavy weather may need
assistance, 1030/15 Ends.
(Plymouth W/T 0930/15 G.M.T.)
(Valentia Radio 1035/15).

PARIS.
ETHYLENE.
ASSIDUITY.

(British 1509 tons). Beached at Robin
Hoods Bay through collision damage. Bows
partially submerged. Crew taken off.
S.S. ETHYLENE in Hartlepool after collision
with ASSIDUITY off Whitby. ASSIDUITY
entered Tees. Both ships sustained slight
damage.
(N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 1030/15).

AELYBRYN.

(British 4986 tons).
Arrived Belfast Lough, lost convoy, engine
trouble.
(N.C.S.O. Belfast 1045/15).

MOST SECRET.WAR DIARY.15.2.1941.
Saturday.CASUALTIES AND DEFECTS.Sunken
Ship.

What appears to be a small ship reported
sunk just below the surface 190° 62D buoy
2 miles 2 cables.
(F.O. Humber 1105/15 to Admty).
(C.in C. Rosyth 1245/15 to VANITY etc.)

COREOPSIS.

(Corvette). My 1301/14. Delayed by defect
in main feed pump.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 2026/15).

STRATHGUE }
(M/S Trawler) }
RYDE. }
(Paddle }
Minesweeper) }.

In collision at West Pier, Granton on
15/2. Both vessels damaged.
(D.O.R. 17/2).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Attack by Raider on Convoy S.L.S.64 on 12/2.VOLTURNO.
ships at
Funchal.

N.C.S.O. Funchal's 0904/14.
Request you instruct N.C.S.O. Funchal to detain VOLTURNO and any other ships from convoy that may arrive until you can make arrangements for their A/S escort to Gibraltar or to join H.G.54. (D.O.D.(F) 0028/15 to F.O.C.N.A.).
Your 0904/14. Retain ships from convoy SLS 64 for the present. Further instructions follow. (F.O.I.C. Gib., 0514/15 to N.C.S.O. Funchal).

Probable
SCHARNHORST-class
battle-
cruiser.

N.C.S.O. Funchal reports from evidence of North American ships of convoy S.L.S.64 that surface raider that attacked convoy in position 037° 12' N. 021° 20' W. at 1135/12 was probably SCHARNHORST class battle cruiser. (F.O.C.N.A., 0238/15, to N.A. Stn.).

Orders to
O.E.V's.

Cancel my 2234/14. (F.O.C.N.A., 0239/15 to MARAN, CAMITO, CAVINA, CORINTHIAN.)

Identity of
enemy.

Your 1954/14. Following information urgently required.
(A) Number and position of turrets.
(B) Number of guns in turrets.
(C) Where was aircraft stowed?
(D) Description and position of masts and bridge structure.
(E) Any other details which would help in recognition.
(D.D.I.C. 0857/15, to N.C.S.O. Funchal).
Your 0857/15. (a) Main armament four turrets, two forward two aft superimposed. Secondary armament four groups abaft B Turrets and forward of X turrets.
(b) A and Y Turrets three guns each. B and X Turrets two guns each. Secondary armament four guns in each group.
(c) Aircraft on crane abaft main mast.
(d) Very substantial bridge and control tower. Well defined cowl topped funnel close to bridge. Main mast well clear and abaft funnel.

/ (e) A/A Gun ...

War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Attack by Raider on Convoy S.L.S.64 on 12/2.
(Contd.).Identity of
enemy.
(Contd.).

(e) A/A Gun between control tower and B turrets high mounting bow and stern comply with SCHARNHORST Class silhouette but vessel considered smaller. Searchlights grouped around funnel. Very prominent range finder on control tower with copper dome beneath.

(N.C.S.O. Funchal, 1136/15, to Admty.).

Your 1136/15. Are you certain ship had two turrets aft?

(D.D.I.C. 1854/15 to N.C.S.O. Funchal).

Your 1854/15. Ship's Officers interviewed individually and collectively are of unanimous opinion that raider had 2 turrets aft. (N.C.S.O. Funchal, 2004/15 to Admty.).

Orders to
S.L.S.64
ships.

For ships of WARLABY Convoy proceeding towards U.K. Steer, to pass through position 170° 29 miles from ~~LUPIN~~ not earlier than 0800 G.M.T./19 thence steer, to pass through position 042° 156 from ~~LUPIN~~ to position 068° 440 miles from ~~LUPIN~~ "Lupin".
(D.T.D. 1927/15, to G.B.M.S. Area 1).

Operations Against Vichy French.Convoy.

French survey ship ESTAFETTE and armed trawler ARRETO passed Gibraltar westbound escorting French M.V's CAUDEBEC, 1471 tons, VENNOME (not in Lloyds) and BAMAKO, 2357 tons.
(D.O.R. 16/2).

? VENNOME

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.MALAYA

To join W.S.6. (D.O.D.(F) 0115/15 to F.O.C.N.A.) See Operations Volume.

SHEFFIELD

Admty. 2005/14. Pass through position 034° 45' N. 010° 00' W. thence direct to Gibraltar.

(F.O.C.N.A. 0234/15, to SHEFFIELD).

C.S.10 2301N/14. Cannot reach rendezvous by a.m./19. Reduced to 12 knots by weather. Fuel remaining permits proceeding Freetown direct for S.L.67.

(SHEFFIELD, 0747/15 to Admty.).

Unless SHEFFIELD can comply with A.M.2005/14 para. 2 as amended by C.S.10's 2301/14 propose SHEFFIELD proceed to Gibraltar at best speed subsequently joining S.L.65 as soon as possible, an A.M.C. of Western Patrol being detailed to escort this convoy during absence of cruiser.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1252/15, to Admty.).

SHEFFIELD's 0747/15 and F.O.C.N.A.'s 1252/15. Amend route of S.L.65 and S.L.S.65.

C.S.10's 2301/14. Convoy may proceed.

Orders to BULOLO, KENYA, SHEFFIELD.

(D.O.D.(F) 1755/15 to C.S.10, SHEFFIELD.).

See Operations Volume.

TUNAR/V with ^{A.S.V.} trawler SCOTTISH in position 360° Cape Spartel 8 at 1100/16. If you wish to communicate with her pass signal Capt.(S) 8. (Capt. S.8. 1020/15, to TUNA).*See also next page -*Ponta Delgada
S/M Patrol,
discontinued.

Cancel my 1040/14. S/M Patrol to be discontinued. Orders to TUNA, 8th S/M.F., etc. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1214/15 to F.O.(S) F.O.C.N.A. etc.).

(See Operations Volume, under HOME COMMANDS, Shipping and Convoys.).

Sunderland's
overdue.

2 Destroyers proceeding westward from Gibraltar to search for Sunderland flying boat which may be down between Cape St. Vincent and Straits of Gibraltar. (Capt. S.8. 1528/15 to TUNA).

/ Daily summary operations

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (Contd.).Sunderlands
overdue.
(Contd.).

Daily summary operations. No flying owing to weather. 1 and 3 Sunderlands due from U.K. at present 7 hours overdue. (200 Group, 1700/15). Sunderland P.9623 left Mountbatten 2255Z/15 due at Gibraltar 0900Z/15 not yet arrived. No W/T communication established. 2 destroyers searching towards Cape St. Vincent since 1500/15 but very heavy south westerly gale has prevented any search by aircraft. (F.O.C.N.A. 2230/15).

TUNA
position.

At 0800/16 TUNA 035° 45' N. 006° 20' W. proceeding to R/V with escort in position 360° Cape Spartel 8 at 1100 thence to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 1532/15, to N.A. Stn.).

*See previous page*RESOLUTION.

My 1022/14. Weather still unsuitable for RESOLUTION to sail. (F.O.C.N.A., 1018/15). My 1246/13 para. 1 and your 1244/14 para. 2. Please confirm that FIREDRAKE is to proceed to U.K. with RESOLUTION. (F.O.C.N.A. 1120/15, to C.in C. W.A.).

NEREIDA

Portuguese M/V NEREIDA now sailing on special service from Lisbon to Casablanca and return to Lisbon should not be interfered with. These instructions apply to present round trip only. (D.N.I. 1801/15 to S.O.I. Gibraltar).

^HAGIOS SPYRIDON
^HHYDROUSSA

Your 1702/11/2. ^HAGIOS SPYRIDON should be sailed independently to Belfast for orders. ^HHYDROUSSA should be held Gibraltar meantime. (D.T.D. 1925/15 to F.O.C.N.A.).

HIPPER - class
at Brest.

One HIPPER class cruiser is reported at Brest 1115/15. (F.O.C.N.A. 1946/15, to N.A. Stn.).

/ BELGIQUE. ...

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (Contd.)BELGIQUE.

Your 1241/11. Hoped to dispose of cargo at either Cadiz or Malaga request whether crew willing to proceed to either of those ports. (D.S.T. 1951/15, to F.O.C.N.A.).

South Atlantic.EVINOS

Overdue shipping. Cancel my 1220/14 EVINOS arrived during daylight. (S.O.I. Capetown 0742/15 to Admty.).

SCOTTISH
TRADER.

Your 1139/15, requesting reply to 2016/10. Following is repetition of my 1819/11 (N.C.S.O. Oban 1318/15 to Admty.).

DRAGON's
visit to
Duala.

Compliments from Governor, French Cameroons. (N.C.S.O. Duala 1427/15).

CYMBULA
water
supply.

Object of my 0042/13 was to assist you to hold maximum possible amount of water afloat in all available local craft and to reduce draw on shore supplies in event of mishap to CYMBULA. Desired however to avoid delay to these two ships. No suitable tanker in position to divert for loading at Takoradi. (D. of S.T. 1451/15 to C.in C. S.A.).

CORFU

Director of Nigerian Marine Lagos 2000/13. To reduce risk of further damage CORFU, request you will send regular weather report to CORFU when within 1000 miles of Simonstown. (C.in C. S.A., 1601N/15, to N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

/ Whale catchers ...

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (Contd.)Whale
catchers
LANCING
THORSHAMMER
QUEEN OF
BERMUDA

Nortraship London have instructed Norwegian Whaling factory LANCING to carry out orders received from Naval Authority. She should proceed immediately to Falkland Islands for further orders unless different instructions are received from Adty. while on passage. Report date of sailing.
(D.T.D. 1847/15 to Consul, Rio de Janeiro).
Pass to Nortraship.
Have instructed THORSHAMMER to proceed whaling provided considered safe.
Have instructed WEGGERS Catchers proceed Montevideo unless THORSHAMMER can use them. Am instructing LANCING proceed contact THORSHAMMER - Somme.
(D.T.D. 1855/15, to Consul General, New York).
1. A. Suggestions in N.O.I.C. Falklands 0117/12 THORSHAMMER and catchers to proceed whaling etc. have been agreed by Nortraship, New York. Orders to LANCING, THORSHAMMER, and OLE WEGGER catchers.
2. C.in C. S.A.'s 2027/13. Concur that QUEEN OF BERMUDA remains in area for present.
(D.T.D. 1926/15 to N.O.I.C. Falklands, C.in C. S.A.).

BULOLO

My 2354/12 and your 1117/12.
To ensure buoyancy No. 4 hold of BULOLO should be fully stowed with steel drums.
(D.O.D.(F) 1928/15 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow).

Merchant
ship
movements.

(N.C.S.O. Freetown 2012/15).

CYMBULA

My 1121/11. FREESIA is to escort CYMBULA to prudent limit of endurance and then order her to Freetown. FREESIA is to fuel at Ponta Delgada, Azores, returning Liverpool independently.
(C.in C. W.A., 2252/15, to LONDONDERRY, FREESIA.).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.A/C
Minelaying,
orders to
UTMOST.

Aircraft have laid mines type unknown off harbour entrance.
(V.A. Malta, 0045/15, to UTMOST).
About 10 aircraft laid mines off Valetta Harbour P.M./14. Several fixed approximately off entrance to Grand Harbour which has been closed for the present. Some struck land and exploded two being in Senglea. One reported in Grand Harbour near Custom House. Belive creeks are clear but am sweeping for acoustic and magnetic mines as best I can with the limited facilities here.
(V.A. Malta, 0123/15, to C.in C. Med.).

Orders to
TRIUMPH.

Unknown type of mine laid by aircraft off harbour entrance.
(N.O.I.C. Malta, 1205/15, to TRIUMPH).

Orders to
UNIQUE.

Leave patrol through $034^{\circ} 30' 012^{\circ} 16' 035^{\circ} 32' 014^{\circ} 12'$ so as to arrive off Marsamxett 0630/18. Mine(s) of unknown type laid by aircraft off harbour entrance which is to be approached (as for TRIUMPH).
(Comdr.(S) 1, 1216/15, to UNIQUE).

UPHOLDER
USK
patrol.

USK made only one sighting. Cancel area W., carry out patrol in area T. South of $033^{\circ} 05'$ between $012^{\circ} 25'$ and $013^{\circ} 05'$. UTMOST reports coastal route being used.
(Comdr.(S) 1, 0054/15, to UPHOLDER).
UTMOST reports focal point F. is approx. $033^{\circ} 00' 012^{\circ} 10'$. Convoys escorted by aircraft and T.V.D.'s and A/S measures appeared to be on increase.
(Comdr.(S) 1, 1210/15, to UPHOLDER).

ROVER
attacks
on enemy
M.V.'s.

Moq150/4.

Submarines and merchant ships unsuccessfully, *tanker successfully attacked* Prompt A/S measures including shore torpedo attack. Two stern torpedoes remain. Intend returning.
(ROVER, 0137/15, to Capt. S.1).
Orders to ROVER and return route.
(Capt. S.1, 0831/15).

Date given as 14/2 in Capt. S.1's 1541/4/3.* S.S. CESCO. See Page 517.*

/ Convoy for Benghazi. ...

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)Convoy for
Benghazi.

Convoy arrives Benghazi A.M./18.
Impress on Army necessity of having some
A.A. defences installed by that time.
If (?berth) can be provided for COVENTRY
she will remain there.
(C.in C. Med., 1055/15, to S.O., Force "I").

Rhodes
bombed.

Night 13/14. 3 Wellingtons dropped 9000 lbs.
bombs on Midi Bay aerodrome, Scarpanto
and Kattavia and Calato aerodromes, Rhodes.
(H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1207/15).

Swordfish a/c
Operations.

2 Squadrons of Swordfish aircraft will
operate one North and one South of Kerkenah
after midnight 15/16. UNIQUE is to act in
accordance with my 1755/13.
(Comdr. S. 1, 1713/15, to S/M's on Patrol).

Ammunition.

Your 1753/6. Reserves to be maintained.
(D.T.S.D., 1722/15 to C.in C. Med.).

Smoke
generation.

Asking for details (C.in C. Med. 1732/15).

Air Raids
and Mining,
Malta.

Malta G.M.T. 1940 to 2340/14 series of
enemy raids. Raiders flew in close
succession. Some glided in dropping
bombs parachute mines and flares. Bombs
dropped Grand Harbour St. Elmo, dockyard
and Tigne areas also in sea eastern side of
island. Fighters up no interceptions.
Fulmar despatched Southern coast of Sicily
for returning enemy aircraft. Nil results.
Civilian damage and casualties. 0930 to
1030 approx. 25 enemy fighters including
Me. 109's evidently on recco.
1430 to 1514 approx. 10 enemy fighters
circled the island at about 24,000 feet.
Confirmed mines laid off Valletta Harbour.
3 exploded in Senglea.
(H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1735/15, to Air Min.
amended 2059/15).

/ Enemy Air Attacks. ...

SECRET

MESSAGE

OUT.
1741/15th February

Lion Copy only
516 A

TO C. in C. Home Fleet. 44.
 C. in C. Portsmouth. 583.
 C. in C. Nore. 105.
 C. in C. Rosyth. 891.
 C. in C. Western Approaches. 241.
 F.O. Dover. 191.
 A.C.O.S. 525.
 C. in C. South Atlantic. 170.
 C. in C. North Atlantic. 667.
 C. in C. East Indies. 737.
 C. in C. China. 329.
 C. in C. America and West Indies. 323.
 Commodore New Zealand 932.
 F.O.C. Royal Australian Navy.
 F.O.C. Royal Indian Navy. 59.
 C.N.S. Ottawa. 44.

DATE 15.2.41.

Enemy Air Attacks on
ILLUSTRIOUS, etc,
 10/1, 11/1, 24/1.

BASEGRAM. NAVAL CIPHER (D)

FROM Admiralty.

Further to A.M. 1354/28, ~~the~~ following amplifying report regarding air attacks on 10th, 11th and 24th January has been received from C. in C. Mediterranean.

Enemy air
Attacks
 10/1, 11/1, 24/1.

1. One Torpedo aircraft attack at 1223/10 was of usual Italian type with steady level approach from six miles on a bearing abaft Destroyer screen at height of 150 feet to drop torpedoes at 2500 yards from Battle Fleet. Fighters gave chase damaging one aircraft. No apparent damage from gunfire.
2. Relief fighters were being flown off at 1235 when dive bomber aircraft were sighted at long range at height of 12 thousand feet in two very loose and flexible formations. On being engaged they worked round to positions on each quarter of Battle Fleet where they circled while waiting their turn to attack. Diving attack started at 1240 concentrated mainly on H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS (18 to 24 aircraft) but H.M.S. WARSPITE and H.M.S. VALIANT were also attacked (3 to six aircraft each). Both Junkers 87 B and Junkers 88 were employed. The attack on H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS developed in 3 main waves in each of which at least 10 sub flights of three each carried out synchronized attacks in different sectors. Aircraft of each sub flight attacked in succession from bearings 5 to 10 degs. apart. Main weight of attack came from astern and it appeared in each wave one or two sub flights attacked from astern and one from either beam. Each wave lasted about 1 1/2 minutes and interval between waves about 30 seconds. Some aircraft dived straight from 12,000 feet to release bombs at 1,500 feet but most spiralled down to about 5,000 feet before turning into aiming dive. Bomb release in some cases was as low as 800 feet. Many aircraft continued their dive across ship to flatten out at 100 feet and zigzagged away flying low. Angle of dives varied between 50 and 80 degrees. ~~Confirmed~~ 3 aircraft shot down and 2 damaged by gunfire and three unconfirmed. Fulmars engaging ~~attacking~~ aircraft shot down five certain two probable and damaged two.

3. High/.....

3. High level bombing at 1330 by seven aircraft each on H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS and the Battle Fleet and three on convoy EXCESS was ineffectual. Aircraft variously reported Savoia 79 Heinkel 111 and Junker 88. One damaged by gunfire from H.M.S. CALCUTTA escorting convoy.

4. Dive bombing attacks at 1515 on H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS and at 1715 on the Battle Fleet were small scale repetition of the 1240 attack. That on H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS was markedly less determined and less synchronized. That on Battle Fleet comparable in skill and determined but the bomb release was at or above 500 feet. At least one aircraft was damaged by gunfire and three by Fulmar which intercepted after attack.

5. Probably isolated night torpedo aircraft attacks on H.M.S. ILLUSTRIOUS in Malta searched channel by two aircraft which were heard and seen. No torpedoes or tracks observed.

6. Attack on H.M.S. GLOUCESTER and H.M.S. SOUTHAMPTON on 11th January. Six Junkers 88 attacked each ship from direction of sun broad on starboard quarter at an angle of diving about 50 degrees. Aircraft pulled out of dives and released bombs at between 800 and 1,500 feet and then broke away. It was possibly these same aircraft which carried out an ineffectual attack half an hour later.

7. Attack on Cruiser force on 24th January. High level bombing attack by 12 Heinkel 111 between 13 thousand and 16 thousand feet. The first five attacked in a loose formation and subsequent aircraft independently at irregular intervals. There was a short lull between high level bombing and dive bombing attacks. Latter were carried out independently by Heinkels 111 and Junkers 88 without any apparent attempt at synchronisation. Angle for diving varied between 25 and 45 degrees and aircraft pulled out of dive to release bomb at or above 3,000 feet. No ship hit but eight misses within 20 yards. Damage claimed eight aircraft.

1741/15.
for D.T.S.D.
(Tel. No. 628)

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
3rd S.L.
Vice Controller.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
Naval Sec.
C.S.O. to 1st S.L.
Ops. (4)
O.D. (5)
M. (3) & for Air Ministry
O.I.C. (2)

D.S.D. 9.
D.N.I. (4)
D. OF P. (3)
D.T.S.D. (2)
D.N.A.D.
D.T.M.
I.P. (3)
W.D.

MP.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)Enemy
Air
Attacks.

On 10, 11 and 24/1. Further to A.M. 1354/28, following amplifying report from C.in C. Med. (D.T.S.D., 1741/15 to C.in C's etc. Original in Lion copy only.)

Operations
against
supply
ships.

TRUANT sighted a convoy of two escorted Merchant ships off Tripoli on afternoon/11 and attacked with gunfire, obtaining one or two hits on nearest ship before being forced to dive. At 1630 this convoy was seen returning to Tripoli and largest ship of 3500 tons was sunk by torpedo.

2. V.A. Malta reports three Swordfish on patrol attacked an escorted convoy of 4 ships on night 13/14 Feb. off Kerkenah Island. One and possibly two hits claimed. Owing to visibility result not absolutely certain but considered one ship sunk. A further force of 4 Swordfish sent subsequently did not succeed in making contact.

CESCO *to ded sea*
COSCO *PS15.*

*No confirmation from
Italian sources
G.A.T. 21/11/51.*

3. At 1130/14 February Italian ship COSCO heard making S.O.S. off Cape Orzzuto passing Calabria, ship evidently sank.
4. (?10 ships) entered Benghazi on 13/2. (C.in C. Med. 1755/15).

Conduct on
encountering
French
submarines.

Adty. mge. 373 A of 28/8/1940 and 452 A of 8/10/1940 Request confirmation that instructions in these two messages represent the latest orders on subject of action against submarines in Mediterranean. 1821/15.

Suez Canal.

Since Canal was open to through traffic on 12/2 20 ships have arrived Port Said and 15 ships have arrived (?Suez) largest ship to transit 16,000 tons. 17 ships now (?in) transit. Programme of dredging is up to schedule time. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1845/15.).

/ "Cucumbers" ...

War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.)"Cucumbers".

V.A. Malta's 1418/9, 1608/9, 0905/13.
 Re continuance of "Cucumber" operations.
 (D.D.O.D. (M) to C.in C. Med., 1756/15)
 See Mediterranean Volume.

Minesweeping
Gear.

Your 2331/7, 1531/9, 1105/11 and A.S.
 Alexandria's 1624/11.
 Magnetic and acoustic M/S gear being
 sent as follows.
 (D.M.S., 1903/15 to C.in C. Med.).

Libya
Bases.

A.M. 1139/12. Officers and ratings being
 sent in W.S.6 B.
 (D.P.S., 1923/15 to C.in C. Med.).

GRIMSBY)
SHOREHAM)
INDUS)
HINDUSTAN)

C.in C. Med. 2331/7, 2233/13. To be
 transferred from E.I. Station.
 (1 S.L., 0116/15 to C.in C's Med., E.I.,
 etc.). See Mediterranean Volume.

also next page

CRISTA)
RODI)

British, under Government charter,
 damaged by mines at Tobruk before 9/2.
 Now at Alexandria being surveyed.
 (D.S. 529).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.WIDNES.

C. in C. Med 2331/7, 2233/13. To remain on E.I. Station. Re other minesweeping forces. (I.S.L. 0116/15) See Mediterranean Volume.

GRIMSBY.)
SHOREHAM.)
INDUS.)
HINDUSTAN.)

Re transfer to Mediterranean (I.S.L.0116/15) See Mediterranean Volume. Your . . . 0116/15, para 3. Concur. (F.O.C.R.I.N., 1035/15) SHOREHAM, see 1456/15.

see previous page
t

Operation
"Canvas".

M 012941/41

My 1910/14 para 4. (C. in C. E.I. 0236Z/15 1140Z/15 and 1627/15) See Italian Merchant Ships.

U.S.9.

My 0932/7. Ships and date. (S.S.T.O. India, 0530Z/15, 0532Z/15 to C. in C. E.I) See Operations Volume.

Mogadishu,
SHROPSHIRE,
HAWKINS,
HERMES.

My 1300/7 and my 1910/14. As there is no need for further bombardment of Kismayu SHROPSHIRE and HAWKINS will bombard shipping and defences at Mogadishu about sunset to-day 15/2 and if necessary HERMES aircraft will make dive bombing or torpedo attack on shipping there at dawn tomorrow 16/2. (C. in C. E.I. 0636Z/15 to Admty). Your 0636/15. See my 0010/15 (given restricted MOST SECRET marking). (D.O.D.(F) 1037/15 to C. in C. E.I). Admty. 0010/15 (Re Italian Merchant Ships). Operation referred to in my 0636/15 has been cancelled. It was planned to assist the Military but they inform me it is not essential. 1052Z/15.

Kismayu
Occupied.

M 012941/41

Operation "^{Canvas}~~Canvas~~". Kismayu was occupied by our troops at 1415 G.M.T./14. If this news is released suggest capture of enemy ships be released also. (C. in C. E.I. 0648/15 to Admty).

Your 0648/15. Release of news of the capture of enemy ships may lead to more efficient scuttling. No intention to publish until all enemy ships are accounted for. (D.P.D. 1825/15 to C. in C. E.I).

/A/C.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. (contd).A/C Sqdns
moved from
India.

Your X.625 11/2. Aircraft 27 and 60 Sqdns. have left this command for Far East. B.T. en route with maintenance personnel, expect despatch remainder of Squadron's personnel and equipment by sea next week.
(Air H.Q. India, 0802/15 to Air Ministry).

Air Report
Berbera
bombed.

4, Kenya. No. 250 up to 1200 hours 15/2/41. Following S.A.A.F. operations in support of our troops in Italian Somaliland and South Abyssinia, 13/2, 6 Battles dropped 21,200 lbs. of bombs on Berbera. 12/2 and 13/2, 4 Hartebeestes dropped bombs on enemy positions on river Delta.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1208/15 to Air Ministry).

W.S.5.B.

Durban. Departures AUSTRALIA escorting W.S.5 B.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 13412/15).

SHOREHAM.

Admy's 0116/15 SHOREHAM is not fitted for M/S. My 1153/8/2/1940 and 0607/11/2/1940 refer. F.O.C.R.I.N. requested to report whether her M/S outfit is at Bombay.
(C. in C. E.I. 1456/15 to Admty).

Escort of
B.N.F.2.
HINDUSTAN.
SHOREHAM.

Adty 0116/15 (i) GRIMSBY and INDUS leave Aden with B.N.F. two on 17/2 and will continue to Suez. (ii) H.M.I.S. HINDUSTAN is now available Suez. (iii) SHOREHAM on completion of boiler cleaning will leave Aden on 21/2. (v) C. in C. Med. is requested to order HINDUSTAN as desired.
(C. in C. E.I. 20522/15).

Indo-China agreement.MOST SECRET.MESSAGE.

0427Z/15 February.

IN

From C. in C. China.

Date 16.2.41.

Inter Departmental Cypher 9 ^{Recd. 2018.} by W/T.

Addressed Admiralty, repeated Governor (?Straits Settlements) , Consul General Saigon, Governor Hong Kong, British Ambassador Tokyo, British Minister Bangkok.

182. Saigon telegram 31 to Foreign Office. As stated in Governor's telegram 55 G.H. of Feb. 13th we are not in favour of holding Indo China agreement in abeyance.

(2) I have received today from Decoux through French Consul General Singapore a letter confirming his acceptance of modifications proposed by H.M. Government to articles 2, 14 and 23 and stating he now regards agreement as in force. He also in that case suggests that article 13 should be removed from agreement and dealt with separately as suggested by Admiralty message 1946 of January 14th 1941 but expresses regret that H.M. Government should contemplate making this stipulation, which only conveys a wish of H.M. Government, a condition to which United States agreement might be subordinated. He also expresses regret that H.M. Government has not seen fit to provide additional gunny bags for rice exports to unoccupied France.

(3) French Consul General has also received following cable from Decoux dated February 14th begins. There is only one Japanese warship at Saigon. Its presence does not in any way interfere with marine traffic as to hinder execution of Singapore agreement ends.

(4) Telegram in preceding paragraph is evidently intended to reassure Dutch who had suspended sailing of monthly tanker.

(5) For the moment I am only acknowledging Decoux's reply and would prefer to leave any further discussion about article 13 till we see how the situation develops. Meanwhile agreement is for all practical purposes in force and shipping and trade are proceeding under it. It appears Decoux does not yet regard it as likely to be overridden by inescapable Japanese claims. As long as this is so it is useful for both of us. In particular the existence of this agreement gives Decoux moral ammunition to use in contesting Japanese demands.

0427/15.

Advance Copy Sent Ops., O.D., and M.

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

V.C.M.S.

A.C.M.S. (F)

A.C.M.S. (E)

C.B.D. to 1st S.L.

E. of Ops. (2)

D.C.D. (F)

D.C.D. (E)

D.C.D. (F)

D.C.D.

D.C.D.

D.C.D.

D.C.D.

D.C.D. (30)

D.C.D. (30)

D.C.D.

War Diary.

15.2.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Indo China Agreement.

Is for all practical purposes in force; shipping and trade are proceeding under it. Unlikely to be overridden by Japanese demands, gives Decoux ammunition for resisting them. (C. in C. China 0427/15). *See p. 521A*

Flying Boats.

Your ORG 502 (T.O.O. 1028/13). To help us understand your problem please signal what the two tenders would do. Is a second tender required now?
(Air Min., 1500/15 to A.H.Q. Far East).

U.S. Navy.

My 1908/11 para 6. Navy Dept. are taking following action.
(D.N.I. 1721/15 to C. in C. China).

Diversion of Shipping

Your 0513/14. Consideration is being given to diversion and necessary orders will be issued by Admiralty when this is considered desirable.
(D.T.D. 1935/15 to C. in C. China).

America & West Indies.

Enemy Unit.

For information. Unreliable D/F fix indicates possible enemy surface unit between 032° N. and 036° N. and 042° W. and 053° W. at 0136Z/15.
(C. in C. A.W.I. 1101/15 to PRINCE DAVID).

ATHELQUEEN, distress.

Following has been read. 50.37 N. 38.40 W. ATHELQUEEN hove to in difficulties, very heavy weather may need assistance ends.
(D.T.D. 1921/15 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

NEW NORTHLAND.

N.T. in W.D.
Your 1722/9. Defects, repairs time estimated 6 days.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1930/15 to C. in C.A.W.I.).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Australia.Singapore
Conference.Australian Naval delegates.
(A.C.N.B. 0110Z/15 to Admty).Raider
Victims.Reference Admiralty policy withholding publication names ship victims of raider attacks pending proof of enemy knowledge through neutral channels, request advices of such proof regarding ships in Australian trade may be communicated to Naval Board as received by Admiralty.
(A.C.N.B. 1090/15 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.GERMAN MERCHANT SHIPS.ELBE.

Press report states has left Kobe. Was loading 4200 tons of oil fuel on 23/1 at Yokohama (D.S. 529).

ROBERT M. OHRING)
OROTAVA

Messages concerning passage through ice in Baltic were transmitted by ROBERT M. OHRING on 12/2 using signal letters DOBM which were previously allotted to German OROTAVA. Latter may therefore have been lost or taken over for war purposes. (D.S. 530).

ANKARA.

Last reported in November and December as being prepared at Trieste as a transport, believed to have sailed from Palermo on 10/2 (D.S. 530).

FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPS.

OCTANE.
SUROIT.

Conband Gibraltar telegram no. 73 15/2. My 1785/3/1/41 French Tanker OCTANE. Agents here have received cable from Bulk Oil Steamship Co., London stating that they have been appointed Managers for OCTANE by Ministry of Shipping. This vessel and French Tanker SURCIT are detained this port, no order for their seizure as in case of other French vessels having been received. Request instructions. (Conband, Gib., 1100/15 to Admty).

SENATEUR
DUHAMEL.

French SENATEUR DUHAMEL arrived at Londonderry from Convoy HG 52. (N.C.S.O. Belfast 1232/15).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.15.2.1941.
Saturday.ITALIAN MERCHANT SHIPS.SAVOIA.
ADRIA.
ERMINIA
MAZZELLI
MANON.

Operation "^{Canvas}~~Canvas~~". My 1910/14 para 4.
Following 4 ex Italian Ships have arrived
Mombasa, SAVOIA, ADRIA, ERMINIA MAZZELLI,
MANON.

(C. in C. E.I. 0236Z/15).

FORMIDABLE 1614/13 merchant ship reported
sunk was reported in air reconnaissance
previous to FORMIDABLES (?transmission) as
"stern appeared to be under water".

(C. in C. E.I. 1140Z/15).

Your 0236/15. Colonial Office asked to
institute immediate proceedings to seize
ships in prize at Mombasa, Ministry of
Shipping will then requisition them out
of Prize Court. Urgently necessary to
get ships into Service as soon as possible.
Request your proposals.

(D.T.D. 1627/15 to C. in C. E.I.).

MOST SECRETWar Diary15.2.1941.
Saturday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGNShips AttackedMARON (O.B.V.)
missed 14/2.

MARON reports being missed by two torpedoes at 1845/14 in position 36° 41' N., 20° 3 24' W., (C. in C., W.A., 0154/15 to SCARBOROUGH)

MAPLECOURT
(Torpedoed 6/2)

Now presumed to have sunk. (D.S. 530)

Unknown Ship
(Attacked
0240/14)

Searched for unknown ship from 0600 to 1900 with assistance with aircraft over wide area around position given in your 1955/14. No sign of vessel, visibility excellent, returning to Eastward? SOUTHERN PRIDE in company. (SALVONIA, 1905/15 to F.O.I.C., Greenock)

ARTHUR F.
CORWIN.
(Torpedoed 13/2)

Your 1154/14 (Re air recco and use of hunting groups against U-Boats) This point continually in mind. Grateful for any assistance you can give. Sinkings are chiefly due to straggling, every endeavour made to prevent. Intended to use fast escort groups on hunts when other commitments and the repair situation allow. Admiral Noble agrees. (C. in C., W.A., 2338/15 to C. in C., H.F.)

Submarines ReportedDerelict
possibly
mistaken for
U-Boat.

Your 1149/14. (Re sinking of derelict) no, but gunfire sunk it so low it could no longer be hit. Depth charges fired from thrower shook up wreck still further, but it could not be made to disappear entirely. (Capt. D. 5. 1046/15 to C. in C., H.F.)

0318

About 57° N., 23° W., indefinite position of German U/B. (D.S. 529)

1219

54.30 N., 24.30 W., indefinite position (D.S. 530)

2012

53° N., 25° W., very indefinite position. (D.S. 530)

/Estimated....

War Diary.

15.2.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. (contd).

Estimated U/B
dispositions.

German.

1 40 miles of 60° 30' N. 18° W.
1 60 miles of 58° 30' N. 25° 30' W.
1 40 miles of 57° N. 25° W.
1 40 miles of 55° 30' N. 18° 30' W.
1 90 miles of 54° 30' N. 24° 30' W.
Possibly 1 60 miles of 50° N. 31° W.
1 arriving Lorient or Bordeaux.
1 36° 41' N. 20° 24' W. at 1845/14.
1 off Finisterre on 15th, may have moved
450 miles W. or S. by W.

Italian.

2 may be westward of Bay of Biscay.
Possibly 1 N.W. Approaches.
(D.D.I.C. 1251/15).