

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

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

1.6.41.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

STURGEON and SEALION have been ordered to try to intercept an enemy warship which appears to be proceeding to La Pallice. TRIDENT, TUNA and RUBIS are to sail Biscay patrol. Air R/C has been arranged.

H.M.T. STORA was destroyed by explosion, apparently of magazine, at Aberdeen today. Sabotage is suspected.

British Air Operations

Owing to bad weather Bomber Command carried out no operations last night or today.

Coastal Command carried out the majority of the routine patrols, as well as the special patrol to search for enemy vessels in the Bay of Biscay.

Enemy Air Operations

SS FERNBANK was attacked and damaged at 0005 off Peterhead.

In the attack on Merseyside last night damage was caused at Gladstone Dock and to Naval establishments.

War Diary

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Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Mining.

Operation
B.S. 63.

TEVIOT BANK laid mines in the East Coast Barrier today.

Mines were detonated off Yarmouth.

Liverpool was cleared⁰⁵ from 0330B to 1530.

Mediterranean

Malta

Malta harbour was opened at 1100.

Long range
fighters.

C. in C. Med. 2031C/1 contains an important note regarding long range fighters.

Western
Desert.

A lighter No.10 and a cargo of M.T. have been lost by fire in Tobruk Harbour. Trawlers and schooners operating along the coast have been persistently attacked by aircraft and have suffered some damage but no known losses yet, other than those already reported.

Syria

Syria is now regarded as enemy occupied territory. All ships proceeding to or from Syria without British authority are to be sunk or sent to a port under British control.

MOST SECRETWar Diary1.6.1941.
SundaySITUATION REPORTMediterranean-Contd.Evacuation of Crete

Wellingtons last night attacked the aerodromes at Maleme and Hepaklion and dropped supplies east of Sphakia for our troops. Continuous fighter patrols were maintained today over Naval forces engaged in the Evacuation.

CALCUTTA was bombed and sank in about 5 minutes this morning in 31° 55' N., 28° 5' E.

The operation of evacuating troops from Crete terminated this evening with the arrival of C.S. 15's force and 3900 troops. As far as can be ascertained the total evacuated are thought to be just over 17,000, of whom some 500 were casualties. 5,500 were left at Sphakia with orders to capitulate and to these must be added up to 2000 from Retimo or in small parties who never reached the south coast. The total left behind was therefore about 7000. The enemy are reported to have shown lack of enterprise.

The evacuation had to be carried out from places which are within easy reach of enemy forces. It was not possible to cover the operations with heavy ships or cruisers. Each load of men had to spend 14 daylight hours at sea in face of extremely heavy scale of air attack.

When the R.A.F. were able to get long range fighters in the air the effect on the enemy was noticeable and a number of attacks were beaten off.

/C. in C. Med....

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1.6.41.
Sunday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Evacuation of Crete-Contd.

C. in C. Med. draws particular attention to the performance of the Royal Marines of the M.N.B.D.O. who in the withdrawal from Suda Bay were constituted by General Weston into a rearguard.

East Indies

LEANDER left Aden today, to join the Mediterranean Fleet.

America & West Indies

VAN KINSBERGEN intercepted the French SS ARICA in 17° 12' N., 53° 19' W., and is escorting her to Trinidad.

U-Boat Campaign

South
Atlantic

On account of submarines off Cape Verde Islands no British or Allied ships are to call there.

Portuguese trawler EXPORTADOR PRIMEIRO is reported to have been sunk by gunfire by an unknown submarine S.W. of Cape St. Vincent at 1500.
2 men were killed.

War Diary.

1.6.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Loch
Fyne
Force.

Am ordered to dispose force now in Loch Fyne. Do you concur following arrangements. (F.O. C.T.C. 1151B/1 to N.O.I.C. Greenock)

Flag of
R.A.1st C.S.
in DEVONSHIRE.

Flag of R.A. commanding 1st C.S. Squadron was hoisted in DEVONSHIRE on 31/5. (C.S.1. 1216B/1).

W.A. Escort
Forces.

My 1501/50. Para. 20. It is proposed to divide this force into 9 groups which is the minimum number possible to enable the escort scheme to be implemented. For the most economical and efficient operation of this force it will be necessary for one group of 8 ships to be boiler cleaning in Iceland at any given time. Request I may be informed as to whether the necessary facilities for this can be provided observing that power must be available at the boiler cleaning berths and it is considered impracticable for more than four ships to boiler clean alongside GREENWICH even under ideal summer conditions. (C. in C.W.A. 1245B/1).

A/A
Protection
by Destroyers.

I concur generally with C. in C. Rosyth's 1319/51. These sailings are most carefully considered at Lyness and if the ARCHANGEL had not been ahead of time she would have been to the northward of the danger area at dusk and the bombing would not have occurred. I intend to sail these troop transports by day during the summer months. I also concur with R.A.D.H.F. that if a determined bombing attack is made on the troopship an escort of a destroyer is inadequate. What is required is fighter escort and some fast craft to give close range A/A protection to act as a life boat and give confidence. Delays and difficulties have occurred owing to my having to rely on any H.F. destroyers or Hunt Class which may be available. Sailings are also governed by the state of time, tide, and advance troop train arrangements at Aberdeen in addition to considerations of security on passage. I consider that one or more Hunt Class destroyers or other fast craft should be allocated to this command for troopship and other escort purposes. (A.C.O.S. 1800B/1).

War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.REVENGE.

REVENGE is to leave convoy and return to Halifax now. (D.O.D(H) 0713B/1 to REVENGE).

→ CALIFORNIA.
AURANIA.
MALOJA.

Admiralty's 1955B/29.

Concur CALIFORNIA leaves Clyde for Halifax direct, stores for Iceland being transhipped in Clyde.

AURANIA will be retained for patrol and sailed from Reykjavik for Halifax on 15/6. (iii) Until arrival MALOJA 19/6 one A.M.C. only will be available for Denmark Straits patrol. (F.O.C.N.P. 1030B/I).

TRIDENT.

(a) Intend to sail TRIDENT escorted by LA CAPRICIEUSE at 1200B/1st for 270°. Wolf Rock 3 miles. E.T.A. 2200B/2nd. S.O.A. 12 knots.

(b) N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter co-operation. (Capt. S.3. 1137B/1 and 1218B/1).

BIRMINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM is to proceed passing Hoxa Boom at 0900/2 to Clyde. (C. in C.H.F. 1235B/1).

TUNA.
RUBIS.
BREDA.

Intend sail BREDA at 1600B/1 to R/V with TUNA and RUBIS off Rothesay at 1630B/1 and escort them to 270° Wolf Rock three miles. E.T.A. 1130B/3. S.O.A. 10 knots. (Capt. S.7 1326B/1).

My 1326B/1. BREDA sailed. (Capt. S.7 1602B/1)

→ AURANIA.

Am taking N.P. 71 as heavy floes and bergy bits are in several places north, on, and south of N(?P) 72 and moving southwards. Weather mostly foggy. (AURANIA 1400B/1).

/MALVERNIAN.....

War Diary.

1.6.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. (contd).

MALVERNIAN.

Cancel my 1512B/31 (D.O.D.H. 1651B/1).

SAGUENAY.

SAGUENAY is to proceed to St. Johns (N.F) at economical speed. Request you detach SAGUENAY as convenient to reach St. Johns (N.F.) with 15% fuel remaining. SAGUENAY to report P.C. and S. and E.T.A. St. Johns (N.F) 24 hours after parting company. (C. in C.W.A. 2313B/1 to C.S.1).

Operations.

Search for
PRINZ EUGEN.

Intend to proceed at 0600Z/1 ? to comply with Admiralty 1328B. (SUFFOLK 0401Z/1).

Interception
of Enemy
Surface Unit.

A German surface unit appears to be proceeding La Pallice from West. (F.O.S. 0626B/1 to STURGEON)
My 0626B/1. Very approx. position by D/F 45° N. 6° W. at 0610. (F.O.S. 0642B/1 to STURGEON)
My 0626. Proceed to intercept. (F.O.S. 0651B/1 to STURGEON).
D/F bearings at 1910/31 and 0611/1 indicate enemy surface unit approaching Bay Port. Approx. position at 0611/1 45° 30' N. 6° 00' W. (D.D.I.C. 0700B/1).
STURGEON after reaching line drawn 250° from 046° N. 002° W. is to proceed to patrol in vicinity 046° N. 2° W.
SEALION proceed to patrol in vicinity 045° 57' N. 2° 35' W.
(C) Object to attack enemy warships larger than 5,000 tons. (F.O.S. 0729B/1, 0811B/1).

/A.....

War Diary.

1.6.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception
of Enemy
Surface Unit.
(contd).

A. German warship expected to make a Southern Biscay port today and leave again shortly.
B. Sail TRIDENT, TUNA, RUBIS as soon as possible with the object of attacking and then reporting enemy cruisers and above.
C. Patrol positions will probably be near 45° 30' N. 05° W. Detailed positions will be signalled in due course. (F.O.S. 1004B/1 to S.3).
Adty. 0700B/1. STURGEON and SEALION have been ordered to patrol 25 and 50 miles respectively off La Pallice. STURGEON may reach her position to-day and SEALION tomorrow - TRIDENT, TUNA, and RUBIS are being sailed to-day for more distant Biscay Patrol in positions to be decided in the light of further intelligence with a view to intercepting enemy outward bound. (FOS 1113B/1/6 to C. in C.H.F. and Plymouth).
My 0729B/1. Enemy not yet located but is probably now in harbour. Dispositions will be ordered later to cover her outward passage. Proceed now to following positions:-
-STURGEON 46° N., 03° 30' W., SEALION 46° 55' N. 04° 40' W. Object as in F.S.C. Two. (F.O.S. 1532B/1 and 1809B/1 to S/M's Area A)

Search for
BISMARCK.

Following is track of RAMILLIES when searching for German battleship BISMARCK on 24th and 25th May. Details. (RAMILLIES 0800P /1).

Iceland-
Faroes
Patrol.

ARETHUSA is to sail from Hvalfiord A.M. 3rd to patrol Iceland - Faroos passage west of the mine barrier.
(11) MANCHESTER is to leave patrol at 2000/2 and return to Scapa. (C. in C.H.F 1052B/1)

/ANGELUS.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. (contd).

ANGELUS.
QUANCALAY.
DU CHATELEY.
* BAT.
to be
intercepted.

If encountered following French Fishing vessels are to be sent into St. Johns N.F. under armed guard. Three Masted ANGELUS and QUANCALAY. Four Masted BAT. Three Masted DU CHATELEY with auxiliary motor and W/T particularly desired. (V.A.N.P. 1204/1 to Western Patrol).

* BARC SIELOURD? WD 31:741 P 1079

Denmark
Straits
Patrol.

Scapa departure R.A. 18th C.S. in EDINBURGH. (A.C.O.S. 1206/1).

Operation "Explore."
EXPLORE.
(Attempted communication
with agents on French
Coast near Breston.)

TIGRIS reports operation ^{"Explore"}~~EXPLORE~~ unsuccessful on 18/5. Unsuitable on 19th and 20th and abandoned on 21st owing to intense A/S activity. No A/S activity was observed on any other day. (F.O.S. 1511B/1).

British Air Activity.Patrols.

Air patrols today. ^{"Stab"}~~STAB~~ in operation. ~~BERT~~, ~~STAB~~ and ~~HORNET~~ ordered but postponed owing to weather. (C. in C. Rosyth 0900/1).

Six A/C of 53 to fly modified 'C' Patrol. A/C to fly in sections of 3 at visibility distance between sections. Time of take-off 1400 hours. Enemy naval force may be closing French Coast at approx. 46° N. with the intention of proceeding to Brest under cover of fighter protection. Enemy fighters may be as far as 50 miles from the coast. A/C to fly as close as possible to the French coast at the north end of patrol opening to 50 miles from coast toward south end. Return track to be as close to French coast as practicable. A/C to report and attack enemy naval force. (A.C.H.Q. Plymouth 1237/1).

/Thames.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (contd).Thames
Estuary.

Your 1812B/31. Air Ministry concurrence has been obtained under following conditions.

2. Aircraft to operate only under 3000 feet and to be constantly in sight from ground or sea.
3. No balloons to be moved or hauled down.
4. A programme of flying to be communicated in advance to H.Q.11 Group fighter Command Uxbridge giving place and time of departure, route to be followed, duration of practices. (D.T.S.D. 1336B/1 to C. in C. Nore).

M/V and
Convoy
attacked
in Bay of
Biscay.

At 1215 in 46° 17' N. 03° 32' W. attacked M/V 800-1000 tons - Co 090/5 kts.
At 1230 in 46° 40' N. 03° 38' W. attacked Convoy of 6 M/Vs Co. 090/9 kts.
Comment: Further reports state that no hits were obtained in either of these two attacks. (Plymouth A.C.H.Q. 1730/1).

Enemy Air Activity.FERNBANK.

(Norwegian, 4555 Tons) Now in Aberdeen. Attacked off Peterhead 0005/1 by 3 unidentified A/C. 17 bombs dropped. No direct hits, no casualties. Damages to engines and rudder. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0911/1).

PLETHOS.

(Trawler) Reports at 0720/29 255 miles S.E. by S. half S. from Portland Light Iceland she was suddenly attacked from the E-ward by a Heinkel 111 plane. Plane flew low over ship with machine gun firing from the nose and dropped three bombs in quick succession. These fell close over and nearly lifted ship out of the water putting wireless transmitter out of action.

/Plane.....

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Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

PLETHOS.
(Contd).

Plane turned and attacked again from W-ward but was met by fire from ship's strip Lewis. She fired this time from her rear gun under the carriage, seriously wounded the Skipper, and slightly wounded the Fireman. Plane disappeared to the E-ward. Trawler arrived at Scrabster at 1930/31. (N.C.S.O. Thurso 0935/1).

BUG.

(Polish 594) attacked by aircraft believed F.W. 200 at 0830Z/26 in 060° N. 008° 58'W. 12 rounds cannon fired at ship, which sustained neither damage nor casualties. (F.O.I.C. Iceland 1101/31).

Mining.

Liverpool.

Port of Liverpool closed including QZS 211 and QZS 215 until further notice. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0330B/1).
Cancel my 0330B/1/6. Port of Liverpool now open. My 1149B/26 remains in force. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1530/1);

B.S.63.

Departure TEVIOT BANK and HOLDERNESS in company 0750. (F.O. Humber 0845B/1).
Operation B.S.63 completed. (TEVIOT BANK 1655B/1).

P.W.10.

Weather permitting carry out orders contained in my 1502B/28/5 tonight. (C. in C. Nore 1027B/1 to BEEHIVE).

Departures M.T.B's 22. 34 and 31. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2151B/1).

/Yarmouth.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Yarmouth

L.L. Trawlers detonated red mine in 52° 49' N. 2° 12' 15" E today. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1557B/1).

WESTAVON
(Mined 30/5)

Stranded wreck of WESTAVON exists in 51° 36' 33" N. 01° 10' 48" E. (C. in C. Nore 1937/31).

Enemy Intelligence.Convoy in
Bay of
Biscay.

At 1230 aircraft reported 6 merchant ships in 46° 40' N. 3° 48' W. course 90° 9 knots. (F.O.S. 1314B/1 to S/M's Area A.).

Casualties and Defects.ST. NECTAN.

My 2302/30. ST. NECTAN developed dynamo defect. Sailing postponed about six days. (C. in C. H.F. 1115/1).

KINOLAVEN.

(British Trawler, 178 Tons) Left Aberdeen 19/3 for fishing grounds. Missing and presumed lost. (D.S. 635).

DORSETSHIRE's 1223/30 and my 1845/30.
 DORSETSHIRE is to fit modified cable winding gear and take in hand R.D.F. and such defects as can be completed in six weeks.
 2. With the present shortage of cruisers every endeavour must be made to reduce this time. (Deputy Controller 1600B/1 to F.O.I.C. Tyne).

/STORA.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects. (contd).STORA.
SUMA
THE TOWER.

Report loss of H.M.T. STORA due to explosion of magazine completely destroying fore-part of ship alongside Albert Quay Aberdeen. One A/S rating believed killed. Slight structural damage to adjacent ships - H.M.T. SUMA and H.M.T. THE TOWER. No other casualties (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 2152/1);

Shipping and Convoys.

H.X. 126.

19 British and 4 Allied ships arrived with Rear-Adm. F.B. Watson as Commodore. Cargoes. (D.S. 635, 1/6).

S.C. 31.

Arrived complete, 19 British and 13 allied ships. Cargoes. (D.S., 635, 1/6).

Routes,
Cape Verde
and Freetown
area.

For Commodore. BENDORAN and TOTTENHAM proceeding to Cape should be instructed to pass W. and S. of St. Paul's Rock bunkering if required at a South American Port. No ships are to bunker at St. Vincent, Cape Verde Island. (D.T.D. 1208B/1 to WALKER); For Commodore. No ships are to bunker at St. Vincent, Cape Verde Island. Instruct CLAN ~~MAC~~ TAGGART, CLAN MAC BRAYNE and HARPALYCUS proceeding to Cape to pass W. and S. of St. Paul's Rock, bunkering if necessary at a South American Port. (D.T.D. 1211B/1 to BOADICEA). Freetown area is one of particular danger from U-boat attack at present. In order that routeing in this area may be co-ordinated, as a temporary measure N. C. S.O.s at Home are to signal Admiralty for ocean route for every ship bound for a West African port, stating in which convoy a ship of convoy speed will be sailing. (D.T.D. 1955/1 to C. in C.'s W.A., Rosyth).

W.S.8X.

Escorts. (F.O.C.N.A. 1020A/1) See North Atlantic.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.Operation
"Rocket".

My 1625/31/3. Request para§ 3, 4, 5 and 7 be considered applicable to operation "Rocket" with times amended to following. (S.O. Force H., 1007/1 to V.A. Malta).

VICTORIOUS.
NEPTUNE.
W.S.8X.

Admty. 2306B (?)/30 and 1727B/31. VICTORIOUS and NEPTUNE are to leave W.S.8X after dark 5/6 to meet escort of 4 Vees soon after daylight 7/6 approx. position 35° N. 12° 40' W. NEPTUNE on completion of fuelling will sail to rejoin W.S.8X routed East of Canary Isles. (F.O.C.N.A., 1020A/1 to VICTORIOUS, NEPTUNE).

RENOWN.
bulges.

Your 1947/31. Details of bulge damage. Acceptable for the time being. (S.O. Force H., 1227/1, to Admty.).

MOUNT LYCABETTUS
CATHAY

F.O.C.N.A. 0843/28 MOUNT LYCABETTUS in 038° 03' N. 026° 32' W. ordered to steer 23°. Ship should report your position. (NELSON, 1358Z/1 to CATHAY).

SEVERN.

My 1010A/30. Cancel para 1. SEVERN sails P.M./1 for Atlantic Patrol. (F.O.C.N.A. 1524A/1 to C. in C. Med.).

S/M
Sanctuaries.

In order to safeguard allied S/Ms which are operating in or on passage on N.A. Station it may be necessary to institute Sanctuaries which will consist of a defined area or lane of given width on either side of expected track of S/M. In these Sanctuaries no S/M either on surface or submerged may be attacked by A/C or surface vessels. Allied S/Ms have been instructed only flare identification may be used to identify them to A/C, and when within Sanctuaries S/Ms are not to use flares when sighting unidentified A/C in order to reduce risk of compromising flares. (F.O.C.N.A. 1528A/1 to N.A. Stn.).

/P.32.....

War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (contd).P;32.

As several A/S cruises are in progress in approach to Straits adhere strictly to your route and programme. Inform me if unable to reach position (e) within two hours of 0700A/3. Onward escort will not be provided. (Capt. S.8, 1630A/1 to P.32).

French Convoy.

* LILLOIS.

French A/T SENTINELLE escorting S.S. AZROU carrying cattle S.S. ASTREE, ALGERIE, both laden S.S. *LILLOIS light passing Eastwards in territorial waters. (S.O.I. Gib., 2000A/1 to C. in C. Med). Further convoy westbound p.m./1. see D.O.R 3/6.

South Atlantic.Sinkings of Ships.

Essential that when survivors from ships sunk are picked up, date time and position in which sunk, by whom sunk, and name of ship, shall be signalled at once, or if W/T silence important as soon as possible. Safety of other ships and action against enemy depends on this. (C. in C.S.A. 0001N/1 to S.A. Stn.).

MONTEVIDEO. (German).

Under embargo at Rio Grande Do Sul. £4000 damage done to her below water line by a small Argentine vessel which broke adrift. Reported that the damage cannot be made good at that port. (D.S. 635, 1/6).

French Ships.

Cancel 211/ G. of 25/5. (T.O.O. 1943N/25/5) Interception of French ships may now be effected anywhere outside neutral territorial waters except West of line Cape Santa Lucia - San Antonio. (C. in C. S.A., 0245N/1 to S.A. Stn).

/EXETER.....

War Diary.

1.6.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (contd).

EXETER.
escort.

Departures 0600/1 DUNCAN and BOREAS to R.V. with EXETER. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1035N/1 to Admty.)

LONDON.

Owing to passengers am only provisioned to 28/6 at reduced rate of consumption. (LONDON, 1036Z/1 to C. in C.S.A.);

KINGSTON
HILL.

Adty. 1657/27. KINGSTON HILL reported St. Vincent 30/5. Gave destination Freetown. Very important I shall be informed of any diversion. (C. in C.S.A. 1520N/1 to Admty.)

Extra
Patrol.
W.Africa.

Request if possible PRESIDENT HOUDUCE and VIKINGS may be sailed to arrive Victoria Cameroons by p.m./4. Ships will be required to provide extra patrol working under orders of BRIDGEWATER for about three days. (C. in C.S.A., 1441N/1 to B.N.L.O. West Africa);

BALTAVIA.

Orders. (R.A.S.A.D. 1521Z/1 to ASTURIAS).

AIKATERINI T.

Your 1643/30. Pernambuco inform me that Greek AIKATERINI T still at that Port. Expected to sail 3/6 for Capetown. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 1521/1 to S.O.I. Capetown).

Shipping
Reports.

Your 2100N/30. Subject to your comments, it is proposed, in order to provide you with information at an earlier time, that the daily signal addressed to Ships and Authorities N.A. Station and F.O.C.N.A. giving particulars of merchant ships about to cross 45° N. should be combined with the almost identical daily signal addressed to A.I.G. 121 giving similar information concerning merchant ships about to cross 25° N. Request early reply. (D.T.D. 1814B/1 to C. in C.S.A.).

SANGRA.

Reported possibly torpedoed at Accra 31/5, CALENDULA to investigate. (See U-Boat Campaign).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.General.→ OTTO LEONHARDT.TIRPITZ
(German).

Left Malaga early on 30/5. First movement since war began.

At Malaga, took in fresh provisions on 28/5 and was asking for 40 tons coal. Has been at Malaga since Sept., 1939.

Comment:- Activity in these 2 ships may point to a growing shortage of shipping available to the Germans in Mediterranean. (D.S., 635, 1/6).

LARISSA }
ITHAKA }
NORBURG }
(German)

All rumoured to have been sunk. Comment. None of these ships has been reported since they originally passed into the Aegean from Black Sea in middle of May. (D.S. 635, 1/6).

Alexandria
Closed.

Port is closed. Cease all movements. (R.A. Alexandria, 0036/1 to Med. Fleet). Restrictions on Movements in Harbour are cancelled. (R.A. Alexandria, 0100C/1 to Med. Fleet).

Malta.

Port is now open. (V.A. Malta 1100/1 to Med. Fleet).

Malta
Aircraft.

V.A. Malta's 1148B/29. Fully concur. These Blenheims are doing invaluable work, request all steps be taken to ensure adequate supply of Blenheims and Marylands. (C. in C. Med., 1135C/1 to Admty.)

Explosive
Paravane.

Italian Explosive Paravane found washed ashore near Port Said. Particulars. (S.B.N.O Suez Canal, 1145C/1 to Admty.)

→ OTTO LEONHARDT
(German)

Arrived (Cartagena, 1235Z/31 to M.W.T.)

Alexandria
Raid.

Air raid 2300 to midnight 31/5. Probably five planes, two type D mines each. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 1318/1 to C. in C. Med.)

/Magnetic.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.General. (contd).Magnetic
Mines,
Heraklion.

My 1829C/30. It is reported that some magnetic mines have been laid off Heraklion. (Capt. S.1., 1451C/1 to PERSEUS).

NEREUS.

Leave Patrol Area P.M./4 arrive Alexandria Sanctuary 0500C/7 (route) Greek S/M TRITON leaving Alexandria 1800/3 (route). You are to proceed on your motors from Seaward End Great Pass to Harbour. (Capt. S.1., 1501C/1 to Greek S/M NEREUS).

Attack on
FLORIDA II.

Ref. my 1.346, 31/5 further reports indicate operation 3 Blenheims 82 Sqn against disabled FLORIDA II carrying munitions concealed by timber most successful. Awaiting confirmation by photo recco. Maryland patrolled area closing Gulf of Taranto nothing seen in spite of 30 miles visibility. (H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1631/1).

Suez
Bunkers.

(H.M. Ships) sailings from Suez are to bunker only sufficient fuel to reach Aden. (C. in C. Med. 1653C/1 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal).

Cape Bon
minefield.

Following from Consul General, Tangier (begins):- New mine field was laid by Italian warships 20/5, 8/10 miles from Cape Bon for protection of convoys on inside route. French authorities have ordered French air force to repel future British flights in this region. Local Admiral very angry at failure of Italian destroyer to leave Sfax after 36 hours argument. She is reported to have only 8 tons fuel and to await help by sister ships. (Ends). (D.D.I.C. 1704B/1 to C. in C. Med. etc).

Italian
Destroyer,
Sfax.

/BESSARABIA.....

War Diary.

1.6.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

General. (contd).

BENESARABIA.
TRANSILVANIA.

Your 1857B/31. No information available in Istanbul on origin of report. See my 1118/17/4. On 10/5 use of these 2 Roumanian liners as hospital ships or troopships reported still under consideration in Constanza. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1730/1 to D.N.I)

Enemy
M.V's.

Resume of instructions to ships and aircraft on subject of attacks on merchant ships in E. Mediterranean. (C. in C. Med., 1731C/1 to S/M's on Patrol). See Lion Copy.

Personnel.

Estimated following will be sent to U.K. in next few weeks. Number may appear small but casualties in recent operations amount to 100 Officers and 1700 men; and during May 1941, 140 Officers and 1760 men, including all survivors of FIJI and complete crew of IMPERIAL left Suez for U.K. (C. in C. Med., 1831C/31 to Admty.)

Mosul.

Re control. Chiefs of Staff No. 124. (1st. S.L., 2211B/1 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

Situation
Report 45.

(C. in C. Med., 2351/1) Repeated in his 2144/2. q.v.

1731C/1 June.

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

IN.

From C. in C. Mediterranean. Date: 3.6.41.
Reed: 1805.

NAVAL CODE (02) BY W/T.

Addressed Submarines on Patrol.

The following is a resume of instructions to ships and aircraft on the subject of attacks on merchant ships in the Eastern Mediterranean. Within the area notified in 381 W B/26/4 and 382B/18/5. Surface ships submarines and aircraft may attack at sight any ship navigating without our permission. Commissions on a Territorial Waters are to be respected and care is to be taken to avoid interfering with Turkish Coastal Shipping which on account of navigational difficulty in some areas navigate outside Territorial Waters. Ships identified as enemy may be attacked within Turkish Territorial Waters by H.M. ships and aircraft providing (a) care is taken to avoid damage to persons and dwelling houses ashore. (b) Attacks are not repeat not made within the the Dardanelle Straits.

2 (a) Syria is now regarded as enemy occupied territory. All ships proceeding to and from Syria without British authority should therefore when possible be either sent into a port under British control or sunk. (b) Syrian territorial waters may be disregarded for either purpose but it must be borne in mind that French Government have in the past given warning that British warships which approach within 20 miles French coast are liable to attack.

3 N.O.I/C (Cyprus?) pass to 815 squadron and C/O 880.

Time of origin 1543C/1.

1731C/1.

Advance copy sent Ops. O.D. O.I.C.

- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F)
- N.A.1st S.L.
- Ops.(4)
- O.D.(5)
- O.I.C.(2)
- I.P.(3)
- D.S.D.9
- D.A/S.W.
- W.D.
- D. of P.(3)

- D.T.D.(4)
- D.T.D.(M)
- F.O.(S) by courier.
- D.N.I.(4)
- M.(2)

DR.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 2211B/1st June 1941 OUT

To: C in C Mediterranean 512 Date 1.6.41.

Naval Cypher (One Time Table)

From Admiralty

IMMEDIATE AIDAC.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No.124 to Commanders-in-Chief of Mediterranean and Middle East, repeated C in C India, A.O.C. Iraq O.C. Habforce, General Basra begins: -

Reference C.O.S. 123.

Commanders-in-Chief will have received later information indicating urgent need for immediate occupation and subsequent control of Mosul.

2. Since terms signed by Clark do not expressly provide for British right to occupy strategic points in Iraq, it may be necessary to rely on British interpretation of the Treaty which gives us this right in war.

3. In any event, most vigorous efforts should be made to occupy aerodrome and control petrol stocks at Mosul with least possible delay, taking any necessary risks. Foreign Office are informing Cornwallis. Ends.

2211B/1.

Secretary to 1st Sea Lord.

1st Lord.
 1st S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S.(F)
 N.L. 1st S.L.
 D.O.D.(F)
 D.D.O.D.(F)
 D.N.I.(L)
 D of P (2)
 Duty Capt.
 E.P.S.
 Hd of M. (8)
 I.P.
 N.I.D.10 (Pay Cdr Wilson)
 W.D.

522 1

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Evacuation of Crete.CALCUTTA
COVENTRY.

My 1145C/31. CALCUTTA and COVENTRY delayed sailing. Left Alexandria 0400. (C. in C. Med. 0451C/1 to F.O. 1. C.S.) Request fighters. 031° 31' 028° 05'. (COVENTRY 0925/1 to C. in C. Med.).

CALCUTTA
bombed.

CALCUTTA hit, 031° 31' N, 028° 05' E. (COVENTRY, 0927/1 to C. in C. Med.) Returning to Alexandria with CALCUTTA survivors. (COVENTRY 1002/1 to C. in C. Med.)

Alexandria
Air Raid.

Operational Summary 356 up to 1200/1/6. Egypt. Night 29/30. 4 or 5 enemy aircraft dropped mines off Alexandria and small bombs of Dekheila Aerodrome. Casualties 3 killed 3 injured.

Benghazi
bombed.

Night 30/31. 2 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour bombs bursting on Cathedral and Julian Moles. 1 Wellington missing.

Crete
evacuation.

Day 31/5. Throughout day continuous fighter patrols maintained very effectively over H.M. and merchant ships evacuating Empire troops from Crete by Marylands, Blenheims Beaufighters, and Hurricanes, operating from landing grounds in Western Desert, Hurricanes alone made 44 sorties. 5 JU. 88's 1 Cant. 1007 and 1 S.79 destroyed 3 JU.88's probable destroyed. Further 6 enemy aircraft driven off and forced to jettison bombs. 1 Hurricane missing. Blenheim recco. Benghazi reported 1 ship 3500 tons, 1 2750 tons, 3 100 ft. in harbour. 40 enemy aircraft at Derna. (H.Q.R.A.F. M.E. 1116/1).

Evacuation.

Report on number (over 17,000, including 500 casualties) and points of interest in operation. (C. in C. Med., 2031/1 to Admt.) See Lion Copy. First half of this signal circulated as 2023/1 in Tiger Copy.

MOST SECRET

20A.

~~M B S C R G H~~ 2051/100 June.
MOST SECRET.

III.

From C. in C. Mediterranean.

Date 2.6.41.
Time 0.

NAV.L CYPHER X. By Cable.

Addressed Admiralty.

IMPORTANT.

636. The operation of evacuating troops from Crete has now terminated with the arrival of C.S.15 Force and 3900 troops.

2. Figures must be regarded as most approximate but consider total evacuated to be just over 17,000 repeated 17,000 of whom some 500 were casualties. (Note. Of these about 250 were in HEReward of whom some are known to be prisoners).

3. 5,500 were left at Sphakia and had orders to . . . capitulate and in addition must be added up to 2,000 from . . . Retimo or in small parties who never reached the south coast. Total therefore left behind was about 7,000 repeated 7,000.

4. I would draw attention to the fact that owing to the inevitable confusion figures given to me varied very greatly and up to late on 30th I had hoped that the last trip, that of C.S.15 would result in almost everyone being brought off. The figures however suddenly increased by some 5,000 on that day.

5. Points of interest are -

A. The evacuation had to be carried out from places which were within easy reach of enemy forces. It was not possible to cover the operations with heavy ships or cruisers and the fact that our points of embarkations might be attacked was a constant anxiety. It was only the fact that the enemy was unenterprising that justified the risk taken in this respect.

B. The distance to point of embarkation being some 360 miles meant that each load of men had to do the whole fourteen hours of daylight in face of extremely heavy scale of air attack which was increased by the fact that aircraft were freed from their duty of attacking positions in Crete.

C. When the R.A.F. were able to get a few improvised long range fighters in the air the effect on the enemy was noticeable and a number of attacks were beaten off and it is already known that at least 14 aircraft were destroyed for certain and a number damaged. The fighters available however were still very few and they were unable to prevent the heavy casualties to which must now be added

H.M.S. CALCUTTA sunk 85 miles N.W. of Alexandria.
Captain and 255 survivors.

D. I should like to draw particular attention to the performance of the Royal Marines of the M.N.B.D.O. who in the withdrawal from Suda Bay were constituted by General Weston into a rearguard and conducted themselves in a manner worthy of the highest tradition of the Corps. It is believed a large number were left behind.

/ 6

6. It is desirable to emphasize that the long range fighter effort was an improvisation of a number of types and could be worked for a few days only. Our need for long range fighters thus remains acute and until they are available in sufficient numbers we must continue to expect losses and damage on the present scale when the Fleet is at sea.

7. A summary of the whole operation is being prepared and will follow as soon as possible.

2031C/1.

Note: First half of this signal already circulated under T.O.O. 2023/1.

1st Lord.	D.N.I.(4)
1st S.L.	D.S.D.
2nd S.L.	D. of L.D.
3rd S.L.	D.N.A.D.
4th S.L.	D./S.W.
5th S.L.	I.P.
V.C.N.S.	W.D.
A.C.N.S.(H)	Duty Captain
A.C.N.S.(F)	Head of M.
A.C.N.S.(T)(2).	D.F.S.D.
H.A. 1st S.L.	D.D.I.C.
D. of P.(2)	E.P.S.
P.O.L.(F)	D.T.D.(2)
D.D.O.D.(F)	N.I.D. 40(Pay.Cdr.Wilson)
D.O.D.(H)	D.P.D.
D.D.O.D.(H)	D.M.S.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Shatt-el-Arab,
Orders for
Neutral
Shipping.

Cancel my 1126/9/5 and substitute following.
 (1) Japanese ships are not allowed to enter Shatt-el-Arab. They may however proceed to any port outside Shatt-el-Arab being informed that they cannot at present be permitted to proceed up the river.

(ii) Other neutral ships may proceed at once if they desire to ports in Persian Gulf and up river to Abadan or Khorramshahr to off load Iranian cargo, subject to an undertaking not to go on to Basra unless so permitted. S.N.O. Persian Gulf to be informed of E.T.A. Rooka channel of these ships.

(iii) Until further orders no commercial cargo Baghdad Syria or Turkey can be accepted at Basra owing to congestion and risk at port. (C. in C. E.I. 0004Z/1 to E.I. Stn.)

RAMB IV.
(Italian)

P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1033/30 to D. of S.T. is passed to you and N.O.I.C. Massowa. Ref. Admty. 1332/11 request confirmation that nothing was said by N.O.I.C. Massowa to give Master RAMB IV impression his ship was returning to Italy immune from seizure. (C. in C.E.I., 0006Z/1 to S.N.O. Red Sea) Confirmed, see 0607Z/4.

RANCHI
CARTHAGE.

RANCHI is to leave Durban A.M/3 and proceed to position (X) 031° S. 035° 40' and is then to patrol between position (X) and (Y) 024° S. 038° 20' Speed 12 knots. (ii) My 1226/23. CARTHAGE is to leave patrol to arrive Durban a.m./4. (C. in C.E.I. 0810Z/1 to RANCHI, CARTHAGE).

Convoy S.W.7

To be sailed as soon as ready. (C. in C. E.I., 0816Z/1 to S.N.O. Red Sea).

War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.Lighters
Malaya.

Risk in allowing unrestricted movement of lighters day and night. (C. in C. China, 0401Z/1 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Indo-China.

Reply from Decoux re rubber question, etc. (C. in C. China, 0511Z/1 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

America and West Indies.Enemy Unit.

Good D/F fix indicates ship in 58° 40' N. 47° 15' W. This position should be searched first. (D.O.D. (H) 0614B/1 to C.S.2).

SAN ADOLFO.

Collision damage 31/5. Temporary repairs being carried out at Bermuda but full repairs estimate 3 to 4 weeks cannot be undertaken owing to other urgent commitments. Intend to retain SAN ADOLFO at Bermuda for oiling H.M. Ships until return of WAR BRAHMIN at end of June, when it is proposed she should proceed to a U.S. port for full repairs. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1042Q/1 to Adty.).

BULOLO
ASTURIAS.

My ARMUK 210 timed 1652/13/5, refitting yards changed as following. BULOLO to Maryland Drydock Co. Baltimore. ASTURIAS to Newport. News Shipbuilding Co. Virginia. (B.A.R.M. 1221/1 to Admty.).

/TRUANT.....

22A)

M E S S A G E.
MOST SECRET

0401Z/1st June.

MOST SECRET.

I.N.

From C. in C., China.

Date. 1.6.41.

Recd. 1110.

One Time Table by W/T

Addressed Admiralty. Repeated C. in C., Far East. Governor
Straits Settlements.

IMPORTANT.

640. From patrol vessels that have recently returned from east coast of Malaya and other sources, the C. in C., Far East and myself consider we are taking an unacceptable military risk by allowing unrestricted movement of lighters day and night to continue.

Two. Japanese ship, arriving by day are searched by local custom authorities as soon as convenient and these arriving by night are similarly searched as soon as convenient the next day. Even if it could be guaranteed that this search were fully effective there is nothing to prevent a second ship loaded with troops arriving during the night and landing large numbers of armed men in lighters already alongside first ship.

Three. Such a surprise landing might well result in enemy establishing a covering position and in holding it until arrival of larger enemy forces.

Four. Danger would be largely reduced by insisting that all lighters and towing craft should be inside river bars during hours of darkness, moored in position selected by local military and civil authorities and ensuring that power craft are well away from lighters and so far as practicable under constant observation.

Five. We appreciate that this will result in loss to industries concerned and will result in protests from Japanese, but consider that we should be neglecting own security, in present circumstances, if we did not take steps proposed above, which, I consider should be applied to Johore (both East and West coasts), Pahang Trengganu and (Kelantan) (corrupt group) if Japanese require any explanations of these measures they can be explained on the grounds of "Military necessity".

Six. This matter has been represented to Governor who is referring matter to Colonial Office.

0401Z/1.

Advance copy sent Duty Captain, D.O.D.(F) & M.

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.
- V.C.H.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F)
- A.C.F.S.(T)(2)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.C.D.(F)
- D.D.O.D.(F)
- D.H.I.(4)
- D. of P.(2)

- Hd. of M.(30) for action
- E.P.S.
- Admiral Bellairs (2)
- Duty Captain
- D.D.I.C.
- W.D.
- I.P.

From C.in C.China.

Date. 1.6.41.

Recd. 1653.

R.Code. & F.E.K.(9) by W/T.

Addressed. Admiralty. Repeated. Governor Straits Settlement
Governor Hong Kong. British Ambassador Washington
British Ambassador Tokyo 734.

IMPORTANT.

643 Your 1932 B May 23rd. and Foreign Office
telegram 2705 May 23rd to Washington.

French Consul General Singapore has handed
me reply from Decoux to the following effect.

2 As regards rubber, he stated negotiations
for delivery of ten thousand tons to U.S. beginning
in July are now on the verge of conclusion. As
regards 18000 tons for France, he confirms Jouan's
statement that none has been shipped since first
cargo in January, and states that no more will be
sent, the available rubber remaining in stock
pending the receipt of further orders from
Metropolitan France.

3 I informed French Consul General that these
statements did not comply with requirements of
British Government, which are that Decoux should
guarantee that the balance of the 18000 tons for
France would in fact be sold to U.S. of America
or ourselves. I said I would report the reply
to London, but I had little doubt that H.M. Government
would insist on this demand being fully met.
Meanwhile Pingaud will transmit my comments
urgently to Decoux.

4 As regards Egal, Decoux stated trial will take
place and affair be brought to a conclusion during
second half of June. He complains that our
suspension of operation of agreement pending Egal
departure casts doubt on his own good faith, and
begs first tanker shall be sent immediately Egal
trial is over and not wait until Egal actually
leaves the Country. I informed Pingaud that we
could not look favourably on delay in dealing
with case and that from every point of view it would
be to Decoux advantage to deal with it as
expeditiously as possible.

5 Decoux draws attention in conclusion to
the very grave results a rupture of the agreement
might have for both parties, particularly in
regards to its symbolic value as evidence of
solidarity of white races in the Far East,
and begs me to recommend to H.M. Government the
continuation of the agreement now that I am in full
possession of the facts. I replied I would
transmit his message, but that I had little hope
of H.M. Government receding from the position
they had taken up in regard to rubber.

6 M. Pingaud asked that we should do our best to
persuade U.S. Government to stimulate U.S. purchases of
rubber from Indo China. I replied that we are
already doing so but I would mention the point again.

0511Z/1.

1st. Lord.

1st. S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (F)

A.C.N.S. (T) (2)

N.A. to 1st. S.L.

Nav. Sec.

P.A.S. (3)

Ops. (4)

O.D. (5)

D. of P. (3)

D.N.I. (4)

D.E.W.D. (5)

D.S.D.S.

O.I.C.

D.T.D. (4)

M. (40)

I.P. (3)

W.D.

Admiral Chalmers

H.W.R.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. (contd).TRUANT.
Suspicious
ship.

Have sighted smoke of ship estimated course 210° probably coal burning. No sign of overtaking after six hours. My P.C. and S. are 041° 47' N. 044° (? 45') W. 210° 13 knots at 1500Z. Pass to REPULSE and SUFFOLK. C. in C.A.W.I. 1312Q/30 acknowledged. (TRUANT, 1626Z/1 to Admty.)
TRUANT's 1626Z/1. It appears unlikely that ship is hostile. (A.C.N.S.(H) 2353B/1 to SUFFOLK, REPULSE).

S.C.33.
H.X.130

Ocean escorts S.C.33 DERBYSHIRE proceeding to Iceland with personnel and stores and for patrol. H.X. (?130) RAMILLIES returning (?Halifax) from 035° W. unless otherwise ordered. (F.O.3BS. 1707P/31 to Admty etc).

FORTH.

Your 1004B/31/5. Docking may be carried out but FORTH should be available at St. Johns, N.F. by 15/6. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1739B/1 to R.A.3).

MALAYA.

UKARM 370. B.A.R.Ms 2328/9/5 and Admty. 0213/14/5. When ready for sea request you will sail MALAYA for Halifax where she should work up for about 7 days. (A.C.N.S.(H) 2328B/1 to C. in C.A.W.I).

French S.S.
ARICA
intercepted.

VAN KINSBERGEN has intercepted ARICA in 017 12N 053 19W and is escorting her to Trinidad by Southerly route. (C. in C.A.W.I. 2356Q/1 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.

1.6.1941.

Sunday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.

- COLONIAL
(torpedoed 27/5) British, 5108 tons, from Liverpool to Beira with general cargo, sunk by S/M at 0100/27 about 200 miles W.N.W. of Freetown. (D.S. 635, 1/6) Had dispersed from O.B.318. (D.O.R. 31/5).
- PAPALEMOS.
(torpedoed 28/5) Greek, 3748 tons, from Rosario to Freetown and U.K. independent, torpedoed 28/5 about 190 miles W. by S. of Freetown. (D.S. 635, 1/6).
- EMPIRE PROTECTOR
(torpedoed 28/5) British, 6181 tons, from Port Sudan to Freetown and London, independent, torpedoed at 1320/30 about 180 miles S.S.W. of Freetown. (D.S. 635, 1/6).
- SAMSO
(torpedoed ~~21~~¹/5) British, 1494 tons. Belated report states sunk by U/B on 1/5 about 200 miles W. by N of Freetown. She sailed from Bathurst, Gambia, on 29/4 for Freetown. (D.S. 635 1/6)
- WANGI WANGI
(torpedoed 20/5-24/5) Dutch 7789 tons. Crew and passengers landed at a Liberian port. Ship reported torpedoed between 20/5 and 24/5 about 200 miles S.S.W. of Freetown. (D.S. 635, 1/6)
- ALFRED JONES
(torpedoed 1/6) British 5013 tons. Presumed sunk. Crew landed Freetown. (D.S. 643, 9/6).
- GRAVELINES
(torpedoed 31/5) Your 0117/1. ST. KENAN in touch with and waiting for tugs. Chief Officer has been on board agrees with opinion given in my 0510B/31 since which there has been no change in situation. Am returning Base in accordance with your 1658B/31. (DEPTFORD, 0315B/1 to C. in C.W.A).

/TABARISTAN.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked. (contd).

TABARISTAN.
(torpedoed 29/5) TABARISTAN torpedoed at 2040 G.M.T./29 in position 006° 39' N. 015° 09' W. (C. in C. S.A. 0645N/1 to Admty.)

CLAN MACDOUGALL
(torpedoed 31/5) Ref. I.D. form S.A. para. 10 (1) CLAN MACDOUGALL (2) Cayser Irvine (3) 0315 G.M.T./31. 016° 46' N. 025° 25' W. (4) not sighted (5) not seen (6) Not known (7) Sunk (8) Missing 7th engineer and one Lascar, remainder of crew landed St. Vincent. (9) Not seen (10) 2 Torpedoes (11) sunk with ship in metal box. (N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, 1145/1 to Admty.).

SANGARA
(torpedoed or holed, 31/5). My 0930/31 Tug has not proceeded. (Dir. of Nigerian Marine. 1200/1 to Admty). Detach CALENDULA at 1000/2 to proceed to Accra, search the area, investigate situation and report. CALENDULA to ask for revelant signals on arrival. (C. in C.S.A. 2137N/1 to BRIDGEWATER) amended 2327N/1.

SILVER YEW
(torpedoed 30/5) Ref. I.D. Form S.A. para. 10 (1) SILVER YEW (2) Silver Line (3) 0030 G.M.T./30 016° 42' N. 025° 29' W. (4) not sighted (5) put searchlight on ship few minutes before she sank. (6) not known (7) sunk (8) missing James Smith Marconi Co. and 2 Chinese. Remainder of Crew and Paym. Lieut. A.R.M. Wonham R.N.R. landed at S. Vincent (9) not seen (10) one torpedo (11) sunk with ship. (N.C.S.O. St. Vincent 1740/1 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.1.6.1941.
Sunday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

2246/31.

D/F fix at 2246 G.M.T./31 indicates Italian U/Boat in area round 037° 20' N. 012° 30' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 0349A/1, to N.A. Stn.).

2350/31.

Bearings on 5025 kc/s an Italian U-Boat at 2350 G.M.T./31 were Scarborough 212/2, Cupar 205/3, Lands End 210/2. (F.O.C.N.A. -0345A/1 to N.A. Stn.).

Estimated U-Boat Dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1450B/1)

Cape Verde.

U-boats operating off Cape Verde Islands. No British or Allied ship is to call at Cape Verde Islands. (D.T.D. 2310Z/1 to G.B.M.S. 1 and 6A).

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Northern
Approaches.

C. in C.H.F. today sent an important message to the Admiralty regarding the Northern Straits.

The Denmark Straits Patrol is being maintained by a cruiser and A.M.C's.

British Air Operations.

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

Blenheims were despatched today to attack shipping in the Kiel Canal and off north-west Germany and the coast of Norway. Several vessels were attacked in the Kiel Canal, but only one small ship is claimed as a loss. One vessel is reported destroyed off Vestbydd (15 miles N.W. of Lindisnow).

Enemy Air Activity.

Northern
Approaches.

H.M.S. HONTES TROOM reported being machine gunned and bombed at 0521 in 62° 28' N. 14° 42' W. No further details are known. NEWMARKET was unsuccessfully attacked in the same area about the same time. p. 37

/East.....

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity. (contd).

East Coast.

PRINCE RUPERT CITY in Convoy E.C. 26 was bombed at 0145 and abandoned in 58° 46' 30" N. 4° 41' 30" E, and sank later.

A.P. Trawler INVERTAY was unsuccessfully attacked while on patrol off Greyness at 0132.

Convoy E.C. 27 was unsuccessfully bombed at 0956 in 55° 13' N. 1° 18' W. (off Blyth).

Hulk THORPEBAY was bombed and damaged off the Tyne whilst in tow.

Convoy F.S.⁵⁰⁴ was bombed constantly between 1651 and 2319, between Scarborough and Spurn Point. S.S. BEAUMANOIR was hit and sunk. The small tanker PASS OF LENY inward bound from F.S.⁵⁰⁴ and H.M.T. TARTAN were attacked and slightly damaged near the Humber L.V. at 2345 and 2330 respectively.

Mining.

Operation
B.S. 57.

PLOVER, working with 4th M.S. Flotilla, laid mines last night in the East coast Barrier.

South Atlantic.

Owing to S/M attacks in the Freetown area -ships are being diverted.

War Diary2.6.1941.
MondaySITUATION REPORTMediterraneanAir
Operations.

C. in C. Med. 2345B/2 contains a note on the strategical situation in the Central Mediterranean and air operations proposed.

Malta.

C. in C. Med. intends to run a shuttle service of S/M's with essential supplies for Malta. He also makes other proposals in 1122C/2.

Libya OperationsStrategical
situation.

The occupation by the enemy of the entire Greek Archipelago and its many harbours has made it possible for him to base or fuel his ships within easy striking distance of the Libyan-Egyptian coast. Suda Bay for example, is closer to Tobruk than is Alexandria.

Air
Reconnaissances.

C. in C. Med. today gives details of the air reconnaissances which he requires in future.

Mining

4 F.A.A. Swordfish from Malta last night laid mines on the Tripoli Benghazi route.

Tobruk

VENDETTA and WATERHEN continue to run supplies and ammunition into Tobruk during dark hours, and to transport personnel. The enemy shelling of Tobruk and the harbour has been intensified.

Beirut
bombed.

5 R.A.F. aircraft bombed and machine gunned a petrol dump at Beirut today. The attack was considered to be ineffective.

Cyprus.

M.T.B's 215 and 68 have arrived at Famagusta and are operating from there with 815 Squadron of Swordfish.

/Greek Ships..

War Diary2.6.1941.
MondaySITUATION REPORTMediterranean-Contd.Greek Ships

C. in C. Med. proposes that ^{GIORGIOS} AVEROFF, 6 destroyers, one S/M and repair ship should sail to India to refit, leaving 3 T.B.'s 4 S/M's and one accommodation ship at Alexandria. The real reason is low morale and lack of wish to fight. C. in C. Med. reports that he thinks the ships will be of little use to us in the Mediterranean and there is always the fear that they may slip back to Greece when at sea.

Casualties.

BARHAM and DIDO have passed through the Canal to Suez.

War Diary2.6.1941.
MondaySITUATION REPORTMediterraneanShip Casualties
Crete Operations.

C. in C. Med. reports the following casualties during the Crete operations:-
 Beached or destroyed at Suda Bay:
 KOS XXIII, WIDNES, 5 M.T.B's, 1 T.L.C.,
 8 A.L.C., 5 M.L.C.
 Destroyed at Sphakia 3 M.L.C.
 Missing, presumed sunk on passage, 1 M.L.
 1 T.L.C.
 Sunk on passage 1 M.L., KOS XXII, SYVERN.
 Position of merchant vessels at Suda Bay
 on evacuation:-
 DALESMAN - aground with some M.T. on board.
 LOGICIAN - sunk
 ARAYBANK, OLNA and KYTHERA, aground badly
 burnt.
 ELEANORA MAERSK - aground, fore part
 serviceable with oil on board.
 * IRENEVERNIKOS - afloat, engine damaged.
 THEMONI - blew up.
 ROKOS - aground with cargo of coal on
 board.
 JULIA - afloat but considerably damaged
 by bombs.

* H.M. Tug. (Research list of casualties)

War Diary.

26.1941.
Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

N.W. Approaches EMPIRE SUNBEAM reported being chased at 1247 in 58° 42' N. 10° 51' W.

Belgian S.S. MOKAMBO in O.B. 329 was torpedoed at 1917B in 56° 38' N. 10° 24' W.

Western Approaches.

Greek S.S. MICHAEL L. EMBIRICOS a straggler from S.C. 32 was torpedoed at 1857 in 48° 50' N. 29° 0' W.

British tanker INVERSUIR is reported to have been torpedoed and shelled at 2345Z in 48° 28' N., 28° 20' W.

War Diary.

2.6.41.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Watch on
Northern
Straits.

C. in C. H.F. 0043B/2. See Operations Volume.

REPULSE.

C. in C. H.F. 1203B/2. See Operations Volume.

FOWEY
HASTINGS.

Admiralty's 1745/26/4. Am prepared to transfer FOWEY to your command on completion of her refit about 12/6 instead of JASON as the latter ship is due for refit shortly. HASTINGS is now refitting and it is intended to transfer her to your command on completion in early July. Do you wish this to be done. (C. in C. Rosyth 1329/2, to C. in C. W.A.)

Fighter
Patrols.
Trial
Recognition
Procedure.

Cancel my 1310/31st May.
(C. in C. Plymouth 1726/2 to TYNEDALE, etc.)

Reykjavik.
Control of
harbour.

Recent experience has shown the absolute necessity for final control of Reykjavik Harbour to be in the hands of the F.O.I.C., Every effort has been and is being made by the Naval Authorities co-operating amicably with the Icelandic Harbour Master and Icelandic difficulties and requirements are (? fully) (? understood). These would continue to be given every consideration but recent experience has shown that so long as final control lies with Icelandic Authorities vital naval requirements in emergency may not be met as it is quite impossible to explain these to the Icelandic Authorities. It is anticipated that compulsion would be necessary only in very rare cases but the fact of our having the final authority would entirely alter the situation.
(N.O.I.C. Iceland 1727/2.)

Force in
Loch Fyne.

Your 1002/2/6. Concur in proposed arrangements. (P.S.T.O. West of Scotland 1740B/2.)

War Diary.

2.6.41.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

Londonderry
A/A Defences.

Recommend A/A defences of Londonderry town and docks should be increased as soon as possible.
(N.O.I.C. Belfast 1120B/2.)

Faroes
Thorshaven
A/A Gun
Defences.

Admiralty 2050B/31, A.C.O.S. 1635B/30 and N.O. 1/c., Faroes 1106B/21.
2. Four light A.A. approved for Thorshaven from June production.
3. Light A.A. cannot be provided at present for so small a target as H.F./D.F. Station, maximum protection should be given by camouflage and Passive measures.
(D. of L.D. 2022B/2 to A.C.O.S.)

Movements.

BRIGHTON.
ST.MARY'S.

Request you will detach BRIGHTON, ST MARY'S, to Port Z A at limit of prudent endurance.
(C. in C. W.A., 1438B/2 to NORFOLK.)

SALVONIA.

Cancel previous instructions. Proceed to Londonderry and await further orders keeping steam at $\frac{1}{2}$ hour's notice. Acknowledge
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 2200B/2 to SALVONIA.)

Operations.

Search for
BISMARCK.

Your 2216/29/5. No interference to W/T or RD/F in KING GEORGE V or NORFOLK. SUFFOLK has been told to report.
(C. in C. H.F. 1105B/2.)
REPULSE 0005Z/27/5. Two green lights were also seen from KING GEORGE V at 0345B/25/5 when REPULSE was in company. Estimated position $55^{\circ} 19' N.$, $33^{\circ} 29' W.$
(C. in C. H.F. 1421B/2.)

/Interception.....

War Diary.

2.6.41.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Interception
of Enemy,

(A) On the assumption that the enemy is in Brest take up the following patrol positions by 0500/4 if possible. Proceed with despatch when practicable.

Surface
Unit.

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Latitude North.</u>	<u>Longitude West.</u>
STURGEON.	46. 04.	09 13
SEALION.	46 06.	10 06
TRIDENT.	46 38.	09 42
TUNA.	46 46.	10 32
RUBIS.	47 16.	10 03

(B) Object when within 50 miles from patrol position is to attack and then report cruisers and above. (F.O.S. 1106B/2.)
My 1106B.

(a) Estimated times of passing Wolf Rock
TRIDENT 2300B/2. RUBIS and TUNA 1200B/3.
Routes.

TRIDENT direct to patrol position.
RUBIS through 48° 04' N., 08° 17' W.
TUNA through 47° 50' N., 07° 50' W.

(b) T.B.R. arranged to cover passage routes and patrol positions.
(F.O.S. 1129B/2.)

Capt. (S) 7's 1326/1. E.T.A. Wolf Rock
3 hours late.
(BREDA 2145/2.)

British Air Activity.

N.A.S.
Stornoway
to close.

To economise personnel and stores it is intended to close down Naval Air Station Stornoway.
(D.N.A.D. 1239B/2 to C. in C. W.A.)

/827 and.....

War Diary

2.6.1941.
Monday

HOME COMMANDS

British Air Activity-Contd.

827 and
828 Sqdns.

My 1428/30/4 and 2107B/5/5. 827 and 828 Squadrons are to cease operating under C. in C. Coastal Command by 0800/3. preparatory to embarkation in VICTORIOUS. R.A.N.A.S. is requested to move 827 to a Northern Naval Air Station. These two Squadrons and 809 Squadron should be ready for embarkation by 16/6. (A.C.N.S. H. 1254B/2)

Thames
Estuary

Your 1500/1. Request words "or seen" be inserted in para (2) after "ground" vide Admiralty Message 1336B/1. Otherwise agree arrangements proposed. (D.T.S.D. 1313B/2 to Air Ministry)

R/C of
Narvik.

Catalina aircraft took off from Sollum Voe 1900/2 to make R/C of Narvik. (C. in C. Rosyth 1940/2)

Enemy Air Activity

Convoy E.C.

Help E.C. Convoy 324° Cape Wrath 127 miles, course west, eight knots. (FOXTROT 0135B/2.)

INVERTAY
attacked.

(A.P. Trawler) On patrol A.K. Near miss by 3 bombs 140°. Gregness 1 mile at 0132/2. Replied with machine gun fire. No damage, No casualties. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0210/2.)

PRINCE RUPERT
CITY.

(British, 4749 tons). Bombed 0145. 40 survivors including Master on board, further survivors on unknown merchant ship. Standing by abandoned wreck to investigate possible salvage. Propose proceeding Oban. Position 058° 46' 30" N., 004° 41' 30" W. (ARRAN 0230/2)
PRINCE RUPERT CITY sunk in 40 fathoms. (ARRAN 0645/2.)

/HONTESTROOM.....

War Diary

2.6.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

HONTESTROOM
(French Rescue
Ship)
Bombed.

AAAA De 62° 28' N., 14° 42' W., machine
gunned and bombed.
(HONTESTROOM 0521/2) (Port Patrick Radio
0525/2.)

NEWMARKET

My 0650. Aeroplane disappeared to N.W.
(NEWMARKET 0711/2)

NORTHERN SKY

My 0730 B/2. One F.W. 200 circled round
ship three times just out of range made
no attempt to attack. Made off on course
(?050° or 283°) (NORTHERN SKY 0741B/2)

Orkneys

3 unidentified A/C plotted approaching
Stromness from Westward, height 3000-5000 ft
at 0136. Appear to have passed over North
side of Flow. Subsequently plotted E. of
Deerness, course E. Shore based batteries
opened fire. Aircraft were not sighted.
Cloud base 1000 feet and unbroken cloud
at 2000 ft. A/C not believed to have seen
into Flow. (A.C.O.S. 0805/2.)

Convoy E.C. 27.

Help Convoy "night" being attacked by enemy
aircraft in 55° 13' N., 1° 18' W.
(QUANTOCK 0956/2.)
Fighters being sent to convoy "night".
(Rosyth W/T 1003/2) Three bombs, no hits
(QUANTOCK 1005/2.)

EDINBURGH

You have probably been reported by aircraft
(D.D.I.C. 0959B/2, to EDINBURGH)

/Liverpool.....

War Diary.2.6.41.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity Contd.Liverpool
Air-Raid.

Following air raid damage at Gladstone Dock on night May 31st/June 1st. Details. 3 unexploded bombs fell near torpedo workshop, destroyer base and Captain D's offices, and are not yet removed. (S.C.E.Liverpool 1319B/2)

THORPEBAY.

(British Coal Hulk, 2182 Tons) Near missed by 3 bombs. Received internal damage and returned to Tyne in tow of BANDIT. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1610/2.)

Convoy
F.S. Even.

Help ^{"Arena"}ARENA 54° 22' N., 0° 19' W.
(VERSATILE 1651/2.)
My 1651/. One ship hit.
(VERSATILE 1710/2.)
1 Enemy Aircraft shadowing convoy ^{"Arena"}ARENA.
My position 53° 55' N., 0° 19' E.
(VERSATILE 2132/2.)
Help Convoy ^{"Arena"}ARENA position 53° 55' N., 0° 20' E.
(VERDUN 2150/2.)
Enemy aircraft bombing convoy ^{"Arena"}ARENA
position 53° 50' N., 0° 26' E.
(VERSATILE 2152/2.)
Fighters being sent to Convoy ^{"Arena"}ARENA.
(Nore W/T 2209/2.)
1 Aeroplane bearing 090° 3 miles course
180° position 53° 55' N., 0° 20' E.
(VERDUN 2215/2.)
A/C still shadowing.
(VERDUN 2223/2.)
Enemy aircraft bombing Convoy ^{"Arena"}ARENA
position 53° 48' N., 0° 34' E.
(VERSATILE 2319/2.)
Enemy aircraft dropping correct recognition
flares for period 2000 to 0200 M.S.T.
(VERDUN 2340B/2.)

Convoy
E.C. Even.

1 Enemy Aircraft shadowing Convoy ^{"Paddie"}PADDIE
bearing 320° 2 miles position 53° 5' N.,
1° 30' E.
(Convoy 2128/2.)

War Diary.

2.6.41.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

B.S.57.

Operation B.S.57 completed.
(PLOVER 0802B/2.)

Mining
off Poole.

Admiralty Letter M.07680/41 of 20/5. App. A.
serial number 4. Eastern limit considered
to be too close to convoy route.
Re Southern limit. (N.O.I.C. Portland
0945B/2.)

B.S.58.

B.S.58 will not be carried out for the
present. (C. in C. Nore 1112B/2.)

Floating
Mine.

S.S. EURYBATES reports floating mine 96°
19 miles Inishtrahull at 2105/31.
No description given.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1224B/2.)

Suspected
Anti-sweeping
device off
Harwich.

Following from M.S.4 begins. During
operation B.S.57 at 0213/2 during sweep
to Eastward SUTTON, parted sweep and two
small explosions seen and heard in 51°
59.2' N. 2° 29' E. Suspect anti-sweeping
device. (C. in C. Nore 1650/ B/2.)

HOPPER
BARGE F.

(496 Tons) Submerged 350 yards from South
Dingle Oil Jetty at Liverpool on 13/5,
probably by striking a Mine. Five killed.
(D.S.636.)

Enemy Intelligence

One Destroyer
off Belle Ile.

SEAWOLF reports. at 1130B/25 one, destroyer
in 47° 17' N., 3° 14' W., course 090°, 15
knots.
A/S Impulses were heard from several
Fishing trawlers near 47° N., 4° W.
(F.O.S. 1458B/2.)

War Diary.

2.6.41.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

HUSSAR.

Repair to number 2 boiler cannot be completed before P.M./15. Intend sailing if possible A.M./16. (HUSSAR 1232/2.)

BENLEDI.

(British, 5943 tons). Now awaiting convoy at Methil has bunker fire. Ship is, proceeding to Leith at 0500/3 to discharge coal. (N.C.S.O. Methil 2324/2.)

U.S.A. Cooperation.

M/V.
Challenge
Procedure.

U.S. Forces have been informed of challenge procedure between warships and Merchant Ships detailed in Admiralty General Message 640A/25/12 and some U.S. Warships are in possession of S.P. 02182 (2) and may therefore use this procedure. Merchant ships should not at present be informed. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2258B/2.)

Shipping & Convoys

E.C. Convoys.
A/A Escorts.

In view of sinking of PRINCE RUPERT CITY in E.C.26 by air attack at 0145 to-day 7miles N.E. of Cape Wrath, consider additional A/A escorts should remain with E.C. convoys until off Cape Wrath, when this can be arranged without prejudice to A/A protection of W.N. Convoys. (A.C.O.S., 1327/2, to C. in C. Rosyth.) Your 1327/2/6. This will be done whenever possible. (C. in C. Rosyth 1901/2 to A.C.O.S.)

Cape Verde.

Pass to N.C.S.O's Allied and British ships are not to call at Cape Verde Islands. (D.T.D. 1343B/2, to C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A. etc.)

/Kites off.....

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys Contd.

Kites off
N. Cornish
Coast.

C. in C. Plymouth's 2259/30/5. Cannot agree.
This procedure would seriously interfere with
safety of Coastal Command aircraft to bases
in that area.
(H.Q.C.C., 1735/2, to Admt.)

H.G.62.

Under Cdre. Birnie R.N.R., has arrived
safely except one ship, missing. 12 British,
1 Allied, 4 neutral. Cargoes.
(D.S.637, 3/6.)

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

MOUNT
LYCABETTUS.
(Greek)

Proceeding Gibraltar under armed guard routed through (A) 037° 39' N. 024° 39' W. (B) 035° 52' N. 010° 00' W. 8 knots. My position at 0900Z/2, (037°) 36' N. 026° 45' W. (CATHAY, 0915Z/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Survivors from
STORSTAD,
AUTOMEDON,
MAIMOA.

Following on board S.S. NEA HELLAS landed Bordeaux 5/2/41 from Norwegian Tanker STORSTAD and subsequently escaped, 4th Engineer ex S.S. AUTOMEDON, 5th Engineer ex S.S. MAIMOA captured by raiders in Indian Ocean. (S.O.I. Gib., 1042A/2 to Admty.)

Submarine
P.32 bombed.

Corrupt Signal from P.32 T.O.O. 1045B/31 (Not received in W.R.) infer she has been damaged by bombs and will require docking. She is expected to arrive Gibraltar 3/6. (F.O.C.N.A. 1104A/2 to Admty.)

CANARIAS
search for
BISMARCK
survivors.

Your 1529/28. This was done and Minister seemed to accept point. CANARIAS only found two dead Germans. (N.A. Madrid, 1157/2 to Admty.)

W.S.8.X
Escorts.

My 1020A/1. In view of submarine activity, it is important that WIVERN, VANSITTART, WILD SWAN should when detached proceed with utmost despatch consistent with fuel remaining. Admty. 1341/23 not to VICTORIOUS or destroyer(s). Amend position Q to read 231° Cape St. Vincent 20 miles. Destroyers report E.T.A. when 100 miles from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1308Z/2 to VICTORIOUS.)

/CAIRNDALE

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

CAIRNDALE
BRITISH YEOMAN
(torpedoed
30/5)

Your 2057B/31. CAIRNDALE was not diverted. It was estimated that she should meet escort of two Corvettes at any time after 0630/30. It was obvious that there were several submarines in the area. I considered it of first importance that the R/V should be effected at earliest possible moment and that any attempt at diversion at the last minute would most probably lead to delay. By daylight there were 5 MLS and aircraft reconnaissance in the area where BRITISH YEOMAN was attacked. CAIRNDALE actually met escort shortly after dawn and one aircraft was over her a few minutes before attack. Distance between attacks on CAIRNDALE and BRITISH YEOMAN was about nineteen miles. Further report follows on return of ships concerned. (F.O.C.N.A. 1644A/2 to Admty.)

Suspicious
ship, Tangier.

Reliable source reports a warship of undetermined nationality, said to be German, lying close (corrupt group) Rocks east of Cape Spartel at 0300/30. A watch has been arranged. Hope to inform you by W/T if this visit is repeated. (Consul General, Tangier, 1905/2 to F.O.I.C. Gibraltar.)

NEA HELLAS.

My 1020B/22/5. para 2. and your 1046/18/5. NEA HELLAS is urgently required in U.K. by 11/6 at latest to be prepared for W.S. convoy As no ocean escort can be provided ship must proceed independently without embarking refugees. Request you will sail her as soon as you can provide local A/S escort. (A.C.N.S.F.1920B/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.2.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.LONDON.

Leave EAGLE and proceed at 25 knots to S.W. Further instructions follow. (D.O.D. (F) 0131B/2 to LONDON)

MARGUERITE
EXETER.

Departure 1800/1 MARGUERITE to R.V. with EXETER. (S.O.1 Freetown, 0453N/2 to Admty.)

NATAL.
WINDHUK.
TEBRO.

(B.3) German ships NATAL and WINDHUK Italian ship TEBRO and ships from Rio de Janeiro are to sail Wednesday 4/6. (N.C.S.O. Santos, 1110/2 S.O.I. Montevideo, 1456Z/2 to R.A.S.A.D.)

ALFRED JONES.
SIRE.

Overdue Shipping. ALFRED JONES due Freetown 30/5 from Mersey 8/5, and SIRE due Freetown 1/6 from Las Palmas 25/5 have not arrived. (S.O.I. Freetown 1152N/2 to Admty.)

BRUSH.

Overdue shipping. Norwegian BRUSH Trinidad departure 24/5 due Para 30/5 has not arrived. (S.O.I Freetown, 1154N/2 to Admty.)

Takoradi A/S
Patrols.

C. in C. South Atlantic 1345/1. Takoradi signal in reply (Begins) A.451 1/6. In view of acute shortage of pilots for ferrying aircraft to Middle East, A/S patrols on Blenheim aircraft allocated for operations must be limited for time being. On receipt of news of sinking of vessel off Accra on night of 30/31, security patrols were carried out at dawn and dusk on 31/5 (area) Understand that trained operational crews for 3 operational Blenheims are being despatched from U.K. On arrival we will be in a position to carry out patrols at more frequent intervals. To ensure full co-operation with Navy request information of Navy surface craft operating in vicinity. (ends) (Takoradi, 1350/2 to H.Q., M.E., Air Ministry)

/BERGENSFIORD

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (contd.)

BERGENSFIORD.

My 2243/30. BERGENSFIORD (?expected to arrive) Victoria 5/6. It is imperative owing to danger of U-Boats that embarkation at Victoria shall be completed in shortest time possible. (C. in C.S.A. 1419N/2 to Milwestaf.)

NIEUW
AMSTERDAM.

Master states his orders do not include Red Sea. In view of ships departure from Durban for Suez with 4,000 troops having been arranged for 7/6 request revised orders may be telegraphed immediately. Note orders referred to are from ship's owners. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown, 1717B/2 to D.of S.T.) Reply: 1543B/3.

Shipping
Diversion.

Your 1814/1/6. I agree, propose to divert ships north of S.A. Station limit 20° 47' N. for known dangers south of this if required, but not to divert any ships south of this limit for dangers north of it unless instructed otherwise. (C. in C.S.A.1743N/2 to Admty.)

Air Sqdns.
for Bathurst.
S.S.DUMANA
as base ships.

X. 802. 2/6. Decided to reinforce R.A.F. in West Africa. Details. (Air Ministry, 1810/2 to R.A.F. Bathurst)

Routes.
Takoradi.

Your 1957 N/21 para. 2. It is not considered practicable to co-ordinate routes to Takoradi given by N.C.S.O's from widely dispersed ports. Preferable you should re-route these ships as situation demands. To facilitate this, N.C.S.O's are being ordered to give a final lettered position on Ocean route within 50 miles of port of destination on account of known insecurity of Merchant Navy recoding Tables. (A.C.N.S.(T) 2055B/2 to C. in C. S.A.)

/CONSTANTIA

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (contd.)

CONSTANTIA,
SHROPSHIRE,
PRETORIA CASTLE,
*KRONIA, CILICIA,
CARNARVON
CASTLE,
→ ASTURIAS.

Your 1118/2 not to all addressees. CONSTANTIA is to be sailed for Freetown as convenient (route) to Freetown. SHROPSHIRE may be required to patrol on passage but should arrive Freetown by 15/6 in any case. PRETORIA CASTLE and *KRONIA are to proceed by direct route to Freetown. CILICIA is to meet and take over escort from (? PRETORIA CASTLE) in position 024° 30' S. 012° 00' W. at 0800B/6. PRETORIA CASTLE then to patrol K1. CARNARVON CASTLE is to leave patrol on 5/6 and proceed to L32 to relieve ASTURIAS. (C. in C.S.A. 2159N/2 to S.N.O. Simonstown)
* ? CAMERONIA - See p. 104.

WINDHUK.

M.F.A. has today assured Ambassador that he will continue to do his utmost to prevent WINDHUK sailing. Should he be forced to consent sailing he would give us a hint in advance. S.O. (I) Freetown convey to C. in C.S.A. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 2220Z/2 to Admty.) List of ships at Rio (D.S.637)

→ ASTURIAS.

Your 2003B/6. Request early information to which port in U.S.A. ASTURIAS is to proceed. (C. in C.S.A. 2301N/2 to Admty.)

CRITON.
(French)

Your 1948/29. Directions in My 2323/16/5 concerning requisitioning of CRITON, token prize crew and French flag still apply. You should explain to volunteers that they will be given early opportunity of employment in French ship flying French flag. (Head of M. 2332B/2 to C. in C.S.A.)

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

OTTO LEONHARDT.
(German)

Left Malaga and arrived Cartagena 30/5.
(D.S. 636, 2/6)

TZAR FERDINAND.
(Bulgarian)

Passed Istanbul at 0905/1 for Salonica with
1300 tons grain. (D.S. 636, 2/6)

Ships in
Turkish Ports.

Reported Bulgarian and Greek ships in
Turkish ports have been chartered by German
Govt. to operate under their own flags, and
there is every indication they will be used
for military purposes. (D.S. 636, 2/6)

Importance
of Air
Reconnaissance.

Highest importance that our air reconnais-
sance of Central Mediterranean, Italian
bases and Greek ports should be as extensive
and accurate as possible. Proposals.
(C. in C. Med. 0026C/2 to A.O. C. in C.M.E.)
see Lion Copy.

Swordfish
Minelaying
operation.

H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 0630/2 see Mediterranean
Volume. H.Q. R.A.F. Malta I. 350 2/6.
Request I may be informed why this operation
was undertaken without reference to me, and
who authorized operation. These dis-
positions will undoubtedly hamper operations
of submarines between Tripoli and Benghazi.
No further operations of this nature are to
be carried out without my approval.
(C. in C. Med., 2228C/2 to N.O.I.C. Malta)
Reply: V.A. Malta 1445B/3, see Mediterranean
Volume.

Air Report.

Operational Summary No.357 up to 1200 hrs.
2/6/41. 1/6. Maryland reconnaissance
reported no shipping at sea between Crete
and Melos. Night 31/5 to 1/6. 2 Wellingtons

Benghazi bombed

bombed Benghazi starting 2 large fires at
Base of Cathedral Mole and 1 small fire at
Juliana Point. 1/6. Continuous fighter

Crete
Evacuation.

patrols maintained throughout day over H.M.
ships evacuating our forces from Crete to
Egypt by Hurricanes, Beau fighters, Marylands,
and Blenheims operating from Western Desert
Landing Grounds. Hurricanes made 35

Tobruk bombed.

sorties. During day 14 Ju 87's escorted by
fighters dive bombed A.A. positions Tobruk
Harbour damaging 1 gun. 2 enemy destroyed
by A.A. fire. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E.1051/2)

MOST SECRET

49A.

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

0026C/2nd June:

IN

From C. in C. Mediterranean.

Date 2.6.41.

NAVAL CYPHER D BY CABLE.

Recd. 1104.

Addressed A.O.C. Middle East, Repeated G.H.Q. Middle East,
A.O.C. Mediterranean, V.A. Malta, Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE

639. most secret. The occupation by enemy of entire Greek Archipelago and its many harbours has now made it possible for him to base or fuel his ships within easy striking distance of Libyan - Egyptian Coast. Suda Bay for example is closer to Tobruk than is Alexandria.

2. It is by no means impossible that enemy may make some such attempt knowing present diminution of Mediterranean Fleet.

3. It has therefore become of highest importance that our air reconnaissance of central Mediterranean, Italian bases and Greek ports should be as extensive and accurate as possible. Whilst realizing all this is not immediately possible of attainment request you will give urgent consideration to provision of best possible reconnaissance in following priorities.

(a) To ensure ships cannot move unobserved in area 13 to East of line joining Benghazi - Sapienza Island.

(i) South of Crete.

(ii) In South Aegean.

(b) Daily examination of Suda Bay Navarin and Argostoli for concentration of ships.

(c) Daily location of Italian Fleet units by examination of bases in Italy and Sicily.

(d) Effective reconnaissance of Ionian Sea North of 035 degrees 00' North.

4. At same time it is most necessary to maintain reconnaissance to East and West of Malta to enable continued interception of convoys by A/C and S/M's.

5. It is pointed out that to enable effective naval forces to be brought to bear for defence of for example Tobruk 24 hours notice of enemy is required.

6. Much assistance would be given by air attack on any forward base in Greece which enemy may attempt to use. Presence of tankers in particular should be sternly discouraged.

7. V.A. Malta pass to A.O.C. Mediterranean.

0026C/2.

Advance copy P.O., N.A. 1st S.L., D.O.D.(F), D.D.I.C.

1st Lord,

D.O.D.(H)

W.D.

1st S.L.

D.D.O.D.(H)

Duty Capt.

2nd S.L.

D.O.D.(F)

Head of M.

3rd S.L.

D.D.O.D.(F)

D.T.S.D.

4th S.L.

D.N.I.(4)

D.D.I.C.

5th S.L.

D.S.D.

E.P.S.

V.C.N.S.

D. of L.D.

D.T.D.(2)

A.C.N.S.(H)

D.N.A.D.

N.I.D. 10(Pay.Cdr.Wilson)

A.C.N.S.(F)

D.A/S.W.

D. of P.(2)

A.C.N.S.(T)(2)

D.M.S.

A.A. 1st S.L.

I.P.

War Diary.2.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd.)Breda guns.

Your 1048B/17. Stocks of captured Breda ammunition available for all services and Middle East view that productions should not proceed are contained in Mid. East SD/69417 of 1/6 to War Office. Full details of material captured in East Africa are not likely to be available for some time but it is evident that numbers of Breda guns will be much below our expectations.
(C. in C. Med. 1100C/2 to Admty.)

LEANDER.

N.O.I.C. Aden's 1311/1 (N.T. in W.R.) Request you will sail LEANDER for Alexandria as soon as possible. (C. in C. Med. 1120C/2 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal)

Malta Supplies.

Proposals. (C. in C. Med., 1122C/2 to Admty.) See Mediterranean Volume.

Iraq Armistice.

Chiefs of Staff No.125 to C. in C. Med. and M.E. Terms of Armistice with Iraqis signed by Clark are so far short of those recommended by you and by us. Can you explain and say if you consider that the terms as now signed give us the military facilities we require? (1st S.L. 1236B/2 to C. in C. Med.)

UNIQUE.

Leave patrol as requisite through 035° 25' 013° 00' and 035° 40' 014° 06' to arrive off Marsamxett 0640B/5 URSULA due to arrive same time through 035° 00' 013° 20' and 035° 31' 014° 13'. (Cdr. S.L. 1241B/2 to UNIQUE.)

Suez Canal, obstructions removed.

My 1917/28/4 to C. in C. Med. only. Successful shifting from Channel of Wreck of HOPPER 34 yesterday 1/6 afforded passage for Capital ships. (S.B.N.O. Suez, 1259C/2 to C. in C. Med.)

/My 1259C/2.

War Diary.2.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Suez Canal
obstructions
removed.
(contd.)

* AGHIOS GEORGIOS.

My 1259C/2. Canal Company do not envisage any further salvage operation so that following wrecks will remain in Canal -

- (a) stern of RANEE at Kharag 83.6.
- (b) H.M. HOPPER 39 at Kharag 134.7.
- (c) H.M.S. SARNA at Kharag 138.5.
- (d) Canal Company HOPPER 34 at Kharag 138.7.
- (c) S.S. *AGHIOSGEOS at Kharag 141.8.
- (d) and (e) causing difficulty to shipping.

Large ships can pass only at high water and passage at night is inadvisable. Consider it advisable (d) and (e) should be removed but Canal Company state work is beyond their resources. (S.B.N.O. Suez 1733C/2 to C. in C. Med.)

BASARABIA
BESSARABIA.
TRANSILVANIA
REGELE CAROL
DACIA.

My 1730/1. BASARABIA. BESSARABIA, TRANSILVANIA, expected to resume on Constanza - Istanbul service, and REGELE CAROL, DACIA when taken off it may be taken over by German crews. Graded B.3. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1508/2 to S.O.I.. Alexandria)

TRIUMPH.
TAKU.

Keep to the west of 017° 00' from noon/5 at which time TAKU will enter patrol area east of 017° 00' and south of 032° 45' to operate off Benghazi. My 1019C/31 not to TAKU is cancelled, you will return to Alexandria direct. (Capt. S.1. 1521C/2 to TRIUMPH)

PARTHIAN
TORBAY.

Leave patrol as necessary to pass east of Strati Island about ?2300C/5 thence east of Spitfire Bank and Naxes through Scarpanto Strait then direct to arrive at Alexandria Sanctuary 0500C/10. TORBAY has been ordered to leave present area p.m./5 keeping West of 025° 00' and to pass West of Strati Island at 2300C/5 thence proceeding north of Lemnos to occupy area vacated by you. (Capt. S.1. 1603C/2 to PARTHIAN)

/Palermo Shipping

War Diary.2.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd.)Palermo
Shipping.

Information received 15 vessels loading Palermo sailing 6/6 for North Africa. Graded C.3. (D.D.I.C. 1657B/2 to C. in C. Med. etc.)

Suez Canal
and
Red Sea.

Probable Government Mission will be sent to consider immediate measures necessary to improve Port and Transport facilities in Suez Canal and Red Sea areas. Essential to attach to the Mission a Naval Officer with knowledge of the ports etc. C. in C. Med. after consultation with C. in C.E.I. requested to report. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1835B/2 to C. in C. Med.)

DIDO.

Your 1102Z/1 not to Admiralty. (?DIDO) is in need of extensive repairs. Destination is under consideration of Admiralty. (C. in C. Med. 1916C/2 to C. in C.E.I.)

Situation
Report 43.

Following is a repetition of my 2351/1. Crete operation. See my 2031/1. All ships have returned to Alexandria. C.S. 15 Force was successfully protected by fighters. 2. Western Desert. One A lighter and cargo of MT lost by fire in Tobruk Harbour. Trawlers and schooners operating along coast have been persistently attacked by aircraft and have suffered some damage but no known losses yet other than those already reported. 3. Alexandria. Mines were laid south of Great Pass in raid 2300/31. Port is open. 4. Malta. Blenheims operated as in H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1100/31. Ends. (C. in C. Med. 2144/2 to Admty.)

Operations
"Rocket"
"Tracer"

Suggestion for similar demonstrations. (C. in C. Med. 2345B/2 to Admty. See Mediterranean Volume.

/Small Craft Suda Bay..

War Diary.2.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd.)Small Craft
ex Suda Bay.

Following is position small craft ex Suda Bay.

- (i) Arrived Alexandria KOS XXI, LANNER, M.L. 4032.
- (ii) Beached or destroyed at Suda Bay, KOS XXIII, WIDNES, M.T.B. 67, 213, 214, 216, 217, T.L.C. A.16, 8 A.L.C, 5 M.L.C.
- (iii) Destroyed at Sphakia, three M.L.C.
- (iv) Missing presumed sunk on passage M.L. 1030, T.L.C. A.6, A. (?20)
- (v) Sunk on passage M.L. 1011. KOS XXII, SYVERN. (C. in C. Med. 2220C/2 to Admty.)

M.V's lost
at Suda Bay.

Following is position merchant vessels at Suda Bay on evacuation:-

- DALESMAN - Aground with some M.T. on board.
- LOGICIAN - sunk.
- ARAYBANK - Aground badly burnt.
- ELEANORA MAERSK - Aground fore part service-able with oil on board.
- OLNA - Aground badly burnt.
- * IRENE VERNIKOS - Afloat, engine damaged.
- KYTHERA - Afloat badly burnt out.
- THEMONI - Blew up.
- ROKOS - Aground with cargo coal on board.
- JULIA - Afloat but considerably damaged by bombs. (C. in C. Med. 2226C/2 to Admty.)

* H.M. Tug - (P. Branch hit of explosion)

Situation
Report 44.

(My 2351/1 was Situation Report 43)
CALCUTTA was hit by two bombs at 0945/1 and sunk in about five minutes. Attack was by two JU.88 diving out of sun. Position 31.55 N. 28.05 E.
2. Western Desert. VENDETTA and WATERHEN continue to run supplies and ammunition into Tobruk during dark hours also transporting personnel. Enemy shelling of -Tobruk and harbour has been intensified.
3. Cyprus. M.T.B. 215 and 68 have arrived Famagusta and are operating from there with 815 Sqdn. of Swordfish.
4. Canal Area. BARHAM and DIDO have passed through Canal to Suez. (C. in C. Med. 2356C/2 to Admty.)

/Greek Warships

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (contd.)

Greek Warships.

Greek proposal to refit in India. Suggestions. (C. in C. Med. 2358C/2 to Admty.) See Med. Vol.

East Indies.

HERMES
Force T.

Your 0434Z/31. The importance of HERMES being employed on anti-raider operations as soon as possible must be borne in mind. Report when it is expected she will be released. (1st S.L. 0050B/2 to C. in C.E.I) Admty.0050/2. Release of Force T. from present duties under active discussion with British Commander for some time, but aircraft and other facilities the Forces could provide until reinforcements arrived justified it remaining there. With signing of Armistice, it may still be desirable to base two or three Swordfish ashore to assist the R.A.F. in reconnaissance of Shatt-el-Arab, but I shall avoid this if possible. Subject to concurrence of General Basra and A.O.C. Iraq, I intend to withdraw Force T. about 7/6 when F.A.A. stores for HERMES now on way will have been received by her. Intend HERMES shall dock on arrival at Colombo. (C. in C.E.I. 0458Z/2 to Admty.)

ISLAMI
ANTENOR.

S.S.T.O. India (Bombay) 1151/31 to C. in C. E.I. only. Troopship ISLAMI will leave Karachi 9/6 for Basra being routed direct to Gulf Oman and thence as in my 1236/2 amended by my 1206/19. ANTENOR is to escort from Karachi for about 12 hours and is to part company from ISLAMI to arrive Karachi p.m.10. (C. in C.E.I. 0746Z/2 to ANTENOR etc.)

Iraq
Armistice.

Chief of Staff no. 125. See Mediterranean (p 48)

/CARSO

War Diary.2.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. (contd.)CARSO.
(Italian)

N.O.I.C. Kismayu reports CARSO refloated. Semi-permanent repairs being effected to Hull damage which will make ship seaworthy. Endeavour being made to repair engine defects but towage prospects also being investigated. Estimated undamaged cargo 1000 tons cotton & 3000 tons Manganese shellite in good order. (C. in C.E.I. 1012Z/2 to Admty.)

Minesweeping.

In Red Sea and Persian Gulf. Skids and towing vessels - dispositions. Other measures. (C. in C.E.I., 1442Z/2 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

America and West Indies.H.X.129
H.X.130
H.X.131
Escorts.

My 1953B/29. Request names of corvettes escorting H.X.129 and H.X.130 may be signalled. Owing to recent operations escort vessels on passage are unlikely to arrive in time for H.X.131 and it is suggested that if no other corvettes are available then the corvettes that are now escorting H.X.129 should be ordered to return to St. Johns in time to refuel and escort H.X.131 from R/V in 45° W. to Icelandic R/V. Ships would then proceed to Iceland and refuel returning to St. Johns about 2/7. (D.O.D.(H) 1057B/2, amended 1249B/2 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

BISHOPDALE.
DIOMEDE.

Ref. 2308B/30. (1) Oiler BISHOPDALE arriving R/V F.O.G.O. at 0800 G.M.T./6. Am proceeding to comply with last sentence of C. in C.A.& W.I. 2202Q/1. (DIOMEDE, 1401Z/2 to Force F.)

/Newfoundland Force.

MOST SECRET

53A.

~~MOST SECRET~~

IN

1442Z/2nd. June.

FROM: C. in C. East Indies,

Date: 3.6.41.
Recd: 1655.

Naval Cypher C by Cable.

ADDRESSED: Admiralty, Repeated C. in C. Mediterranean.
S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area, S.H.O. Red Sea,
N.O.I.C. Alexandria, F.O.C.R.I.N.

963. (i) In view of paragraph 3 of Admiralty message 20C9/24 and paragraph 4 of C. in C. Mediterranean 1013/29 the following disposition Skids and towing vessels are intended (a) In Red Sea available for Suez if required. SAGITTA, NETRAVATI, (RATNAGIRI) and 4 (M) (13) in Shatt El Arab. (LILAVATI), (IMPALA) another vice VTCV(LAXMI) Tug MMSC(ZERANG) and 10 Skids.

(ii) To implement paragraph (i) (a) above: (a) SAGITTA already available Port Sudan will be sent to Suez as soon as possible (b) NETRAVATI now being fitted at Bombay will be available in Red Sea in about 3 weeks (c) RATNAGIRI will be fitted at Aden generator being despatched there from Colombo at early date (d) Two Skids already available in Red Sea will be sent to Suez as soon as possible. Two more are being sent to Suez from Colombo at early date.

(iii) To implement para (i) (b) above: (a) LILAVATI already available (b) IMPALA now fitting out at Mombasa will be sent to Basra as soon as ready date not yet known (c) S.N.O. Persian Gulf has been directed to take up suitable craft for fitting with generator ex VTCV(LAXMI) (my 0740 30 to Admiralty only refer) and possibly another vice LILAVATI in addition since the degaussing equipment of these vessels does not provide safety in under 6 to 7 fathoms. (d) (ZERANG) will be released from Massawa on arrival of PROTECTOR or (TAI KOO); fitted at Aden and sailed for Basra as soon as possible. Generator being despatched from Colombo at early date (e) 4 Skids now available at Basra, 2 more very shortly and 4 more being shipped from Colombo at early date.

(iv) Investigations in hand regarding possibility of operating Skids towed by small wooden craft in shallow water Skid coils being energised by storage batteries.

(v) S.N.O. Red Sea requested to confirm that he can (a) Fit (H.M.S. RATNAGIRI) and MMSC(ZERANG) with generators (b) Degauss MMSC(ZERANG) (c) Release (H.M.S. SAGITTA) at early date for Suez (d) Arrange early transfer of two existing Skids to Suez.

(vi) Following additional measures are being taken (a) S.N.O. Persian Gulf is taking up any available suitable wooden boats for towing spar magnetic sweeps

for/

2.

for operating in shallower reaches of River (b)
 Six additional magnet spar sweeps being assembled in Ceylon
 will be despatched to Basra when ready (c) H.M.S. .
 S.M. PDRAGON and anti-aircraft trawlers H.M.S. ARTHUR
 CAVANAGH and H.M.S. MILFORD COUNTESS allocated to Shatt-el-Arab
 (vii) S.N.O. Persian Gulf informed separately.

1442Z/2.

Advance Copy Ops. O.D. D.M.S.

1st Lord.
 1st S.L.
 2nd S.L.
 3rd S.L.
 4th S.L.
 5th S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 A.C.N.S. (H)
 A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 D. of P. (2)
 D.O.D. (F)
 D.D.O.D. (F)
 D.D.O.D. (H)
 D.O.D. (H)
 D.N.I. (4)
 D.S.D.
 D. of L.D.
 D.N.A.D.
 D.A/S.W.
 D.M.S. for action.
 I.P.
 W.D.
 Duty Capt.
 Head of M.
 D.T.S.D.
 D.D.I.C.
 E.P.S.
 D.T.D. (2)
 N.I.D. 10. Pay Cdr. Wilson.

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. (contd.)

Newfoundland Force.

My 1428B/2. OTTAWA, RESTIGOUCHE, RAMSEY, RICHMOND will be detached from Convoy and will proceed to St. John's, N.F. to join Newfoundland escort force. (C. in C.W.A. 1433B/2 to N.O.I.C.'s, Liverpool, Greenock)

Martinique A/C Ban.

Following from Navy Dept. Graded A.O. From U.S. Naval Observer Martinique 31/5 (?) U.S. Consul has been informed in writing by High Commissioner that no aircraft will be permitted to approach within 3 miles of Island of Martinique excepting planes of Pan American Airways and U.S. Naval Mail Planes. These planes must appear during day only and must approach from the sea. Approach must be in a sector bearing from (?78°) to 90° on Pointe Des Negres. Planes must fly at less than 300 metres over Pointe Des Negres. (N.A. Washington, 1520/2 to Admty.)

FRANZ KLASSEN.

My 1534 R/31 FRANZ KLASSEN arrived Caripito 31/5. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1532/2 to Admty. etc.)

F.O.3.B.S.

Due to transport difficulties in Newfoundland am proceeding St. John's, N.F. in BUXTON expecting to arrive 1000Z/4. Signals requiring my personal attention will be passed to me from Halifax. (F.O.3.B.S. 1614P/2 to Admty.)

Greek Representative..

Your 1339/13. Greek authorities have appointed Capt. George Mavroleon as their official representative. He is proceeding from New York to Halifax immediately. (Head of M. 1624B/2 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

Belle Isle.

Request probable date of opening of Belle Isle Straits passage. (D.T.D.1914B/2 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

U.S.11

My 0034Z/27. Anticipated date of arrival
of U.S.11 Trincomalee. (A.C.N.B. 0319Z/2
to Admty.)

War Diary

2.6.1941

MondayU-BOAT CAMPAIGNShips AttackedGRAVELINES
(Torpedoed 31/5)Arrived 1059 DEPTFORD with survivors.
(F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1230/2 to C. in C. W.A.)EMPIRE SUNBEAMFollowing has been read. SSSS 58.52 N.,
10.40 W., chased. (Lyness, 1247/2.)
SSSS de GPFS, EMPIRE SUNBEAM. Corrected
position 58.42 N., 10.51 W., chased.
(Lyness, 1303/2.)CAIRNDALE
(Torpedoed 30/5)Reply to Admty. 2057B/31 as to why not
diverted. (F.O.C.N.A. 1644A/2 to Admty.)
See North Atlantic.MICHAEL E.Received 1903 G.M.T. 500 KCS DE GLD. 48.50 N
29.00 W., torpedoed MICHAEL E. 1857.
(Burnham on Sea Radio, no T.O.O./2) (Lands
End Radio, 1857/2)
W.D. Note:- D.S. 637, 3/6 and D.O.R. 3/6
gives name of this ship as MICHAEL L.
EMBIRICOS 5202 tons, a straggler from
convoy C.S. 32 from St. John N.B. to Barry
Roads. Now known to be British MICHAEL E.
7628 tons Ex. O.B. 327. (D.S. 643 9/6)
Proceed to assistance of MICHAEL (torpedoed
48° 50' N., 29° 00' W., at 1857/2. (C. in C.
W.A. 2159B/2 to COLUMBIA, NIAGARA, ST. CLAIR)
Your 2159/2 COLUMBIA, NIAGARA, ST. CLAIR
proceed at 15 knots. Expects to arrive
1300Z/3. Latitude 52.25 Longitude 26.45
(Weather) (COLUMBIA, 2201Z/2 to C. in C. W.A.)MOKAMBO
(OB 329)Torpedoed in position 056° 38' N., 010° 24' W
(WANDERER, 1917B/2 to C. in C. W.A.)
Belgian, 4996 tons, from Liverpool to
Freetown in convoy O.B. 329, (D.S. 637, 3/6)
(D.O.R. 3/6) W.D. Note:- Following had
previously been made to WANDERER:- Alter to
port so as to be 20 miles to North of line
A.B. returning to lines A.B. after dark
(C. in C. W.A. 1540B/2 to WANDERER)

/My 1917B.....

War Diary

2.6.1941.
Monday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked

MOKAMBO-Contd.

My 1917B. MOKAMBO Hit forward and well afloat. Position 056° 38' N., 010° 24' W. PERIWINKLE attacked periscope but lost contact. Am sweeping out area. My 1917 B also repeated N.O.I.C. Greenock. (WANDERER, 2007B/2 to C. in C. W.A.) WANDERER, ESPERANCE BAY, PERIWINKLE attacking firm contact, inconclusive as yet. MOKAMBO ready to proceed to Greenock under own steam as soon as escort is available. No. 1 hold flooded bulkhead holding. (WANDERER, 2109B/2 to C. in C. W.A.) Your 2007B/2 report if tugs are required. (C. in C. W.A. 2206B/2 to WANDERER) Detail two corvettes to proceed forthwith to escort MOKAMBO damaged by torpedo in 056° 38' N., 010° 24' W., at 1917B/2 to Clyde. (C. in C. W.A. 2302B/2 to READING, GENTIAN)

EMPIRE
PROTECTOR
(Torpedoed 30/5)

569. My 2125/31/5. N.C.S.I. 69.
(A) EMPIRE PROTECTOR.
(B) 30/5. 1120 G.M.T. in 06.00 N., 14.25 W.
(C) Locked in master's safe.
(D) M.N. code and decode and recording table No. 13 were in rack in chart room.
(E) No. 2000 fathoms.
(F) Submarine did not enter zone where ship sank in water thick with oil.
(G) Master. (H) Chart room covered with oil and full of impenetrable black smoke. Ship sunk by two torpedoes. Four believed killed, remainder saved. Submarine probably U.37 class.
(C. in C. S.A. 2034N/2, to Admty.)

PAPALEMOS
(Torpedoed 28/5)

My 2125/31/5. M.O.S.I.69.
(A) Greek PAPALEMOS.
(B) 28/5 1300 G.M.T. in 08.06 N., 16.18W.
(C) and (D) Recoding Table No 11 burned. M.N. decode left in W/T Office. Remainder dumped.
(E) Yes F.M. 2400 fathoms
(F) Submarine did not close ship.
(G) Greek Master and British W/T officer. Ship was hit by one torpedo and sunk by gunfire. S/M probably U.37 class. One killed remainder saved.
(C. in C. S.A. 2036N/2 to Admty.)

War Diary.

2.6.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

2042.

D/F fixed at 2042 G.M.T/1 indicates Italian U-boat in area round $036^{\circ} 00' N.$ $010^{\circ} 50' W.$ (F.O.C.N.A. 0045A/2 to N.A. Stn.)

Iceland.

Admty. 1541B/31 referring to U-Boats North of Iceland. Bearing 051° third class from Reykjavik coast (?20) 15/30 was not sensed. No means of indicating sense is provided in D/F code. (S.O.I. Iceland, 0931/2 to Admty.)

1430/1.

Trawler CALIPH reports when 5 miles S. of Hook Point, Waterford at 1430/1 sighting a periscope 2 miles S.S.W. Conning Tower then appeared but was lost after ten minutes in haze. CALIPH was then ordered into Dunmore by Contraband Officer (grade A.3.) (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1215/2 to Admty.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1447B/2)

Submarines Attacked.

By PERIWINKLE
WANDERER etc.

See Ships Attacked, MOKAMBO.

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Air R/C today showed that the TIRPITZ had left Kiel since 30/5.

British Air Operations.

Admty. 1237B/3 gives details of the air Reconnaissances which will be carried out to give information of any enemy warships sailing from Germany northwards.

2 Fighter Command aircraft (one armed with cannon) on Channel patrol attacked two trawlers west of Dunkerque early this morning and report that one of them was left sinking.

6 Blenheims of Coastal Command attacked shipping at St. Nazaire last night. Results were not seen. Various aircraft was despatched to attack shipping off the French coast from Calais to Cherbourg. No particular success is claimed.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

German aircraft flew over Jan Mayen yesterday and again at 0755 today.

An unknown vessel reported at 2311 being attacked 7 or 8 miles S.S.E. of Noss Head.

ROYAL FUSILIER was bombed at 0029/3 while in Convoy F.N. 574, in 55° 22' N 1° 21' W and sank later in tow.

H.M.S. FRANKLIN (survey Ship) arrived in the Humber at 2035 with minor damage from air attack. It is reported that, with DRAUG, she was bombed off the Wash.

The Falmouth to Dartmouth convoy was attacked at 1800 off Start Point. No details are known.

S.S. DENNIS ROSE was attacked today in the swept channel off Dartmouth and received superficial damage.

H.M.Y. BRED A reported being attacked off Lands End at 1735. No damage is reported.

Mining.

The Humber was closed from 0124B to 0929B and the Tyne from 0015 to 1245.

Mines were detonated off Milford Haven and cut off Falmouth.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic.

Owing to U-Boat activity in the Freetown area the A/S vessels are to be reinforced immediately. Details are in Admty. 2359B/3.

Mediterranean.Malta.

8 enemy aircraft attempted to raid the island between 1926 and 2240. Most of the bombs fell in the sea. No damage or casualties occurred.

Tripoli
Convoy attacked.

At 0727 a Maryland on patrol attacked without decisive results a convoy of 6 merchant ships screened by 6 destroyers in 36° 15' N 12° 15' E steering a southerly course. Five Blenheims attacked the convoy again this afternoon; one 8,000 ton ship was hit and blew up damaging other ships in the convoy which were very close. A second ship of 5,000 tons was also hit with 4 bombs and was left on fire. One of our aircraft was hit by debris from ship which blew up, and crashed in the sea. Five F.A.A. Swordfish were despatched tonight to carry out a further attack on the convoy, but failed to make contact.

Western
Desert.

C. in C. Med., reports that 2 air attacks were made in AUCKLAND north of Tobruk; results are not known. The enemy has numerical fighter aircraft superiority in the area, and fighter protection for our ships operating off the coast is meagre. Schooner AGIOS PANTELEMON is overdue and believed lost by air attack on 30/5/41.

Lampedusa.

UNIQUE torpedoed and sank a laden 1,000 ton merchant vessel in Lampedusa Harbour at 0825 this morning.

Cyprus.

M.T.B. 215 at 0015 today intercepted in 35° 56' N 32° 52' E an auxiliary schooner purporting to be Turkish IKI KARDESLER. The ship was set on fire and the resulting very heavy explosion corroborates other evidence that she was carrying petrol and had false papers.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.America and West Indies.

Admty 1135B/3 to C. in C. A.W.I. contains information referring to the passing of information by the U.S. authorities.

Newfoundland escort force.

An increase in the strength of the escort force working from St. Johns as proposed on 23/5, is proposed in Admty 1401B/3.

U-Boat Campaign.Atlantic.

The Admiralty today issued fresh orders regarding the routeing of shipping. A large area is barred to shipping.

Western Approaches.

Dutch S.S. EIBERGEN in O.B. 327 was torpedoed this morning in 48° 2' N 25° 6' W.

An unknown ship reported being chased by a S/M at 1320 G.M.T. in 48° 40' N 29° 30' W.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Watch on
Northern
Straits.

Your 0043B/2. Your difficulties fully appreciated. Intentions as to A/C patrols and R/C and as to T.B. Squadrons for Iceland. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1237B/3). See Operations Volume.

W.A. Escort
Forces.

My 1301B/May 30. and my 2201B/30. Amend as follows. (C. in C. W.A. 1716B/3).

Defence Of United Kingdom.Iceland
A/A defences.

Your 1509/23. Regret no equipments available at the moment, but two Hispano guns with ammunition will be sent as soon as they can be made available from another naval requirement. (D. of L.D. 1501B/3 to N.O.I.C. Iceland).

Movements.RODNEY.

N.O.I.C. Greenock's 1853B/2. RODNEY is to be sailed as soon as she has embarked her ammunition. (1st S.L. 0023B/3).

AURANIA
DERBYSHIRE.

AURANIA is to leave patrol 1200/5 and return Hval Fiord to refuel. N.O.I.C. Iceland is requested to sail AURANIA for N.P. 72 p.m./6th
(II) Intend AURANIA to be relieved by DERBYSHIRE 1200/14 AURANIA then returning to Reyjavik to embark service personnel for onward passage.
(F.O.C.N.P. 1230B/3).

ARGUS.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 0950A/3.
F.O.C.N.A. is requested to sail ARGUS and S.S. NEA HELLAS in company without cruiser escort so as to pass through 47° N 24° W at 0600B /8 steering 350°.
2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide an A/S escort and route to Clyde.
(1st S.L., 2006B/3).

/GALATEA.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. (contd).

GALATEA.

In view of A.M. 0040/3 you will not be required to embark large quantities of stores as stated in A.M. 1942/28/5.

2. Further signal will be made re passengers who will probably be for first port of call only.

3. Ammunition referred to in para.3 of A.M. 1942/28 should be embarked.
(A.C.N.S. F. 2131 B/3 to GALATEA.)

Operations.

Denmark Straits Patrol.

EDINBURGH is to proceed at 2100B/4 to patrol Denmark Straits. HERMIONE is to leave patrol at 1400B/5 and return to Hvalfiord.

HERMIONE is to leave Hvalfiord on 9/6 relieving EDINBURGH on patrol at 1200B/10.
(C.S. 18 0728B/3 to HERMIONE).

Iceland-Faeroes, Patrol.

Sailed ARETHUSA.
(N.O.I.C. Iceland 0929/3).

Interception of Enemy Surface Unit.

All times M.S.T. Position of S/Us at 0800/4 and movements for following 24 hours.
A. TRIDENT, SEALION, STURGEON, RUBIS, TUNA in Bay of Biscay between 45° N and 48° 20' N. and between 11° W and 07° W. may be on the surface. (F.O.S. 1554B/3).

British Air Activity.

R/C of Narvik by Catalina.

My 1940/2. Recalled owing to weather.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0202/3).

Patrols.

A parallel track A/3 sweep is now being flown by 5 Whitley A/C. Datum Butt of Lewis, mean course 315°. Patrols ~~HERMIONE~~ and ~~STAND~~ now in operation.

(C.in C. Rosyth, 1018/3).

/Sunderland.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (contd).

Patrols. (contd). Sunderland A/C will carry out 50 mile square A/S search around 61° 29' N. 00° E commencing 1730/3 until about 0001/4.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1400/3).
My 1400/3. A/C will be on patrol 1600.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1538/3).

Sydenham,
Belfast.

F.O.I.C. Belfast 1843B/31/5. Consider Sydenham could be run as a Naval Air Station with following facilities. Details. With these arrangements it is considered that Sydenham would be suitable for the use of 804 Squadron only.
(V.A.N.A.S. 1230B/3 to Admty).

Escort.

Expect close A/S escort by one Catalina and wide A/S search by second Catalina throughout the night.
(C. in C. W.A., 1820B/3 to MALCOLM).

M/Vs attacked
on 2/6. Two
claimed
destroyed.

Day 31 May, Night 31 May/1 June, Day 1 June, Night 1/2 June:-
No operations took place owing to bad weather.
Day 2 June. One Blenheim attacked a 1,000 ton M/V in the River Eider and 2 others attacked 2-3,000 ton and 5,000 ton M/Vs in the south-west end of the Kiel Canal. Another aircraft attacked the naval barracks at Kiel. No results observed.
One other Blenheim attacked a 1,200 ton Merchant Vessel in Kiel Canal s.w. of Rendsburg. One direct hit was obtained and the vessel turned to port and ran into canal bank. It is claimed as a total loss. The same aircraft attacked a 3,500 ton Merchant Vessel with a tug but one bomb was seen to overshoot and the vessel was machine-gunned. 3 other Blenheims attacked a 6,000 ton M.V. and a 1,500 ton Collier in the centre of the Kiel Canal and a 2,500 ton Merchant Vessel at the south-western end of the canal; no results observed. One Blenheim attacked a 2,500 ton M/V one mile off Vestbydd, 15 miles north-west of Lindisnow. Direct hits were obtained and the ship disappeared. It is claimed as a total loss. Another Blenheim attacked 2 M/Vs of 1,500 tons each in harbour at Westterschelling. 2 near misses were observed.
Night. 2/3. Dunkirk Docks, Ostend Docks, and Hook of Holland Docks were attacked by one A/C each. (H.Q.B.C., 1843/3).

Sullom.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. (contd).Sullom Voe
N.A. Section
closed.

Your 2102B/22/5. Naval air section at Sullom Voe now closed down and all personnel, stores etc, except explosives are now at Hatston. (A.C.O.S. 1919B/3).

Enemy Air Activity.Convoy F.S.⁵⁰4.
BEAUMANOIR
sunk.
DANUBE VI
damaged.

(French, 2324 tons). Following received from KINGSTON OLIVINE begins. S.S. BEAUMANOIR sank 180° (?) 8 Cables 19 Buoy at 2045 in 25 fathoms. Propose proceeding Harwich. 11 survivors on board. No casualties. (C. in C. Nore 0009B/3). Tug DANUBE VI, bound for Yarmouth in F.S.⁵⁰4 arrived. Was slightly damaged alongside S.S. BEAUMANOIR off Whitby at 1650/2. (N.C.S.O. Middlesbrough 1235/3). If Fleet Tender C does not refloat tonight request you will arrange Trawler to take survivors of BEAUMANOIR now on board KITTIWAKE to Humber as early as possible tomorrow. (C. in C. Nore, 2255B/3 to N.O.I.C. Humber).

ROYAL
FUSILIER.

Rescue tug SEA GIANT sailed to assist ROYAL FUSILIER bombed in 55° 22' N 1° 21' W. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0142/3). Proceed forthwith with Salvage Officer to May Island to take over tow of ROYAL FUSILIER from SEA GIANT and bring her to Leith Roads. (N.O.I.C. Leith 1110/3 to CHAMPION). My 0142/3. SEA GIANT proceeding with tow to Leith. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1250/3). S.S. ROYAL FUSILIER. damaged in air attack 55° 22' N 01° 21' W at 0029/3/6 approx, while in convoy F.N.474. Sank at 1618/3 in position 200° May Island 4 miles while in tow of SEA GIANT escorted by PYTCHLEY on passage to Methil. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1741/3). My 1741/3. PYTCHLEY reports ROYAL FUSILIER sank in 56° 06' 48" N 02° 35' W. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2045/3).

/PASS OF LENY.....

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.(cohtd).

<u>PASS OF LENY</u> (British Tanker 795 tons) <u>TARTAN</u> (A/P Trawler attacked.)	M/V PASS OF LENY inward bound from F.S.504 attacked by A/C near Humber L/V at 2345. No casualties. Damage to E.R. Telegraph. Ship now in examination anchorage. TARTAN attacked by aircraft at 2330 near Humber L/V. No casualties. Donkey Check leaking. Anchored near Humber L/V. (F.O. Humber, 0231B/3)
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<u>PRINCE RUPERT</u> <u>CITY (Bombed</u> <u>2/6).</u>	Your 0907B/2. Arrived ARRAN with 42 survivors from PRINCE RUPERT CITY. (N.O.I.C. Oban, 0347B/3).
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<u>Jan Mayen.</u>	German aircraft flew over Jan Mayen yesterday and again at 0700 today. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 1257/3).
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<u>FRANKLIN</u> <u>and DRAUG.</u>	Fighters are being sent to assist ^{"Hurdle"} HURDLE . (Nore W/T 1529B/3). Arrival FRANKLIN and DRAUG at 2035. FRANKLIN reports minor internal damage from near miss of two heavy bombs p.m. today. (F.O. Humber, 2039B/3).
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<u>Convoy "Keeper"</u> KEEPER .	^{"Keeper"} Convoy KEEPER is being attacked by one enemy aircraft my P.C and S. 50° 26' N 5° 36' W. (BREDA 1735/3). ^{"Keeper"} Fighters are being sent to assist KEEPER . (Plymouth W/T 1815/3).
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<u>Convoy WATCH.</u> ^{"watch"}	^{"watch"} Convoy WATCH (Falmouth to Dartmouth) being attacked by enemy aircraft. (PEARL 1800/3). Convoy being attacked by enemy A/C. My position 4 Start Point bearing 056. (PEARL, 1815/3).
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<u>Unknown Vessel.</u>	AAAA from Wick Radio. Unknown vessel 7 or 8 miles S.S.E. from Nosshead. (Lyness 2311/3).
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MOST SECRET.War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Tyne.

Tyne closed due to suspected Minelaying.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0015/3.)
Port Open.
(F.O.I.C., Tyne 1245/3.)

Humber.

Humber closed to navigation. Enemy minelaying
Estimate opening 0900/3.
(F.O. Humber, 0124B/3).
Humber is open to navigation.
(F.O. Humber 0929B/3).

Faeroes
North Rona
Minefield.
Conference.

Your 1427/2. Date convenient.
(D.D.O.D. (M.) 1132B/3 to C. in C. H.F.)

Milford Haven.

Mines detonated details.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 1737/3 1739B/3).

Falmouth.

While clearing area N.W. of 192 Q Z S 1
Mine cut in 50° 11' 27" N 04° 48' 33" W.
Mine sunk by rifle fire.
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1810/3).

Technical.

Suspected
R.D/F
by U.Boats.

S. 217 3/6. Further suspected use of R.D.F.
by U boats. Whitley "P" No. 502 Sqn. received
indications on A.S.W. 214 M.C.S. at 12 miles
to starboard, homed on to it but nothing sighted
or found. Time 1805/2. Approx. position
058° 34' N 010° 54' W.
(H.Q.C.C. 1600/3, to Admty R.N. Signal School).
Three cases recently reported of underwater
sound transmission being heard on Asdics.
(details).
Whilst evidence is not conclusive these
transmissions may be U Boat echo sounding
or a means by which U Boats may obtain bearings
of each other. No evidence that such means
are being used for intercommunication. Any
further evidence on this subject should be
recorded in Rs. of P.
(D.A/S.W. 1636B/3 "A" Message).

D/D.F.....

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Technical (contd).

D/D.F.

C. in C. H.F. 1612B/3. See Operations Volume.

Casualties and Defects.

FLEET TENDER C.

Fleet Tender C has fouled wreck in 0530 22' 50" N 001° E. Badly holed forward. Request tugs immediately. Am standing by. Request fighter protection daylight. (VERDUN 0250B/3).

My 0250B/3. Ship reports fore Peak and number one hold open to sea and fast on wreck. Request salvage expert may be sent as C.O. considers if refloated bulkhead may not hold due to heavy ballasting. (VERDUN 0354B/3).

Your 0250B/3. Fighter protection arranged. Humber tugs delayed by mines. Tugs also ordered from Yarmouth. (C. in C. Nore, 0413B/3 to VERDUN).

Departure at 0440 Tug DIVERSION by inner swept channel to assist Fleet Tender near 59 Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0445B/3).

Departure H.M. Tug SABINE at 0520 to assist Fleet Tender C. (F.O. Humber 0525B/3).

C.O. now reports ships making water throughout and listing all round port, and is preparing abandon ship temporarily. Consider if VERDUN attempts towing off it will drag her forward bottom end out. (VERDUN 0526B/3).

Departure M.L. 201 at 0601B with Salvage Officer on board to assist, Fleet Tender. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0636B/3).

C.O. Fleet Tender C has abandoned ship temporarily pending arrival of Tug, ship's company on board VERDUN. First 80 feet of ship fast on wreck. Numbers one and two holds open to sea. Consider refloating by tug problematical. (VERDUN 0637/3)

Proceed to stand by Fleet Tender "C" and relieve VERDUN. (C. in C. Nore 0749B/3 to KITTIWAKE).

United Towing Company's HEADMAN left Hull 1730 with Salvage Officer and Pumps on board.

Departure SPURN 2050 to assist F.T. "C". (F.O. Humber 2104B/3).

Salvage Officer Yarmouth reports attempt to refloat at 2130 unsuccessful, Require additional tugs and NESSUS. Air escort essential.

→ (KITTIWAKE 2320/3).

/GENTIAN.....

War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects. (contd).GENTIAN.

Have minor engine defects. Speed reduced to 9 knots. Intend to proceed to Londonderry unless otherwise ordered.
(GENTIAN 1500B/3).

POLYANTHUS.

My 0936B/2 and 1512/2. POLYANTHUS delayed by defects. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1501B/3).

EMILE FRANQUI.
(Grounded 3/4).

Re towing, from Leith to North Shields.
(N.O.I.C. Leith 1730/3 to C. in C. Rosyth,
C. in C. Rosyth 2210/3 to Admty).

Shipping and Convoys.Atlantic Routes.

Amendment No. 12 to A.M. 0001/1/5. (A.C.N.S. (T) 0027B/3 to A.I.G., 21 etc). See Summaries Folder.

R.V. Positions.

Definition of terms "Eastern R.V." and "Western R.V." applied to H.M. and S.C. convoys, also "Western Departure Point" applied to O:B. convoys. My 1511/19/4 cancelled (C. in C. W.A., 1711B/3 to Admty etc). See Summaries Folder.

W.S. 9B.

GALATEA is required to sail as escort to W.S. 9 (B) which sails from Clyde on 20/6. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to sail GALATEA for Clyde in time for C.O. to attend a convoy conference on forenoon of 19/6. (1st S.L. 0040B/3 to C. in C. W.A., GALATEA, C. in C. Plymouth).

W.S. 9 A.

Sailed 1644 Liverpool Section W.S. 9 A escorted by RICHMOND and RAMSEY.
(N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1820B/3 to Admty etc).

Independent Shipping.

Cancel A.M. 2054B/6. More accurate information (D.T.D. 2020B/3 to N.C.S.O.'s).

W.S. 8 X.....

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (contd).

W.S. 8 X.

BRIGHTON and ST. MARYS left convoy W.S. 8 X at 0800B/3. Present position 051° 45' N 016° 37' W course and speed 050° 13½ knots Not sufficient oil to comply with your 1942 B/3. (weather). (BRIGHTON, 2200B/3 to C. in C W.A.) (See also U Boat Campaign).

War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.→ P.32.

Escort has not arrived visibility 15 miles
am proceeding position E clear of U boat area.
(P. 32, 0705Z/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)
P.32 not in R.V.
(SCOTTISH, 0800A/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 0909A. Am leaving R.V. Course 103°,
12½ knots. (SCOTTISH, 1000A/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)
P.32 in company position 036° 02' N 006° 20' W.
(SCOTTISH 1800A/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Arrival H.M.S. P.32.
(S.O.(I) Gib., 2220A/3 to Admty etc).

VICTORIOUS
Escort.

My 1308/2 and my 1020/1. WIVERN, VANSITTART,
and WILD SWAN will be the only Vees available
to meet VICTORIOUS.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0932A/3 to VICTORIOUS).

NEA HELLAS.

Your 1920B/2. Ship has already got some 770
persons on board (details). No accomodation
for these in Gibraltar all available having
been requisitioned. No anti-submarine escort
available before p.m./4. Presence of four
carriers at Gibraltar simultaneously will
presumably be curtailed as much as possible.
Had intended sailing NEA HELLAS with ARGUS.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0950A/3 to Admty).

Yugoslav
Shipping.

My 1736/21/4.
All Yugoslav vessels reaching Gibraltar from
Lisbon should be ordered to Halifax.
(Admty, 1723B/3 to F.O.C.N.A.).

ASTER
WOODRUFF.

Your 1325/1. Sailed ASTER 1430A/3 (route)
ordered by C. in C. S.A. E.T.A. Bathurst 0700
Z+1/9. WOODRUFF delayed by defect expected sail
P.M./4. (F.O.C.N.A., 1732B/3 to C. in C. S.A.)

Enemy Tanker.→ P.32.

P.32 sighted loaded 10,000 ton unidentified
Tanker in position 044° 00' N 010° 00' W course
295° 11 knots at 2150B/31. (details). P.32
is being docked for examination of damage
and removal of battery.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2310A/3 to Admty).

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

CILICIA.
PRETORIA
CASTLE.

My 21 59/2 R.V. for CILICIA with PRETORIA CASTLE should read 024° 30' S 008° 00' E. (C. in C. S.A., 0901N/3 to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

ASTURIAS.

Your 2301/2 and Admty 2003/6/5 and 0318/14/5 ASTURIAS will be taken in hand at Simpson Yard, Bethlehem Street Corporation, Boston, Mass. (D.O.D. (F) 1234B/3 to C. in C. S.A.)

ORBITA
T.O.4
collision.

Report received concerning collision between S.S. ORBITA and Tug T.O.4 on 15.2.41. Request name of T.O.4. (D.O.D. (F) 1249B/3 to N.O.I.C. Durban).

H.M.A.S. GRIMWOOD (See p. 108)

SILVER YEW
CLAN MACDOUGALL
(torpedoed 31/5)
Dakar as U/B
base.

British Consul St. Vincent reports on Torpedoing of SILVER YEW and CLAN MACDOUGALL as follows (begins). This open bay can be kept under observation during night from Channel so that ships leaving have little chance of escaping attack. Probably German Submarines use Dakar as Base (Ends). No evidence that Dakar is being used as base reported before. CLEMATIS is escorting 4 ships at St. Vincent for S.L.76 from there tonight having patrolled Area first. Has orders that if shadowed, ships are to disperse and proceed independently so as not to bring U Boat to main convoy. N.C.S.O. has been ordered to retain ships southbound for present. Endeavour will be made to provide escort later. (C. in C. S.A., 1315N/3 to Admty).

MIGNONETTE.

C. in C. W.A. 1846B/31 and N.O.I.C. Greenock's 1223B/1. Request MIGNONETTE may be sailed for Freetown at best speed by quickest route and not with an O.G. Convoy. (C. in C. S.A., 1401N/3 to Admty).

ERLANGEN
(German)

Arrived Mar-del-Plata this morning 3/6 in ballast. B.2 reports will load 7,000 tons products. According to N.A. Santiago de Chile latest report estimates vessel had 25/2/1941 800 tons bunkers sufficient for 20 days steaming. (N.C.S.O. Buenos Aires 1515Z/3 to C. in C. S.A.). (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1631Z/3 to S.A. Div).

/NIEUW.....

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (contd).

NIEUW
AMSTERDAM.

Your 1717/2. Request you inform Master that Royal Netherlands Government have obtained Agreement of owners of NIEUW AMSTERDAM and of Netherlands Shipping Committee to her proceeding to Suez on forthcoming voyage. Charter Party amended accordingly. (D.S.T., 1543B/3 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown).

Air Sqdn.
Freetown.

My X. 802. T.O.O. 1810/2. Advance party 200 Sqn. arrive Freetown approx. 12/6. Domestic equipment for this party will arrive Freetown approx. 16/6. (Air Ministry, 1934/3 to R.A.F. Bathurst).

DOMINE
(Spanish).

Spanish ship DOMINE 31/5. Fernando Po for Las Palmas with Ship Navicert. Fairly reliable information indicates (a) 1 German national on board (b) German Consular mail may be in the safe of either the Telegraphist or First Officer or in the custody of Chief Steward named Jaime Orts (c) some German mail may be in five postal packets coffee despatched by Herman Martin. If encountered remove German national if he comes within scope of articles 51 to 54 of C.B. 1993, German Consular mail and any enemy mail discovered. (Admty., 1947B/3 to C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.).

MONBALDO.

Para reports Master of Italian MONBALDO visited port authorities. Information indicates may be arranging clearance. (S.O.(I) Montevideo 2334Z/3 to S.A.D.)

A/S Vessels.

Reinforcement of A/S vessels, Freetown area. (1st. S.L. 2359B/3 to C.s in C. Med., S.A. & F.O.C.N.A.) See Operations Volume.

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Admty
Thanks.

Message from the Board. (1st. Lord, 0346B/3, to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

A/C
Minelaying
Alexandria.

Summary No. 358 up to 1200 hrs. 3.6.1941.
Night 31/5 - 1/6.

About 5 unidentified enemy aircraft laid mines off Alexandria. A.A. fire destroyed 1.

Day 2/6. 1 unidentified enemy aircraft flew over Alexandria at 26,000 feet. 2 Tomahawks were unable to intercept. No bombs dropped.

Benghazi
bombed.

Night 1/2 June. 2 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour causing violent explosion and fire near water tower and second explosion at Police School.

Tobruk
bombed.

8 unidentified enemy aircraft bombed Tobruk. No damage, reported. (H.Q. R.A.F. ME.1043/3).

ANKARA,
German and
Greek ports.

Turkish steamer ANKARA due to sail for Piraeus to bring away Turkish legation has not been granted safe conduct by Germany.

Important official Turkish source considers further German operations from Greek bases is imminent hence denial of access to ports. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1100/3 to C. in C. Med).

Enemy Convoys.

0930B/3 6 destroyers 6 merchant ships 036° 15' 012° 15' course 190° 12 knots.

0920B/3 3 cruisers, 4 destroyers 036° 20' 012° 10' course 030° 15 knots.

(S.O. (S) Malta, 1110B/3 to UNIQUE, URGE, URSULA) (See also 1225/3 to UTMOST).

Syria.

Request for classification of Government policy (C. in C. Med., 1135C/3 to Admty). See Lion Copy. Reply (1st S.L., 0129B/5).

UTMOST.

Remain within 20 miles radius 036° 10' 013° 10' to S.W. of line 115° through position.

At 0930B/3 3 cruisers 4 destroyers 036° 20' 012° 10' 030° and 6 destroyers 6 merchant ships 036° 15' 012° 15' 190° 12 knots.

Blenheims sent to attack. Convoy may return and cruisers may cover to eastward. My 0959B/31, leave area p.m./4 to arrive Malta 0630B. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1225B/3 to UTMOST).

/Mining in.....

MS(A)

SECRET

M E S S A G E

0346B/5th June

OUT

To C. in C. Mediterranean 538

Date, 3.6.41

Naval Cypher A2

From. Admiralty.

For many weeks the Mediterranean Fleet has been engaged in a series of operations which have been carried out in a most successful manner but which have followed one another with such rapidity that there has been little and in some case no time for the proper maintenance of ships or rest for their crews.

That the Fleet has continued to fight and operate with maximum efficiency under these conditions is a remarkable tribute to your leadership and the fighting spirit and determination of the Officers and men under your command. The Battle of the Mediterranean is not yet won and owing to the casualties to some of your ships an additional strain will be thrown on those now operating. Their Lordships have no doubt that the Mediterranean Fleet will run true to form and that this strain will be borne in the same unflinching manner until the Battle is won. Thus will be added further laurels to the reputation of the Officers and men of the Mediterranean Fleet which already stands so high.

0346B/3
for 1st Lord and 1st S.L.

1st Lord	D.T.D. (4)
1st.S.L.	D.T.D. (M)
V.C.N.S.	M. (2)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	Press Divn.
Naval Sec.	I.P. (3)
N.A. 1st S.L.	W.D.
Ops. (4)	
O.D. (5)	

MOST SECRET

45(B)

~~555~~

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1135/3rd June. IN

From C. in C. Mediterranean. Date 3.6.41.
Recd. 1745.

NAVAL CYPHER (One T.T.) BY CABLE

Addressed Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE

~~555~~ I should be glad of a clarification on Government policy as regards Naval action when an advance is made into Syria.

(a) Is Beirut to be threatened with bombardment simultaneously with our entry or should it first be allowed a chance to declare itself.

(b) Should French warships stationed Beirut be attacked if they leave harbour or if they commit no hostile act are they to be allowed to proceed to other French ports.

(c) Should all French shipping on Syrian coast be seized.

2. As regards (a) since we are trying to win sympathy over to us with as little fighting as possible and with precedent of Dakar in mind I am strongly of opinion it is better to hold forces in readiness unobtrusively but not to appear off port until it is clear that authorities are going to make real trouble. All previous experience is that the French at once react to actual threats by fighting but that actually faced by a concrete danger they wrangle and disintegrate.

3. As regards (b) presume object is to prevent these ships getting away from Syrian Waters and my intention would be to intercept any such attempts and to order the ships back into Beirut or into a British port and only to attack them if they refuse. It may serve to avoid complications with French ships at Alexandria if it proves unnecessary to attack French Naval Force(s) in Syria.

4. As regards (c) presume shipping would in due course be taken over by Free French and should for the present remain in Syrian Harbour(s).

5. I have put forward suggested answer(s) to question(s) I have raised in order to save time by indicating my views in case these may be of assistance. I should be glad of immediate reply as time is very short.

(Reply: 0129/5 - page 136)

1135C/3.

Advance copy sent 1st Lord N.A. 1st S.L. A. C.N.S. (2)
D. of P. Duty Capt. D.O.D. (F) D.D.I.

1st Lord	D.O.D. (F) for action	W.D.
1st S.L.	D.D.O.D. (F)	Duty Capt.
2nd S.L.	D.O.D. (H)	Head of M.
3rd S.L.	D.D.O.D. (H)	D.T.S.D.
4th S.L.	D.N.I. (4)	D.D.I.C.
5th S.L.	D.S.D.	E.P.S.
V.C.N.S.	D. of L.D.	D.T.D. (2)
A.C.N.S. (F)	D.N.A.D.	N.I.D. 10 (Paym. Cdr.
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.A/S.W.	Wilson).
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	D.M.S.	
N.A. 1st S.L.	I.P.	
D. of P. (2)		

MOST SECRET.War Diary.3,6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).Mining in Gulf
of Suez.

My 2009B/24 and your 2013C/29. Enemy have such good minelaying targets in the Canal entrance, Newport Rock Channel and anchorages that it is considered most improbable that he will lay mines further to seaward. Therefore suggested that minewatching and sweeping should be arranged for channels and anchorages north of 29° 50' N. Sweeping to be effective to the 30 fathom line would require a closely buoyed channel nearly 20 miles in length. When more sweepers are available it may be necessary to extend the searched channel to the 20 fathom line. (ACNS (F).1334B/3 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. E.I.)

Swordfish
Minelaying.

Reply to C. in C. Med., 2228C/2. (V.A. Malta, 1445B/3) See Mediterranean Volume.

ILEX
HOTSPUR.

E.T.A. at Famagusta 0300/4.
(C. in C. Med., 1501C/3 to N.O.I.C. Famagusta).
See also p. 78

REGENT.
O.24.

Your 1010A/30. Request you sail REGENT for Malta when ready, to follow enemy convoy routes between Sicily and Africa as far as 035° 00' N as directed by V.A. Malta, REGENT to remain one day at Malta and thence to patrol off Benghazi as ordered by Capt. S.I. returning to Alexandria on completion. Request you will arrange for O.24 to carry out patrol in Gulf of Genoa. (C. in C. Med., 1507C/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

TRIUMPH.

Leave patrol p.m./5 to arrive Alexandria Sanctuary 0500C/12. (route).
(Capt. S.I., 1515C/3 to TRIUMPH).

GIUSEPPINA
GHIRARDI.

N.A. Ankara's signal of 18/5. Italian tanker G. GHIRARDI passed through 2/6 to Black Sea from Salonica.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1635/3 to C. in C. Med).

/CONTE ROSSO.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.CONTE ROSSO
lifeboats.

3 empty merchant ships' life boats were towed into Malta on 1/6 and 2/6. From clothing and private effects and boats covers indicate boats belonged to CONTE ROSSO (Identifications (S.O.(I) Malta, 1800B/3 to Admty).

Enemy Convoy
attacked.
2 ships hit.

Malta C.S.R. All times G.M.T. up to 1500 hrs. 3/6.

5 Blenheims 139 and 82 squadrons attacked convoy of M/V's (seen earlier by Maryland recco) this afternoon with excellent results. 1 M/V 8000 tons was hit with 4 bombs and blew up with a tremendous explosion smoke pall to 1500 feet debris from ship is reported as having damaged other ships in convoy as they were very close. A second ship of 5,000 tons was also hit with 4 bombs and was left on fire volumes of smoke from amidships photographs of the attack taken by last two attacking aircraft excellent and embellish crew reports on the operation. Photographs of great publicity value. Much regret Pepper and crew who bombed and set on fire second ship were hit by debris from ship which exploded and crashed into sea with little hope of survival. (H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1855/3).

Suez Canal.

Your 1041B/30, C.O.S. 122. Proposals for defence. (C. in C. Med., 1947/3 to Admty) See Mediterranean Volume.

French Use of
W/T Alexandria.

My 1520C/30. Admiral Godfroy fully concurs that it would be a breach of our agreement to use DUQUESNE'S wireless for diplomatic traffic. He has assured me that no wireless messages have been transmitted for French diplomatic sources nor has he received any suggestion from French Ministry that he should do so. (C. in C. Med., 2039C/3 to Ambassador, Cairo).

S/Ms Refits.

Submarines are due for 18 months refit during 1941 as follows: TAKU, July; TETRARCH, August; CACHALOT, September; RORQUAL, October; Propose TAKU refits Singapore. TETRARCH in U.S.A., on completion TRUANT, CACHALOT Port Said, RORQUAL U.K., being relieved by PORPOISE temporarily. (Cpt. S.1., 2118C/3 to C. in C. Med)

/Enemy Convoy.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).Enemy Convoy.

1930B, convoy of 7 ships sighted steering 105° speed 12 knots in position 034° 50' 012° 00'. Swordfish are attacking. Anticipate ships will turn towards Tripoli. (Cdr. S.I., 2125B/3 to URSULA).

Situation report
45.

ILEX and HOTSPUR left for Famagusta to embark S.S. Troops. GLENGYLE escorted by Greek Destroyers due Port Said early 4/6.
2. Western Desert. Schooner AGIOS PANTELEMON Overdue and feared lost probably by air attack. As a result of bombing KLE has six casualties including all officers and in 'A' Lighter No. 10 Captain killed and three injured. Two air attacks on AUCKLAND North of Tobruk result unknown. Fighter protection for ships on Western Desert Gunnery meagre. (C. in C. Med., 2201C/3 to Admty).

Fighters,
Tobruk area.

Following received from 204 Group. (Begins) Your Mediterranean (745051) of 29/5. Only 5 long range Hurricanes available. Requisite long range Hurricanes have been all recalled for modification. Enemy has numerical air superiority fighters in Tobruk area therefore any Hurricane action in area F. has to be taken with special caution to prevent defeat in detail. Suggest you arrange ships being maximum distance from Tobruk during daylight. Negative fighter at Tobruk. T.O.O. 1217/3. (Ends). (C. in C. Med., 2217C/3 to N.O.I.C. Alexandria, S.O. Force I).

SULLBERG
ATLAS.

2/6 arrival German steamer SULLBERG.
Departure " " ATLAS for Marseilles
(Valencia. T.H.I. 2330/3).

War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Air Search.

My 1354/27. Catalina FVY carried out search of Admirante Isles Farquhar group and Coetivy Island 2/6. Nothing sighted. (C. in C. E.I., 0314Z/3, to Admty., etc.)

Iraqi Armistice.

Your 1/69433. T.O.O. 2000/1 (to me only.) Nevertheless I presume clause will be put into final terms as suggested and that British dispositions for the security and control of the line of communications under our treaty rights will include our occupation of key points on the river banks. S.N.O. Persian Gulf pass to General Basra. My 1850/31. refers. (C. in C. E.I., 0416Z/3, to G.H.Q., M.E.)

T.C.11.

Reply to D. of S.T. 1354/29. (S.S.T.O. India, 0710Z/3.) See Operations Volume.

S.W.7.A.

My 0736/3, Mombasa section of S.W.7, namely STRATHNAVER, ORONTES, VICEROY OF INDIA, STRATHMORE, are to complete loading with all despatch and be sailed as convoy S W 7 A, escorted by CERES to Durban, DUCHESS OF YORK is to sail with S W 7 A from Mombasa to Durban. (C. in C. E.I., 0738Z/3 to N.O.I.C., E. Africa.)

C.M.11.
MAURITIUS
SHROPSHIRE
C.M.12.

My 0808/30 para. 3. C.M.11 will now be escorted by MAURITIUS instead SHROPSHIRE, sailing date will now be later than 5/6 and C.M.12 may sail before C.M.11. (C. in C. E.I., 0740Z/3, to N.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

Force T.
HERMES.

My 0658/2 is confirmed. No A/C will be disembarked. (C. in C. E.I. 1726Z/3).

MOST SECRETWar Diary3.6.1941.
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSChinaMinesweepers

Your 1409/16/4. Para B. Hong Kong. Following could be fitted with LL Sweep ~~INDIRA~~ large type. MINNIE, HENRIETTA, MARGARET, small type. SHUNWO and HANWO already earmarked for mark five. In addition three late Chinese maritime customs vessels could be fitted with Oropesa and OR L L large type, but employment at present restricted vide my 0917/27/5. Rangoon. CHINTHE degaussed capable towing skids. Probable all above suitable for external S.A. sweep. (C. in C. China, 0847Z/3 to Admty.)

America & West IndiesRODNEY

Admty. 1250B/29/5. When ready to leave Halifax, requested you will sail RODNEY for Boston, and keep U.S.A. Authorities informed. (D.O.D. (H) 0009B/3, to R.A. 3.) Request you will keep N.A. Washington and Adm. Danckwerts informed of RODNEY's movements when she leaves Halifax. (D.O.D. (H) 0030/B/3 to R.A. 3.) Para 9 of F.O. telegram 2635/17 addressed to Washington. Adm. Little, Gen. Wemyss and Air V.M. Harris leave U.K. 3/6 in RODNEY. E.T.A. Halifax about 11/6. R.A. 3rd. B.S. requested to keep you informed of movements of RODNEY. (D.O.D. (H) 0049B/3 to N.A. Washington for R.A. Danckwerts.)

/Oilers at.....

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.-Contd.

Oilers at
St. John's.

Your 1626/29. For the present oiler with 6000 tons of cargo is required to be held available at St. Johns N.F. to fuel H.M. Ships at Conception Bay at twelve hours notice. TEAKWOOD should be retained for meeting this requirement and VANJA for supplying ships at St. Johns and for replenishing TEAKWOOD. Presume oilers will reload at Halifax. Request confirmation that this will be satisfactory also report when it is expected that oil supply for St. Johns N.F., can be maintained under arrangements you are making.

(Director of Stores 1001B/3. to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

U.S.
Submarines.

Following received from Washington. Two U.S. Submarines leave New London p.m./3 due to arrive Bermuda a.m./6. (D.D.I.C. 1002B/3, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

TRUANT.

Cancel A.T. 0928B/30. TRUANT is to leave patrol and proceed to Gardiner's Day, Long Island, in accordance with C. in C. A. and W. I., 1312Q/30. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1037B/3 to TRUANT.)

MICHAEL E.,
catapult
aircraft.

NT in WD
Admty., 1046B/23. S.S. MICHAEL E., the first vessel fitted with catapult and fighter aircraft, left in O.B.327 and is due Halifax about 10/6. Lieut. Commander Gough will not now arrive until about 11/6. Request arrangements for maintenance of aircraft on this vessel may be improvised pending this officers arrival. Vessel is of the closed shelter deck type and normally would be loaded to deep marks. If after consultation with Master and service personnel on board it is considered she should only be loaded to open shelter deck marks, request you will arrange accordingly. M. of WT. agrees. (D.T.D. 1105B/3 to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

/Information....

82

War Diary.3.6.1941
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.Information
from U.S.

Reference last sentence but one of your 2221/30, I fully agree that there is at present a time lag in passing of information by U.S. Authorities. I am, however, endeavouring to effect an improvement through Adm., Ghormley, U.S. Special Observer now in this country, and meantime it is important to avoid any hint reaching the Americans that we are dissatisfied with their methods. (1st. S.L., 1135B/3, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Air
Reconn.

To obtain information for future routeing of Convoys, request air reconnaissance be carried out to maximum depth between bearings to 035° and 065° from St. Johns N.F. (D.O.D.(H) 1243B/3, to C.N.S., Ottawa.)

WINNIPEG crew.

D. of S.T. 0750B/30. Reference recruiting crew of WINNIPEG, Security Authorities advise awaiting arrival at Trinidad today De Gaulle's special representative specially appointed for this work. Please inform me if this is my responsibility or that of local Government. (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1247Q/3, to C. in C.A.W.I.)

*See also next page*H.X. 131
escorts.

A.M. 1057B/2.
(i) Request RIMOUSKI and PICTOU be sailed as escort for H X 131 from Halifax to Icelandic R.V. thence to Iceland to refuel and return to St. John's N.F. Request N.O.i/c St. John's at his discretion to augment escort of H.X. 131 using COBALT, CANDYTUFT, or HONEYSUCKLE. Ship chosen to R.V. H.X. 131 as convenient off Newfoundland. Escort of H.X. 129 to continue in accordance with their present orders. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1332Z/3, to N.O.I.C., St. John's N.F., C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

/St. John's.....

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

St. John's N.F.
as Advanced
Base.

Amending Admty., 1939/23/5. (Head of M.,
1401B/3.) See Lion Copy.

WINNIPEG
crew.

Request early reply to Trinidad's 1008Q/29
since French Naval Officer influencing crew
to remain Vichy.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1616Q/3, to Admty.)

See previous page.

REPULSE
fuel.

Admty., 0056B/3rd para. III. Report action
taken to have fuel available Concepcion Bay
for REPULSE by 5/6. Your 2346z/31,
Admiralty approve filling U.S. Seaplane
tenders from VANJA but give REPULSE priority.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1643z/3, to N.O.I.C.
St. John's N.F.)

DIOMEDE
U.S. Task
Force
patrols.

Your 1915/29/4 para. (d) Patrols covering 22
days of May have been carried out by DIOMEDE
with oilers and by U.S. Task Force 2 between
latitudes 040° N., and 020° N., and meridians
030° W., and Bermuda. (corrupt group)
Fuellings have been carried out at sea.
Conditions found to be continuously suitable
for fuelling within area enclosed by parallels
038° N., and 020° N., and meridians 050° W.,
and 030° W. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1726Q/3, to Admty.)

Australia.

CAP TARIFA.
(French.)

Departure 2/6 P.M., Kembla 3/6.
(Newcastle N.S.W. T.O.O. 0003Z/3, to Fairmiss.)

MOST SECRET

83A.

1401B/3rd June.

HOST SECRET.

MESSAGE.

OUT.

To. C. in C. Western Approaches. 379.
C. in C. Home Fleet. 6.
C. N. S. Ottawa.
N. A. Washington.
R. A. 3rd B. S. 195.
N. O. i/c St. John's Newfoundland.
B. A. T. M.
C. in C. America & West Indies. 457.
C. O. A. C.
Commodore Commanding Canadian Ships.

Date: 3.6.41.

558

Interdepartmental Cypher 12.

From Admiralty

My 1939/23rd May. Following amending message is now being sent through Dominions Office to Governments of Newfoundland and Canada. Begins "After further consideration Admiralty consider that escort force working from St. John's should be increased to following strength:-

30 destroyers
24 corvettes
9 sloops.

2. Admiralty estimate that up to 16 ships initially will be in harbour at St. John's at one time, i.e. an average of:-

7 destroyers
7 corvettes
2 sloops.

3. The local requirements of the escort force and in particular the detailed shore requirements communicated separately to Naval Authorities in Admiralty message 1940B/23rd May would be increased correspondingly.

4. Admiralty would be grateful to learn as early as possible that these increased requirements are acceptable to Governments of Newfoundland and Canada. They are repeating this message to Naval authorities concerned.

5. If increase is acceptable Admiralty would appreciate early details of requirements that can be provided from Canadian sources as foreshadowed in N. S. H. Q. Ottawa No. 30 of 1626 29th May to Admiralty.

6. Depot ship, Store Ship and Oiler are being sent as requested. C. N. S. Ottawa pass to B. A. T. M.

1401B/3.
for Head of M. (558)

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
Controller.
Vice Controller.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.

V. C. N. S. /

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
Civil Lord.
Controller (M.S.R)
Secretary

Naval Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
P.A.S. (3)
P.A.S. (F)
P.A.S. (N.P.)
P.A.S. (P.R.)
D. of P (2)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of L.D.

Admiral Bailey.
D.O.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (H)
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.T.D. (2)

D.A/S.W.
D.N.A.D.
D.M.S.
D.S.D.
E. in C.
D. of S.
D. of N.
D.T.M.

M.P.S.
D.D.I.C.
D.H.S.R.
D.T.S.D.
D. of S.T.
D.P.S.
N.A. 2nd S.L.
E.A.P.
M.D.G.
P.D.G.

Hd. of Air Branch
Hd. of N Branch
Hd. of C.W. Branch
Hd. of P.M. Branch
Hd. of E Branch.
I.P.
W.D.

Hd. of N.A. Section.
Hd. of M.F.
M (36) (for D.O., C.O., W.C.O., W.O., A.M., M. of W.T., H.C. for Canada
(12 for M.37)).

M. (M.07876/41)
Dep. Contr.
D. of D.
E. in C.
D.N.E.
D.E.E.
C.E. in C.
D. of S.
D. of V.
D.A.S.

Bath

Under Secretary
Hd. of P Branch
Hd. of L.F. Branch
Hd. of S.W.R.

War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.EIBERGEN.

Dutch, 4801 tons. Following has been read. SSSS 48.02 N., 25.06 W., EIBERGEN torpedoed, about 35 men in boat. (Liverpool, 0538/3.)

Detach NIAGRA to assistance of EIBERGEN Torpedoed 048° 02' N., 025° 06' W., 0528 G.M.T. 35 men in boats.

(C. in C. W.A., 1051B/3, to COLUMBIA.) Your 1051B/3. Neither ship has sufficient fuel to carry out more than brief search of area indicated in your 2159B/2. ST. CLAIR has developed condenser trouble and am ordering her to proceed to destination. 49.00 N., 18.10 W., 122. (Weather.)

(COLUMBIA 1159Z/3 to C. in C. W.A.) My P.C. and S., 048° 22' 022° 030' 051° degs.

→ 27. MALVERNIAN searching at daylight 4/6 for EIBERGEN life boat. (Weather)

(LEGION, 1730B/3 to C. in C. W.A.)

Area searched with nothing found. NIAGARA proceeding to destination having insufficient fuel to continue search.

Ref. A.M. (? 1429) /3 am steering for 049° 25' N., 030° 08' W., in endeavour to intercept. E.T.A., in position at 1730 but will have to discontinue search at 1900 G.M.T. owing to lack of fuel.

(COLUMBIA, 1741Z/3, to C. in C. W.A.)

After leaving W.S.8.X, SAGUENAY is to proceed 48° 02' N., 25° 06' W., where EIBERGEN was torpedoed at 0528Z/3 35 men are in lifeboats. NIAGARA has been ordered to this position but is short of fuel.

If fuel permits BRIGHTON and ST. MARYS should also proceed to this position.

(C. in C. W.A., 1942B/3 to SAGUENAY, BRIGHTON ST. MARYS,

Reply of BRIGHTON, 2200B/3, see Shipping and Convoys, W.S.8.X.

→ In view of U-Boat menace do not linger in the vicinity of EIBERGEN. If survivors are not found proceed on patrol.

(C. in C.W.A., 2348B/3, to MALVERNIAN.)

/EIBERGEN.....

War Diary.

3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked. Contd.

EIBERGEN.
MICHAEL E.

My 1942B/3. After leaving position of EIBERGEN pass through position 48° 50' N., 29° 00' W., where MICHAEL E was torpedoed at 1857B/2. COLUMBIA has searched this area but failed to find any survivors. Report without delay if any survivors are recovered from either vessel. (C. in C. W.A., 2351B/3, to SAGUENAY.)

MOKAMBO
(torpedoed
2/6.)

Proceed from Lough Foyle so as to R.V. with MOKAMBO escorted by GENTIAN and FREESIA in position 55° 42' N., 07° 20' W., at 2300B/3. MOKAMBO has been torpedoed in No. 1. hold and is proceeding to Clyde course 120° speed 5 knots. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1244B/3, to SALVONIA.) See also WANDERER, 0817B/3, in S/M's Attacked.

AMPETCO
(Panamanian.)
(Belgian.)

Following has been read. Intercept 1335 G.M.T. SSSS unknown ship 48.40 N., 29.30 W., sighted and being chased by submarine 1320 G.M.T. (Land's End, 1328/3.) Following has been read - SSSS de AMPETCO 48.40 N., 29.30 W., sighted and being chased by Submarine 1320 G.M.T. steering N., approx., speed 10.5. (Liverpool W/T, 1344/3.) Following has been read:- SSSS AMPETCO Amend position to 48.48 N., 30.08 W., at 1400 G.M.T./3 steering N., speed 10.25. (Liverpool W/T, 1420/3.) Have sighted AMPETCO 049° 30' N., 029° 39' W. (COLUMBIA, 1955Z/3, to C. in C. W.A.) My 1955Z/3rd. AMPETCO spoken. Submarine

/appeared

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TuesdayU-BOAT CAMPAIGNShips AttackedAMPETCO (Belgian.)
(Demmandon)
Contd.

appeared out of mist about 60 miles (?) S. then submerged and has not been seen since. Ship is turning to westward for New York. Nothing else sighted, am proceeding to destination in company with NIAGARA. Lat. 49° 28' Long. 29° 46' (weather). (COLUMBIA, 2031/3 to C. in C. W.A.)

TABARISTAN
(Torpedoed
29/5.)

Torpedoed 29/5, 21 P (?) G.M.T. 06° 34' N. 15° 23' W. sunk by single torpedo in four minutes. Master, seven other British and 31 Lascars arrived Freetown. Submarine probably U-25 class sighted from raft by Master about 1800/30 in estimated 06° 20' N., 14° 45' W and remained in sight until dusk. (C. in C. S.A. 1644N/3 to Admty.)

RINDA
(Torpedoed
30/5)

Torpedoed 2240 G.M.T./30/5. 06° 52' N., 15° 14' W., sunk by two torpedoes, 13 drowned including Master. 18 survivors arrived Freetown 1/6. Submarine not seen. (C. in C. S.A. 1646N/3 to Admty.)

GRAVELINES
(Torpedoed
31/5.)

Arrived Clyde tugs SEAMAN and SUPERMAN with fore part of SS GRAVELINES (F.O.L.I.C. Greenock 2315B/3 to C. in C. W.A. etc.)

Submarines Reported

2254/2

Bearings indicate Italian U-Boat in the vicinity of 010° W. at 2254/2. (F.O.C.N.A. 0829/3 to N.A. Stn.)

1030/20

British ship SAN DELPHI reports having sighted periscope in 056° 05' N., 045° 33' W at 1030/20. Periscope was of unusual type drawing of which is being conveyed to U.K. by Master (S.N.O. Curacao 1041/QR/3 to Admty)

0827

Admty. message A.F. Position 48° 02' N., 25° 06' W., at 0827/3 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 1101B/3.)

1320

Admty. A.F. position 48° 40' N., 29° 30' W., at 1320/3 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 1420/3) My 1420 G.M.T./3, amended position 48° 48' N 30° 08' W. at 1400/3 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 1726B/3)

Estimated U/B dispositions (D.D.I.C. 1446B/3)

/1630.....

War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.

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U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported. Contd.

1630. Proceed with all despatch to search for U-Boat reported by aircraft in $054^{\circ} 18' N.$ $019^{\circ} 35' W.$ at 1630B bearing and distance from convoy $170^{\circ} 13$ miles. (S.O.12 Escort Group, 1620B/3 to SCIMITAR, BURWELL, RIPLEY) Aircraft report U-Boat in $054^{\circ} 18' N.$ $019^{\circ} 35' W.$ at 1530B. Detach hunting force at your discretion, aircraft will co-operate. (C. in C.W.A. 1629B/3 to MALCOLM) My P.C. and S. are $055^{\circ} 02' N.$ $018^{\circ} 37' W.$ $036^{\circ} 15$ knots, insufficient fuel to continue search rejoining convey bearing (corrupt group) 18 miles. RIPLEY searching $218^{\circ} 54$ miles and BURWELL searching to westward from me. MALCOLM attacked non submarine contact, expended six depth charges. (S.O.12 Escort Group, 1931B/3 to C. in C.W.A.) Your 1629B/3. Have carried out search, nothing to report. Rejoining convoy, BURWELL in company, no aircraft sighted. (RIPLEY, 2022B/3 to C. in C.W.A.)
1715. U-Boat $17^{\circ} 9' N.$ $25^{\circ} W.$ 1715 G.M.T./3. (N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, 1707/3 to Admty. C. in C.S.A.) My 2257/1 not to Admiralty or N.C.S.O. St. Vincent. U-boat reported in position $17^{\circ} 09' N.$ $25^{\circ} W.$ at 1715Z/3. N.C.S.O. did not sail ships so they will not now join convoy. Remain in vicinity for present and harry U-Boat. May require you to escort S.S. KINGSTON HILL also at St. Vincent Southward. (C. in C.S.A. 2345N/3 to CLEMATIS)
2000. Sighted a periscope of S/M $056^{\circ} 26' N.$ $020^{\circ} 53' W.$ 2000/3. (M.D. 2 L.1 (UMTALI) 2204/3 to Admty. C. in C. Plymouth.)
2330. Submarine sighted on surface in position $002^{\circ} 49' N.$ $31^{\circ} W.$ (21) (NIAGARA, 2330/3 to Admty.)

/2000/2

War Diary.3.6.1941.
Tuesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported. Contd.

2000/2

Neutral source reports U-Boat was in position $034^{\circ} 54'$ N. $007^{\circ} 05'$ W. at 2000/2 (F.O.C.N.A. 2331A/3 to WRESTLER, AZALEA, JONQUIL, GERANIUM, ASTER.) Information volunteered by Master of Spanish SANTA ELENA. bound Ceuta to Malaga. (details as 2331A/3 S.O.I. Gib. 2340A/3 to Admty.)

Submarines Attacked.

2109/2

Contact lost. Hunt abandoned inconclusive. Sweeping back to convoy with WESTCOTT at 18 knots. PERIWINKLE with MOKAMBO. Remainder with convoy. (WANDERER 0001B/3 to C. in C.W.A.)
W.A.C.I. part 102.
(A) 4 full pattern by PERIWINKLE 2 by WANDERER. No visible result. 1927 0000 one mile.
(B) Starboard.
(C) WANDERER, WESTCOTT and CAMPBELTOWN one mile ahead, on port beam and astern respectively. PERIWINKLE and MARIGOLD between column Convoy. AURICULA absent with stragglers.
(D) MOKAMBO No.62. Returning to U.K. under own steam.
(E) $1917/2$ $056^{\circ} 38'$ N. $010^{\circ} 24'$ W.
(F) $252^{\circ} 23'$.
(G) Overcast, good visibility, wind N.E. 3.
(H) Attack pressed home from starboard bow at periscope depth. After firing Submarine turned outward. Periscope sighted by PERIWINKLE one cable outside starboard wing column moving on course 300° . Immediately counter attack was made. (WANDERER, 0817B/3 to Admty. etc.)

By ST.MARY'S.

In position $052^{\circ} 34'$ N. $017^{\circ} 40'$ W. (corrupt group) (?Zero +) 4 time between 1745B/?2 and 1900B/2. Contact regained after last attack, but left to rejoin screen, my position noon $050^{\circ} 16'$ N. $018^{\circ} 56'$ W. (Weather) (ST. MARY'S, 1203B/3 to C. in E.WA)

GONZENHEIM.

Located by a/c from VICTORIOUS.
Intercepted by NELSON at 2030,
4.6.1941, 43°29' N., 24°04' W.,
and scuttled herself. Sunk on
5.6.1941 as dangerous wreck by
NEPTUNE, 43°32' N., 23°56' W.
(See Preliminary Narrative,
section 379, and German Documents 399)

War Diary

4.6.1941.
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

E-Boat
encounter

KITTIWAKE, standing by Fleet Tender C. which went aground after striking a wreck off the Outer Dowsing had a brush in the early hours of this morning with E-Boats working with aircraft. Fleet Tender C. was torpedoed by an E-Boat at 0401B and is considered a total loss.

PRINZ EUGEN

The PRINZ EUGEN was seen by A/C R/C at 1250 in dry dock at Brest. Aircraft attack was ordered for the early hours of tomorrow morning but was cancelled owing to bad weather.

Northern
Patrol

HERMIONE is patrolling in Denmark Straits and ARETHUSA S.E. of Iceland. AURANIA is in N.P. 71. EDINBURGH is to leave Hvalfiord at 2100 to patrol Denmark Straits.

Enemy
Merchant
Vessels.

ESPERANCE BAY at 1300Z reported a suspicious merchant ship steering west at 16 knots in 43° 12' N., 23° 5' W., VICTORIOUS was ordered to detach one of her escorts to take action, and she reported that at 1815 her aircraft sighted 2 enemy merchant vessels steering 300° at 15 knots in 43° 8' N., 23° 38' W.

At 1732Z NELSON reported a merchant vessel near the same position.

SOVAC at 1335 reported a suspicious vessel in 49° 12' N., 34° 34' W.

War Diary

4.6.1941.
Wednesday

SITUATION REPORT

British Air Activity

Bomber Command carried out no operations last night on account of bad weather. 6 Blenheims today attacked shipping between Eigeree and Lindesnes and claim to have sunk a 5000 ton merchant vessel 30 miles west of Vestbygd (58° 28' N., 5° 42' E)

6 Blenheims with fighter escort twice set off to attack a 6000 ton merchant vessel which had been located in Boulogne harbour and four smaller vessels. Results were not seen.

6 Blenheims bombed the mole at Zeebrugge and shipping alongside and claim to have sunk a 5000 ton merchant vessel.

Enemy Air Activity

Between 0100 and 0215 ten enemy aircraft were operating to the west of Orkney and convoy W.N. 35 was attacked unsuccessfully off Loch Eriboll. One A/C homeward bound was plotted over the Flow, but owing to low cloud it is unlikely that anything was seen.

There have been three air attacks in the last few days on coastal convoys in this area.

SS CITY OF BARCELONA was bombed and machine gunned at 0509 G.M.T. in 61° 4' N 11° 34' W.

/H.M. SIMMERSON....

MOST SECRETWar Diary4.6.1941
WednesdaySITUATION REPORTEnemy Air Activity-Contd.

H.M.T. SIMMER^STON was unsuccessfully attacked at 0110 when on patrol 7 miles S.E. of Noss Head, Bressay.

WALLFLOWER escorting H.X. 128 was attacked unsuccessfully at 0700 in the Western Approaches, by a F.W. which gave the correct reply to her challenge before attacking.

SS BRITISH FORTUNE, apparently a straggler from E.C. 28 was bombed at 2243 off Duncansby Head. No damage was sustained.

A single A/C bombed Lowestoft at 0040. No naval damaged was caused.

MiningThames Estuary

Convoy Leader VAN MEERLANT was mined and sunk in the Thames Estuary at 0802 today. Sheerness was closed from 0910B to 1900B. 19 acoustic mines were detonated and 4 unexplained explosions occurred in the Shoeburyness-Sheppey area today.

The Humber was closed from 0155B to 1154 B.

Tyne was closed at 1550.

A mine was detonated off Bar L.V.

South Atlantic.Lagos closed.

The port of Lagos was closed today, following the sinking of the Government dredger ROBERT HUGHES. Board of Enquiry and Admiralty subsequently decided that loss was due to a mine.

See also p. 93.

War Diary4.6.1941.
WednesdaySITUATION REPORTMediterranean

Q. 24 (from Gibraltar) is to carry out a patrol in the Gulf of Genoa. F.O.C.N.A. points out that S/M's operating in the Gulf will be greatly handicapped by the present instructions which permit them to sink without warning only ships identified as enemy, and he asks that the permissible area may be extended.

Western
Desert.

6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night.

Alexandria

LEANDER arrived today to join the Fleet. There was an air raid on the harbour and town from 2130 to 2230 today by about 12 aircraft.

Dodecanese

5 Wellingtons last night bombed Maritza Aerodrome, Rhodes.

Syria

It is reported that Aleppo and Palmyra Aerodromes are entirely handed over to the Germans who have complete ground & air staffs and that the French have withdrawn. Some modern French bombers are reported to have entered Syria via Rhodes.

The French fleet at Beirut is reported to be ready for immediate action.

4 Blenheims operating from Palestine today bombed and damaged petrol storage tanks at Beirut.

MOST SECRET

6

4.5.1941.
WednesdayWar DiarySITUATION REPORTU-Boat CampaignSouth
Atlantic

Govt. dredger ROBERT HUGHES is reported to have been sunk by torpedo in Lagos harbour entrance at 1230N today. The port has been closed. *Note. Subsequently decided by Board of Enquiry and Admiralty that loss was due to a mine. See p. 91.*

Survivors from SS VULCAIN recently arrived in French colonial territory report that the vessel was torpedoed at 2200/23, 160 miles N.W. of Freetown.

With reference to the explosion, supposed to be caused by torpedo, in SANGARA off Accra on 30/5 the Master of the USS ARTIGUS reports that at 0325/31/5 in 4° 21' N., 4° 40' W., he was asked his name by lamp by a S/M on surface; there was no indication of the nationality of the S/M and it was possible it was French.

War Diary.

4.6.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Control in
Iceland.

I entirely concur with N.O.I.C. Iceland I727/2 being passed to C. in C.H.F. and C. in C.W.A. and consider it essential he should be given wide powers of control in the harbour and of requisitioning buildings, etc. I presume this is chiefly a matter for Foreign Office but my impression from my short visit to Iceland is that we are treating the Icelanders much too tenderly and that firm action to give Flag Officers the necessary powers is required. The same probably applies to Military and R.A.F. requirements. (A.C.O.S.1137B/4 to Admty.)

Defence of U.K.

A.A. guns
for Thorshaven.

Adty. 2022/2. Request precise description of guns approved so that placements and accommodation for gun crews may be prepared in readiness. (F.O.I.C. Faeroes 2200B/4 to Admty.)

Movements.

AURORA.
KENYA.

After fuelling at Hvalfiord, AURORA proceed to Scapa, and KENYA remain at Hvalfiord. (C. in C.H.F. 1052B/4 to C.S.2.)

SOKOL.

Intend to sail SOKOL at 2100B/5 for patrol 046° 06' N. ? 010° 06' W. diving by day (route) (Capt.(S) 5, 1222B/4)

STURGEON.

STURGEON leaves patrol after dark/6 for Portsmouth diving by day (route). (Capt.(S) 5, 1234B/4)

War Diary.

4.6.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

E.Boats.
Fleet
Tender C.
torpedoed.

2 E.Boats bearing unknown distance less than 1 mile approx. true course 090. Position 176 Outer Dowsing L.V.11. (KITTIWAKE 0155B/4).

E.Boats laying smoke screen. Am attacking. (KITTIWAKE 0225B/4)

Have sighted E.Boat. Am attacking. (KITTIWAKE 0230B/4)

Have lost contact. (KITTIWAKE 0250/4)

Proceed immediately to vicinity 59 Buoy KITTIWAKE being attacked by E.Boats and aircraft. (C. in C. Nore 0251B/4 to EGLINTON, QUORN)

Fleet Tender C. now abandoned as Salvage SABINE rescuing remainder crew am proceeding Humber. (Salvage Officer 0314B/4)

No contact lost. (KITTIWAKE 0330B/4 to EGLINTON)

Fleet Tender C. torpedoed by E.boat. Fore deck awash. E.boat attacked (? further) contact lost. (KITTIWAKE 0401B/4)

If no further E.Boats are sighted or reported by 0445B EGLINTON and QUORN are to return to Harwich. (C. in C. Nore. 0425B/4)

My 0401B. Salvage Officer consider Fleet Tender C. total loss. 44 survivors on board SABINE en route for Humber. KITTIWAKE has further 30 survivors from Fleet Tender C. (F.O. Humber, 0445B/4.)

Your 0445 proceed Humber with all tugs in company Fighter protection arranged Code word "Adapt" on 385 Kc's. (C. in C. Nore. 0643B/4 to KITTIWAKE.)

STURGEON.

STURGEON is to be ordered to leave patrol after dark/6. SOKOL is to relieve SEALION in due course. (F.O.S.1038B/4 to S.5.) Leave Patrol after dark/6 through 048° 50' N. 005° 38' W. and 050° 20' N. 001° 18' W. to R/V 180° St. Katherines 5 mile at 0500B/12. (Capt.(S) 5, 1233B/4 to STURGEON)

/Northern Patrol

War Diary.

4.6.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. (contd.)

Northern
Patrol.

Estimated position 2000/4. HERMIONE patrolling Denmark Straits. ARETHUSA patrolling South East of Iceland. EDINBURGH leaves Hvalfiord 2100 to patrol Denmark Straits. AURANIA N.P.71. (A.C.O.S. 1526B/4.)

British Air Operations.

PRINZ EUGEN.

- A. CH/G9/4/6 (Brest)
- B. Thorney Island - (Repeated) H.Q.C.C. 19 Group.
- C. All available aircraft of 59 and 22 Squadrons to attack Cruiser ~~EUGEN~~ reported in dry dock at Brest, under your orders. Time over target between 0001 and 0200 hours, when 19 Group takes over. Load 500 lb.S.A.P's (Chatham A.C.H.Q. 1645/4)

Recognition
procedure.

A.221 4/6. C. in C.W.A. reports :- Intend to adopt the following procedure suggested by 10 Group for trial with fighter aircraft from 10 group only. As movements of operational bombers off South Coast and of other aircraft over Irish Sea are not notified so far as we know to ships at sea this proposal appears to be dangerous, it is also contrary to agreed inter-service rules for recognition and engagement of targets. Request your decision. (H.Q.F.C. 1940/4 to Air Min.)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Operations.HONTESTROOM.
(Bombed 2/6)

Report of casualties. HONTESTROOM proceeding Clyde escorted by NORTHERN GEM. (NEWMARKET, 0434B/4.)

CITY OF BARCELONA.

Following has been read CITY OF BARCELONA bombed and machine gunned 61° 04' N. 11° 34' W. at 0509 G.M.T. (Wick Radio 0510/4)

Lowestoft.

Lowestoft bombed at 0040 by single A/C. No naval damage. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 0705B/4)

WALLFLOWER.

At 0700 attacked by F.W. prior to attack aircraft challenged and answered with correct letter for period. (WALLFLOWER, 0715B/4)

Your 0715B/4, confirm that this was not own Catalina aircraft referred to in my 1820B/3. (C. in C.W.A. 1013B/4 to WALLFLOWER) Your 1013B/4. 4 engine aircraft had enemy markings and dropped stick of bombs close astern. (WALLFLOWER 1301B/4 to C.in C.W.A.)

Convoy W.N. 35 Orkney.

Between 0100 and 0215 ten enemy aircraft were operating to the west of Orkney and Convoy W.N.35 was attacked off Loch Eriboll but no damage was sustained. One aircraft homeward bound was plotted over the Flow but owing to the low cloud it is unlikely that anything was seen. Two enemy aircraft returning through Pontland Firth E. were engaged with unseen target procedure by ground defences in South Ronaldsay. (A.C.O.S. 1201/4)

/SIMMERSON

War Diary.

4.6.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations. (contd.)

SIMMERSON.
(H.M.Trawler)

SIMMERSON reports that when on patrol 7 miles 145° from Noss Head Bressay he was attacked by single hostile aircraft at 0110/4 which dropped two bombs about 20 yards of either quarter. Visibility was poor and aircraft was not identified nor was it seen till close overhead consequently SIMMERSON failed to open fire. (N.O.I.C. Lerwick 1257/4.)

Re new form
of attack.

By M.E.109's. (C. in C. Rosyth 1513/4)

BRITISH
FORTUNE.

The following has been read. Off Duncansby Head BRITISH FORTUNE bombed. (Liverpool W/T 2243/4.)

DENNIS ROSE.

(British 1600 tons) Bombed about 0700/3 at Dartmouth. Superficial damage. No casualties. D.O.R. 4/6)

Mining.

Humber.

Humber is closed to Navigation enemy minelaying estimated opening 1100/4. (F.O. Humber 0155B/4.)
Humber open to navigation. (F.O.Humber 1154B/4)

Operation
F.N#75

F.N#75 postponed 24 hours owing to fog and ripening mines. (C. in C. Nore 1046B/4)

Harwich.

West side Continental Pier Harwich scene of casualties MARION and DARCY COOPER is now fit for ships to berth as before. Whole of area has been searched by divers and cleared of obstruction salvage operations now completed and restriction on speed can be removed. (Salvage Officer, Harwich, 1115/4)

/Sheerness

War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining. (contd.)Sheerness.Port closed due to enemy action.
(Cdre.I.C. Sheerness 0910B/4)
Cancel my 0910B/4. Port reopened.
(Cdre.I.C. Sheerness 1900B/4)Tyne.Your 1307B/4 (N.T. in W.D.) Port closed
suspected minelaying. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1550/4
to Admty.)FRANKLIN.
(Bombed 3/6)Will require docking. Estimate completion
13/6 subject to further examination after
docking. (F.O. Humber 1812B/4)VAN MEERLANT.VAN MEERLANT sunk by mine in 51° 28' 29" N.
00° 52' 06" E. At 0802/4. Casualties.
(C. in C. Nore. 1912B/4)Operation
P.W.10.Harwich^{4/6} departure M.T.B's 22, 31, 34.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 2152B/4)Enemy Intelligence.Merchant
Ship.Merchant ship German appearance steering
west speed 16 knots extreme range opening
after chase will not stop my position
043° 12' N. 023° 05' W. (ESPERANCE BAY
1300Z/4 to C. in C.W.A. F.O.C.N.A. Admty.)
Following received from ESPERANCE BAY:-
(as 1300Z/4)
2. Detach one of your escorts to take
necessary action. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1726B/4
to VICTORIOUS)
Your 1726B/4. 2 enemy merchant vessels
043° 08' N. 023° 38' W. C. and S. 300° 15
knots sighted by aircraft at 1815.
My P.C. and S. are 042° 00' N. 023° 55' W.
180° 15 knots. (VICTORIOUS 2010B/4 to Adty.)
ESPERANCE BAY 1300Z/4 directional inter-
ference in type 279 keeping receiving watch
only similar to PRINCE OF WALES 2232/26
enabled air search to locate enemy at 50
miles. Technical details. (VICTORIOUS
2343B/4 to Admty.)

/Suspicious vessel

War Diary.

4.6.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence. (contd.)

Suspicious Vessel.

RRRR. SOVAC 49. 12 N. 34 34 W. suspicious vessel. (Plymouth W/T 1335/4, Valentia Radio 1339/4)

Brest.

Both B.C.'s seen in usual position. Air borne 1159. Photos Brest taken. Landed 1342. Heavy box barrage encountered over Brest. (Plymouth A.C.H.Q. 1350/4)

W/678. 1250/4. HIPPER Class Cruiser has arrived in dry dock Grand Bassin Du Nord. SCHARNHORST and GNEISENAU seen in usual position. (Pru. St. Eval 1510/4) Informing A.I.G. 17, S.O. Force H. (D.D.I.C. 1538B/4)

Merchant Vessel.

One MV.018 I.U. 020 43° 5' N. 24° 14' W. XLX (NELSON 1732Z/4 to Whitehall W/T.)
M. 1732 Z. O.E.S.P. 19 43° 11' N. 24° 11' W.
X. 14. (NELSON 1752Z/4 to Whitehall W/T.)

My 1735B/4. (N.T. in W.D.) Subsequent D/F bearings make it probable that two enemy surface craft were in this vicinity. (V.C.N.S.2331B/4 to C.in C. H.F.,C. in C. Plymouth, Ships and Authorities W.A. & N.A. H.Q.C.C.)

Casualties & Defects.

Refit of corvettes.

Adty. 1047B/17/5. First 2 Corvettes can be taken in hand at Charlestown South Carolina now. (Controller 1037B/4 to C. in C.W.A.)

/AURANIA

War Diary.

4.6.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. (contd.)

AURANIA.

Your 1230B/3. At least 24 hours will be required in harbour to test both condensers which are leaking and freshen all boilers. (AURANIA 1201B/4 to F.O.C.N.P.)

MAPLIN.

My 1710B/21. MAPLIN has been delayed by defect in R/T. (N.O.I.C. Belfast 1543B/3)

Shipping & Convoys.

H.G. 62.

Congratulations on bringing all your convoy H.G.62 safely to U.K. (C. in C.W.A. 0047B/4 to Cdre. Birnie, R.N.R.)
Arrived safely except one ship, missing. 12 British, 1 allied, 4 neutral. Cargoes. (D.S.637, 3/6)

S.C. 31.

Congratulations on successful manner in which you brought all ships of your convoy S.C. 31 safely to U.K. (C. in C.W.A. 0109B/4 to Cdre. Casey, R.N.R.)
19 British, 13 allied ships. Cargoes. (D.S. 635, 1/6)

Shipping
Diverted.

Following ships North of 25° N. have been re-routed as follows. (D.T.D. 0100B/4 to C. in C.S.A.)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.CAP VARELLA,
L'ADROIT,
CONGO.

Report received graded B.3. that French ship CAP VARELLA was due to leave Casablanca 3/6 southbound escorted by L'ADROIT. French ship CONGO also reported leaving for Dakar date unknown.
(D.D.I.C.0056B/4 to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. S.A.)

→ NEA HELLAS.

My 0950A/3. Request instructions. Military require at least 24 hours to improvise temporary catering and living accommodation ashore. In addition to passengers, (?ship has a) large amount of cargo to be offloaded in U.K. vide A.C.W.App. 1003 N/17.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1004A/4 to Admty).
Your 1004A/4. See my 2000B/3. It is intended refugees should be embarked.
(D.O.D. (F) 1552/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)

SEVERN.

Estimated P.C. and S. at 1200/4 034° 05' N 017° 32' W 012° 15 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1120A/4 to N.A. Stn).

S/Ms in
Gulf of
Genoa.

C. in C. Med's 1507C/3. S/Ms operating in the Gulf of Genoa will be greatly handicapped by the present instructions which permit them to sink without warning only ships identified as enemy. Request consideration may be given to extension of (? permissible) area.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1222A/4 to Admty). Reply: 0108/11

→ ARGUS.
→ NEA HELLAS.

Your 2006B/3 only now received. ARGUS and NEA HELLAS sail at 1700B/4 to pass through 47.00 N 24.00 W at 1200B/8 steering 350°. (F.O.C.N.A., 1258A/4, to Admty).
Return Gibraltar with NEA HELLAS and destroyers
Acknowledge, report E.T.A.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2308A/4 to ARGUS).
See also next page

Enemy shipping
Intelligence.

Latest intelligence shows, (1) Shipping approaching Gaeta passes south of Ponza Island then through 180° Standaarde Point 13. (2) Southbound traffic to Naples Lugs Coast and passes through Ischia Channel. (3) Traffic for Messina passes 009° Scilla Light 20.6 course 189°. (3?) Messina to Stromboli route 073° Rasocolino Point 11, 000° Rasocolino 3, 328° Rasocolino 6 then 328° to position 5 miles of Stromboli. (F.O.C.N.A. 1610A/4 to CLYDE).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (contd).VICTORIOUS
FURIOUS.

Technical details of transfer of aircraft from VICTORIOUS to FURIOUS.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1702A/4 to Admty). Reply:
(D.N.A.D., 1050B/5).

ARGUS
NEA HELLAS.

Departure ARGUS escorting NEA HELLAS in accordance with F.O.C.N.A. 1258A/4. Local escort FOXHOUND, FURY, FORESIGHT. (S.O.(I) Gib., 1710A/4). *See previous page.*

Italian
Intelligence.

Following from Master of Neutral ship which left Genoa 30/5.
(A) No warships seen in Genoa. New dry dock was empty B2.
(B) S.S. AUGUSTUS, ROMA, and VULCANIA still in port and SATURNIA arrived 28/5B. 2. Latter said to be going to embark German and Italian troops for Tripoli hearsay.
(C) 4 Italian merchant vessels from 4/5000 tons loading war stores for Tripoli and one of 6000 tons discharging minerals loaded in Sardina D.3.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1752A/4 to Admty).

Dakar
Intelligence.

British Officers on Seaplane from Africa report sighted (?0900/3), 3 ships just clear of Dakar turning North. First passenger liner white upper works two or three funnels over 10,000 tons. Second smaller, third much smaller; these appeared to be warships.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1836/4 to D.N.I.)

Enemy Unit.

At 1615 G.M.T. German surface unit bearing 307° 1st Class from Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1840B/4 to N.A. Stn).

Air attack on
P.32 31/5.

P.32 Reports at 1630B/31 sighted Heinkel 59 in 45.24 N. 09.41 W. which dived out of clouds at 500 feet. P.32 dived and aircraft dropped stick of 3 or 4 bombs which burst when P.32 was at 70 feet. (4) My 2310/A/3rd P.32 carried out attack on tanker and closed to 1700 yards but did not fire as target was difficult to identify. Ship was not armed and was wearing no marking.

Course.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.Air Attack
on P.32 31/5.
(contd).

Course indicated that she might have come from Ferrol. P.32 was averse to using her gun and further compromising her position in -her damaged state and sustained minor damage. (F.O.C.N.A., 1956A/4 to Admty).

South Atlantic.INSPECTOR
BENEDETTI.

Argentine, 4172 tons, from which survivors were picked up by ASTURIAS, now known to have been a marine casualty. When last reported was still afloat though listing heavily 100 miles E. of Rio Grande do Sul. (D.S.638, 4/6)

SANGARA,
(explosion
30/5).

My 1131/31. Considered probable that explosion in SANGARA off Acera on 30/5 was caused by a torpedo from a submarine. Master of U.S. Ship ARTIGAS reports that in 4° 21' N 4° 40' W at 0325/31 he was asked his name by a submarine on the surface by lamp, no indication of nationality and possible it was French. (C. in C. S.A., 0100N/4 to Admty).

FRANKFURT
(German).

Loaded, arrived this morning, from Talcahuano. (S.O.(I) Rio de Janeiro, 0828/4, 0958/4 to Admty) (S.O.(I) Montevideo 1245Z/4 2012/4 to R.A.S.A.D.)

SHROPSHIRE
PRETORIA
CASTLE
CAMERONIA
CILICIA
RAPIDOL
movements.

SHROPSHIRE departed Capetown 1300 3/6 to arrive Freetown 15/6.
PRETORIA CASTLE from Simonstown after being delayed by repairs, guns mounted, and CAMERONIA from Capetown to R/V with CILICIA at 0800/6.
CAMERONIA and CILICIA E.T.A. Freetown 13/6.
RAPIDOL departed Capetown 0900/4 for St. Helena and Freetown. E.T.A. St. Helena a.m./11 (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0915Z/4 to C. in C. S.A.)

/TRAFALGAR.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd).TRAFALGAR.

Overdue shipping, TRAFALGAR due Capetown 29th, not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 0945B/4 to Admty etc).

CONDYLIS.

Overdue shipping CONDYLLIS due Durban 29th not arrived.
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 0946B/4 to Admty etc).
Probably delayed by weather (see S.O.(I) Colombo 0754Z/5).

CALENDULA
BRIDGEWATER.

Proceed to join BRIDGEWATER off Victoria Cameroons. Pass close off Lagos on passage, fuelling there if necessary. BERGENSFIORD expected to arrive at Victoria 5/6. CALENDULA is to act as additional escort to Lagos BRIDGEWATER to arrange R/V if BERGENSFIORD ready to sail before CALENDULA joins Submarines may be active throughout the area of passage, keep good look out.
(C. in C. S.A., 1115N/4 to CALENDULA).
Your 1115N/4 acknowledged. Amended T.of A. Lagos for log 0600/5.
(CALENDULA 1400Z/4 to C. in c. S.A.)

*See also pp 108 & 109*GIANFRANCO
Italian.

Is bunkering about 350 tons coal, possible more. (N.C.S.O., Buenos Aires 1150/4 to Admty).

MIGNONETTE.

C. in C. S.A. 1401N/3. In view of U-Boat situation in South Atlantic, MIGNONETTE should proceed independently at best speed to Freetown fuelling at Ponta Del Garda en route.
(D.O.D. (H) 1154/4 to C. in C. W.A.)

CONGO,
CAP VARELLA
(French.)

My 0056B/4. For information. It is further reported that. (1) CONGO is carrying aeroplanes. (2) CAP VARELLA has on board Indo Chinese and 50 Colonial infantry officers believed mostly pro de Gaulle, and cargoes containing rails and iron girders. She may also embark aeroplanes. B.3 CAP VARELLA is bound for Madagascar and Saigon.
(D.D.I.C. 1244Q/4 to C. in C. SA.)

/Enemy Unit.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic (contd).Enemy
Unit.
SHROPSHIRE,
CARNARVON
CASTLE,
CILICIA,
PRETORIA
CASTLE.

My 1425/27 and my 2159/2. D.F.B. at 2157/3 suggests enemy surface unit within 150 miles of 0100° E and 300 miles of 0220° S. SHROPSHIRE steer to pass through position 0270° S 0110° E and then cover area about line up to 0200° S 0100° E. CARNARVON CASTLE and CILICIA patrol in K.l. B, CARNARVON CASTLE to N.W. CILICIA to S.E. CILICIA relieve PRETORIA CASTLE as arranged, PRETORIA CASTLE then take over CILICIA patrol.
(C. in C. S.A., 1257N/4 to Ships concerned).

WARSPITE.

Admty 0030/28. Summary of defects in WARSPITE caused by bomb explosion between forecastle and upper decks at 124 station (? starboard) side.
(C. in C. Med., 1358C/4 to N.A. Washington for B.A.R.M.)

/FRANKFORT.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd).→ FRANKFURT
HERMES
AEQUITAS.

German ship FRANKFORT appears about one third loaded. German ship HERMES loading now proceeding very slowly and appears unlikely ship will sail before early next week. Italian ship AEQUITAS has returned to anchorage after receiving about 1,000 tons bunkers. Although two Italian ships have now taken large quantities bunkers I see no sign of any cargo being engaged. (N.C.S.O., Rio de Janeiro, 1401/4 to S.O.(I) Freetown).

→ FRANKFURT
(German)

Arrival 4/6.
(Rio de Janeiro, 1411/4).

ROBERT HUGHES
Dredger sunk,
Lagos.

My 1230/4. (N.T. in W.R.) Request naval diver be sent to investigate damage. Vessel has sunk across entrance and if salvage impossible will have to demolish otherwise silt will interfere with depth of channel. At present sufficient room for ships to enter and leave (Director of Nigerian Marine, Lagos. 1430N/4 to BRIDGEWATER).

D. of N.M. Lagos reports Government Dredger ROBERT HUGHES has sunk by explosion in harbour entrance 1230N/4/6 and that officers state cause torpedo. Port has been closed, am making further enquiries and have requested mine sweeping by Auxiliary Minesweepers as precautionary measure. BERGENSFJORD is due there about 10/6 and it may be necessary to cancel this movement. My 2243/30/5 to D. of S.T. refers.
(C. in C. S.A., 1945N/4 to Admty).

NEWCASTLE,
CARNARVON
CASTLE,
ASTURIAS,
ALCANTARA.

NEWCASTLE visiting Rio de Janeiro 5/6 to 7/6 remaining in Brazilian area till 10/6 then proceeding to Plate. CARNARVON CASTLE on joining R.A.S.A.D. about 6/6 is to patrol L. 31 L. 32. ASTURIAS is to R.V. with NEWCASTLE F.O. at daylight 14/6 to transfer stores, subsequently sailing for refit. ALCANTARA will fuel at Rio de Janeiro about 20/6 then resume patrol in K.32 K 33. I will arrange visit. (R.A.S.A.D. 1802Z/4 to S.A.D.)

/NATAL.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd).NATAL.

Following is description of German ship
NATAL received from Santos.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1531Z/4 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Tug T.O4.

Your 1249B/3 (11) H.M.S.A.S.GRIMWOOD.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 1544B /4 to Admty).

ERLANGEN
(German).

My 1631/3 ship had 1200 tons coal and 400
metric tons wood when she sailed from Puerto
Montt on 17/5.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1904Z/4 to R.A.S.A.D.)

S.S.MATIANA.

MATIANA not sailing in S.L. convoy owing to
limited fuel capacity. Sailing Halifax for
convoy calling Trinidad for fuel.
(N.C.S.O., Freetown, 192N/4 to Admty).

WINDHUK
(German)
TEHIV(?)
(Italian).

Santos reports repairs to damage previous done
to machinery are probably causing delay in
sailing WINDHUK and that they may be completed
by Friday. Hull is being cleaned by Divers.
TEHIV completed loading.
(N.S.O. (I) Montevideo, 2124Z/4 to R.A.S.A.D.,
?C. in C. S.A.)

Escort for
BERGENSFIORD.

BOREAS, will arrive Lagos 10/6 and will act
under your orders for escort BERGENSFIORD to
Freetown. (C. in C. S.A. 2141N/4 to BRIDGEWATER)

*See also pp 105 & 109*Decoy distress
Message.

At 0600Z/5 Walvis Bay W/T Station is to
answer an imaginary distress message
(instructions.) (C. in C. S.A., 2121N/4 to
N.O.I.C. Simonstown).

GIANFRANCO
Italian.

At Buenos Aires is bunkering about 350 tons
coal and possibly more. (S.O.(I)
Montevideo, 2121Z/4 to S.A.D.)

/BRIDGEWATER.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd).BRIDGEWATER.
BERGENSFJORD.

You should meet BERGENSFJORD if possible and escort in. Ship should anchor as close to a British port as possible, suggest Aboukir position 139° 3½ cables from Lucke Island. Establish patrol to seaward. Unlikely U-Boat will approach E of longitude 008° 11' 50" submerged but might on surface at night. Generally unlikely to dive in less than 9 fathoms but might in 8 if little swell. (C. in C. S.A., 2217N/4 to BRIDGEWATER).

*See p. 105 7108*CUMBERLAND
S.L. 76.

Request you will sail CUMBERLAND to overtake S.L. 76 soon as possible and escort to U.K. C. in C. W.A. is requested to detach CUMBERLAND as necessary to proceed to Scapa for fuel if required thence to Chatham. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2237B/4 to C. in C. S.A.)

HERMES
(German)
AQUITAS
(Italian).

Loading, proceeding slowly, appears unlikely will sail before early next week. Returned anchor after receiving about 1,000 tons bunker. (N.S.O. (I) Montevideo, 2320Z/4 to S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.ISTAMBUL.

Danish broadcast 2/6 states Turkish ship of this name (N.T. in Lloyds) has been sunk 30 Kms. from Constanza cause not stated. (D.S. 638, 4/6).

French Fleet,
Beirut.

Source visited me on return from Syria and gave following military information. (1 - 4 - Air and Military.)
5. Coastal batteries which relatively modern and numerous all manned but at expense of field artillery which is weak. 6. Fleet in Beirut ready for immediate action. (M.A. Ankara, 0830/4 to C. in C, M.E.)

/Italian.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).→ Italian
Ships.

Following from Consul Chanak. Italian ships ANNARELLA, DORA C., and STROMBO passed for Constantza 1930 Turkish time 3/6. Ships sailed from Taranta and Brindisi. Their convoy assembly port was Valona. (N.A. Angora, 0927/4 to S.O.(I) Med).

DERNA.

Arrival Barcelona 4/6 from Genoa. (Barcelona 0940/4).

M.L. 1030.

Sunk 28/5/1941. All books thrown overboard in deep water in steel chest. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 0957C/4 to Admty).

→ ANNARELLA,
DORA C.
STROMBO.

Italian tankers ANNARELLA, DORA C, STROMBO passed Chanak 1930C/3 for Constantza from Taranto and Brindisi. Convoy assembly port was Valona. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1010/4 to C. in C. Med.)

DIDO.

Examination by diver has revealed no major damage. (details) Temporary repairs may allow speed up to 20 knots. Intend to sail for Aden a.m./5. (DIDO, 1053C/4 to Admty etc).

Benghazi bombed.

Operational Summary No, 359 up to 1200 hours. 4/6/1941. Night 2/3, 2 wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour starting 2 fires at base of Cathedral Mole. Day 3/6. Hurricanes made 32 Sorties providing standing fighter patrols throughout day over H.M. and Merchant Ships between Crete and Egypt. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1031/4).

Syria.

Intelligence (M.A. Ankara, 1130/4 to C. in C M.E.) See Lion Copy.

TZAR
FERDINAND.

Ankara report Bulgarian TZAR ? (FERDINAND) passed Chanak 0600 Turkish time/2 for Aegean. Local Authorities informed. (S.O.(I) Alexandria, 1033C/4 to Admty).

/CAMPINA.....

MOST SECRET

110A

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1130/4th June

IN

From Military Attache Ankara.

Date 4.6.41.
Recd. 1640.

CYPHER

Addressed C. in C. Middle East Repeated G.O.C. Palestine &
Transjordan The War Office.

MOST IMMEDIATE

17838.

578

97404 cipher 4/6.
2nd and last part.

7. Total of 4 to 5 Infantry Regiments available but none (repeat none) of high quality or morale. Officers of 17 (repeat 17) Senegalese could be worked on by Larminat who once commanded regiment.

8. (?Tanks) and carriers C.L. relatively numerous but of poor quality mechanically and as regards armouring.

9. Stock mechanical transport petrol sufficient but acute shortage aviation petrol owing compulsory deliveries to (? German) aircraft.

10. Commander Air Force literally in tears over co-operation with Germans consequently (?the) (?will) to (? resist) low among airmen.

11. Other than ground troops Aleppo source saw no (? Germans) in uniform but all pre war German residents are back 3 or 4 "friends" each.

12. Source considers best method advance to be by mobile troops through desert (? on) to Palmyra, Desrezzor and Haleo since French forces too weak to risk major action in open country. This could be combined with landing at Latakia which is undefended. Port poor but sufficient for maintenance in early stages.

13. Naval attack on Tripoli and Beirut would be expensive. Land advance by coast and in mountainous country in Lebanon would give weak French Forces opportunity of effective resistance.

14. For political information see Ambassador's No. 1367 to F.O. ~~repeated Cairo and Jerusalem.~~

15/.....

15. Middle East repeat A.O.C. in C. and C. in C.
Mediterranean.

1130/4.

Advance copy sent Duty Capt. D.O.D. (F)
D.D.I.C.

Received from War Office
0005/5.

1st Lord
1st S.L.
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) (2)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D. of P. (2)
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.O.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (H)

D.N.I. (4)
D.S.D.
D.N.A.D.
D.A/S.W.
I.P.
W.D.
Duty Capt.
Head of M.
D.T.S.D.
D.D.I.C.
E.P.S.
N.I.D. 10 Pay. Cdr. Wilson

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.(contd).CAMPINA
(Roumanian).

Passed Istanbul in transit for Aegean (believed Greece) 9 hours G.M.T. fully laden petroleum products. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 127(05)/4). (Capt. S.l. 2345C/4 to PARTHIAN, TORBAY).

River Traffic
to Kut.^(NT. in WP.)
My 0910/3. Operation consists of providing Naval Escort for convoy of 11 tugs and 22 barges from Basra to Kut-Al-Amara. Still impossible to obtain local crews and Indian crews being arranged for by Army have not yet arrived. In view of importance attached by Mid East to this movement being carried out at earliest possible date, I am also assisting by providing full gear for 7 tugs and gun crews for other craft. (S.N.O. P.G., 1216Z/4 to C. in C. E.I.)RAMB IV.

N.O.I.C. Port Tewfik 2245C/29/5 not to all addressees position in regard to Italian Hospital Ship RAMB IV is that Admiralty has approved her being used temporarily by Army as a Hospital ship in Mediterranean and Red Sea. Subsequently she may be derated D and used for transport (?work) emptying civilians from Italian E. Africa. Italian Govt. informed. Crew of 121, to be replaced by British crew should be interned, any medical Church and hospital staff being disposed of in accordance with Art. 10 of Geneva Convention 1907 (Naval prize Manual p. 103 and 104.) Admty requested to confirm above action. (C. in C. Med., 1350C/4 to Admty).

*See also next page.*Malta Air
Raid.

C.S.R. Malta. Up to 1600 hours 4/6. Night 3/4 8 enemy aircraft attempted to raid the island between 1926 and 2240 hours. Bombs mostly in sea but some on land causing no damage or casualties. (H. Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1700/4).

Italian
Troopship.

Medium sized Italian troop ship escorted by several destroyers arrived Kastelorizo 1st and was still there 1500/2. (Capt. S.l., 1715C/4 to Greek Subs. MEREUS, TRITON).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.RAMB IV
(Italian).

Your 0006Z/1. Confirmed nothing said by N.O.I.C., Massowa to give master impression Ship returning Italy immune from Seizure. (N.O.I.C. Massawa, 0607Z/4 to C. in C. E.I.)

*See previous page.*Force. T.

To be sailed for Colombo at 15 knots as soon as practicable after HERMES has embarked stores from BARPETA and JALAYAMUNA. (C. in C. E.I., 1132Z/4 to S.N.O. Persian Gulf.)

River traffic to Kut.S.N.O.'s. 1216Z/4. *See previous page.*BATHURST
LISMORE.

Intended programme for onward passage BATHURST and LISMORE: 5/6 leave Colombo 13/6 arrive Port Victoria - Seychelles; 15/6 depart Port Victoria, 21/6, arrive Aden. (C. in C.E.I 1226Z/4 to S.N.O.R.S. etc.)

S.S. REVATI.

REVATI left Bombay 20/5 for Colombo not arrived. Reported from commercial source to have sunk in cyclonic storm near Calicut. Can you confirm. (S.O.(I) Colombo 1228Z/4 to Cdre. R.I.N.) Reply: 0620/5.

U.S.11.

(i) D. of S.T. 1354/29/5 and situation in M.E. both indicate strong possibility of transshipment of troops from the three large liners of U.S.11 into one carrying transports at Trincomalee. Under these conditions consider additional tugs there essential. None is available at Colombo. Re making tug SIR GUTHRIE RUSSELL available at Trincomalee between 10th and 16th July. (C. in C. E. I., 1426Z/4 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

Aircraft
Cargoes, Shatt-
el-Arab.

Air Ministry X358 dated 12/4 repeated to me indicates that plan for extensive organization at Basrah to assemble waiting aircraft monthly is being pursued. Plan was presumably conceived long before German aircraft were in bombing or mining range of Shatt-el-Arab Defence against such a formidable problem fosters my view that immediate consideration should be given to any alternative plan such as erection of aircraft at Karachi and/or Bahrein so that valuable cargoes should not be risked unnecessarily by coming up a bottle neck 80 miles long. (S.N.O. Persian Gulf, 1731Z/4 to C. in C. E. I.)

/D'ARTAGNAN.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.D'ARTAGNAN.Departure 4/6. Shanghai.
(Saigon 1005Z/4).America and West Indies.WINNIPEG
passengers.Your 1008/29. Detention of Naval Officers would not materially affect efficiency of French cruiser and would increase friction with French Naval authorities. They should, therefore, be permitted to proceed at first convenient opportunity.
(Head of M. 0001B/4 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad).U.S. Aircraft
Signals.Your 2036/28. Air Ministry are arranging early despatch of Syko Machines and R.A.F. Syko cards to U.S. Aircraft of Atlantic Fleet, Support Force, and also for additional machines and cards for R.C.A.F. This should provide a satisfactory means of communication with U.S. Aircraft.
(1st S.L., 0221B/4 to C.N.S., Canada).REVENGE
H.X. 128
S.C. 32.E.T.A. 0600P/6 ^{? approx:} approaches course 340° LACONIA in company. EMPIRE SUNBEAM, EMPIRE CALIBRE, THORSHAVET, ALHAMA from H.X.128, MARITA from -S.C.32, lost touch in fog about 24/5 consequently unaware of amended route and changed destinations if any.
(REVENGE, 0344Z/4 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).RODNEY.ARMUK.317/ 3/6. Your UKARM 376 timed 0045B/3, give approx. date of arrival as uncertainty is inconveniencing U.S. Authorities. 1723/3.
(B.A.R.M., 0604/4 to Admty).ERLANGEN
(German).My 0942R/20/5 not to Admiralty or R.A.S.A.D. Montevideo reports German ERLANGEN arrived Del Plata, 3/6.
(S.O.(I) Kingston, 0911R/4 to Admty etc).

/Operation.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. (contd).Operation of
Newfoundland
Force.

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 1441 31/5. Request confirmation that Cdre. Commanding Newfoundland Force will be responsible to me for operation of his escort forces in same manner as B.S. 3 is for N.A. Escort Force. The operational functions of both can be much decentralized and, in case of the N.A. Escort Force, guidance from C. in C. A.W.I. has seldom been required. In the case of Newfoundland Force it is realized considerable control will be exercised by A.C.W.A. but in view of Cmdre. Commanding being R.C.N. the question of responsibility requires clarification. An early reply is requested as I would like to discuss such matters when I meet R.C.N. authorities, in the near future. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1034Q/4 to Admty) Armaments confirmed see 2239/12.

CLEMENCE
D'ARTAGNAN
ERIDAN
(French).

Letter from Lieutenant Poggi D'ARTAGNAN Manila dated 17/5 states he E.T.L. Saigon in * CLEMENCE also ERIDAN has left for France with second captain of D'ARTAGNAN. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1119Q/4 to C.O.I.S. Singapore)
** not identified.*

Lettered,
Positions,
Atlantic.

Pass to N.C.S.O.'s
It may often be necessary to re-route ships anywhere in Atlantic ocean. Lettered positions on ocean routes are never to be more than 500 miles apart.
In addition lettered reference positions about 500 miles apart and not less than 200 miles off the route are to be given to all ships, these reference positions being on the side of ocean route away from nearest mainland. (D.T.D. 1404B/4 to C. in C. A.W.I., C. in C. S.A. etc).

B.H.X.131

Sailed -
(N.C.S.O. Bermuda, 1438Q/4 to Admty).

See also next page.

/LADY SOMERS.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. (contd).LADY SOMERS.

Intend to sail at 1400P/5 for Area A.1. (route) to arrive patrol a.m./10 LADY SOMERS is to keep W/T Watch in accordance with N.P.C.O. No. 2 when on home or North Atlantic Station and in accordance with A.F.O. 'S' 1/41 Section A.C. table 2, when on A.W.I. Station. (R.A. 3-1504P/4).

B.H.X.131

Reasons for delays.
(N.C.S.O., Bermuda 1525Q/4 to Admty).

*See previous page*ILLUSTRIOUS

Tentative date of completion is 15th November.
(B.A.R.M. Washington, 1527/4 to Admty).

CLAM
VANJA.

My 1001/3. Oiler CLAM now at Sydney C.B., with 9370 tons Admiralty cargo should be held and sent to St. Johns N.F., when VANJA proceeds to Halifax to reload, if required to supplement your requirements. (Dir. of Stores. 1606/4 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

H.X. and S.C.
Escorts.

To co-ordinate movements of important ships from U.K. to meet your escorts in Western Atlantic, requested you will signal forecast of escorts you anticipate sailing with next six H.X. and S.C. convoys. Desired to sail two A.M.C.'s and one liner, all carrying personnel for Halifax and Montreal, from U.K., as soon as possible after 10/6. If possible therefore requested that a battleship may be arranged to escort the most suitable convoy with which these ships could be ordered to R.V.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1619B/4 to R.A.3).

Dakar
Intelligence.

Following from Dakar dated 3/6. Graded AO. BRESTOIS and BANGKOK escorted by LA GAELLELOS * expected to leave p.m./3. MAURICE DELMAS and CAPITAINE SAINT MARTIN arrived. ALSINA which came with political refugees will return to Casablanca after staying here 4 months. Convoy of 6 ships escorted by 4 submarines and another Naval vessel expected to leave for Casablanca 3rd or 4/6. Another period of alarm exists in Dakar.
(N.A. Wahsington, 1830/4 to Admty).

** (sic) no trace.*

G.I.P.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. (contd).C.I.P.St. Thomas arrival today French Tanker C.I.P.
Requires 200 fuel oil and 2045 fuel oil as
cargo.

(S.O.(I) Kingston, 2059R/4 to Admty etc).

Belle Isle
Straits.Your 1914B/2 ships should be able to
navigate Belle Isle Straits by 23/6.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2131Z/4 to Admty).EMPIRE STORM. *

(Torpedoed 30/5).

Norwegian ship MARITA arriving St. John's N.F.
at 2200/4 reports she has 42 men from
EMPIRE STORM on board.

(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2350Z/4 to Admty).

* BR1337 gives date 29/5

Australia.PERTH,
repairs,
HOBART.Reference damage sustained by PERTH, Common-
wealth Govt. is sending cablegram to S. of S.
for Dominions which proposes refit takes place
in Australia subject to work being within
capabilities of Australian dockyards and
with this proviso offers to place HOBART at
your disposal in lieu. C. in C. Med., is
requested to advise A.C.N.B. Melbourne
regarding repairs. (A.C.N.B., 1217Z/4 to
Admty, C. in C. Med).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.SANGARA
(torpedoed 30/5.)

C. in C. S.A. 0100N/4 (See South Atlantic).

RINDA
(Torpedoed
31/5).*

Norwegian 6029 tons, from Haifa for Freetown and U.K., torpedoed and sunk in Freetown area on 31/5. No further details received. (D.S. 638, 4/6).

* BR 1337 give date 30/5

EXPORTADOR
PRIMEIRO.
(sunk 1/6)

Portuguese trawler bound for Lisbon (2 Corrupt Groups) sunk by gunfire by unknown Submarine (?137) miles S.W. Cape St. Vincent 1500/1. Two killed. (N.A. Lisbon, 0959/4 to Admty) See also 1729/5.

EIBERGEN
(torpedoed
3/6).Your 1942B/3. Have searched area (?120) square miles chiefly N.E. of position. No trace of (corrupt group) survivors. Am proceeding through (?48⁰) 50' N 029⁰ W. Visibility 5 miles improving. (SAGUENAY, 1000B/4 to C. in C. W.A.)SIRE
(torpedoed
31/5).

S.O.S. was received in Dutch S.S. ARUNDO from SIRE at about 0607 G.M.T./31 stating ship torpedoed. Position corrupt groups. (C. in C. S.A., 1228N/4 to Admty).

INVERSUIR
(torpedoed
2/6).Have embarked from Norwegian S.S. PARA 23 survivors of British tanker INVERSUIR torpedoed and shelled 2345Z/2 in 048⁰ 28' N 028⁰ 20' W. Captain 6 officers, 16 ratings. 23 missing. Last seen in two boats above position. Ship possibly derelict. (CORINTHIAN, 2100Z/4 to Admty).VULCAIN
(torpedoed
23/5).

Reported 32 survivors from S.S. VULCAIN arrived on French colonial territory recently. Vessel\$ torpedoed 160 miles N.W. from Freetown at 2200/23. Seven killed by the explosion. (C. in C. S.A. 2301N/4 to Admty).

War Diary.4.6.1941.
Wednesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.S/M's Reported.

2230. At 2230 G.M.T. German U Boat bearings 305°
3rd Class from Gibraltar.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0032A/4 to NELSON, CATHAY,
MARSDALE, WELLINGTON).
- 0131 German U-Boat bearing 310 degs. 559 from
Gibraltar at 0131 G.M.T.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0301A/4 to N.A. Stn).
- 2000/2. My 2340/3. After Malaga add "From Canary Is.
(S.O.(I) Gib 1142A/4).
1230. Admiralty message A.F. position 06.23N 03.24 E.
at 1230 /4.
(C.in C. S.A., 1230N/4 to G.B.M.S. 6).
- Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1508B/4).

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

MATABELE has been damaged by striking submerged object and is returning to Barrow in Furness at 8 knots. *Arrived - See p. 130 -*

Four ships fitted with fighter catapult aircraft are now operating in the Western Approaches.

British Air Operations.

Owing to bad weather, Bomber Command operations for last night were cancelled.

Enemy Air Operations.

H.M.T. NORTHERN SKY was attacked and slightly damaged at 0700 in 61° 17' N. 14° 12' W. She shot down the enemy plane.

Between 0110 and 0120 today enemy aircraft dropped 2 bombs near Parkestone Quay. Superficial damage was caused to 4 M/S Vessels. There were no casualties.

Bombs were dropped at Yarmouth early this morning. No damage is reported, though there is a U.X.B. adjacent to a factory engaged on Admiralty work.

/Balloon.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations. (contd).

LAVINIA.L.

Balloon Barrage Drifter LAVINIA^L was bombed and sunk in the Thames Estuary early this morning.

Coal hulk HIMALAYA was damaged when an enemy aircraft dropped 4 bombs in Portland harbour this evening.

Mining.

Operation
P.W.10.

3 M.T.B's from Harwich carried out a mining operation off the Belgian coast last night.

Mines were detonated off the Humber.

Thames
Estuary.

Further minelaying in the Thames Estuary was suspected last night. M/S Trawler SORANUS and M.M.S. 39 were damaged whilst sweeping, WILDFIRE'S diesel launch was sunk and M/S Trawler ASH was damaged.

North Atlantic.

Genoa.

Netherlands S/M O.24 is to leave Gibraltar on 7/6 to patrol in the Gulf of Genoa area from 11/6 to 20/6, and afterwards in the Gulf of Amfibon.

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

NEWCASTLE.

Arrived at Rio de Janeiro today wearing flag of R.A.S.A.D., on a 48 hour visit.

Vichy Ships,
Dakar.

LIPARI, for Madagascar, and CAP TOURANE and FRANCIS L.D. for Indo-China, are reported to have left Dakar on 30/5, all under escort.

Mediterranean.

Western
Desert.

C. in C. Med. reports that the maintenance of supplies to Tobruk is becoming increasingly -difficult. There is no change in the general situation.

5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi and Derna last night.

Alexandria
Raid

About 12 enemy aircraft bombed the docks area at Alexandria last night, causing civilian damage and casualties.

Crete.

A summary of the personnel evacuated and warships lost or damaged in the Crete evacuation is contained in C. in C. Mediterranean's 0127/5.

Enemy Ships
Torpedoed.

S.O.(I) Istanbul reports that the Italian STROMBO, which is there with a 15 ft. hole in her port side, was torpedoed by H.M. submarine 25 miles off Helles. He also reports (B.3) that the Roumanian CARMEN SYLVA was sunk while moving troops to Greece.

? CRETE.

/RORQUAL.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. (contd).

RORQUAL.

Has left Alexandria for Malta with a cargo of white oils.

Calabria,
UPRIGHT.

C. in C. Med. reports that UPRIGHT made a landing about 0200/28 4 miles S.W. of Punto Stilo light, Calabria, and blew up the railway line.

Syria.

The Admiralty today sent to C. in C. Med. a message referring to naval policy towards and action against Syria.

DIDO.

Cruiser, bombed on 29/5, will be repaired at Brooklyn Navy Yard, and is to be sailed via the Cape if seaworthy for ocean passage.

LEANDER.

Has arrived at Alexandria from East Indies to join the Mediterranean Fleet.

America and West Indies.

SHEHERAZADE.

Under pressure from the U.S. the French tanker SHEHERAZADE is to be allowed to go on to North Africa though her cargo of oil is to be reduced. The SHEHEREZADE escaped from New Orleans and was captured by DIOMEDE on 21/5 and taken to Bermuda.

not to proceed - see 6/6, p. 154

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Orkneys
Request
for
Rescue
Tug.

During the last four days there have been three air attacks on coastal convoys between Loch Eriboll and Duncansby Head. The only tug on the North Coast of Scotland and in the Orkneys and Shetlands suitable for rescue operations is BUCCANEER and she is fully employed meeting fleet requirements. Request therefore early consideration may be given to basing a rescue tug in the Orkneys. (A.C.O.S. 2002B/5).

Six A/S
Craft for
Freetown.

Six A/S trawlers or whalers selected from following are to be sailed for Freetown as soon as possible. As they become available they should be sailed in O.G. Convoys breaking off as necessary for coal at Fayal, Azores or oil at Punta Del Garda, Azores and thence to Freetown. On arrival at Freetown they will form the 55rd. Auxiliary A/S Group. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2208B/5).

Allocations
of A/S
Trawlers.

In view of urgent requirements from abroad for A/S trawlers some changes in allocations have become necessary. Further signals will be made. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2210B/5).

Movements.

LEGION

LEGION is to sail as soon as possible and steer to position 045° N. 027° W. Further orders follow. (C. in C.W.A. 0553B/5). Comply with C. in C.W.A. 0553B/5. You are to sail as soon as prisoners have been landed and are to proceed at 20 knots. (Capt. D. Greenock 0602/5 to LEGION). Proceed at 20 knots. (C. in C.W.A. 0822B/5 to LEGION). Sailed LEGION in accordance with C. in C.W.A. 0553/5th. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0930/5). Request you will instruct LEGION to R/V with MARSDALE and after embarking prisoners and documents return to U.K. with despatch. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1200B/5 to C. in C. W.A.) Your 1800B/5. Oil at Londonderry if necessary (C. in C. W.A. 2356B/5 to LEGION).

*Interception by MARSDALE, 4
Return to REID GEDANIA. 4.6.41
(Cb. 4057(28), p.26).
GEDANIA killed EMPIRE GARDEN
(Capt. Mackenzie TR, 23.11.48)*

/AURORA.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. (contd).

AURORA.
KENYA.

Arrived F.O.C. 2 C.S. in AURORA and KENYA.
(N.O.I.C. Iceland 0600/5).

ARGUS.

A.M. 1305B/29/5. Request arrangements be made for 4th flotilla to continue to operate under C. in C.W.A. for inward A/S escort of ARGUS and NEA HELLAS meeting about 11th June. (D.O.D(H) 1734B/5 to C. in C. Plymouth).

TARTAR.

When released by RODNEY return to Scapa with destroyers in company.
2. Carry out A/S sweep on passage.
(R.A.D. 1950B/5 to TARTAR).

U.S.A. Operations.

Recognition
Signals.

Admiralty 1838/6/5. U.S. recognition signals continue as follows during June.
(D.S.D. 1634B/5).

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

M/V's
attacked.
2 claimed
as Total
Loss.

Day 3rd June, night 3/4 June, and night 4/5 June, no operations took place owing to unfavourable weather conditions. Day 4 June. Two A/C each scored two direct hits on a 5,000 ton M/V thirty miles west of Vestbygd 58° 28' N. 5° 42' E. Vessel appeared to stop and is claimed as a total loss. Six Blenheims attacked a 6,000 ton merchant vessel and four smaller vessels in Boulogne Harbour. Results were generally unobserved. Six aircraft bombed The Mole at Zeebrugge and shipping alongside from 50 feet. Twelve bursts were observed on The Mole itself and one direct hit on a 5,000 ton merchant vessel alongside, which is claimed as a total loss. Two gun emplacements were machine gunned as well as the Mole. (H.Q.B.C. 1115/5).

Patrols.

Patrol ~~STAND~~^{"Stand"} in operation. P.R.U. R/C of Kristiansand South and Aalborg. (C. in C. Rosyth 1116/5).
~~FROST. STAB,~~ and R/C of Kirkenes now in operation. ~~STAB~~ ordered for 1800/5. (C. in C. Rosyth 1458/5).
A/S sweep by 5 Whitleys on parallel tracks 315° 15 miles apart from Butt of Lewis to a depth of 300 miles. Leave Butt of Lewis 1600/5. (C. in C. Rosyth 1445/5).
R/C of Narvik ordered to take off at 1900/5. (C. in C. Rosyth 1602/5).

PEGASUS.
MAPLIN.
ARIGUANI.
SPRINGBANK.

PEGASUS, SPRINGBANK, MAPLIN and ARIGUANI are now operating in the Western Approaches. They are fitted with fighter catapult aircraft which may be flown off and operate without restriction against enemy aircraft when these ships are at anchor on coastal routes or anywhere in the Western Approaches. (C. in C. W.A. 1205B/5).

/Night.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. (Contd).

Night
Fighters.
Use of
Flares.

A. 253 5/6 Reference O.D.T.I. Part one para twenty-one defining use of flares as a hostile -act. Night Fighters may use F.A.I flares without notice by night from now onwards in eleven group area extending later to other areas. These flares burn only for some two seconds but several may be used in rapid succession each giving very intense illumination. Request all defence and observers be warned of this development in night interception and that these intermittent flares of relatively short duration should not be mistaken for the normal parachute variety which remain hostile unless previously notified. Request that need for maintaining secrecy of this information be stressed to all recipients. (H.Q.F.C. 1700/5 to Air Ministry.).

Search
for BISMARCK.

Your 1747B/3. Aircraft were ordered by 15 Group not to use R/T in accordance with the existing policy for escorting main Fleet units. The subsequent cancellation of this order was not received by all aircraft. It is regretted that aircraft mentioned in my 1641B/28th May were not in fact keeping R/T Watch on 2,410 kcs but on VH/F R/T. (C. in C. W.A. 1806/B/5 to C. in C. H.F).

W.A.
Proposed
Procedure
not approved.

A.964 5/6. Reference Fighter Command Signal 2A221 4/6. Procedure which C. in C.W.A. intends to adopt is contrary to I.S.R.C. Rules and is considered prejudicial to safety of other commands aircraft. Regret therefore Air Ministry unable to approve its adoption at present juncture. (Air Ministry 1900/5 to Adty.)

/Norwegian.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. (Contd.)

Norwegian
Ship
aground.

Reference Norwegian ship reported aground off Cap de la Hague. As all 19 group aircraft are grounded due to weather request attack may be arranged elsewhere. (C. in C. Plymouth 1933/5 to Adty.).
Your 1933/5. No 2 Group Bomber Command have already been given this target.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 2232B/5 to C. in C. Plymouth).

Enemy Air Activity;

NORTHERN
SKY.

Was attacked by HE 111 in 061° 17' N. 014° 12' W. at 0700. Slight damage to retarder. No casualties. Shot plane down. No survivors. (NORTHERN SKY 0751B/5).

Yarmouth.

Unexploded bomb fallen 0430 adjacent Messrs. Johnson's factory engaged on Admiralty work. Temporarily evacuated. No naval damage or casualty. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0930B/5).

Harwich
bombed.

Between 0110 and 0120 this morning enemy A/C dropped two bombs separately near Parkstone Quay. Superficial damage to four M/S Vessels. No casualties or other naval damage. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1000B/5).

BRITISH
FORTUNE.

At 0045/5 2 E/A plotted off Duncansby Head. BRITISH FORTUNE apparently straggler from convoy E.C. 28 reported being attacked with bombs but no damage was sustained. (A.C.O.S. 1145/5).

/LAVINIA.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. (contd).

LAVINIA L.

(Balloon Barrage Drifter) Sunk by enemy action early this morning as a result of near miss by bomb. Two casualties - not critical. (Commodore, Sheerness 1648/5).

Convoy
W.N. Even.

One enemy A/C shadowing convoy ~~HEBRID~~ "Metvic".
Position 57° 40' N. 1° 41' W. (ALYNBANK 1733/5).

Portland
bombed.

At 2120 Junkers 88 flew low over Harbour machine gunning and dropped 4 bombs in Harbour hitting coal hulk HIMALAYA belonging to Channel Coaling Co. Hulk holed. No naval damage or casualty. Shore and ships guns opened fire. (F.O.I.C. Portland 2253B/5).

Mining.

Liverpool.

At 1055/4 one Ground Mine exploded by SA. Trawler. Probably laid 31/5. Details. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0917/5).

Operation QJ.

The following minesweeping exercise will be carried out shortly. (Short title operation QJ) Details. (C. in C. Nore 1136B/5).

/Thames.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. (contd).

Thames
Estuary.
M.M.S. 39
damaged.
Launch } ?
sunk.

Two mines detonated at 0046/5 and 0207/5 by S.A. Gear as follows. Details. The first mine put W/T installation out of action and caused considerable under water damage to SORANUS which only carried on with difficulty and eventually had to abandon sweep. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1220/5).

R.D.F. Plots from EAGLES^{ships} both suggest possible minelaying in Area Edinburgh Channel Knob, and Barrow Deep on Night 4/5. Reports from balloon drifters on sites 21 and 26 suggest possible minelaying in area north of the Yanlet south buoy. (S.O. T.L.D.F. Sheerness 1648/5).

WILDFIRE's
Launch.

At 1126 today WILDFIRE's Diesel Launch No. 39445 proceeding to Queenborough Pier from Sheerness Dockyard exploded a mine, was disintegrated, and sank about 250 yards. S. W. of Y.8. Mooring Buoy, off Queenborough Spit. No survivors. Bodies of the crew of four were recovered. (C. in C. Nore 1647/5).

On 4/6 Twenty mines detonated by S.A. Gear as follows. Four following detonations also occurred. M.M.S. 39 damaged by Mine at 1116/5 and returned to Base. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1830/5).

OCTANE.
(Mined 24/5).

Dry docked 1530/5. (Salvage Officer, Falmouth 1605/5.).

Humber.

On 2/6 two mines swept in area X on N.W. corner of Q.Z. 851. (F.O. Humber 1632B/5). The following two mines detonated to-day. -Details. (F.O. Humber 2150B/5 and 2303B/5).

ASH.

(M/S Trawler) Mined half mile S.W. Knock John Buoy making water slowly. MAMMOUTH standing by. Hopes to tow to Sheerness. Request additional sweeper from Dover. (FERNIE 1832/5).
Send tug forthwith to assist MAMMOUTH towing ASH. (C. in C. Nore 2021B/5 to N.O.I.C Sheerness).

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

STORA.
(Blew up 1/6).
Suspected
sabotage.

My 2152/1. Board of Enquiry after uncompleted investigation finds that loss of STORA was caused by explosion (?) demolition of depth charge stowed in Asdic Compartment and that sabotage is suspected. Further investigation by C.I.D. is proceeding. Crew remaining Aberdeen temporarily. (N.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1227/5).

TIRPITZ.

TIRPITZ observed carrying out gunnery exercises June 3rd North Rügen accompanied by one Emden cruiser and five small craft. Graded B.2. (N.A. Stockholm 1751/5).

FINKENAU.

(German, 916 Tons) Now reported sunk last year but all crew saved. Not heard of since reported at Tallin on 11/1/40. (D.S. 639).

Murmansk
Shipping.

Learn from press that full navigation now opening Archangel-Murmansk, also first vessel this year now arrived at Murmansk from Spitzbergen. (N.A. Stockholm 1759/5).

Casualties and Defects.

MATABELE.

Have struck submerged object and following damage is evident. Maximum speed 8 knots. Returning to Barrow in Furness. E.T.A. 2000/5. (MATABELE 0549B/5). Your 0549B/5. Is submerged object still dangerous to navigation. If so give details. (C. in C.W.A. 1014B/5 to MATABELE). Arrival MATABELE. (N.O.I.C. Barrow 1825B/5).

/TORBAY.....

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War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects. (contd).

TORBAY
BELLE.
(Motor
Boat).

Delayed by engine defects. (N.O.I.C. Isle of Man 0828/5).

DORSETSHIRE.

Admiralty 1600B/1. Provisional date of completion 15/7/41. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1807/5).

Shipping and Convoys.

E.C. 29.
F.N. 75.

To compete with mining situation in Humber it is important that E.C. 29 and F.N. 75 pass Outer Dowsing on time table. Any variation is to be reported to N.O.I.C. Humber as soon as known. (C. in C. Nore 1127B/5).

Convoy.

Proceed with all despatch to overtake and stop Oban portion. Inform HEBE to proceed in execution of C. in C.W.A. 1041B when relieved by you. (S.O. Escort Group 12 1204B/5 to TULIP).

Orders for
OTTAWA,
RESTIGOUCHE,
RICHMOND,
RAMSEY.

To proceed to St. John's N.F. Remain with convoy till limit of endurance and be detached in company or independently at your discretion and are to search for survivors of torpedoed EIBERGEN and MICHAEL E (details of positions and dates) Destroyer to report P.C. and S. and E.T.A. St. John N.B. when well clear of convoy. (C. in C.W.A. 1446B/5 to Capt. (D) 4).

H.X. 127.
ATHELQUEEN.

My 1757B/24 and your 2257B/26. ATHELQUEEN arrived Liverpool and Commodore states change of destination was not passed to him. Request matter may be investigated. (D.T.D. 1912B/5 to C. in C.W.A).

/WALLFLOWER.....

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War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. (contd).

WALLFLOWER.

Altacarry Head Light 126° 10 miles. No sign of Convoy. Intend returning to base. Carrying out Minesweeping exercises tomorrow. (WALLFLOWER 1930B/5.).

W.A.
Escort
Forces.

Request your remarks and proposals as in C. in C.W.A. 1245/1. C. in C. W.A. 1301/30/5 quoted conveys details of the reorganisation of the W.A. escort forces in accordance with the proposals in C. in C.W.A. 2241/26/5. (D.O.D./H. 2026B/5 to F.O.I.C. Iceland).

Route
Signals
and
Telegrams.

Pass to N.C.S.O.'s. To facilitate rerouteing of ships at sea, in future the number of days for which ships are bunkered is to be reported in the route signal in brackets after the speed of the ship. N.C.S.O.'s when routeing ships between ports in the West Indies including Trinidad, South America and the Cape, are to include in the VESCA telegram the Masters estimate of quantity of bunkers required at next port of call. (D.T.D. 2136B/5).

C.W. 37.

Now anchored in fog off North Foreland, has been ordered to return to Southend as soon as visibility permits. (C. in C. Nore 2333B/5).

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Raiders.

My 1745B/28/5. No raider activity reported during past week. EUGEN in Brest 4/6. (D.D.I. C. 1005B/5 to C. in C.H.F. etc.).

North Atlantic.

VICTORIOUS.

Your 1702A/4. 39 feet. (D.N.A.D. 1050B/5 to F.O.C.N.A.).

O.24
Genoa
Patrol.

Your 1507C/3. Intend to sail Netherlands Sub. O.24 for patrol at 2100A/7. (route) to patrol Gulf of Genoa Area. Estimated O.24 will arrive on patrol 11th and leave this area on 20th. Intend O.24 then to carry out 48 hours patrol in Gulf of Lyons to attack enemy ships trading with Spain and return Gibraltar 27th. (F.O.C.N.A. 1410A/5 to C. in C. Med.).

Portuguese
Trawler
Sunk.

My 0959/4 to BEDROCK and PROXIMO? Can I confirm to Portuguese Authorities and Press that no British submarine in vicinity? (N.A. Lisbon 1759/5 to F.O.I.C. Gib.)
Reply: Confirmed no British S/Ms in vicinity. (R.A. Gib., 1726/6).

Suspicious
Vessels.

N.A. Madrid 1127/4th. Description tallies, but boats definitely sighted May 29th. (S.O.I) Gibraltar 1848/5).

SEVERN.

Estimated position 2000B/5. 039° 50' N. 15° 45' W. through 036° 25' N. 010° W. to Gibraltar 13 knots. (F.O.C.N.A. 1912A/5).

REGENT.

Your 1507/3. Intend to sail REGENT for Malta at 2030A/7 (route). (F.O.C.N.A. 2110A/5 to C. in C. Med.).

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

Dummy "R"
Report.

Following has been read:- Armed Raider. 014. 42 S. 003. 31 E. MATIANA suspicious warship. (Simonstown 0558Z/5) Cancel my 0558 De ZSC. (Simonstown 0720/5). W.R. Note:- These are dummies vide C. in C. S.A. 2121N/4.

MAURITIUS.

Simonstown departure 0928/5 MAURITIUS for Durban. Speed of advance 20 knots. E.T.A. 0600B/7. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0937Z/5 to Admty. etc.)

CUMBERLAND.
S.L. 77.

Your 1308B/17 May. CUMBERLAND arrived Freetown 5/6. Propose she shall proceed to Bathurst pick up 27 Officers 110 ranks for U.K. landed from LONDON then join and escort S.L. 77 sailing 7/6 to U.K. (C. in C. S.A. 1155N/5).

NEWCASTLE.

Wearing flag of Rear Adm. S.A.D. arrived Rio de Janeiro 1230Z/5 and expected to leave on patrol 1230Z/7. (R.A.S.A.D. 1235Z/5 to Admty., C. in C.S.A).

LIPARI.
CAP TOURANE
FRANCIS L.D.
FRANCOIS L.D.

Following French Merchant Ships reported sailed from Dakar 30/5. LIPARI under escort for Madagascar, CAP TOURANE and FRANCIS L.D. for Indo China under escort. (D.D.I.C. 1327B/5 to C. in C.S.A., C. in C.EI)

ANSON.
CHRISTIAAN
HUYGENS.

Due to failure of steering gear ANSON collided with CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS when leaving Freetown today. Damage to ANSON not extensive and she will be ready to sail 6/6. Damage to bow CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS will require 10 to 14 days to repair and ship will not be able to sail in W.S.8B. Ship should be able to join W.S.9. (C. in C.S.A. 1327N/5).

/MIGNONETTE.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. (contd).

MIGNONETTE.

May call at Ponta Delgada for fuel about 12th June estimated will require about 150 tons fuel. (D.O.D.F. 1659B/5 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).

Whale catchers

SEKERN

IMHOFF

TREERN

GRIBS.

Arrives here 0740/5. (N.O.I.C. Port Elizabeth 2044/5).

Minesweeping
At Lagos.

My 1945/4th and Admiralty's 1202/5th. No magnetic minesweepers at Takoradi Lagos or Accra. DRAGON leaves Freetown 6/6 for these places with magnetic spar sweeps made locally at Freetown and to organise operations but this will take some days. Is probability of magnetic mines being laid sufficient to justify closing of port over considerable period involved with special reference to visit of BERGENSFJORD to Lagos. Request increase in minesweeping (?gear) asked for in my letter 577/07 of 6/5 be provided. (C. in C.S.A. 2047N/5).

Enemy
Unit.

D/F bearings indicate enemy unit within 150 miles of 004° 30' N. 012° W. at 2101Z/4. (C. in C. S.A. 2257N/5).

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Situation
Report 46.

ILEX and HOTSPUR have joined GLENGYLE at Port Said. LEANDER has arrived here to join the Fleet.

2. Cyprus. M.T.B. 215 Intercepted an auxiliary Schooner purporting to be Turkish IKI KARDESHLAR in position 035° 56' N. 032° 52' E. at 0015/3, ship was set on fire and resulting very heavy explosion corroborates other evidence that the ship was carrying petrol and had false papers.

3. Alexandria. Air raid on harbour and town 2130 to 2230/4 by about 12 aircraft. Little damage so far reported.

4. Malta Blenheim activities, see H.Q.R.A.F. Malta. 1855/3. (C. in C. Med., 0031C/5 to Admty.)

Crete
Evacuation.

Summary of personnel, warship losses and damage, etc. (C. in C. Med., 0127C/5)
See Lion and Tiger copies.

Syria.

Your 1135C/3. Your (a). Approved that Naval Forces should be held in readiness though not necessarily unobtrusively. Any subsequent action must depend on developments and be concerted with other Cs. in C. Your (b) No action should be taken against French warships unless they attempt to interfere with our operations.

Your (c). Approved. (1st S.L., 0129B/5 to C. in C. Med.).

Oil
Supplies.

Admty. 1953B/30/5/41 to N.C.S.O. Port Said. Oiler TURBO is being employed in accordance with my 2101/27/5 not to N.C.S.O. Port Said. This arrangement was made to enable 12000 tons of Haifa refined fuel to be available for the Fleet, replacement being made from commercial stocks at Port Said to meet internal commercial requirements at Haifa. (C. in C. Med. 1001C/5 to Admty.)

/Air.....

SECRET

M E S S A G E

0127C/5 June
IN

(36A)

From C.in C. Mediterranean.

Date 6.6.41.

Recd. 0135.

NAVAL CYPHER X by cable Correction recd.
2125/7.

Addressed Admiralty.

Summary of Cretan Evacuation.

Date	Ships	Place	Numbers disembarked.
(A) 22/23	Two destroyers	Sphakia	<u>40</u> Including King and British Minister.
(B) 24/25	ABDIEL	Suda	64
(C) 25/26	Three destroyers	Suda	48
(D) 26/27	ABDIEL and 2 destroyers	Suda	930
(E) 28/29	ORION, DIDO, 4 destroyers	Heraklion	3473
(F) 28/29	4 destroyers	Sphakia	<u>750</u>
(G) 29/30	GLINGYLE, PERTH, PHOEBE, and three destroyers	Sphakia	5981
(H) 30/31	4 destroyers (2 turned back)	Sphakia	1522
(I) 31/1	PHOEBE, ABDIEL, and 3 destroyers	Sphakia	<u>3634</u>
(J) 31/1	Flying Boats		140

2. Total disembarked 16,592. 5320 were British Army 3793 New Zealand 2921 Australian 221 Greeks 454 Cypriots 195 Palestinian 469 R.N. 509 Royal Marines, 329 R.A.F. 186 various and 2045 wounded note evacuation was not ordered till 26th.

3. Casualties not (repeat) not included in above were about 250 lost in HERWARD and an unknown number estimated over 250 killed in ORION and DIDO. Naval Casualties about 550 killed and missing.

4. Damage to ships (A) (B) (C) and (D) Nil (E) AJAX damaged by near miss now repaired did not embark troops ORION 2 hits extensive damage A and B turrets out of action. DIDO one hit severe damage B Turret out of action. HERWARD lost. IMPERIAL sunk by own forces after near miss. DECOY near miss repairable Alexandria. (F) Nil (G) PERTH hit reduced to 25 knots repairable Alexandria. (H) KELVIN, KANDHAR, returned before embarkation KELVIN near miss extensive damage. NAPIER and NIZAM near miss. Repairable Alexandria. (I) No damage. CALCUTTA sunk while proceeding to assistance of (I) 5. Fighter Protection. (A) (B) (C) and (D) Nil. Remainder patrols of two to four. Patrols failed to make contact with (E) (F) and (G) until about 1100.

(I) was covered throughout and all attacks driven off. Total results 12 shot down 24 damaged 35 made to jettison bombs.

6. A.A. Fire impossible to estimate due to intensity and persistence of attacks with consequent lack of records.

/7. It.....

7. It will be noted that the figures are those for numbers disembarked (Repeat) disembarked and they do not therefore allow for casualties on passage. The figures disembarked are provisional and taken from military sources. They are in fact considered to be underestimated.

0127G/5.

Advance copy to P.O. N., 1st S.L.
A.C.H.S. (F) Ops. O.D. O.I.C. D.P.D.

Note Numbers against B and C are confirmed

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
3rd S.L.
Vice Controller.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.H.S.
A.C.H.S. (H).
A.C.H.S. (F).
A.C.H.S. (T) - (2).
Sec.
Nav. Sec.
M.A. 1st S.L.
P.A.S. (S).
Ops. (4).
O.D. (5).
D.N.I. (4).
D. of L. (3).
O.I.C. (3).
D.S.D. 9.
M. (30).
D.P.D.
D.T.S.D.
D.A/S.V.
A.G.R.M.
Movts.
D.P.S.
D.N.A.D.
D. of L.D. (2).
D.C.O.
D.D.T.S.D. (C.O.).
E.P.S.
W.D.
I.P. (3).

CONFIDENTIAL

MESSAGE

1020/7 June

136 (C)

lion

From:- C. in C. Mediterranean.

Date 10/6/42

IN

Recd. 0820.

NAVAL CODE X BY W/T.

Addressed Admiralty.

Your 1855B/6 confirmed numbers disembarked under (A) 40(B) 64 (C) 40 (F) 750. 3634.

1020/7

✓ Sent by War Registry requesting repetition of above items of 01270/5 (Summary of (retax. Evacuation)

1st Lord

1st S.L.

2nd S.L.

3rd S.L.

Vice Controller

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)(2)

Secretary

Nav. Secretary

N.A.1st S.L.

P.A.S.(5)

Ops (4)

O.D.(5)

D.N.I.(4)

D. of P.(3)

O.I.C.(3)

D.S.D.9.

M(30)

D.P.D.

D.T.S.D.

D. of S.W.

A.G.R.M.

Movts.

D.P.S.

D.N.A.D.

D. of L.D.(2)

D.A.

D.C.O.

D.D.T.S.D.(C.O)

E.P.S.

W.D.

I.P.(3)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.5.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).Air
Operations.Operational Summary No. 360 up to 1200 hours
5.6.41.

1. Western Desert 3/6. 3 Hurricanes on standing patrol over petrol ship near Tobruk intercepted 6 Me. 109's and severely damaged 1. Night 3/4 June 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi, badly damaging base on central Mole and starting fires at base of Cathedral Mole. R/C of Benghazi revealed 1 large 4 medium 4 small ships and 16 small craft in harbour.
2. Dodecanese. Night 3/4 June. 5 Wellingtons bombed Maritza Aerodrome Rhodes.
3. Crete. 1 Sunderland on 30/5 and 2 Sunderlands on 1/6 evacuated total of 5 R.A.F. Officers 7 airmen 49 other Officer 16 other ranks 7 Greeks from Sphakia to Alexandria total 84.
4. Syria 4/6. 4 Blenheims operating from Palestine bombed shell petrol storage tanks Beirut obtaining hits on 2 tanks. (H.Q.R.A.F. Middle East 1037/5).

Turkey.

Views of General Staff, interview of Adm. Kelly with Gen. Asim Gunduz. (N.A. Angora, 1133/5 to C. in C. Med.). See Lion Copy.

RAMB IV.

Your 1945C/31. Present intention is that RAMB IV is to be detained for limited period only with minimum of six months. In view of this and considerable expense involved to make her suitable for hospital ship service, request immediate report whether ship is suitable in present condition for service as hospital ship or carrier for short voyages. (D. of S.T. 1137B/5 to P.S.T.O Egypt). Reply: 1839C/6.

/Italian.....

MOST SECRET

137(A)

MOST SECRET. MESSAGE 1133/5th June IN

From: N.A. Angora.

Date 6.6.41

Recd. 0720

I.D. (V) 14 by cable.

Addressed: C. in C. Mediterranean, repeated Admiralty,
H.M. Ambassador Angora (? 12)

AIDAC.

Following from Admiral Kelly.

Secret. June 4th. Saw General Asim Gunduz. General Staff views as follows:-
Movement of German and Roumanian troops through Roumania and elsewhere towards Russia has started and operations expected to commence by June 15th. Attack possibly along whole frontier, Germans aided certainly by Finns and possibly by Baltic States; but Russia probably (? will) give way without fighting. After occupation of Ukraine, province of Caucasus future objective with Iraq and Iran to follow.

2. If Russia is attacked Turkey will remain strictly neutral according to agreement.

3. Turks also anticipate attack by air and sea on Tobruk in near future.

4. Discussing aviation spirit now crossing Turkey for (? group omitted) General says only way to stop it is by occupying Syria instead of waiting until Germans are established there before we try to. If we had moved troops to Iraq when Turks first asked us to there would have been no incident there.

5. It is absolutely essential for our communications and for existence of our Empire that we should hold solidly and in force the whole of south east corner of the Mediterranean from Turkish frontier to Cyrenaica including Cyprus and every (? group omitted) to this end is justified.

1133/5.

Advance copy Duty Captain, D.O.D.(F) D.D.I.C.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
5th S. L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.M.A.D.
D.O.D.(F)
D.D.O.D.(F)
Duty Captain
D.N.I.(4)
D.D.I.C.
D. of P.(2)
Head of M.
I.P.
W.D.
E.P.S.

War Diary.5.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd).Italian
Tankers
for
Constanzia.

My 1010/4. First two tankers named passed to Black Sea after anchoring in Istanbul for six hours yesterday p.m. STROMBO still here with 15 foot hole in port side below and above water line forward of bridge apparently from (? torpedo). (S.O.I Istanbul 1222/5).

(a) Further to my 1222/5, A.2 report STROMBO torpedoed by H.M. Submarine southeast Cape Matapan. (b) Report B.3 Roumanian CARMEN SYLVA sunk while moving troops to Crete. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1453/5).
Cancel my 1453/5 para. (a) 1600. Correct report; tanker torpedoed 25 miles off Helles when in company with two others escorted by at least three destroyers. Hit tanks three and four and much damage throughout, bunker tanks rivets started. Six wounded aboard. Unseaworthy, proceeds Constantza. Thirty plates needed repair unavailable here, cost of refit Turkey £100,000 probably two months. Report A.2, Turkish ZESQUE sunk by Italian (? submarine) between Smyrna Mersin. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1830/5).

Alexandria
Raid, 4/6.

Air raid 2100 to 2230. About 9 planes with big bombs 4 of which caused much damage native houses and probably 150 dead. Arabs of district mastered a concentration of incendiaries very quickly. (N.O;I.C. Alexandria 1310/5, to C. in C. Med.).

3 Cruisers
sighted on
3/6.

My 1110B/3. UNIQUE sighted 3 cruisers at 1650B-3 35° 22' 12° 45' Course 180° 25 knots. (Commander S.1. 1405B/5 to URGE).

Italian
Ships.

Istanbul arr. 4/6 from Fiume ANNARELLA, DORA C, and STROMBO from Constantza Roumanian CAMPINA. Departure ANNARELLA DORA C, Constantza 5/6 CAMPINA Salonica 5/6. (Bayoglu 1530C/5).

/Malta.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (contd).

Malta.
Air Report.
ROMAN EYM
unusable.

Malta C.S.R. up to 1600 hrs. 5/6 all times G.M.T. Enemy air activity. Night 4/5 nil. Day 5th 1 alarm possibly movement Sicily. Reccos. First Maryland Recco Southern part East Tunisian Coast no shipping sighted. 2nd and 3rd Marylands Recco Ionian sea to Greek Coast and 4th Maryland afternoon recco Southern part East Tunisian Coast not yet due back. Further to my "I" 344 30/5 Florida ROMAN EYM now reported badly burnt out and unusable. Cargo of wood and munitions and tanks carried in sections completely destroyed. (H.Q.R.A.F. Malta 1650/5).

DIDO.

Your 1532C/30. DIDO will be taken in hand at Brooklyn Navy Yard and should be sailed via Cape if seaworthy for ocean passage. (A.C.N.S.F. 1826B/5 to C. in C. Med.).

Malta.

Defence in view of loss of Crete. Recommendations. (Governor, Malta, 1905/5 (G.M. 16656) to W.O., Admty, and Air Min.) See Lion Copy.

Greek
Naval
Units
Proposed
employment.

Your 2358C/2.
Greek Minister visited Admiralty yesterday to discuss future employment of Greek Naval Units. He was told. (a) It was not convenient for these ships to refit in India: (b) We hoped that the 6 destroyers, after refitting in Africa, would be allowed to proceed to Freetown and assist with convoy escorts in the Atlantic. AVEROFF and the repair ship also to proceed to Freetown, the latter to act as destroyer depot ship to the Greek destroyers: (c) The one submarine, after refitting, to operate from Gibraltar and escort convoys.
2. Request you will discuss this aspect with Admiral Sakellariou and if he agrees tell him that the question of where the ships will refit will be taken up at once.
3. What is your intention as regards the 3 torpedo boats, four submarines and one accommodation ship now at Alexandria?
(1st S.L. 1943B/5 to C. in C. Med.)

/A/C in...

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET M E S S A G E 1905/5th June IN

From Governor and C. in C. Malta. Date 6.6.41.

Recd 0840.

Cipher

Addressed War Office, Admiralty, Air Ministry, repeated C. in C. Mediterranean, C. in C. Middle East, A.O. C. in C. Middle East.

IMMEDIATE.

18181

G.M. 16656 Cipher 5/6.

First Part. For C.I.G.S.

Reference my GM 13204 of 8th October 1940 and GM 14638 of 5th February 1941. The recent operations in Crete and elsewhere have again changed the defence situation of Malta. When my original appreciation was made it was considered certain that the fleet would intervene at Malta within a few days. It seems possible now that Malta might have to stand the full weight of a German Airborne attack probably supported by a subsidiary seaborne attack for a much longer period. Previously the loss of local air superiority has been reluctantly accepted but the seriousness of such a situation has now been brought home to us, though Malta is in a much better position to stand up to it than was Crete. These changes make a review of the situation and of previous conclusions very necessary and the following considerations emerge.

1. Malta is more than ever important for the defence of Egypt, which seems to be the enemy's objective, since it is the only base from which the enemy's communications with Libya can be, and are being effectively attacked. It is also the only quick means of reinforcing the Middle East by air. Its neutralisation may therefore become vital to the enemy and we must be prepared for him to attempt it.

2. Until recently it looked as if our naval control in the Mediterranean would increase and a seaborne attack was unlikely (see final sentence of my GM.16367 of 19th May to C.I.G.S.). Consequently certain readjustments by withdrawing troops from less likely beaches were made in order to meet airborne attack. Now, however, heavy airborne attack will probably be supported from the sea and the rapid intervention of our fleet cannot be counted upon. Therefore, beach defences, as well as defence against air landings, must be ensured.

3. I feel the outstanding lessons for Malta to learn from Crete are:-

(a) The.....

- (a) The necessity of maintaining fighter aircraft in operation.
- (b) The necessity of dealing with parachutists instantly before they can establish centres of resistance and others arrive.
- (c) The necessity of preventing any aerodrome or landing ground falling into enemy hands.
- (d) The necessity to be certain of repelling seaborne attack which will probably synchronise with airborne attack.

4.(A) To maintain fighter aircraft we must start with adequate number and sufficient reserves on the spot to replace casualties.

(B) To deal with parachutists instantly entails an unwelcome dispersion of force and a large number of troops must be disposed primarily for this purpose. There must also be reserves with which to strike quickly.

(C) The defence of aerodromes also requires many men and weapons. These will be subjected to heavy attacks from the air and casualties will undoubtedly be suffered. Artillery sited specially to bring fire on to these aerodromes is essential.

(D) Beach defences. The beach defences will be subjected to heavy sea and air bombardment and must have adequate depth and sufficient local reserves to deal quickly with any penetration. Artillery is also necessary to support them. The struggle will be protracted and our reserves must be adequate for a very persistent effort on the part of the enemy.

Second Part.

5. These considerations point to the fact that the infantry Garrison I said was necessary last October, i.e. ten BNS is not only not excessive now but actually less than is needed. Counting in K.O.M.R. (the other two K.O.M.R. BNS are only forming) I have now nine BNS. I consider that two more are really needed if we are likely to be subjected to really determined attack. More artillery is also required as what we have is inadequate to defend the aerodromes and the beaches simultaneously. In view of the scale of attack on Malta now envisaged I can spare nothing, even if reinforced as above, for Gozo which is completely undefended, in spite of the serious military and civil disadvantages to Malta if this island should fall into enemy hands.

6. The A.A. defences though considerable, are not yet complete and the weapons we have are gravely under manned so that existing personnel would be hard put to maintain a

sustained.....

MOST SECRET

139 (12)

- 3 -

sustained effort over a long period and there is no margin for casualties. A.A. ammunition also required to complete reserves. There are many gunners (approx. 1,000) waiting in Egypt to come here and also other badly needed reinforcements both Army and R.A.F. The total is 2,577 all ranks. These must be got here somehow. -If C. in C. Mediterranean cannot send these personnel by warship at an early date I earnestly request that special efforts should be made to bring them here by air. This would also provide a method of removing from the fortress some of the families and 'Bouches Inutiles'.

7. In order to minimise air attack of Malta enemy bases must be attacked in Sicily. It is not advisable to keep large forces of bombers here indefinitely but as soon as concentrations are noticed in Sicily these must be violently attacked by aircraft. A fighter squadron should be earmarked to proceed here via Gibraltar at very short notice.

8. In addition to ensuring the defeat of an initial attack it seems to be most necessary that preparations should be made in advance for the quick reinforcement of the fortress before the enemy could re-attack it after his initial effort had failed. It would be necessary to have at least a squadron of fighters ready to be brought here immediately we could receive them. With the prevailing winds it would be essential for these aircraft to be held in reserve at Gibraltar. In addition it is clear that certain specialised stores and supplies would be required here with the least possible delay after the initial attack had been frustrated. It is recommended that plans should be drawn up which would ensure vital supplies being readily available at Alexandria for quick shipment to Malta at the same time as the fleet was able to intervene. If this view is accepted detailed proposals can be made.

9. To sum up. The following are needed at once by the three services for the defence of Malta.

(A) (i) Total of three squadrons of fighters, i.e. one more than at present contemplated be maintained to strength with reserves on the spot.

(ii) Army and R.A.F. personnel now in Egypt, see para 6.

(iii) Certain small stores which can come by submarine or air.

(B) Additional requirements, though I realise commitments elsewhere and difficulties of sending them may not make their despatch possible.

(i) Two INF. BNS. with carriers and motor cycles and bicycles for all other personnel, but without M.T.

(ii) Additional ...

139^D

- 4 -

(ii) Additional field or anti tank guns up to thirty with manning personnel. Egypt has been asked to provide Italian field guns.

10. So much for defence against attack. It is also essential that Malta does not fall through lack of supplies. With the exception of aviation spirit and fodder. Generally speaking our supplies with great care can last till beginning of 1942. My following telegram COSUP 890 deals with this problem in more detail. Heads of all services here agree with my recommendations.

Troopers please pass copy to Admiralty and Air Ministry.

1905/5.

Received from War Office 2156/13.

1st Lord
1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of P. (2)
Duty Captain
E.P.S.
Hd. of M.
I.P. (2)
W.D.
N.I.D.10. Pay. Cdr. Wilson.

~~766~~

jf

MOST SECRET.War Diary.5.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (Contd.).A/C in
Middle
East.

Your 0026C/2. So far as we know, following forces specialised in Naval R/C are now in Middle East. Details. (1st S.L. 1954B/5). See Mediterranean Volume.

Situation
report No. 47.

LEANDER has arrived Alexandria. COVENTRY, ISIS, HERO have sailed to join D2 and GLENGYLE at Port Said. RORQUAL has left Alexandria for Malta with cargo of white oils -2. Western Desert. Maintenance of supplies to Tobruk is becoming increasingly difficult and petrol stock was down to 8 days. PASS OF BALMANA with further 10 days supply has now arrived safely and sailed with escort. VOYAGER, VENDETTA arrive Tobruk tonight 5/6 with stores. No change in general situation. 3. Submarines. UPRIGHT carried out landing 0200/28 approx. 4 miles South West of Punto Stilo Light Calabria and blew up railway line. (C. in C. Med. 2245/5).

CAMPINA.

4/6 Roumanian Ship CAMPINA passed Istanbul noon Turkey time for Aegean Sea. Destination believed to be Salonika. (Capt. S.1 2355C/5 to PARTHIAN, TORBAY).

War Diary.5.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.SAVORGNAN
DE BRAZZA.
(Free French).

Admty. 1604B/18/5. Proposal re future employment. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0041B/5 to C. in C E.I., C. in C. Med.) See Operations Volume. (Reply from C. in C. E.I., 0506Z/8).

S.S. REVATI
wrecked.

Your 1228/4. Comdre. R.I.N. Following was received on 31/5 from Reporting Officer Calicut S.S. REVATI 232 tons ashore 12 miles South of Ponani. Master dead Second Officer and Deck Serang missing. 21 survivors, no danger to navigation. R.O. Calicut has been asked to state chance of salvage. (S.O.I. Bombay, 0620/5, to S.O.I. Colombo). Your 1228/4. Following from Port Officer, Calicut, received 5th, refers. (Begins) Only ship is REVATI 230 tons wrecked 4 miles North Chowghat 12 miles South Ponani, no information of any other casualties or wreckage (ends). For full report of casualties refer to Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Dept. Madras. (N.O.I.C. Cochin, 1651Z/5 to S.O.(I) Colombo).

CONDYLIS.

Your 0946/4 CONDYLLIS was not due Durban until 7/6 and may be delayed by weather. My 1702/17 to you only refers. (S.O.I. Colombo, 0754Z/5 to S.O.I. Capetown).

DUCHESS OF
YORK.

A.M. 1922/27/5. Will sail from Mombasa with S.W. 7A about 11/6. My 0738/3 (0738/3) refers. (C. in C.E.I., 0804Z/5 to Admty.).

Raider.

A.M. 1823/23. Interrogation of prisoners at Mombasa extracted no evidence that No. 33 was the raider concerned. In view of reluctance of prisoners to talk this is not considered conclusive. (C. in C.E.I. 1242Z/5 to Admty. etc.).

C.M.11.
C.M.12.

Your 0740/3. Convoy sailing dates from Durban will now be CM 11 p.m/7 and CM 12 p.m/10. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1550Z/5 to C. in C.E.I.).

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

French
Ships.

C. in C. China's 0943/20/5. (Interception French ships bound for Madagascar Reunion) Presume information in your 0501/4 and similar signals is passed to Naval C. in C. Netherlands East Indies. (Head of M. 1457B/5 to C.O.S. Singapore). Confirmed (Capt. O.S. Singapore 0804Z/6).

America and West Indies.

WINNIPEG.
(French).

Following officers and men are proceeding to Trinidad per steamer CUBA to man WINNIPEG.
My 0750/30, transmit urgently numbers and categories of volunteers from crew of WINNIPEG and of those unwilling serve. (D.S.T., 0058B/5 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad).

S.S. NYASSA.

Information received that Portuguese S.S. NYASSA which left Lisbon for New York 3/6 has on board notorious enemy agent called (?Siemens) DIOMEDE is not returning Bermuda to refuel and will be available to intercept ship if required. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1022Q/5 to Adty.) No special action to be taken. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1843B/7).

Casablanca
and Dakar
Intelligence.

My 1830/4 para. 4. Graded A.2. There are 55 airmen aboard these ships. One of them stated he and a group of his companions hoped to be intercepted and taken off by the British. (N.A. Washington, 0945/5). My 0945/5/6 (N.T. in W.D.) (Report of 55 airmen on board ships leaving Casablanca) Following from Dakar 3/6. Graded A.O. Six ships sailed today for Casablanca escorted by four S/MS and several small surface craft. (N.A. Washington 1110/5 to Admty.).

/CANDYTUFT.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. (Contd.).

→ CANDYTUFT.
BUXTON.
HONEYSUCKLE.

BUXTON proceeding Concepcion Bay to patrol. CANDYTUFT is there broken down. HONEYSUCKLE proceeding as soon as possible. Without delay pass to REPULSE. (Passing action taken). (N.O.I.C. St. Johns N.F. 1517Z/5 to Adty). Cancelled (N.O.I.C. St. John's 1546Z/6). P. 176.

T.C. 11
and escort.

My 1645/1. PASTEUR arrives St. John N.B. 8/6 for drydocking and WINDSOR CASTLE proceeds from Halifax after disembarkation of personnel 10/6 to St. John N.B. to drydock. Subject to unknown repairs required for various ships do not anticipate any delay in sailing date T.C.11. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1411Z/5 to D. of S.T).

→ CANDYTUFT.
VANJA.

My 1645/5. Oiler VANJA and CANDYTUFT sailed for Concepcion Bay P.M./4. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1419Z/5 to Adty.).

H.X. 151
escorts.

My 1552/5. In address for C. in C.A. & W.I. read C. in C.W.A. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1427Z/5).

S.S. SAMA.

Cancel my 2021Z/4. (2029Z/4 intended) Owing to engine defects SAMA cannot maintain full speed at present. Ship will sail in convoy for this voyage only. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1545Z/5 to Adty).

H.X. 150.

H.X. 150. Your 1821Z/1 gives 47 ships but your 1826Z/1 shows 52 request confirmation as to correct total. (D.E.D. 1618B/5 to C.O.A.C. Halifax N.S.).

/SHEHEREZADE.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. (contd).

SHEHEREZADE
(intercepted
21/5).

* not to proceed
See b/6 p 124

* My 0621/23/5 and N.A. Washington's 1921/29. It has been decided under pressure from U.S. to allow the S.S. SHEHEREZADE to go on to North Africa at a very early date. U.S. have agreed, however, that oil was to be reduced by 5,000 tons of petrol and 300 tons of lubricating oil and S.S. OPALIAN has been diverted to Bermuda for purpose of taking off these quantities. OPALIAN should reach Bermuda today and stated quantities of oil should be transferred to her immediately upon arrival. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1753B/5 to C. in C.A.W.I.). Your 1753B/5. After transfer OPALIAN can take further 5,000 tons petrol. Should ship then proceed Curacao to complete. It is pointed out that as lubricating oil must be carried in petrol or ballast tanks it will require filtering before use. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1802Q/5 to Adty.).

RODNEY.

UKARM 397. RODNEY arrives Halifax about 11/6. R.A. 3 will inform you of further movement. (D.O.D.(H) 1828B/5 to B.A.R.M).

SALAMIS
(explosion
report.)

Your 0523B/30 to PRINCE DAVID. Master of SALAMIS on arrival Philadelphia reports he did not send any such message. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1856/5 to Navy Wireless London).

REPULSE.

Delayed by intense gale. E.T.A. Conception Bay about 1500Z/6. Requirements on arrival also replacement for 1 damaged Swordfish. (REPULSE 1928Z/5 to N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F).

/C. in C.....

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. (contd).

C. in C. to
Visit
Halifax.

Your 0150B/30, 1238B/2 and 1538B/4. I am assuming that situation is now clear and intend to leave Bermuda on 7th or 8/6 to visit Halifax and Ottawa, unless I hear to the contrary. (C. in C.A.W.I., 2251Q/5 to Admty.) Reply 2011B/6.

Australia.

PERTH.

Most grateful for the offer contained in your 1217Z/4 subject to repairs to PERTH being within capabilities of Australian Dockyards. (Adty. 2157B/5 to A.C.N.B).

War Diary.

5.6.1941.
Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

VULCAIN.

(4362 tons) Clyde to Freetown in OG. 59 was torpedoed and sunk at 0001/24/5 about 160 miles N.W. of Freetown. 32 survivors were landed in French Colonial territory, 7 were killed by explosion. (D.S. 639).

ALFRED JONES.
(torpedoed 1/6)

Motor Vessel ALFRED JONES torpedoed at 1207 G.M.T. on 1/6. (C. in C.S.A. 1011N/5 to Admty.) British 5013 tons, outward bound from Ellesmere Port for Nigeria. (D.S. 640, 6/6).

→ INVERSUIR
(torpedoed 2/6)

MALVERNIAN is to proceed to search for 2 boats containing survivors from British tanker INVERSUIR torpedoed at 2345Z/2 in position 048° 28' N. 028° 20' W. Abandon search at sunset of 7th and return to X 1. (F.O.C.N.P. 1130B/5 to Western Patrol).

MICHAEL E.
EMDIRIGOS.
→ EIBERGEN
→ INVERSUIR.

A good look out is to be kept for survivors in boats of MICHAEL E torpedoed 048° 02' N. 029° 00' W. 1858/2 EIBERGEN 048° 02' N. 025° 06' W. at 0728/3 INVERSUIR 048° 28' N. 028° 20' W. 2345Z/2. (C. in C.W.A. 1610B/5 to RODNEY, SUFFOLK).

Portuguese
Trawler.

My 0959/4, position 35.40 N. 10.30 W. 1500, 1/6 submarine believed Italian fired 50 rounds before sinking EXPORTAI ORA. (N.A. Lisbon 1729/5 to Admty.) W.D. Note.- Former gave name as EXPORTADOR PRIMEIRO.

S.S. SANGARA.

Repeating his ^{NT in W.D.} 0109N/4. (C. in C.S.A. 1855N/5 to Adty.).

→ EIBERGEN.
(torpedoed 3/6).

Your 1130B/5 received. N.P.M. 267 at 0200B/6 EIBERGEN boats not found. My position is 047° 50' N. 029° 10' W. (MALVERNIAN, 2300B/5 to F.O.C.N.P.).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.5.6.1941.
Thursday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

2220/4.

Enemy S/M reported by A/C 49° 59' N. 5° 24' W. at 2220/4. (C. in C. Plymouth, 0048/5).

0048.

At 0048 G.M.T. German Submarine bearing 305 class three. (F.O.C.N.A. 0215A/5 to N.A. Stn.).

My 0048 5th. Available M.L's from Dartmouth are to sail to relieve craft now hunting. TYNEDALE may be recalled as requisite for ~~WISSE~~. (C. in C. Plymouth 1456/5 to N.O.I.C. Falmouth, Dartmouth).

Your 0215/5. Approx. position of U-Boat was 49° N. 32° W. Suggest that single bearings obtained by Gibraltar should not be passed to Ships and Authorities. N.A, unless other evidence confirms U-Boat is in N.A. area. Admiralty promulgate position when obtainable from cross bearings and if it is considered useful action can be taken. (D.D.I.C. 1454B/5 to F.O.C.N.A).

2208/4.

By D/F at 2208/4 G.M.T. position of German U/Boat was approx. 48° N. 11° W. U/Boat may be within 50 miles of this position. (D.D.I.C. 0350B/5).

0623 G.M.T.

At 0623 G.M.T. on 11125 Kcs. German S/M bearing 315° third class. (F.O.C.N.A. 0743A/5 to N. A. Station).

Search.

Cancel my 2310/4. TYNEDALE is to continue to hunt U-boat. (C. in C. Plymouth, 0908/5 to N.O.I.C. Falmouth).

0700.

Unknown Submarine reported 37 8 N. 7 22 W. 0700/5. D.O. (N.A. Lisbon 1029/5 to Admty).

/1319.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.5.6.1941.
Thursday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported. (contd).

1319.

Am over enemy S/M in JZGP 2443 (62° 24' N. 79° 43' E (?)) S/M has dived. (A/C 1319/5). Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. Am carrying out observation duty. (A/C 1348/5). A/C L's 1319 SANDWICH, PHILANTE, BUTTERMERE, being sent. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1547/5 to C. in C.W.A).

0620Z.

D/F bearing at 0620Z/5 indicate probably U/Boat within 100 miles of 016° N. 020° W. Reliability 55%. (C. in C.S.A. 1321N/5).

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1420B/5).

At Trondjhem.

It is reported that 4 U/Boats probably with Depot ship and tenders arrived Trondjhem 3/6. B.2. (D.D.I.C. 1751B/5 to C. in C.H.F. A.C.O.S.).

? in Med.

Italian U-boat bearing 050° or 230° Third class 8500 k/cs for second regular (corrupt gp) same U-boat 080° or 260° Third class both very strong transmission. Probably in Mediterranean. (F.O.C.N.A. 1843A/5 to BIDEFORD, WRESTLER, VANSITTART, AZALEA, WELLINGTON, S.O. Force H.).

Sighting of
H.G. 64 or
O.G. 63.

It is possible that H.G. 64 or O.G. 63 have been sighted and that 5 Italian U Boats are concentrating. (F.O.C.N.A. 2028A/5 to BIDEFORD, WELLINGTON, WRESTLER, VANSITTART).

1711Z.

My 1843A/5. Further degrees indicate that this U-boat was within 100 miles of 034° 50' N. 013° 10' W. at 1711Z/5. (F.O.C.N.A. 2351A/5 to BIDEFORD, WRESTLER, WELLINGTON VANSITTART, AZALEA, SPEEDY.).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.6.6.1941.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

Rear-Admiral Curteis, with acting rank of Vice-Admiral, has assumed the duties of Second-in-Command Home Fleet as from 0800 today. He continues for the present to fly his flag in AURORA.

To intercept an Enemy Supply Ship expected from the westward the 3/Ms TRIDENT, SEALION, TUNA and RUBIS have been ordered to patrol the western approach to the Bay of Biscay from daylight tomorrow,

A photographic R/C of Brest at 1640 today shows SCHARNHORST, GNEISENAU, and PRINZ EUGEN in their same positions there.

Instructions as to the circumstances in which H.M. Ships may conduct anti U-Boat operations in Spanish Territorial Waters have been issued by C. in C. H.F. today.

The ex-U.S. Coastguard Cutters WALNEY and SENNEN arrived in the Clyde early this morning from Halifax, making with LULWORTH a total of three of these vessels now here,

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy W.N. 36 was attacked at 0042 and again at 0125 this morning off Montrose and the Norwegian TAURUS, 4767 tons, with the British QUEENSBURY, 3911 tons, were sunk.

At 0230 the A/P Trawler FORFEIT was bombed off Pennan Bay and 6 of her men were killed.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.6.6.1941.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.Mining.

M.T.B's 22, 31, and 34 left Harwich at 2150 to carry out Operation P.W.10 off Ostend.

At Liverpool 4 Mines were detonated during today, the Motor Minesweeper 2 being damaged by one of them; and a Mine, cut off Falmouth, was sunk by rifle fire.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.6.6.1941.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.North Atlantic.Attacks on
O.G.63.

Convoy O.G.63, escorted by WELLINGTON was attacked by U/B at 0430 about 120 miles S.W. of Cape St. Vincent, and again at 0545. BARON LOVAT (British) and TABERG (Swedish) were torpedoed.

At 0818 the Convoy was attacked by a Focke Wulf aircraft, and GLEN HEAD (British) was bombed and sunk.

At 1300, about 80 miles S.W. of St. Vincent the convoy was again attacked by U/B, but no ship was hit.

WELLINGTON had been informed at 2028A/5 that it was possible O.G.63 had been sighted and that 5 Italian U-boats were concentrating. Several signals giving D/F positions of U-boats were passed to WELLINGTON on 5/6.

DUNKERQUE.

On a report being received by F.O.C.N.A. at 1730 that DUNKERQUE had left Oran, Force H was ordered by Admty at 2341B to intercept and sink her, but meantime a reconnaissance at 2200 showed her still at Oran.

Minesweepers.

L.L. trawlers SAINT MELANTE and RUNSWICK BAY, due at Gibraltar on 9/6 from Liverpool, are to be sailed for Freetown to operate under C. in C. S.A.

MOST SECRET.6.6.1941.
Friday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic.Suspected
Mines.

Following the sinking of the dredger ROBERT HUGHES at Lagos harbour entrance on 4/6, ports where mines are suspected are to be closed until magnetic sweeping has been carried out.

A/S Vessels.

6 A/S trawlers are to be sailed from Belfast for Freetown in O.G.65, and O.G. 66. Names are given in F.O.I.C. Belfast's 1802B/6.

Mediterranean.Malta
Aircraft.

The Blenheim detachment at Malta for attacks on enemy shipping has been increased to 16 and will be maintained at this figure.

48 Hurricanes and 8 Blenheims arrived at Malta today.

PARTHIAN

Is to proceed to Port Mitylene (Les Vos) to attack a concentration of caiques, and whence transports are expected to tranship a German garrison to the southward.

KELVIN

-Damage to the destroyer KELVIN off Crete is more extensive than can be undertaken locally. C. in C. intends sailing her about 8/6 for Suez and Aden and has asked for a repair port.

Western
Desert.

Wellingtons again bombed Benghazi last night.

Malta Air
Raids.

Enemy aircraft twice raided Malta last night but caused no military damage.

MOST SECRET.6.6.1941.
Friday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies.Dhow
Traffic,
Somaliland.

As dhow traffic into French Somaliland is on the increase, C. in C. East Indies intends to authorise H.M. and Free French warships to enter French Somaliland territorial waters, without which it is impossible to counter this activity.

River
Transport
towards Kut.

It has been decided to proceed with the provision of river craft to co-operate with the Army in operating against Bagdad.

China.Vichy
French
ships.

Netherlands East Indies warships now have orders to investigate any Vichy French merchant ships using Sunda Strait.

Japanese
Landing.

Japanese have landed on 2 of the Lema Islands, known to have been Chinese smuggling entrepot between Hong Kong and Macao.

MOST SECRET.6.6.1941.
Friday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.America and West Indies.Newfoundland.

Newfoundland will constitute a separate command from that of C.O.A.C., Halifax. Cdre L.W. Murray, R.C.N., is appointed Cdre. Comdg. Newfoundland (short title C.C.N.F.) and will take over duties of N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F.

SHEHERAZADE

Owing to further developments at Vichy SHEHERAZADE, French tanker (see 5/6) is not to be allowed to proceed but is to be detained and her crew not allowed on board.

Concepcion Bay.

BUXTON, HONEYSUCKLE, and CANDYTUFT are patrolling Concepcion Bay, where REPULSE was due this evening.

C. in C.

The situation regarding PRINZ EUGEN being now clear, C. in C. is to leave Bermuda on 7/6 or 8/6 on a visit to Halifax and Ottawa.

Explosion Report.

The mystery of an alleged report from S.S. SALAMIS of a heavy explosion in about 42.30 N. 43.48 W., at 2100 G.M.T./29/5 is deepened by an Ottawa message that the Master of SALAMIS on arrival Philadelphia denies having sent any such message.

U-Boat Campaign.TREGARTHEN

In addition to the sinkings in Gibraltar area today mentioned in North Atlantic TREGARTHEN was torpedoed at 2105Z/6 in 46.17 N., 36.02 W. about 675 miles east of Cape Race.

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

6.6.1941. 155
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Spanish
Territorial
Waters.

H.M. ships in contact with U-Boats which attempt to escape by entering territorial waters of Spanish Morocco, Tangier or Canary Islands, may enter these territorial waters and continue attack, care being taken that lives and property on shore are not endangered. If whilst inside Spanish Territorial Waters contact is lost, hunt may be continued for one hour but at the end of this period, unless contact is regained, H.M. ships should leave territorial waters. Attack must not be continued after U Boat has actually entered port of Tangier or ports in Spanish Morocco or Canary Is. Attack must not be made in territorial waters of Metropolitan Spain or of other Spanish territory outside Spanish Morocco, Canary Is. and Tangier except when U Boat delivers attack on enemy from Spanish territorial waters in which case attacks should be returned at once in accordance with H.W.O.84, paragraph 2 (c) against which a notation is to be made calling attention to this signal.
(C. in C. H.F. 1037B/6).

KASTELHOLM.

(British mine)

If after interrogation of survivors of KASTELHOLM (Finnish) you consider, as I do, that this ship was mined in the British Declared Area, you should inform the survivors of fact and give incident every publicity. (A.C.O.S., 1155/6 to N.O.I.C. Faeroes.) Your 1155/6. 37 survivors landed Thorshaven today including 2 minor casualties. One Finnish deck boy lost. Cause of sinking was 2 explosions, first in number one and second in bunkers amidships. Evidence favouring torpedo attack
(i) Track left by first torpedo observed by Second Officer.
(ii) Master and others in his boat declare having observed periscope after sinking. Evidence against (i) Estimated position of sinking $063^{\circ} 07' N$ $011^{\circ} 18' W$. (ii) Master followed German route to qualify for safe passage thereby offered. Although I consider ship was torpedoed there is an element of doubt which Master now recognizes. Request further instructions. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1846/6 to A.C.O.S.).

/Second in.....

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Second in Command Home Fleet.

Rear Admiral Curteis has assumed duties of Second in Command Home Fleet with acting rank of Vice Admiral as from 0800 today. For the time being he will continue to wear his flag in AURORA. (C. in C. H.F. 1229B/6).

4th D.F.

Admiralty 1305B/29 last paragraph. If release of 4th D.F. from duties in channel is under consideration, suggest they should return to Home Fleet where their seakeeping and fighting qualities are valuable and the 4 A class be exchanged. (C. in C. H.F. 1245B/6 to Adnty).

BRIGAND to Scapa.

A.C.O.S. 2002B/5. H.M. Tug BRIGAND should be transferred temporarily to Scapa for Rescue Duties. (C.C.R.T. 1348B/6 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

BERWICK.

When ready for sea BERWICK should be sailed for Scapa to work up. (D.O.D. H 1615B/6).

Six A/S trawlers for Freetown.

Rf. Admiralty's 2208B/5. The following trawlers have been selected. SOUTHERN PRIDE SOUTHERN GEM, RUMBA, FANDANGO, MORRIS DANCE SARABANDE. It is proposed to sail SOUTHERN PRIDE, SOUTHERN GEM, RUMBA, with O.G. 65 joining convoy off Belfast, and to sail FANDANGO, MORRIS DANCE, SARABANDE, with O.G. 66. (N.O.I.C. Belfast 1820B/6). *See also p. 166*

Movements.

WALNEY SENNEN.

Clyde arrivals Ex. U.S. Coastguard Cutters WALNEY and SENNEN. (F.O.I.C. Greencok 0020B/6).

AURANIA.

Arrived. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 0701Z/6).

/MRPLIN.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.6.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements (contd).MAPLIN.

My 1543B/3/6. MAPLIN is expected to be ready for Operations A.M. 9th June.
(F.O.I.C. Belfast 1358B/6).

SEALION.

Leave patrol after dark 8th June to R.V. at 180° St. Catherines 5 miles at 0500B/12.
Route. (S.5. 1403 B/6 to SEALION).

LACONIA.

Intend LACONIA to leave for Bermuda at 0930P /8. Expect to arrive 1330Q/10. LACONIA will be available BHX. 133 subsequently proceeding St. John N.B. for refit.
(F.O.C. 3rd B.S. 1837P/6).

NIGERIA.

C.S.10 in NIGERIA is to provide escort (Particularly A/A) for next S.W. Operation and is available from 9/6.
(ii) On completion of this duty NIGERIA is to reinforce KENYA on patrol referred to in my 1851B/6.
(C. in C. H.F. 1911B/6).

Operations.Denmark Strait Patrol.

MANCHESTER is to sail from Scapa p.m./9th. to Hvalfiord. After arrival of MANCHESTER C.S. 18 are to maintain Denmark Strait patrol. One ship is (?subsequently) to be on patrol and one at Hvalfiord.
(2) When relieved on patrol HERMIONE is to proceed to Scapa; (C. in C. H.F. 1212B/6).

Operation Q.E.

Motor gunboat on operations Q.E. 5 miles 80 degrees from Aldeburgh buoy.
(C. in C. Nore 1216B/6).
Departures M.G.B.'s 62, 64 and 67 at 2157.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 2159B/6).

/Search for.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.6.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations. (contd).Search for
Enemy
Supply ship.

Steer 130° with all despatch.
(F.O.S. 1751B/6 to TRIDENT, SEALION).
Enemy supply ship is expected from Westward.
Use every endeavour to establish patrols
within ten miles of the following positions
by daylight 7th June but take precautions not
to be sighted by aircraft after this time.
TRIDENT 45° 52' N 07° 12' W.
SEALION 44° 52' N 07° 52' W.
Any eastbound target may be attacked near these
positions. Total bombing restrictions arranged
(F.O.S. 1854B/6 to TRIDENT, SEALION).
After dark today 6/6 proceed to following
patrol position TUNA 046° 06' N 010° 06' W
RUBIS 046° 46' N. 010° 32' W.
(F.O.S. 1941B/6 to RUBIS, TUNA).

Iceland-
Faeroes
Patrol.

KENYA is to sail from Hvalfiord p.m. 9th
to patrol Iceland-Faeroes passage West of
mine barrier (11) ARETHUSA is to leave patrol
at 0800/10 and proceed to Scapa. (C. in C.
H.F. 1851B/6).

British Air Activity.Fighter A/C
for
Gibraltar.

S. 543 6/6. My S. 517 5/6. Flight of three
Beaufighters delayed 24 hours. Expected time
of departure St. Eval now 1000 hours G.M.T.
7/6. (O.A.M.C.U. Gloucester, 0810/6 to
200 Group, Gibraltar.).

Patrols.

Parallel track sweep by 3 Whitleys on course
315 degrees from Butt of Lewis to depth 300
miles reaching limit 1200. To be repeated
p.m. today A/C reaching limit 2000
(C. in C. Rosyth 0816/6).
A/C on recco. of Kirkenes has reported by
W/T that nothing was sighted.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1008/6.)
Your 1237B/3. Request information of details
of any standard patrols which it is intended
to fly in Denmark Straits and that these
patrols be given a code name for easy reference
(C. in C. H.F., 1213B/6).
Patrol ~~1213B/6~~ now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1722/6).

/W.A. Command.....

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. (contd).

W.A. Command
Proposed
procedure for
convoy Escort
A/C.

Following received. Repeats Air Ministry 1900/5. (D.S.D., 1702B/6 to C. in C. W.A.)
Following received from Air Ministry regarding procedure in C. in C. Western Approaches' 1946B/31/5, and C. in C. Plymouth's 1310/31/5. (Repeats Air Ministry 1900/5).
Request you will forward for prior discussion with other services all proposals to vary recognition procedure from that laid down in S.P. 02312(2) and Air Ministry publication S.D. 158. (D.T.S.D. 1951B/6 to C. in C. W.A.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy W.N.36.
TAURUS
(Norwegian
4767 tons)
sunk.
QUEENSBURY
(British,
3911 tons) sunk.

One tanker with damaged rudder in position 056° 50' N 2° 7' W. (ALYNBANK, 0120/6).
One ship bombed on fire position is 056° 50' N 1° 59' W. (ALYNBANK 0145/6).
Ship on fire 056° 50' N 001° 59' W.
Render assistance and report situation. (C. in C. Rosyth 0202/6 to SARDONYX).
W.N.36 attacked by A/C in position 56° 50' N 2° 7' W. at 0042/6 and again at 0125/6. On first occasion one tanker name unknown had rudder damaged and on second Norwegian motor ship TAURUS bombed and set on fire. Two injured men being landed in Montrose Lifeboat. Remainder of crew appear to have been taken off. Vessel making for Montrose, but is in danger of sinking.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0554/6).
138. My 0554/6. Norwegian TAURUS sank at 0642/6 when 130° ~~0642/6~~ 4 miles.
Vessel on fire is the QUEENSBURY not the TAURUS. Survivors of QUEENSBURY have been embarked in S.S. BURNSIDE, but Master and Chief Officer are missing.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 0715/6).
Your 0501/6. What steps have been taken to extinguish fire and take ship in tow.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0850/6 to SARDONYX).
My 0715. QUEENSBURY sank at 0822 in about 120° Gourdon 6 miles.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1025/6.)

/Your 0850/6.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.6.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy W.N.36
TAURUS
 (Norwegian
 4767 tons)
 sunk.
QUEENSBURY
 (British
 3911 tons) sunk.
 (contd).

Your 0850/6. To play hose from close alongside ineffective. Boarding considered unfeasible until fire abated, ship's plating being red hot for greater part of length. Ship was lying beam to wind but had been abandoned before my arrival, apparently because fire was approaching magazine. (SARDONYX, 1045/6 to C. in C. Rosyth). C. in C. Rosyth's 0554/6. Report from ALYNBANK of tanker damaged in Convoy W.N.36 was based on R/T message from LANCASTER at 0112/6. Neither ALYNBANK nor TARANTELLA saw anything of a tanker although latter was close to position given, proceeding to assistance of Norwegian S.S. TAURUS at 0120. Visibility was good and, as no tanker was included in W.N. 36, consider LANCASTER's signal probably referred to TAURUS who was leaking oil rapidly. (N.O.I.C. Methil 1801/6).

FORFEIT.
bombed.

(A/P Trawler) Peterhead reports FORFEIT bombed off Pennan Bay at 0230. Following three reported killed and brought ashore. Names. Three more dead in ship, which is still afloat under tow. Remainder of crew landed at Fraserburgh, one seriously injured. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 0553/6).

Convoy "Camel".
~~CAMEL.~~

"Camel"
 Convoy ~~CAMEL~~ is being shadowed by one Enemy Aircraft in 53° 50' N 17° 10' W. (WINCHESTER 0600B/6).

Convoy "Wheel".
~~WHEEL.~~

"Wheel"
 Help Convoy ~~WHEEL~~. My Position 50° 10' N 5° 50' W. Course 356, Speed 6 knots. (TYNEDALE 1838/6). Fighter Aircraft are being sent to the assistance of ~~WHEEL~~. (Plymouth 1906/6).

EMULATOR.
(M.F.V.)

(British Trawler, 168 tons) Seriously damaged by A/C on 6/6 about 7 miles East of Scarborough (D.S. 642).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.6.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.P.W.10

Weather permitting operation P.W.(10) will be carried out to-night. (C. in C. Nore 1506B/6).

Departure M.T.B's 22, 31, and 34 at 2150. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2159B/6).

Liverpool,
4 Mines
detonated.
M M/S 2
damaged.

At 0805/6 one Mine detonated by S.A. Gear. Details. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1701/6). Mine report to 1800/5. Motor Vessel MYRMIDON detonated one mine 161 degrees Crosby Light. Vessel 1.1 miles while going astern after weighing. 1800/6 one Magnetic Mine detonated between C.9 and C.10 Black Buoys. One Acoustic Mine 101° Bar Light Vessel 7 cables. Both by M.M.S.2. Latter mine detonated underneath vessel. Seams and hull sprung. Vessel will be docked. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1801/6.)

Falmouth.

One mine cut in position 50° 11' 36" N. 04° 48' 27" W. Mine sunk by rifle fire. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth, 2124/6).

Enemy Intelligence.E-Boats.

Indication E. boat activity vicinity Southwold. (C. in C. Nore 0235B/6).

Brest.

Preliminary report of photographic R/C at 1640/6 shows SCHARNHORST, GNEISENAU, and PRINCE EUGEN in same positions. (D.D.I.C. 1930B/6).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.6.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Technical.R.D.F. Sets
in M/V's.

A. 2426/6. The answer to Admiralty letter M/TD/DEMS0317/41 dated 1st June and signal 1747B/5 dated 5th. June is being signalled as follows in order to save delay.
(Air Ministry, 1714/6.)

Enemy
Rangefinding.
Confusion by
A/C or heavy
smoke.

Experience during operation in pursuit of BISMARCK indicates that there is a good possibility of confusing the enemy's R.D.F. rangefinding by the use of aircraft. Para XIV of H.M.S. SUFFOLK's 2221/29/5 to C. in C. Home Fleet only is relevant.
2. Request you will carry out trials as soon as possible to determine following points.
4. It is also desired to find out whether heavy funnel smoke produces any effect of R.D.F. Screens. (A.C.N.S. (H) 2018B/6 to C. in C. H.F.)

Casualties and Defects.BRACON MOOR
(A/S Trawler)

Departure Tug DIVERSION to assist BRACONMOOR with fouled propellor 052 degrees 58' N 001 degrees 08' 30" E.
(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0111B/6).

THAMES.

(Rescue Tug) Engine oil cooler. Auxiliaries badly damaged. Cannot repair by own engine room staff. Master has decided to return to Greenock immediately. (THAMES 1024/6).

T.L.C. 46.

My 1124/5. Sailing of T.L.C. 46 postponed owing to D.G. and compass defects.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1210/6).

Shipping and Convoys.S.C. 31.

On time at R.V. with 30 ships, all now arrived. About 200 hours of fog, weather otherwise good.
(D.T.D. 1643B/6 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

War Diary.6.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.O.G. 63
attacked by
U/B and A/C.

O.G. 63 attacked twice 0430 and 0545.
 Several ships torpedoed. (WELLINGTON, 0450A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)
 Enemy Aircraft bombing 35° 30' N. 10° 35' W.
 (WELLINGTON, 0818A/6 to Gibraltar W/T.)
 My 0818A One F.W., one ship sunk.
 (WELLINGTON, 0820A/6)
 Have abandoned hunt for U.Boat to provide
 A/A protection for convoy. (WELLINGTON,
 0827A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)
 Failing other instructions from F.O.C.N.A.
 keep 50 miles to port of route ordered and
 approach position Q on course 318°.
 (A.C.N.S.(T) 1024B/6 to BIDEFORD.)
 WELLINGTON reported O.G. 63 attacked. (5598
 ?at) 0430 and 0545 several ships torpedoed.
 WELLINGTON sighted U. Boat on surface at 0608
 in position 035° 35' N. 010° 40' W. submarine
 dived 0617 believed hit by gunfire. At
 0818 O.G. 63 being bombed by aircraft one ship
 reported sunk. One Catalina one trawler and
 two motor launches proceeding to assistance
 of convoy. (F.O.C.N.A. 1047A/6 to Admty.)
 Several torpedoes fired at O.G. 63 0 no
 hits 35.50 N., 9.54 W. (WELLINGTON, 1300A/6)
 Steer West with all despatch, further signal
 follows. (F.O.C.N.A. 1559A/6 to AZALEA)
 CATALINA, call sign M.9.H.N., will provide
 escort from 2030 until 0900/7. Flares may
 be dropped not less than three miles astern
 of convoy. M.L. 129, M.L. 134 should join
 you at 2100. M.L. 132. M.L. 135 join you
 at 0600/7. AZALEA will join during night.
 All ships coming from Eastwards. (F.O.C.N.A.
 1620/6 to WELLINGTON.)

/My 1047

War Diary.6.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.

O.G.63
 attacked by
 U/B and A/C.
 (Contd.)

+
 My 1047 6th Fleet Tug ST. DAY left at 1300 to tow in crippled ships if any. Aircraft sighted wreckage boats and rafts in position 035° 36'N. 011° 10'W at 1250 and reports trawler searching for survivors.

WELLINGTON reported at 1300 several torpedoes fired at O.G.63 in position 035° 50'N. 009° 54'W, no hits. Aircraft has not been able to locate convoy. Air escort for the night has been arranged, fog permitting. AZALEA and 2 more motor launches join convoy by 0600 7th and 1 additional trawler from Cadiz patrol is being sent.

(F.O.C.N.A. 1806A/6 to Admiralty).
 Your 1235 A/6. Have missed convoy, my P. C. and S. are 035° 51'N 008° 46'W 264° 9 knots. Have insufficient endurance for prolonged search in area (? if required) for heavy tow. Request instructions.

(LOCH OSKAIG 2310A/6 to F.O.C.N.A).
 Strong indication of an attack on O.G.63 is impending.

(F.O.C.N.A. 2332A/6 to WELLINGTON, IMPERIALIST).

SEVERN.

Steer to pass within 20 miles of Cape St. Vincent. Report your P. C. and S. (F.O.C.N.A. 0910A/6 to SEVERN).
 Reached destination at 1058 A/(? 6).
 (SEVERN 1601B/6 to F.O.C.N.A).

H.G.64.

Remain with H.G.64 until meridian 015° 00'W.
 (F.O.C.N.A. 0932A/6 to WOODRUFF).

Morocco,
Tangier,
Canaries.

Policy for ships attacking U-boats which attempt escape by entering these territorial waters.
 (C.in C., H.F. to Home Fleet, 1037B/6).
 See Lion copy.

ARGUS

SECRET.

MESSAGE.

1037B/6 June.

164(A)

Date. 6.6.41.

From. C. in C. Home Fleet.

Recd. 1635.

R/L BY T/P.

Addressed. Home Fleet. 544.

RASLGRAM.

H.M. Ships in contact with U-Boats which attempt escape by entering Territorial waters of Spanish Morocco, Tangier or the Canary Islands may enter these Territorial waters and continue attack care being taken that lives and property on shore are not endangered. If, while inside Spanish Territorial waters, contact is lost, hunt may be continued for one hour but at the end of this period, unless contact is regained H.M. Ships should leave Territorial Waters. Attack must not repetition not be continued after U-Boat has actually entered port of Tangier or port in Spanish Morocco or Canary Islands. Attacks must not repetition not be made in Territorial waters of Metropolitan Spain or of other Spanish Territory outside Spanish Morocco, Canary Islands or Tangier except when U-Boat delivers attack on H.M. Ships from Spanish Territorial waters in which case attacks should be returned at once in accordance with H W O 04 paragraph 2 (C) against which a notation is to be made calling attention to this signal.

1037B/6

Advance copy sent Ops. O. ., O.I.C. and Tsgdc.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
Nav. Sec.
H.A. 1st S.L.
P.A.S. (S).
Ops. (4)
O.D. (5)
O.I.C.
D.S.D.9.
D.H.I. (4)
D.A./S.W.
D. of P. (3)
E. (2)
I.P. (3)
W.D.

rmw

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. (Contd.)

ARGUS.
NEA HELLAS.

Admty. 2006B/3 and 1734B/5 ARGUS and NEA HELLAS expect to pass through position 047° 00'N 024° 00'W at 1000 B/11 steering 350°. (F.O.C.N.A. 1142B/6 to Admty.).

See also p. 167

French
Convoy.

French Armed Tug LA ^{Tous}TOURTELLE escorting refrigerating BOREAL full, CAUDEBEC, FORTARCHAMBAULT unknown destination and trawler PIERRE POCHOLLE Westward in Territorial Waters. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1203A/6, to Admty.).

Oran.
Casablanca.

Air reconnaissance. Oran 4/6. 3 light cruisers 2 submarines plus one possible in floating dock. DUNKERQUE same position. Aerodrome in vicinity total 54 aircraft of which 30 large. Casablanca 3/6. JEAN BART usual position surrounded by nets, PRIMAUGUET, 1 French Cruiser LA GALISSONNIERE 2 French Destroyer L'ALCYON, 2 French Light Cruiser AIGLE, 1 French Destroyer LE HARDI, 6 escort ships, *1 French sloop *BOUGAINVILLE, 2 large 2 small submarines. Booms in place at entrance. 3 Glenn Martin 2 fighters on aerodrome. (F.O.C.N.A. 1232/6 to Admty.).

** sunk at Lihville 9/11/40*

"Q" Reports.

Following has been read. QQQQ position 48 50 N 27 16 W, followed by suspicious merchant vessel. (O.A. KNUDSEN, 1238/6). EMPIRE UNITY QQQQ 49.00 N 26.18 W followed by suspicious vessel (Ends). (Valentia Radio, 1718/6). Ref. Q.Q. Messages from KNUDSEN 1238Z/6 and EMPIRE UNITY 1718Z/6, presume you are taking necessary action unless you are satisfied reports refer to H.M. Ships. MALVERNIAN may be in vicinity. (V.C.N.S. 2010B/6 to SUFFOLK). Cancel your 2010B/6. (MALVERNIAN 2130B/6 to Admty.).

Portuguese.....

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. (Contd.)

Portuguese
trawlers
sunk.

Your 1739/5. Confirmed no British submarines in vicinity. (R.A. Gibraltar 1726/6, to N.A. Lisbon).

French
Convoy.

Gibraltar 6/6 15.45 French Light Cruiser ALBATROS, THESEE, VILLE DE VERDUN, STRASBOURGEOIS, all full Eastbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar, 1753A/6, to Admty.etc).

NEPTUNE.

In order that W.S.8X may not be delayed at Freetown, NEPTUNE is to leave VICTORIOUS and proceed to Gibraltar as soon as local A/S Escort joins proceeding after fuelling at best speed to Freetown. (V.C.N.S. 1910B/6 to F.O.C.N.A).

SAINT MELANTE.
RUNSWICK BAY.

'LL' Trawlers SAINT MELANTE and RUNSWICK BAY arriving Gibraltar 9/6 are to be sailed for Freetown as soon as possible to operate under orders of C.in C., S.A. (D.M.S.1919B/6 to F.O.C.N.A).

DUNKERQUE.

Information received at 1730 from secret source reliability unassessed states that French B.C. DUNKERQUE has left Oran. (F.O.C.N.A. 1934/6 to S.O. Force 'H'). Your 1934A/6. Reconnaissance at 2200 shows French Battle Cruiser DUNKERQUE still Oran. (S.O. Force 'H', 2327/6 to F.O.C.N.A). Ref. F.O.C.N.A.1934A/6. On the assumption that DUNKERQUE is now on passage to Toulon at slow speed endeavour to intercept and sink her. (1st S.L. 2341B/6 to S.O. Force 'H'). Your 1934A/6. Reconnaissance of Mers El Kebir to be carried out as soon as possible. (1st S.L. 2343/6 to F.O.C.N.A). Glen Martin leaves at 0500A/?7 for reconnaissance of Oran. (F.O.C.N.A. 2344A/6 to S.O. Force 'H'). Your 2345B/6. Glen Martin leaves 0500/7. (F.O.C.N.A. 0012A/7 to Admty.). In view of S.O. Force 'H' 2327/6, cancel my 0012/7. (F.O.C.N.A. 0102A/7 to Admty).

Catalinas

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. Contd.

Catalinas
for A/S
Operations.

Ref. Air Ministry signal X.87 * of 3/6 the 2 Catalinas referred to are to be used to intensify A/S measures as necessary during the next few days. (H.Q.C.C., 2000/6 to H.Q. 200 Group) + Not to Admiralty. Relevant portion of message reads:- "The 2 Catalinas are to remain at Gibraltar until further orders and are to be used by 200 Group for such urgent operations as are indicated by Coastal Command".

ARGUS.
NEA HELLAS.

Departure ARGUS and NEA HELLAS screened by VANSITTART, WILD SWAN, WIVERN in accordance with F.O.C.N.A. 1142B/6. (S.O.I. Gib. 2100A/6 to Admty. etc.) *S. p. 165-*

South Atlantic.

BERGAMOT.

Anticipated BERGAMOT will be ready about 12/6. Intend to sail her direct to Freetown. (C. in C.W.A. 0926B/6 to Admty.)

BRUSH.

Cancel my 1154/2. BRUSH arrived 1/6. (S.O.I. Freetown, 0954N/6 to Admty.)

Troopships.

Information received to date gives following numbers of personnel for U.K. on returning troop ships either in or shortly due in South Africa. (D.O.D.(F) 1359B/6 to C. in C.S.A. F.O.I.C. Simonstown.)

DOMINE
(Spanish).

DOMINE sailed from Fernando Po 31/5 for Las Palmas. Reported one German on board also Consular mail etc. If met all enemy mail to be removed, also suspend national if within scope of article 51 to 54 in C.B.1993 Ship then to be released. (C. in C.S.A. 1403N/6 to VELOX, COLUMBINE, ESPERANCE BAY, ASPHODEL, ASTER, MORETON BAY.)

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. Contd.

Cameroons.

Threat to Free French territories. Weakness of coastal defences. (Spears Mission, Brazzaville, 1730/6 to W.O.)

A/S Vessels for Freetown.

Admty. 2208B/5. Following trawlers have been selected. SOUTHERN PRIDE, SOUTHERN GEM, RUMBA, FANDANGO, MORRIS DANCE, SARABANDE. Proposed to sail SOUTHERN PRIDE, SOUTHERN GEM and RUMBA with O.G.65 joining convoy off Belfast, and to sail FANDANGO, MORRIS DANCE and SARABANDE with O.G.66. (F.O.I.C.Belfast, 1820B/6 to C. in C.W.A.)

See p. 156.

W.S.6 B.

Departure 1730/6 EXETER as Ocean escort for convoy W.S.6 B. Local escort BOREAS until 1800/8 HIGHLANDER until 0605/9. (C.in C.S.A. 1829N/6 to Admty. etc.)

Mines.

Your 2047N/5. Ports where mines are suspected should be closed until magnetic sweeping has been carried out. BERGENSFJORD should not enter Lagos until this has been done. In addition to magnet spar sweeps recommend sending one LL. Whaler to clear Takoradi and then Lagos. LL. and S.A. trawlers SAINT MELANTE and RUNSWICK BAY arriving Gibraltar 9/6 are being diverted to Freetown. A.M. 2359B/3. Skid generators in GENERAL BIRDWOOD and REDWOOD should be removed and fitted to local craft wooden hulled if possible. (D.M.S. 1918B/6 to C. in C.S.A.)

Your 1918/6. If Takoradi is closed to all traffic out or in until sweeping completed ships due there will have to be diverted to Freetown and this will be done. L.L. Whaler will leave Freetown 8/6, is not available before. (C. in C.S.A. 2341N/6 to Admty.)

/S.L.57 delayed

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. Contd.

S.L.57
delayed.

In order to include 6 ships which would otherwise miss convoy sailing of S.L.57 postponed one day until 8/6. This may entail convoy being about 6 hours late at R.V. Ships have been delayed by difficulty over coaling labour. (C. in C.S.A.1925N/6 to Admty.)

NORFOLK.
S.L.77.

Request you will sail NORFOLK as soon after arrival as practicable to catch up and escort S.L.77 to U.K. It is suggested that she should call at Bathurst to embark passengers landed by LONDON. (V.C.N.S. 1932B/6 to C. in C.S.A.)

Lagos
closed.

Port of Lagos is closed until further orders. Proceed with BERGENSFJORD and troops embarked and CALENDULA to Freetown keeping well clear of coast; further route will be sent. (C. in C.S.A. 2111N/6 to BRIDGEWATER)

SHROPSHIRE
patrol.

My 1257/4. After arrival at position 020° S. 010° E. patrol in J.l.D. (R.A.S.A.D. 2135N/6 to SHROPSHIRE.)

ARMERIA.
BURDOCK.
BELPAREIL.

C. in C.W.A. 1437/21/5. Request you will sail ARMERIA, BURDOCK, BELPAREIL through positions (F) 015.00 N. 019.20 W. (G) (011?) 00 N. 016.55 W. thence to Freetown. (C. in C.S.A. 2141N/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Malta
Blenheims.

Your 1148B/29. Blenheim Detachment at Malta for attacks on shipping has been increased to a total of 16 aircraft and will be maintained at this figure. Necessity for reconnaissance fully appreciated and all steps are being taken to keep Maryland units up to strength. (D.O.D.(F) 0002B/6 to C. in C. Med., V.A. Malta.)

MAURO CROCE.

Departure 5/6 Italian vessel MAURO CROCE for Genoa. (Barcelona, 0510/6 to Fairmiss)

Alexandria
Raid.

Operational Summary No.361 up to 1200 hours 6/6. Night 4/5. About 12 enemy aircraft bombed Docks area Alexandria. No bombs in Docks area but 15 houses and two shops outside damaged. No service casualties. 37 Civilians killed. 2 Hurricanes up but unable to intercept enemy through failure of searchlights to illuminate.

Benghazi
bombed.
Derna
bombed.

Night 4/5. 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour damaging base of central mole. 2 Wellingtons bombed Derna. Day 5/6. Hurricanes maintained continuous Fighter Patrols over empty petrol ships and H.M. Ships returning Alexandria from Tobruk.

Rhodes
bombed.
Crete.

Night 4/5. 3 Wellingtons bombed Katavia Aerodrome, Rhodes.
Night 4/5. 1 Wellington dropped 18 sacks of provisions for party of our troops near Spakia. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E.1051/6)

TETRARCH.

Leaves (?Alexandria) 1930 (?C)/6 proceeding direct for Kithera Channel. (Capt.S.1., 1125C/6 to PARTHIAN amended 2025C/6)

Italian
M.V.'s.

Report B.2 stated 15 Italian merchant ships sailed from Italy about 2/6 for Black Sea. (Capt. S.1., 1223C/6 to TORBAY)

/Iraq

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. Contd.

Iraq.

Denial of oil to Germany. Chief of Staff 126. (1st S.L., 1335B/6 to C. in C. Med.)
See Mediterranean Volume.

CAPO ARMA.
(Italian)

Istanbul arrived 5/6. (Istanbul, 1518C/6 to D. of S.T.)

Ammunition,
Reserves.

Question of reserves of H.A. ammunition now under urgent review. Request estimated rounds per gun fired from each nature of gun by ships in heavy air attack on 21 to 23/5. Requested every practicable step be taken to get figures as correct as possible as large questions of policy may depend on them. (V.C.N.S. 1619B/6 to Admty.)

Syria,
Operation "EXPORTER"
"EXPORTER"

Carry out operation ^{"EXPORTER"}~~"EXPORTER"~~. D.1 day is 8/6. (C. in C. Med., 1638C/6 to Ships and Authorities Operation ~~"EXPORTER"~~)

PARTHIAN
operation.

Proceed forthwith to Port Mitylene (Les Vos) 039° 06' 026° 35' where large concentration of Caiques is reported and where transports are expected to tranship German garrison to southward. Attack as early as practicable then return to Alexandria. No nets or booms or coast defence guns known. (Capt. S.1. 1721C/6 to PARTHIAN.)

Malta Air Raid.

C.S.R. Malta up to 1600 hours 6/6. Night 5/6. 3 enemy aircraft attacked the Island dropping some bombs on land which caused negligible damage, rest in sea. Second raid in the early hours by 4 enemy aircraft at 16000 feet. Bombs dropped vicinity Ta Kali and Hal Far, no military damage but slight damage to civilian property. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1730/6)

/TRIUMPH

172

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. (Contd.)

TRIUMPH.
RORQUAL.
TETRARCH.

Estimate TRIUMPH will be in (b) 033° 45' 022° 10' at 0500C/9. From B. proceed direct to reconnoitre Gavdo Island where there is reported to be an unknown number of British Military personnel. Endeavour to verify this but do not spend more than 24 hours on this reconnaissance. Embark as many as practicable and on completion proceed direct to Alexandria, signal any information obtained as quickly as possible. RORQUAL estimated position noon/8 034° 02' 023° 32' course 280°. TETRARCH estimated position noon/9 034° 33' 024° 03' course 306°. (Capt. S.l., 1745C/6 to TRIUMPH)

Enemy Shipping.

(a) Turkey W/T picked up about 1500C hours distress messages from ship 3 miles S.W. of Helles, presume torpedoed and beached, believed Italian. No Turkish salvage available; too bad.

KNYAGUINYA MARIA
LOUISA.

(b) Report B.1 Bulgarian Steamer KN MARIA LUISA lost by explosion and fire in Piraeus with casualties.

(c) My 1830/5 para. (a) Italian N.A. stated STROMBO torpedoed 1230C/3 3 miles west of Mavro Island. Believed correct. (S.O.I Istanbul, 1819/6 to S.O.I. Med.)

Operation "Rocket"

43 Hurricanes and 8 Blenheims arrived safely. Understand 1 Hurricane returned to carrier. (V.A. Malta, 1820B/6 to S.O. Force H.)

RAMB IV.

Your 1137/5 No. Minimum period required to make her suitable for short voyage three weeks. (S.T.O. Egypt, 1839C/6 to D.S.T. etc.)

KELVIN.

Damage is more extensive than can be undertaken locally. Intend sailing her about 8/6 for Suez and Aden. Request repair port may be indicated. (C. in C. Med. 1940/6 to Admty.)

/PERTH

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. Contd.

PERTH.
HOBART.

Your 1217/4. Repairs to PERTH at present in hand are expected to render ship capable of 85% power by about 18/6. I would welcome her relief, but propose PERTH should be retained here until arrival of HOBART. (C. in C. Med. 1946C/6 to Admty.)

WARSPITE.

Your 1915/25/5. If temporary repairs to WARSPITE at Alexandria are limited to those necessary to enable her to steam to Durban as proposed in Admty. 2348B/26?/5, can they be completed in less than 8 weeks? (1st S.L. 2149B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

Situation
Report 48.

Western Desert. No material change. Moderate sand storms have held up operations.
(2) Submarines. UNIQUE torpedoed and sank a laden 1000 ton merchant vessel in Lampedusa Harbour at 0825/3. (C. in C. Med. 2302C/6 to Admty.)

*Italian ARSIA (S.S. 736)
see folder Wb.
Enemy Merchant Ship
lost.*

ALICANTE.
(German)

Private information received that ship and crew lost before 5/9/1940. Ship had not been reported since leaving Leghorn on 24/8/1939. (D.S. 640, 6/6)

Turkish
Ferry Boats.

Admty. 1736/13/5. Request ship delivery contractors of Turkish ferry boats due Suez shortly be requested to instruct masters to follow instructions of D.S.T.O. Suez. C. in C. Med. has concurred in temporary retention of two for service at Suez and others may be employed at Suez until Turkish crews are available to take over at Mersin. (S.T.O. Egypt, 2353C/6 to D. of S.T.)

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

S.W.7.

My 0738/3. Intend OTRANTO due Mombasa 9th to sail with S.W.7 A. Report date convoy will be ready to sail. (C. in C.E.I. 0634Z/6 to N.O.I.C. East Africa.)

Operation.

C. in C.E.I. 0722/6. See Operations Volume.

Dhow Traffic,
French
Somaliland.

Force (Nairobi) represents dhow traffic into French Somaliland is on the increase and that from military point of view stoppage of this is most desirable. Intend to authorize H.M. and Free French warships to enter French Somaliland territorial waters, without which it is impossible effectively to counter this activity. The fact that ships may be fired on by French within 20 miles of their coast will be borne in mind. (C. in C.E.I. 1154Z/6 to Admty.)

Iraq Trade.

Your 0004/1. Establishment of friendly government in Iraq makes it desirable to resume normal trade with and through Iraq as soon as possible. Request your views and those of local military authority on general situation especially concerning probable date of resumption of commercial traffic through Basra. (Hd. of M. 2305B/6 to C. in C.E.I.)

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

N.E.I. Navy
and Vichy
Ships.

I am informed that N.E.I. Warships now have orders to investigate any Vichy French Merchant ships using Sunda Strait. Such ships will be sent in to N.E.I. Port if found to be carting war material, oil, tin ? Pyra rubber or if Bona Fides of crew, passengers or flag are in doubt. (C. in C. China, 0341Z/6 to Admty. etc.) Your 1457/5 confirmed. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0804Z/6 to Admty.)

SAGITTAIRE
(French)

Left 6/6 Haiphong. (Saigon, 0844Z/6)

Japanese
Landing,
Lema Is.

Aerial reconnaissance a week ago disclosed that two small parties of Japanese have landed on two of the Lema Islands. Subsequent reconnaissance confirmed that these troops total about 80 and are probably Naval landing party. Not yet clear whether occupation is intended to be permanent but these Islands are known to have been Chinese smuggling entrepot between Hong Kong and Macao indicating probable explanation of this move is to close one of the gaps in the Japanese blockade of Kwantung coast. Situation being watched. (G.O.C. Hong Kong, 2123/6 to W.O.)

America and West Indies.

FRANKFURT.

My 0956/4 not to R.A.S.A.D. Montevideo reports German Ship FRANKFURT arrived Riode Janeiro 4/6. (S.O.I. Kingston, 0949R/6 to Admty. etc.)

WINDSOR
CASTLE.

The early arrival of S.S. WINDSOR CASTLE is of great importance. (R.A.3 B.S. 1103P/6 to RODNEY)

/REPULSE

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. Contd.

REPULSE.

Probably six hours late on my 1928Z/5.
(REPULSE 1106Z/6 to N.O.I.C. St. Johns, N.F.)
REPULSE's 1928Z/5. Serviceable Swordfish
available at Halifax, but no crew.
(R.A.3 B.S. 1121P/6 to Admty.)

ALMIRANTE
LATORRE.

Chilean battleship (ex CANADA). Proposal to
purchase. (Head of M., 1130B/6 to N.A.
Santiago) See Lion Copy.

RESTIVE.
PRUDENT.

Intend sailing H.M. Rescue Tugs RESTIVE,
PRUDENT in accordance with Admty. 1318B/5
for St. Johns, N.F. in convoy O.B.C. 332
leaving Clyde 0100/9. (N.O.I.C. Greenock,
1201B/6 to N.O.I.C. Newfoundland)

SHEHERAZADE
(Vichy)

Cancel my 1753/5. Owing to further develop-
ments at Vichy SHEHERAZADE is still to be
detained and the crew should not be allowed
to go on board. Instructions concerning
S.S. OPALIAK follow. (Head of M. 1232B/6
to C. in C.A.W.I.)

Concepcion Bay
Patrol.

Cancel my 1317Z/5. BUXTON, HONEYSUCKLE,
CANDYTUFT now patrolling Concepcion Bay.
C.O.A.C. Halifax pass to REPULSE. (N.O.I.C.
St. Johns, 1346Z/6 to Admty.)

Shipping,
Latvia
Lithuania
Estonia.

Questions have recently arisen regarding
action to be taken with regard to Latvian,
Lithuanian and Estonian vessels. Present
policy is that if engaged on American coastal
trade they should be allowed to proceed.
Otherwise ships are to be detained pending
further instructions. (C. in C.A.W.I.,
1542Q/6 to A.W.I. Stn.)

/Enemy

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

1130B/6 June

OUT

176A

To N.A. ~~Saunders~~

Date 6.6.41.

610

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CYPHER V.14

From Admiralty.

NITE

My 1250 of April 3rd. We have had under consideration price we should be prepared to pay to acquire ALMIRANTE LATORRE. We are anxious to obtain ship, and this fact, which would naturally be assumed by Chilean Government, must prejudice our bargaining position.

Chileans may put value of ship as high as 3 or £3½ million. Setting off rise in prices during last ten years and increased value of a warship in war-time against depreciation of more than half since 1931, we think £1½ millions would be a very fair offer. We are, however, if absolutely necessary to secure her, prepared to pay up to £2½ million.

Chilean Government may raise again question of obtaining 8" cruisers in part exchange. Whilst we are not prepared to facilitate transfer of two 8" cruisers now, we would, if no other arrangement would be acceptable to Chilean Government, be prepared to promise one of our existing 8" cruisers of KENT or LONDON Class on conclusion of present hostilities, and to make immediate cash payment of £1 million in addition. Present "book" value of these ships is about £1 million each.

All foregoing payments would be sterling and conclusion of deal would be subject to inspection of battleship by qualified British technical officers.

You are authorised to inform Mr. Blair that he may treat with his Chilean contacts on above terms. If Chilean Government, though willing to sell ship, categorically refuse to accept any of these offers, their minimum terms should be reported immediately.

Success of deal would of course result in marked contribution to strength of Royal Navy, and we trust Mr. Blair to make every possible effort to persuade Chilean Government to part with vessel on above terms.

1130B/6

for Head of M. Ex. 808
Approved by 1st Lord

- 1st Lord
- 1st S.L.
- 2nd S.L.
- Controller
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (F)
- Sec.
- P.A.S. (S)
- P.A.S. (F)
- D.P.S.
- D. of P. (2)
- Head of M. (3)
- D.O.D. (H)
- D.O.D. (F)
- D.N.I. (4)
- W.D.

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. Contd.

Enemy Shipping,
Black Sea.

Following from Navy Dept. From U.S. Naval Attache Galamed. Graded B.2.
(1) Italian tankers are using Straits regularly en route between Aegean Sea and Constanza. (2) A Roumanian shipping service has been established to Athens.
(N.A. Washington, 1600/6 to Admty.)

C. in C.
PRINCE DAVID.

My 1021Q/28. Following is amended programme. Flag will be transferred to PRINCE DAVID p.m./7. PRINCE DAVID will leave Bermuda p.m./7 arriving Halifax 0900Q/9. C. in C. will return to her about 17/6. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1751Q/6 to Admty.)

CAMPINA.
(Roumanian)

Following from War Dept. From U.S.Mil.Attache, Bucharest. Graded B.1. Roumanian tanker CAMPINA sailed from Constanza 3/6 for Piraeus with petrol. (N.A. Washington, 1802/6 to Admty.)

SALAMIS,
explosion
report.

Your 0523B/30 to PRINCE DAVID, Master of SALAMIS on arrival Philadelphia reports he did not send any such message. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1856Z/6 to Navy Wireless London.)

St. Johns
Base.

Question of U.K. or Canadian responsibility. (Govr., Newfoundland to Dominions Office, 1941/6) See Lion copy.

Newfoundland
Command.

Decided that Newfoundland will constitute a separate command from that of C.O.A.C. Halifax. N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1441Z/31 is modified as follows:-
Cdre. L.W. Murray R.C.N. is appointed Cdre. Commanding Newfoundland, short title C.C.N.F., from date of arrival at St. Johns. N.F., and will take over duties of N.O.I.C. St. Johns, N.F. Capt. C.M.R. Schwert R.N. on loan to R.C.N. will take over duties of Maintenance Captain and pending arrival of additional officers duties of C. of S. Admty. are being requested to loan certain officer personnel for maintenance and operational escort force until such time as these are available from Canadian sources. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1941Z/6 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, etc.)

/C. in C.

MOST SECRET

177A

MOST SECRET M E S S A G E IN No T.O.C. 6th June,
From Government of Newfoundland. Date 6.6.41.
Reed. 2037.
CYPHER.

Addressed Dominions Office.

No. 287 Secret.

Your telegram of 3rd June, No. 489.

The Commission of Government have discussed the local requirements of the enlarged escort force based on St. John's with Admiral Sheridan, R.N., Captain / Schwerdt R.N. and Engineer Captain / Stephens R.C.N. and have considered a written appreciation of the situation by Rear Admiral Bonham Carter who has visited St. John's. We are of the opinion that it will be just possible to provide the bare requirements of the force contemplated in your telegram No. 489 but this will involve extensive requisitioning of commercial premises on the waterfront considerable dredging, the building or rebuilding of approximately 3,200 lineal feet of wharfage and a building programme covering about 50,000 square feet of floor space on the waterfront, apart altogether from magazines, recreational and hospital facilities and housing. According to Rear Admiral Bonham Carter, immediate wharf accommodation can be found for one depot ship, one destroyer, two corvettes and two sloops. Three more destroyers and five more corvettes could be accommodated immediately but without security of tenure. These 8 vessels are part of those referred to in the immediately succeeding sentences. After dredging, further wharf accommodation can be found for two destroyers, 8 corvettes, and 2 sloops. When trots have been laid down moorings can be found for two additional destroyers and also one anchoring billet for oiler and one for storeship. With additional dredging and the construction of new jetties, the number of ships that can be berthed over and above those already mentioned will be further increased, resulting finally in provision for the following total number of naval vessels which can be accommodated in the harbour. One depot ship, 7 destroyers, 12 corvettes. (5 for local defence), 4 sloops, 6 minesweepers, 1 storeship, 1 large oiler, 1 small oiler, 2 tugs, 1 water-boat, 3 harbour patrol craft, 4 fairmiles, 4 lighters, 6 harbour duty boats and two examination vessels. In Admiral Bonham Carter's view, there is only one possible alternative harbour within practicable distance of St. John's which could be used as an overflow anchorage, viz, Harbour Grace in Conception Bay and this is suitable only for corvettes or smaller ships and may be iced up in February and March. The constructions of a break-water at the entrance and a pier on the north side will be required if Harbour Grace is to be used. The Admiralty have advised the Naval Officer in Charge, St. John's by message 1940B/23rd May, that it is essential to enable the maximum possible facilities to remain available for merchant ship repairs during the winter months. If the number of vessels contemplated in Admiral Bonham Carter's appreciated are to be accommodated, the result will be to reduce drastically the number of merchant vessels which can be sheltered in St. John's harbour and will probably reduce the number which can

contd/.....

-2-

be repaired. You will have realized, of course, the great cost which will be involved in compensating the owners of the waterfront properties for the damages which will be caused to them by the requisitioning of their premises. In my next preceding (sic) telegram I will inform you of the views of the Commission of Government on the question whether the Admiralty or the Canadian Government should be responsible for the establishment and operation of the proposed advanced Naval base at St. John's.

Recd. from Dominions Office 2200/9.

1st Lord.	E.P.S.	
1st S.L.	D.D.I.C.	
2nd S.L.	D.M.S.R.	
3rd S.L.	D.D.O.D. (H)	
Vice Controller	D.D.O.D. (F)	
4th S.L.	Hd. of L. (36) for	
5th S.L.	D.O.	
V.C.N.S.	C.O.	
A.C.N.S. (H)	W.C.O.	
A.C.N.S. (F)	L.M.	
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	W.O.	
Civil Lord.	H.C. for Canada.	
Controller .S.R.	H.C. for Newfoundland.	
Secretary	(12 for M. 37)	
Naval Sec.	(M. 07876/41)	
N.A. 1st S.L.	Admiral Bailey	
P.A.S. (F)	D.P.S.	
P.A.S. (H)	Hd. of Air Branch	
P.A.S. (P)	Hd. of N.	
P.A.S. (PR)	Hd. of C.W.	
D. of P. (2)	Hd. of P.M.	
D.N.I. (4)	Hd. of E.	
D. of L.D.	Hd. of N.A.S.	
D.O.D. (H)	Hd. of M.F.	
D.C.D. (F)	I.P.	
D.T.D. (2)	W.D.	
D. A/S W.	D. of S.T.	
D.N.A.D.	Dep. Controller	
D.M.S.	D. of D.	} Bath
D.S.D.	E. in C.	
E. in C.	D.E.E.	
D. of S.	C.L. in C.	
D. of N.	D. of S.	
D.T.M.	Hd. of S.W.R.	

MOST SECRET

147(2)

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

IN

1941/6th June

FROM:- The Government of Newfoundland DATE:- 6.6.41.

RECD:- 1855

CYPHER

ADDRESSED:- Dominions Office

No. 288. Secret.

Reference concluding sentence of my immediately preceding telegram, it is not clear to us whether the Admiralty still wish to establish their own advance base at St. Johns or have accepted the view expressed in the following telegram No. 36 Secret dated 3rd June 1941 which we have received from the Government of Canada: Begins:-

Reference your exchange of telegrams with the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs regarding the use of St. Johns as an advance base for convoy escort forces operating in the North Atlantic. We have advised the United Kingdom that in our view Canada should undertake the responsibility of the establishment and operation of convoy escort forces at St. Johns and that it has been decided to employ Canadian destroyers for this purpose, Canada would provide the ships required for this purpose with the possible exception of a few corvettes and certain auxiliary units which it is hoped could be supplied by the Royal Navy. Matters of detail in connection with the establishment of the base will be taken up immediately by the Chief of the Naval Staff of Canada with the Naval Officer at St. Johns and with the Admiralty. Ends.

This message was presumably sent before the Canadian Government had been acquainted of the contents of your telegram No. 489.

The commission of Government believe that it would be much preferable from the point of view of the future of Newfoundland and the sentiments of the people that the base should be an Admiralty base, established and operated by the United Kingdom Government on the lines indicated in your original telegram No. 441 of the 23rd May, and we hope that it will be possible for action to be taken accordingly, unless the adoption of the Canadian proposal is in the judgment of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom definitely preferable.

We should be glad to be informed of your views as early as possible.

1941/6

Received by hand from Dominions Office at 1110/7th

Advance copy sent Hd. of M.

1st Lord
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
Controller
Vice Controller
4th S.L.
5th S.L.

V.C.I.S./.....

V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S. (H)
 A.C.N.S. (F)
 A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
 Civil Lord
 Controller (M.S.R.)
 Secretary
 Naval Sec.
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 P.A.S. (S)
 P.A.S. (F)
 P.A.S. (N.P.)
 P.A.S. (P.R.)
 D. of P. (2)
 D.N.I. (4)
 D. of I.D.
 Admiral Bailey
 D.O.D. (H)
 D.D.O.D. (H)
 D.C.D. (F)
 D.D.O.D. (F)
 Duty Captain
 D.T.D. (2)
 D.A/S.V.
 D.N.A.D.
 D.M.S.
 D.S.D.
 E. in C.
 D. of S.
 D. of N.
 D.T.H.
 E.P.S.
 D.D.I.C.
 D.F.S.R.
 D.T.S.D.
 D. of S.T.
 D.P.S.
 N.A. 2nd S.L.
 E.A.P.
 M.D.G.
 P.D.G.
 Hd. of Air Branch
 Hd. of N. Branch
 Hd. of C.W. Branch
 Hd. of E. Branch
 I.P.
 W.D.
 Hd. of N.A. Section
 Hd. of M.F.
 Head of M. (6) (M. 07876/41)
 N.I.D.I.C. (Paym. Cdr. Wilson)
 Deputy Controller
 D. of D.
 E. in C.
 D.N.E.
 D.E.D.
 EG C.E. in C. Bath
 D. of S.
 D. of V.
 D.A.S.
 Under Secretary
 Hd. of P. Branch
 Hd. of M.F. Branch
 Hd. of S.W.R.

War Diary.

6.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. (Contd.)

C. in C.
Visit to
Halifax.

Your 2251/5. Situation now clear. Regret your plans have been upset. (1st S.L. 2011B/6 to C. in C.A.W.I.) Arrangements detailed in my 1027Q/28 apply to period p.m./7 to 17/6 inclusive. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1804Q/6 to A. and W.I. Stn.)

KOS.VI.

Please pass following to C. in C. Norwegian Navy. KOS.VI. Will dock tomorrow. Leave probably Tuesday for Greenock via St. Johns, N.F., if no other orders. Propose conscript Sub. Lieut. Hoel now Commanding go alone. Reliable Former Sub. Officer Gunner. Subsidiary Lieut. Sam Houlder. Signed Erling Hostvedt. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 2026Z/6 to Admty.)

Newfoundland
Force.

To comprise a separate command. Area, etc. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2155Z/6 to Admty. etc.) See Lion Copy.

178(A)

MESSAGE

2155Z/6th June

IN

SECRET

From N.S.H.Q. Ottawa

Date 7.6.41

Recd. 0347

NAVAL CYPHER (A1) by W/T

Addressed Admiralty, C.O.A.C. Halifax N.O.I/C. St. Johns N.F. C. in C. America and West Indies, C. in C. Western Approaches, N.O.I/C. Sydney Cape Breton, N.O.I.C. (Corrupt Group) N.O.I/C. St. John, N.B., N.O.I.C. Quebec, N.O.I/C. Shelburne, N.O.I/C. Montreal.

122 (1) The Newfoundland Force will comprise a separate command and it has been decided to delineate a separate command area to be responsibility of C.C.N.F.

(ii) Area of responsibility of C.O.A.C. Halifax will therefore include the Gulf of St. Lawrence Cabot Strait and approach thereto to westwards of a line drawn 135° from Ramca Island light (047° 23' North 056° 59' West) and in Belle Isle Strait to westward of Meridian 057° west.

(iii) C.C.N.F. will be responsible for waters to Northward and eastward of line described and for local defence of coasts and part of Newfoundland and Labrador and other matters pertaining thereto including Belle Isle patrol.

(iv) Forces of each command will normally operate under their own commanders in their own area but will extend operations into the other area as required. Co-ordination of any particular operation will be by Commander in whose area such operation commences. (?Tactical) control will be exercised by S.O. of forces involved.

(v) The above will be brought into effect by signal from N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.*

2155Z/6

1st Lord
1st Sea Lord
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
Secy.
Naval Secy.
N.A. 1st S.L.
P.A.S. (S)
Ops. (4)
O.D. (5)
O.I.C. (2)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of P. (3)

D. of L.D. (2)
M. (6)
D.A/S.W.
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (M)
C.C.C.S. Canada House
D.S.D. 9
E.P.S.
D.S.D.
Hydrog (2)
W.D.
I.P. (3)

Advance Copy Ops.
O.D.
O.I.C.

FMR

* Expedite on 17.6.41 (NSHQ. 1600Z/17), page 543.

War Diary

6.6.1941.
Friday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Ships Attacked

→ O.G. 63.

Attacked by A/C and U/B. Several ships torpedoed. (See North Atlantic)

EMPIRE STORM

British, 7290 tons, which sent out an S.S.S. just after midnight on 30/5, now known to have been torpedoed and sunk in 55.00 N., 39.50 W. Was a straggler from H.X. 128 bound from Montreal for Loch Ewe with wheat. (D.S. 640, 6/6.)

BARON LOVAT

TABERG

→ (O.G. 63)

W.A.C.I. part 1 article 102. (A) No contact obtained. (B) Starboard. Rockets were fired. (C) One mile ahead of No 6. column (D) BARON LOVAT No 63 might be salvaged TABERG No 53 not yet known. (E) 0329A/6 position 035° 36' N., 011° 12' W., (F) 051° four hours no zig zag (G) Moonlight, sea calm. (H) U/Boat fired from about 4000 yards on starboard bow of convoy. (WELLINGTON 0834A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

SIRE
(Torpedoed
31/5)

My 1228/4 N.C.S.I. 69. A. British SIRE. B. 31/5 0545 G.M.T. 08° 50' N., 15° 30' W. C. and D. Dumped overboard in weighted bag. E. In 100 fathoms. G. Master. Sunk by two torpedoes in 17 minutes, 46 crew landed Freetown 6/6. (C. in C. S.A. 1546N/6 to Admty.)

TREGARTHEN

* 02

Following has been read. SSSS 2105 G.M.T. 46.17 N., 36.20W. TREGARTHEN torpedoed 2158 G.M.T. (Cape Race Radio 2200Z/6)

ALFRED JONES
(Torpedoed 1/6)

My 1011/5 N.C.S.I. 69 (A) ALFRED JONES (B) 1/6 1207 G.M.T. in 08.00 N., 15.00 W., (C) and (D) all books dumped including Commodore's set (E) in 2200 fathoms (G) Master. Very large submarine with very high level conning tower. Fired four torpedoes of which two hit. Ship sunk with one more torpedo later. Commodore Swaby and Staff, all passengers and all crew except two have arrived Freetown. (C. in C. S.A. 2230B/6 to Admty.)

War Diary

6.6.1941.
Friday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Reported

- 2128/5 My 2351A/5. Another Italian U-Boat call sign 68A was in this vicinity at 2128Z/5. (F.O.C.N.A. 0057A/6 to BIDEFORD, AZABA, VANSITTART, WRESTLER, WELLINGTON)
- 0130 U-Boat on surface sighted by STELLA CARINA in position 225° 35' N., 10° W., 696 at 0130 and chased. Contact lost and escort rejoined convoy. (BIDEFORD 0245A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)
- 0248
0030 (Corrupt group) Italian U-Boat call sign 78G within 50 miles of position 037° 45' N. 011° 05' W., at 0248Z/6. U-Boat sighted on surface in vicinity of 034° 40' N., 010° (? 20') W., at 0030Z/6 (F.O.C.N.A. 0625A/6 to N.A. Stn.)
- 0823 Italian U-Boat was bearing 305° 3rd class from Gibraltar at 0823 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A. 0947B/6 to N.A. Stn.)
- 2313/5 U-Boat has been fixed by D/F within 25 miles of 052° 45' N., 028° 00' W., at 2313Z/5, probably homeward bound. (C. in C. W.A. 1018B/6 to VETERAN)
- 1058 Following has been read. 1 S/M submerged my position 61.11N., 21.21 W. (A/C Duty C 1058/6)
- Following has been read. CCM 1048 1 S B O E C S unknown. (A/C Duty C. 1105/6)
- Estimated U-Boat dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1345B/6)
- 1711 By D/F at 1711 G.M.T. U/B in position 52° N., 21° W. Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C. 2006B/6)

War Diary

6.6.1941.
Friday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Attacked

By WELLINGTON

Submarine sighted on surface 035° 35' N., 10° 40' W. (WELLINGTON 0608A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.) My 0608 A. Submarine has dived. Claim two hits by gun fire. (WELLINGTON 0617A/6) Large oil patches were observed at 0645 A in approx. position 035° 38' N., 010° 40' W where U-Boat was last seen. No A/S contact was obtainable and it is considered quite possible that U-Boat was sunk by gunfire. (WELLINGTON 1145A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.) Have swept along track of torpedo with LADY HOGARTH for 6 miles without sighting U-Boat or obtaining contact. Am rejoining convoy. Additional escort trawler and (? motor launch) not yet joined. No sign of aircraft. (WELLINGTON 1350A/6 to F.O.C.N.A.)

By A/C.

Following has been read. Am over enemy submarine in position 55° 56' N., 8° 18' W. (A/C via Liverpool W/T 1045/6) Following has been repeated. Enemy S/M previously reported was "periscope only sighted". (Via Liverpool W/T 1135/6) Attack U-Boat in position 055° 56' N., 008° 18' W., at 1045B/6. (C. in C. W.A. 1116B/6 to SALISBURY) Attack Report. Hudson Y 233. U-Boat at periscope depth 55.56 N., 08.18 W. Visibility 10 to 15 miles cloud base 1000 feet. D/charges dropped. Two depth charges exploded about 50 feet apart and about 30 yards away from 1 periscope 2 points forward of starboard beam, no damage actually observed. (2) 30 yards away from U-Boat 2 points forward of starboard beam no damage actually observed. (3) 30 yards away from U-Boat 2 points forward of starboard beam. No oil or air bubbles observed but after depth charges had exploded periscope rose about 1 foot out of water and U-Boat appeared to be stationary. Hudson was escorting SIDNEY STAR. Informed H. 39 by V/S which was about 20 miles away from position of U-Boat. H. 39 S/C for position but aircraft had to leave owing to patrol shortage relieving aircraft was not sighted. (Aldergrove, 1325/6 to Admty.)

/By A/C.... cont:

War Diary

6.6.1941.
Friday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Attacked

By A/C

Aircraft dropped depth charge in position 56°02 N., 8.19 W., at 1312 and stated sighted conning tower. BOADICEA, SKATE, PETUNIA were there at 1324. No ship could confirm. Search (3 Groups omitted) (BOADICEA 1431/6 to C. in C. W.A.)

BOADICEA detach three Corvettes to hunt U-Boat in position 055° 56' N. 008° 18' W. 1045B/6, SKATE, ROXBOROUGH, SALISBURY, rejoin O.G. 64 if not in contact with aircraft co-operating. (C. in C. W.A. 1626/6 to BOADICEA, SALISBURY)

My 1431. Search abandoned as not contact obtained. Convinced aircraft misled by porpoises sighted from ship. Rejoining S.C. 32. (Cdr. D.4. BOADICEA 1630/6 to C. in C. W.A.)

Unless in contact corvettes detailed to hunt U-Boat are to return to convoy or base. (C. in C. W.A. 1940B/6 to BOADICEA)

By A/C

Following has been read. Addressed No 15 Rec. Group H.Q. Am investigating suspicious object as indicated in position Possible periscope - Position 56.26 N., 8.48 W. (A/C LL 6 B. 1943/6)

Enemy submarine previously reported - periscope only sighted. Have attacked with depth charge. A/C LL 6 B 1947/6)

War Diary.

7.6.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Following upon indications that a U.Boat may be operating in the Denmark Straits, KENYA has been ordered to reinforce EDINBURGH on the Denmark Straits Patrol, AURANIA which had sailed for NP.72 this morning was ordered to return to Hvalfiord, and no A.M.C. is to patrol the Straits until further orders.

Convoy CW.37 was shelled this morning when off Folkestone and again near the SW. Gate Buoy by the Enemy Coastal Batteries at Gris Nez. No hits or damage are reported.

RUBIS, TRIDENT, TUNA and SEALION are patrolling the area 45° to 48° N. and 8° to 11° W. to intercept an Enemy Supply Ship, and SOKOL is proceeding to relieve SEALION on this patrol.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy CW.37 was repeatedly attacked by dive bombing A/C between 0005 and 0340 today commencing off Dover. The attacks were driven off by all weapons, especially by the Destroyer barrage; and 2 enemy A/C were shot down, one at 0110 by COTTESMORE and one by M.L.113 at 0215, no survivors being seen. ROEBUCK (Balloon Barrage Vessel) reported slight under-water damage, but none was sustained by any other vessel or by any of the 20 ships in convoy.

/4 bombs

War Diary.

7.6.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity. (contd.)

4 bombs were dropped at WANDERER at 0727 to the westward of Bloody Foreland without damage; at Aultbea the Boom Carrier ETHIOPIAN was slightly damaged by two near misses at 0957; and at Sheerness six bombs were dropped inside the Boom at 0210 by one low flying A/C without damage.

Mining.

2 Mines were exploded at Milford Haven, one of which sank an Examination Vessel; 2 were detonated in the Thames Estuary, one damaging the M/S Trawler ARCTIC HUNTER; the M/S Trawler EBOR WYKE was badly damaged by a Mine at Liverpool; and a heavy explosion, believed to be that of a Mine, occurred at 1430 one mile from Broadstairs Pier.

British Air Activity

Direct hits were obtained on 2 ships of 5,000 - 6,000 tons in convoy off Ymuiden, and on a salvage ship off Ameland.

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War Diary.

7.6.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Shipping and Convoys.

The Ministry of War Transport wish to include occasional ships in C.W. convoys for discharge at Newhaven.

North Atlantic.

Operation
"Rocket"

S.O. Force H. reported at 0729 that Operation "Rocket" had been completed without incident. He estimates that passage of Force H. but no flying off, was observed by the French and unobserved by the enemy. Force H. returned to Gibraltar this morning and left again westward at 2230.

A/S Forces.

Following the attack on Convoy O.G. 63 yesterday measures have been taken for the temporary reinforcement of A/S forces in North Atlantic.

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7.6.1941.
Saturday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

BERGENSFJORD.

As Port Lagos is closed owing to suspected mines, BERGENSFJORD is being sailed direct to Freetown with the battalion embarked at Victoria, Cameroons.

Threat from Vichy.

Chiefs of Staff warned C. in C. S.A. and G.O.C. in C. W. Africa today that in view of developments elsewhere, Vichy may act against British territory in Africa from tomorrow, most likely by air. Precautions taken at Bathurst will include the removal of tanker LISS after fuelling corvettes returning from escort on 9/6. Merchant ships there have been directed to leave as early as possible.

LONDON.

Is to remain temporarily on South Atlantic station, but it is necessary for the present for Admty. to retain control of her movements.

War Diary.

7.6.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Malta.

Luga aerodrome was raided last night, slight damage being done to the surface, and at dawn a machine gun attack was made on Hal Far aerodrome without damage or casualties.

Suez Canal.

It is inferred that the enemy is about to attack Suez Canal and Alexandria with mines containing a new fitting. Directions for dealing them were given in D.T.M.'s 1853/7.

DIDO.

Is not to proceed beyond Aden until it is confirmed she will refit in U.S.A.

Lybia.

Wellingtons again attacked Benghazi and Derna last night.

America and West Indies.

REPULSE
Concepcion
Bay.

REPULSE which arrived at Concepcion Bay at 2200Z/6 decided for greater security to put to sea at dark tonight returning at dawn tomorrow, as only 2 corvettes were on patrol, one of which was defective. Admty. intend that Concepcion Bay should only be used for emergency fuelling as it is exposed to U/Boat attack. An oiler will be kept in Newfoundland for this purpose. REPULSE is to provide ocean escort from Halifax to U.K. for T.C.11.

/WARSPITE

War Diary.

7.6.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies. (contd.)

WARSPITE.

Repairs to WARSPITE are to be carried out on the Pacific Coast at Bremerton Navy Yard.

Guns for
M.V.'s.

Since the passing of the Lend Lease Act it is legal to mount guns in merchant ships in U.S. ports, and proposals to this effect have been made by New York shipping representative today.

U. Boat Campaign.

U.S. Contact.

The U.S.A. Task Force 2 reported a hydrophone contact with a submerged submarine at 2000/7 G.M.T. in 32.35 N., 29.30 W.

War Diary

7.6.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

KASTELHOLM

Your 1846/6. Please report approximate interval between explosion and sinking of ship. In view of estimated position of sinking I consider KASTELHOLM was undoubtedly sunk by mine, and this fact should be strongly impressed on the survivors and given publicity. (A.C.O.S. 1055/7 to N.O.I.C. Faeroes)

Your 1846/6. KASTELHOLM was in British declared Area and there appears to be no doubt that she was mined. You should act in accordance with 1155/6 from A.C.O.S. (D.N.I. 1318A/7 to N.O.I.C. Faeroes)

Your 1055/7 understood. Interval between explosion 2 minutes. Course of ship 244°. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1940B/7 to A.C.O.S)

W.A. Escort Forces.

My 1301B/30. Paragraph 1 (B) add GARLAND Paragraph 2. (A) Delete GARLAND. (C. in C. W.A. 1150B/7)

My 1301B/30. 1. Organisation in para 1 amended by my 1716B/3 and 1150B/7 is to come into force forthwith. (C. in C. W.A. 1313B/7.)

CAIRO

A.L.M. 07168/41 of 26th/5. CAIRO will return from convoy escort about 10th/6. Propose she shall proceed to East Coast as soon after her return as HERMIONE joins Western Approaches Command. (C. in C. W.A. 1207B/7.)

W/T communication with A/C.

Your 1747B/3 and my 1806B/5. Request your remarks on following proposed future policy. Basic rule is that option to break W/T silence rests with Fleet Units. On arrival of aircraft for A/A duties however the normal practice should be to establish R/T communication.

/2.....

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War Diary

7.6.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

W/T
communication
with A/C-Contd.

2. This is desirable because in fighter aircraft R/T is pilot operated.
3. Since fighters are usually sent in response to requests sent by W/T in times of stress it is considered reasonable that the breaking of R/T silence should be the rule rather than the exception.
4. If agreed aircraft will be instructed always to answer when called by R/T.
(C. in C. W.A. 1251B/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

Necessity for
Depot Ship
at Hvalfiord.

C. in C. H.F. 1105B/29. Concur. (C. in C. W.A. 1327B/7)

VICTORIOUS

Your 1216B/31. It is the intention that VICTORIOUS shall become an operational carrier on her return from Operation "Tracer" about 20/6 and it is hoped to be able to allocate her to the Home Fleet. (1st S.L. 1531B/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

One S/M
requested
for Western
Area.

F.O. (S) 1854B/6 and a.m. 0700B/1. When normal dispositions are resumed I hope one submarine will operate in the Western Area proposed in my 1256/13/5. (C. in C. Plymouth 2049/7 to Admty.)

Newfoundland
Escort Force.

Request I may be informed whether Corvettes manned by Free French crews may be allocated to Newfoundland escort force.
(C. in C. W.A. 2232B/7.)

Denmark Straits
Patrol.

AURANIA is to return to Hvalfiord. No A.M.C. is to patrol Denmark Straits until further orders. There are indications of a U-Boat operating in Denmark Straits. (C. in C. H.F. 2326B/7.) *See also next page*

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War Diary

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Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Defence of U.K.

Tyne.
Fighter Cover
for M/V.
Anchorage.

Representation has been made by the Merchant Ships Technical Committee which meets periodically at the Admiralty in regard to lack of adequate fighter cover for merchant ships anchorage off the Tyne. Request you will remark and take any action you consider desirable with Group concerned. (D.T.D. 1558B/7 to F.O.I.C. Tyne)

Movements

AURORA

Scapa arrival F.O.C.2.C.S. in AURORA.
(A.C.O.S. 0612B/7)

AURANIA

Sailed AURANIA for NP 72 (N.O.I.C. Iceland 0901/7) *See previous page.*

SEALION

Cancel my 1403B/6 except para 2. (Capt. S. 5. 1037B/7 to SEALION)
Cancel my 1406B/6 (S.5. 1041B/7 to C. in C. Plymouth) *See next page.*

Fleet
Tender A.

Cancel my 1126/7. Fleet tender 'A' is to remain at Methil pending further orders from Admty. (C. in C. Rosyth 1825/7)

TARTAR

Return to Scapa with despatch with your destroyer. (R.A.D. H.F. 2314B/7 to TARTAR)

War Diary

7.6.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations

Convoy
C.W. 37
Shelled.

Enemy coastal batteries at Gris Nez fired about 19 rounds at Convoy C.W. 37 when off Folkestone between 0138 and 0154 today. It is also reported by FERNIE that Convoy and Escort shot down two enemy A/C during bombing attacks between 0004 and 0245. No reports of damage have been received.

(V.A. Dover 1059B/7)

Two groups of five 2-4 Gun Salvos were fired at 0315 (sic) and 0150 from French coast, straddling Convoy near S.W. Gate Buoy. (FERNIE 1000B/7 to C. in C. Portsmouth) (C. in C. Portsmouth 1743B/7)

Search for
Enemy
Supply Ship

Cancel my 1856B/6.

A. SEALION, TRIDENT, proceed to reach following patrol position S. by daylight 8/6 if reasonably possible. Submarines may proceed with despatch but no undue risk is to be taken. TRIDENT through 46° 25' N., 08° 50' W., to 46° 38' N., 9° 42' W. SEALION to 46° 04' N., 09° 13' W.

Subsequently leaving patrol after dark 8/6 as directed by S.5.

B. SOKOL proceed through 49° 08' N., 05° 54' W., to patrol in position 47° 16' N., 10° 03' W. (F.O.S. 1212B/7)

F.O.(S) 1212B/7. After reaching 048° 50' N., 006° 32' W., proceed in accordance with F.O. (S) 1824B/4. T.B.R. arranged 10 miles either side of a line joining 048° 50' N., 006° 32' W., and 047° 16' N., 010° 03' W. from 1200B/8 to 2300B/10. (Capt. S.5. 1609B/7 to SOKOL)

Leave patrol after dark/8 to R/V 180° Saint Catherines 5 miles at 0500B/12. Route.

T.B.R. arranged as follows. (Capt. S. 5. 1612B/7 to SEALION) *See previous page.*

M.T.B's
off Ostend.

Weather permitting one unit of M.T.B's operating in vicinity of Ostend tonight. (C. in C. Nore. 1500B/7)
Departures M.T.B's 100 and 14. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2136/7)

/Search for.....

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7.6.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Operations-Contd.

Search for
BISMARCK

Forward a summary of damage sustained from any cause during the BISMARCK operation together with comments on the lessons to be learned therefrom. (C. in C. H.F. 1552B/7 to Home Fleet, VICTORIOUS)

Denmark Straits
Patrol.

KENYA is to proceed reinforce EDINBURGH on Denmark Straits patrol. (C. in C. H.F. 1907B/7)
C. in C. H.F's 1907B. Intend to proceed 0610Z/8. (KENYA 2101Z/7)

British Air Activity

R/C by
American
P.B.Y's on
31/5.

Your 1002B/7 following is a repetition of my 1303/30 to C. in C. H.F. Begins.
R/C of King Oscar Fjord and Scoresby Fiord Area will be carried out by 4 American P.B.Y's leaving 0600 tomorrow May 31st. At 2000 BROOME leaves a position due North of North Cape as far as ice permits to provide W/T communication. Ends. (F.O.I.C. Iceland 1046/7 to A.C.O.S.)

Patrols

The following patrols are being flown by Sunderland aircraft today to be on datum at 1400. 1. "Fugle One:" 2. A/S patrol of area 60° N., 09° W., - 60° N., 7° W., 59° N., 07° W., - 59° N., 09° W. (C. in C. Rosyth 1100/7)
My 1100/7. Delete Para 2. (C. in C. Rosyth 1332/7)

Night Fighters
Use of Flares.

H.Q.F.C. 1700/5. Request information be circulated as suggested, and that the defences be warned accordingly. (Air Ministry F.O. 6. 1238/7)

/Fighter.....

War Diary

7.6.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

British Air Activity-Contd.

Fighter
Protection

Request fighter protection T.H.V. DISCOVERY II and Escort. Programme as follows. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1515B/7 to C. in C. Nore)

Enemy Air Activity

Convoy C.W.37.
2 A/C shot down.
ROEBUCK
slightly
damaged.

Help ^{"Pewit"} ~~PEWIT~~ 51° 4' N., 1° 16' E. (ATHERSTONE 0018/7)
Fighters have been despatched to convoy ^{"Pewit"} ~~PEWIT~~ (Dover W/T 0036/7)
Convoy attacked repeatedly by aircraft between 0005 and 0340, commencing off Dover, comparatively few bombs were dropped and many attacks driven off by all weapons, especially destroyer barrage.
COTTESMORE shot down one HE 111 at 0110.
At 0215 another aircraft, after being fired at by convoy, ATHERSTONE and FERNIE, passed over M.L. 113 who obtained several hits, saw A/C in steep dive and heard crash. Tremendous explosion heard by FERNIE.
3. No casualties. Only damage is slight under water damage reported by ROEBUCK. 1000B/7 Ends. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1743B/7) (FERNIE 1930/7)

WANDERER

One aircraft 1500 feet. 4 bombs, no damage. Position 055° 27' N., 013° 30' W. (WANDERER 0727B/7)

ETHIOPIAN

(Boom Carrier) Has been missed by two bombs, one ahead and abreast. No.2 hold. Slight leak has developed which at present is under control of ships' pump. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 0957B/7)

QUEENSBURY
(Bombed 6/6)

My 1025/6/6. N.O.I.C. Dundee reports trawler STURTON sank SS QUEENSBURY by gunfire after she had turned bottom up in approx. position 56° 47½' N., 02° 09' W. in 39 fathoms of water at 0830/6. (C. in C. Rosyth 1213/7)

/Thames....

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Saturday

War Diary

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

Thames
Estuary.

At 0210 twin engined plane flew low over the area inside the Boom and was engaged by LOCUST, BALMORAL and PRESIDENT HERIOT. Rear Gunner from the plane fired back in each case.

Plane identified as HE 111 by PRESIDENT HERIOT. Six bombs dropped close to LOCUST in position 8. No evidence of minelaying. (S.O. T.L.D.F. Sheerness 1635/7)

Mining.

Operation
S.N. 64.

Propose to carry out as follows. Details. (R.A.M. 0846B/7) See Operations Volume Orders to SCOTT to proceed a.m./9 to lay Beacons. (R.A.M.L. 0847B/7 to SCOTT) See Operations Volume.

My 0846/7. Request two destroyers to complete close screen may be sailed to arrive Port Z.A. by 1400/9. If two are not available, one can be accepted. (R.A.M. 0912/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

R.A.M's 0912/7. Request you will sail two destroyers. (C. in C. H.F. 1821B/7 to R.A.D.)

Humber

My 1632B/5. Now reported that a total of four mines (3 German type Y, one exploded, type unknown) were swept as follows. (F.O.Humber 1509B/7)

Broadstairs

At 1430 R.A.F. HSL 120 whilst returning to harbour speed of advance 32 knots, a violent explosion with large column of water one cable astern of port quarter approx. position 120° from Broadstairs pier 1 mile, believed to be a mine. No damage to craft or personnel. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1458B/7)

/Liverpool.....

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War Diary

7.6.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining-Contd.

Liverpool.
EBOR WYKE
(LL Trawler)
damaged.

At 1040/6 EBOR WYKE exploded one mine as follows. Details. Ship suffered extensive damage in engine room. Hull damaged. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1726B/7 and 1818B/7 and 2158B/7)

Thames Estuary.
ARCTIC HUNTER
(M/S Trawler)
Damaged.

At 1155/7. Two mines detonated by S.A. gear as follows. Details. Ship sustained some damage, believed slight. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1740/7)

Milford Haven.
Examination
Vessel No. 10.
Sunk.

At 0704/7 one mine exploded by sweeper. Details. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1801B/7) Examination vessel No. 10, damaged by mine explosion at 1450 today, subsequently sank when in tow. No casualties. Ship appears to have been off swept Channel. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1834/7)

Enemy Intelligence

Shipping at
Sassnitz.
EMDEN.

Sassnitz following observations made May 31st.
(A) Large number grey painted merchant ships in port with Alpine troops in vicinity.
(B) Eight small 15 foot half decked grey painted boats without motors arrived by train. These are entirely different Sturnboats recently arrived from Finland.
(C) Naval training school of three large four storied buildings in woods to southward of town.
(D) EMDEN in harbour. (Graded A.2.)
(N.A. Stockholm 1247/7)

Casualties & Defects

MELROSE ABBEY
(Grounded 28/3)

Intend sailing ABEILLE 4 to attempt refloat MELROSE ABBEY p.m. 9th 10th 11th. Tug returning Peterhead each night. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1606/7)

/REPULSE.....

War Diary

6.7.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Casualties & Defects-Contd.

REPULSE

Admty. 1156B/7. REPULSE has had no practice of firing for 3 months. After arrival, if service permits, 12 hours notice for steam for 3 days to repair weather damage and defects is very desirable. (REPULSE 2004Z/7 to B.S. 3.)

Shipping & Convoys.

S.L. 74

Congratulations on bringing your convoy S.L. 74 to U.K. with such success. P.L.M. 17 arrived safely at Madeira. (C. in C. W.A. 1618B/7 to Commodore Brook R.N.R.)

Outward
Routeing Forms.

Method of despatch to Admty. (D.T.D. 1623B/7 to N.C.S.O's)

Newhaven

Ministry of War Transport wish to include occasional ships in C.W. Convoys for discharge at Newhaven. Do you concur? (D.T.D. 1723B/7 to C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Nore.)

Meeting
O.B. Convoys.

My 1711B/3. A signal will be made to you in following form requesting you to sail escort to meet O.B. Convoys at eastern R/V, escort to Western departure point, thence proceeding to St. John's N.F.
(a) Names of escort from Iceland
(b) name of convoy, (c) Names of escort from U.K., (d) Cdre's name and ship and number of ships in company, (e) Time of R/V.
(f) position of R/V., omitting words north and west. (C. in C. W.A., 1728B/7 to N.O.I.C. Iceland.)

/Trawlers.....

War Diary

7.6.1041.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping & Convoys-Contd.

Trawlers
from Iceland

My No. 679/O.S. 0813 of 29/5 add:-
Iceland. All British and Faroese Trawlers
returning from Icelandic waters to U.K.
direct are to call at Reykjavik,
Sedisfiordur or Vestmann Islands for
sailing orders. It should also be impressed
on Icelandic Government that no Icelandic
fish carriers are to sail without calling
at one of the above ports for routeing.
(A.C.O.S. 1824B/7 to Admty.)

Use of
Convoy Titles.

To facilitate quick reference all signals
dealing with routes, etc. regarding
specific convoy should normally refer to
the convoy title. References to T.O.O.
only are apt to cause delay owing to
volume of traffic. (D.T.D. 1956B/7 to
N.C.S.O's)

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War Diary.7.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.Oran
Reconn.,
for
DUNKERQUE.Your 2343B/6. Glenn Martin leaves 0500/7.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0012A/7 to Admty.)
In view of S.O. Force H. 2327/6. Cancel my
0012. (F.O.C.N.A. 0102A/7 to Admty.)Operation "Rocket".
ROCKET.Completed without incident. Estimate
passage of Force H but no flying off
observed by French and unobserved by enemy.
One Hurricane returned defective landed
safely. (S.O. Force H, 0729/7, to Admty.)DOMINE
(Spanish.)From Fernando Po 31/5 for Las Palmas ?
reported carrying suspicious passengers, etc.
If encountered, remove German national
consular mail, and any enemy mail found.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1028A/7 to N.A. Stn.)Attacks on
O.G. 63.Have following survivors from TABERG and
BARON LOVAT torpedoed and GLEN HEAD sunk by
bombs.
BARON LOVAT - Master and entire crew in
WELLINGTON.
GLEN HEAD - 7 in ST.MELANTE, believed 2 in
RUNSWICK BAY. TABERG - 6 in RUNSWICK BAY.
RUNSWICK BAY has not yet rejoined convoy.
(WELLINGTON, 1035A/7, to F.O.C.N.A.)SANTA
LUZIA
intercepted.My Arfar 359. Portuguese motor vessel
SANTA LUZIA, Setubal to Tangier cargo 180
tons cement sent in by IMPERIALIST under
armed guard. Has certificate of origin
signed Consul Lisbon 2/6. but no ships navy
certificate. A similar case was reported
in N.C.S.O. Lisbon 1129/21. Am detaining
vessel pending your instructions.
(C.C.S.O. Gib., 1120/7 to M.E.W.)

/ARMERIA.....

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War Diary.

7.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic Contd.

ARMERIA.
BURDOCK.

En route to Freetown pass through following positions. (F.O.C.N.A., 1256A/7.)
ARMERIA and BURDOCK also Norwegian ship BELPAREIL arrived Ponta Delgada 1530 G.M.T./7 (Ponta Delgada, 1640/7, to Admty.)

VICTORIOUS.

WRESTLER expects to join you during daylight 8/6 to reinforce your escort.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1258A/7 to VICTORIOUS.)

ARGUS.

There are indications that you may have been reported by Italian U-Boat at 0827. G.M.T.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1302A/7 to ARGUS.)

WATERMEYER.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 1040 A/5 not to C. in C. S.A.
Tug WATERMEYER should be routed via Freetown calling at Bathurst if necessary for fuel.
(D.O.D. (F) 1655B/7 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)

BERGAMOT.

Should be routed via Ponta Delgada.
Fuel will be arranged. One officer going as Assistant N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada will take passage.
(D.O.D. (F) 1720B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

O.G. 63.

Gibraltar section less TABERG arrived.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1840A/7 to Admty.)

A/S Forces.

Measures for temporary reinforcements.
(V.C.N.S., 1916B/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)
See Lion Copy.

French Convoy.

EPERVIER passed Gibraltar 1430/7 eastbound escorting French M.V.'s MARGUERITE FINALY (tanker) and EDEA, both laden.
(D.O.R., 9/6.)

/Force 'H'.....

MOST SECRET

200A

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

OUT

1916B/7th June

TO:- F.O.C. North Atlantic 801

repeated C. in C. Mediterranean 671

C. in C. Home Fleet 94

DATE:- 7.6.41.

C. in C. South Atlantic 648

C. in C. Western Approaches 575

F.O. Force H 88

R.A.(D) Home Fleet 514

C. in C. Nore 478

NAVAL CYPHER (D)

FROM:- Admiralty

~~643~~

Requirements in other areas do not at present allow a permanent increase of the A/S forces in your Command, but the following measures will be taken to provide temporary reinforcement with the object of enabling you to destroy some of the U/Boats and drive the remainder from your Area.

(A) AVONVALE, FARNDALE, and BRIDGE, leave United Kingdom shortly for Gibraltar and remain there until the arrival of destroyers in para. (B) These 3 HUNTS are allocated to C. in C. Mediterranean, and they should then proceed to join his flag through the Mediterranean or round the Cape as he may direct. The fourth - HEYTHROP - should be ready to leave United Kingdom without working up in about one month's time.

(B) WINDSOR, VIMY and BEVERLEY to proceed to Gibraltar to work up. When worked up, VIMY will join South Atlantic Station. WINDSOR Nore Command. BEVERLEY Western Approaches. It is intended that other destroyers working up will relieve these ships.

(C) The 9th M L Flotilla to join you as soon as part towage can be arranged, the 19th M L Flotilla to follow when ready.

(D) C. in C. Coastal Command will increase number of CATALINAS at Gibraltar to twelve.

2. Would it be practicable for your Armed Boarding Vessels to undertake the work of your Armed Boarding Trawlers, so releasing the latter for A/S operations?

1916B/7

for D.O.D.(F)

Approved by V.C.N.S.

1st Lord	D.D.O.D.(F)	D.T.S.D.
1st S.L.	D.O.D.(H)	D.D.I.C.
2nd S.L.	D.D.O.D.(H)	E.P.S.
3rd S.L.	D.N.I.(4)	D.T.D.(2)
4th S.L.	D.S.D.	N.I.D.10. Paym. Cdr. Wilson
5th S.L.	D. of L.D.	
V.C.N.S.	D.N.A.D.	
A.C.N.S.(H)	D.A/S.W.	
A.C.N.S.(F)	D.M.S.	
A.C.N.S.(T)(2)	I.P.	
N.A. 1st S.L.	W.D.	
D. of P.(2)	Duty Captain	
D.O.D.(F)	Hd. of M.	

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War Diary.

7.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic Contd.

Force 'H'

Sails westwards at 2230.
(F.O.C.N.A., 2130A/7. to S/M O.24, REGENT.)

9th M.L.
Flotilla.

To meet U-boat threat in Approaches to Gibraltar it is necessary for 9th M.L. Flotilla to be sailed as soon as possible for Portland where R.A.C.F. is to arrange for them to be prepared for passage to Gibraltar part of the passage being made in tow of H.M. Ships. Troon Base is to remain in operation.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 2225B/7 to F.O.I.C., Greenock, R.A.C.F.)

Air Search.

Catalina Call sign M 9 H D leaves 0330 to carry out A/S search (area).
(F.O.C.N.A., 2320A/7 to VICTORIOUS, ARGUS, BIDEFORD, WRESTLER, S.O. Force H.)

South Atlantic.

MARIONGA

(torpedoed 24/5)

Two survivors from Greek MARIONGA landed Monrovia 26 Report vessel torpedoed 70 miles off Liberian Coast on 24/5. Believed CITY OF RANGOON picked up three survivors from this vessel on 27/5.
(C. in C. S.A. 0113N/7 to Admty.)

CUMBERLAND.

Departure 1800/6. CUMBERLAND in accordance with your 2237B/4/6.
(S.O.I. Freetown 0155N/7 to Admty.)
Admty., 2237/4 CUMBERLAND leaves Freetown 1800/6 will overtake convoy S L 76 11 (?) /6 in about 035° N., 022° W., then escort to position V, 051° 50' N., 020° 00' W., thence to Scapa in future fuel. C. in C. A. & W.I., requested to issue onward routing instructions from position V.
(C. in C. S.A., 0401N/7, to Admty.)

/Your 1434/.....

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War Diary.

7.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. Contd.

LIEUT. ST.
LOUBERT BIE.

Your 1434/9/4.
Log shows left Dakar 7/5 and before interception passed through following positions:-
(S.O.(I) Capetown, 1015/7, to Admty.)

SCOTTISH
MONARCH.

Overdue Shipping SCOTTISH MONARCH due Freetown 2/6 from Loch Ewe 9/5 has not arrived. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1030N/7, to Admty.)

Bathurst.

Air Ministry X. 802 2/6. Anti aircraft for Bathurst to be sited as follows:-
(O.C. R.A.F., Bathurst, 1123/7. to Air Min.)

BERGENSFJORD
ABOSSO.

My 2047/5 and Admty., 1918/6. As Port Lagos is closed owing to suspected mines BERGENSFJORD is being sailed with battalion embarked at Victoria direct to Freetown. ABOSSO diverted to Port Harcourt will have unloaded passengers and cargo there by 14/6. May ship be used and second Nigerian battalion embarked there or at Lagos if open by then and brought to Freetown arriving about 20/6?
(C. in C. S.A., 1131N/7 to Admty.)
Reply: 1903/10.

Vichy
and
W. Africa
Bathurst
precautions.

Following from Chiefs of Staff to C. in C. S.A., and G.O.C. in C. West Africa:
In view of developments in other parts of the world, strong possibility that Vichy France may act against British territory in Africa beginning from tomorrow, 8/6.
Air attack is most likely form of action.
(1st. S.L., 1155B/7, to C. in C. S.A.)
In view of my 1155B/7, desirable that Tanker LISS and other Merchant Ships in Bathurst should move to Freetown. Also that ships loading in West African ports should be sailed independently for Bermuda or Sydney C.B. for convoy instead of Freetown. (A;C.N.S.(T) 1530B/7 to C.in C.S.A.)

/Your 1530/7/6...

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War Diary.

7.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

Vichy
and W.Africa
Bathurst
precautions.
Contd.

Your 1530/7/6. LISS will fill the one oil lighter at Bathurst and should remain there to fuel corvettes returning from escort on 9/6, then has orders to leave. Intend that convoy S L 77 shall sail 8/6 from Freetown as arranged. As Lagos and Takoradi are likely to be closed for some time, unlikely many ships will be able to leave west coast ports for the present as these two ports are almost only fuelling ports. Instructions will be given that these ships are to be sailed to Bermuda or Sydney C.B. as fuel allows when loaded and ports open. Merchant ships Bathurst have been directed to leave early as possible. Are ships now bound there being diverted by Admiralty? Suggest EAGLE and DUNEDIN be informed fuel will not be available Bathurst after 9/6.

(C. in C. S.A., 1823N/7 to Admty.)

Your 1155/7 and my 1823/7. Should be grateful for information as to full scope of situation as early as possible. Though sure state of affairs at Freetown is well known, feel it my duty to point out that there are no aircraft, fighters or bombers here and A/A defences are inadequate. R.A.F. accommodation at Hastings has no order of priority as yet and building is proceeding very slowly.

(C. in C. S.A., 1949N/7, to Admty.)

Italian
M.V.

Pernambuco reports there are indications that one Italian ship may ask clearance this afternoon Saturday.

(S.O.I., Montevideo, 1419Z/7.)

My 1419Z/7. Italian Lati Aeroplane which left Natal yesterday went out to sea instead of following usual overland route, returned after 22 minutes alleging radio failure which was soon repaired and plane took off on normal route. Suggested flight may have some connection with report that Italian ship might ask clearance to-day.

(S.O.I. Monte Video, 2312Z/7, to S.O.I. Freetown.)

/URBINO.....

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War Diary.

7.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

URBINO
oil &
wreckage
report.

URBINO at 1000Z/24 in approx., 005° 10' N., 025° 45' W., passed through large oil patches 1½ miles in diameter and at 1800Z/24 in approx., 004° 05' N., 025° 20' W., sighted 1 wing of wrecked aeroplane with British markings.
(S.O.I., Simonstown, 1530B/7, to Admty. etc.)

CITY OF
DURBAN.
CAPE
SABLE.

Your 1923N/19/5. Approved to employ both CITY OF DURBAN and CAPE SABLE as A/S "Q" ships on your station.
(D.O.D. (F) 1850B/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

LONDON
NORFOLK
SHROPSHIRE.

Your 2113 N/30 and A.T. 1932/6. Request passengers still in LONDON to be disembarked on her return to Freetown for conveyance to U.K., in NORFOLK and SHROPSHIRE.
(V.C.N.S. 1900B/7, to C. in C. S.A.)
LONDON will remain temporarily on your station on completion of present operation, but it is necessary for the present for Admiralty to retain control of her movements.
(V.C.N.S. 1915B/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

Bathurst
Air Base.

Air Ministry's X.802 of 2/6 timed 1810/2. Advance party is in W S 8 X and remainder in W.S.9A with 7 vehicles and 20 tons of stores. Request you arrange to transport each party to Bathurst with least possible delay, as Hudsons cannot operate till party arrives. Request report date Advance Party will arrive Bathurst.
(A. C. N. S.(T) 2240B/7 to C. in C. S.A.)

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War Diary.7.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Greece
and
Crete.Lessons of German Air Attacks.
(C. in C. M.E., 0315/7 to W.O. etc.)
See Lion Copy.Benghazi
Bombed.Op. Summary No. 362 up to 1200 hours. 7/6.
Night 5/6, 11 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi
Harbour causing many explosions and fires
at bases of Central and Cathedral Moles.
Day 6/6. Hurricanes provided fighter
protection off Egyptian coast for supply
ships returning from Tobruk.Crete.Day. 6/6. 1 Hurricane and 1 Maryland
reconnoitred South coast of Crete unsuccess-
fully for party of 600 soldiers and airmen
reported East of Sphakia on 2/6. No
movements observed on tracks in centre of
Island, no shipping at sea North of central
Crete. (H.Q., R.A.F. M.E., 1054/7.)Greek
Fleet.Your 1943/5. Adm. Sakellariou opposed to
project of sending ships to African ports.
He asked whether 2 destroyers could not go
to Bombay (? to refit) and one stand by
at (?Verde), GEORGIOS AVEROFF and HEPHALISTOS
and one submarine to Port Sudan, latter to
dock there while remainder continue to (?work)
in Mediterranean.
(C. in C. Med., 1255C/7, to Admty.)Operation
"Exporter"
(Syria.)Your 1638C/6. N.T. in W.D. Request
information as to what part the Fleet is
taking in "EXPORTER" and whether it
includes prevention of sea borne supplies
entering by Latakia.
(1st. S.L., 1529B/7 to C. in C. Med.)

/Your 1529B/7.....

SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

0315/7 June

From C.in C. Middle East

Date 7.6.41.
Recd. 1105.CIPHER.

Addressed The War Office, G.O.C. Palestine and Transjordan.
G.O.C. in C. Egypt, C.in C. India, Governor and
C. in C. Malta, Governor and C.in C. Gibraltar.

IMMEDIATE

18403. TNG/70792 Cipher 6/6

Further to my 69664 of 2 June (to troopers only)

Following information of German attacks at Corinth and in
Crete.

Part 1 Corinth.

(1) About 0615 hrs. 26 April intensive low level bombing attack began over area about two miles circumference either side Bridge. About 0650 hrs. this accompanied by attacks with small cannon and M.G.'s from fighter aircraft. During latter period about 2000 parachutists dropped into centre of area. from height about 300 to 400 ft. Troop carriers arrived in threes at very slow speed. Air attack in landing area stopped but continued all round. Parachutes were coloured white for personnel and grey black and red for stores. Parachutes appeared to have special device for rapid opening. Some parachutists carried red flags with Swastika in white circle for putting on bonnets of captured vehicles. Enemy able produce intensive small arm and mortar fire within ten minutes after parachutes dropped.

Part 2 Crete.

(2) Simultaneous attacks by parachute troops and gliders made 0800 hrs. 20 May in Canea area and Maleme. Attacks on Retimo and Heraklion made about 1615 hrs same date. Parachutists landed well away from troop dispositions in some cases. In Canea Maleme area they covered area 8 miles by 3 miles and numbered between three and four thousand. At Heraklion and Retimo area was smaller but still a large one extending over several miles.

(3) Parachutes were of three colours, white grey-green and brown. The proportion of white parachutes was approximately one in twenty four. Personnel were carried in white and green parachutes stores in grey-green and brown. Average height of drop 300ft. all parachutes had quick opening apparatus. Parachutists immediately collected their arms and knew where to go but those who landed in occupied areas had such terrible casualties that they hid and took no active part in proceedings for several hours.

(4) Arms carried on person of parachutists were an automatic pistol four hand grenades and a large knife. A proportion carried tommy guns strapped to their backs. All other weapons were carried in separately dropped containers which had to be located and opened a process occupying several minutes. Those who landed further away prepared where possible runways for troop carrying aircraft. Light arty. and armd. carriers landed later in troop carrying aircraft.

- (5) Gliders in tows of from two to five carried twelve men with arms and equipment. Gliders landed anywhere where cultivation or barren ground existed and attacked weaker posts of defences. Some gliders and aircraft landed on beaches.
- (6) All attacks preceded by dive bombing and machine gunning A.A. and troop positions. Dive bombers pointed out our positions to enemy troops.
- (7) Total parachutists landed estimated for first day Ganta 1890 Maleme 1770 Retimo 1200 and Heraklion 2000.

Part 3 Lessons.

- (a) Aerodromes being enemy main objective must be organised for all round defence (including pill boxes) specially as parachutists may drop behind defences. Defences including artillery must be in depth. Artillery in sites with cover proved more useful than those in open with all round field of fire.
- (b) All ranks of all arms must be armed with rifles and bayonets and high proportion of tommy guns to protect themselves and in the case of artillery, their guns.
- (c) By day it should be easy to deal with parachutists but it must be remembered that parachutists may land at night and secure an aerodrome. Main problem is to deal with enemy air borne troops and as it is impossible to be strong everywhere there must be strong mobile reserves centrally placed preferably with tanks.
- (d) Defence must be offensive. Immediate action by mobile reserves essential to prevent enemy settling down and in order to secure quick action good system of intercommunication is vital. Delay may allow enemy air to prevent movement.
- (e) During bombing phase A.A. and L.I.G.'s should remain silent unless required to protect own aircraft on ground.
- (f) A.A. layout should include dummy A.A. guns and alternative positions. Positions of A.A. guns should be continually changed.
- (g) Arrangements must be made quickly to render aerodromes liable to attack temporarily unfit for landing.
- (h) Equally important to quick action of mobile reserve is position of fighter aircraft support the existence of which might prevent any airborne landing from succeeding or at least reduce enemy effort. Forgoing are interim lessons which may be modified as result of views of special interservices committee examining operations.

0315/7

Advance Copy Ops. O.D. O.I.C.

1st Lord.	
1st S.L.	
5th S.L.	D. of P. (3).
V.C.N.S.	M. (3)
A.C.N.S. (F)	A.H. H.F.
A.C.N.S. (H)	I.P. (3).
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	D.S.D.9.
H.A. 1st S.L.	O.N.A.D.
Ops. (4).	J.D.
O.D. (5).	
D.N.I. (4).	
D. of L.D. (2).	
O.I.C.	

War Diary.7.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean Contd.Operation
"Exporter"
(Syria.)
Contd.

Your 1529B/7. Following forces taking part. Force B. C.S.15 in PHOEBE, AJAX, KANDAHAR, KIMBERLEY, JACKAL, JANUS, supporting left flank of army as requisite. Force C Capt. (D) 2 with GLENGYLE, COVENTRY, and four destroyers attempting landing mouth of Nahr Litany River 0200C/8. GLENGYLE and two destroyers return to Port Said on completion, remainder (? to join) force B. 2. Sufficient force would be detached if reconnaissance reveals supplies approaching or reaching Latakia. (? No) such indication has yet been received. 3. 6 Swordfish and 2 M.T.B's stationed in Cyprus cover approaches to Syria from Westwards and Sunderlands are doing reconnaissance further to westwards towards Crete.

(C. in C. Med., 1829C/7, to Admty.)

*See also p.208.*ALBERTA.
(French.)

My 1819/6 para. A. (re distress signal picked up by Turkey W/T.) Tanker is French ALBERTA. Severely damaged engine room flooded, French N.A. here requesting Turks today to endeavour to tow ship to Istanbul.

(S.O.I., Istanbul, 1657/7, to S.O.I., Med.)

Malta Air
Raids.

C S R. All times G.M.T. up to 1600 hours 7/6. Enemy air activity night 6/7. 11 enemy aircraft over singly between 2100 to 0140 hours. Target Luqa where damage done to surface and runways now serviceable. 1 Blenheim direct hit but engines and many other parts undamaged. No other damage or casualties. Day 7/6. Dawn machine gun attack on Hal Far Aerodrome by 4 ME 109's with 8 ME 108's above covering. No damage or casualties. Night 6/7 June 5 Swordfish 830 Squadron F.A.A. to attack M/V 3000 tons and escort vessel shadowed by Maryland and reported at 1848 hours in position 35.20 N., 11.09 E., course 300° 6 knots. Swordfish found ships at 2115 hours in position 35.37 N., 11.05 E., course 060° 7 knots. 1 Swordfish dropped flares and 3 others identified ships as French with navigation lights. Fifth Swordfish released torpedo which did not run. All Swordfish returned base 3 with torpedoes. (H.Q., R.A.F. Malta, 1700/7.)

French M/V's
and Destroyer.

/Alexandria.....

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War Diary.7.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean Contd.Alexandria
Air Raid.

Operational Summary No. 363 up to 1200 hours 8/6 Egypt. 7/6. Reconnaissance of Alexandria by single enemy aircraft was made morning and afternoon. Tomahawks up but no interception. Night 7/8. Two waves of enemy aircraft of about 20 and 24 respectively bombed Alexandria Harbour. Fires started in harbour area and one large mine exploded near a ship. Filter room 252 wing damaged by bombs and a small petrol dump set on fire in vicinity of operations room. R.A.F. Personnel prevented fire from spreading in Egyptian Civil Area round harbour. One enemy aircraft destroyed by A.A. (H.Q., R.A.F., M.E., 1836/7.)

Enemy Mines.

It is inferred that enemy is about to attack Suez Canal and Alexandria with mines containing a new fitting. Suspected these are parachute mines. Important to obtain a sample if possible. Directions for anti-mining. (D.T.M. 1853/7 to R.A. Alexandria, S.B.N.O. Suez Canal.)

DIDO.

Admty., 1826B/5. DIDO is not to proceed beyond Aden pending final confirmation that she will refit in U.S.A. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1945B/7 to C. in C. Med.) Your 1826B/5. DIDO sailed with following main armament ammunition. (C. in C. Med., 2037C/7 to Admty.)

Suez Canal
Mines.

Your 1545/15/3 and in continuation of my 1957/31/3. Most unlikely that seisomographs or geophones could usefully be employed in Suez Canal for detecting the fall of parachute mines. (Head of M., 2027B/7 to C. in C. Med.)

/Situation.....

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War Diary.

7.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Situation
report 49.

C.S. 15 sailed from Alexandria in PHOEBE with Force B consisting of AJAX, KANDAHAR, KIMBERLEY, JACKAL and JANUS to act in support of operation "EX-CITER". Force C, GLENGYLE, COVENTRY, ILEX, and 3 Destroyers proceeding from Port Said to be off Syrian Coast tonight 7/8.

2. Western Desert. Owing to lack of fighter protection the sailing of all shipping other than Destroyers on Tobruk supply service has been suspended temporarily.

Destroyers will continue to run supplies in at night. This decision was reached after consultation with C. in C. M.E., and A.O.C. in C. M.E.

(C. in C. Med., 2211C/7, to Admty.)

See p. 206.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.7.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Persian Gulf.Summary of situation re naval communications.
(C. in C. E.I., 0636Z/7) See Lion Copy.Iran territorial waters.

Coxswain of patrol boat was hailed alongside shore at Khoraamshahr (?this morning) and interrogated by an Iranian Officer because he was on Iranian side of river. He should not have been there; I feel that although we should maintain right to navigate anywhere in river this right should be exercised with discretion and this case should not be allowed to become an issue of any importance between us. (S.N.O. Persian Gulf, 1129Z/7 to Brt. Min. Teheran).

Your 1129/7. Concur, and care is to be taken to avoid any incident with Iranians.
(C. in C. E.I., 1936Z/7 to S.N.O. Persian Gulf).MAURITIUS C.M.11.Durban arrival MAURITIUS. Departure MAURITIUS escorting Convoy C.M.11 E.T.A. position (I) C. in C. East Indies' 0810Z/30 2000Z/ 1219.
(N.O.I.C. Durban 1615/7 to Admty etc).
Convoy Sailing Telegram C.M.11.
(N.C.S.O. Durban, 1618Z/7 to Admty etc).China.Japanese Activity.Naval reconnaissance has disclosed existence of one small concrete structure having appearance of magazine on Partsim Island in Lema group. Further indications of blockade tightening provided by fresh Japanese landings on small scale in the west river delta due west of Macao. Small Hong Kong launch with British flag towing junk from Macao seized by Japanese yesterday and released after part of cargo confiscated.
(G.O.C., Hong Kong, 1631/7 to W.O.)

SECRET

M E S S A G E

0636z/7 June

IN

209A.

From C. in C. East Indies

Date 8/6/41

Recd.1048

Naval Cypher 'X' by W/T.

Addressed Admiralty, repeated F.O.C.R.I.N.

26. Persian Gulf Naval communications.

(1) Summary of situation

(a) Shore stations exist at Bahrein and Basra. Latter recently taken over from Port Directorate by Navy. Crew provided from Station resources at expense of other commitments.

(b) Signal officers Lt.Cdr.Hott, R.I.N. is assisting S.N.O.P.G. as staff officer operations and with signal duties. Commissioned telegraphist Bassett has been appointed Basra.

(c) Mine watching posts and river patrol craft are being provided with W/T by Navy as equipment becomes available.

(2) S.N.O. P.G's communications responsibilities constitute a major undertaking and include such commitments as

(a) Persian Gulf W/T organisation of H.M. ships.
(b) River communications of patrol craft and all craft employed by Basrah Port Directorate.
(c) Mine watching posts.
(d) Inter service communication problems and future planning.

(e) Examinations. The presence of an experienced signal officer on staff of S.N.O.P.G. to assist him is vital to the success of our handling of the constantly changing Iraq situation. The recent armistice has in no way reduced this need as the necessity to develop supervise and plan for future eventualities still exists.

(3) Hott is urgently required for duty in the R.I.N. by F.O.C.R.I.N. and I therefore request that he be relieved now by an experienced signal officer from U.K. or another station.

My 1438/27 Jan. refers.

0636z/7

1st Lord
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
Naval Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
Ops. (4)
O.D. (5)
O.I.C. (2)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of P. (

D.S.D. 9.
D.T.S.D.
D.S.D. (2)
D.M.S.
D.N.S. Basement
D.A/S.W.
D.P.S. (2)
C.W. (2) Per 30
N.A. 2nd S.L.
H. (3)
A.P. (3)
W.D.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.

7.6.1941.

Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies.Latvian Ships
etc.

My 1542Q/6. American Coastal trade refers to trade on North Mole south of American Coast. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0942Z/7 to A.W.I.Stn)

REPULSE.

Two corvettes on patrol one with defects. For greater security intend to proceed to sea at dark tonight returning Concepcion Bay at dawn.

(REPULSE, 1003Z/7 to N.O.I.C. St. Johns N.F.) REPULSE should proceed to Halifax at earliest convenience. Ship will be required for special duty sailing from Halifax about 19/6. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1156B/7 to R.A.3 REPULSE).

BUXTON.

REPULSE arrived Concepcion Bay 2200Z/6. BUXTON returned to St. Johns N.F. (70005, 1005) Z/7 with condenser defect. Estimated 48 hours to repair. (N.O.I.C. St. Johns 1200Z/7 to Admty).

WINNIPEG.
(French).

Your 0058B/5. 24 of crew volunteered 9 wish to continue in WINNIPEG, 2 engineers 5 firemen 1 Baker. 1 cook, Remainder wish to serve Free French Force as follows, Navy 1, gunner Army 10, Air Force 4 (say they are pilots). (N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1234Q/7 to D. of S.T.)

C.I.P.
(French).

My 2059R/4. French Tanker C.I.P. expected complete loading 300 tons bunkers 2200/6 No permit granted for cargo, destination probably Fort de France. No information yet of sailing and CARADOC informed. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1559R/7 to Admty etc).

Guns for
M.V.'s
in U.S. ports.

Lease Lend Office agree that since passing of Lend Lease Act it is legal to mount guns, and Navy Dept. will look favourable on application under Lease Lend for carrying out work. Guns would presumably in first place be provided from 450 already acquired by Admty from U.S.A Navy., We advise that D.E.M.S. Officers be sent out immediately. (Sparks, New York, to M. of W.T. T.H.I., 1644/7)

/Fuelling.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.7.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. (contd).Fuelling
Concepcion Bay.

Admty 1001B/3. It is intended that Concepcion Bay should only be used for emergency fuelling as it is exposed to U Boat attack. An oiler will be kept in Newfoundland for this purpose.
(A.C.N.S. (H) 1707B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I., etc).

GORLESTON
LANDGUARD.

Intend to sail in company with independents for Clyde on 8/6. Route.
(F.O. 3 B.S. 1731P/7 to Admty).
My 1731P/7. Cutters not being sailed as convoy escort vessel has been requested by Colonel Summers U.S. Army for early passage U.K. with documents etc. for General Chaney's mission. (R.A. 3 B.S. 1734P/7 to Admty).

NYASSA
~~NYASA~~
(Portuguese.)

Your 1022Q/5. No special action should be taken. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1843B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

T.C.11.

Your 1643/1 and N.C.S.O. Port of Spain's 2025/3 and 0858/4. Changes in outward troop convoys from U.K. make it most undesirable for T.C.11 to arrive U.K. before 30/6. This will allow more time for your arrangements. Request you will make arrangements for sailing on 21/6.

(D.O.D. (H) 1852/7 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).
T.C.11. - Composed of BRITANNIC, STIRLING CASTLE, PASTEUR, ANDES, INDRAPOERA and WINDSOR CASTLE carrying 12741 Canadian personnel will leave Halifax on 21/6 (Speed route).

Ocean escort. from Halifax to U.K. will be provided by REPULSE. C. in C. H.F. requested to arrange for A/S destroyer escort of 8 ships to fuel in Iceland and then to meet convoy in position "A" and escort to U.K. C. in C. W.A. requested to arrange for A/A cruiser to meet convoy in convenient position and to provide A/A escort for the last 48 hours, (A.C.N.S. (H) 1854/7 to R.A. 3 etc).

WARSPITE.

Your ARMUK 287 of 28/5. Concur that WARSPITE be repaired on West Coast, at Bremerton Navy Yard. (V.C.N.S. 1859B/7 to B.A.R.M.)

/DIOMEDE.....

MOST SECRET.7.6.1941.
Saturday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. (contd).DIOMEDE.

Leave Bermuda on completion of fuelling 8/6 and proceed so as to comply with Admty 1702B/7 Return to Bermuda on 14/6 unless otherwise ordered. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1912Q/7 to DIOMEDE).

SHEHERAZADE
OPALIAW.

My 1232/6. U.S. have now no objection to French ships being detained except on Martinique - U.S. run. SHEHERAZADE should therefore be held and OPALIAW released. (Head of M. 2112B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

A/S
Precautions

U/Bs are likely to be encountered on your course and especially to Westward of 35° W. Full anti S/M measures should be maintained until arrival. (D.D.I.C., 2151B/7 to RESTIGOUCHE, OTTAWA, RICHMOND, RAMSEY, CHAMBLEY, ORILLIA, COLLINGWOOD).

French
ARICA.

Please instruct N.O.I.C. Trinidad take recruiting measures as in my 0750/30/5 and 2119/6. (D. of S.T. 2332B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.7.6.1941.
Saturday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.TABERG
BARON LOVAT
(torpedoed
6/6).

Survivors. (WELLINGTON, 1035A/7) See North Atlantic.)

TEWKESBURY
(torpedoed
21/5).

Intercepted message from American S.S. KNOXVILLE CITY indicates that she has picked up Chief Officer's Boat and 21 of crew of TEWKESBURY and that they will be landed at the Cape. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 0137N/7 to Admty).

EIBERGEN
(torpedoed
3/6).S.O.S. Two Lifeboats drifting between 49° and 50° N 20° and 25° W.
(EIBERGEN, 1218/7 C. in C. W.A., 1332B/7).
Following has been made. Addressed CAIRO repeated ZULU. Take ZULU under your orders and search in direction 140° 70 miles from 050° 36' N 022° 22' West for EIBERGEN life boat transmitting with portable set on 500 KC/S. You should instruct boat to home you. On conclusion of search proceed in company to Foyle pending other orders.
(Capt. D.4. 1300/7 to C. in C. W.A.)
EIBERGEN 1218 bearings obtained 140° approx. CAIRO, ZULU detailed to search.
(Capt. D.4. 1314 B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)
Have picked up 35 survivors from EIBERGEN in -position 050° 12' N 021° 40' W. Am proceeding course 057° speed 21 knots ZULU in company.
(CAIRO, 1621B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)
Cancel the instructions in my 1846B/7. (not circulated gives instructions to join S.L.75). Proceed to Clyde with survivors. (C. in C. W.A. 2054B/7 to CAIRO).TREGARTHEN
(torpedoed
6/6).Request following may be made to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. TREGARTHEN was torpedoed in 46° 17' N 36° 02' W at 2105Z/6. Request Corvettes escorting H.X.129 may be instructed to proceed to search for survivors as long as fuel permits on leaving H.X. 129.
(C. in C. W.A., 1314B/7 to Admty) (A.C.N.S. (T) to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1419B/7).
If fuel permits search for survivors on route for St. John's N.F.
(C. in C. W.A., 1854B/7 to OTTAWA).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.7.6.1941.
Saturday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

0725. At 0725 G.M.T. Italian submarine bearing 225° class 1. (F.O.C.N.A., 0845A/7).
0827. Italian U Boat bearing 233° 2nd Class from Gibraltar at 0827 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A., 1003A/7).
D/F bearing indicate an Italian U Boat in vicinity 028° N 017° W. at 0827 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A., 1304A/7 to N.A. Stn).
- 1318
1325. Bearings of U Boats from Gibraltar at 1318 B, 258/1 at 1325 B, 250/3. (F.O.C.N.A., 1451B/7).
1329. At 1329 G.M.T. an Italian submarine bore 250° 3rd Class from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 1535A/7).
- Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1554B/7).
1742. At 1742 G.M.T. Italian submarine bearing 260/3 from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 1907/7).
2300. One Submarine bearing unknown - distance unknown, course unknown. Position 115 STV 70. (SCOTTISH, 2300A/7 to Gib., W/T).
My 2300. A/7 enemy report doubtful. (SCOTTISH, 2310A/7 to F.O.C.N.A.)

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.

War Diary.

8.6.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

KENYA sailed from Hvalfjord at 0701 to reinforce the Denmark Strait Patrol, but was ordered at 1425 to return there to fuel and then to proceed to patrol the Iceland Faroes Passage. The Denmark Strait Patrol is now to be maintained by C.S. 18, one ship being on patrol and one at Hvalfjord.

RUBIS, TUNA, TRIDENT and SOKOL are maintaining a S/M Patrol off the Bay of Biscay which SEALION is to leave for St. Catherine's after dark tonight. D/F bearings at 2151 last night indicated a German Surface Unit in about 47° N. and 16° to 17° W.

At 0800 today a photographic R/C of Brest showed SCHARNHORST, GNEISENAU and PRINZ EUGEN still in their same positions there.

The British TRESILLIAN reports two small Warships in 48° 48' N. 29° 53' W. at 2005 today.

British Air Activity.

26 Wellington A/C and 7 Stirlings attacked the PRINZ EUGEN at Brest last night, and, though no direct hit is claimed, many bursts were seen close to her.

Several M/V's were bombed yesterday off the Dutch coast and two are claimed as total losses.

Between 0105 and 0150/8, 4 Hudsons and 4 Whitleys attacked the docks and shipping at Bergen, and a 400 ton ship was claimed among the targets hit.

War Diary.

8.6.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity.

A second attack was made between 0100 and 0200 this morning upon Loch Ewe by 3 to 5 A/C apparently acting in conjunction with a raid in the Minches. One A/C was hit and another is claimed as shot down. No mines are reported to have been dropped, and no damage was done by the bombs.

One A/C which may have seen into the Fleet Anchorage, was plotted over Scapa at 0243 this morning. One battery opened fire, but the A/C was not sighted.

3 or 4 A/C, probably Focke Wulfs, attacked the Fishing Trawler FILEY in the Minches at 0230 this morning. Six Bombs were dropped and the Trawler was slightly damaged.

Mining.

One Mine was detonated by Sweeper in the Thames Estuary at 2128 last night; and promulgation of a Prohibited Area for all vessels anchoring or fishing is requested within 5 cables radius from Methil Light.

War Diary.

8.6.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Shipping and Convoys.

North Sea
Fishing.

Admty. approval is given for all-night fishing by trawlers until 31/7/41 in an area enclosed by lines Noss Head to Kinnaird Head and Clytheness to Portknockie, with suitable lighting restrictions.

4 ships carrying Service personnel, 3 for Canada and 1 for Far East, will leave the Clyde on 14/6.

North Atlantic.

SEVERN.

F.O.C.N.A. intends to sail her on 14/6 to patrol in Tyrrhenean Sea.

A/S Sweep.

3 corvettes (S.O. in JONQUIL) and 5 motor launches are to sail at 0700/9 for an A/S sweep in Western Approaches to Gibraltar.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Syria,
Operation
"Exporter".

The Allied advance into Syria began early this morning. The Palestine boarder was crossed an hour before dawn.

C. in C. Middle East reports that Operation "Exporter" made a good start.

Tyre was occupied and at 2300/8 troops were attacking Litani Bridge.

Rough sea made the landing of the S.S. Battalion from GLENGYLE impossible.

Force B supported the advance of the Army along the coast. KIMBERLEY was fired at from shore near Kahn Bridge (33.20 N., 35.17 E) and returned the fire.

2 F.A.A. fighters were shot down and one damaged, probably by French fighters, while protecting Force B. A third force- landed in the sea, and 2 others were severely damaged.

Alexandria
Raid.

2 heavy air attacks with bombs and mines were made on Alexandria last night. Military damage was small, but the attack was deliberately aimed at the civilian population. C. in C. Mediterranean suggests retaliatory measures against a working class district in an Italian town.

Air
Transport.

C. in C. Mediterranean reports an urgent requirement for communication and transport aircraft for the Fleet Air Arm in Eastern Mediterranean, and asks for 4 such aircraft from America.

/DIDO.....

War Diary.

8.6.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. (contd).

DIDO.

Damaged by aircraft on 29/5, is to repair at Brooklyn Navy Yard. Meantime she will take part in Operation "Chronometer" in the Red Sea.

KELVIN.

Damaged by aircraft on 30-31/5, is to sail for Bombay for repairs.

French
tanker
torpedoed.

S/M TORBAY reports she has torpedoed, off the Dardanelles, the French tanker ALBERTA, routed from Naples to Constanza.

Black
Sea.

S.O.I. Istanbul confirms that certain Roumanian ships are being armed by the Germans.

Malta
Supplies.

Remarks of V.A. Malta on C. in C. Mediterranean's 1122/2 regarding the future of supply convoys to Malta are contained in his 1038/8. He favours the route eastward, considering that the enemy will increase his air forces in Sicily and that the danger from mines is great.

M.L's

Owing to urgent requirements in West Africa, the 104th M.L. Flotilla has been diverted there from its original allocation to the Mediterranean.

Lybya.

7 Swordfish of 830 Sqn., F.A.A., bombed and laid mines at Tripoli Harbour last night, all returning safely.

VOYAGER, VENDETTA and one "A" lighter unloaded Army stores by night at Tobruk.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.America and West Indies.Rescue Tugs
St. Johns.

H.M. tugs RESTIVE and PRUDENT left Greenock today for the new advanced base at St. John's Newfoundland.

Raider.

A raider report from an unknown ship was intercepted by Resolution Island at 1126 G.M.T. from 44.50 N., 29.08 W.

Trinidad reports that the German raider responsible for sinking BRITANNIA on 25/5 was identified as CORDILLERA or CARIBIA by the third mate.

U-Boat Campaign.

ADDA, 7816 tons, was torpedoed early this morning about 70 miles W.N.W. of Freetown, and ELMDENE, 4855 tons, a few hours later about 200 miles W. of Freetown.

The tanker ENSIS, 6207 tons, was torpedoed this afternoon about 970 miles W. of Ushant.

S.S. DIRPHYS (Greek) ex O.B. 528 is reported to have been torpedoed at 0100 in 47° 44' N 39° 2' W.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Second
S/M at
Scapa.

Owing to unforeseen reductions in the number of ships working up and to the operational requirements of Home Fleet Destroyers a second Submarine will not be required at Scapa for the present. 2. It is hoped that this late decision will not affect your arrangements. (R.A.D. 0940B/8 to S.9).

Clyde.
Request for
6 A/S
Vessels.

A.M. 2225B/7/6. Recently 4 yachts and 4 A/S trawlers were withdrawn from the Clyde to join Irish sea escort forces and at the same time all AP vessels were also removed. The security of the Clyde was then maintained by the 9th M.L. Flotilla which is now to be withdrawn. I consider it essential that at least 6 A/S vessels should be supplied before the departure of the 9th M.L. Flotilla. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1201B/8).

KASTELHOLM.

*British Mine
(ship route by Germans)*

My 1846/6, your 1055/7. N.O.I/C., Faroes, who was in another Island when survivors were first interviewed, has returned to Thorshaven and considers it unlikely that ship was torpedoed. Instructions given in second sentence of your message are being complied with. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1308/8 to A.C.O.S).

Sailing
of M.L's
for
Gibraltar.

Your 2225B/7. Consider 9th M.L.F, consisting of M.L's 169, 170, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, can be ready to sail for Gibraltar on 18th June. Suggest that M.L. 126 accompanies them to join 3rd M.L.F. and that M.L's 242, 265, 266, 272, and probably M.L. 261 be sailed at the same time. (R.A.C.F. 1530B/8 to Adty.).

/LANCE.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy-Contd.LANCE.

LANCE is urgently required in W.A. Command. Request every effort may be made to hasten completion of working up practices. (C. in C.W.A. 1448B/8 to R.A.D. H.F).

GREENWICH.
HECLA.

As soon as she is ready for service about mid June GREENWICH is now required to relieve HECLA at Greenock. HECLA on relief will proceed to Iceland. (V.C.N.S. 1612B/8).

BEVERLEY
and 3 Hunt
Destroyers
for
Gibraltar.

My 1451B/8. BEVERLEY is to be sailed to R/V with O.B. 353 and then proceed Gibraltar in company with 3 Hunt Class destroyers. (C. in C.W.A. 1615B/8). *See also next page.*

ALYNBANK.

C. in C.W.As 1312B/8, and Admiralty Letter M.07168/41. ALYNBANK should join W.A. Command as soon as CAIRO proceeds to the East Coast or CURACOA is ready for service which ever is the earlier. (D.O.D. H. 1619B/8).

W.A. Escort
Groups.

Your 2241B/26 May and your 1849B/6th June. (1) Immediate allocations of minesweepers to escort groups is entirely dependent on ships available to fill requirements in very near future. (2) Intend following temporary allocations which I would like adjusted gradually so as to conform M/S Flotilla organisation. Details. (S.O. 1st M/S F. 1627B/8).

/AVONDALE.....

War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy-Contd.

AVONDALE.
FARNDALE.
ERIDGE.
WINDSOR.
VIMY.
BEVERLEY
for
Gibraltar.

A.M. 1206B/1. Delete reference to BEVERLEY and VIMY.
2. A.M. 1916B/7. C. in C.W.A. is requested to sail AVONDALE, FARNDALE, and ERIDGE to Gibraltar as soon as they are ready, using them to escort any convenient convoy.
3. When ready WINDSOR, VIMY and BEVERLEY should be sailed to a Western port as directed by C. in C.W.A., whence they should be sailed to Gibraltar. (D.O;D.H. 1724B/8).

*See previous page.*CAPE PALLISER.

Your 1510B/8 and Admiralty 1911B/22/5. CAPE PALLISER is to be fitted out for service on the Northern Patrol. (D.O.D.H. 2050B/8).

MAPLIN.
SPRINGBANK.
ARIGUANI.

MAPLIN, SPRINGBANK, and ARIGUANI are to be administered by F.O.I.C. Belfast. (C. in C.W.A. 2358/8).

Movements.PANDORA.

Intend to sail PANDORA from Dartmouth at 2000B/10 for Portsmouth New Hampshire routed as follows.
PANDORA will dive by day as far as position (c) thence on surface at C.O's discretion. (Capt. S.5. 1101B/8).

SEALION.

SEALION leaves patrol after dark June 8th probably proceeding on surface to position 048° 06' N. 006° 34' W. thence to R/V 180° St. Catherine's 5 miles at 0500B/12. Route. (Capt. S.5 1203B/8).

/FURIOUS.....

War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.- Contd.FURIOUS.
ARGUS.
NEA HELLAS.

FURIOUS returning from Gibraltar requires to be met by A/S escort daylight 15th June. 2. Owing to numerous other commitments normal arrangements cannot be made, and it would be appreciated if you could supply this escort. (D.O.D.H. 1512B/8 to C. in C. H.F).

Cancel my 1512B/8.

FURIOUS is now accompanying ARGUS to the U.K. and C. in C. W.A. is making arrangements to afford the necessary A/S escort for this force.

2. To do this, however, C. in C. W.A. is able to provide two destroyers only for A/S escort ordered in A.M. 1746B/8, and it is requested, therefore, that you will provide destroyers to make the numbers for this convoy up to five. (A.C.N.S.H. 1859B/8 to C. in C. H.F).

VANQUISHER and WINCHELSEA are to be sailed to provide additional escort for ARGUS, FURIOUS, and NEA HELLAS. If fuel does not permit their sailing in company with Capt. D.4 they should be sailed as convenient to R/V ordered in my 1020B/8. (C. in C.W.A. 1924B/8).

AURANIA.

AURANIA returned. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1415/8).

Fleet
Tender A.

My 1825/7. Fleet Tender 'A' is to sail from Methil to Tyne in F.S. 511 ~~and~~ 1530/9th. Ship is disguised as 'R' class battleship and has mercantile runner crew. (C. in C. Rosyth 1631/8).

Clyde-
Iceland
Ferry.

Arrived D.S.5. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 2230/8).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Operations.

Sailed KENYA. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 0701/8).

Denmark
Straits
Patrol.

Intend to proceed in accordance with your 1212B/6th on completion of exercise at about 1530B/9th passing through position 000° Cape Wrath 7 thence direct. Speed of advance 18 knots. Request air escort may be arranged. Expect to arrive Hval Fiord 0600B/Wednesday. (MANCHESTER 0841B/8 to C. in C. H.F).

Interception
of Enemy
Supply Ship.

After dark to-day submarines proceed to following patrol positions.
TRIDENT 46° 04' N. 09° 15' W.
SOKOL. 46° 38' N. 09° 42' W. (F.O.S. 1209/B)

KENYA to
patrol
Iceland-
Faroes
Passage.
HERMIONE
EDINBURGH.
Denmark
Straits
Patrol.

KENYA is to return to Hvalfjord, refuel and proceed in accordance with my 1851B/6th para. 1 (one).
(ii) HERMIONE and EDINBURGH are to comply F.O.C. 18th C.S. 0728B/3rd and my 1212B/6th, para 2. (C. in C. H.F. 1425B/8).
H.M.S. KENYA arrived. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 2131/8).

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8.6.1941.

Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

PRINZ EUGEN.
bombed.
M/V's
attacked
and two
claimed sunk.

Day 7/6. One aircraft attacked a 5000 ton M/V in a convoy of eight ships East of Ijmuiden scoring two direct hits with 2 x 250 -lb. bombs. A second aircraft attacked a 6,000 ton M/V in the same convoy also scoring two direct hits with 2 x 250 lb. bombs. Both these vessels are claimed as total losses. Three aircraft attacked a 2,000 ton M/V accompanied by a patrol vessel four miles South of Farsund with bombs and machine gun fire, near misses being observed. One aircraft bombed a M/V of 1000 tons in a convoy nine miles North of Westerschelling, but bombs fell 20 yards ahead of the ship. Another aircraft attacked a 3,000 ton salvage vessel 5 miles N. of Westerschelling two bombs fell short, one alongside the salvage vessel, and the fourth bomb fell on the vessel itself or alongside. Night 7/8 June. 30 Wellingtons and 7 Stirlings attacked cruiser PRINCE EUGEN at Brest. No direct hit claimed but many bursts seen. (H.Q.B.C. 1357/8).

Patrols.

Patrol ~~STAND~~^{"Stand"} now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1420/8).
~~SLEEVE~~ not being flown today. (C. in C. Rosyth 1905/8).

Ship and
A/C. W/T
communication.

Normally, Home Fleet ships within 40 miles of the coast of the U.K. may use R/T to communicate with escorting A/C so fitted. Advantage of this relaxation is to be taken to practice communication.

2. Outside this distance or if proceeding on a special operation R/T is only to be used in an emergency but the necessary R/T (or W/T) watch is to be maintained when aircraft are in company, and as laid down in H.W.C.O.'s. If, however Air attack is expected R/T Communication should be tested as soon as aircraft arrive.
3. In all cases the Onus of breaking W/T silence rests with the ships and the aircraft will only transmit if called or in emergency.
4. See H.W.C.O. Section L.V. and H.W.C.O. 53 (late 13). (C. in C. H.F. 1543/8). Your 1251/7. Please see My 1543/5 which it is hoped meets Aircraft requirements. (C. in C. H.F. 1859B/8 to C. in C.W.A).

War Diary.

8.6.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

A/C over
Scapa.

One aircraft probably hostile passed over Flow at 0245 to-day Sunday. Aircraft was not sighted and was plotted on one G.L. set only. Height 5000 feet. One battery opened fire. Cloud base about 5000 feet. A/C may have seen into fleet anchorage. (A.C.O.S. 0409B/8).

Loch Ewe.

Air Raid carried out on Loch Ewe between 0100 and 0200. No damage. One slight casualty. Raid appeared to be carried out by three to five machines in conjunction with raid in Minches. No mines reported and Approaches have been swept. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 0947B/8).

A.M. 8th One aeroplane was definitely hit but not seen to crash and inflated dinghy has been recovered out at sea belonging to a Dornier 18. GIV 854. Search is being made for crew over a large area. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1251B/8).

Air attacks were made on Loch Ewe on mornings of 7th and 8th between 0100 and 0200 first attack was spasmodic and probably by passing aircraft. Second attack was planned and resolutely carried out. Slight damage by near miss on ETHIOPIAN during 1st attack. No damage second attack one slight casualty from bomb splinter on Merchant Seaman. One plane claimed brought down and another definitely damaged. Confirmation of plane brought down not definite. Plane seen going out to sea in difficulties. Rubber dinghy fully inflated has been recovered. Search is being made. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1327B/8). *See also page 260*

/ESBJORN.....

War Diary.

8.6.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.-Contd.

ESBJORN.

(Finnish, 1905 Tons) My 1538/8. Was unsuccessfully attacked by one Heinkel Aircraft when entering Nolso Fiord at 1610/8. No casualties or damage from one bomb dropped, and aircraft flew east when escorting Trawler opened fire. (N.O.I.C. -Faroes 1545B/8).

FILEY.

(Fishing Trawler). Reported on arrival Oban today that he was attacked, by enemy aircraft, probably Focke Wulf in 57° 07' N. 06° 50' W. approx. at 0230/8. Three or four aircraft were operating. Six bombs dropped. Vessel sustained slight damage. (N.O.I.C. Oban 1815/8).

Mining.

Thames
Estuary.

Following received from Commodore Sheerness. Begins. Disturbance in the mud possibly indicating the presence of a mine located in 049° 4.5 cables Queensborough Spit Beacon uncovered at low water. Request mine disposal party be sent to arrive Sheerness 1800 today. 0845B/8. Ends. (C. in C. Nore 0935B/8).

One Mine detonated at 2128/7 by S.A. Gear as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1040B/8).

Operation
S.N. 64.

Your 0846B/7. Concur. (C. in C.H.F. 1125B/7 to R.A.M.)
Your 0846/7. Concur. (D.O.D.H. 1316B/8 to R.A.M.).

/Methil.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.-Contd.Methil
Prohibited
Area.

Request following area may be promulgated as a prohibited area for all vessels, for anchoring and fishing. Within a circle of radius 5 cables from Methil Light. Compulsory pilotage has been established for all H.M. Ships, Auxiliary and merchant vessels (other than local craft) entering Methil Docks. (C. in C. Rosyth 1701/8).

Enemy Intelligence.Enemy
Surface
Unit.

D/F bearings at 2151Z/7 indicate German surface unit in approximately 47° N. 16° - 17° W. (D.D.I.C. 0158B/8) (F.O.S. 0212B/8).

Brest.

Preliminary interpretation of photographic R/C of Brest shows SCHARNHORST, GNEISENAU, and PRINZ EUGEN in same positions at 0800/8. (D.D.I.C. 1109B/8).

Atlantic.
2 small
Warships.

RRRR. TRESILLIAN position 48° 48' N. 29° 55' W. Two small warships. (Valentia Radio 2005/8).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.Convoy
W.N. Odd.S.O.S. Odd numbered WN convoy position
Rudhre 085° 9 miles 0205/8 de GUB.
(Port Patrick 0023/8).Received at 2227 G.M.T. from Malin Head.
At 2218 heard unknown station ashore West
side Ailse Craig. Send tug West side Ailse
Craig. (Port Patrick Radio 0031/8).ELSE RYKENS.My 1603/27. Completion of H.M.T. ELSE
RYKENS delayed due to boiler defect. (F.O.I.C
London 1145/8).Shipping and Convoys.Night
Fishing.Admty. approval is given for all night
fishing by trawlers until 31/7/1941 in
area enclosed by Lines Noss Head to
Kinnaird Head and Clytheness to Portknockie
provided that working lights are reduced
to a minimum etc. Trawlers on passage to
and from fishing grounds will be controlled
by N.C.S.O. Aberdeen. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen,
1140/8).Personnel
Ships
REVENGE.Following ships carrying personnel will
leave Clyde on 14/6. CALIFORNIA for Halifax.
BULOLO for Halifax, afterwards proceeding
for refit at Baltimore. MENDOZA for
Montreal. ULYSSES for the Far East.
C. in C. W.A. requested to provide A/S
escort as far as destroyers endurance
permits and sail ships. CALIFORNIA, BULOLO,
and MENDOZA will then proceed in company
to R/V with REVENGE on 19/6 for onward escort
to Canada. When A/S escort leaves ULYSSES
will proceed independently. (D.O.D.(H)
1746B/8 to C. in C.W.A. F.O.C.N.P., etc.).

/Search....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys.-Contd.Search
Ports.

Following amendments are to be made in
A.M. 1709B/18/5. (Search ports for vessels
arriving in U.K). (D. of L.D. 1806B/8).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.NEPTUNE.

Admty 1910/B/6. On parting company with VICTORIOUS proceed Gibraltar through position 034° 00' N 010° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 0956A/8 NEPTUNE.)

SEVERN.

SEVERN arrived Gibraltar 7/6. Intend to sail her for patrol in Tyrrhenean Sea 14th unless otherwise ordered. Your 1244C/26 refers. (F.O.C.N.A., 1010A/8 to C. in C. Med.)

FURIOUS
SHEFFIELD.

S.O. Force H 2220/7 and 2221/7. Assuming transfer is completed by 1300B/9 in approx. position 037° 05' N 013° 48' W it is anticipated that FURIOUS and SHEFFIELD can reach position 047° 00' 024° 00' at 1200/B/11 having passed through position 038° 00' 017° 00' 043° 00' 023° 00'. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange A/S escort for FURIOUS accordingly unless further instructions are received from S.O. Force H. (F.O.C.N.A., 1214/8 to Admty, C. in C. W.A.)

*See also next page.*Corvettes.

ARMERIA, BURDOCK and Norwegian Ship BELPAREIL left Ponta Delgada 1500 G.M.T./8. (N.C.S.O., Ponta Delgada, 1600/8 to S.O.(I) Gib).

A/S Sweep.

Following sail at 0700/9 to carry out anti-submarine sweep in Western Approaches to Gibraltar. Group 1. JONQUIL S.O., GERANIUM AZALEA. Group 2. M.L. Nos. 130 129, 132, 134, 135. Group 2 will work independently about 30 miles South of Group 1 throughout the operation. (F.O.C.N.A., 1730A/8 to NEPTUNE, ST. DAY, Trawlers of W.P.)

Enemy Unit.

At 1935B bearing 260° third class from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 1851A/8 to N.A. Stn).

TIRPITZ
(German).

Left Malaga 7/6. (F.O.C.N.A., 1932/8 to REGENT O.24). *See also p. 237.*

/Force H.....

MOST SECRET.8.6.1941
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic. (contd).Force H.
SHEFFIELD
FURIOUS.

Hoped you can comply with F.O.C.N.A.'s 1214/8 (N.T. in W.D.) as it may otherwise be necessary to delay FURIOUS.

If SHEFFIELD and FURIOUS proceed as proposed request you will direct SHEFFIELD (route for patrol/and return to Gibraltar).

(A.C.N.S. (F) 2344B/8 to F.O. Force H).

*See previous page.*South Atlantic.Bathurst
Precautions.

Your 1530/7 and my 1823/7.

If Oiler is to be permanently taken from Bathurst or always liable to be removed at short notice propose other oil lighters be taken there as early as possible.

(C. in C. S.A. 1135N/8 to Admty).

Hurricanes
Freetown.

Your 1949N/7. Air Ministry arranging for 4 Hurricanes to be flown from Takoradi to Freetown. (V.C.N.S. 1314B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

W.S. 8 X.

Admty 1823/31/5. Comprises following.

(List, contents, fuel required etc).

(D.O.D. (F) 1451B/8 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. E.I.)

ARAWA
S.L. 77.

Departure 1600/8 ARAWA as ocean escort to convoy S.L.77. Local escort SURPRISE until dusk/13. MARGUERITE and GARDENIA until dusk/15 then return Freetown.

(S.O.(I) Freetown, 1721N/8 to Admty).

SHROPSHIRE
CARNARVON
CASTLE,
PRETORIA CASTLE.My 1257N/4 and my 2133/6 SHROPSHIRE proceed Freetown passing through J.36 D and C.J.35 B thence to Freetown, adjusting speed to arrive p.m./14. ~~CARNARVON~~ CASTLE proceed through K.36 B and A arriving centre (?of) K.36 (?B) about 1200/10 K.35 B and A thence to L.32 or as ordered by R.A.S.A.D. PRETORIA CASTLE patrol in K.I.A.

(C. in C. S.A., 2147N/8 to Ships named.)

MOST SECRET.8.6.1941.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.

REGELE CAROL I)
DACIA)
ROMANIA)

Roumanian. Ungraded report states fitting out as armed merchant cruisers. (D.S. 642 8/6).
See also p. 236.

TRANSILVANIA. Roumanian. Is being fitted out with paravanes. (D.S. 642 8/6).

KELVIN. Your 1940/6. KELVIN should be sailed to Bombay for repairs. (D.O.D. (F) 0002B/8 to C. in C. Med).

ALBERTA
(French).

French tanker ALBERTA torpedoed off Dardanelles routed Naples, Messina, Corinth Canal, Doro Channel, Constanza. Known facts. (TORBAY, 0255C/8 to Capt. S.I.) See also 1140/8.

TORBAY. Leave Patrol p.m./10 keep east of 25° 00' and east Amorgo, West of Stampalia, thence through Kaso Strait direct to arrive Sanctuary Alexandria 0500C/15. TETRARCH pass through Doro Channel northbound 12th for Area B. (Capt. S.I. 0901C/8 to TORBAY.)

Malta Supply
Convoys.

Remarks on C. in C. Med's 1122C/2 and S.O. Force H, 1137/4. (V.A. Malta, 1038B/8 to C. in C. Med). See Mediterranean Volume.
Reply: C. in C. Med., 1031C/11. See Med. Vol.

M.E.
Intelligence.

Your message 1749/7. Following made to Middle East Intelligence Centre passed to you for information. Appears some information received by you from Syria as regards Naval matters is very inaccurate and you may wish to check your sources: (example) Should interception of ships be considered desirable it is preferable that proposal should be put forward direct by C. in C. M.E. to C, in C. Med. and not via N.S.O. (I) Alexandria. T.O.O. 1129C/7. (ends.) (C. in C. Med., 1032C/8 to Ambassador, Cairo).

/Transport.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).Transport
Aircraft.

Urgent requirement for communication and transport aircraft for Fleet Air Arm in Eastern Med. R.A.F. are seldom able provide these aircraft. Request immediate consideration to supply direct from America of four aircraft I.E. 2, A.R.2, each capable of taking 12 men or 1 ton of stores. (C. in C. Med., 1102C/8 to Adty).

Benghazi
and Derna
bombed.

Operational Summary No. 363. Western Desert. Night 6/7 - 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi, starting large persistent fires. 4 Wellingtons bombed Derna, starting fires on Satellite landing ground and destroying unspecified number enemy aircraft. Further bombs on four barrack blocks starting a fire. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1107/8).

DIDO.

Have instructed that DIDO is to repair at (? Brooklyn) Navy Yard. Summary of major defects including action damages should be signalled to N.A. Washington for B.A.R.M. (C. in C. Med., 1110C/8 to DIDO).

Italian (?)
Ship Chanak.

My 1819/6 Chanak report states ship now abandoned. 6 crew killed 23 landed Chanak. She was proceeding to Constanza from Salonica. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1140/8 to S.O.(I) Med). May be ALBERTA, (see 0255/8).

REGENT.

Orders.
(N.O.I.C. Malta 1228B/8 to REGENT).

FORMIDABLE.

Your 0003/27. Request details of damage to FORMIDABLE and estimate of serviceability. (V.C.N.S. 1302B/8 to C. in C. Med).

M.L.'s

Regret that owing to urgent requirements in West Africa, necessary to divert 104th M.L. Flotilla which was about to be freighted to Mediterranean. Two 72 ft. M.L.'s complete 101st and 102nd Flotillas will be ready for shipment shortly. Hoped to make additional M.L.s available later. (D. of L.D. 1344B/8 to C. in C. Med).

/Alexandria.....

MOST SECRET.8.6.1941.
Sunday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).Alexandria
Air Raid.

2 heavy air attacks by German planes on Alexandria last night 7/8. Military damage was small but there is no question deliberate attack was made on civil population. If feasible I suggest retaliatory measures should be taken against a working class district in -an Italian town, Italians being told it is retaliation for attack on the civil population of Alexandria.

(C. in C. Med., 1354C/8 to Admty) Reply: 0117/10, See Mediterranean, Volume.

Roumanian
Ships,
Dardanelles.

My 1119/7. Reports that these ships being armed now graded A.1. Armament reported by B sources - in case of REGELE CAROL and DACIA - two 4" mounted on bow and stern and torpedo tubes. What requires confirmation are reports that both ships also being fitted as minelayers, and use them and ROMANIA intended in Aegean. If latter confirmed, presumably Germans will try to engineer them through Straits with armament disguised under cover of recent and repeated announcements S M R are resuming their service to Greek Ports. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1531/8 to S.O.(I) Med).
N.I.D. Comment.

REGELE CAROL (2369 tons) and DACIA (3418 tons) have been running a regular passenger and mail service between Constanza and Istanbul, In addition it is believed that ROMANIA is being fitted out as an armed merchant cruiser. Enemy ships passing through the Dardanelles have been declaring their cargo as "general," but information available indicates that they have also been carrying war material. In view of the present attitude of Turkish Govt. towards Germany, the examination of Axis cargoes passing through the Dardanelles is probably very perfunctory. Even armed merchant ships using a small amount of camouflage, should be able to pass S.M.R. = Societe Maritime de Roumanie.

See p. 134.

/ TIRPITZ.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).TIRPITZ.

2300/7 approximate time of departure.
(Consul, Malaga, 1540/8 to Admty).
Has been at Malaga since 29/8/39 where she
took refuge on way home from Japan.
(D.S. 643 9/6). *See p 232*

SALZBURGGerman.G. GHIRARDI

GIUSEPPE

Italian.

Passed Istanbul 1600 Turkish time 8/6 for
Aegean Sea.

Entered Bosphorus Expected to pass Istanbul
1900. Also for Aegean Sea.
(N.A. Ankara, 1543/8).

Alexandria
Raids.

Air raids 2200 to 0130/8 parachute C type
mines. 7 in harbour and about 10 in city
and warehouses which blew down large groups
of houses causing casualties which cannot
yet be estimated. 0130 to 0500 shallow dive
bombers which burnt one Greek merchant vessel
and R.A.F. petrol dump and caused further
damage to houses. People leaving the city
by train and road. A few casualties to British
Naval and Military ratings on leave not yet
numbered. Egyptian A/A gunners 22 killed 21
injured.
(N.O.I.C. Alexandria., 1650C/8 to C. in C.
Med).

Malta Air
Raid.

Up to 1600 hours 8/6. Night 7 /8.
Target aerodromes. No damage.
Day 8/6. Enemy fighter Patrol came to within
10 miles of Island and receded.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1706/8).

Tripoli
bombed and
mined.

Night 7/8 7 Swordfish 830 Sqn F.A.A.
despatched Tripoli Harbour to carry out
cucumber laying and bombing. Latter as diver-
sion. Cucumbers dropped in following
positions from end of Karamanli mole, 7½
cables 041° 2¼ cables, 058° 8¼ cables 034°
6 cables 044° 2 500 lbs bombs plus 6 250 lbs
were dropped on target west end harbour.
Several large fires started. Cucumber aircraft
encountered no opposition. All our aircraft
returned safely.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1707/8).

/Italian unit.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. (contd).Italian
Unit.

By D.F. bearings position of Italian ship or S/M call signs 9 D.K. were as follows:
1248/7 G.M.T. 10 miles E Cape Malea, 0820/8 G.M.T. 150 miles S. W Sapienza.
(Capt. O.S. Alexandria 1729C/8 to C. in C. Med etc).

Suez Canal
Minesweeping.

Reply to C. in C. Med., 1947/3. (D.M.S., approved 1st S.L., 2141B/8 to C. in C. Med).
See Lion Copy.

SALZBURG.
German.

Entered Bosphorus for ?Constanza 1500C/8 speed 9 knots. (Capt. S.1. 2349C/8 to TORBAY).

Advance into Syria.Syria
Operation
"Exporter "

(Telephoned from War Office to N.I.D. at 2305/8/6). Operation "Exporter" reported to have gone well at the start. Unconfirmed reports state 5th Indian Infantry Bde. at Deraa and 25th Australian Bde. at Merdjayoun, 21st Australian Bde. have occupied Ras Hal Naqera. Rough sea made landing of S.S. Battalion impossible.
(C. in C. M.E., no T.O.O./8).
Your 0742 (N.T. in W.D.) No report of progress on coast road yet available. Request information if possible whether any motor transports are or have been seen north between Iskanderune and Tyre. Road blocked suspected but not confirmed.
(N.L.O. Palestine, 0935/8 to C.S.15).

F.A.A.
Actions.

To-day's F.A.A. actions as follows P.M.
Following received.
1 Fulmar forced landing in sea.
2 shot down by French fighters. 2 shot up by French fighters, 1 completely unserviceable
1 temporarily unserviceable.
3 experienced Fulmars will operate from Haifa to-morrow morning with Hurricanes. Skua at Lydda on landing. Details follow to R.A.A. Originators number A. 888, 8/6.
(H.Q. Palestine Cmd., 1930/8 to R.A. (A))

/Situation.....

MOST SECRET

238A

MOST SECRET.

M E S S A G E

2141B/8 June.

OUT.

Com. Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean. 702.

Date. 8/5/41 = ? 8/6/41

NAVAL CYPHER One Time Table.

From Admiralty.

AIDAC

Your 1947/3.

The provision of A.A. guns, fighters and balloon defences is being considered as a matter of urgency by the Chiefs of Staffs.

2. Your policy of closing the Canal while searching for marked mines is concurred in, but if the scale and frequency of attacks increases it will obviously be increasingly difficult to keep the Canal open. Under such conditions it may become necessary to reduce the searching period well below 48 hours.

3. Are you satisfied that the officers now on the Canal are capable of dealing with the more difficult situations that may arise. Are there enough minesweeping officers to supervise operations in different parts of the Canal.

4. Captain Bardwell has been most successful in dealing with large scale attacks on the Humber. If you wish he could be sent to take charge of all minesweeping operations in the Canal. One or two Lieutenant Commanders experienced in minesweeping could also be sent.

5. Further signal will be made about Salvage equipment.

2141B/8.

D.M.S.

Approved 1st Sea Lord.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
3rd S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D of P. (2)
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.N.I. (H)
D of L.D.
D.N.L.D.
D.A/S.W.
D.H.S.
I.P.
W.D.
Duty Capt.
Hd of M. (8)
D.T.S.D.
D.D.I.C.
E.P.S.
D.T.D. (2)
N.I.D. 10 (Payr. Cdr. Wilson)
Director of Salvage.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Advance into Syria. (contd).Situation
Report No.
50.

Syria. My 1829/7. Landing of S.S. troops from GLENGYLE on coast of Syria cancelled owing to weather, further attempt will be made tonight 8th/9th. Force B supporting advance of army along coast. KIMBERLEY fired at from shore near Kahn Bridge (35° 20' N 35° 17' E) and returned fire. 2 fighters shot down and one damaged, probably by French fighters whilst protecting force B.

Alexandria. Two heavy air raids night causing insignificant military damage. Mines dropped inside harbour of which two have been exploded by sweepers. Bombs fell mainly on town causing considerable damage and casualties. Italian recoo. machine shot down by fighters this afternoon Sunday in Western Desert.

Tobruk. Petrol dump burnt out by incendiary bomb. VOYAGER, VENDETTA, and one A lighter unloaded Army Stores by night.
(C. in C. Med., 2230/8 to Admty).

Situation
2230.

Tyre in our hands and troops attacking Litani Bridge at 2300/8. Road at Iskanderoun now passable for transport. Naval bombardment may be required in vicinity of position 33.21 N 35.15.5 W tomorrow. (?estimate) advance approx. 20 miles.
(N.L.O. Palestine 2307C/8 to C. in C. Med).

East Indies.SAVORGNAN-
DE-BRAZZA.

Admty 0041/5. Doing useful work in Red Sea particularly in connection with blockade measures against French Somaliland. Would regret her withdrawal from Red Sea Force. Proposals. (C. in C. E.I., 0506Z/8 to Admty etc)

W.S. 8 A.

Now expected to arrive Suez 13/6.
(C. in C. E.I., 0734Z/8 to S.B.N.O. Suez).

/KANIMBLA.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. (contd).KANIMBLA.Left Bombay 0940Z, escorting B.P. 6.
(S.O.(I) Bombay, 0941Z/8 to Admty etc).Sudan.Operational Summary No. 363 up to 1200 hours
8/6. 7/6 2 Wellesleys bombed Debrak Tabor
obtaining hits on buildings.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1108/8 to Air Ministry etc).DIDO.Taking part in Op. "^{Chronometer}CHRONOMETER" 10/6.
(S.N.O. Red Sea, 1828Z/8 to Admty etc).
*See p. 235.*Iraq
Air Strength.Reports from Iraq and Middle East throw grave
doubts on reliability Iraq Army and stability
of new Government. In view of decision of
C.O.S. not to allow return of India's
squadrons from Far East, request definite
(allotment) some air forces to be at disposal
of Force Commander Iraq. Absence of air
support for Iraq Force in emergency likely
to have serious repercussions in India.
(C. in C. India 2045/8 to W.O.)China.MUNSTERLAND
(German).Left Yokohama 5/6.
(Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0456Z/8 to Admty etc).Indo-China.Assurances required from Decoux on rubber.
question. (C. in C. China 1652B/8 to Admty)
See Lion Copy.

1652B/8 June

S E C R E T

M E S S A G E

O U T.

Addressed: Commander in Chief, China, 99. Date. 8.6.41.
 Repeated: Governor Straits Settlement.
 Governor Hong Kong.
 British Ambassador Washington.
 British Ambassador Tokyo.

R. CODE & F.E.K.9.

From: Admiralty.

Your 0511Z/1 June.

We must continue to refuse any facilities for oil until Admiral Decoux gives us the assurances concerning rubber for which we have asked. By his attitude on this question we are bound to judge the importance which he attaches to the agreement.

2. M. Pingaud's exhortation that we should persuade the United States Government to stimulate United States purchases of rubber is not understood, since our information from Washington is that they have been making every effort to obtain the maximum quantity of rubber possible from Indo-China, but even as regards the 10,000 tons the United States Government are finding the French representatives very difficult to deal with.

3. You should therefore inform Admiral Decoux, that the Americans have said that they are only too ready to take all the rubber available and ask why he does not close contracts with them.

1652B/8

for Head of M. (86).

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S.(F)

A.C.N.S.(T)(2)

H.A. 1st S.L.

Nav. Sec.

P.A.S.(S)

Ops.(4)

O.D.(5)

D. of P.(3)

D.N.I.(4)

D.E.W.D.(3)

D.S.D.9.

O.I.C.

D.T.D.(4)

M.(40) China Distribution
(M.05870/41)

I.P.(3)

W.D.

Admiral Chalmers.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.

8.6.1941.

Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.U/B
Report.

At 1500/7 Zone 5 Time hydrophone contact with submerged U/B reported by Task Force 2 in position 32° 35' N 29° 30' W. C.N.S. Ottawa informed. (A.L.U.S.N.A., 0355/8 to Admty. See also U-Boat Campaign.)

Crews ex
German and
Italian Ships.

My 1013R/22/5.
All are on board U.S. Army Transport CHATEAU THIERRY sailed Colon 5/6 for New York. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1054R/8 to Admty).

Enemy ship
Transfers.

Request Ruling as to whether recent transfer of 12 German and Italian ships to Mexican Govt. is recognised by British Govt. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1114Q/8 to Admty).

C.I.P.
(French).

My 1559R/7 Ship still at St. Thomas 1700/7. Endeavouring to obtain permission to load cargo. CARADOC informed. (S.O.(I) Kingston, 1146R/8 to Admty etc). Your 1616/6 to C. in C. A.W.I. only. (S.O.(I) Kingston states that French tanker C.I.P. was expected to sail at 2200/6 probably for Fort de France, no permit having been granted for cargo. Request confirmation that interception is considered undesirable. (Head of M. 2330B/8 to N.A. Washington).

SHEHERAZADE
(French).

My 1751Q/25. Following Free French volunteers obtained for SHEHERAZADE from personnel proceeding U.K. in S.S. RIMUTAKA. Expect to obtain approx. half necessary crew by 15/6. 1223Q/8.

REPULSE.

Your 1156B/7. REPULSE left Concepcion Bay 2330Z/7. (N.O.I.C. St. John's 1323Z/8 to Admty).

Raider
Report.

Following from Resolution Island begins:-
1126 G.M.T. RRRR 44.50 N 29.08 W attacked by small vessel (ends).
(Ottawa, 1354Z/8 to Admty).

/NYASSA.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies (contd).

↑ NYASSA
(German
passengers.)

Intercepted letter from Oeroankanschel Lisbon states sailing of Portuguese ship NYASSA was held up until 3/6 waiting for 200 German passengers.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1509Q/8 to Admty).

German
raider
identity.

Trinidad reports German raider responsible sinking Br. BRITANNIA 25/3 identified as CORDILLERA or CARIBIA by third mate.
(S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1658R/8 to Admty).

A/C attacks
on H.S.VITA.

A.T.1454/29/4. (Requesting details of bombing attack on VITA): H.M.H.S. VITA one deliberate attack at Tobruk at 1726/14/4. 8 Machines, ship damaged, no casualties 430 patients disembarked. Ship under way in Searched Channel led by SOUTHERN ISLE. Second deliberate attack at 2000/21/4 by one machine during evening air raid on Tobruk. Ship under way in tow of two tugs. Third, at sea afternoon 22/4 ship in tow of two tugs. 3 deliberate attacks by 2 Heinkels from 5000 feet. Slight damage. Weather clear and sunny. Ship wearing red cross markings 1 on Foredeck 2 on forward awnings 2 on afterdeck 10 on life rafts on foredeck 12 on life rafts on afterdeck.
(R.A. Alexandria, 2010/8 to Admty).

↓ NYASA
(Portuguese).

Your 1022Q/5. Contact has been made with owners and Master and latter may receive instructions to proceed voluntarily to Bermuda. If vessel is intercepted making for Bermuda she should be allowed to proceed.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2206B/8 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

RESTIVE
PRUDENT.

Sailed H.M. Tugs RESTIVE, PRUDENT in accordance with my 1201B/6.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock, 2360/8 to N.O.I.C. Newfoundland).

MOST SECRET.

War Diary.

8.6.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

CAGOU
(French.)

The following is an extract from a Fairmiss telegram from Port Kembla. Arrived.
(Port Kembla, 2355Z/8 to M. of W.T.)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.TREGARTHEN
(torpedoed
6/6).

TREGARTHEN was torpedoed in 046° 17' N 036° 02' W at 2105Z/6. Proceed to search for survivors as long as fuel permits. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 0108Z/8 to CHAMBLEY ORILLIA, COLLINGWOOD).

ADDA.

Following has been read. SSSS 8.30 N 14.39 W. ADDA torpedoed 0245 G.M.T. (Freetown W/T T.O.R. 0206N/8). British, 7816 tons, ex Convoy O.B. 323, Liverpool to Freetown and Lagos (D.S. 642). ADDA torpedoed in 8.30 N., 14.39 W. at 0245 G.M.T. (411) survivors landed at Freetown. 7 missing. (C. in C. S.A., 2306N/8 to Admty).

INVERSUIR
(torpedoed
2/6).

Your 1130B/5 nothing found. My position is (?049°) 37' 024° 15'. (MALVERNIAN, 0600B/8 to V.A.N.P.)

ELMDENE

Following has been read. SSSS Position 8.47N 16.37 W. ELMDENE torpedoed (Freetown W/T T.O.R., 1320/8) British 4853 tons ex O.B. 324. U.K. to Freetown. (D.O.R. 9/6).

ENSIS.

Following has been read. SSSS ENSIS Torpedoed 48.46N 29.14 W. (Liverpool, 1335/8) British 6207 tons, London to Curacao in ballast (D.S. 643). Proceed to assistance of ENSIS torpedoed in 048° 46' N 029° 14' W at 1335Z/8. Report any developments and situation after 24 hours in area. (C. in C. W.A., 1625B/8 to MIGNONETTE). If in the vicinity and if fuel permits proceed to the assistance of ENSIS torpedoed in 58° 56' N 29° 14' W at 1335Z/8. (C. in C. W.A., 2224B/8 to OTTAWA, RICHMOND).

JOHN P.
PEDERSEN.
(torpedoed
20/5).

My 2231/27/5 and My 1712/7 Reliable information that 1 life boat containing 12 survivors and 5 bodies from JOHN P. PEDERSEN 6126 tons was in approx. position (?059°) N 040° W on 1/6. No information here indicated these survivors have been picked up. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 1710/8 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

- 0041 German U/Boat at 0041 G.M.T. bearing 240 3rd class from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 0137A/8 to N.A. Stn).
- 2000/7. Admty Message AF position 32° 35' N 29° 30' W. at 2000/7 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 0335/8).
- 2000 U.S.A. Task Force 2 reports Hydrophone contact with submerged submarine in position 32° 35' N 29° 30' W at 2000/7. G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 0535B/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)
0013. D/F bearings indicate position of U/Boat within 50 miles of 7° 30' N. 31° W. at 0013Z/8. (D.D.I.C. 0727B/8 to C. in C. S.A., LONDON).
0245. -Broadcast on receipt and repeat at routine times for 24 hours. Admty message A.F. position 8.30N 14.39 W. 0245/8; (C. in C. S.A. 0908/8 to Rugby W/T Stn)
- U.37
past positions. Request information whether U. 37 is likely to have been in Freetown area on April 27th and Eastward of Rio de Janeiro during the first week of May. (C. in C. S.A., 1011N/8 to Admty). Reply: 1113/10.
- 1200 9th M/S Flotilla hunting U Boat sighted in position 050° 30' N 003° 01' W at 1200/8. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1334/8 to Admty etc). My 2312/7*NOMINAL and 1 destroyer now hunting U Boat vicinity 50° 30' N 03° 01' W. (C. in C. Plymouth 1436/8 to H.Q. F.C.)
** not identified -*
- Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1441B/8)
1548. At 1548 B Italian U Boat bearing 250° class 3 from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 1517/8 to N.A. Stn).

/Trondheim.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.8.6.1941.
Sunday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported (contd).Trondheim.

My 1751B/5. U. Boats are reported to have left Trondheim at 1700/3. (Graded B.2.) (D.D.I.C. 1548B/8).

1900.

Aircraft report submarine position 036° 21' N 011° 50' W at 1900B/8. (F.O.C.N.A., 1926A/8 to N.A. Stn).

Submarines Attacked.By ALOUETTE.

Am attacking contact with depth charges position 233 P C L 30. (ALOUETTE, 1445A/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)
My 1445A/8. Have lost contact after 2 attacks
Continuing to search area. (ALOUETTE, 1628A/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)

By A/C.

Aircraft has attacked submarine in position 035° 50' N 013° 00' W at 1715B. (F.O.C.N.A., 1911B/8 to N.A. Stn). See also 1700/9.
My 1911B/8. The only and correct sighting report of U Boat by aircraft is as in my 1926A/8. (F.O.C.N.A., 2157A/8 to N.A. Stn).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Home Commands.

On the Denmark Strait Patrol, where the presence of a U-boat is suspected, MANCHESTER which left Scapa at 1530, was ordered at 2257 to proceed with Capt. D.3. in INGLEFIELD, ICARUS, and ACHATES to R/V to the East of 20° W. with EDINBURGH, who will then return with 2 Destroyers to Hvalfiord. Meanwhile EDINBURGH was ordered at 2037 to proceed to the Northward of 68° N and remain there for 48 hours to the Eastward of North Cape before resuming patrol, and HERMIONE is to remain at Hvalfiord.

A R/C of Brest at 0745 showed that SCHARNHORST had moved into the Rade Abri, and SEALION, TRIDENT, and SOKOL were ordered into new patrol positions accordingly. At 1400 however SCHARNHORST was seen to have returned to her usual position alongside the T.B. Jetty and at 2019 SEALION was ordered to return to Portsmouth as previously ordered. At 0030 this morning RUBIS reported that her steering gear had broken down and at 0356 TUNA was ordered to try to make contact with her after sunset tonight.

On night of 7 /8 A/C observed a smoke-screen over Brest apparently coming from the breakwater as well as from the ships inside it and covering the Battle Cruisers and the southern part of the Town. 20 projectors were counted on the breakwater.

The destination of the 104th M/L Flotilla now assembling at Greenock for the Mediterranean has been altered to West Africa.

The A/A defences of Londonderry are to be strengthened by 4 heavy A/A Guns; and the construction of A/A Forts in the Liverpool Approaches is being considered.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.British Air Activity.

6 Hudson A/C No. 200 Squadron are to leave U.K. for Bathurst via Gibraltar as soon as weather permits.

1 Beaufort attacked a 450 ft. merchant ship in harbour at La Pallice, and may have hit, as a cloud of smoke was seen over the vessel's stern.

Enemy Air Activity.

The British DIANA, 942 tons, was bombed and sunk this morning S.W. of the Faeroes in 13° 10' W; and the Finnish FENIX was bombed and set on fire in 61° 45' N. 12° 10' W at 0720.

At 2335/8 the Belgian Balloon Barrage Vessel COR JESU was bombed and sunk off Alnmouth.

Convoy ^{"Range"} RANGE, while on passage from Dartmouth to the Needles, was attacked by 4 a/c off St. Albans Head at 1425 without result and again at 1637 when the British DAGMAR, 844 tons, was hit and sunk.

Mining.

R.A.M.L. in AGAMEMNON left Port Z.A. at 1645 with the 1st M/L Squadron for Operation SN. 64, and NIGERIA left Scapa at 2220 to R/V with him at 0100/10

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.6.1941
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Shippings and Convoys.Zigzagging.

Fresh instructions regard zigzagging by merchant ships sailed independently or dispersed from Convoy in the Atlantic are contained in D.T.D.'s 1700B/9.

Lights.

Fresh instructions regarding the ^{burning} beaming of navigation lights by merchant ships proceeding independently in the Atlantic are contained in D.T.D.'s 1913Z/9 and 2112B/9.

North Atlantic.Gibraltar.

French Glen Martin aircraft reconnoitred Gibraltar at 0700 this morning and again at 1900 this evening.

S.O. Force H. intends remaining to westward until the situation is clearer.

South Atlantic.Bathurst.

C. in C. South Atlantic reports that owing to insecurity of Merchant Navy code, ships bound for Bathurst have not been diverted (i.e. as a precaution against possible Vichy French action).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Syria.
(Op. "Exporter.")

GLENGYLE landed her S.S. troops last night at the mouth of Bahç Litany and has returned to Port Said.

Army have asked for a bombardment tonight near Quasmize, where an enemy battalion is known to be in reserve.

2 French destroyers bombarded our advance forces from 0949 to 1010 this morning. Later they were encountered by JANUS, who, in an action off Sidon, was hit in the boiler room and disabled. She was taken in tow by KIMBERLEY. ISIS, JACKAL and HOTSPUR, which went to her assistance, at 1431 reported that they were pursuing the enemy at full speed south and were then 15 miles from Beirut. C. in C. Med. ordered a Swordfish bomb attack on the destroyers in Beirut tonight.

French submarines were at sea, and PHOEBE reported being attacked.

→ Capt. D.10 was ordered to take JAGUAR, DEFENDER and GRIFFIN under his orders and hunt the submarine concerned, and to reinforce 15th C.S.

→ KANDAHAR, KIMBERLEY, JACKAL, JAGUAR, ISIS and HOTSPUR were ordered to form an army supporting force; DEFENDER, GRIFFIN and HERO an A/S striking force. Capt. D.10 has fixed the R.V. with Capt. D.2 at 0930/10 in 33.07 N., 33.52 E.

/Alexandria

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean. (contd.)Alexandria.

Since the air raid on the night of 7-8/6 the absence of a number of dockyard workmen had delayed repair work. 2 mines remain to be exploded but the Harbour is open.

Lybya.

Acting on information that M/V BIRMANIA (Italian) had sunk in Tripoli Harbour, and that water was covered with inflammable oil, 7 Swordfish attacked last night with bombs and flame floats, but although all the latter except 1 fell in the harbour no fire resulted on the water.

TRIUMPH reports having torpedoed (on 30/5?) the ~~RAMB~~. RAMB in Benghazi. On 5/6 she sunk one armed trawler and 2 empty sailing vessels by gunfire in 31.37 N., 15.38 E.

Dodecanese

Wellingtons last night bombed objectives on Rhodes island and claimed 3 direct hits on the Northern Mole.

Survivors
from Crete.

Last night one M.L.C. with Major Garrett R.M., 5 officers and 134 other ranks arrived at Sidi Barrani area, having left Crete on 1/6, or more than 7 days ago. Another M.L.C. with 53 men is reported to be in the vicinity.

War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.SITUATION REPORT.America & West Indies.Use of Canadian
Warships.

Replying to a request that Canadian corvettes escorting H.X. 129 should search for survivors of TREGARTHEN (torpedoed 6/6) N.S.H.Q. Ottawa ask that Admty. will whenever necessary -divert H.M.C. ships employed on escort duty without previous reference to them.

DUC D'AUMALE,
Free French
Volunteers.

30 ratings who arrived in DUC D'AUMALE as replacements for French ships at New York were not allowed by U.S. authorities to join and left again in the ship for Martinique today. 20 of them wish to join the Free French. C. in C. America and West Indies has asked if the ship can be intercepted.

War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.20th M.L.
Flotilla.

The 20th M.L. Flotilla consisting of M.L's 123, 192, 245, 246, 247, 262, 267, 268, is to assemble at Portland being subsequently moved to its base at Falmouth. If available Y Guns are to be mounted in which event 3 pounder gun is to be mounted forward. This Flotilla is not to carry Rolls Royce two pounder gun. M.L's 123, 245, 246 and 247 are to be manned with French Crews. (A.C.N.S. H. 1250B/9)

Iceland.
Refitting of
A/S Trawlers.

My 1553B/27/5 is cancelled. One A/S Trawler of 21st A/S Group at a time is to be sailed in Convoy for Clyde for refit at Barclay Curle, Govan. Trawlers to be paid off and recommissioned as convenient during refit. On completion of refit Trawlers are to be sailed for Tobermory to work up and thence in Convoy to Reykjavik. First Trawler to be sailed as soon as possible. (D.A/S.W. 1403B/9 to F.O.I.C. Iceland)

Flag of 2nd
in C.H.F. to
PRINCE OF WALES.

The Flag of Vice Admiral Curteis will be transferred to P. of W. on 15th June. From that date the 2nd C.S. will be administered by C.S. 10. (C. in C.H.F. 1507B/9)

Reykjavik
Depot Ship.

Adty. 2026B/5. MANELA could take two vessels for boiler cleaning but would require portable generator. Suggest possibility of using AELYBRYN. If AELYBRYN not available possibly some other badly damaged ship could be towed from United Kingdom. Use of berth at Reykjavik most undesirable. Already overcrowded, loading unloading and repairing. Important the two or three berths now available for repairing should not be prejudiced. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1951/8)

/104th M/L.

War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.104th M/L
Flotilla for
W. Africa.

Destination of 104th M.L. Flotilla now assembling at Greenock for freighting to Mediterranean has been altered to West Africa. Information regarding shipment not yet available. (D. of L.D. 2038B/9)

O.P. and R.
class S/M's.
Engine Repairs.

Consideration of defects recently reported by OTUS, OLYMPUS and PANDORA confirms fact that in view of age and increasing liability to defects of 'O' Class 'P' Class and 'R' Class Submarines it is necessary to give consideration to allowing them sufficient time between patrols to maintain engines in a reasonable state of efficiency. (F.O.S.2239B/9)

Defence of U.K.Cowes.
A/A Defences.

Reference request made at C.O.S.(A.A.)(S) 7th June in regard to A.A. defence Cowes. Representative of Messrs. Samuel White reports at least one "snooping" attack has been made at about 1400/2/6 in which several bombs were dropped in area. Further reports that -several individual attacks have recently been made by night including one attack last night by single aircraft. In these attacks, several bombs have been dropped in vicinity of shipyard and aircraft factory. Latter is making Spitfire and Wellington air frame components.

2. Request R/C may be made at early date with a view to improving defence of these two important V.P.s. (D. of L.D. 1509B/9 to Air Ministry.)

Rosyth:
A/A Defences.

Your 1829/30/5. Shortage of ammunition for Harvey projectors renders it impossible to supply at present. Matter will be reviewed in one month's time. 4 Heavy A.A. being provided. (D. of L.D. 1641B/9 to C. in C. Rosyth.)

/Iceland.

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K. Contd.

Iceland.
Communications.

Following are my observations on Communications in Iceland. Details. (A.C.O.S.1927/9) See Lion Copy.

Liverpool.
A/A Forts.

Reference recent visit of Mr. Maunsell to discuss projected A.A. forts in Liverpool Approaches proposals are now under consideration to construct forts between 5 - 6 fms. in areas given to your Chief of Staff during visit to Admiralty.
2. Request your views. (D. of L.D. 2111B/9 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool.)

Londonderry.
A/A Defences.

Your 1120B/2. 4 Additional Heavy A.A. guns allocated Londonderry from June, production and arrangements made for special reinforcement if necessary.
2. You will appreciate that scale quoted was designed to meet special requirement now under consideration locally. (D. of L.D. 2308B/9 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

Movements.

M/L's for
Gibraltar.

R.A.C.F. 1330B/8. Propose similar arrangements as for 3rd M.L. Flotilla ships assembling at Plymouth. Request necessary escort be detailed. (C. in C. Plymouth 1250/9)

PANDORA.

Intend sailing PANDORA at 1900B June 10th. Fleet Sweepers CROMER, BUDE, BLACKPOOL, RHYL, ROMNEY and 4 M/L's escorting. A/S Exercises from approx. 1945 - 2030 in Dartmouth S/M Sanctuary. Sweepers then return to Dartmouth. PANDORA, with M/L's proceeds to 050° N. 003° 38' W. after which Submarine proceeds independently (N.O.I.C.Dartmouth 2311/9)

/LEGION

SECRET

MESSAGE 1927/9th June.

IN

From A.C.O.S.

Date 9.6.41.

Recd. 2142

P/L BY SECRET T/P.

Addressed Admiralty, Repeated C. in C. Home Fleet, C. in C. Western Approaches, F.O.I.C. Iceland.

311. The following are my observations on communications in Iceland (C) as a result of my recent visit:-

A. The present A.C.H.Q. is entirely unsuitable. A school in Reykjavik has been selected as an alternative and it is essential that a new A.C.H.Q. should be pressed on with in this building.

Even so this will not be satisfactory as a permanency owing to lack of protection and the impossibility of W/T reception in a position in the town. A new site outside the town should be selected now. The new building should be made blast proof and arrangements made for direct W/T reception. A temporary new receiving and remote control centre is required now and should be set up on the site of the proposed permanent A.C.H.Q. building. A combined distribution centre in the temporary A.C.H.Q. should be set up with teleprinter communication to the Naval and R.A.F. Receiving centres.

B. It is considered that continuous watch on 138 kcs and 4740 kcs should be allowed for in addition, and for this A type 59 or 21 B and an E.S.1 will be required

C. Arrangements should be made to remote control the fixed service transmitter at Vatnsendi from the Naval Receiving Centre.

D. The sole line of communication between Hvalfjord and Reykjavik is an army field telephone unpatrolled and open to sabotage. It is essential that the 28 core cable which has been promised for this duty should be hastened.

E. I consider that the Reykjavik W/T Station should be taken over completely from the Icelandic authorities.

F. The present port wave has been found unsuitable owing to Icelandic R/T and should be shifted to 1570 kcs.

G. I consider that A.T.1087 and receiver are required at the Vestmann Islands to improve communication with N.P. Trawlers and Seydisfiord and other ships maintaining watch on port wave.

H. Owing to interference caused on fleet wave, in spite of reduced power, the frequency of the Icelandic Broadcasting station should be shifted to a frequency above 240 kcs.

My Signal Officer who accompanied me to Iceland will visit Admiralty on Friday, 15th June, and will be able to give further details if required.

1927/9.

	Advance copy	Ops and D.S.D.	I.P. (3)
1st Lord	Ops (4)	O.I.C.	W.D.
1st S.L.	O.D. (5)	D.S.D.9.	D.S.D. (2) } Bath
V.C.H.S.	E.P.S.	D. of L.D. (2)	S.W.R. } by
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.S.D. (2) (for action)	M. (3)	C.L. in C. } T/P
A.C.N.S. (F)	A.H.Q.H.F.	D.C.O.	D. of S. }
Civil Lord	D.N.I. (4)	D.D.T.S.D. (C.O.)	
N.A. 1st S.L.	D. of S.	D.S.O.	

War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements. Contd.LEGION.

LEGION arrived Clyde with 70 prisoners, 6 officers and 64 ratings. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2325B/9)

Operations.Search for
U.Boat.

Your 1900B/8. Captain (D) 3 in INGLEFIELD with ICARUS is to be sailed Hvalfjord. One destroyer is to join the cruisers on patrol in Denmark Strait. At the discretion of the S.O. Home Fleet in area both destroyers may be used to operate against U.Boat. Destroyers are to keep in area A.W/T organisation. (C. in C.H.F. 0056B/9 to R.A.D. H.F.)
My 0056B/9. Capt. (D) 3 in INGLEFIELD with ICARUS and ACHATES are to sail when ready and proceed to Hvalfjord with all convenient despatch weather permitting. (C. in C.H.F. 1026B/9) (R.A.D. 1057B/9 to D.3.)
My 1057B/9. D.3 in INGLEFIELD, ICARUS and ACHATES sailed. (R.A.D. 1215B/9)
Scapa departure MANCHESTER. (A.C.O.S. 1530B/9)
EDINBURGH should proceed to the Northward of 68° N. and remain there for 48 hours and then resume patrol, keeping throughout to the E.wd. of a line 360° from North Cape.
2. Ships proceeding to Denmark Strait patrol should pass to the Eastward of Iceland. (1st S.L. 1718B/9 to C. in C.H.F.)
My 0011B/9. In view of Admty's 1718B/9 intend to proceed eastabout passing through 068° 10', 016°, 270°, 18 knots at 0800B/11. (HERMIONE 1915B/9)
Comply Admty. 1718B/9 - para 1. (C. in C.H.F. 2037B/9 to C.S. 18.)
Remain at Hval Fiord. (C. in C.H.F. 2031B/9 to HERMIONE)
Decypher H.D. 135 (Refers to 1st S.L. 1718B/9) (C. in C.H.F. 2055B/9 to HERMIONE, MANCHESTER)

/Admty's 1718B/9

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Search for
U.Boat contd.

Admty's 1718B/9. When fuelled proceed with Capt. (D) 3, ICARUS and ACHATES to R/V with EDINBURGH proceeding westabout. R/V which is to East of 020° W. is to be chosen according to latest reports of visibility and ice and is to be signalled to C.S. 18 before sailing. On relief MANCHESTER, EDINBURGH is to return with 2 destroyers to Hvalfiord. (C. in C.H.F. 2257B/9 to MANCHESTER.)

Biscay S/M
Patrol.

At 0030B/9 RUBIS in 46° 46' N. 10° 32' W. reported steering gear broken down and unable to manoeuvre. Cancel my 1209B/8. SOKOL return to 47° 16' N. 10° 03' W. TRIDENT return to 46° 38' N. 09° 42' W. (F.O.S. 0318B/9)

SCHARNHORST has shifted berth alongside to Rade Abri. GNEISENAU and PRINZ EUGEN still in dry dock.

(a) SEALION establish patrol near position 047° 32' N. 006° 38' W. Leave patrol after dark/10 for Portsmouth as directed by Capt.(S) 5.

(b) After dark today S/M's proceed to following patrol positions. TRIDENT 046° 04' N. 009° 13' W. SOKOL 046° 38' N. 009° 42' W. (F.O.S. 1447B/9)

My 1447B/9. Cancel Para. A. SEALION proceed Portsmouth as previously ordered. (F.O.S. 2019B/9 to SEALION.)

Search for
BISMARCK.

Now that further reports have been received of the events leading up to the destruction of the BISMARCK it seems certain that HOOD obtained several hits on BISMARCK before she herself was sunk. It is also evident that except for reduced mobility BISMARCK was an efficient fighting unit when engaged by KING GEORGE V, RODNEY and DORSETSHIRE, and the fact that not one of these ships sustained any damage in this engagement is convincing proof of their fighting efficiency and the accuracy of their gunnery. (1st Lord. 1205B/9)

/Iceland

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations. Contd.

Iceland -
Faroes
Patrol.

KENYA sailed. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1801/9)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

STAND not flown p.m./8. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0042/9)

A/S sweep by three Whitleys, centre track 315°. From Butt of Lewis to a depth of 300 miles. On datum 1400/9. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0802/9)

STAND in operation. SLEEVE not being flown. (C. in C. Rosyth 1634/9)

BERT and STAB in operation also Recco. of Narvik. (C. in C. Rosyth 1950/9)

Following Standard Patrols are forwarded for your agreement:- WATCH I, WATCH II, FRICE, ROVIK I, ROVIK II, POLAR, BEAR and WALRUS. Details. (H.Q.C.C. 2005/9 to Adty) See Summaries Folder.

Escorts.

Your 0841/8. Regret no aircraft available. (C. in C. Rosyth 0435/9 to MANCHESTER.)

Your 0846B/7. Expect A.S. escort by Ansons from Stornoway from 1800 to dusk on 9th and by Hudsons from Wick from first light to dusk on 10th. (C. in C. Rosyth 0940/9 to R.A.M.)

Bombing
Restrictions.

My Ops. 623/9/6. Cancel total submarine bombing restrictions in area 73 North of 49° N. (H.Q.C.C. 1303/9)

Six A/C for
Bathurst.

X229 9/6. 6 Hudsons of No.200 Sqdn. are to leave U.K. for Bathurst via Gibraltar as soon as weather conditions permit. (Air Ministry 1940/9)

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War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.DIANA.(British 942 Tons) 62° 12' N. 13° 10' W.
DIANA bombed by aircraft. (Liverpool W/T
0555/9.)Have entire crew of DIANA, 1 serious and
3 badly injured. My position is 062° 04' N.
013° 40' W. Proceeding Thorshaven. E.T.A.
1000B/10th. (CAPE PORTLAND 1527B/9.)
Your 1917B/9th. DIANA sank 1115. (CAPE
PORTLAND 2039B/9.)FENIX.(Finnish,
1894 Tons.)(1852 Tons Lloyd's Reg.)Help. 61° 54' N. 11° 44' W. (NORTHERN SKY,
0630/9, 0645/9, 0700/9)FENIX bombed and sunk by H.E. III. Have
taken aboard 21 survivors, one seriously
injured, am proceeding with all despatch to
Thorshaven. Urgently require medical
assistance. My position course and speed
are 061° 45' N. 012° 10' W. 086°, 9 knots.
(NORTHERN SKY 0720B/9.)Amend my 0720. FENIX on fire but still afloat
at 0900. Smoke still visible 30 miles astern.
(NORTHERN SKY 1040B/9)Position 061° 54' N. 012° 16' W. dead reckon-
ing. FENIX gutted. Fire practically out.
Ship floating high. Fire confined to holds.
(CAPE PORTLAND 1942B/9)Have contacted FENIX. Burning fore-castle and
stern upper works entirely gone. Does not
appear to be sinking. Will attempt boarding
as soon as possible. (NORTHERN REWARD 2158B/9)Convoy W.S.9 A.
approached on
5/6.At 0805/5th in 056° 28' N. 014° 50' W. one
F.W. aircraft approached convoy W.S.9 A.
from port bow at height of 300 feet. Aircraft
was engaged with long range A/A gunfire by
CAIRO at range 5 miles and fire was continued
until aircraft was out of sight on port
quarter at range 6 miles and aircraft was not
seen again. (CAIRO 0926/9)COR JESU
sunk.(Balloon Barrage Vessel) Motor Drifter ALEX
GABRIELLE arrived a.m. today with crew of
COR JESU on board. Latter vessel having
been bombed and sunk at 2335/8 in 55° 29'
30" N. 1° 27' W. No casualties in either
vessel. Both drifters manned by Belgian
crews under the red ensign were on passage
from Methil for Humber. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1210/9)

/Loch Ewe.

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. Contd.

Loch Ewe.
Air Raid
on 8/6.

At 0130/8. JU.88 or Heinkel observed in difficulties and on fire flying down Loch. Very loud double explosion took place and thereafter no engine heard. Rubber dinghy intact but upside down found in vicinity. V. Planes in pairs, one flying to draw fire, other gliding throttled down and dropping bombs. (N.O.I.C. Aultbea 1237B/9)

"Range"
Convoy RANGE.
DAGMAR (British
844 Tons) sunk.

"Range"
RANGE being attacked by enemy aircraft 50° 32' N. 1° 58' W. (BLENCATHRA 1425/9.) Four A/C attacking. No hits. (BLENCATHRA 1436/9.)
RANGE attacked at 1428 in position 130° St. Albans Head 5 miles by four aircraft. No damage reported. (F.O.I.C. ~~Portland~~, Portland), 1540/9).
"Range"
Help "RANGE" 50° 35' N. 1° 46' W. (BLENCATHRA 1637/9)
Fighter Aircraft is being sent to Convoy "Range" RANGE. (Nore 1652/9)
My 1540/9. RANGE again attacked at 1637. British ship DAGMAR hit. Blew up and sank 1754 in position 160° St. Albans Head 5 1/4 miles. (F.O.I.C. Portland 1830/9)

FORFEIT.
(Bombed 6/6)

CRAIG COILLEACH with FORFEIT in tow arrived. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1426/9)

NAROCZ.
(Polish
1795 Tons.)

Master of NAROCZ reports that at 0230B/8 in 062° N. 008° 44' W. ship was unsuccessfully bombed by one Heinkel. No casualties or damage suffered and aeroplane was driven off by ship's machine gun fire. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1855B/9)

GLORY.
bombed.

(Dutch 323 Tons) My 1057/9. GLORY has been towed into Scarborough. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1902/9)
My 1902/9. M/V GLORY damage not as yet ascertained. Hull intact. 5 bombs dropped near misses. 2 of the crew wounded by machine gun bullets. Names. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 2126/9)

/REMAGIO

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. Contd.

REMGIO.

(Trawler 174 Tons) Attacked by A/C and grounded North of Bamburgh at 0235/9. Crew of 10 landed, but ship likely to be total loss. (D.S.644)

Mining.

P.W.14.

At first suitable opportunity after 16th June carry out P.W.14 in position originally given for P.W.10 in my 1837/0528A/13 of 19.4.41 paragraph 2. (C. in C. Nore, 1514B/9 to BEEHIVE.)

SN.64.

Departure Port ZA R.A.M. in AGAMEMNON, MENESTHEUS, BRIGHTON, ST. MARY'S, IMPULSIVE and ANTHONY 1645/9. (TRELAWNEY 1646/9)

NIGERIA delayed. Expect R/V 0100B/10. (10th C.S. 2150B/9 to R.A.M.L.)
Scapa departure NIGERIA. (A.C.O.S.2220/9)

Falmouth.

Cut mine in position 50° 09' 50" N. 04° 53' 06" W. Mine sunk by rifle fire. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 2206/9)

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest.

R/C of Brest at 0745B/9 shows that SCHARNHORST has moved from T/B jetty to Rade Abri. GNEISENAU and PRINZ EUGEN still in dock. (D.D.I.C. 1045B/9)

/At 1400/9

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence. Contd.

Brest cont:-

At 1400/9. SCHARNHORST has returned to the position alongside quay which she occupied on 8/6. She is partly obscured by cloud but her bow now appears pointing eastward and torpedo boom and floating camouflage have been replaced around her.

GNEISENAU still in dry dock. Dry dock usually occupied by HIPPER class cruiser obscured by cloud.

Other shipping in portions of Port and Rade de Brest seen shows insignificant change.

(P.R.U. St. Eval 1650/9)

Brest 1430/9. Preliminary interpretation of photographs shows SCHARNHORST alongside again, headed West. GNEISENAU still in dry dock; PRINCE EUGEN dock obscured.

(D.D.I.C. 1720B/9)

A/C of Bomber Command height 14,000 feet observed smoke screen over Brest between 2345/7th - 0020/8th June. Smoke came from breakwater and ships inside breakwater and covered both battle cruisers and southern part of town. Colour greyish-white. 20 projectors counted on breakwater.

(D.D.I.C. 1549B/9)

Enemy Transport Situation.

Summary of German Transport situation in Baltic and on Norwegian Coast. Details. (N.A. Stockholm 2209/9) See Lion Copy.

Casualties & Defects.

RUBIS.

Steering gear broken down. Can dive but unable to manoeuvre. My position 046° 46' N. 010° 32' W. Request escort and tow.

(RUBIS 0030B/9 to F.O.S.)

Your 0030B/9. Dive during daylight today. Further signal follows. (F.O.S. 0216B/9 to RUBIS.)

/RUBIS

From Naval Attache Stockholm.

Date. 10.6.41
Recd. 0950Inter Departmental Cypher (one time table)
by Cable.RECIRCULATION

Addressed D.N.I.

IMPORTANT.

Following is summary of German transport situation.

- (1) Baltic. (a) Past few days many merchant vessels and transports observed proceeding northwards from Stettin singly and in groups of four or six without escort or anti aircraft defence. Troops often in CEG & crowded on deck.
- (b) Route via Western Baltic to North Finnish ports keeping outside Swedish waters. On return voyage certain merchant vessels already identified deeply laden with ore or timber.
- (c) Estimated tonnage to pass Gotland so far over one hundred thousand. At present rate 150 thousand will complete transport of first division during this week. Next division are all to follow.
- Norwegian Coast. (a) A. two repeat A two. Transport of 199th Division from Oslo to North completed.
- (b) Minor movements by sea of ?divisions in Northern Area to Eastward also completed.
- (c) Transport of new division from Baltic Ports to Oslo via Sound and Danish waters with troops hidden between decks in merchant vessels and transports also completed. All stores and equipment for this division sent (?via) Aalborg.
- (d) Future movements by sea likely to be limited to occasional transport of coastal artillery and stores.
- (e) Evacuation of Norwegian inhabitants from Vestlandet ordered for tomorrow June 10th not repeat not due to Invasion preparations but probably on account of re grouping of fixed and anti aircraft defences. A.2 repeat A.2.

2209/9

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
N.A. 1st S.L.
Ops. (4)
O.D. (5)
O.I.C. (2)
D.S.D. 9
D.H.I. (4)
H. for ...H. F.O. and W.O. (10)
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (H)
D.E.W.D. (3)

* As decyphered

Advance copy sent O.I.C.

D. of P. (3)
D.L./S.W.
W.D.
I.P. (3)

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. Contd.

RUBIS contd.

RUBIS 0030B/9. Request immediate assistance and air protection during return passage. (F.O.S. 0224B/9 to C. in C. Plymouth)
RUBIS 0030/9 and your 0024/9. Request RUBIS may be instructed to endeavour to -proceed towards Scillies in order that adequate fighter protection may be provided for a surface escort.
(C. in C. Plymouth 0302/9 to F.O.S.)
Endeavour to make contact with RUBIS soon after sunset tonight and render any possible assistance. If contact has not been made by 2245B/9 RUBIS is to fire one night grenade of any characteristic at 20 and 50 minutes past each hour until 0200B/10 in order to attract attention. If no assistance can be given or if contact has not been made by 0200B/10 TUNA proceed well clear to southward and report situation. (F.O.S. 0356B/9 to T.U.N.A.)

MELROSE ABBEY.
(Grounded 28/3)

Your 1606/7/6. ABEILLE 4 sailed 1200/9. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead, 1207/9)
My 1606/7. ABEILLE 4 returned Peterhead. Operation unsuccessful. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1731/9)

DIANTHUS.

Have developed defect Asdic Transmitter. Request permission call Campbeltown to make good. (DIANTHUS 1330B/9)
Your 1330B/9 approved. (N.O.I.C. Liverpool 1455B/9 to DIANTHUS.)

T.L.C. 46.

Drifters YOUNG CLIFF and ACHIEVABLE arrived Dundee with T.L.C. 46 in tow all engines broken down. (N.O.I.C. Dundee 1723/9)

BROADWATER.

Am returning to harbour. Four out of six boiler room fans out of action. (BROADWATER 1932B/9)

/ST. BRIAC.

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects. Contd.

ST.BRIAC.

Owing to Engine defects ST.BRIAC will not be available for about 3 weeks to a month. (Head of M. 2357B/9)

TRAFALGAR.

(British 4530 Tons) Left Milford Haven 21/4. Due Cape Town 29/5. Not arrived. (D.S.643)

SCOTTISH
MONARCH.

(British 4719 Tons) Left Loch Ewe 9/5. Due Freetown 2/6. Not arrived. (D.S.643)

CHESTERFIELD.

Returning to Greenock owing to steering engine defect. (CHESTERFIELD 2358B/9)

Shipping and Convoys.

Zigzagging.

Pass to N.C.S.Os. Except in heavy weather or in fog merchant ships sailed independently or dispersed from convoy in the Atlantic north of 5° S. are to zig-zag by day and on moonlight nights. (Instructions) A.M.S.I's 148, 338 and 405 are cancelled. (D.T.D. 1700B/9 to C. in C's etc.)

Burning of
Navigation
Lights.

Admty. Message F.O. Merchant ships proceeding independently in Atlantic are normally to burn dimmed navigation lights when northward of 40° N. and westward of 45° W. When north of Equator and between 8° W. and 45° W, should it be essential to show navigation lights in cases of emergency, merchant ships (whether in convoy or proceeding independently) may exhibit both side lights without using the steaming light.

3. Large liners outward bound from U.K. have discretion to burn navigation lights at full brilliance when northward of 32° N. and westward of 45° W. in Area 7.

4. A.M.S.I. 422 will be amended accordingly. A.M's E.U, F.A, and F.F. are cancelled. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1913Z/9 to G.B.M.S. all areas except A.I.G.12)

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys.-Contd.

Burning of
Navigation Lights
cont:-

" " " " " "
A.M.F.O. Independent merchant ships, when to the north of 40° N. and west of 45° W. in the Atlantic, should normally show dimmed navigation lights.

Ships in convoy and independent ships, when north of the Equator and between 8° W. and 45° W., if circumstances demand the burning of navigation lights, may show both side lights without the steaming light.

When to north of 32° N. and to west of 45° W. in area 7, outward bound large liners may show navigation lights at full brilliance if they so desire.

A.M.'s "EU", "FA", "FF" are cancelled and A.M.S.I. 422 amended accordingly.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 2112B/9 to A.I.G.12)

H.X.128.

Commodore Vice-Adm. F.A. Somerville arrived safely with exception of EMPIRE STORM 42 ships including 11 allied 1 neutral. Cargoes. (D.S.643 9/6)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.French R/C
Gibraltar.

One French Glen Martin R/C aircraft over Gibraltar at 0700. (F.O.C.N.A. 0732A/9 to S.O. Force H.)
At 0700 hours French Glen Martin possibly on Met. Recco. flew close in engaged by A.A. Defences then retired. Other pilots later reported some distance away presumed to be same plane approaching then receding. Plane approached from Casablanca direction. (Gov. Gib., 0932/9 to W.O.)

Force H.

Instructions in your 2344/8 complied with. 4 V.E.E.'s proceeding Gibraltar refuel E.T.A. 2100A/10. Intend remaining to westward until situation clearer. If French commence active hostilities throughout Mediterranean suggest V.E.E.'s escort oiler for Force H. to selected R/V. Please keep me fully informed of situation. (S.O. Force H. 0935A/9 to Admty.)

MARSDALE.

On passage to Areas V.1 and V.2 pass through following position (a) 037° 30' N. 030° 00' W. (b) 029° 00' N. 021° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1110A/9 to MARSDALE)

WIVERN.

My P.C. and S. are 037° 10' N. 012° 32' W 098° 15' passing through 231° St. Vincent 20 miles E.T.A. 1600A/10. Have defective condensers and leaking oil tanks, fuel remaining 95 tons. (WIVERN, 1700A/9 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Refugees,
Gibraltar.
SCYTHIA.

Your 1243B/9 (see South Atlantic) Arrival of refugees Lisbon Spain and Tangier has to be synchronized with arrival of transport because no accommodation for them is available in Gibraltar. Cancellation therefore results in serious disorganization and also has political repercussions. Essential therefore that SCYTHIA should call at Gibraltar unless prevented by enemy action at Gibraltar. C. in C. S.A. is accordingly requested to signal accurate details of accommodation available at earliest opportunity. (F.O.C.N.A. 1724A/9 to Admty.) See also p. 268

/French R/C

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.-Contd.

French R/C.

Another French Glen Martin reconnaissance A/C over Gibraltar at 1900 today. (F.O.C.N.A. 1924B/9 to S.O. Force H.)

South Atlantic.

CLAN
MACDOUGALL.

Report received here that CLAN MACDOUGALL has been sunk. Is this confirmed? She was carrying important spares for ships repairs. (N.L.O. Durban, 1042B/9 to D. of S.T.)

"Q" Report.
TAI YANG.

Following has been read. QQQQ From TAI YANG position 18.01 S. 16.58 W. Suspicious Vessel intercepting at 0900 G.M.T. (Ascension Radio T.O.R. 1050Z/9 to Freetown W/T.)

Following received G.B.M.S. 6A from TAI YANG. Cancel my QQQQ, vessel friendly. (Ascension Radio, T.O.R. 1120Z/9 TAI YANG, 1155/9)

"R" Report.
BALINGKAR.

Following has been read. RRRR 44.50 N. 29.58 W. BALINGKAR followed by small war vessel. (Lands End Radio 1127/9) Cancel my message 1127 QQQQ de BALINGKAR 1218. (Liverpool 1219/9)

LIBERTY GLO.

Cancel my 1146/30. LIBERTY GLO arrived Matadi 6/6. (S.O.I. Freetown 1232N/9)

Trade
Protection.

In view of difficulties of quick communication with you Capt. Schofield, D.T.D., is being sent out with Wing Cdr. Pearce to consult as regards problem of Trade Protection in your area. He will remain as long as necessary in order to be able to represent fully your views on his return. (1st S.L. 1240B/9 to C. in C.S.A.)

/Evacuees

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.-Contd.

Evacuees,
Gibraltar.

To clear balance of evacuees from Gibraltar to U.K. C. in C. S.A. is requested to direct SCYTHIA, due Freetown 10/6, into Gibraltar, but should supply her with an alternative route to U.K. in the event of this movement being cancelled. Most desirable that British and Allied refugees in Lisbon be brought to Gibraltar to embark in SCYTHIA. F.O.C.N.A. is requested to lend every assistance possible to Embassy Lisbon in arranging for preliminary movement from Lisbon to -Gibraltar. (D.O.D.(F) 1243B/9 to C. in C.S.A. F.O.C.N.A.) See p. 266

Convoy W.S. 9A.

List and bunker requirements. (D.S.T., 1337B/9 to C. in C.S.A., C. in C.E.I.)

HELDER.

Overdue shipping. HELDER due Capetown 4/6. from U.K. not arrived. (S.O.I. Cape Town. 1350/9 to Admty. etc.)

NEWCASTLE.
ASTURIAS.

My 1802/4. NEWCASTLE is remaining in Rio de Janeiro area. ASTURIAS is to R/V with oiler ABBEYDALE at F.O. a.m./15, embark 1000 tons oil fuel and discharge to her stores and personnel for NEWCASTLE ex BALTAVIA. ASTURIAS report by W/T whether fuelling is successful. If so, ASTURIAS is to leave L.31 17/6 and unless other orders issued by C. in C.S.A. proceed to Newport News, speed of advance 15 knots. If weather is unsuitable. ASTURIAS is to remain in L.31 and further instructions will be issued. Oiler BROOMDALE is being ordered to "Percival" to fuel NEWCASTLE about 20/6 and will then proceed Falkland Islands. (R.A.S.A.D. 1511Z/9 to S.A.D. CARNARVON CASTLE.)

/ASTURIAS

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.- Contd.ASTURIAS.

Your 2125/16/5, your 2147/8. ASTURIAS will now require fuel before leaving S.A.D. for refit. Endeavour will be made to fuel her from squadron oiler: failing this she must be delayed to fuel at Buenos Aires which she cannot do until 22/6 under 3 months oil fuel - other neutral ports not available for same reason. (R.A.S.A.D. 1513Z/9 to C. in C.S.A.)

FRANKFURT.
HERMES.
(German)

Reported FRANKFURT will berth alongside tomorrow to commence loading. Loading of HERMES now only spasmodic and it appears ship will not sail for some days. (N.C.S.O. Rio de Janeiro 1537/9 to S.O.I. Freetown)

See also next page.

NORFOLK.
SCYTHIA.
SHROPSHIRE.

My 0925/9 your 1243/9 and 1900/9. NORFOLK expected to sail 12/6. SCYTHIA 10th or 11/6, SHROPSHIRE 17/6. Propose (A) 180 prisoners ex LONDON be sent to U.K. in NORFOLK. (B) 334 Service passengers now in LONDON to U.K. in SCYTHIA. (C) 137 Passengers ex LONDON disembarked at Bathurst and now on way to Freetown to U.K. in SHROPSHIRE. No adequate accommodation for prisoners at Freetown. (C. in C.S.A. 1715N/9 to Admty.)

Bathurst
Precautions.

Your 1823N/7, owing to insecurity of Merchant Navy Code ships bound for Bathurst have not been diverted. Reference last sentence. Request you will inform Force F. if this should be necessary. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1800B/9 to C. in C.S.A. amended 1308B/10)

TEBRO
(Italian)
NATAL
(German)

Santos reports is in stream not down to load line and has had steam all last week. Is still loading cotton and coffee. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2248Z/9 to S.O.I. Freetown.)

/FRANKFURT

War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.FRANKFURT.
HERMES.
(German)Rio de Janeiro reports FRANKFURT will berth alongside tomorrow Tuesday to commence loading. HERMES is only loading spasmodically and it appears she will not sail for some days. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2328Z/9 to R.A.S.A.D.) *See previous page.*French
FOUCAULD.

Report graded C.3 states left France about 3/6 for Conakry. Due there 13th, and may have enemy personnel on board. (S.O.I. Freetown, 2331N/9 to Admty.)

Mediterranean.GIUSEPPINA
GHIRARDI.
(Italian)Tanker 3319 Tons. Expected to pass Istanbul for Aegean 1900/8. (Capt.(S) I. 0915C/9 to TORBAY, TETRARCH) *See also p. 272.*^{YAG}
KNAGUINYA MARIE
LUISA.

Bulgarian 3821 Tons. Report graded B.1 states lost as result of fire and explosion in Piraeus. (D.S. 643 9/6)

CAVARNA.
ARDEAL.
PELES.

Roumanian, 3498 Tons, 5695 Tons, 5708 Tons. Report C.3. states left Constanza about 19/5 with German pontoon material and "machinery" to Russian ports and returned with wheat for Germany. (D.S.643 9/6)

SAVORGNAN DE
BRAZZA.

My 1040/8th. Inform De Gaulle withdrawal from Red Sea Force would be regretted. If however ship has to go consider ammunition should be sent to Colombo and ship sailed to embark it there. (C. in C. Med. 1129/9 G.H.Q.M.E.)

/GLENEARN

MOST SECRET.War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.- Contd.GLENEARN.

Anticipated that GLENEARN will arrive Suez 10/6 under tow. Requested you will consider towing her to Bombay for repairs. (C. in C. Med. 1141C/9 to C. in C.E.I.)

IKI
KARDASHLAR.
(Sunk 3/6)

Your telegram 1375 to F.O. Now ascertained that schooner IKI KARDASHLAR was sunk at 0015/3 by M.T.B. on patrol from Cyprus. Vessel was well outside territorial waters and behaving in a suspicious manner which led warship to think she was an enemy vessel. For your information, good reason to suppose that supplies are going to Syria in coasters using Turkish flag, and situation is difficult for our patrol craft who have orders to interfere as little as possible with Turkish traffic. (C. in C. Med. 1215C/9 to Ambassador, Angora.) Fuller report of incident C. in C. Med. 1754C/18.

S.S. TIRPITZ.
(German)

Arrived Cartagena 9/6. (Cartagena 1245/9)

REGENT.

My 1228B/8. Amended. (V.A. Malta, 1245B/9 to REGENT.)

RORQUAL.
URGE.

Orders. (Commander (S)1, 1248B/9 to RORQUAL, URGE.) *See also next page. (RORQUAL)*

Oilers.
Malta.

In planning any movements that may become practicable to and from Malta, requested consideration may be given to moving away oilers HOEGH HOOD and SVENOR, each believed to be capable of 11 knots, unless likely to be fully employed at Malta. They would be of great use elsewhere. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1600B/9 to C. in C. Med.)

/SALZBURG

War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.SALZBURG.
GIUSEPPINA GHIRARDI.

Istanbul arrived 8/6 German SALZBURG, Italian GIUSEPPINA GHIRARDI. Departure SALZBURG Dedeagatch 9/6. GIUSEPPINA GHIRARDI Salonica 10/6. (Beyoglu 1615/9 to M. of W.T.) *See p. 270*

RORQUAL.

Sailed for Malta with 3 Officers 22 other ranks Royal Artillery and following stores:- Kerosene, Aviation Spirit, Naval stores 2½ tons; Medical Stores, 3 tons; Mail, 147 bags. Bill of lading is on board. (Capt. S.I., 1701C/5 to V.A. Malta.) *See previous page.*

Enemy Convoy.

2 destroyers 3 merchant vessels P.C. and S. GRY*1652 005° 10 knots. (Via Nore W/T, 1735/9 to Whitehall W/T.) * (as received)

Ammunition.

Expenditure on 21/5 - 23/5. (C. in C. Med. 1755/9 in reply to Admty. 1619B/6) See Lion ~~1755/9~~ *Copus.*

Ship Design,
Lessons from
experience.

My 1755/9. In any decisions in ship design as apart from supply which may be taken as a result of these operations, suggested that following should be considered.

1. Conditions under which ships were required to operate without Fighter Support in close proximity to enemy air bases were so exceptional that they should not unduly influence design of ships.
2. Increased ammunition stowage for long range A.A. armament is required particularly in ships with centre line armament. Not considered any of present low angle stowage can be spared in 5.25 and 6 inch cruisers.
3. Comparatively small percentage of pom-pom and 0.5 inch outfits expended shows that a much needed increase in close range A.A. armaments can be made without corresponding increase in ammunition stowage. (C. in C. Med. 1759/9 to Admty.)

/Transport

SECRET

M E S S A G E

IN

272A ^{lion}

1755/9th June.

From C.in C. Mediterranean.

Date 10.6.41.

Recd. 1810.

Naval Cypher (Z) by Cable. CORRECTION.

Addressed Admiralty.

I M P O R T A N T.

770. Your 1619B/6.

Average rounds per gun fired on 21st 23rd May may be misleading unless considered in relation to intensity and duration of attacks which varied considerably with the period of daylight spent inside the lagoon.

2. Forces concerned and intensity of attack were as follows:-

Force.	Ships.	No. of Hours Light Scale Frequent Attack by Single Aircraft or Small Formations.	No. of hours Heavy Scale Continuous Attack.
C.	HAIAD PERTH CALCUTTA CARLISLE KANDAHAR KINGSTON HUBLIN	4	7
A. and D.	WERSPITE VALIANT ORION AJAX DIDO 12 Destroyers	3½	3
B.	JIRVIS NIZAM ILVOCK ILLEX	4	-

3. Although forces A and D were not in company throughout their scales of attack were comparable. As example of heavy scale continuous attack CARLISLE in 7 hours engaged 16 attacks made directly on herself and 34 others on ships in close company.

4. Average ammunition expenditure in rounds per barrel by surviving ships is as follows :-

Force.	6".	5.25"	4.5"	4.7"	4" Mark XVI.	3". Pom-pom.	0.5"
C.	-	200	-	88	258	-	443
A. and D.	33	172	143	39	168	139	176
B.	-	-	-	55	-	-	182

5.

5. Largest individual expenditures per barrel 4" XVI
CALCUTTA 276. 4.7 KANDIWAR and KINGSTON 106. Pompon
NAIAD 812.

6. Important points are -

- (1) All forces regulated expenditure of long range ammunition as far as consistent with self defence and exercised rigid economy in light scale attacks.
- (2) Force C fired more than authorised outfit of 4" XVI and nearly authorised outfit of 5.25 and 4.7". It is known FIJI fired full outfit before being sunk and it is possible GLOUCESTER did the same.
- (3) Comparatively small proportion of outfit fired by close range weapons confirms A. T 1715/19 March para (11).
- (4) Force B is example of expenditure by detached force exposed to attack for a comparatively short time.

1755/9.

1st Lord
1st S.L.
Controller
Vice Controller
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
Naval Secretary
N.A. 1st S.L.
Ops.(4)
O.D.(5)
D.of P.(3)
D.T.S.D.(6)
D.A.S.(2)
I.M.H.G.(2)
D.N.A.D.
M.(2)
D.A.A.W.
D.N.O.
O.I.C.(2)
D.S.D.9.
I.P.(3)
W.D.
Deputy Contr.(2)
D.A.S.(3)
D.N.O.(4)
Sub War Registry

} Bath by Courier.

War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.Transport of
German A/F.

Reported that German A/F personnel and stores being transported Athens to Salonika in 6 Axis ships of two to six thousand tons. (Capt. (S) I. 1855C/9 to TETRARCH.)

Enemy Convoy.

R/c 9/6 reported two Merchant ships, one destroyer heading for Benghazi from vicinity of Kerkenah. (Comm. (S) I 1906B/9 to TETRARCH, UPHOLDER.)

Malta
Supplies.

Ref. Governor Malta message G.M./16656 of 5/6 is considered any large S/M making passage through Mediterranean from Gibraltar should fill to capacity with stores as required by Governor Malta. Suggestions. (C. in C. Med. 1911C/9 to Admty.)

Malta Air
Raid.

C.S.R. up to 1600 hrs. 9/6. Night June 8/9. 3 Enemy aircraft approached at intervals without crossing coast.

BIRMANIA
attacked,
Tripoli.

On information that M/V BIRMANIA had sunk in Tripoli Harbour and water covered with inflammable oil an attack was made between 2143 and 2153 hrs. 8/9 by 7 Swordfish 830 Sqdn. F.A.A. each carrying 2 250 lbs. G.P. Bombs 20 Mark 1 and 4 Mark 2 flame floats. Though all flame floats except 1 fell in harbour no fire resulted on water. 12 250 lbs. G.P. bombs dropped from 4000 feet among shipping in harbour and 4 250 lbs. G.P. on Spanish Fort quay resulted in small fire on one M/V and another small fire on quay. (H.Q. Malta, 2130/9)

TRIUMPH.
Enemy Vessels
sunk.

Your 1745/6. 18 British removed from Island to Athens by air 8th. My position 034° 39' 024° 49' E.T.A. Sanctuary 0500/12. (?30th) torpedoed RAMB(?) in Benghazi. 3 merchant ships also there. 5th, one armed trawler 2 empty sailing (?) vessels sunk by gunfire 031° 37' 015° 38'. No other shipping sighted. (TRIUMPH 2131C/9 to Capt. S.1.)

/Mitylene

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Mitylene.

Report Turkish authorities Mitylene 4/6 states preparations on island now being made for move of German forces to unknown destination. 40 small craft assembled. 230 German soldiers arrived from Nikaria. Also estimates German (corrupt group) reduced from 6,000 to new total of 2,000. Arrival of ship awaited, please inform Navy. (M.A. Ankara, 2133/9 to C. in C. M.E., W.O.)

Vessels for Aden.

Unless you foresee early need for KIRRIEMOOR, BURGONET, ATREUS or ALSEY in E. Mediterranean, requested sail them for Aden to await further instructions. (Admty. 2244B/9 to C. in C. Med.)

HYACINTH.

Request you sail to Haifa at daylight tomorrow Tuesday. (C. in C. Med. 2315C/9 to R.A. Alexandria.)

RAMB IV.

Your 1839/6. Request confirmation short voyage employment can be found for RAMB IV if three weeks refit is carried out. (D. of S.T. 2359B/9 to S.T.O. Egypt.)

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Advance into Syria.

Air Report.

Syria. Operations in support our troops advancing into Syrian territory. 2 Hurricanes provided fighter protection for H.M. ships. F.A.A. Fulmars escorting H.M. ships were attacked by Moranes. 2 Fulmars shot down third forced landed in sea. Further 2 severely damaged.

Western Desert.

Night 7/8 10 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour causing fires and explosions on Central Mole and Cathedral Mole. 2 Wellingtons bombed Derna landing ground starting large fires.

Attack on Mersa Matruh.

Night 8/9. 10 unidentified enemy A/C bombed Mersa Matruh town and harbour. Mines also believed dropped. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1107/9)

Enemy Destroyer.

ISIS, JACKAL and HOTSPUR pursuing southerly full speed enemy now 15 miles from Beirut can I bombard if necessary. (ISIS 1431/9 to C.S.15.)

Your 1600C. Swordfish to attack destroyer in Beirut tonight 9/10 with bombs. Arrange reconaissance to find destroyer's berths before dark. (C. in C. Med. 1808C/9 to F.O. 15th C.S.)

D.2.

On arrival Port Said fuel and sail with all despatch to R/V with Capt. (D) 10 in accordance with my 1817C/9. (C. in C. Med. 1821C/9 to Capt. D.2.)

JAGUAR.
DEFENDER.
GRIFFIN.

Take JAGUAR, DEFENDER, GRIFFIN under your orders. Proceed when ready with despatch to hunt submarine reported to have attacked PHOEBE in position 33° 29' N. 34° 58' E.

KANDAHAR.

Detach JAGUAR to join KANDAHAR a.m./10 as ordered by C.S.15.

HERO.

Capt. D.(2) and HERO. E.T.A. Port Said 2245/9 ordered to join you after fuelling. Appoint R/V. (C. in C. Med. 1817C/9 to Capt. D.10.)

/My 1817C/9

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Advance into Syria.

JAGUAR.
DEFENDER.
GRIFFIN.
KANDAHAR.
HERO.
(contd.)

My 1817C/9. Capt.(D) 2, Capt.(D) 10, DEFENDER, GRIFFIN, HERO to form A/S striking force. KANDAHAR, KIMBERLEY, JACKAL, JAGUAR, ISIS, HOTSPUR to form army supporting force supported by cruisers. (C. in C. Med. 1837C/9 to C.S. 15.)
R/V at 0930/10 in position 033° 07' N. 033° 52' E. (Capt. D.10 2353C/9 to Capt.(D) 2)

Bombardment requested.

Request bombardment of area 1000 yards deep and 400 yards wide centred point 600 yards North of Qasmiye, grid ref.106156. Time after which shooting is not required is 2200. Enemy battalion in reserve known to be in this area. (N.L.O. Pal. 1837C/9 to C.S.15.)

Action with French Destroyers.

Signal short (?report of) action. Who was the aggressor? (C. in C. Med. 1857C/9 to ISIS.)

JANUS damaged.

JANUS hit in boiler room in action off Sidon with French Destroyers now being towed into Haifa by KIMBERLEY. French Destroyers chased into Beirut by ISIS, JACKAL and HOTSPUR. Intend taking air action against French Destroyers. My 1105/7 (N.T. in W.D.) Request most immediate reply as situation cannot long remain static. French ships have stopped leave and if I am to open negotiations early action is essential. (C. in C. Med.1949C/9 to Admty.
Signal short account of your action include in statement who was aggressor. (C.S.15 2101/9 to JANUS.)

/Situation

War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Advance into Syria. - Contd.Situation
Report No. 51.

Syria. GLENGYLE landed troops at Mouth of Bahr Litany night 8/9 and has returned to Port Said. Army have asked for bombardment near Quasmiye tonight 9/10.

2. Two French destroyers bombarded our advance forces from 0949 to 1010 and were later encountered by JANUS who was hit in boiler room and unable to steam. ISIS, HOTSPUR, JACKAL came to her assistance and chased French destroyers back to Beirut. French S/M's also at sea and PHOEBE reports being attacked. Captain D.10 leaving Alexandria now with JAGUAR, GRIFFIN and DEFENDER to reinforce C.S.15 and act as A/S striking force. D.2 and HERO returning to join C.S.15 after escorting GLENGYLE to Port Said.

3. Alexandria. As a result of air raid night 7/8 repairs to ships are being delayed. LEANDER has sailed for Port Said for removal of catapult, GLENEARN left in tow of *PROTECTOR having completed emergency repairs. Two mines remain to be exploded but harbour is open.

4. TORBAY reports torpedoing French tanker ALBERTA off Dardanelles night 7/8. (C. in C. Med. 2321C/9 to Admty.)

* Netlayer

War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

BRITISH
LOYALTY.

C. in C. E.I., 0614/3 released to Admiralty
7th, left Bahrein 8/6 for Aden calling
Khor Kuwai to discharge cargo.
(S.N.O. Persian Gulf 0505Z/9 to Admty.)

Prisoners
of War.

Considerations governing embarkation of
Prisoners of War in any one unescorted
merchant ship.
(A.C.N.S.(T). 1704B/9 to C. in C. E.I.etc.)

Suez Canal.
obstructions.

Three ships and two hoppers are sunk in
Suez Canal. Question of Removal.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1835B/9 to N.O.I.C. Calcutta.)

China.

Indo-China.

Re: use of SI-KIANG.
(C. in C. China 1223Z/9 to Admty.)

America & West Indies.

U.S. Flight
to Iceland.

Following received from Navy Dept.,
"Party of six officers. (Names.)
Flying from Argentinia arrive Iceland
Tuesday 10/6 unless delayed. Request
arrangements be made Reykjavik to facilitate
air land and sea reconnaissance for about
four days. On completion they will return
by air to Argentinia". Please expedite
necessary action.(A. L.U.S.N.A., 0945/9,
to Admty.)

/REVENGE....

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War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America & West Indies. Contd.REVENGE
H.X. 132.

Intend to sail REVENGE as ocean escort to H.X. 132 subsequently acting in accordance with your 1746+ B/8.
(F.O.S. B.S., 1012P/9 to Admty.)

C.I.P.
(French.)

Admty., 2330 B/8.
Interception most undesirable cargo approved by U.S. Government.
(N.A. Washington 1030/9 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

Newfoundland
Force.

My 1623Z/31/5 to C.O.A.C. Halifax only.
(1) With inclusion of RIMOUSKI and PICTOU in Newfoundland Force it is not desired for present to send further R.C.N. Corvettes to this force. Further Corvettes when worked up should be used for Sydney and Halifax local escorts at your discretion.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa 1618Z/9 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, N.O.I.C. Newfoundland.)

Employment
of Canadian
Ships.

A.M. 1419B/7. (Request re Corvettes escorting HX 129 search for survivors of TREGARTHEN.) Request that Admiralty will when necessary divert H.M.C. Ships employed on Escort Duty without previous reference to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1639Z/9, to Admty.)

DUC D'AUMALE.
French.

Sailed 5 p.m. today 9/6 for Martinique. On arrival here from West Indies she brought 30 ratings as replacements for French ships in port here. American authorities refused to allow ratings to leave DUC D'AUMALE and they are now being returned to Martinique in her. They succeeded in writing letter to Free French representative here stating that about 20 were anxious to join Free French.
(Consul Gen., New York, 1710/9.)

/Consul.....

War Diary.

9.6.41.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

DUC D'AUMALE.
French.
Contd.

Consul General New York's 1710/9 being passed to Admiralty and CARADOC. In view of special circumstances may DUC D'AUMALE be intercepted and Free French Volunteers removed?
(C. in C. A.W.I., 2232Q/9, to Admty.)
Reply: 0144/11.

Exchange of
Captives.

Your 1151B (?/6.) Italian Gov., have informed U.S. authorities that they will release Lambert the moment an assurance has been received that Armando has been delivered to Italian authorities nearest to place where he is at present interned. Suggest U.S. diplomatic or Consular officer be asked to communicate direct with U.S. Embassy in Rome. (N.A. Washington 1710/9 to Admty.)

Newfoundland
Command.

My 8395/6. Canadian Government approves proposals. Royal Canadian Navy accepts increased requirements in your para.4, and will endeavour comply with your para. 5 within few days. Canadian Govt., is in correspondence with Newfoundland Govt., but hopes U.K. Govt., will inform latter that new arrangement is made at U.K. request and with U.K. approval. (Ends.)
(U.K. High Commr., Canada 1816/9 to Dominions Office.)

RAMILLIES.

To part company with H.X. 130 and return to Halifax.
(A.C.N.S. (H). 1840B/9 to RAMILLIES.)

/Vichy.....

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War Diary.

9.6.41.
Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

Vichy
Intelligence.

*CAPITAINE DAMIANI

Following from State Dept. From Vichy dated 7/6 graded B.O. French Tankers ALBERTA and CAP D'AMIANI expected to sail from Marseilles for Roumania 19/6 Via Corinth Canal?

A (?German) Ship has arrived Caronte with Spanish minerals. French enquiries of Armistice Commission as to why she has proceeded to a Port with no adequate facilities for handling her cargo received reply that voyage was undertaken by private interests.

(N.A. Washington, 1901/9, to Admty.)

Australia and New Zealand.

R.D.F. Gear.

Appreciated if information could be provided as to the scale of production envisaged for naval types of R.D.F. gear.

No material development, comparable in importance to R.D.F. and it is T.L's considered view that ships not fitted with R.D.F. are placed at a very serious tactical disadvantage.

(Controller 1225B/9 to N.O. Wellington.)

War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.

- EIBERGEN
(torpedoed 3/6.) Arrived CAIRO with 35 survivors from EIBERGEN.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0720B/9, to Admty.)
- ENSIS
(torpedoed 8/6.) Following has been read. Life boats of ENSIS 4846 N. 29 14 W. require assistance urgently.
(Lands End Radio, 0858/9, 0902/9.)
(C. in C. W.A., to OTTAWA, RICHMOND, MIGNONETTE.)
My 2224B/8 for 58° 56' N., read 48° 46' N.,
(C. in C. W.A., 1303B/9 to OTTAWA, RICHMOND.)
- TREGARTHEN
(torpedoed 6/6.) C. in C. W.A., 1854/7. No sign of 3 boats of TREGARTHEN. P.C. and S. at 1200 G.M.T./9 045° 22' N., 040° 00' W., 283° 17 knots. RESTIGOUCHE in company, expected to arrive St. Johns, N.F. 1900 G.M.T./10.
(OTTAWA, 1037Z/9, to N.O.I.C. St. John's etc.)
- MARIONGA
(torpedoed 23/5.) CITY OF RANGOON picked up three survivors from raft of MARIONGA at 0400Z/28, in 005° 42' N., 010° 29' W., Ship torpedoed at 0115Z/23 and sank in one minute.
(S.O.I. Capetown, 1500/9, to Admty., etc.)

War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported.

- 2347/8. German U-Boat at 2347 bearing 335° Class 3.
(F.O.C.N.A. 0112A/9 to N.A. Stn.)
0214. German U-Boat at 0214 G.M.T. bearing 325°
3rd class. (F.O.C.N.A. 0353A/9 to N.A. Stn.)
1230. Aircraft report U-boat in position 034°
03' N., 014° 00' W., at 1230A/9 course 290°
speed 14 knots.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1257A/9 to N.A. Stn.)
My 1257 U-Boat altered course to 360° at 1235
- 260° at 1300 and 85° at 1320, speed 12
knots.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1451A/9, to Force H.,
VICTORIOUS.)
0015. D/F bearings including those from Freetown
indicate U Boat within 50 miles of 14° 00'
N., 25° 30' W., at 0015/9. This is on
present route of convoy S.L.77. Request
any further information available of this
U Boat or others in neighbourhood of Verde
Islands as it will be for consideration
whether S L 77 should be re routed East of
Verde Islands. (C. in C. S.A., 1337N/9,
to Admty.)
Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1409B/9.)
- 1200/8. My 1334/8. U-Boat sighting at 1200/8
confirmed. Three A/S trawlers four M/L's
hunting in vicinity of position. 50° 17' N.,
03° 00' W.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1904/9.)

/Iceland.....

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War Diary.9.6.1941.
Monday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Reported Contd.

Iceland.

Request you will signal the number of A/S vessels from 10th., 15th., and 21st. Groups available now for any A/S hunting operation in the vicinity of Iceland. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1910B/9 to F.O.I.C. Iceland.)

1853.

Italian U-Boat bearing 250° 3rd Class from Gibraltar at 1853 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A. 2005A/9, to S.O. Force 'H' MORETON BAY, MARON, JONQUIL, WIVERN, M.L.3.)

2015.

At 2015 in position 053° 54' N., 011° 15' W. By D/F bearing enemy unit 220° third class probably U. Boat. 4 letter Code. Can you give cross bearings? (Capt. D.4, 2031B/9 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A.) Your 2031B 9th. No bearing obtained. (F.O.C.N.A., 2212A/9, to Capt. D.4.)

2035.
1853.

German U-Boat bearing 270° 3rd Class from Gibraltar at 2035 G.M.T. My 2005A. Cross bearing indicated U-Boat was in the vicinity 033° 40' N., 012° 40' W. (F.O.C.N.A., 2221/9, to S.O. Force H, etc.)

2019.

By D/F at 2019 G.M.T. U Boat in position 47° 30' N., 9° 30' W. Unreliable fix. Probably homeward bound. (D.D.I.C. 2307B/9.)

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War Diary.

9.6.1941.
Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By ALOUETTE.8/6

Am in company with ALOUETTE and searching vicinity of her attack. She attacked twice and sighted nothing. Propose to patrol as far as 012° W., in this latitude at daylight leaving ALOUETTE in Y I. Have effected temporary repairs to A/S Governor with saw blade but expect it to break again. Can patrol aircraft drop spare parts beside?
(SCOTTISH, 0030A/9, to F.O.C.N.A.)

By A/C.
(Gibraltar.)

Daily Summary Ops. 2 A/S searches West area covered 33° to 36° N., 13° to 15° W. U-Boat sighted on surface middle of area. Attacked with 4 bombs. No hits. Flying curtailed by weather. Ref. summary 8/6. U-Boat sighted on surface middle of area. Attacked with 4 bombs. No hits. In both cases U-Boat remained on surface during attacks using circling evasive tactics.
(200 Group, 1700/9.)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.Principal Events.

Operations against Syria.
Torpedoing of U.S.S. ROBIN MOOR. (m 21/s)

Home Commands.

The ~~Motor Boats~~ ^{Corvettes} TULIP and CLARKIA have been detailed to refit in the United States.

SOKOL, TRIDENT, TUNA, and RUBIS continue on the Bay of Biscay S/M Patrol; but RUBIS is damaged and may be returning on the surface to the Scilly Islands. TUNA had not made contact with her at 0505 today, but is still searching for her.

INGLEFIELD, ICARUS, and ACHATES arrived at Reykjavik at 1655 for the Denmark Strait Patrol

British Air Activity.

On arriving in the Clyde about 14/6, FURIOUS is to embark 9 operational Swordfish A/C and up to 64 untropicalised long-range Hurricane 2 A/C at the Tail of the Bank.

Patrols ^{"Bert"} BERT, ^{"Sleeve"} SLEEVE, and ^{"Stand"} STAND were flown today; and 3 Whitley A/C carried out an A/S sweep from 1800 to the westward of the Shetlands.

Aircraft operating off the coast of Norway today claim to have hit a 1900 ton merchant ship 20 miles S.W. of Stavanger.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy ^{"Sabbat"} ~~SAPPER~~, from Falmouth to Milford Haven, was attacked off the North Cornish Coast at 0150 this morning without result, and at 1702 VANITY was attacked, also without result, in nearly the same position.

At 2357 Convoy F.N. 77 was bombed off Scarborough and S.S. CLEARPOOL was damaged. Finnish FENIX, bombed yesterday, sank at 1940 in 61° 54' N 12° 28' W. after her crew had been safely landed at Thorshaven by NORTHERN SKY.

Mining.

The PINTAIL (corvette) was mined and sunk near 62 Buoy, east of the Humber p.m. today whilst escorting Convoy F.N. 77, S.S. ROYAL SCOT in the convoy was mined and sunk off Spurn Point this morning. p. 294.

North Atlantic.Operation
"Tracer".

Admiralty today ordered Operation "Tracer" to be carried out as soon as possible, Fulmars being used as guides if Blenheims have not arrived.

Gibraltar.

A French Glen Martin reconnoitred Gibraltar at 0745 today.

A more adequate control over fishing craft and other small boats using Gibraltar is to be exercised.

SHEFFIELD.

Is to operate in the area bounded by 44-45° N., 23-25° W from a.m./11 to p.m./14.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic.Bathurst.

Precautions at Bathurst against possible Vichy French attack were reported today by C. in C. S.A.,. Admiralty do not consider it necessary to tow oil lighters to Bathurst at present, as was suggested by C. in C. if an oiler is to be permanently removed..

Mediterranean.Alexandria.

Admiralty point out difficulties in carrying out reprisals for the bombing of civilian population at Alexandria.

Crete.

C. in C. M.E. reports there is no indication that active resistance is still being carried on by British troops in any part of Crete.

Crete
Survivors.

H.Q. Middle East report that during today 230 Imperial troops drifted ashore on rafts at Sidi Barrani from Crete. They had drifted some 220 miles.

Ships
bombed.

DURENDA and RABY CASTLE reported being bombed this morning between Cyprus and Syria.

Dodecanese.

Wellingtons last night bombed Maritza, Calato, and Kattavia aerodromes.

Enemy Convoy.

2 destroyers and 3 M.V.s were reported by aircraft steering 15° at 1302 today in 36.34N., 11.54 E.

Libya.

4 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night, hitting the Mole and 1 ship.

10 enemy aircraft bombed Matruh last night.

Destroyer.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean. - Contd.Aegean.

It is reported that the German S.S. SALZBURG was torpedoed and sunk with all hands off Imbros this morning; the Turkish General Staff state that the Italian tanker GIUSEPPINA GHIRARDI was torpedoed 1045/10 15 miles from Cape Helles and was seen to sink (S/M concerned was probably TORBAY) and the sinking of the Roumanian JIUL and CARMEN SYLVA off Crete is reported.

Palestine and Syria.Destroyer
action 9/6.

Further details of the French destroyer action yesterday show that the French opened fire first on JANUS, JACKAL and HOTSPUR while on patrol, and JANUS was hit early. ISIS from inshore patrol, joined and with JACKAL and HOTSPUR chased the enemy to the bar of Beirut, the superior speed of the French enabling them to escape. An enemy plane later bombed the British destroyers.

Naval
Objectives.

The force under C.S.15 is to be disposed:

1. To prevent repetition of yesterday's French bombardment of our troops.
2. To hunt French submarines.
3. To bring French surface craft to action with superior force if they put to sea.
4. To support the left flank of the Army.
5. To have Swordfish bombers ready to attack ships in harbour.

Ships are to spend a night in Haifa in turn.

Haifa
Raid.

Haifa was raided from 0100 to 0500 today by about 20 aircraft but no damage to oil fuel plant was caused although a tanker was set on fire in harbour. There is no evidence of mines yet.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies.Convoy
C.M. 12.C.M.12 (3 transports, escorted by CORNWALL)
left Durban at 1500Z today for Suez.Jibuti.General de Gaulle wishes Free French
SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA to continue the blockade
of Jibuti until further orders from him.America and West Indies.U.S. patrols.Patrols by U.S. Task Force 2 have been
cancelled and the ships ordered to U.S. ports.SURCOUF.The patrol ordered for S/M SURCOUF on 29/5
was cancelled today by Admty.U-Boat Campaign.N.W.
Approaches.S.S. AINDERBY, Santos to U.K. independently
routed, was torpedoed and sunk this morning
130 miles W by N of Bloody Foreland.U.S.S.
ROBIN MOOR.U.S. Naval Attache, Rio, reported today that
the American ship ROBIN MOOR was sunk on 21/5
in 06.15N., 25.30 W., (about 950 miles N. of
Cape Sao Roque, Brazil) all passengers and
crew were eventually picked up. A British
survivor stated that in his opinion the
S/M was of class U.27 to U.36.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.TULIP
CLARKIA.

Admiralty's 1047B/17/5. TULIP and CLARKIA have been detailed to refit in America and will be ready to give leave from Liverpool on June 14th.
(C. in C. W.A., 1238B/10).

Special
Rescue Ships.

Reference Minutes of meeting held in Trade Division on 30/5 to discuss special Rescue Ships. It is considered that the disadvantages of a minimum speed of 11 knots can be accepted if by so doing a larger number of ships can be made available for employment on this duty.
(C. in C. W.A., 1634B/10 to Admty).

Defence of United Kingdom.Iceland
Propose
Artun as
combined
H.Q.

Following from Chiefs of Staff to F.O.I.C., G.O.C., and A.O.C., Iceland. Combined Service Headquarters. When Operations against Iceland begin, essential that headquarters of three services shall be in one place. From here it seems this should be Artun. We would like the three headquarters to be together all the time but there is no objection to F.O.I.C. and A.O.C. keeping sub offices at Reykjavik.
(1st S.L., 0011B/10 to F.O.I.C. Iceland).
(War Office, 1745/10 to G.O.C., Iceland).

Londonderry
Lisahally.
Lough Foyle
A/A Defences.

Your 2308B/9. Scale quoted is to meet present requirements at Londonderry town and docks. In addition eight 3.7 guns and four bofors were recommended for development at Lisahally, and eight 3.7 guns and eight bofors for Lough Foyle anchorage. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1808B/10 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.GALATEA.

GALATEA should complete fitting Type 284 if possible before sailing.

2. It is requested that GALATEA may be ordered to arrive in the Clyde in time for C.O. to attend convoy conference on 27/6.

3. If R.D.F. can be fitted early enough to allow her to be at the Clyde for a few days opportunity should be taken for her to carry out R.D.F. trials and practices at that port before sailing with convoy W.S. 9 (B). (D.O.D. H. 1844B/10).

BEVERLEY.

Cancel my 1615B/8. BEVERLEY is to remain at Londonderry to work up. (C. in C. W.A., 1904B/10).

ARETHUSA.

Scapa arrival. (A.C.O.S., 2138/10).

Operations.Denmark Straits Patrol.

Arrived D.3. ICARUS and ACHATES. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1655/10).

British Air Activity.Bombing restrictions.

Request total bombing restrictions in area 73 North of 49° North be reimposed. (F.O.S. 0019B/10 to H.Q.C.C.) OPS 630/10/6. Cancel my OPS 626/9/6. (H.Q.C.C. 0415/10).

/A/C for.....

MOST SECRET.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.War Diary.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity - Contd.A/C for
FURIOUS.

On arrival in the Clyde approximately p.m. 14th June FURIOUS is to embark the following aircraft by lighter from Abbotsinch at the Tail of the Bank.

(a) Nine operational Swordfish of 816 Sqn. together with Sqn. stores and personnel.

(b) Up to 64 untropicalised long range Hurricane Twos with wings off, exact number to be determined by trial.

(A.C.N.S. H 1736B/10 to FURIOUS).

Patrols.

Three Whitleys will carry out A/S at 1800 above line of bearing 283° from position 59° N 60 W to depth of 250 miles. Similar sweep will be repeated tomorrow/11 to depth of 300 miles leaving datum first light.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1744/10)

Patrols ~~1744~~ and ~~1745~~ now in operation.

Patrol ~~1746~~ will be flown later. No P.R.U. R/C today.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1958/10).

St. Nazaire
or Lorient to
be attacked.

Maximum available Aircraft of 53 Squadron to attack night 10-11/6 U Boat pens and torpedo store at St. Nazaire alternative target power station at Lorient last resort Lanveoc-Poulmic Aerodrome.

(Plymouth A.C.H.Q. 1833/10 to St. Eval).

Enemy Air Activity.Convoy "Sabber".
SAPPER.

(Falmouth to Milford Haven) Is being attacked by enemy aircraft. Position 50° 33' N. 5° 16' W. (TYNEDALE 0150/10).

FENIX
(Bombed 9/6).

Entire crew of FENIX landed at Thorshavn by NORTHERN SKY.

(N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1055B/10).

/Following received.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.FENIX
(Bombed 9/6)
Contd.

Following received from NORTHERN REWARD begins
Have endeavoured to board FENIX. Parties un-
able to go alongside owing to heat of hull,
Fire still smouldering in hold and bunker,
ship listing to port and appears to be
settling in the stern. My position 61° 54' N
12° 28' W 1153B/10. Request permission to
sink by gunfire. (S.O.N.T., 1244/10 to
F.O.C.N.P.).

Your 1153B/10. When able to board report if
ship can be salvaged. Tow towards Minches.
(S.O.N.T., 1549B/10 to NORTHERN REWARD).
FENIX sank 1940. Request instructions. My
position 061° 37' N 012° 38' W.
(NORTHERN REWARD 1942B/10).

VANITY
bombed.

Enemy are bombarding my position 50° 46' N
4° 50' W.
(VANITY , 1702/10).

Convoy "Chitty".
CHITTY.

Fighters being sent to convoy ^{"Chitty"}~~CHITTY~~.
(Liverpool, 2215 /10).

Convoy
F.N. Odd.

Enemy A/C bombing convoy ^{"Pilot"}~~Pilot~~ position 54°
18' N 0° 14' W.
(CATTISTOCK. 2357/10).

Mining.Spurn Point.

Following seven mines exploded 9.6.41. Details.
(F.O. Humber, 0115B/10 and 0850B/10).

Dover Area.

Routine sweeping carried out to 0800/10. In
Q.Z.S. 238 C One to No. 10 buoy by 4 Oropesa
trawlers. Cut one very old and damaged German
V-type mine 273° No. 10 buoy 2 miles.
(V.A. Dover 1019B/10).

ROYAL SCOT
(British 1444
tons) PINTAIL
(Corvette).

Proceed immediately to vicinity 62 buoy and
assist with survivors of two Ships reported
mined. (N.O.I.C. Humber 1229B/10 to PINTAIL)
Report whether mines are considered to be ground
or contact and if ship is not PINTAIL.
(C. in C. Nore., 1241B/10 to QUANTOCK).

/following.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.

ROYAL SCOT
(British 1444
tons) PINTAIL
(Corvette) Contd. Following received from JASON begins: Merchant ship ROYAL SCOT mined at 1150 5 Cables 070° from 62 buoy. PINTAIL at 1202B one Cable nearer buoy. Probably ground mines. Have 12 survivors from PINTAIL. (1335B/10 ends) (C. in C. Nore 1547B/10).

Falmouth.

At 0800/10/6. detonated acoustic Mine with S.A. gear. Details.
(F.O.I.C. Falmouth 1245/10).

S.N. 64.

S.N.64 completed.
(R.A.M. 1502/10).

Thames
Estuary.
SANSON
(M/S Trawler)
damaged.

2 S.A. Mines detonated on 9/6 and 2 on 10/6. as follows. Details.
SANSON has sustained damage to condenser and other minor defects. Vessel will be out of action for considerable period.
(Capt; M/3 Sheerness, 1712/10).

Harwich Area.
Wallet closed.

4 green mines having been detonated in about 51° 48.2' N 01° 21.4' E. at 1510/10, it is intended to close the Wallet until further sweeping. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1856B/10 and 1054B/11)
4 mines detonated by sweeper as follows. Details. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2251B/10 and 1054B/11)

Enemy Intelligence.Sturmboats.

My 1247/7 paragraph (b).
Learn from dependable source that a number of Sturmboats are now part of German divisional equipment instead of being responsibility of engineers.
Transit of Sturm uniform craft through Sassnitz and Finland is for the purpose of bringing divisions from Norway up to strength.
Graded A.3.
(N.A. Stockholm, 1531/10).

/Reported.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.Reported
Warship in
Great
Belt.

1. Large warship, type undiscernable, passed Great Belt northwards night of 2/3 June.
2. Above information just received by our Belt organization which we believe is again active. This was not reported before as observer states he could not identify vessel. Graded B.3.

(N.A. Stockholm 1644/10).

N.I.D. Comment.

This report is considered unreliable as with the exception of the 3 ships at Brest there is good reason to believe all German main units are in the Baltic.

This and similar reports recently received probably originate from German sources.

Enemy
Transport
Movements.

My 2209/9. Cancel paragraph 2 (D).

It now appears following movements are taking place.

(A) Oslo division southward destination for Finnish Bothnian Port.

(B) 100 first division from Trondjhem northwards.

(C) Alpine division from Lofoten latitudes Northwards. Graded A.2.

(N.A. Stockholm, 2138/10).

Casualties and Defects.RUBIS.

Your 0356B/9th. No contact after four hour search. Area of search verified series 4 sight commencing 0540B/9th. My position is 046° 18' N 10° 40' W.

(TUNA, 0505B/10 to F.O.S.)

TUNA's 0505B/10.

(A) If you are making reasonable progress towards Scillys report your position when North of 48° 30' N.

/(B) If you.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.RUBIS -
Contd.

(B) If you are endeavouring to centralise rudder or repair steering gear and have hopes of success do not break W/T silence.

(C) If you have no hopes of success act as follows. Report your position at 2305B/10 if more than 10 miles from 46° 46' N 10° 32' W. Fire one night grenade at 20 mins. and 50 mines. past each hour from 2245 until 0530.

(D) Until I hear from you, TUNA will continue to search for you between dusk and dawn each night in vicinity of your last reported position.

(E) TUNA should not break W/T silence again for reporting a negative result of search.
(F.O.S., 1158B/10 to RUBIS).CHESTERFIELD.Arrived with steering engine defects.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1025B/10).MILTRAP.

(British 320 tons). Ashore at Fifeness. Has been refloated and is now berthed at Anstruther. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1201/10).

SHIKARI.

Cancel my 2205B/9/6. Owing recurrence engine defect sailing postponed. Estimated delay 24 hours. (N.O.I.C. Barrow, 1228B/10).

Conway "Profit"
~~PROFIT~~
~~(~~XXXXXXXXXX~~)~~
~~(~~XXXXXXXXXX~~)~~.

Following received from Butt of Lewis. Ship, classification unknown, 025° 20 miles in need of assistance. 1230 ends.

Request instructions.

(N.O.I.C. Stornoway, 1259B/10).

Your 1259. Request you will sail FREEBOOTER with despatch.

(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1320/10 to N.O.I.C. Stornoway.)

My 1259B/10. Tug has been recalled.
(Stornoway, 1530B/10).

Arrived Stornoway Fleet Tug FREEBOOTER.

(N.O.I.C. Stornoway 1758B/10).

N.O.I.C. Greenock's 1320/10 reference ~~PROFIT~~.

E.T.A. Portland now 0815/11. Request escort to cover this period. (C. in C. Plymouth, 2334/10 to H.Q.F.C.)

/MELROSE ABBEY.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects
Enemy Intelligence. - Contd.MELROSE ABBEY,
(Grounded
28/3).Tug ABELLE IV returned to Peterhead.
Operation unsuccessful.
(N.O.I.C. Peterhead, 1815/10).LADY
PHILOMENA.(A/S Trawler) Arrived Humber having lost
anchor and cable and fractured winch casting.
(F.O. Humber, 1900B/10).Shipping and Convoys.Newhaven as
discharged
port.Your 1723B/7, concur. (M. of W.T. wish to
include ships in C.W. Convoys for discharge
Newhaven.)
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 1524/10 to Admty).Vesca
telegrams.From 1/6 Admiralty have taken over the
promulation of the outward Vesca to Naval
Authorities abroad. Estimated dates of
arrival in ports abroad indicated in these
Signals are taken from E.T.A.'s provided by
N.C.S.O.'s in outward routeing forms.
Essential that this information should be
calculated as accurately as possible.
(D.T.D. 1659B/10 to N.C.S.O.s)

S.C.32.

Commodore Rear Adm. E.W. Leir. Arrived
complete 18 British, 1 neutral, 8 allied.
(Cargoes.)
(D.S. 644, 10/6).

H.X.126.

Attacked by U-Boat in about 40° W. Convoy
scattered and reformed same day, following
ships sunk - NORMAN MONARCH, HARPAGUS,
DARLINGTON COERT, ROTHERMERE, COCKAPONSET,
JOHN P. PEDERSEN, BRITISH SECURITY, ELUSA and
BARNBY. (D.T.D. 1940B/10 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

H.X.127.

Rerouted. All 56 ships present at R.V.
GRAVELINES which straggled later torpedoed,
fore-end salvaged. (D.T.D. 1941B/10 to N.S.H.Q.
Ottawa).

H.X.128

Re-routed, three stragglers of which EMPIRE
STORM torpedoed and sunk. INGER LISE and LA
PAZ too slow and transferred to S.C.32. Much
fog but calm. (D.T.D. 1942B/10 to N.S.H.Q.
Ottawa).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.Operation
"Tracer".

"Tracer"

Carry out operation ~~TRACER~~ as soon as possible using Fulmars as guides if Blenheims have not arrived. (1st S.L. 0051B/10 to F.O. Force H).

French A/C
Reconn.

One French G.M. Recco: over Gibraltar at 0745. (F.O.C.N.A. 0822A/10 to S.O. Force H).

FURIOUS.
ARGUS.
NEA HELLAS.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 1142B/6 and 1214/8. R/V for FURIOUS, ARGUS, NEA HELLAS and A/S escort is 47° N. 24° W. at 1200B/11. FURIOUS' destination is Clyde. (A.C.N.S. (H) 0950B/10 to FURIOUS, ARGUS, etc.).

Gibraltar
Evacuations.

Your 1724A/9, confirm that all arrangements should be made on the assumption that SCYTHIA calls at Gibraltar. (D.O.D. (F) 1120B/10 to F.O.C.N.A).

F.A.A.
Sqdns.

Decided that 816 Sqn. will relieve 818 Sqn. in near future. 818 Sqn. will return to U.K. (5th S.L. 1258B/10 to R.A.N.A.S, ARK ROYAL).

COREOPSIS
FLEUR DE LYS.
STELLA CARINA.

COREOPSIS and FLEUR DE LYS to remain with H.G. 64 and transfer to O.G. 64 with S/M O.21 as directed by C. in C. W.A. STELLA CARINA to part company from H.G. 64 at 2300B/10th and proceed to Gibraltar through 036° 00' N. 015° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1304A/10 to COREOPSIS, FLEUR DE LYS, STELLA CARINA.)

Force H.

E.T.A. 0400A/11.2. Have Blenheims arrived, if not when expected?

3. Submarine heading S.W. dived in position 035° 31' N. 014° 12' W. at 0750A/10. Ref. Admty. 0944B/10, Force H was in position 035° 34' N. 017° 05' W. at this time steering as indicated. 4. Request all Fulmars be sent to land on ARK ROYAL in position 035° 50' N. 008° 25' W. at 2030A, course 090° 24 knots, frequency 348.8 kcs. (S.O. Force H. 1430A/10 to F.O.C.N.A).

/Your.....

War Diary.

10.6.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Force H.
-Contd.

Your 1450/10 para 2. No. Expected to leave England tomorrow 11/6. Para. 4 arranged. (F.O.C.N.A. 1814A/10 to S.O. Force H.)

SHEFFIELD.

Will be operating in the area bounded by 45° N. 44° N. 25° W. 25° W. from a.m./11 until p.m./14. (D.O.D. (F) 1621B/10 to Western Patrol).

Gibraltar Security.

Considered necessary to provide a more adequate control over fishing craft and other small boats. Proposals. (F.O.C.N.A. 1854A/10 to Admty.).

PANDORA.

Sailed. E.T.A. 26/6. (S.5 1915B/10 to F.O.C.N.A.).

South Atlantic.

NORFOLK.
SCYTHIA.
SHROPSHIRE.

Your 1715N/9 approved. My 1243B/9. Request you will inform F.O.C.N.A. (A.C.N.S. (F) 0113B/10 to C. in C.S.A.).

My X 8022/6 1810/2.

Air Squadrons for Bathurst.
S.S. DUMANA.

Details of wireless equipment. (Air Ministry 0930/10 to R.A.F. Bathurst).

W.S.9A.

Following transports sailed U.K. 3/6 in convoy W.S.9A. List, contents, arrangements. (D.O.D.(F) 1014B/10 to C. in C.S.A., etc).

ABOSSO.
(Use as troopship)

Your 1131N/7 approved. (D.O.D.(F) 1121B/10 to C. in C.S.A.).

/C.M.12.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.

10.6.1941.

Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.-Contd.C.M. 12.

Convoy Leaving Telegram. 1500Z/10, escort CORNWALL. Consists of ILE DE FRANCE, MAURETANIA, NIEUW AMSTERDAM, all Suez 20/6. (N.C.S.O. Durban 1530Z/10 to Admty. etc.).

ABOSSO.

My 1131/7 proceeding Port Harcourt will embark Nigerian battalion there and bring to Freetown arriving about 19/6. (C. in C. S.A. 1903N/10 to Admty.).

Situation
at Bathurst.
LISS.

LISS moving away. Merchant ships to leave as soon as possible, those arriving told to move to Freetown without loading. (C. in C. S.A. 1335N/10 to Admty.).
Your 1135N/8. Not considered desirable to tow oil lighters to Bathurst at present. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2057B/10 to C. in C. S.A.).

Gibraltar
evacuations.

Your 1724/9 SCYTHIA should sail 13/6 and arrive Gibraltar about 21/6, ~~and arrive Gibraltar about 21/6.~~ Accommodation. (C. in C.S.A. 2027N/10 to F.O.C.N.A.).

Service
Personnel.

Your 1359/6 received today. Request I may be informed whether three prisoner of war ships are to proceed unescorted and whether merchant seamen in EMPRESS OF CANADA are to be regarded as service personnel. Admty. 1958/14/5 not received. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2134B/10 to Admty. etc.).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Raids on
Alexandria.Reply to C. in C. Med. 1354/8 re reprisals.
(1st S.L., 0117B/10 to C. in C. Med.) See
Mediterranean Volume. See also 1540/10.Wrecks.TRIUMPH reports 5 wrecks dangerous to
navigation lie in position 031° 37' N. 015° 38' E.
(Capt. S.L., 0437C/10 to TAKU).DURENDA
bombed.From Malta W/T. Following has been read.
From DURENDA. DURENDA bombed position 34.45
N. 34.42. (Nore W/T, T.O.R. 0738/10).
From Malta following has been read: -
34.34 N. 34.34 E. DURENDA, resuming attack,
one plane, replying with A/A, position 34.34 N
34.34 E. (Nore W/T, 0907/10).RABY CASTLE
bombed.From Malta W/T. Following has been read
34.25 N., 34.15 E. RABY CASTLE bombed.
(Nore W/T, no T.O.O. Recd. 0847/10);
From Malta W/T. Following has been read.
AAAA 34.21 N. 25. 07 E. RABY CASTLE.
(Nore W/T 0843/10) Note different position.PROTECTOR
FLAMINGO.Proceed to Haifa with despatch. (C. in C.
Med., 0856C/10 to PROTECTOR, FLAMINGO).JANUS.On arrival of PROTECTOR and FLAMINGO request
you will sail JANUS in tow of PROTECTOR
escorted by FLAMINGO for Port Said. Report
nature of damage of JANUS. (C. in C. Med.
0918C/10 to N.O.I.C. Palestine).

See also pp 305 & 308

/Benghazi....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-Contd.Benghazi,
Derna,
Bombed.Operational Summary No. 365 up to 1200 hours
10/6/41. Part 2. Night 8/9 5 Wellingtons
bombed Benghazi. 1 Wellington bombed
Derna Barracks.Rhodes
bombed.Dodecanese Night 8/9. 4 Wellingtons bombed
objectives on Rhodes Island. 3 direct hits
on Northern Mole, Rhodes Harbour.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1112/10).SALZBURG.
(German).Passed Chanak 18.30 Turkish time 9/6
for Aegean Sea. (N.A. Angora 1116/10 to
C. in C. Med.).M.L's.Your 1344/8th. Is confirmed additional
M.L's will probably be required.
(C. in C. Med. 1118C/10 to Admty.).ALBERTA
(French)
(torpedoed
6/6)My 1140/8. On demand of French N.A. Turks
sent steamer TIRHAN to try towing ALBERTA
when lying East of Mavro stern aground.
TIRHAN abandoned attempt yesterday when
torpedo narrowly missed her. ALBERTA was
fetching oil to Marseilles. Torpedoed twice
in engine room at 1330 and 1440/6. S/M did
not surface. TIRHAN expected Istanbul today
with ALBERTA officers and crew who are all
reported very pro British. (N.A. Istanbul,
1204/10 to S.O.I. Med.).Haifa
Raid.Ref. C.A.F.O. 587/40. Air raid on Haifa
lasting approx. 0100 to 0500/10. Several
bombs dropped harbour area some of which
failed to explode, shore area concerned
cordoned, one actually in Custom House,
action being taken. No evidence as to
mines at present but further check being
made. No damage to oil fuel. (N.O.I.C;
Haifa 1219/10 to C. in C. Med.) .

/Enemy.....

War Diary.

10.6.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Enemy
Convoy.

P.C. and S. of enemy, 2 destroyers 3 merchant vessels 36.34 N., 11.54 E., 015° 10 knots. -1302. (A/C. H.S. 1317/10 to Hal Far R.A.F. Stn.).

Italian
Fleet,
Dodecanese.

Turkish General Staff report persistent rumours from Leros elements of Italian Fleet expected immediately in East Mediterranean. C. in G. Med. informed. (N.A. Angora, 1459/10 to Admty.) Comment by N.I.D. No confirmation of this report but it is not unlikely that ships based in the Dodecanese are to be relieved as many are due for relief.

Crete.

No indication that active resistance is still being carried on by British troops in any part of Crete. (C. in C. M.E. 1500/10 to W.O.)

Reprisal for
Alexandria
Raids.

Your 0117/10. I appreciate difficulties but if any (?deterrent) can be suggested for bringing home to enemy undesirability of bombing the civil population in Alexandria I hope it will be put into effect. (Reasons) Of very greatest importance to find some deterrent if this port and subsequently Port Said and Suez (? outer defences) are not to be paralysed. (C. in C. Med., 1540G/10 to Admty.).

Malta,
Air Report.

CSR Malta up to 1600 hours 10/6 times G.M.T. 10/6. 1315 hours 4 Me. 110' s approached to within 5 miles of Grand Harbour. 17 Hurricanes up no interception due faulty R.T. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1600/10).

/ANTWERP.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.-Contd.ANTWERP and
MALINES.

Ex-Channel steamers originally designated for service in the Mediterranean. Have the following characteristics:-
Should be ready to leave U.K. by end of July. Are they of any service to you? (A.C.N.S. (F) 1722B/10 to C. in C. Med.)
Reply: Invaluable, 1247/12.

LEANDER.

Has joined Mediterranean Station. Personnel and conditions of service. (C. in C. M.F. 1724C/10 to N.Z.N.B) See Lion Copy.

Canal
Salvage
Operations.

My 1733/2. Least depth of channel throughout canal is now 36 feet with minimum width 118 feet at km. 141.8. (S.B.N.O. Suez, 1837C/10 to Admty.).

JANUS.
(damaged 9/6).

Your 0918C/10 JANUS will not be ready to leave before p.m/11. Hoped if all goes well to sail her then. (N.O.I.C. Haifa 2036C/10 to C. in C. Med.). See pp. 302.9308

ANNARELLA
DORA C.
(Italian).

C.A.F.O. 1125. Reported to be (?passing) Istanbul tonight 10th for Aegean. (Captain (S) 1 2203C/10 to TETRARCH).

ANNELIESE
ESSBERGER.
ERNST HUGO
STINNES II
(German).

C.A.F.O. 1125, 1940 Nos. 35. (ANNELIESE ESSBERGER) and 189 (ERNST HUGO STINNES II) (?reported) to be (?passing) Istanbul tonight 10th for Aegean. (Capt. S.1., 2203C/10 to TETRARCH).

SECRET

M E S S A G E

1724C/10th June.

IN

From: C. in C. Mediterranean Fleet.

Date: 11.6.41.
Recd: 0009.

Naval Cypher C by W/T

Addressed: New Zealand Naval Board. Repeated: Admiralty. F.O.
7th C.S.Q., H.M.S. LEANDER.

812. H.M.S. LEANDER has joined the Mediterranean Station and I am very glad to have ship. The following points regarding officers and men need clarification:

(ii) As result of fitting H.M.S. LEANDER with additional 4.7" armament it is necessary to draft extra men to ship to man these guns. It is proposed that in order to prevent differentiation these ratings should be lent to New Zealand Division and given New Zealand rates of pay.

(iii) In order to provide for sickness and possible casualties it is necessary either to have a pool of New Zealand ratings at Alexandria, or to provide relief from pool of Imperial ratings at Alexandria to serve under same conditions as those in paragraph 2 above. I favour the latter course.

(iv) It is proposed that system whereby new entries of New Zealand ratings are sent to H.M.S. LEANDER to relieve more experienced ratings should continue on present basis.

(v) Walrus aircraft has been landed from H.M.S. LEANDER as this has been found advisable in cruisers on this station. Lieuts Luard and Nicholl and F.A.A. personnel have been disembarked to GREBE.

(vi) On account of conditions of service in the Mediterranean it is necessary to provide for performance of ship's duties previously carried out by pilots and observers and the following have therefore been appointed to H.M.S. LEANDER for service with New Zealand Division: Lieut. D.E. Barton R.N. Temporary Lieut. E.R. Linfield, R.N.R.

(vii) It is also necessary to provide temporary reliefs for Lieuts. Scott and Best, until arrival of Lieut. Grey and Stevens, R.N.V.R. from New Zealand. Sub.Lieut. J.E. Johnson R.N.V.R. and Midshipman A.J.R. Gmedley, R.N.R. are therefore being lent.

(viii) These arrangements still leave H.M.S. LEANDER 2 young reserve officers short of the complement provided by New Zealand Naval Board and it is recommended that 2 sub.lieuts, R.N.V.R. should be flown from New Zealand to complete.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.H.S.
A.C.H. (F).
Secretary
Naval Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
P.A.S. (M. P)

O.D. (5)
Op. (4)
H. (4)
N.A. 2nd S.L. (2)
N.A. 2nd S.L. (Air).
C.W. (2)

1724C/10.
Advance copies to Ops, O.D. & O.I.C.
L.P.S. (2).
N.
P.D.G.
A.C.R.
D.
I.P. (3).
D.N.A.D.
D.A.M.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10;6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Advance on Syria.AJAX.
destroyers.

AJAX, Capt. (D) 10, GRIFFIN, HERO, DEFENDER, R/V end of Haifa Swept Channel at 1200 or time ordered by AJAX and join me off Tyre. (C.S. 15, 0735/10 to AJAX, Capt. D.10). Join me off Tyre now with moderate despatch. (F.O. 15 C.S., 0738C/10 to Capt. D.2, JAGUAR).

Action
with
French
Destroyers
9/6.

My (? 1949) C/9 and 2321C/9. Following report of action received from ISIS (begins) French opened fire first on JANUS, JACKAL and HOTSPUR while on patrol. JANUS hit early. ISIS from inshore patrol joined JACKAL and HOTSPUR and chased enemy to bar of Beirut. Superior speed of enemy enabled them to escape. Enemy plane later bombed British ships. T.O.O. 2230C/9. (ends). (C. in C. Med., 0946C/10 to Admty.).

Objectives.

Force under your command should be disposed to best advantage to fulfil following tasks.

1. To prevent any repetition of yesterday's French bombardment of our troops.
2. To hunt French submarines if they remain at sea.
3. To bring French surface craft to action with superior force should they again put to sea.
4. To support left flank of Army as called upon.
5. Have Swordfish bombers ready to attack ships in harbour but do not initiate attack without orders from me.
6. In the course of these operations it is desirable to allow ships to spend a night in Haifa in turn, not more than one cruiser and three destroyers being in at a time.

(C. in C. Med. 1108C/10 to C.S. 15).

/Air.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Advance on Syria-Contd.Air Report.

Operational summary No. 365 up to 1200 hours 10/6.

Syria.

Following operations in support our troops. 9/6 Hurricanes and Australian Tomahawks made total 28 Sorties covering H.M. ships operation between Haifa and Sidon. French aircraft endeavoured to attack. 1 Potez 2 Moranes 1 Bloch severely damaged probably destroyed. 3 Hurricanes missing.

2. Palestine.

Haifa
bombed.Night of 9/10, Haifa bombed for 3½ hours by approx. 20 enemy aircraft suspected to have come from Dodecanese. Power Station and Shemen Oil Works damaged but not seriously. 1 Tanker set on fire in harbour. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1111/10)
See also following signal.

X.8950. A.678 10/6.

Daily Intelligence Summary No. 26 to 0800 hours.

French A/C
attacking
ships.

1 Potez 63 attacking naval ships shot down by 3 Hurricanes 1100 hours approx. 3 Hurricanes 80 Sqn. engaged 3 Bloch 200 attacking naval ships off Tyre 1530. 1 Bloch 200 seen descending over sea not confirmed. 6 Morane 406 attacked Hurricanes same time and 2 Hurricanes failed to return. 3 Hurricanes 80 Sqn. engaged 3 Moranes 6 M N.W. Tyre 1540 2 Moranes confirmed fell in sea. 1 Hurricane shot down but pilot recovered.

Haifa Raid.

Enemy aircraft attacked Haifa in 3 waves 0155 0432 hours LSt. presumed objective I.P.C. Power Station and Harbour. Enemy aircraft made total 57 runs and bombed with deliberation but little effect. Power Station out of action approx. 2 hours and fire from broken petrol pipe quickly extinguished, few casualties, none serious. A.A. in action reported destroyed 2 and 1 unconfirmed. 1 enemy aircraft flying boat reported shadowing naval ships off Syrian coast 0730 hours. 10/6. (H.Q. P. and T.J. 1425/10).

/Enemy.....

War Diary.

10.6.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Advance on Syria-Contd.

Enemy
S/M's
Beirut.

From air reconnaissance at 0855/9 believed three submarines left Beirut. (C.O.I.S. Alexandria, 1519C/10 to N.O.I.C. Cyprus).

COVENTRY.
JACKAL.

COVENTRY escorted by Capt. D.2 and JACKAL will leave Haifa 0630/11/6 to join you. Signal R/V to COVENTRY. (C.S. 15 1925C/10 to AJAX).
C.S.15's 1925C/10. R/V 0800C/11th 035° 12'N.034° 58'E. (AJAX 2322C/10 to COVENTRY).

R.A.F.
Striking
Force.

A.33 10/6. Request you report if E.A. likely to attack any particular time. Can arrange large striking force if you can give time indication. (H.Q. P and T.J. 2140/10 to 15 C.S).

Situation
Report
No. 52.

Syria. Our forces continue to operate off Syrian Coast with four destroyers as A/S striking force and cruisers and other destroyers in close support of army. Bombardment has apparently been carried out in Iunsaiye Area but with difficulty due to uncertainty of our military positions.

Survivors
from Crete.

One M.L.C. with Major Garrett R.M. 5 officers and 134 other ranks arrived Sidi Barrani area night 8/9 having left Crete on 1st. Another M.L.C. with 53 men reported to be in vicinity.

JANUS.

Haifa bombed night 9/10 but no damage. JANUS has arrived Haifa. Will be towed 11th to Port Said. (C. in C. Med., 2302C/10 to Admty.). *See p.p. 302 & 305*

MOST SECRET.War Diary.

10.6.1941.

Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.EMERALD.

To leave Colombo at 1200Z/11/6 and proceed Singapore arriving a.m. 16/6. (C. in C. E.I. 0740Z/10 to EMERALD).

Aircraft
cargoes
Shatt-el-
Arab.

S.N.O. Persian Gulf 1731/4. Air Ministry X 358 12/4 not received, but fully agree everything possible should be done to avoid these valuable cargoes having to pass through restricted waters and be off-loading at port both of which may suddenly suffer severe attacks from air. (C. in C. E.I. 0748Z/10 to Admty.).

SAVORGNAN
DE BRAZZA.

Your 0506Z/8. General De Gaulle wishes SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA to continue blockade of Jibuti until further orders from him. 0615Z/10. (Mideast, 1110/10 to C. in C.E.I).

DIDO.

(N.T. & W.D.)
Cancel A.T. 1945/7. DIDO should be sailed as convenient after Operation "Chronometer" for refit in U.S.A. at Brooklyn Navy Yard. Request intended programme. (A.C.N.S. (F). 2011B/10 to C. in C. E.I).

China.MUNSTERLAND.

Kobe arrival 9/6 MUNSTERLAND. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0207Z/10 to Admty. etc).

SEAMEW.

Has not docked since February, 1939. Clear that Japanese will not agree to her relief or to her return if she leaves Canton. Consul-General sees no objection to her withdrawal, and Governor Hong Kong considers question turns on our post war intentions regarding extra territorial rights -I suggest question of possible loss of prestige is the really important one, and if that can be accepted we should now withdraw her for other more useful service. (C. in C. China, 0747Z/10 to Admty.).

/Indo.....

War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China-Contd.Indo-China.

F.E.W. 34. Supply of oil is being withheld pending satisfactory assurances from Decoux as to destination of French Indo China rubber. (C.O.I.S. Far East 0944Z/10 to Admty. etc.)

D'ARTAGNAN.
(French).

Extract from a Fairmiss telegram.
Arrival D'ARTAGNAN. (Shanghai, 2358Z/10 to M. of W.T).

America and West Indies.OPALIA.

Report when expect OPALIA will sail empty for Curacao. (Head of M. 0003B/10 to C. in C A.W.I).
Your 0003B/10/6 OPALIA sailed (empty?) for Curacao 8/6 vide N.C.S.O. Bermuda 1948Q/8/6. (C. in C. A. & W.I. 1543Q/10 to Admty.)

DUC d'AUMALE.
(French).

Extract from Fairmiss telegram:- Departure 9/6 Martinique 10/6. (New York 0150Z/10 to D. of S.T).

WARSPITE.

ARMUK 341 9/6 Your UKARM 424. WARSPITE is being taken at U.S. Navy Yard Bremerton. Request approx. date arrival be communicated. (Ends) (1633/9) (BARM 0738/10 to Admty.)

U.S. Flight
to Iceland.

Ref. my 0945/09, flight will consist of two or three twin-engined patrol seaplanes and will depart when weather permits, Officer in control of flight being directed give notification of flight to American Consul and Local Military Authorities through station ship at destination. (A.L.U.S.N.A. 1000/10 to Admty.).

ROBIN MOOR.

U.S. ship, torpedoed 21/5. (A.L.U.S.N.A. 1010/10) See U-Boat Campaign.

/French.....

War Diary.

10.6.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

French
Fishing
Vessels
intercepted.

My 1420Z/20. Sub Lieut. Armour R.C.N.V.R., of St. Croix has brought French fishing Schooner MADIANA into St. Johns N.F. today and reports that 3 masted DUCHASSELEY is off S.W. coast of Greenland. Crew of MADIANA profess and behave as pro-British. Sub Lieut. Bell R.C.N.V.R., has also arrived with French Fishing vessel LIGHT OF CALAIS. (N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F. 1020Z/10, to Admty)

U.S. Task
Patrols
Cancelled.

Patrols by U.S. Task Force 2 have been cancelled. Ships of this force have been ordered to U.S. ports. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1302Q/10, to Admty.)

"R" Report.
BRITISH POWER.

Following has been read. RRRR 1453 GMT BRITISH POWER 42.57 N., 35.10W., suspicious 1450 GMT/10 DE VCS bearing 88R5 approx., from Camperdown, signals very weak. (Halifax W/T, 1455/10.)
Following has been read, From Valentia Radio RRRR 52.57 N., 35.10 W., BRITISH POWER suspicious 1452/10. (Land's End Radio, 1505/10.) (Note, different position.)
Following has been read. R R R R 1507 G.M.T. BRITISH POWER, please cancel my 1450/10. (Halifax W/T, 1510/10.)

SURCOUF
patrol.

Cancel my 2254B of 29/5. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1616B/10 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

"R" Report.

Following has been read:- RRRR DE GCK. From unknown Vessel 43.12 N., 35.36 W., wait for further particulars 1449/10 = 1456/10 G.M.T. (Valentia Radio, T.O.R. 1725/10.)

T.C.12.

Requirements and date. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1901Z/10). See Operations Volume.

JEAN BART.....

War Diary.

10.6.1941.
Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.- Contd.

JEAN BART
DUNKERQUE and
WALDECK. -
ROUSSEAU.

From U.S.
Graded C.O. Have left Toulon convoying
troops believed for North Africa and Syria.
Information stated to emanate from Dresden.
(N.A. Wash. 1931/10 to Admty.)

Australia.

Suspicious
A/C, and
ships 9/6.

An unidentified twin-engined Monoplane
approached Settlement of Kavieng (New
Ireland) at 0400 Z/9 from N., flying at 7000
feet and returned N. No markings visible.
A reliable European reported having sighted
3 large ships and 2 small ships manoeuvring
off Sali (Near Fangalava Sea, New Ireland)
0600 Z/9. Natives report a flying boat
landed to S.E. of North Cape (New Ireland)
morning/9 and fuelled. An unidentified
coal-burning vessel passed Lorengau
(Admiralty Islands) 1610 Z/9 Course W.
Consider aircraft sighted Kavieng was shore-
based Japanese.
(A.C.N.B., 1109Z/10, to Admty. etc.)

War Diary.

10.6.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked-Contd.

Unknown Ship.

My 1115 (N.T. in W.D) Torpedoed ship sunk 12 men in boat. (A/C Duty Q, 1215/10). Lifeboat 20 survivors 55.26 N. 11.58 W. am circling until further instructions. (A/C Call Sign T90H 1301/10 to 15 (R) Group H.Q).
BB 2 lifeboats survivors 55.38 N., 11.17 W. no ship near. (A/C Call Sign Y6VC 1350/10 to 15 (R) Group H.Q).
Detail one Trawler to pick up survivors from lifeboats of unknown ship (1) in position 55° 26' N. 11° 58' W. (2) in position 55° 38' N. 11° 17' W. at about 1330B/10. Trawler report name when well clear of Convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 1427B/10 to VETERAN).
BBB Found help for survivors. (A/C Y6VC 1450/10 to 15 (R) Group H.Q).
Your 1427. KINGCUP already detached. VETERAN and CHELSEA sent to hunt this morning as ordered by your 1020. (VENOMOUS, 1600/10 to C. in C.W.A).

AINDERBY.

British 4860 tons, from Santos for Oban and Tyne. Have all survivors from AINDERBY sunk 1030/10 one boat only. Position 55.37 N. 12.09 W. Proceeding to second position in your 1427B/10 thence as in your 1029B. (VETERAN, 1710B/10 to C. in C.W.A). All survivors from AINDERBY in one boat only picked up by VETERAN. KINGCUP search for remaining two boats in 55° 38' N. 11° 17' W. at about 1330B/10, VETERAN and CHELSEA hunt U/B two of which may be in area. (C. in C.W.A. 2046B/10 to KINGCUP, -VETERAN).
Searching area S. and E. 055° 37' N. 012° 10' W. to comply your 1109B, covering HX 129 and search for boats pending further U boat information. ST. ALBANS, NEWMARKET, CHELSEA, and aircraft in company KINGCUP joining. 27 survivors AINDERBY. (VETERAN, 2107B/10 to C. in C. W.A).

/ENSIS.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.10.6.1941.
Tuesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked-Contd.ENSIS
(torpedoed 8/6)My 1625B/8. If survivors have not been found by dark tonight 10th proceed in execution of previous orders.
(C. in C. W.A. 1858B/10 to MIGNONETTE).ADDA
(torpedoed 8/6)

My 2306N/8/6. N.C.S.I. 69. (A) ADDA (B) 8/6 0745 G.M.T. 08.30 N. 14.39 W. (C) (D) Dumped. (E) Yes. Over 100 fathoms. Commodore's -books dumped in separate bag. (G) Master. Ship sunk by one torpedo. (C. in C. S.A. 1900N/10 to Admty.)

DIRPHYS.

(Greek, 4240 tons), Swansea for Montreal Torpedoed 0100Z/8 in vicinity of 047° 44' N. 039° 02' W. About 1030Z/10 047° 33' 30" N. 040° 29' 30" W. S/M surfaced and fed survivors. S/M carried guns forward and A/A aft length about 250 feet. At 1430Z/10 in vicinity of 047° 34' 30" N. 040° 11' 45" -picked up 19 survivors. My asdic out of action. Informed by (? mate of) DIRPHYS on 4/6 in vicinity of 047° 50' N. 034° (?) W. fore end of tanker seen above water drifting in S.E. direction. (ORILLIA 2020Z/10 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.).

Submarines Reported.

0109.

At 0109 G.M.T. bearing 262° second class, German Submarine. (F.O.C.N.A. 0249A/10 to N.A. Stn).
Bearing of German U-Boat at 0109 G.M.T. Cupar 214/2 Portrush 203/2 Scarborough 224/2 Lydd 227/2 Baldock 221/2. (F.O.C.N.A. 0501A/10 to MARON, MORETON BAY).

0209.

Enemy submarine in position (? 016°) 30' N. 017° 30' W. at 0209/10. (F.O.C.N.A. 1103B/10 to N.A. Stn);

/1155.....

War Diary.

10.6.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.-Contd.

1155

At 1155 German submarine bearing 312° 2nd Class. (F.O.C.N.A.1111A/10 to N.A. Stn.).

U.37.
past
positions.

Your 1011N/8. This is possible but should not be regarded as certain. (D.D.I.C. 1115B/10 to C. in C.S.A).

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1439B/10).

Submarines Attacked.

Following has been read via Liverpool W/T. An over Enemy submarine in position 55.30 N. 10.20 W. (? 1005/10). Following received from an aircraft via Liverpool W/T. QQQ Enemy S/m previous reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. When first sighted was on course 000 estimated speed 6 knots. Have attacked enemy with depth charges and estimate unknown number of hits but oil seen 0930. (? 1024B/10). QQQ Oil wake moving 360 11 2 knots. (? 1035/10). Attack U Boat bombed by aircraft in position 55° 32' N. 11° 40' W. at 0935B/10. Aircraft co-operating. (C. in C. W.A. 1025B/10 to ST. ALBANS, NEWMARKET.) Detach two destroyers to hunt U/Boat bombed by aircraft in position 55° 32' N. 11° 40 W. -at 0935B/10. ST. ALBANS, NEWMARKET, and aircraft co-operating, destroyers detached report names when well clear of Convoy. (C. in C. W.A., 1029B/10 to VETERAN).

/Safl.....

War Diary.

10.6.1941.
Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked-Contd.

Sail all available Corvettes not required for escort duties in near future to attack U Boat reported in my 1025B/10. (C. in C. W.A., 1056B/10 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

Following has been read. From an aircraft via Liverpool W/T. Negative 1005. (? 1116/10) Your 1029B. Aircraft which attacked informed me position 055° 40' N. 012° 45' W. Am proceeding through it. (VETERAN, 1445B/10 to C. in C. W.A.).

Corvettes should arrive in vicinity about midnight. VETERAN organise U/boat hunt with all surface craft in area. (C. in C. W.A., 2310B/10 to VETERAN).

Have been hunting with VETERAN, CHELSEA and NEWMARKET since 1830. (ST. ALBANS, 2230B/10 to C. in C. W.A.).

By BEGONIA.

At 2330/10 dropped D/C's on oil patch preceded by contact. (A.3) in 55.17 N., 9. 42 W., 279° Bloody Foreland 50' (D.S. 646 12/6).

War Diary.

11.6.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Principal Events.

C. in C. H.F. recommends that A.M.C's be withdrawn from Denmark Straits patrol.

Serious shortage of cruisers and destroyers in Home Fleet.

Heavy air attack on German Naval units at Brest.

Assab captured.

Home Commands.

There are now no German Main Naval Units in Norwegian waters. Except for the 3 ships at Brest they are all believed to be in the Baltic.

C. in C.H.F. considers the present shortage of Cruisers and Destroyers in the Home Fleet to be serious and states that outside calls upon them must be reduced. In view of the new enemy policy of disposing U-Boats near our Cruiser Patrols, he considers that A.M.C's on patrol in the Denmark Straits are merely a liability and should be replaced forthwith by small craft. He points out that the maximum number of Destroyers available to escort Troop Convoy 11 from Canada will be six.

MANCHESTER with INGLEFIELD, ICARUS, and ACHATES sailed from Iceland at 1045 today to R/V with and relieve EDINBURGH on the Denmark Strait Patrol where, it is believed, a U-Boat may be operating; and SUFFOLK left Scapa at 2158 for Hvalfiord whence she is to be ready to reinforce the Patrol if required. HERMIONE has also been ordered to reinforce MANCHESTER by Noon/15.

/NIGERIA.....

War Diary.

11.6.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands-Contd.

NIGERIA, on completion of the Mining operation S.N. 64, has been ordered to refuel at Skaalfjord before reinforcing KENYA on patrol of the Iceland Faroes Passage

To maintain a maximum S/M strength in the Bay of Biscay Area, SEAWOLF is to leave Portsmouth on 14/6 to relieve TRIDENT and TIGRIS will leave Holy Loch on 18/6 to relieve SOKOL, while THRASHER and OSIRIS which leave Holy Loch on 14/6 for Gibraltar are to proceed submerged by day between 47° and 45° North.

The EMDEN is reported at Sassnitz on the 9th June; and at 1945 last night the PRINZ EUGEN and both German Battle Cruisers were still at Brest.

A meeting of C's in C. with the Prime Minister to consider a general review of the situation and discuss any specially important points desired is to be held in London at Noon on the 17th June.

7 M/L's of the 9th M/L Flotilla and M/L. 126 of the 3rd M/L Flotilla are to be sailed from Plymouth when ready to Gibraltar. BEVERLEY, VIMY, WINDSOR, and FIREDRAKE will act as Escorts and will tow the M/I.s as required.

The ^{Corvettes}~~Motor Boats~~ TULIP and CLARKIA are expected to arrive at Charlestown, South Carolina for refit on about 17/7.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.British Air Activity.

Patrols ^{"Stand"}STAND and ^{"Bart"}BERT were flown twice today, and a photographic R/C of the Norwegian Coast from Bergen southward was flown during the forenoon.

5 A/C of 22 Squadron fitted with Torpedo Racks were ordered at 0915 to proceed at once to Wick.

95 A/C attacked the German Main Units at Brest during last night and may have damaged them though no direct hits could be reported. A smoke screen obscured the ships.

Last night, 7 Blenheims of Coastal Command attacked the submarine base and torpedo store at St. Nazaire.

Enemy Air Activity.

At 0029 this morning Fighters were sent to assist Convoys ~~YOUNG~~, ~~YOUNG~~, and ~~YOUNG~~ off the N.E. coast; and at 0110 and again at 0240 Convoy ~~YOUNG~~ was bombed without damage off the North Pembrokeshire coast.

The British CLEARPOOL, 5404 Tons, bombed at 2357/10, was towed into the Tees this evening; the British MOORWOOD was sunk near 19C Buoy off the Tyne at 0020 this morning; the British WESTBURN, 2842 Tons, bombed and set on fire near 20 Buoy at 0007 today was towed into Hartlepool at 0450; and the British BARON CARNEGIE, bombed and abandoned at 0150B today off the Pembroke Coast, is being searched for as a derelict.

/The.....

War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.Enemy Air Activity.-Contd.

The naval establishment at Pembroke Dock was bombed this morning with only negligible damage and some loss of S/S stores. One enemy A/C was over Scapa Flow between 1407 and 1420 today and would have seen into the Fleet Anchorage: a standing patrol by British A/C was maintained over the Flow.

Mining.

7 Hampdens laid mines last night in Quiberon Bay.

6 Mines exploded off Spurn Point and 4 more off the East Coast, and one was detonated by S.A. Gear off Liverpool.

Milford Haven was closed at 0224 this morning but re-opened at 1236, and the Walleet near Harwich was declared open again at 1728.

It is reported today that the Trawler HOPTON while on passage home from Iceland blew up and sank at 2035/8 in about 62° 56' N 12° 30' W.

Shipping and Convoys.Newhaven.

C. in C's at the Nore and Portsmouth both concur in Ministry of War Transport's proposal to include occasional ships in C.W. convoys for discharge at Newhaven.

War Diary.

11.6.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

S/M's
Genoa.

In reply to F.O.C.N.A. who represented that S/M's operating in Gulf of Genoa were handicapped in being allowed to sink only -ships identified as enemy, Admty. have directed that all vessels, except Spanish, navigating within 50 miles of the Italian coast should be sunk.

Force H.

Force H. (RENOWN, ARK ROYAL, VICTORIOUS, and 6 destroyers) returned to Gibraltar today from westward.

Gibraltar
Refugees.

SCYTHIA is being specially diverted to embark 2000 or more refugees from Gibraltar and surrounding country.

South Atlantic.

BARHAM.

Repairs to BARHAM (damaged off Crete on 27/5) are to be carried out at Durban as early as possible.

Ex-French
Ships.

Ex-French merchant ships are not to be sent to Brazilian ports.

W.S.8X.

Convoy W.S.8X, escorted by NORFOLK, arrived at Freetown this morning.

War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Dodecanese.

Wellingtons last night bombed Maritza Aerodrome.

Lycya.

5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night. F.A.A. aircraft attacked enemy aircraft on Derna and Gazala aerodromes.

Submarines.

PANDORA and PARTHIAN are to refit in U.S.A. after calling at U.K. to adjust personnel, etc.

Damaged
Ships.

Repair arrangements for 9 warships damaged during the Crete operations last month are outlined in Admty. 0125B/11.

Malta
Convoys.

V.A. Malta represented on 8/6 that the westward route from Malta may be less subject to air attack, but that the eastward route was still better. C. in C. Mediterranean does not concur. In his view the existing situation in Eastern Mediterranean is not fully appreciated by V.A. Malta.

Enemy
Convoy.

3 destroyers, 3 auxiliary vessels, 6 merchant vessels and 2 enemy aircraft were reported off Pantellaria by aircraft shortly after noon today. Two Blenheims attacked, and report 5 hits on one ship which is believed to have sunk.

Syria.

Aircraft reported 2 ships 40 miles S.W. of Beirut, steering 45° or 49° at 0155 today.

The air attack on Beirut last night was unsuccessful, but 2 F.A. aircraft attacked flotilla leaders there (results unknown).

/Force B.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Syria-Contd.

Force B in Syrian waters now includes:-
PHOEBE, AJAX, cruisers.
COVENTRY, A/A ship.
11 destroyers.

JANUS, damaged in action with French destroyers on 9/6, left Haifa towed by PROTECTOR today for Port Said, where she is due tomorrow.

East Indies.Assab
captured.(Op. "Chronometer")

Assab (Eritrea) was captured today by British and Indian troops operating from Aden with air and naval support. Complete surprise was achieved. Prisoners so far taken include 50 naval ratings 59 German seamen, and 2 Italian generals and 1 naval captain, with a quantity of arms and stores.

CHAKDINA, INDUS and CLIVE took part in the operations, with DIDO in support, wearing flag of S.N.O. Red Sea Force.

HAWKINS.

Is to leave Aden tomorrow for Port Victoria Seychelles.

War Diary.

11.6.1941.
Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

America and West Indies.

DUC D'AUMALE
(French).

(See 9/6). Admiralty concur that ship may be intercepted, but the Free French Volunteers - must be removed at sea and the ship must not be sent into a British Port.

U-Boat Campaign.

Northern
Approaches.

S.S. HAVTOR is reported to have been torpedoed at 1845Z today in approx. 65° 35' N 28° 5' W.

South
Atlantic.

S.S. RIO AZUL ex Convoy O.B. 324, Tyne to Pepel, was attacked 300 miles west of Freetown at 0700.

War Diary.11.6.41.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.R.D/F.
Training
AVALON.

There is an urgent requirement to commence sea training in Type 271 R.D.F. Request consideration be given to diverting trawler AVALON, which is already fitted for this purpose. If approved it is proposed AVALON should operate from Ardrossan. (C. in C. W.A. 1153B/11.)
C. in C. W.A. 1153/11. AVALON and NORLAND are required for East Coast operations with M.G.B.S. which it is considered should take precedence over training. (C. in C. Nore 2300/11 to Adty.)

Shortage
of H.F.
Cruisers
and
Destroyers.

My 0043B/2nd.
(i) The present shortage of cruisers and destroyers in Home Fleet is serious.
(ii) New enemy policy apparently to dispose U-Boats in the vicinity of our Cruisers patrol.
(iii) Under these conditions I consider A.M.Cs, on patrol in Denmark Straits are merely a liability and should be withdrawn forthwith and replaced when possible by small craft.
(iv) It is necessary to operate destroyers for immediate security of Cruisers.
(v) Owing to shortage of R/C aircraft and lack of air striking Force in Iceland it is also necessary to provide destroyer striking force in Iceland.
(vi) In these circumstances outside calls on Home Fleet Cruisers and Destroyers must be reduced.
(vii) In particular it will not be possible to comply with your 1854 / B/7 para.
(v) (Re Escorts for T.C.11.)
Maximum number of destroyers available for this duty will be 6.
(C. in C. H.F. 1236B/11 to Adty.)

/Meeting.....

War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy. - Contd.Meeting of
C's in C. with
Prime Minister
on 17/6.

Admty. 1728/1st January. Prime Minister wishes to meet C's in C. to give a general review of the situation and to discuss any special points they desire to raise at 1200/17. Request you or your representative will attend and that any special item for the discussion may be communicated by noon/13th. If necessary, a preliminary meeting will be held in the Admiralty with the Naval Staff p.m. 16th June, and a further telegram on this point will be made after receipt of suggested items for the agenda. Only items of major importance should be raised on this occasion. (1st S.L. 2115B/11)

Defence of U.K.A/A Forts
in Mersey.

A.M. 2111/9/6. Marine Surveyor to Mersey Docks and Harbour Board considers that even in area proposed foundations would sink in first heavy gale. Reasons. In view of this, construction cannot be recommended. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1057B/11 and 1538/11)

Movements.IMPULSIVE.
ANTHONY.

If already released, return to Scapa with despatch. Otherwise proceed to port Z.A. for fuel and await orders. (R.A.D. H.F. 0501/11 to IMPULSIVE, ANTHONY.)
E.T.A. with ANTHONY 1000 B. (IMPULSIVE 0515B/11 to ACOS.)

9th M/L.F.
and M/L.126 for
Gibraltar.

9th M.L. Flotilla arrived. (F.O.I.C. Portland, 0930B/11)
C. in C. Plymouth is requested to sail and route the following M/L's when ready together with the escorting destroyers to Gibraltar.
9th M/L Flotilla M.L's 169,170,172,173, 174,175,176. 3rd M/L Flotilla M.L.126.
2. Boats of the 9th Flotilla are not fitted

/with

War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.9th M/L.F.
and M/L.126 for
Gibraltar -
Contd.

with extra tanks and their endurance is about 1000 miles at 12 knots in fair weather, and they will have to be towed part of the way. M.L.126 is fitted with extra tanks and has endurance of about 2000 miles in fair weather.

3. The following estroyers will act as escorts and will tow the M/L's as required:-
BEVERLEY, VIMY, WINDSOR, FIRE Drake.
(D.O.D.H. 1310B/11)

TULIP.
CLARKIA.

Your 1037B/4th. Anticipate TULIP and CLARKIA will arrive Charlestown South Carolina about 17/7. (C. in C.W.A. 1121B/11)

CUMBERLAND
Escort.

C. in C. Nore's 2158B/10. It is considered necessary that CUMBERLAND should be escorted from Rosyth to Sheerness by fast S.A. sweepers.

2. Request you will report if any S.A. fitted HUNT's or WAIR's will be available.
(D.O.D.H. 1942B/11)

Operations.Iceland -
Faroes
Patrol.

NIGERIA proceed to Skaalefiord with despatch and refuel before proceeding on patrol. (C. in C.H.F. 0432B/11 to C.S.10.)

Search for
BISMARCK.

Your 1552B/7th. No damage was sustained by NORFOLK while shadowing and engaging BISMARCK other than that reported in C.S.I's 1611B/29 May and my 1635B/29 May.
(NORFOLK 0801N/11 to C. in C.H.F.)

Denmark Strait
Patrol.

Arrived MANCHESTER and sailed with Capt.(D) 3, ICARUS, ACHATES. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1045/11) When complete stores and provisions, but not later than 2000, SUFFOLK is to sail for

/Hvalfiord

War Diary.

11.6.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Denmark Strait
Patrol - Contd.

Hvalfiord with all convenient despatch.
(ii) on arrival be prepared to reinforce Denmark Straits patrol according to information received (iii) U-Boat may be operating against cruiser in Denmark Strait. (C. in C.H.F. 1437B/11 to SUFFOLK)
Arrived D 3, ICARUS, ACHATES. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1655/10)
Scapa departure SUFFOLK. (A.C.O.S. 2158/11)
Arrived C.S.18 in EDINBURGH, Captain (D) 3 in INGLEFIELD and ICARUS. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 2314/11)
Failing further instructions HERMIONE is to reinforce MANCHESTER on Denmark Straits patrol by noon/13th. (C. in C.H.F.2347B/11)

P.31 off
Aalesund.

P.31 is to be sailed and is to proceed with despatch to patrol in vicinity 063° north 005° east. (F.O.S. 1954B/11 to S.9)

Biscay
S/M Patrol

To maintain the maximum submarine strength in the Biscay Area the following programme is to be carried out.
A. TRIDENT to leave patrol and return to Holy Loch after dark/17.
B. SEAWOLF to leave Portsmouth on 14/6 to relieve TRIDENT.
C. THRASHER and OSIRIS to leave Holy Loch on 14/6 and proceed with despatch at C.O.'s discretion routed West of QZX 259 thence to Gibraltar proceeding submerged by day between 47° and 45° N.
E. SOKOL to leave patrol after dark on 19/6 ~~19/6~~ and return to Portsmouth.
F. TIGRIS to leave Holy Loch on 18/6 to relieve SOKOL. (F.O.S. 1128B/11)

British Air Activity

Patrols

Patrols ^{"Stand"}STAND and ^{"Bert"}BERT are taking off about 0500/11. P.R.U. Recco of Bergen-Stavanger and Christiansand and Fjords along the coast is being flown during this forenoon (C. in C. Rosyth, 0430/11)

/Patrols....

War Diary.

11.6.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols. -
Contd.

Patrols ^{"Stand"}~~STAND~~ and ^{"Bert"}~~BERT~~ will be flown again today taking off at 1400. (C. in C. Rosyth 1248/11)

Ops. 635 11/6.

A X-over patrol similar to Sentry 2 can be flown on a track 060° from Northern Point of Sentry 2 if information is received which points to a break out on this line. I cannot cover every possible exit and consider the patrols I am now doing are the best possible with the aircraft available.

(A.O.C. in C. H.Q. Coastal Command 2345/11)

5 A/C
for Wick.

Five A/C of 22 Sqn. fitted with torpedo racks to proceed immediately to Wick without torpedoes. (A.C.H.Q. Chatham, 0915/11)

Temporary
Re-distribution.

The following temporary re-distribution of aircraft is to take place forthwith. 15 Group one Catalina to Sullom Voe. 16 Group 5/22 Sqn. with torpedo racks but less torpedoes North Coates to Wick. 18 Group 248 Sqn. to remain Dyce. 19 Group one Sunderland to Sullom Voe. (H.Q.C.C.0940/11)

Iceland
A/C Patrols.

It is of vital importance that C. in C. H.F. and Admty. should have early and accurate information of air patrols ordered, whether patrols do in fact fly, and results, including negative results, of such patrols. 2. You are doubtless in close collaboration with A.O.C. Iceland on these matters and receive all necessary information. 3. To ensure that this information is passed as rapidly as possible, the following method is to be adopted. Particulars. (A.C.N.S. H. 1159B/11 to N.O.I.C. Iceland.)

Iceland.

Your 1552B/9. A/C situation in Iceland. No. of A/C present, availability, emergency arrangements, signalling of A/C reports etc. Details. (A.C.N.S. H. 1201B/11 to C. in C. H.F.) See Lion Copy.

/SCHARNHORST

MOST SECRET

330A

M E S S A G E

1201B/11th June.

MOST SECRET

OUT.

To: C. in C. Home Fleet. 147.
Repeated N.O.I.C. Iceland. 132.
C. in C. Western Approaches. 721.
A.C.O.S. 786.
H.Q.C.C.

Date 11.6.41.

NAVAL CYPHER A.1.

From Admiralty.

SECRET

Your 1552B/9.

Aircraft at present in Iceland are stated in Pink List page 49, but change frequently. Situation today is as follows :-

98 Squadron	Battles	Strength	14
204 Squadron	Sunderlands	"	6
Detachment of 269 Squadron	Hudsons	"	10

330 Squadron (Norwegian) Northrop, forming. Will have a strength of 12 aircraft.
6 Hurricanes have arrived and are being erected.

Availability of aircraft.

2. The availability varies considerably from day to day. The average serviceability is not more than 50%. Operation of aircraft is restricted by shortage of runways at Reykjavik and Kaldardanaes.

3. It was hoped to increase the number of aircraft in Iceland more rapidly, but our world-wide calls, particularly from the Mediterranean, make this very difficult.

4. Work on the aerodromes is continuing, and it is expected that the improvement in their efficiency will materially increase from now on.

Aircraft in Emergency.

5. All available aircraft in Iceland are employed meeting your requirements in an emergency, and it is the policy to reinforce to the maximum possible to fulfill your demands. At other times special patrols requested will be flown, but will be at the expense of aircraft employed on trade protection.

6. A striking force, as stated in A.M. 1237B/3 (not to all addressees) cannot at present be maintained in Iceland, but will be flown there as quickly as possible.

Patrols from Iceland.

7. Patrols flown by aircraft based on Iceland are ordered by 15 Group at Liverpool. The Air Officer in Iceland, who is in close touch with F.O.I.C. Iceland, will keep him informed of the patrols ordered and whether the patrols do, in fact, operate as planned.

/Method

Method of Signalling Reports.

8. A report of the patrol ordered, and later the result of the patrol, will then be signalled, prefixed "Immediate", by F.O.I.C. Iceland to C. in C. Home Fleet and Home Fleet ships at sea via the point-to-point services Reykjavik Wick or Vatusendi - Whitehall. Whitehall or Scapa will then re-transmit on the appropriate broadcast.

9. In order to simplify and quicken signalling, these messages will be made to a standard address which, unless you have other wishes, will be "C. in C. Home Fleet Admiralty and ships of the Home Fleet at sea".

10. The institution of the new service Vatusendi - Whitehall should take a considerable load of the signal traffic, thereby ensuring quicker transmission of all important messages from Iceland.

Reports from R.A.F. Aircraft.

11. Sighting reports from R.A.F. aircraft received at any A.C.H.Q. are re-broadcast on Naval broadcast frequencies immediately on receipt. Arrangements will be made by F.O.I.C. Iceland for any important signals received by R.A.F. W/T Stations in Iceland from R.A.F. aircraft on patrol to be signalled in the same manner, and in addition, re-broadcast on 500 kc/s and Port Wave.

1201B/11.

D.O.D.(H).

Approved A.C.N.S.(H).

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

2nd S.L.

3rd S.L.

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)(2)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D. of P.(2)

D.O.D.(H)

D.D.O.D.(H)

D.O.D.(F)

D.D.O.D.(F)

D.N.I.(4)

D.S.D.

D. of L.D.

D.N.A.D.

D.A./S.W.

D.M.S.

I.P.(2)

W.D.

Duty Captain

Head of M.

D.T.S.D.

D.D.I.C.

E.P.S.

D.T.D.(2)

N.I.D. 10(Pay.Cdr.Wilson)

War Diary.

11.6.1941.
Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

SCHARNHORST.
GNEISENAU.
PRINZ EUGEN
Attacked.
One M/V hit.

On 10/6 two aircraft attacked a 1,900 ton M/V twenty miles S.W. of Stavanger. Considered that at least one bomb would be a direct hit on the ship. On night 10/11 93 A/C attacked the SCHARNHORST, GNEISEAU and PRINCE EUGEN at Brest. The enemy again made use of an effective smoke screen. Several fires were started but no direct hits on the ships have so far been reported. (H.Q.B.C. 1350/11)

Standard
Patrols.

C. in C. Rosyth 2330/11. ~~See Lien Copy.~~
See Summaries Folder.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy.

My 2358. Convoy being shadowed by enemy A/C, height 1000 ft. course 345°. My position 54° 43' N. 1° 3' W. (LIDDESDALE 0005/11)
My 0005. Enemy A/C bombing. (LIDDESDALE 0011/11)

Convoy
E.C.Even.

1 Enemy aircraft bombing convoy ^{"mission"}~~MISSION~~.
My position PCRU.0003. 54° N. 0° 57' W.
(Convoy 0010/11)

Convoys "Pilot".
PILOT. ^{"mission"}
MISSION. ^{"Pattern"}
~~PATTERN.~~

Fighters are being sent to assist ~~PILOT~~, ^{"Pilot"}
~~MISSION~~ and ~~PATTERN~~. (Liverpool 0029/11)

Convoy "Young Two".
~~YOUNG TWO.~~

Enemy A/C bombing Convoy. Position 52° 11' N. 5° 15' W. Course 230°, speed 8. (VICEROY 0110/11)
My 0110. No hits. (VICEROY 0129/11)
Further attack. No hits. (VICEROY, 0240/11)

/CLEARPOOL

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.CLEARPOOL.
(British,
5404 Tons.)

Your 0046/11. Tug proceeding and should arrive about 0630. Fighter escort asked for from first light. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0254/11 to CATTISTOCK)
 CLEARPOOL anchored in 54° 17' N. 0° 19' W. Bombed at 2357/10 in vicinity 18B Buoy. Boiler damaged. Leak in engine room. 1 Casualty. Wounded. Tug has been sent. CATTISTOCK standing by. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0600/11)
 Situation at 0900. CLEARPOOL still anchored off Scarborough. Tugs EUSTON CROSS and CHARING CROSS from Hartlepool nearing her. Will tow her to Hartlepool. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 1008/11)
 Escort CLEARPOOL in tow ^{? s.s.} Tug TWEED to Harbour. (C. in C. Rosyth 1031/11 to CATTISTOCK)
 CLEARPOOL entering Tees in tow. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 2104/11)

Convoy "Grain."
GRAIN.Fighters are being sent to the assistance of ~~GRAIN~~. (Plymouth 0329/11)MOORWOOD.
sunk.

(British 2056 Tons) S.S. WANDLE entered Hartlepool 0242/11 with survivors from S.S. MOORWOOD sunk by enemy air attack at 19 C. Buoy at 0020/11. All crew saved, some injured. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0430/11)

WESTBURN.

(British 2842 Tons) Bombed and set on fire near 20 buoy at 0007/11. Considerable damage amidships. Bridge demolished. Survivors taken off and landed by VELETA and ~~DOORIE BRAK~~. Tugs sent and X.V.T. sent crew aboard. Vessel has been towed into Hartlepool. Fires under control. 20 Survivors as follows. Names. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0450/11)
 DOORIE BRAK. WESTBURN in Hartlepool. Fire now extinguished. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1008/11)

/Convoy

War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity-Contd.Convoy
B.B. 32
attacked.
One A/C
shot down.

One enemy aircraft shot down by Bofors guns of shore defences at 0125/11, 117° 14 cables from St. Ann's Light. This report confirmed by four sources. Convoy B.B. 32 attacked three times no damage reported three casualties landing Cardiff. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1150B/11).

BARON
CARNEGIE.

(British, 3178 Tons) Ex. O.B.M. 334. Reported by Coaster WILLIAMSTOWN derelict 8 miles N.W. of S. Bishops Light. Tug sent, air search in progress. Ten survivors picked up by WILLIAMSTOWN landing Milford Haven. Four cot cases remaining in WILLIAMSTOWN now proceeding Barry. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1317B/11). Bombed and abandoned at 0150B/11 in 52° 3' N. 5° 25' W. C.B's and documents left on board. (N.C.S.O. Milford Haven 1828/11).

Pembroke
Dock
bombed.

Enemy air attack on Naval establishment, Pembroke Dock this morning. Damage negligible -except C.O.C.F. who is affected by loss of stores and accommodation. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1451B/11).

A/C over
Scapa Flow.

An enemy A/C was over Flow between 1407/11 and 1420/11 and would have seen into Fleet Anchorage. (A.C.O.S. 1745/11).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Milford
Haven.

Port is closed owing to minelaying.
(N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0224B/11).
Port of Milford Haven is open subject to
local restrictions. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven
1236B/11).

Salcombe
Minefield.

Salcombe minefield connected up and in
operation. This completes all stations in
Dartmouth sub-command. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth
1152/11).

East
Coast
Routine
Sweeps.

Request you will arrange for converted
trawlers GLEN KIDSTON and GALVANI to carry
out routine S.A. Sweeping ahead of Oropeesa
-groups sweeping QZS 30 between Aldeburgh
and number 5 buoy.
Position of SA Sweeper relative to centre
line of channel should be varied from day
to day, since one such Sweeper cannot be
said to sweep effectively a path of more
than two cables. Should both vessels be
available at any time for sweeping they
should be stationed abeam of each other
at a distance of 2 cables and need not keep
company with an Oropeesa Group, if it is
considered that their own A/A arrangements
are sufficient. (C. in C. Nore, 1152B/11
to F.O.I.C. Yarmouth).

Harwich
Area.

Wallet reswept. Negative result. Now
declared open. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1728B/11).

Liverpool.

Mine report to 1800/11. One detonated by
S.A. Trawler 25° Bar Light Vessel three
miles. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1807B/11).

/HOPTON.....

War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining-Contd.HOPTON
sunk
on 8/6.

(Trawler) While trawlers HONDO and HOPTON were on passage Iceland to U.K. at 2035/8/6 in about 62° 56' N. 12° 30' W. HOPTON blew up and sank in 30 seconds. HONDO picked up only survivor. (A.C.O.S. 1900/11).

Spurn
Point.

3 Mines spontaneously exploded and 3 Mines detonated by Sweeper. Details. (F.O. Humber 1950B/11).

East
Coast.

D.21 reports mines exploded yesterday by CAMPBELL (A) At 1922 in 52° 27' 30" N. 02° 05' 42" E.
(B) At 2155 in position 1 point nine miles 042° from No. 52 Buoy..
WALLACE observed explosions today at a distance.
(A) At 0747 near 54 G. buoy.
(B) At 0950 near number 5 buoy on Eastern edge of Channel. (C. in C. Nore 2310B/11 -and 0707B/12).

Enemy Intelligence.Brest.

Brest 1945/10. Both battlecruisers and PRINZ EUGEN still present. (D.D.I.C. 0057B/11).

EMDEN.

EMDEN observed Sassnitz June 9th. Graded B.2. (N.A. Stockholm 1744/11).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects.MAPLETON.

Anchor off B.7 buoy. Has broken capstan and is unable to weigh. Am remaining with her. (VESPEE 0746/11).

MELROSE
ABBEY.
(Grounded
28/3).

Intend sailing ATTENTIF 0300/12 to attempt refloat MELROSE ABBEY. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1041/11).

FOREMOST 22.

Your 0931/6. Tug FOREMOST 22 and 2 Barges have not arrived Inverness. (N.O.I.C. Invergordon 1225/11).

Departure KROOMAN to assistance of ships in distress vicinity of 55A Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1417B/11).

Three
Lifeboats
off Brest.

Three lifeboats reported in 48° 10' N. 5° 50' W. at 0810 today steering 030°. Boats may be from either a friendly or enemy ship.

2. If boats are again located by air R/C, available M.G.B's will be ordered to proceed to bring in as many survivors as can be conveniently carried. Remainder are to be given any necessary provisions and a course to steer.

3. If practicable, and from a friendly ship, a second trip to pick up remainder may be made after landing first party at Falmouth. (C. in C. Plymouth 1710/11 to BELFORT).

Later R/C failed to find Life Boats. No action is to be taken on my 1710/11. (C. in C. Plymouth 2128/11 to BELFORT.).

/EMILE.....

War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties and Defects-Contd.EMILE
FRANQUI
(Grounded
5/4).S.S. EMILE FRANQUI towed by Rescue Tug
CHAMPION and escorted by FOWEY arrived.
(F.O.I.C. Tyne 1926/11).CUSHENDALL.Departure H.M. Tug SABINE at 2030 to assist
CUSHENDALL broken down near 62 A buoy.
(F.O. Humber 2051B/11).Shipping and Convoys.Use of
Newhaven.Your 1723B/7. (Include occasional ships
in C.W. Convoys for discharge at Newhaven).
Concur. (C. in C. Nore 1127B/11 to Admty.).

War Diary.

11.6.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Raiders.

My 1005B/5. TRAFALGAR overdue at Capetown from U.K. made QQQQ on 30/4 330 miles North of Azores. Although signal was not cancelled she probably sighted one of H.M. ships and may have been lost by U-boat action at latter date.

No further news of No. 16 (A.M. 1745B/28/5) or No. 46 (A.M. 2217B/14/5) which are possibly the only raiders operating. (D.D.I.C. 1733B/11 to C. in C's etc.).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.S/Ms in
Gulf of
Genoa.

Your 1222/4. All vessels navigating within 30 miles of Italian coast should be sunk, unless a vessel is identified as Spanish when it should be allowed to proceed.

Keep submarines informed as necessary concerning movements of vessels carrying approved cargoes on behalf of the Swiss. Swiss Govt. will be asked to give adequate notice of sailings from Genoa.

3. Outside the 30 mile zone restrictions contained in para 5 of A.T. 2021/20/2 still apply. (Private Office Approved 1st Lord, 0108B/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

MARSDALE.

Cancel my 1110A/9. Pass through position 029° 30' N 025° 30' W thence direct to area V.1 and V.2.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1102B/11 to MARSDALE).

SCYTHIA.

Your 2027N/10. SCYTHIA is being specially diverted to Gibraltar to embark refugees from Gibraltar and surrounding country number probably exceeding 2000, including invalids. Request therefore that no one is embarked Freetown.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1302A/11 to C. in C. S.A.)

See also p. 341

MIGNONETTE.

Pass through positions 029° 00' N 025° 00' W 021° 00' N 021° 00' W thence direct or as ordered by C. in C. South Atlantic.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1752A/11 to MIGNONETTE).

South Atlantic.BARHAM.

A.T.1730B/30 to C. in C. Med., only. Completion of repairs to BARHAM is a matter of first importance. She should arrive Durban as early as possible and is to have absolute priority for completion.

(V.C.N.S., 0031B/11 to C. in C. S.A.)

NORDERNEY
(German).

Master of NORDERNEY left for Rio de Janeiro 10/6 by Condor plane.

(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 0225Z/11 to S.A.D.)

/HELDER.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. (contd).HELDER.

Overdue shipping my 1350/9 HELDER arrived Capetown (S.O.(I) Capetown, 0941/11).

DELFIN^N.

Reference my 41 and 1452/24/5. Spanish ship DELFIM or DELFIRE. Landed Sal May 24th 70 tons aviation spirits; Ciseneros manifest signed Lati. Master gave chief of Lati at Sal letter from Submarine received at sea. Master states ship makes three more trips first July or early in August. Route Ciseneros Spanish Waters to Capo Blanc then Sal. (B.C. St. Vincent, 1430/11 to Ambassador at Lisbon).

FRANKFURT
HERMES
(German).

FRANKFURT has berthed alongside and is expected to commence loading very shortly. HERMES although still far from being fully laden has stopped loading and has received Sea Stores. (N.C.S.O. Rio de Janeiro, 1514/11 to S.O.(I) Freetown). (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2101Z to S.A.D)

.W.S. 8 X.

Arrived 0700/11. NORFOLK, VELOX, ASTER, with Convoy W.S. (?8) X. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1639N/11 to Admty).

Numbers,
Unescorted
Ships.

Your 234B/10. Maximum numbers allowed in unescorted ship are as follows. Prisoners of War 1,000, Escorts 100, Naval personnel 100, Military personnel 100 R.A.F. personnel 100, Merchant Seamen 100. Note. Last 3 categories are for this occasion only. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1700B/11 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

Ex-French
Ships.

Undesirable that VILLE DE STRASBOURG should call at Pernambuco. If ship has not already sailed she should be instructed to bunker to reach Trinidad or St. Thomas direct. Ex French ships should not be sent to Brazilian Ports. (D.T.D. 1713B/11 to N.C.S.O. Walfish Bay).

/Minesweeping.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.Minesweeping
Lagos.

Your 1918/6. There are no wooden or other vessels at Freetown that will take generators for skids possible that tugs fitted for minesweeping at Lagos could take. Request information if any of M/S Trawlers now ordered to Freetown will be fitted with these generators. (C. in C. S.A., 1911N/11 to Admty).

NORDERNEY
TEBRO
NATAL.

Master of German NORDERNEY left Para for Rio de Janeiro on 10/6. Italian TEBRO has steam up. German NATAL still loading. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1925N/11 to Admty).

SCYTHIA
(evacuees.)

My 2027/10. Total accommodation available after allowing for accommodation taken by LONDON passengers approved by Admiralty. (C. in C. S.A., 2015N/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

*See p. 339*AFRICANA
(Italian).

Pernambuco reports has returned to moorings Outer Mole. All Italian Ships now moored Outer Mole. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2053Z/11 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.Repair of Damaged
ships.

Your 1748/24/5 and 1532/30/5 and my 2333/31/5 and 2348/26/5, it is now intended repairs should be carried out as follows: ORION - Devonport. DIDO - U.S.A. CARLISLE - Preferably Bombay, in view of Durban's other commitments.. AJAX - U.K. if shaft brackets require renewal. NAIAD - Singapore. VALIANT - If repairs are beyond capacity of Alexandria to be repaired at Durhan as convenient. If KIPLING, HAVOCK, and NUBIAN, cannot be repaired in Red Sea Ports they should be repaired in India, F.O.C.R.I.N. being asked to state port. (D.O.D. (F) 0125B/11 to C. in C. Med).

/Malta.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.Malta.

Suggestions consequent on reduced scale of Enemy air attacks and reconnaissance in Central Mediterranean.
(V.A.M., 0822/11 to C. in C. Med.)
See Lion and Tiger Copy.
Supply Convoys. Do not concur in V.A. Malta's 1038/8 para II. (C. in C. Med., 1031C/11 to Admty). See Mediterranean Volume.

Axis
Cargoes.

Cargoes in transit are not examined in either direction (N.S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1106/11 to Admty),
N.I.D. Comment. See Lion Copy.

NUBIAN
AUCKLAND.

NUBIAN is to sail when ready at about 1900/11 for Port Said and transit of canal to Suez. AUCKLAND is to escort her to Port Said returning to Alexandria. NUBIAN cannot steer and will require to be met by tug at Port Said and towage through canal. JANUS in tow of PROTECTOR may be on passage with (?FLAMINGO) from Haifa to Port Said.
(C. in C. Med., 1107C/11 to NUBIAN).

Dodecanese
Bombed.

Operational Summary No. 366 up to 0200 hours 11/6/1941. Night 9/10, 2 Wellingtons bombed Maritza aerodrome, Rhodes. 7 Wellington bombed Calato aerodrome. One Wellington bombed Kattavia aerodrome. Night 10 /11 3 Wellingtons bombed Maritza aerodrome.

Benghazi, Derna
bombed.

Night 9/10. 4 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour hitting the Julian Mole and one ship. Bombs also dropped on Benina Aerodrome. 3 Blenheims bombed Derna landing-ground and Satellite and Martuba landing ground.

Enemy Raid
on Matruh.
Crete Survivors.

10 Enemy aircraft bombed Matruh.
Day 10/6.
230 personnel Imperial troops drifted ashore on rafts at Sidi Barrani from Crete during day. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1113/11).

Movement
Summary.

C. in C. Med., 1115/11. See Lion Copy.

/TARUISION.....

MOST SECRET

342A.

Lion

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

0822B/11th June

IN

From V.A. Malta.

Date 11.6.41.

Recd. 1735.

INTERSERVICE X BY W/T.

CORRECTION

Addressed C, in C. Mediterranean Repeated Admiralty A.O.C. in C.
Middle East, Air Ministry.

IMPORTANT

737

75. All evidence shows a large number of the German Air Force have lately been withdrawn from Sicily. This with improved fighter position has resulted in scale of enemy air attacks and reconnaissance being greatly reduced in Central Mediterranean. Consider therefore Convoy M E 8 should be sailed Eastward as proposed in my 1038B/8 as soon after 14th June as you can provide Escort from about Longitude 23 degs. E.

2. Consider opportunity should at once be seized to operate offensively with maximum intensity against enemy bases within reach of Malta. Approved increase in Blenheim Force and submarines will deal with shipping at sea but heavy bombers are required to attack Tripoli and make it unusable. Dispersal of aircraft has much improved whereby risk of loss or ground considerably reduced. Suggest a detachment of eight Wellingtons for 14 days during moon periods.

3. For increase of air effort R.A.F. Personnel awaiting passage in Egypt are required and supply of aviation spirit, spares, and bombs must be maintained. A quick return passage of BRECONSHIRE would achieve this.

4. I can also assist in removing pressure on Alexandria by taking one or two destroyers for short refit or repair with better degree of safety than hitherto. A.O.C. Mediterranean agrees.

0822B/11.

~~Note. V.A. Malta has been asked to confirm that nothing has been omitted from the beginning of the text of this message.~~

Advance copy sent Duty Capt. D.O.D. (F) D.D.I.C.

1st Lord

1st S.L.

2nd S.L.

3rd S.L.

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) (2)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D. of P. (2)

D.O.D. (F)

D.D.O.D. (F)

D.O.D. (H)

D.D.O.D. (H)

D.N.I. (4)

D.S.D.

D. of L.D.

D.N.A.D.

D.S.W.

D.M.S.

I.P. (2)

W.D.

Duty Capt.

Head of M.

D.T.S.D.

D.D.I.C.

E.P.S.

D.T.D. (2)

N.I.D. 10 (Pay. Cdr. Wilson).

Reply: C.C.M.D., 1031C/11. See Incl. Volume p. 52.

342(B) *Lion*

From War Registry.

Date Eff. 1946

Delete foot-note in corrected message
0822B/11 from V.A. Malta.

1st Lord.	D. of P. (2)	I.P. (2)
1st S.L.	D.O.D. (F)	W.D.
2nd S.L.	D.D.O.D. (F)	Duty Capt.
3rd S.L.	D.O.D. (H)	Head of M.
4th S.L.	D.D.O.D. (H)	D.T.S.D.
5th S.L.	D.N.I. (4)	D.D.I.C.
V.C.N.S.	D.S.D.	E.F.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)	D. of L.D.	D.T.D. (2)
A.C.N.S. (F)	D.N.A.D.	N.I.D. 10. (Pay Cdr. Wilson)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	D.A/S.W.	
N.A. 1st S.L.	D.M.S.	

M
342(c)

SECRET.

M E S S A G E

1106/11th June
IN,

From N.S.O.(I) Istanbul.

Date 12.6.41.

Recd.-1540.

Inter Departmental Cypher (V.14) by Cable.

Addressed Admiralty.

Recirculation at request
of N.I.D.

Your 1845B 10th cargoes in transit are not examined in either direction. A verbal declaration is sufficient.

1106/11.

* Request information on Turkish examination of Axis cargoes.

N.I.D. Comment.

Since May 25th, 8 Italian, 4 French, 2 German, 2 Hungarian and 1 Roumanian and one Bulgarian vessel have been known to have passed Istanbul from Roumanian ports. Their cargoes were oil and other war material.

Two of these vessels, an Italian tanker and a French tanker have been seriously damaged by our torpedoes. There appears to be an abundance of tanker tonnage at present available in the Mediterranean, enough to carry an additional 3,000,000 tons of oil per annum, from Constanza to Triest - supposing that such a quantity were available.

- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.(F)
- A.C.N.S.(T) (2)
- Parl. Sec.
- N.A.1st S.L.
- Naval Secretary.
- D.N.I.(4)
- Ops.(4)
- O.D.(5)
- D. of P.(3)
- O.I.C.(2)
- D.S.D.(2)
- M.(2)
- D.N.A.D.
- D.T.D.(2)
- D.A/S.W.
- D.E.W.D.(3)
- D.T.M.
- E.P.S.
- ~~W.D.~~
- I.P.(3)

342 (D)

1115/11th June.

SECRET

M E S S A G E

IN

From: C. in C. Mediterranean.

Date: 11.6.41.

Recd: 2146.

Naval Code L.2 by W/T

Addressed: Mediterranean Fleet. Repeated: (? S.B.N.O. Suez)
(? F.O.C.S.C.S) N.O.i/c Port Said, V.A. Malta,
F.O. Force H. N.O.i/c Palestine Port, F.C.C.
North Atlantic. S.O. Force 'I' Capt. S (I)
Force 'I', N.O.i/c Famagusta, Cyprus, 201 Group
(?) Group, H.Q. R.A.F. Middle East.

IMPORTANT

S.B.N.O. Middle East. Movement Summary number
(corrupt Group)

Part A C.S.15 in (?H.M.S. PHOEBE) with H.M.S. AJAX,
H.M.S. COVENTRY and destroyers operating off Syria Coast
from Haifa. H.M.S. JANUS in tow of tug PROTECTOR with
(? H.M.S. FLAMINGO) 746/4 proceeding shortly Haifa to Port
Said. (? H.M.S. NUBIAN) and H.M.S. AUCKLAND leave
Alexandria 1900 11th for Port Said speed about 15 knots,
H.M.S. AUCKLAND (? returning to) (? Alexandria) on arrival.
Two M.T.B's patrol from Famagusta.

Part B. 19th Division (corrupt group) (?returning)
from Alexandria to (? Mersa Tobruh). APHIS, CRICKET
operate in inshore squadron.

Parts C and D. Nil.

1115/11.

Advance copies to Ops, O.D. and
O.I.C.

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

4th S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S.(F)

N.A. 1st S.L.

Nav. Sec.

Ops (4)

O.D. (5)

D.N.I (4)

O.I.C (2)

D.S.D.9.

E.P.S.

D.T.S.D.

D.A/S.W.

M (2)

Capt. Pim, Admiralty Hse.

D.of P (3)

I.P (3)

W.D.

Lion

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.

TARVISIO
~~BHULITAS~~
(?UTILITAS?)
ALBANO
URANO
(Italian)
NORBURG
(German)
etc.

(A) Passed Istanbul for Constanza Italian (?tanker) TARVISIO p.m./10 ~~BHULITAS~~, UTILITAS ALBANO (ex NAVONA) URANO, German NORBURG, Hungarian KASSA, Roumanian Tanker SWEETINA a.m./11. (B) TARVISIO, URANO, are fleet auxiliaries: first had full cargo empty steel drums. No timber on either. Embassy protesting Turkish Government to-day, infringement of articles 9 and 19 of Straits Convention. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1150/11).

GIUSEPPINA
GHIRARDI
(Italian)

My 0915C/9 tanker left Chanaki 1230/10 for Aegean. (Capt. S.I. 1237C/11 to TETRARCH). (S.O.(I) Med., 1548C/11 to Admty).

Enemy Convoy.

3 destroyers 3 auxiliary vessels 6 merchant vessels 2 E.A. bearing 040° distant 20 miles approx. course 177° My position 220° Pantellaria 22 miles.
(A/C No. 1 Sqnd., 1245Z/11 to Hal Far).

KIRRIEMOOR
ATREUS
ALSEY.

Request you sail for Aden to await further instructions from Admiralty.
(C. in C. Med., 1539/11 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal)

FLAMINGO
PROTECTOR
JANUS.

FLAMINGO and PROTECTOR with JANUS in tow E.T.A. 1030/12. Tug required to meet at Suez. JANUS has no power but can anchor in emergency and can steer. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1730C/11 to N.O.I.C. Port Said.)

PANDORA
PARTHIAN
PROTEUS.

Your 1734/16/5. Decided to refit PANDORA and PARTHIAN in U.S.A., after calling at U.K. to adjust personnel and to embark specially manufactured parts necessary for their refits. PANDORA is due in U.S.A. 26/6. PROTEUS should reach Eastern Mediterranean middle September. Arrangements will be made on assumption that PARTHIAN is available to sail for U.S.A. immediately PROTEUS arrives on Med. Station. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1819B/11 to C. in C. Med.-)

HELKA.

HELKA bombed and sunk 25/5. Two ratings reported killed.
(P.S.T.O. Egypt, 2127C/11).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Syria.2 Ships
Beirut.

Aircraft report having observed 2 ships 40 miles S.W. Beirut 045° at 15 knots at 0155 this morning.
(N.O.I.C. Haifa, 0745/11 to AJAX) See also Air Report, 1218/11.

L.O. to Visit
Front.

If you can use boat near you, would you consider sending Liaison Officer to see front line? Will send provisions in boat which brings him off.
(ISIS, 0828/11 to ? repeated Capt. D.2. AJAX).

Air Attack,
Beirut.
BEIRUT

Air Attack Beirut last night handicapped by cloud and result probably negative. Reconnaissance over Beirut this morning has so far produced no information.
(N.O.I.C. Haifa, 0909/11 to C. in C. Med).

Air Report.

Daily Intelligence report No. 27 up to 0800 hours L.S.T.
11/6. Syria. 1730 2 merchant vessels 313° Haifa 60 M. course 200° speed 8 to 10 knots. 0155 hours 11/6. 2 ships 225° Beirut 40 M course 045° speed 15 knots. Valentia unable to locate Rayak 2330 10/6. attacked Beirut Harbour 0030 11/6. Dropped one thousand lbs. H.E. bombs. Two aircraft F.A.A. attacked Flotilla leaders in Beirut Harbour midnight. Results unknown. F.A.A. aircraft report A.A. fire from tanker ADOUR in position 15 on map B.7. (H.Q. P.T.J., 1218/11).

Enemy Ships
bombed in
Beirut.Force B.

Following ships now form Force B. PHOEBE AJAX, COVENTRY, STUART, ILEX, KANDAHAR, KIMBERLEY, JAGUAR, JACKAL, HOTSPUR, ISIS, HERO, GRIFFIN, DEFENDER (C.S.15, 1220/11 to C. inc. Med).
DEFENDER and GRIFFIN return to Haifa to fuel Thursday 12th. DEFENDER to rejoin screening force after fuelling. GRIFFIN rejoin A.M./13 time for movement as ordered by S.O. requiring screens. (Capt. D.10 1549/11 to HERO, GRIFFIN, HOTSPUR, DEFENDER).
C.S. 15 1535C. (N.T. in W.D.) 2 destroyers can be spared for this duty.
(Capt. D.2., 1654/11 to AJAX).

/Swordfish.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Syria. - Contd.Swordfish
Beirut.

Swordfish are not to attack ships in Beirut without my approval. (C. in C. Med., 1747C/11 to C.S. 15 etc).

Flotilla
leader
Beirut.

Flotilla Leader at Beirut p.m. today at buoy outside harbour probably with steam up. Swordfish will patrol off harbour from dusk until 2330. Lydda Torpedo spotter reconnaissance aircraft will attack about 2230/11 Swordfish about 2330.
(H.Q. P.&T.J. 1810/11 to C.S.15). My 1810. Torpedo Spotter Reconnaissance Aircraft will not attack unless ordered by you.
(H.Q. P.&T.J., 1916/11 to C.S.15).

14 D.F.
LEANDER
HASTY
AJAX.

Take LEANDER and HASTY under your orders and sail 1800/12 to join F.O.C.15th C.S. off Syrian coast as ordered by him. When JERVIS (group omitted) HASTY have joined F.O.C.15th C.S. is requested to detach AJAX and four destroyers to proceed Alexandria.
(C. in C. Med., 1823C/11 to Capt. D.14).

PHOEBE
AJAX.

PHOEBE with destroyer relief will pass latitude of Tyre at 0920/12 to relieve AJAX.
(F.O. 15th C.S., 1912/11 to AJAX).

AJAX
COVENTRY
PHOEBE.

Following is provisional programme movements of cruisers, ships leaving Haifa at 0700.

Date.	Off Shore.	In shore.	Haifa.
12th	PHOEBE	COVENTRY	AJAX
13th	AJAX	PHOEBE	COVENTRY
14th	AJAX	COVENTRY	PHOEBE

(F.O. 15th C.S. 1911/11),

Vichy.

Reaction to Syria advance, etc.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2140B/11 to C. in C. Med., etc).
See Lion Copy.

/Air Attacks.....

MOST SECRET

24/6
345A

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

2140B/11 June.

OUT

To:- C. in C. Mediterranean 797
C. in C. South Atlantic 757
F.O.C. North Atlantic 886
V.A. Malta 132
S.O. Force 'H' 112
C.O.I.S. Alexandria
C. in C. America and West Indies 607

Date. 11. 6. 41.

NAVAL CIPHER 'D'

From Admiralty.

MIDIC.

Reports received from various sources although unconfirmed tend to show that Vichy in its present state of confusion does not intend at the moment to take action against us and wishes to localise hostilities in Syria.

2. There are strong grounds for believing principle of Franco German collaboration which apparently involves use by Germans of Naval and Air bases in North Africa was agreed at recent Vichy meeting despite objections by Weygand.

On the other hand later reports indicate that as a result of renewed protests such collaboration is not yet admitted officially to include French North Africa and previous policy of defending latter against all attacks apparently holds good at the moment. It is understood U.S.A. have asked for precise assurances from Weygand in regard to North and West Africa.

3. Believed Darlan advocated attack on Free French Colonies in Equatorial Africa but this was not supported on grounds that weather conditions would not be favourable before October, problems of fuel and transport, and doubts concerning loyalty of Vichy Officers.

4. In broadcast on 10th June Darlan advocated acceptance by French people of peace with Germany and new order in Europe.

2140B/11.

D.D.N.I.

Appd. A.C.N.S. (F).

1st Lord.

1st S.L.

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S. (F)

A.C.N.S. (S)

N.A. 1st S.L.

D.O.D. (H)

D.D.C.D. (H)

D.O.D. (F)

D.D.O.D. (F)

D.N.I. (4)

D of P. (2)

E.P.S.

D.D.I.C.

I.P.

W.D.

Duty Capt.

Id of M.

N.I.D. 10 Pay Cdr. Wilson.

J.M.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Syria. - Contd.Air Attacks
Beirut.

Ops. Summary up to 2000 hrs. L.T. 11/6.
6 Sorties F.A.A. from Lydda on flotilla leaders
Beirut Harbour. Our Aircraft failed to locate
target owing to low clouds, 2 Aircraft
attacked, results unknown. 3 Sorties F.A.A.
Aircraft Cyprus, 2 failed locate target, 1
attacked. 3 Merchant ships besides fire.
No results observed. 1 Valentia failed locate
Rayak at night dropped 4250 lbs H.E. Beirut
Harbour.

(H. Q. P. & T.J. 2120/11)

Enemy Units.

Eight unknown bearing 75° 5 miles course
 000° position MWJA 4832.
(HERO, 2321/11 to ?R.A.D. Med).
W.D. Note latitude indecipherable MW = 70° W.

War Diary.

11.6.1941.
Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Basra Trade.

S.N.O. Persian Gulf's 1818/10th passed to you with reference to Admty. 2305/6. Concur earliest possible resumption of normal trade is desirable but some delay appears unavoidable. (C. in C.E.I. 0656Z/11 to Admty.)

GLENEARN,
towing to
Bombay.

C. in C. Med. 1141/9. Request S.N.O. Red Sea and F.O.C.R.I.N. report opinion of Masters recently arrived from India and Aden as to practicability of towing by merchant ships in present weather conditions. (C. in C.E.I. 0708Z/11 to S.N.O. R.S. F.O.C.R.I.N.)

HAWKINS.

To leave Aden 12/6 and proceed to Port Victoria, Seychelles, so as to arrive 16/6. (C. in C.E.I. 0722Z/11 to HAWKINS)

Capture of
Assab.

(Operation
"Chronometer")

My 0802/8 to Admty. only refers (Hush - N.T. in W.D.) S.N.O.R.S. 1220C/11 and my 1150/11 not to Admty. Enemy completely surprised in capture of Assab. Operation proceeded according to plan. 3/15 Punjabi Regiment now landed and S.S. TUNA berthed and off loading vehicles. Prisoners so far identified but not yet checked in. 40 to 50 Naval Ratings, 87 Airmen and Pilots also 7 German Seamen, Generals Varda and Picentini, Capt. Collaoyal Italian Navy, 400 Italian Women and Children. Quantity of Arms and Stores not yet checked. (C. in C.E.I. 0808Z/11 to Admty.)

G.H.Q. Cairo announced 12/6 prisoners so far counted include 50 naval ratings, 87 pilots and airmen, 39 German seamen and numbers of Italian troops. (Press)

Op. Summary for 24 hours ending 1500 G.M.T/11 Assab captured by force of British and Indian troops operating from Aden with Air and Naval Support. (G.H.Q. Aden, 2157/11)

Naval press - CHAKDINA, INDUS, CLIVE. (DOR. 12/6)
4. DIDO

/DIDO

War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies. - Contd.DIDO.

A.M. 1826/5 DIDO considers that before rounding Cape ship should proceed to Durban (reason) N.O.I.C. Simonstown requested to report whether work can be undertaken. (C. in C.E.I. 1058Z/11 to Admty.)

China.CHENONCEAUX

Departure 10/6 Marseilles. (Saigon 0804Z/11)

America and West Indies.SHEHERAZADE
(French)

Further to my 1223Q/8. Following members of SHEHERAZADE have now joined Free French cause and will rejoin ship:- 1 radio Officer, 4 seamen, 1 baker, 1 cabin boy. (C. in C. A.W.I. 0018Q/11 to Admty.)

FORMIDABLE.

Can FORMIDABLE be taken in hand for damage repairs in U.S.A. probably about end July? (Structural damage) (D.O.D.(F) 0124B/11 to B.A.R.M.)

DUC D'AUMALE.

C. in C. A.W.I.'s 2232/9. May be intercepted but men must be removed at sea and ship must not be sent into British port. Further orders. (A.C.N.S.(F) 0144B/11 to C. in C. A.W.I. Consul Gen., New York.)

U.S. Planes
for Iceland.

My 1000/10, weather permitting 3 planes schedule depart U.S.S. ALBEMARLE for Reykjavik at 0600 G.M.T./11 return flight planned four days later. U.S.S. BROOME will be in vicinity 63° N. 27° W. as guard vessel and will follow planes to destination. Period BAINBRIDGE will be on station as plane guard at 52° 40' N. 50° W. BELKNAP, TRUXTON and BROOME will depart for Argentina from Reykjavik after completion of return flight. (ALUSNA 0200/11 to Admty. D.D.I.C. 0910B/11 to N.O.I.C. Iceland.)

/WYOMING

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. - Contd.WYOMING.
(French)

Considered possible may have left Casablanca end of May for Martinique. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1119Q/11 to CARADOC, VAN KINSBERGEN.)

FORTH.
BUXTON.

Intend to sail FORTH and BUXTON at 1300P/12 routed through 135° Cape Race 30 miles and thence to St. Johns, N.F. E.T.A. 0300P/14. BUXTON is to return to Halifax when ordered by Capt. (S) 2. (B.S.3. 1131P/11 to Admty. etc.)

BUTTERFLY.
XXIV MAGGIO.
(Italian)

Censorship report reveals are expected to leave Recife early June attempting to run blockade with cotton hides and rubber. (C.C.S.O. Trinidad, 1411Q/11 to C. in C.A.W.I)

PANDORA.Capt. (S) 5's 1101B/8. Proceed from position D to pass through positions (Q) 036° 40' N. 047° 00' W. (R) 039° 50' N. 065° 00' W. thence to destination. (R.A.3 B.S. 1709P/11 to PANDORA.) *See 12/6 p. 385 & 14/6 p. 454*TRECARRELL.
survivors.

CORNER BROOK arrived with 39 survivors of steamer TRECARRELL. Casualties (4 names) (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1725Z/11 to Admty.) TRECARRELL, British, 5271 tons, from Hull for Father Point in ballast, no information received as to fate of the ship. (D.S.647, 13/6)

KOS.VI.
KOS. I.

Norwegian seagoing whalecatcher KOS VI sailed for Iceland (C) via St. Johns, N.F. (route) E.T.A. St. Johns a.m./14. If ready KOS I is to sail in company from Iceland (C) S.O. is Sub/Lieut. Hoel in KOS VI. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1931Z/11 to N.O.I.C. St. Johns, N.F.)

/C.I.P.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. - Contd.C.I.P.
(French)

St. Thomas reports C.I.P. sailing 12/6 for Bay Trinidad (corrupt group) CARADOC informed. (S.O.I. Kingston, 2012R/11 to Admty.)

LIVERPOOL.

Request LIVERPOOL be directed to arrive on 15/6, 2100, zone 8 and pick up the pilot off ~~SAN FRANCISCO~~ Light Vessel. (B.A.R.M. 2259/11 to Admty.)

Australia.R.D.F.
Equipment.

Your 1225B/9. Installation programme for Australian Manufactured RD/F equipment (Navy Office, Melbourne, 1337Z/11 to Admty.)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.RIO AZUL.

Following has been read from RIO AZUL.
SSSS 8.26 N. 18.38 W. Attacked by
submarine again. (Freetown W/T 0700Z/11)

WELLFIELD.

Following report from (corrupt group) Asdic
escort investigating ship. (corrupt group)
Norwegian ship HEINA bound Halifax from
Liverpool. Reports passed S/M 047° 30' N.
042° 00' W. at 2000 Monday. Also reports
picking up 16 men from British Tanker
WELLFIELD. (Ends) (CHESHIRE 1220Z/11 to
Admty.)

CITY OF
SHANGHAI.
(torpedoed
10/5)

Third Officer's boat with 30 survivors ex
CITY OF SHANGHAI picked up 9/6 and landed
Freetown 11/6 ex STADARNHEM. (S.O.I.
Freetown, 1730N/11 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

My. P.C. and S. 055° 12' N. 012° 12' W.
090° 12 altering course to 035° at 0400.
(VETERAN, 0001B/11 to PIMPERNEL, DIANELLA,
ARBUTUS.)
My noon P.C. and S. 055° 45' N. 011° 32' W.
040° 12 knots searching 055° 40' - 056°
40' N. 008° - 011° W. ST. ALBANS, NEWMARKET,
CHELSEA, PIMPERNEL in company. Can continue
till p.m./13 except ST. ALBANS leaving 12th.
(VETERAN, 1155B/11 to C. in C.W.A.)
VETERAN and CHELSEA if not in contact are
to leave U/B search at 1800/11 and return to
Clyde. Remaining destroyers and corvettes
are to continue hunt. Air co-operation will
continue throughout the night/11.
(C. in C.W.A. 1242B/11 to VETERAN)

/0022

War Diary.

11.6.1941.
Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. -Contd.

0022. By D/F at 0022Z/11. Position of U-boat was approx. 49° 30' N. 42° 30' W. American authorities informed. (D.D.I.C. 0422B/11)
0700. Admty. Message A.F. Position 8.26 N. 17.38 W. 0700 G.M.T./11. (C. in C.S.A. 0628N/11 to G.B.M.S. 6A.)
0821. Radio Washington reports. Possible position Nazi submarine given by radio D/F as 048° 00' N. 051° 30' W. 0821/11. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0859Z/11 to N.O.I.C. St. Johns. 1345Z/11 to Admty.)
1206. One Whitley aircraft being despatched to search for U-Boat in position 61° 29' N. 13° 42' W. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1206/11 to C. in C.H.F. etc.)
- 0455/9. Intend sailing CROMER, ROMNEY, RHYL, at 0800/12 to position 50° 19' 30" N. 02° 57' 24" W. to locate U.Boat thought possibly to be on bottom and to destroy same. Dan buoy was dropped in this position at 0455/9 during recent hunt. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 1725/11 to C. in C. Plymouth)
2122. German U.Boat at 2122 G.M.T. bearing 250° 3rd class from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 2300A/11 to BIRMINGHAM, MARSDALE, CUMBERLAND, MARON.)
- Estimated U-Boat Dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1355B/11.)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.11.6.1941.
Wednesday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Attacked.By WELLS.

Following received from WELLS. Have attacked contact in position $062^{\circ} 37' N. 018^{\circ} 37' W.$ at 1545B contact was submarine. Weather report. T.O.O.1615/10th (ends). (C. in C.W.A. 0253B/11 to N.O.I.C. Iceland etc.)

By VASCANA^M.

Contact regained fired pattern. My position dead reckoning $271^{\circ} M.K.R. 206.$ (VASCANA, 1152B/11 to S.O.N.P. Trawlers.) Dropped third pattern. Contact lost. No visible results. Observed position $1123 061^{\circ} 28' N. 013^{\circ} 44' W.$ (VASCANA, 1258B/11 to S.O.T.N.P.)

War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.SITUATION REPORT.Principal Events.

German pocket battleship or cruiser located off South Norway.

Apparent attempt to mine the War Channel near the outer Dowsing.

Strategical situation in Central and Eastern Mediterranean with reference to convoys for Malta.

Home Commands.Enemy Unit.

(12th)
At 2013 tonight, N.A. Stockholm reported that a German Cruiser, believed of the LEIPZIG class, strongly camouflaged and with a catapult between her fore and main masts had anchored off Copenhagen at 2000/11, and that an Auxiliary Cruiser in her company had been seen to sail to the southward. At 2202^{1/2} he further reported that a Warship with triple turrets, probably a Pocket Battleship, (later considered to be a LEIPZIG class cruiser) was off Copenhagen at 1030 today. Aircraft were despatched to reconnoitre and to intercept and attack, and located the enemy shortly before midnight.

An air R/C of Trondheim at 0700 today -showed much shipping moving in and out of the Fiord and 20 seaplanes and 3 large 10,000 tons M/V's in the harbour.

On the Denmark Straits Patrol HERMIONE was ordered at 1421B to patrol to the westward of 19° W., MANCHESTER remaining to the eastward of that meridian.

/TRIDENT

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands. (contd.)

TRIDENT, TUNA and SOKOL maintain the Biscay S/M Patrol between 45° and 47° 30' N. and 8° and 11° W.; and RUBIS reported at 0430 that she had repaired her outboard steering gear, and she is to R/V with an Escort off the Wolf Rock at 0500B tomorrow.

The S/M P.31 is proceeding, probably on the surface, to patrol off Trondheim.

British Air Activity.

25 aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Boulogne Docks last night, 4 aircraft attacked Rotterdam Docks, 3 Swordfish of Coastal Command attacked the docks at Dunkirk.

R/C Patrols were flown in the Denmark Straits and Iceland Faroes Passage, and the Patrols ~~SENTRY I~~ and ~~II~~ are to be flown tomorrow to intercept the enemy Warship.

Rover Patrols of 14 Torpedo Bombers from Wick and Leuchars were also flown, working Southwards from Jaederans Point to Lister Light and vice-versa, from 2200 tonight.

3 Blenheims with fighter escort of 23 Spitfires operated today against enemy shipping in the Channel and report 2 hits on a small merchantman off Gravelines.

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity.

At 1710 an enemy A/C was identified over Pentland Firth and would have seen into the Fleet Anchorage.

The Faroese Smack THOR reports being attacked at 2300 in 58° N. 2° W. and shot down the attacking aircraft without damage to the ship.

At 0145 the Even numbered EC. Convoy was attacked without damage; and at 2025B the Odd numbered EC. Convoy was bombed without damage when South of the Humber, 3 enemy A/C being driven off by the 1 Blenheim escort and gunfire of all calibres.

Enemy Air Operations.

Trawlers and drifters were attacked off Ramsgate at 0030 and 0130. No reports of damage have been received.

Mining.

19 Hampdens laid mines last night in the Kiel and Frisian Islands areas.

C. in C. Nore considers that the events of the last 24 hours show that an attempt has been made to mine the War Channel between the Outer Dowsing and No.52 Buoy.

/There was ..

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.(contd.)

There was considerable A/C activity last night over the whole of the Thames Estuary, where six Explosions were observed, and 2 Mines were detonated yesterday by Sweepers in the Estuary and one at 1301 today.

2 Mines were detonated today by Sweepers off Milford Haven and one off Spurn Point.

Shipping and Convoys.

Until further orders no ships are to be sailed for Petsamo.

Submarines.

A redistribution of submarines affecting North Atlantic, Mediterranean and America and West Indies Stations was ordered today by Admiralty.

North Atlantic.

Submarines
Versus
Shadowing
U-Boats.

F.O.C.N.A. suggests that submarines on convoy duty should be employed against shadowing U-boats in areas where raider activity is unlikely. He proposes the scheme be adopted on North Atlantic Station east of 12° W.

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

S.S. LISS, routed in shore to avoid S/M's, was shelled today off Iles de Los by a shore battery, at about 15 miles range. Aircraft, spotting for the shore battery, machine gunned S.S. LISS. Steps have been taken to route ships further from the French coast in future. Later, two Vichy French air Officers were picked up west of Tamara Islands. They state that they were in the aircraft referred to and denied firing at S.S.LISS; that the action of the battery was contrary to instructions and that on identifying LISS they signalled to the battery to cease fire and to a sloop coming out that it was not required.

Mediterranean.

Strategical
Situation

C. in C. Med. 1128C/12 contains a note on the strategical situation in the Central and Eastern Mediterranean with reference to convoys for Malta.

French
Tankers.

A C.2. report states that 3 French tankers left Marseilles yesterday afternoon in convoy, believed for Constanza. One, the FIRUZ, is said to have 400 Germans on board; TORBAY reports that she sank her by torpedo at 1300.

Malta.

Early this morning, a large number of enemy aircraft endeavoured to carry out a R/C of Grand Harbour but were heavily engaged by our fighters and A.A.defences. Hurricanes shot down 5 of the enemy with loss of 2 of our machines and one damaged.

/Wellingtons

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. (contd.)

Western
Desert
and Libya.

Wellingtons last night bombed Benghazi and claim to have set fire to 2 ships and hit a third. A/C R/C later reported one ship on fire and one sunk in the harbour.

The pumping station and A.A. positions at Tobruk were attacked today by 18 German and Italian aircraft; no damage was caused.

5 enemy destroyers and 6 small laden M.V's were reported at 0550 today in 34° N., 12° 30' E., between Tunis and Tripoli (Africa). A second convoy, of 3 M.V's escorted by 3 destroyers was seen proceeding northwards.

Palestine
and Syria.

Enemy aircraft attacked Haifa and Tel Aviv between 0211 and 0505. No material damage was caused. Mines were dropped off Haifa. Sweeping is in progress, but it is not considered necessary to close the port. 22 fighter aircraft today maintained patrols over our ships co-operating with the Army.

JANUS.

Arrived at Port Said today, towed by PROTECTOR.

Aegean.

S/M PARTHIAN reports that M.A.S. and possibly E.boats are believed to be working from Mudros. C. in C. Med. reports that PARTHIAN torpedoed a tanker off Tenedos (apparently the STROMBO which reached Istanbul severely damaged on 5/6) and sank two large sailing vessels and a large steel lighter in an attack on Mytilene harbour.

360

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

W.Approaches.

EMPIRE DEW, from the Tyne for Canada, was torpedoed at 0230 this morning about 770 miles W. of the Fastnet. An American warship is in the vicinity.

CHINESE PRINCE, from Haifa, Port Said and Table Bay for Liverpool, was torpedoed at 0419 about 205 miles W. by N. of Bloody Foreland.

A & W.I.

SS TRESSILIAN see 13/6.

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Clyde A/S
Protection.

F.O.I.C. Greenock's 1201NB/6. I consider it is essential to maintain adequate A/S protection of the Clyde and that this could to some extent be met by four 72-foot M/LS. Suggest that the 106th M/L Flotilla should be reallocated for this duty for which they are most suitable and sailed as early as possible. (C. in C.W.A. 1024B/12) Your 1024B/12. Regret 106th M.L. Flotilla is not available. Request you will make the best provision possible, using units already allocated to your Command. (A.C.N.S. H. 1916B/12 to C. in C.W.A.)

SUTLEJ.

R.A.D.H.F. 1215B/11 and F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1744B/11. No Oerlikon guns are at present available for fitting in SUTLEJ. Work in preparation for fitting these guns should however be progressed as far as possible provided that ship is not delayed thereby. (Contraller 1226B/12 to R.A.D. H.F.)

Newfoundland
Escort Force.

Position regarding Control of Newfoundland Escort Force is not clear. Present arrangements involve a mixed force of R.N. and R.C.N. Ships working under a Captain (D) R.N. who will be responsible to C.C.N.F. under Ottawa, with general Operational Control vested in C. in C. Western Approaches -I consider the most satisfactory solution would be for C.C.N.F. and Newfoundland Escort Force to be placed directly under my Operational Command, as in the case of all other Western Approaches escorts, in any case, I would suggest that the position should be clearly stated, whatever arrangement may be decided on in consultation with Canadian Authorities. (C. in C. W.A., 1635B/12 to Admty.)

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

Cowes.

Re A.A. defences. (H.Q.F.C. 1030/12 to Air Ministry.).

Faroes.
A/A Guns
for
Thorshaven.

Your 2200B/4. Bofors guns will be supplied and emplacement and accommodation arranged by Military Authorities. (D. of L.D.1803B/12 to N.O.I.C. Faroos).

Movements.

THRASHER.
OSIRIS.

(a) Intend to sail THRASHER and OSIRIS escorted by LA MOQUEUSE at 1200B/14 for 350° Cape Spartel 10 miles. E.T.A. 0700A/20. Routes.

N.O.I.C. Greenock is requested to arrange fighter protection for passage Bishop Rock.

THRASHER and OSIRIS are painted Mediterranean blue. (Capt. S.3 0931B/12 to F.O.S).

9th M/L. F.
for
Gibraltar.

Admty. message 1310B/11. Consider it important for S.01 of escorting destroyers to discuss and see at Portland towing arrangements for M.L's now being fitted for towing. Advisable to carry out one trial tow either at Plymouth or Portland before 18th. Prefer latter place.

(R.A.C.F. 0944/12 to C. in C. Plymouth).

CUMBERLAND
Escort.

Your 1942B/11. There are no S.A. fitted Hunts or Wairs in the Rosyth Command. (C. in C. Rosyth 1052/12 to Admty.).

FURIOUS.
VANQUISHER.
WINCHELSEA.

Detach VANQUISHER, WINCHELSEA TO Liverpool from North Channel. Remaining destroyers escort to Clyde. (C. in C.W.A. 2235B/12 to FURIOUS).

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Biscay
S/M
Patrol.

A. After dark 12th TRIDENT proceed to patrol in 45° 34' N. 08° 34' W.
B. TUNA proceed so as to arrive in 46° 04' N. 09° 13' W. at daylight/13. Leave patrol after dark 17th and return to Holy Loch as ordered by Captain S.3. (F.O.S. 1244B/12).

Intend to sail SEAWOLF at 2000B/14 for patrol in 046° 04' N. 009° 13' W. Route. (Capt. S.5 1511B/12).

Denmark
Straits
Patrol.

Intend EDINBURGH to relieve HERMIONE on 16/6 and SUFFOLK relieve MANCHESTER on 18/6.

When there is fog to the eastward good visibility has been found to the westward and vice versa. One cruiser should therefore patrol each side 019° W.

Capt. (D) 3 to detail a destroyer to escort each cruiser. (C.S.18 1415B/12).

My 1415B. HERMIONE to patrol Western Area. (F.O. 18 C.S. 1421B/12 to HERMIONE).

Intend sail at 1830 G.M.T. today passing through 066° 40' N. 019° 10' W. 000° 17 at 1300 G.M.T/13 ICARUS in company. (HERMIONE 1810B/12)

M.T.B's
off
Belgian
Coast.

Weather permitting one unit of 60 foot motor torpedo boats is to operate between Nieuport and Zeebrugge to-night.

Surface craft met east of 002° 15' E. may be attacked without challenge. (C. in C. -Nore 1550B/12 to BEEHIVE).

Harwich 12/6 departures M.T.B's 18, 14. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2135B/12).

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

The following air patrols will be carried out when ordered. Cross over patrols. *4c* FRICE. ROVIK ONE. ROVIK TWO. POLAR. BEAR. Sweep WALRUS.

2 Aircraft on parallel track sweep commencing from (?corrupt group) 066° N. 025° 45' W. and 066° 20' N. 26° 15' W. on tracks 060° for 180 miles thence on tracks 330° for 50 miles thence on 240° for 180 miles.

(C. in C.W.A. 0139B/12). Note. For details of patrols see Summaries Folder.

4c TRUST, BERT, STAB, STAND and SLEEVE in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 0156/12). Confirming telephone conversation Patrols Stab Stand Bert Trost to be flown forthwith till further notice cloud cover permitting. (H.Q.C.C. 1320/12).

PRU R/C of Skagerrak now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1600/12).

Sentry I and II to be flown by Sunderland A/C. Patrols to be commenced at 1200/13 and 1400/13 respectively and continued to P.L.E. Object interception of enemy War-ship. (H.Q.C.C. 1815/12 to 18 Group). (C. in C. Rosyth 2116/12 to C. in C. H.F).

Fighter
Catapult
Ships A/C.

A case has occurred of an aircraft being launched from a fighter catapult ship and then circling round convoy as opposed to making direct attack on an enemy aircraft which escaped and may have returned to Germany with first information about catapult ship. WA Convoy Instructions part 352 para 11B is written for 15 Group and not for Catapult Aircraft, the pilots of which are reminded that escorts and merchant ships have been instructed that single engine aircraft in Western Approaches may be considered friendly, and that the pilots object is to make every use of speed and manoeuvrability of his aircraft to destroy the enemy. Request this may be made clear to pilots of Catapult Aircraft of Merchant ships. (C. in C. W.A. 1144B/12 to PEGASUS, MAPLIN, ARIGUANI, SPRINGBANK, Admiralty).

/Interception.....

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity-Contd.

Interception
of enemy
warships.

Despatch forthwith ^{"Rever"} ~~REVER~~ patrols of 22 and 42 Squadrons from Wick and Leuchars in accordance with telephone instructions working south from Jaederens Point 58° 44' N. 05° 30' E. to Lister Light and from Lister Light Northwards respectively. Object to intercept and attack enemy warships. (H.Q.C.C. 2200/12 to 18 Group.) Sweep of Norwegian Coast between Jaederens and Lister being carried out now by 14 torpedo bombers. Five aircraft making landfall Jaederens flying southward, nine aircraft making landfall Lister flying northward. (C. in C. Rosyth 2314/12 to C. in C. H.F).

Escorts.

A/S Air escort of 1 Catalina has been arranged from 1600 until further orders. (C. in C. W.A. 0844B/12 to C. in C. H.F). My 0844B/12. Air escort will be taken over by 30 Wing Iceland at 0100Z/13. (C. in C. W.A. 1530B/12 and 2122B/12 to C. in C.H.F) Your 1730/11. Approved. Admiralty are arranging for special air escorts H.Q.F.C. and H.Q.C.C. are requested (a) to keep C. in C. Rosyth informed of arrangements made. (b) to arrange that sailing authorities are informed whether conditions are suitable in accordance with para. 6 of C. in C. Rosyth's 1730/11. (A.C.N.S. (H.) 1758B/12 to C. in C. Rosyth).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.Convoy
E.C. Even.

Convoy ^{"Mission"}MISSION is being attacked by enemy aircraft. (MORRIS DANCE 0145/12). Fighters being sent to even numbered E.C. convoy. (Lyness 2033/12).

A/C off
Akureyri.

Your 1805Z/11. After investigation with Military and Air Force vicinity of the opinion that no A/C other than the Iceland Aeroplane mentioned in my 1158/11 were flying in vicinity Akureyri at the time you report you located them. I am reporting matter to C. in C. H.F. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1653/12 to HERMIONE).

A/C
over
Scapa.

At 1710 enemy A/C was identified over Pentland Firth and would have seen into Fleet anchorage. (A.C.O;S. 1802B/12).

Convoy
E.C. Odd.

Enemy bombing odd numbered E.C. convoy position 53° N. 2° E. (WORCESTER 2025B/12). My 2025B. 3 ME 109 attacked Blenheim 2 miles astern of convoy in 53° 20' N. 2° 25' E at 2025 and were driven off by gunfire of all calibres. One ME received direct hit with Pom-Pom and Lewis Gun and disappeared losing height with smoke pouring out of it. Remaining 2 driven off. Blenheim put up a wonderful fight and is undamaged. (WORCESTER 2035B/12).

War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Escort
for
CUMBERLAND.

Admty. 2237B/4. 1916/4 and my 2158B/10. As the result of mining PINTAIL and ROYAL SCOT and other explosions observed between Outer Dowsing and 52 buoy in last 24 hours it is apparent attempts have been made to mine War Channel between these two positions. Character of explosions indicates that mines are acoustic.

(ii) If this practice continues it is advisable that an S.A. fitted Destroyer should accompany CUMBERLAND from May Island to Sheerness.

(iii) WINDSOR now repairing at Dundee would be suitable.

(iv) The only other destroyer in The Nore Command fitted S.A. is HAMBLEDON now working up at Scapa. (C. in C. Nore 0336B/12).

Thames
Estuary.

Two S.A. mines detonated yesterday as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 0945/12).

One Magnetic Mine detonated by Sweepers at 1301/12/6 in 218° E. Nore Sand Buoy 2.5. cables. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1620/12).
Summary of aircraft activity and explosions etc. in Thames Estuary on night of 11/12th June. (S.O. T.L.D.F. Sheerness 1919/12).

Sweep
off
Hartlepool.

L.L. Trawlers carried out a S.A. and L.L. Search sweep of Q.Z.X. 228 bound by the following positions. Negative result. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1023/12).
My 1023/12. An Oropesa search of area will be carried out. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1700/12).

Operation
H.S. 64.

By TEVIOT BANK on a date to be chosen. Particulars. (V.C.N. S. 1030B/12).

/S.N. 66.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining-Contd.S.N. 66.

My 0847/7 and Admty. 1705/10. It is now intended to lay S.N. 66 before S.N. 67. There is therefore no urgency for your soundings and you should proceed direct to Milford Haven if fuel allows. (R.A.M. 1059B/12 to SCOTT).

Intend to carry out as follows, sailing 0500/15. Details. (R.A.M. 1148B/12.)
See Operations Volume.

My 1148/12. Request one destroyer may be sailed to arrive Port ZA before dark/14 if available. (R.A.M. 1149B/12 to C. in C.H.F.)
-Your 1149B/12. Regret no destroyer available. (R.A.D. 2325B/12 to R.A.M.).

M.M.S. 16.

Damage caused by mine to M.M.S. 16 is as follows. Details. Ship requires docking and main engine lifted. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1155B/12).

Inverness
Minefield.

My 1925/10. Inverness Group 1 C relaid. (ALCA 1330/12).

B.S. 58.

Your 1339/12. Proposed line for B.S. 58 is as follows. (C. in C. Nore 1624B/12).

Milford
Haven.

2 Mines detonated by Sweepers today. Details. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1804B/12).

Spurn
Point.

At 0805 L.L. Trawlers detonated mine in position 248° Spurn Point Light 3.4 miles. (F.O. Humber 2005B/12).

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Trondheim
R/C.

Air R/C of Trondhjem 0700/12 shewed much shipping in fjord in and outward bound. 20 seaplanes moored western part of harbour and much shipping further east including 3 M/V's of about 10,000 tons - one vessel - possibly U/B supply ship enclosed by nets - some more nets partly covering entrance. (D.D.I.C. 1606B/12).

TIRPITZ.
Cruiser off
Copenhagen.

- (a) TIRPITZ reported off Ronne Bernholm 8/6. Graded B.2.
(b) Cruiser believed LEIPZIG class but with catapult between fore and main masts and strong black and white camouflage anchored off Copenhagen at 2000/11. Auxiliary cruiser in company observed to sail southwards. Graded B.2. (N.A. Stockholm 2013/12).
(1) My 2013/12. Warship with triple turrets reported off Copenhagen at 1030 today. Graded B.2.
(2) Observers in each case probably untrained.
(3) Inference - Pocket Battleship. Graded B.2. (N.A. Stockholm 2202/12).
(Note amended 13/6).

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects.

RUBIS.

Your 1158B/10. Outboard steering gear repaired. My position is 048° 36' N. 007° 38' W. course 042°, diving by day. (RUBIS 0430B/12 to F.O.S).
Sailed LA CAPRICIEUSE to R/V with RUBIS in position 250° Trevoze Head 10.0 miles at 1200B/13. (Capt. S.3 0921B/12).
Your 0430B/12. R/V with local escort in 230° Wolf Rock 10 miles at 0500B/13 who will escort you to meet LA CAPRICIEUSE near Trevoze Head. (Capt. S.3 1021B/12 to RUBIS).
Sailed LA CAPRICIEUSE to R/V with RUBIS. RUBIS was in 048° 36' N. 7° 38' W. at 0430B today. Course 42°. Diving by day. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1057B/12 to C. in C.W.A).
Detail one A/S trawler to R/V with RUBIS in 230° Wolf Rock 10 miles at 0500/13 and escort her via QZS 207 to meet LA CAPRICIEUSE -(C. in C. Plymouth 1358/12 to Cdr. Aux. Patrol).
My 1358/12. For AMQS 207 read AMQY 207 (C. in C. Plymouth 1500B/12 to Cdr. Aux. Patrol).
My 1358/12. LORD ESSENDEN detailed. (C. in C. Plymouth 1504/12 to Capt. S.3).
My 1021B/12. Name of local escort A/S Trawler LOED ESSENDEN. (Capt. S.3 1701B/12 to RUBIS).
Sailed 1900 LORD ESSENDEN. (C. in C. Plymouth 1918/12).

EASTBOURNE.

-Rudder damaged against S/M L 26 when casting off. Probably hit hydroplane guard. No shock felt in submarine. Presumably no damage. Diver reports EASTBOURNE rudder twisted to Port. Ship now carries 12° starboard helm. Completes working up 16/6. (WESTERN ISLES 0956B/12).

/YOUNG|CLIFFE.....

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

YOUNGCLIFFE.

(Mine recovery drifter) Arrived Fraserburgh.
(YOUNGCLIFFE) pounded off Kinnaird Head,
then grounded when entering harbour. Making
water fast. Situation well in hand.
(R.N.O. Fraserburgh 1014/12).
My 1014/12. YOUNGCLIFFE is now on slip.
Survey being made. (R.N.O. Fraserburgh
1604/12).

MELROSE
ABBEY.
(Grounded
28/5).

My 1041/11. Further attempt will be made
by ATTENTIF 0500/13 on passage to Peterhead.
(F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1102/12).

M.L. 313.

Arrived Peterhead from St. Monance, with
Engine trouble. (N.O.I.C. Peterhead 1337/12).

Shipping and Convoys.

H.G. 63.

All 29 ships arrived under Cdre. Illingworth
R.N.R. 8 were Allied and 3 Neutral. Cargoes.
(D.S. 646, 12/6).

Petsamo.

Until further orders no ships are to be
sailed for Petsamo. (D.T.D. 1821B/12 to
N.C.S.O.'s Clyde, etc.).

Personnel,
Ships.

128. Admiralty's 1746B/8. 1809B/11. (1)
Convoy consists of CALIFORNIA, BULOLO,
MENDOZA. (11) A/S escort. ELECTRA, ANTHONY
ANTELOPE, PIORUN from Clyde. ROXBOROUGH
to join from Londonderry. (111) S.G. ~~Sails~~
escort, ELECTRA.
(C. in C.W.A. 2101B/12 to N.O.I.C. Greenock
etc.).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.General.Submarines.

Following redispersions of submarines are to be carried out. (V.C.N.S., 2120B, to C. in C. Med., F.O.C.N.A., R.A.3) See Operations Volume.

North Atlantic.S.M's on Convoy duty.

Suggested methods of attack on shadowing U/Bs. Propose this scheme be carried out on the N. A. Station East of 012° W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1006A/12 to Admty.) Comment of F.O.S., see Shipping., 1247/13).

MARSDALE.

Request may be re-routed to arrive Gibraltar 0800/17 for refuelling. (F.O.C. Northern Patrol 1054B/12 to F.O.C.N.A).

MARON.

Is MARON to proceed to Gibraltar of U.K.? (F.O.C.N.A. 1058A/12 to F.O.C.N.P).

SHEFFIELD.

A.T. 2344B/8 and 1621B/10. If nothing is sighted leave area after dark today and proceed so as to arrive in position 038° 44° N. 20° W. 12 miles by 0600 (zone+1) 13/6 and patrol an area within 40 miles of this position. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1706B/12 to SHEFFIELD). Cancelled, see 1400/13.

FIRUZ
VENDEMIARE
(French tankers)

Reported left Marseilles in convoy p.m./11 for Black Sea. 400 Germans reported on FIRUZ. C.2. (F.O.C.N.A. 1710A/12 to CLYDE) See also Mediterranean, 2329/12. *Also 1034B/12. p.p. 376 & 380*

A/S forces.

Your 1916B/7. Request ships detailed for working up at Gibraltar may bring maximum amount ammunition. (F.O.C.N.A. 1714A/12 to Admty.).

/Gibraltar.....

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

Gibraltar security.

Your 1854A/10. R.N.P.S. crews will be provided. (F.O.C.N.A. 1715B/12 to Admty.)

SEVERN.

Sails for patrol in Tyrrhenean Sea 2130A/14 (route) Intend SEVERN to carry out programme outlined in my 1824B/27/5 amended as necessary by experience of CLYDE. (F.O.C.N.A. 1810A/12 to C. in C. Med.).

Evacuees Gibraltar.

Your 1243/9/6. Lisbon instructed to use AVOCETA. Accommodation not sufficient. AGUILA due Gibraltar 18/6 to collect remainder. (F.O.C.N.A. 1816A/12 to Admty.).

A/S Forces.

A.T. 1916B/7. Increase in A/S force here very welcome. Hoped however that adequate base staff and maintenance personnel will precede or accompany M.L. Flotillas. Difficulty experienced in coping with running repairs of Third Flotilla. Any extension of base commitment can only be undertaken at expense of refits of destroyers etc. Not considered desirable to remove armed boarding trawlers from that duty as apart from their peculiar suitability for that work they are in fact now used for A/S operations when on patrol if submarines are reported in their vicinity. ST. DAY at present functions as A.B.V. when not required for towing but increase in vessels working up here and removal of VALKYRIEN will entail larger commitments. When may TIERCEL be expected to return? (F.O.C.N.A., 1820A/12, to Admty.)

French Convoy.

Gibraltar 12/6 1217 French Light Cruiser EPERVIER escorting OUED TIFLET, PORT SAINT LOUIS, THISBE. All laden. IMERETHIE light, westbound. (S.O.I. Gib., 1845A/12 to Admty. etc.). Also passed eastbound tug TOURTERELIE escorting CAPITAINE ARMAND, and PONTET CANET, both laden. (D.O.R. 15/6).

/Tangier.....

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.-Contd.

Tangier
reaction to
Syria.

A reliable source French Morocco to-day states events in Syria are being accepted with surprising calm. Among many important officials only Admiral D'Harcourt and one army officer shewed anger. D'Harcourt said Germans were making no claims on French North Africa and emphatically denied reports regarding ceding of naval bases. (Tangier, 1847/12 to Admty.).

L'ORAGE.

Request reason for detention at Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 902 1856B/12 to Admty.).

CLYDE.

Route. RENOWN, ARK ROYAL, VICTORIOUS and destroyers will be operating in Mediterranean. Report E.T.A. when West of 002° W. (F.O.C. N.A. 1910A/12 to CLYDE).

South Atlantic.

Gibraltar
Evacuation.

Following from C. in C.S.A. (quotes his 2027/10).
Request report re cargo and boiler cleaning. (D.S.T. 0407B/12 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown).
Accommodation available in SCYTHIA. (C. in C.S.A. 1901N/12 to F.O.C.N.A.).

Ammunition
Free French.

Your 1358/30 and my 1634/22 Free French report ammunition will fit guns from PARIS and COURBET. (Admty. 1054B/12 to C. in C.S.A.).

/Fuelling.....

War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic-Contd.Fuelling of transports.

Oil taken in S. African ports should be limited to amount necessary to reach Aden where ships should bunker to capacity. (D.O.D.(F) 1126B/12 to C. in C.S.A. etc.).

Intelligence.

Obtained during visit to Rio de Janeiro (R.A.S.A.D. 1217Z/12) See Lion copy.

SEKIANG.

Chesor Mauritius reports that SEKIANG due to leave Diego Saure or Saigon 12/6 has 1553 tons Graphite for Yokohama. (S.O.I. Capetown 1613B/12 to Admty.).

Embarkation of prisoners of war.

Admty's. 1704B/9/6. Request names of ships that will require escort and date of sailing. Your 2134/10/6. (C. in C.S.A. 1847N/12 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

ANGLO INDIAN, CORDILLERA, GASCONY and STORNEST.

Have you any information regarding these ships? (D.T.D. 2015B/12 to Consul, St. Vincent).

Takoradi. Lagos.

Takoradi should be opened to traffic about 14/6 and Lagos about 19/6 unless there are further developments. (C. in C. S.A. 2023N/12).

Escort for oilers.

The following oilers are due at Gibraltar or Freetown from West Indies about the dates stated. (list) Request you will arrange escort to valuable oilers from West Indies to Gibraltar and Freetown. Names and dates of arrival. (A.C.N.S. (T) 2238B/12 to C. in C.S.A).

ANSON.

St. Helena Departure 2230/12. E.T.A. at Capetown 1515, G.M.T./18. (General, St. Helena, 2353/12 to Admty, etc.).

MOST SECRET

12173/12th June

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

From R.A. South America Division.

Date 15.6.41.

Reed. 0053.

N.V.L. CYPHER (D.19) BY W/T

Addressed C. in C. South Atlantic Repeated Admiralty.

NOTE

714. Rio de Janeiro visit.

(a) Conversations with Ambassador Naval Attache United States Naval Attache and Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs gave no impression of definite though slight swing in our favour due largely to United States influence.

(b) Minister for Foreign Affairs volunteered -

- (i) Brazil definitely enters war if United States of America does.
- (ii) Though Japanese Ambassador told President that Japan would enter war if United States of America did, Minister Foreign Affairs thought she would not in fact do so.
- (iii) Hoped that question of enemy tonnage in Brazil would soon be settled by purchase - will try to prevent sailings and for this purpose would welcome evidence of use of enemy ships ex Brazil as raider auxiliaries.
- (iv) Information from Germany that industrial centre being camouflaged and dummy factory built.

(c) United States Patrols. Although United States Naval Attache has no official information there were reports that 2 (two) forces comprising up to 40 destroyers will operate, 1 (one) from equator to 020 degrees North others from equator to 020 degrees South. Request early information of any United States force I may contact and any instructions as to policy for co-operation.

Further details by letter.

12173/12

Advance copy sent Duty Captain, D.O.D. (F) and D.D.I.C.

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1st Lord
 1st S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 ...C.N.S. (H).
 ...C.N.S. (F).
 ...C.N.S. (T) (2).
 N... 1st S.L.
 D. of P. (2).
 D.O.D. (F).
 D.D.O.D. (F).
 D.O.D. (H).
 D.D.O.D. (H).
 D.N.I. (4).
 I.P. (2).
 W.D.
 Duty Captain
 D.D.I.C.
 D.T.D. (2).
 Admiral Bailey.
 D.S.D.
 Head of M.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Enemy
Units.

5 enemy destroyers 6 M.Vs. position 34° N., 12.30 E. course 190°. (A/C duty X via Malta 0550/12 to 48 G.R. Sqdn.).
(? 3) destroyers 3 merchant vessels position 34.00 N., 12.28 E. 0028 course 004° speed 6 knots. (A/C duty X via Malta 0551/12 to 48 G.R. Sqdn.).

Situation
report No.53.

Syria. Our forces are progressing on land with destroyers giving active support. LEANDER has returned to Alexandria and will sail P.M./12 with two destroyers to relieve AJAX and destroyers on Syrian Coast. NUBIAN has left Alexandria for transit of Canal and repairs at Suez.

9 30/5

Submarines. TRIUMPH torpedoed ^{M/V} A.M.S. RAMB III in Benghazi on 9th and sank 1 armed tug and 2 empty sailing ships on 4th in position 31° 37 N. 15° 38 E. (C. in C. Med. 0828C/12 to Admty.).

FLAMINGO.
PROTECTOR.
(towing of
JANUS).

My 0918/10. FLAMINGO return to Alexandria on completion. PROTECTOR remain at sea Port Said. (C. in C. Med., 0924C/12 to ships concerned).

My 0924/12. PROTECTOR return to Alexandria on completion. (C. in C. Med., 1202/12 to PROTECTOR).

E-Boats.
Mudros.

PARTHIAN reported M.A.S. and possible E-boats are believed to be working from Mudros. (Capt. S.1., 0937C/12, to TETRARCH).

FIRUZ.
VENDEMAIRE.
GEN. GASSOUIN.

Report graded C.2 that French tankers FIRUZ, VENDEMAIRE and GENERAL GASSOUIN sailed from Marseilles p.m./11 in convoy believed for Constanza, FIRUZ said to have 400 Germans on board. (D.D.I.C. 1054B/12 to C. in C. Med. etc.).

See pp. 372 & 380

/ANNARELLA.....

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

→ ANNARELLA.
DORA C.
URANO.
(Italian).

Extract from a Fairmiss telegram. Arrivals Istanbul 11/6 ANNARELLA, DORA C, URANO. Departures ANNARELLA, DORA C for Trieste - 16/6. URANO for Constantza 12/6. (Istanbul 1044C/12/6).

Benghazi
bombed.

Operational Summary No. 367 up to 1200 hours 12.6.41. Night 10/11. 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour damaging Central Mole and Shipping.

Derna A/C
bombed.

F.A.A. Aircraft attacked enemy aircraft on Derna and Gazala Aerodrome setting fire to four A/C on Derna. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1055/12).

Malta
Convoys.

Reply to V.A. Malta 0822B/11. (C. in C. Med., 1128C/12) See Mediterranean Volume.

→ ANNARELLA.
DORA C.

By Mideast 140 London 245, 10/6. ANNARELLA and DORA C entered Bosphorus 1315 and 1330 G.M.T. respectively for Aegean probably Italy. (S.O.I. Istanbul No. T.O.O. recd. 1328/12).

Reprisals for
Alexandria
bombing.

Following from Chiefs of Staff. Your 1540C/10. Matter is under consideration but before decision it is necessary to know where the bombing occurred in Alexandria. Please give information with reference to Map. G.S. 3930 sheet Alexandria. (1st S.L. 1225B/12 to C. in C. Med.) Reply: 1412/14.

ANTWERP
MALINES.

Your 1722/10. Invaluable. (C. in C. Med. 1247C/12 to Admty.).

/Haifa.....

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Haifa
Raid 10/6.

Summary No. 28 up to 0800 hours 12/6.
Stick 4 unexploded bombs raid Haifa 10/6
German type 250 KG HE with single Rheinmetal
28 fuse. Believed aircraft bombed up
Dodecanes en route Syria. Reported police
radio intercepted intercommunication German
and French this raid.

Haifa and
Tel Aviv
raids.
Mining.

E.A. attacked Haifa and Tel Aviv between
0211 and 0505 12/6. Bombs dropped at Tel
Aviv 0222 and on Haifa 0225 to 0542. Few
casualties little damage Tel Aviv. No
material damage. I.P.C. Haifa. (H.Q. P. and
T.J., 1305/12).
Ref. C.A.F.O. 587/40. Air raid on Haifa
lasting approx. from 0200 to 0515/12. One
bomb only in harbour on shore. Two probable
9 mines fell in water due east of lee
breakwater head. Sweeping operation being
carried out. Not considered necessary to
close port. No damage to fuel oil. (N.O.I.C.
Haifa, 1309C/12 to C. in C. Med.).
Ref. last night's air raid, examination
fragment on railway line S.E. of Haifa proves
almost conclusively that it was part of G
mine. This appears to be reasonable proof
that unexploded missiles just East of leeward
B/W head are also mines. Routine sweeping
is being carried out. Orders to shipping.
(N.O.I.C. Haifa 1725C/12 to F.O. 15 C.S.
AJAX, d.10, D.2).

UNIQUE.
UNION.
UPRIGHT.
URSULA.

My 1250B/8. UNIQUE and UNION sail p.m./15
for Area X. and Area Z respectively.
UPRIGHT sails p.m./16 for Area W. URSULA
delayed by defective generator sails when
ready for Area Y, southwest half of area
as for UNION. (Cdr. S.1 1359B/12 to Capt. S.1)

/Haifa.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-Contd.Haifa Air
Raid 10/6.

Ref. C.A.F.O. 587/40 Para 4 and my 1219/10/6 air raid on Haifa. (a) 10/6 weather cloudy. (b) High and low level bombing recurred in waves of one to four aircraft, some machine gunning after low level attack. Number of aircraft unknown, believe that French and German bombers approached Haifa from all directions duration of attack four hours. (c) H.E. bombs, M.G. fire. (d) Unknown, 25 craters found directed against Port Area, Electric Power Station, Eastern Railway Station, I.P.C. Tank, Farm C.R.L. Shell Company. No evidence of mines (e) (i) Damage of importance nil; (k) A.A. fire by Units of the Fleet most effective. (N.O.I.C. Haifa 1600/12 to C. in C. Med.).

Air attack
on enemy
convoy.

C.S.R. up to 1600 hours. Anti Convoy activity from Malta. 2 Blenheims 82 and not 139 Squadrons as reported in my I.365 11/6 * attacked Convoy 6 M/V's 3 DRS. 3 Auxiliaries sighted 1249 hours 11/6 by Maryland 5 direct hits amidships on 5000 tons M/V causing large fire and volumes of smoke. Claimed as total loss. 1 Blenheim Sq. Ldr. Watson hit masts of ship crashed into sea feared no survivors. * (N.T. in W.D.)

Malta
Air Raids.

Night 11/12. 2345 - 0200 hours. Air alarms for 5 enemy aircraft 2 only crossed coast and dropped bombs near Ta Kali. Other bombs in sea. Bomb damage negligible. Early morning 12/6. Enemy made Recco in force of Grand Harbour heavily engaged by accurate A.A. Hurricanes shot down 5 enemy fighters into sea. We lost 2 Hurricanes in sea. Midday enemy sent rescue floatplane with strong fighter cover. Hurricanes made contact 15 miles south Sicily and shot rescue aircraft down in flames. In ensuing fight 4 enemy fighters were destroyed confirmed. This evening another floatplane was shot down by Hurricanes 15 miles south Sicily and has now sunk. (H.Q.R.A.F. Malta, 1630/12).

/VAKU.....

War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean-Contd.TAKU.

You will be required to remain on patrol until relieved by REGENT about 18/6. (Capt. S.1, 1731C/12 to TAKU).

ENCOUNTER.

C. in C. Med.'s 1133/9. I consider best chance lies in sailing ENCOUNTER during period of low visibility and that it will be advantageous for her to leave Malta some hours before sunset if possible, returning if necessary should her presence be detected. If period of low visibility can be forecast Force H can sail to afford cover from approx. longitude Algiers or can create diversion in vicinity Balearic Islands. (S.O. Force H, 1757/12 to V.A. Malta).

Palermo.

Periscopic reconnaissance Palermo 11/6 revealed warship probably Italian Cruiser GIOVANNI DELLE BANDE NERE Class Cruiser and large tanker inside Harbour. (CLYDE 2143A/12 to C. in C. Med.).

FIRUZ.
(French).* ALBERTA.
(page 234)

F.O.C.N.A's 1710/12. (Reporting sailing of French tanker FIRUZ from Marseilles). Add to my *0255/8, *vessel sailed Marseilles thence through Straits of Bonifacio. Add to your 2237/11 (N.T. in W.D) and sunk by torpedo 1300. E.T.A. P.M./15 or A.M./16. (TORBAY, 2329/12 to Capt. S.1).

See p.p. 372 & 374

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Advance on Syria.

Enemy F.L.
bombed in
Beirut.

4 T S R's bombed flotilla leader in Beirut (? Roads) at about (?midnight) (corrupt group) 829 Squadron O 907/12 (?reliable) but obtained no hits. (Lydda 0905/12, to H.Q., P. and T.J.)

→ HOTSPUR
JAGUAR
KANDAHAR.

C. in C. Med., 1823C/11. HOTSPUR is required for boiler cleaning and JAGUAR to make good defects. KANDAHAR will be required about 18/6 for docking. (R.A.(D) Med., 1157C/12 to C.S.15.)

Enemy Ships,
Beirut.

Following from H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., Reconnaissance report from H.Q.P., and T.J. rendered at 2000/11 states 3 submarines 2 destroyers 2 ships Beirut. Latakia small craft. T.O.O. 0642/12. (C. in C. Med., 1308C/12, to F.O.15 C.S.) (Capt. O.S., Alexandria, 1615C/12 to N.O.I.C. Famagusta (Cyprus.)

Air Raid
on Haifa
10/6.

Details. Number of aircraft unknown, believed French and German bombers approaching Haifa from all directions duration of attack 4 hours. No evidence of mines. Damage of importance nil. A A fire by unit of the fleet most effective. (N.O.I/C. Haifa 1600/12.)

→ JAGUAR.

My 1412/12. Delete JAGUAR who will be one of the special service vessels accompany you to Alexandria. (C. S. 15 1601/12, to AJAX.)

/GRIFFIN.....

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War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Advance on Syria. Contd.GRIFFIN.
KIMBERLEY.
DEFENDER.

Your 1412/12 to AJAX only. In view of R.A.(D) Mediterraneans' 1157C/12 intend to sail GRIFFIN, KIMBERLEY, and DEFENDER, at 0800/13. JAGUAR to sail with AJAX. Capt. (D) 10's 1549/11. DEFENDER will not be ready until 1930/12. (AJAX, 1631C/12 to C.S.15.)

Ships in Beirut?

H.Q. Palestine and Transjordan's 1311C/12 (Not to Admiralty). Approved to attack if ships are outside harbour. N.O.I.C. Haifa pass to Palestine and Transjordan. (C. in C. Med., 1712C/12 to N.O.I.C. Haifa, C.S.15.)

Reconn., Report. (Beirut.)

Following received addressed C.S.15. Reconnaissance aircraft 3 ships in position with steam up at 1900. Submarines on the surface 3 miles out to sea proceeding eastwards apparently making for harbour had red two figure numbers on side. Large passenger ship appears to have left harbour. (N.O.I.C. Haifa 1940/12.)

Saida bombardment.

Am informed Army will probably require full scale bombardment Saida tonight. Confirmation and details follow. (N.O.I.C. Haifa 1950/12 to C.S.15.) Join me off Saida. Report E.T.A. (F.O.15. C.S. 2003/12 to Capt. D.14.) Following received addressed N.O.I.C. Haifa, repeated Capt. (D) 2. Your 1950/12 refers only to strictly military objectives. If required bombardment will be carried out by PHOEBE. (C.S.15, 2007/12.)

/My position...

War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Advance on Syria Contd.Saida
bombardment
(Contd.)

My position (3 Corrupt groups) 05" N.,
035° 16' 10" E., if bombardment required.
I will flash R's by Aldis from this position,
contact urgently required. N.L.O. will
indicate his position and flash F's both at
approx. one minute intervals.
(N.L.O., 2010C/12, to Ships off Syrian
Coast.)
My 1950/12. Bombardment will not be required
tonight.
(N.O.I.C. Haifa, 2118C/12 to C.S.15.)

Situation
report 54.

Syria. Army had reached read position at
mouth of Latani River a.m./12. LEANDER
JERVIS and HASTY have sailed from Alexandria.
Haifa was attacked by aircraft from about
0100 to 0500/12. Little damage but some
mines laid. HYACINTH arrived there 0700 to
sweep. JANUS has arrived Port Said.
2. Cyprus. Both M.T.Bs. 68 and 215 are now
out of action through defects. Depot ship
VULCAN is at Famagusta,
3. Alexandria. Difficulty continues with
Port facilities and in completing repairs to
ships due to absence of Workmen and strikes.
4. Submarines. PARTHIAN torpedoed an
8,000 ton tanker off Tenedos believed sunk
and sank two large sailing vessels and one
large steel lighter in attack on Mytylene
harbour. Another tanker STROMBO has been
reported by S.O.(I) Istanbul torpedoed east
of Cape Matapan and arrived Istanbul
severely damaged 5/6.
5. CACHALOT left Alexandria today 12th with
White oil supplies for Malta.
6. VOYAGER, WATERHEN transporting supplies
and personnel to Tobruk every other night.
(C.in C. Med., 2214C/12, to Admty.)

War Diary.12.6.1941.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.W.S.8A.

Following are disposal instructions for personnel ships of W.S.8A.
(D.S.T. 0406B/12, to P.S.T.O., Egypt.)

S.W.7.

COLOMBO escorting convoy S.W.7 arrived.
(N.T.O., Durban, 0556Z/12, to Admty., etc.)

CHULA.

Lighter CHULA foundered 0030/9 while in tow by UPESI on passage Kismayu Mombasa.
(D.S.T.O. Mombasa 1225Z/12.)

DIDO.
CHAKDINA.

DIDO wearing flag of S.N.O. Red Sea Force E.T.A. 0215Z/13, CHAKDINA 0300Z. DIDO has 2 Generals and one Naval Captain Prisoners of War. CHAKDINA has 50 officers and 494 other prisoners of war.
(DIDO, 1550Z/12, to N.O.I.C. Aden.)

SAVORGNAN
DE BRAZZA.
CLAN
MACBRAYNE.

Message 1110/10 from Mideast and A.T.0041B/5 Adm., Muselier concurs in retention of SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA for Jibuti blockade. S.S. CLAN MACBRAYNE does not proceed beyond East London. Request you will arrange any necessary on-carriage of ammunition from Capetown direct with F.O.I.C. Simonstown.
(D.O.D.(F) 1800B/12 to C. in C. E.I.)

U.S.11A.

Your 0558/24 and my 1034/25. Following alternatives for supplying water to U.S.11A. at Trincomalee.
(D. of S.T. 2130B/12 to C. in C. E.I.)

War Diary.12.6.41.
Thursday.FOREIGN STATIONS.China.French
Ship.Arrival 12/6. GOUVERNEUR GENERAL PASQUIER.
(Saigon 0806Z/12.)America & West Indies.French
Ship.Following from Philadelphia (begins)
"BR SOCONY reports sighting French steamer
steering 90° 7 knots in 3926 N., 5250 W.,
0830, G.M.T/4"(ends). Further description
of French ship being obtained.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 0125Z/12, to Admty.)
My 0125Z/12. Details. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa,
2147Z/12, to Admty.)PANDORA.Following is repetition of my 1709P/11,
(Route for PANDORA.)
(R.A.3. 0953P/12, to PANDORA.)
After position "D" in 42° N. 35° W. pro-
ceed through new position "E" in 37° N.
46° W., thence to "F" in 41° 30' N., 65° W.,
thence to destination. Acknowledge when
west of 25° W.
(D.O.D. (H) 1124B/12, to PANDORA.)amended by 1139B/14
P. 454DUC D'AUMALE.Your 0750/30 (Re WINNIPEG.) Trinidad
agent of French Line prepared to request
Martinique Authorities send. DUC D'AUMALE
Trinidad collect 6 Naval Officers and about
300 military, mercantile ratings and
passengers, if ship is given safe conduct.
104 passengers 92 crew still on board
WINNIPEG.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1220Q/12, to D. of S.T.)

/ASCANIA.....

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

ASCANIA.

Intend ASCANIA to leave for Bermuda at 1800P/13 expected 0500Q/16/6. ASCANIA will be available for BHX 134 subsequently returning to Halifax. (R.A.3 1357P/12 to C. in C. A.W.I. etc.)

BRITISH
POWER
"R" Report
10/6.

RRR, BRITISH POWER, 10 /6 has not been cancelled in accordance with A.M.S.I. 378 (2) (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1430/12 to Admty.).

MONT
VISO.

My 1119Q/11. Intercepted letter from Casablanca dated 28/5 states MONT VISO en route for Martinique was recalled by W/T to Casablanca and now lies alongside WYOMING which has 600 refugees on board. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1509Q/12 to CARADOC, VAN KINSBERGEN.)

French
fishing
vessels.

Ref. telegram No. 286 from Gov. of Newfoundland to Dominions Office, please take recruiting measures among crews of French fishing vessels IZARRA MADIANA and LIGHT OF CALAIS as in my 0750/30/5 and 2119/6. (D.O.S.T. 1618B/12 to N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F)

Dakar
Intelligence.

Following from Navy Dept. 10/6 from Dakar dated 10/6. Graded A.O. Arrived ERIDAN from South after being re-taken from British by GLOIRE and aircraft. Arrived BANGKOK, BENTY and CAP HERBESRAR from Morocco, latter with troops for (?demobilisation). (N.A. -Washington, 1635/12 to Admty.). Note. C. in C. S.A. reported on 9/6 that ASPHODEL in company with COLUMBINE reported ERIDAN 60 miles S.W. of Dakar on 9/6. In view of nearness of Dakar and indication that assistance was being sent, ASPHODEL was told not to interfere.

/LIVERPOOL.....

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

LIVERPOOL.

Following received from B.A.R.M. Request LIVERPOOL be directed to arrive on 15/6 2100 (zone + 8) and pick up the pilot off San Francisco Light Vessel 2259/11 (ends). (D.O.D.(F) 1829B/12 to C. in C. A.W.I. LIVERPOOL, amended 1320B/15).

"Q" Report
HIGHLAND
MONARCH.

Following has been read. QQQQ 43.34 N. 30.38 W. HIGHLAND MONARCH suspicious, course 180° true speed 15. 5 knots 1835 G.M.T/12 1831/12 de GLD (Liverpool, 2053/12).
Ref. Rugby transmission 1831/12 De GLD Lat. HIGHLAND MONARCH read by Canadian Stations was 41.34 N. (Halifax W/T 2336Z/12 to Whitehall W/T).
De GMZF cancel my QQQQ 1835/12 friendly vessel 1904/12 ends. (Valentia Radio, THI., 2012/12).

St. John's
Capacity.

Your 1637B/11. Berthing capacity of St. Johns N.F. Harbour is strained to its utmost limit at present. (N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F. 2131/Z/12 to C. in C. W.A.).

BAYANO.
"R" Report.

BAYANO has cancelled R message 1456/12 in code. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 2146Z/12 to Admty.).

Newfoundland
Force.

Your 1034/4. Arrangements proposed are confirmed, and will be promulgated separately (1st S.L. 2239B/12 to C. in C. A.W.I.).

Admty. 1818B/11 (N.T. in W. D) Area searched only 40% owing to fuel expended searching original area. E.T.A. Bermuda 0600Q/15. (DIOMEDE, 2358Z/12 to Admty.)

War Diary.

12.6.1941.
Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

HOBART.

Request you will sail HOBART in accordance with ^{*}C. in C. E.I. 1056. (A.C.N.B., 1043Z/12 to F.O.C. Aust. Sqdn.).

* N.T. in W.D.

War Diary12.6.1941.
ThursdayU-BOAT CAMPAIGNShips AttackedEMPIRE DEW

SSSS 51.09 N., 30.16 W., EMPIRE DEW torpedoes. (SS EMPIRE DEW via Liverpool W/T 0030/12)

Proceed to assistance of EMPIRE DEW torpedoes in position 051° 09' N., 030° 16' W. at 0030/12. (C. in C. W.A. 0309B/12 to LANDGUARD, GORLESTON)

Re SSSS EMPIRE DEW torpedoes (position) Navy Dept. reports U.S. warship in this vicinity. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0350Z/12 to Admty.)

CHINESE PRINCE

SSSS 56.12 N., 14.18 W. CHINESE PRINCE torpedoes. (CHINESE PRINCE 0219/12)

Detach 1 corvette to assistance of CHINESE PRINCE torpedoes (position) (C. in C. W.A., 0448B/12 to PIMPERNEL)

Aircraft report 1400B/12 CHINESE PRINCE sunk, survivors in 056° 12' N., 014° 18' W. (C. in C. W.A. 1453B/12 to PIMPERNEL)

Following has been read. Destroyers nearby to rescue. (A/C Duty Z., 1500/12 to Aldergrove)

Following has been read. Survivors on rafts in 56.11N., 14.00 W., attracting destroyer. (A/C Duty H. 1500/12 to 15 R. Group)

Report number of survivors rescued and if all are accounted for. (C. in C. W.A. 1924B/12 to PIMPERNEL)

SAMSO

My 1329/4/5. Danish SAMSO torpedoes 1645 G.M.T./1/5. 0° 35' N., 16° 17' W. No wireless. 2nd Officer reports ship sunk by one torpedo Chief Engineer lost 2nd Engineer with 4 crew landed Freetown 4/6 remaining 14 including Master at Conakry. (C. in C. S.A. 0628N/9)

Unknown Ship
1615

Following has been read. SSSS (Enemy S/M) 48.50 N., 52.10 W. sighted submarine periscope not identified. De NERK (Not in War Reg. Signal letter Index) (NERK 1615/12 to Halifax W/T)

/TRESILLIAN.....

War Diary12.6.1941.
ThursdayU-BOAT CAMPAIGNShips AttackedTRESILLIAN

Ref. TRESILLIAN's SSSS I am assuming you are taking all possible action with Air and surface forces at your disposal. (C. in C. A.W.I. 2339Q/12 to N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F.) (See 13/6. TRESILLIAN was torpedoed at 0415/13)

Submarines Reported

0410

By D/F at 0410Z/12 position of U/Boat was approx. 8°N14° W. (D.D.I.C. 1021B/12 to NORFOLK, VELOX)

2118/11

D/F Bearings at 2118Z/11 indicate U-Boat within 100 miles of 15½° N., 31° W. Is this confirmed and is there any other indication in this area which would suggest desirability of diversion of traffic in a particular direction?
Also request degree of reliability of position 8° N., 14° W. given in a.m. 1021/12 to NORFOLK as this is most important to traffic approaching Freetown from south. (C. in C. S.A. 1341N/12 to Admty.)

Estimated U/Boat dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1426B/12)

3 U-Boats.

There are 3 U-Boats in Bay of Biscay area inward bound. (F.O.S. 1624B/12 to S/M's on patrol in Area A.)

1030

Submarine periscope reported by Merchant Ship in position 048° 50' N., 052° 10' W. at 1030Z/12. (F.O. 3 B.S. 1649P/12 to North Atlantic Escort Force.)

/2035.....

War Diary

12.6.1941.
Thursday

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN

Submarines Reported-Contd.

2035

U.S. Destroyer BAINBRIDGE reports S/M (?049°) 12' N., 051° 24' W. sighted periscope twice and maintained contact for 50 mins. approximately 16. (N.O.I.C. St. Johns N.F. 2035Z/12 to C.O.A.C. Halifax)

Submarines Attacked

WELLS

Have attacked contact in position 055° 50' 30" N., 007° 03' W. Target is now stationary on bottom. Depth charges have started seam in provision room. Am remaining in contact but cannot drop further depth charges. (WELLS 2200B/12 to Admty.)

War Diary.

13.6.1941.
Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Principal Events.

Air attack on German pocket battleship or cruiser off Egersund.

Operation "Tracer", (despatch of Hurricanes to Malta for M.E.).

French destroyer torpedoed in Jun~~ie~~h Harbour by Naval aircraft.

U-boat operating near Newfoundland.

Home Commands.

Northern Patrol.

MANCHESTER, HERMIONE and two destroyers are patrolling the Denmark Straits. KENYA and NIGERIA are patrolling south east of Iceland.

M.T.B. Operation.

Two M.T.B's operated last night between Nieuport and Zeebrugge.

Battle cruisers & PRINZ EUGEN.

At 0745 today the SCHARNHORST, GNEISENAU and PRINZ EUGEN were still at Brest.

Western Patrol.

Three new patrol areas have been established to cover a possible approach of French shipping to the Azores from the westward also to cover the route recently taken by captured Italian shipping which was bound from the Canaries to French west coast ports.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.British Air Operations.

In the early hours of this morning 4 Blenheims of Coastal Command attacked the enemy naval units at Brest. Single aircraft attacked targets at Antwerp and Rotterdam.

Attack on
Enemy pocket
battleship,South Norway.

Owing to low visibility only 3 of the Beaufort aircraft despatched located the enemy reported by shadowing aircraft at 2358/12. Between 0218 and 0230 the Beauforts attacked and obtained at least one torpedo hit (R.A.F. claim two hits) on the cruiser or pocket battleship in 58° 20' N 5° 40' E (near Egersund).

At 1027B aircraft reported an enemy battleship stopped in 57° 42' N 8° 0' E. It is not yet clear whether or not a second force, including a cruiser was operating near Egersund.

Four Stirlings were despatched to attack the battleship, but all four were recalled shortly after leaving. Three Beauforts were despatched to attack, but failed to sight the enemy.

The pocket battleship or cruiser with destroyers was shadowed and reported several times during the day; it was last reported at 1605 in 58° 5' N 9° 33' E steering 095° at 15 knots.

MOST SECRET.13.6.1941.
Friday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Enemy Air Activity.

VERBENA was machine gunned by an enemy aircraft this morning, 130 miles N.W. of Bloody Foreland. No bombs were dropped and the aircraft retired when VERBENA opened fire at it.

Attack on
W.N.39.

S.S. DALEMOOR Commodore's ship in Convoy W.N.39 was bombed and set on fire at 0053 about 8 miles S.E. of Girdleness and was later towed into Aberdeen Bay. She shot down the attacking a/c.

M.V. EMPIRE CREEK in same convoy was attacked by a 4 engine a/c at 0130 in 57° 16' N 1° 43' W and was disabled by near misses. She reached Aberdeen.

~~S.S. KINGSTOWN was bombed and sunk whilst in tow.~~

Irish Sea.

S.S. ST. PATRICK (G.W Ry. passenger steamer) was bombed and sunk at 0426 in approx. 52° 4' N 5° 25' W and coasting vessel KINGSTOWN was sunk whilst in tow of a trawler off St. Anne's.

Enemy aircraft made wide spread machine gun attacks, principally on civil property on the Shetlands this morning.

An enemy a/c flew over Scapa Flow again today.

A single enemy aircraft attacked Lowestoft at 0345. Blockship KING HENRY was sunk and damage was caused in the docks. The aircraft dropped correct recognition signals prior to bombing.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.Mining.

Six Beauforts of Coastal Command laid mines off Brest last night.

The Tyne was closed from 0235 to 1140. Tees and Hartlepool are closed owing to suspected minelaying.

S.S. ALA was mined and sunk at 2038 today in $50^{\circ}41'57''\text{N}$. $0^{\circ}52'0''\text{W}$, whilst being towed from Shoreham to Southampton.

North Atlantic.

A single enemy aircraft dropped 4 bombs harmlessly in the Bay at Gibraltar last night, and withdrew over Spanish territory.

South Atlantic.

D.F. bearings at 0016Z suggested an enemy surface unit within 100 miles of a line joining $5^{\circ}\text{N } 17^{\circ}\text{W}$ and $20^{\circ}\text{S } 12^{\circ}\text{W}$. SHROPSHIRE has been ordered to investigate and PRETORIA CASTLE to patrol.

MOST SECRET.13.6.1941.
Friday.War Diary.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Action with
E-Boats.

JADE whilst searching for a missing Hurricane pilot attacked ² E boats 17 miles south of Cape Passaro at 0420. The larger E boat received a direct hit with 4 inch at very close range. The enemy fired 4 torpedoes which missed. JADE sustained superficial damage from bullets: a midshipman died of wounds.

Operation
"Tracer".

S.O. Force H left Gibraltar this morning in RENOWN with ARK ROYAL, VICTORIOUS, and 7 destroyers, with aircraft for Malta.

Western
Desert.

4 Swordfish F.A.A. attacked Tripoli harbour in the early hours of this morning. There was a smoke screen over the harbour.

Six Wellingtons attacked Benghazi harbour last night.

Cyprus.

Two enemy aircraft bombed Lefka (25 miles W. of Nicosia) and Katina (on the S.W. coast) today. No damage was caused.

Syria.

Destroyers co-operating with the troops bombarded a large battery of French 75's and other French positions near Saida.

Last night, F.A.A aircraft from Lydda attacked unsuccessfully a destroyer in Beirut Roads and a warship 5 miles north of Beirut.

At 0129 a Swordfish of 815 Squadron torpedoed a Vichy French destroyer of the GUEPARD class probably ~~THEOPHILE GAUBIER~~ in Jun^{eh} harbour (8 miles north of Beirut).

Ships at sea have had some fighter protection but this may now have to be withdrawn. The force with C.S.15 was unsuccessfully attacked at 0530 by 8 or 9 Ju. 88 with Italian markings 3 were shot down and 2 damaged by fighters.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.SITUATION REPORT.U-Boat Campaign.Attack on
S.L.76.

CUMBERLAND reports that 2 ships in Convoy S.L.76 have been torpedoed about 700 miles west of Lisbon. It is believed that S/Ms are shadowing the convoy. 2 corvettes were detached from escorting O.G. 64, to join S.L.76 and SHEFFIELD is to join the convoy.

America &
West Indies.

S.S. TRESILLIAN ex Convoy O.B.330 was torpedoed this morning about 330 miles E.S.E. of Cape Race, N.F. (Note. Later reported date of torpedoing 12/6)

War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Policy.Iceland.
Control of
Reykjavik
Harbour.

Your 1727/2 and A.C.O.S. 1137/4. Without full knowledge of local situation difficult for Admiralty to take action. If Harbour Master, Reykjavik has sufficient powers under Icelandic Govt. simplest solution would probably be for Govt. to be asked to amend their Regulations so that you become statutory authority for exercising Governmental powers.

Preferable that requisitioning should be done by Icelandic Government at the instance of naval or military authorities. You have, of course, as a commander of occupying force full powers of requisition if agreement does not succeed.

Request you will state whether arrangements on the above lines will be satisfactory. If so you should consult British Minister who would refer to F.O. in case of difficulty. (Head of M. 1113B/13 to N.O.I.C. Iceland).

A.M.C.'s
on Denmark
Straits
Patrol.

C. in C. H.F.'s 2326/7. Information is requested as to future intentions regarding A.M.C. patrol in Denmark Straits.

(ii) AURANIA at present at Hval Fiord will return to Halifax 15/6 as in my 1216B/20/5 and my 1100B/4. *See also next page*

(iii) If it is not intended that patrol is to be resumed in the near future instructions are requested for DERBYSHIRE's movements observing that ships normally leaving Iceland 25/6 have embarked draft for Halifax. (F.O.C.N.P. 1500B/13 to Adnty).

Free French
Corvettes.

Your 2232B/7.

There is no objection to the allocation of corvettes manned by the Free French to the Newfoundland Escort Force.

(D.O.D. (H.), 1555B/13 to C. in C. W.A.)

NORFOLK.

C.S.1 1611/29. It is intended to take NORFOLK in hand for repairs on her return to U.K. (Controller 1726B/13).

War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements.AURANIA.

N.O.I.C. Iceland is requested to sail AURANIA for Halifax on or about 15/6 providing A/S escort.
(F.O.C.N.P., 1510B/13 to N.O.I.C. Iceland).

*See previous page*Operations.Denmark
Straits
Patrol.

Arrived SUFFOLK and ACTIVE.
(N.O.I.C. Iceland, 0801/13 to C. in C. H.F.).
Sailed ACTIVE to relieve ACHATES.
E.T.A. 066° 40' N 019° 00' W. 0001Z/14.
(Capt. D.3. 1101Z/13 to MANCHESTER).

Iceland-
Faeroes
Passage.

My p.C. and S. at 0800 061° 42' N. 018° 22' W.
117° 17 knots.
(C. in C. H.F., 0807/13 to Admty).

Western
Patrol
Areas.

So as to cover a possible approach of French shipping to Azores from westward and also to cover route recently taken by captured Italian shipping which were bound from the Canaries to French West Coast ports, three new areas AZ, BX, CZ. are to be established, between 35° and 38° W.

AZ 40° - 39° N.

BZ 39° - 38° N.

CZ 38° - 37° N.

(2) S.O.N.P. is requested to take necessary action to establish patrols in areas AZ, BZ, as soon as possible.

(3) At same time the remaining O.B.V. in Northern Zone should be moved to Area A1.
(A.C.N.S.(F) 1622B/13 to S.O.N.P.)

Searchlight
at
Audresselles.

An exceptionally powerful searchlight was observed last night 12th/13th on the French Coast at Audresselles. The beam appeared to be diffused. The searchlight was sweeping mainly to the westward but could also train to the east or north. On occasion patrols in our Coastal Channel were silhouetted against the light to observers on shore and coastal craft in Mid Channel were passed over by the beam but were apparently not detected from the enemy coast. (V.A. Dover, 1833B/13.)

War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity.Attack on enemy
units off S. Norway.

1 Cruiser 4 destroyers bearing 180°. Distance 4 miles. Course 270°. My position 57° 48' N 6° 50' E.
(Duty, W. 0001/13 to 18 Group H.Q.)
Unable to amplify attacked by A (? aircraft).
(Duty W. 0100/13 to 18 Group H.Q.)
6 Destroyers 1 Cruiser bearing 090° distance 2 miles. My position 58° 20' N 5° 40' E.
(?Duty, W. 0220/13).
Have attacked enemy Cruiser with torpedo. Estimated one hit. (?Duty W. 0230/13.)
Have attacked enemy with torpedoes. No hits. (? X9ZY. 0240/13 to Rosyth W/T).
Have attacked 4 destroyers and 1 cruiser my position 58° 40' N 4° 52' E.
(?X9ZR, 0245/13 to Rosyth W/T).
Enemy pocket battle ship or cruiser screened by destroyers sighted in 057° 44' N 006° 50' E. at 0001 and attacked by A/C in 058° 20' N 005° 44' E at 0230. One hit claimed. (F.O.S., 0348B/13 to S/Ms on Patrol).
Enemy previously reported are 1 cruiser 4 destroyers. (?Origin 0415/13).
Two cruisers 4 Destroyers bearing 350° 4 miles Course 330°. My position 57° 58' N 6° 22' E.
(?Origin, 0420/13 to 18 Group H.Q.)
Enemy has altered course to 120 approx. (Plymouth 0446/13).
Beaufort W/42 reports that at 0218 in 58° 21' N 05° 50' E flying at 500 ft. (cloud 8/10 CU 1,000 ft. occasional moonlight, vis 8 miles sea choppy).
Beaufort flew across stern (1,000 yds away) of an enemy force consisting of 6 vessels as far as could be seen - 5 D/RS and 1 CR or L PBS of 10,000 tons. 1 D/R ahead - and 2 D/RS on each side of large vessel - course 315° T at 20 knots. Beaufort carried out a port beam attack on 10,000 ton vessel from 80 feet height 500 to 700 yards range. A/C turned to PRT and W/O and A/G both saw a high column of water amidships or target - followed immediately by dense cloud of white smoke. Pilot flew round and observed smoke No flak before or during attack. 2 bright lights fired from leading destroyer on port side during run at target.
(Pitreavie, AC.H.Q. 0555/13 and Signal Pitreavie Recd. 0940/13).

4 vessels.....

War Diary.

13.6.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

Attack on enemy
units off S. Norway
Cont: -

4 vessels type unknown destroyers or large warships 1 battleship bearing 180° 1 mile course 180° my position 58° 24' N 6° E. (Origin 0600/13 to 18 H.Q.)

Report of Beaufort R/42. 0222 in 58° 21' N 5° 45' E made search and sighted 1 Cr 4 Dr in that position heading northerly but stationary. Beaufort made two runs for torpedo attack through smoke to within 400 yards on port beam of Cr but torpedo failed to release. 0228 attack abandoned. Moderate A.A. fire from Drs. White smoke was seen from Cr forward of funnel which appeared to be hit by earlier attack. 0240 set course base. (Pitreavie 0615/13). Beaufort Y/42. reports sighted, German P B S or Cr (10,000 tons) 58° 21' N 05° 45' E. Discharged one torpedo believed to run to position presumed abaft amidships (target enveloped in white smoke.) Heavy accurate light flak from 1 escorting D/R. C/R which was stationary, screened on coast side by 5 Drs. was attacked by running up on beam and releasing torpedo. Probably a hit was obtained - estimated as above, as track was observed disappearing in smoke which surrounded target. After attack Beaufort S/C for Base. (Pitreavie, A.C.H.Q., 0636/13). My 2014/12 and aircraft reports. Owing to low visibility only three aircraft located enemy reported by shadowing aircraft at 2358/12. One torpedo hit, amidships, one possibly hit and one failed to drop. Second and third aircraft reported ship stopped. R/42's signalled position, as amended on landing approximates to that of W/42. Interrogation of pilots does not make it clear whether ship was LUTZOW or NURNBERG, but former appears more likely.

Torpedo hit on
LUTZOW.

(C. in C. Rosyth 0823/13 to C. in C. H.F.)
A 1 LEU/023/13/6
2 RO/G16/12/6.

B. Report of Blenheim D/114.
At 0557 sighted enemy warships, 5 drs of which 1 is thought to be LUTZOW Class and 1 larger warship light grey, straight stern, 1 funnel and one gun turret fore and aft. Believed PBS. Position 58° 24' N 6° E., southerly course, high speed, no signs of damage. A/C climbed into cloud over enemy force and made run NW to SE at height 3,000 in line flight.

/dropped.....

War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.British Air Activity. - Contd.Attack on enemy
units off S. Norway
cont:-

dropped 500 S.A.P. inst. bombs which fell 75-100 astern of PBS. No hits. A/C took rapid evasive action in face of E/A fighter escort and, taking cloud cover, set course base. A.A. fire from vessels not effective. (Pitreavie 0920).

Have regained contact one Enemy Battleship 5 destroyers bearing 085 distance 15 miles. Position 57° 40' N 7° 30' E.

(A/C Duty X 1029).

R Y/42 reports:-

0225 Signal received from W/42 stating enemy force of 6 Drs. 1 Cr. in 58° 20' N 5° 40' E course altered to intercept.

0230 In position ZNEF 2145 sighted enemy force of 1 Cr. 5 Drs. stationary and attacked Cr. running up on Port Beam. Torpedo was released from height of 200' range 1,000 yards. Track was observed disappearing into smoke screen surrounding Cr. and hit was estimated amidships. Heavy concentration of lightflak mostly very accurate was experienced from one escorting Dr. immediately after attack.

0231 Set course for Base P.

Blenheim D/114 reports:-

0557 Sighted enemy warships 5 Drs. of which 1 is thought Beitzsen class and 1 larger warship, light grey, straight stern, 1 funnel, and one gun turret fore and aft believed PBS Position 58° 24' N 6° E., Southerly course, high speed no signs of damage.

Flight dropped 2 X 500 S.A.P. INST bombs which fell 75-100 astern of PBS. No hits. A/C took rapid evasive action in face of E/A fighter escort and taking cloud cover set course base. A.A. fire from vessels not effective. (Pitreavie 1045/13).

Aircraft report one Battleship stationary in 057° 42' N 008° E at 1027.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1052/13).

/A RO/W13/13/6.....

War Diary.

13.6.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

Attack on enemy
units off Norway
Cont:

- A. RO/W13/13/6.
- B. RF RH
- C. 1 CR 4 DRS 1 PBS 5 DRS
- D. 57° 56' N 7° 46' E. 57° 40' N 7° 30' E.
- E. 0630/13 1027/13.
- F. 075 degs. 085 degs.
- K. Sighted by Z/220. X/248.

This amends previous refs to these forces not to all addressees. (Pitreavie 1150/13). My 0348B. Aircraft report enemy battleship stopped in 057° 42' N 008° E at 1027B. It is not yet clear whether or not a second force including a cruiser was operating in the vicinity of Egersund, about 0230B.

(F.O.S., 1307B/13 to S/Ms on patrol). Enemy force consisting of 1 cruiser or pocket battleship escorted by 5 destroyers doing close A/S patrol and at least 4 A/C seen proceeding eastwards at 10 - 15 kts. at 1215 hours in position 57° 50' N 08° 20' E. 3 small vessels possibly E boats approaching force in line abreast from N.4 to 5 vessels seen in Kristiansands Vestrehavn including one large vessel possibly supply ship. One A/C seen circling over Kristiansand. R/C of Egersund impossible owing to cloud cover A/C report.

(Pitreavie 1445/13). 1 Cruiser 5 Destroyers bearing 095° Distance 10 miles approx true Course 095° position 58° 5' N 9° 33' E. (A/C Duty S, 1605/13). Blenheim S/248 shadowing force RH. at 1518 sighted 1 CR 5 DRS in position 58° 6' N 9° 25' E. from distance of 10/15 miles away. CR only appeared slightly larger than escorting destroyers and is estimated by crew at not more than 10,000 tons. Enemy force was zig-zagging. Enemy vessels opened fire on S/248 which was flying at 7000 feet. S/248 shadowed force until 1605 when left enemy force. in 58° 4' N 9° 53' E steering 095° at 15 knots. (Pitreavie, 2000/13).

/Bombing

War Diary.

13.6.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

Bombing Restrictions.

Institute submarine T.B.R. in Needles Sanctuary from 2130 B to 2300B /14/6. Also 10 miles either side line 48° 06' N 06° 38' W and 46° 04' N. 09° 13' W from 0400B/18/6 to 2300B/19/6. (H.Q.C.C. 0320/13).
Institute submerged bombing restrictions in Area (?) from 2300B 14/6 to 1200B 15/6. (H.Q.C.C. 0325/13)

Operation "Wander"
WANDER.

(R) X/59 on operation ^{"Wander"} ~~WANDER~~ reports:-
Patrol carried out. This operation has great possibilities. (A.C.H.Q. Chatham 0730/13)

Attack on S/M

Aircraft reported successfully attacking submarine in your vicinity at 0605. Are you all right. (F.O.S., 0751B/13 to P.31)
P.31 reports she dived on sighting unknown A/C at 0555B/13 in 59° 21' N 00° 00'.
(F.O.S., 1506B/13 and 1622B/13).

Patrols.

My 2116/12. Postponed. (^{"Sentry"} ~~SENTRY~~ I and II).
(C. in C. Rosyth 1210/13).
My 2116/12 and my 1210/13. ^{"Sentry"} ~~SENTRY~~ 1, on patrol at 1600/13, and ~~SENTRY~~ 2 on patrol at 1800/13, are being flown.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1325/13).

Escort.

Owing to weather conditions regret A/S air escort cannot be provided. (C. in C. W.A., 1305B/13 to C. in C. H.F.)
A/S escort will be provided from first light 14th until arrival by Whitley aircraft.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2116/13 to C. in C. H.F.)

Search for BISMARCK.

Your 1623/28 May. Request further report by signal on behaviour of aircraft torpedoes against BISMARCK.
(Vice-Controller, 2219B/13 to S.O. Force H).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity.Unknown
Vessel.

AAAA 15 miles N.E. Skerries Holyhead South being attacked by aircraft. (Sea-forth Radio, 0229/13).
Now clear no further attack.
(LOUTH 0334/13).

Convoy "Sapper"
SAPPER.

Help. 1 airplane. My position 50° 31' N 5° 20' W. Course 240 speed 6 knots.
(BROCKLESBY 0400/13).

Lowestoft
bombed.

Lowestoft Attacked by single A/C at 0345. Small number of Military casualties. Blockship KING HENRY sunk. Damage to Dockside Offices and stores.
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0455B/13).
My 0455B/13. Aircraft dropped correct recognition signals prior to bombing.
(N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0553B/13).

BARON
CARNEGIE..
(bombed 11/6).

My 0040/12. BARON CARNEGIE sank at 2330/11 in about 52° 04' N 5° 01' 30" W. while in tow of rescue tug SEINE.
(F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1019/13).

Convoy W.N. 39.
DALEMOOR,
(British
5796 tons)
bombed.

Convoy W.N. 39. attacked by A/C at 0053/13 position 57° 04' N 01° 51' W. S.S. DALEMOOR hit, set on fire, and abandoned. PIROUETTE with 27 and GAVOTTE with 12 survivors, proceeding to Leith. PIROUETTE reports enemy aircraft type unknown was destroyed no survivors at 0925/13. DALEMOOR in tow of tug ABELILE IV with tug ATTENTIF in attendance proceeding to anchor in Aberdeen Bay. Vessels draught 26 feet precludes taking her into Aberdeen Harbour. Vessel still on fire fore and aft but master of ABELILE IV considers still chance of saving vessel.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1127/13.)
PIROUETTE and GAVOTTE arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Leith 1205/13).

My 1127/13.....

R.M.S. ST. PATRICK.—To the glorious and ever-living memory of CAPTAIN JAMES FARADAY and of all those members of his crew who lost their lives in the sinking of the Royal Mail Steamer St. Patrick, on June 13, 1941.

War Diary.

13.6.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy W.N. 39
DALEMOOR.
(British
5796 tons)
bombed. - Contd.

My 1127/13. C.O.'s of escorts of convoy W.N. 39 report aircraft was JU 88 and was certainly destroyed by machine-gun and 12 pdr. fire from S.S. DALEMOOR and seen to crash. Casualties in DALEMOOR believed about 12 men. Commodore and Captain of DALEMOOR both believed killed on bridge. 4 Naval 2 Military and 23 Civilian survivors landed by PIROUETTE, 12 by GAVOTTE at Leith, and 2 by WHADDON at Rosyth. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1803/13) Present condition. DALEMOOR. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1831/13). Intend sailing in tow ABEILLE IV 0300/14/6 for Leith. E.T.A. daylight p.m. (Adty., Salvage Officer, Aberdeen, 2238/13).

EMPIRE CREEK
(British,
332 tons.)

EMPIRE CREEK attacked by 4 engine A/C 0130/13 Position 57° 16' N 01° 43' W. 2 near misses engines disabled. No casualties. Now in Aberdeen. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1146/13).

St. PATRICK
(British
1922 tons).
KINGSTOWN
(628 tons.)

WOLSEY reports S.S. ST. PATRICK bombed and sunk in about 52° 04' N 5° 25' W. at 0426. A/S Trawler INDIAN STAR has 36 survivors now landing Milford Haven, WOLSEY has 20 survivors Coaster KINGSTOWN sunk in tow of Trawler 287° 6 miles from St. Anne's, reason unknown. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1256B/13).

Shetlands
bombed.

Enemy A/C made widespread machine gun attacks principally on civil property in Shetland North of A line Scalloway to Lerwick between 0830 and 0930B/13.

At no time were more than 2 aircraft seen and never at more than 500 feet owing to low cloud.

A.J.U. 88 machine gunned Unst Fetlar and Yell between 0815 and 0850B. An Aircraft coming west over Scalloway, at which Bressay A/A battery fired 6 rounds at long range, machine-gunned the Military camp at Tingwall wounding four men and flew north. No R/C was made of Sullom Voe or Lerwick. (N.O.I.C. Lerwick 1332/13).

/THOR.....

War Diary.

13.6.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

THOR Y.M.35.
A/C claimed
destroyed.

(Faeroese Smack), Attacked by unidentified A/C M.G. 2300/12/6 position 58° N 2° W. Skipper supported by crew's evidence claims plane immediately shot down, exploded on hitting sea, and sank without trace. Superficial damage. Skipper slightly wounded. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 1622/13).

A/C Over
Orkneys.

Enemy A/C seen at 10,000 feet over Castletown Aerodrome at 1830 to-day and reported as Heinkel. Plotted from point near Brough Ness, South Ronaldsay to centre of Flow, thence south. All plots 10,000 feet or above. Some cloud, but A/C should have seen into Flow. (A.C.O.S. 2006/13).

Mining.

Tyne.

Port of Tyne closed due to enemy minelaying. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0235/13).
Port of Tyne open. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1140/13).

Tees.
Hartlepool.

Port of Tees and Hartlepool closed owing to suspected enemy mine laying. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 0403/13).

B.S.64.

Carry out operations B.S.64 on 15/6. Destroyer escort will R/V with you at Humber L.V. (C. in C. Nore 1024B/13 to TEVIOT BANK). Intend to R.V. with escort at Humber L.V. at 0900/15 and take departure from 62D buoy direct for initial position. Laying will begin at 1245. Return by same route. S. of A 11 knots. (TEVIOT BANK, 1336B/13).

B.S.58.

Your 1624B/12. Concur. (D.D.O.D.M. 1133B/13 to C. in C. Nore).

/Operation.....

408

War Diary.

13.6.1941.
Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining. - Contd.

Operation
Q.J.,
(Minesweeping
Exercise off
Aldeburgh).

Request you will carry out operation Q.J. tomorrow. (C. in C. Nore 1157B/13 to F.O.I.C. Harwich).

M.M.S.16
(Mined 12/6).

You are to sail forthwith.
(F.O.I.C. Harwich 1500B/13 to M.M.S.16).

B.S.58
B.S.59
B.S.60

Operation B.S.58 is to take place on night of 16th/17th. Position. PLOVER, one Corvette as escort, and 3 of 4th M.S.F. Route as for B.S.57. Subject to B.S.58 being carried out as above B.S.59 and B.S.60 will take place on nights of 18th/19th and 20th/21. respectively. (C. in C. Nore, 1742B/13).

Enemy Intelligence.

Lights off
Brest.

48° 15' N 5° 12' W. Sighted two rows 6 miles apart of lights evenly spaced 2 miles apart on the water. The rows converge towards East seeming to point towards Brest. Seen 0022 and persisted throughout patrol. (A.C.H.Q. Plymouth, 0530/13).

War Ship
off Copenhagen
on 12/6.

My 2202/12. Cancel my paragraph 4. Inference should read Leipzig. (N.A. Stockholm 1002/13).

8 M.V.s off
Brest.

Enemy previously reported 8 Merchant vessels. -3 Merchant vessels in 47° 20' N 6° 19' W course 080 speed 6 knots. 5 Merchant vessels in 47° 14' N 6° 10' W course 270. (A/C Duty Q 1425/13). Have regained contact. P.C. & S. of enemy 47° 10' N 6° 15' W, 260°, 10 knots. (A/C 19 Group, Duty Q 1745/13 to 19 Group H.Q.) My 1745. RRRR. One Blenheim over ships. (Duty Q, 1746/13).

/Brest.....

War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Intelligence. - ContdBrest.

Photographs through dense haze at 1300/13 show SCHARNHORST and GNEISENAU definitely present at this A.M. but SCHARNHORST no longer emitting smoke. Interpretation one HIPPER less certain, but vessel considered present. (P.R.U. St. Eval, 1500/13). Preliminary interpretation of photographs of Brest 1215/13 shews both battle cruisers still present. PRINZ EUGEN not seen on account of cloud conditions. (D.D.I.C., 1643B/13).

Shipping and Convoys.

W.S. 9B.

My 0340/20/5. Following are revised arrangements. (D.S.T., 0135B/13) See Lion Copy.

S.C. 32.

Congratulations on bringing safely to U.K. all the ships of your convoy S.C. 32. (C. in C. W.A., 1058B/13, to Rear-Adm. E.W. Leir).

H.G. 63.

Congratulations on bringing the whole of your convoy H.G. 63 safely to U.K. (C. in C. W.A., 1104B/13 to Cdre. C.G. Illingworth).

S/MS on
Convoy Duty,
use for A/S.

F.O.C.N.A.'s 1006A/12. Only objections to proposal appear to be
(A) Possible failure of S/M to regain contact with convoy owing to visibility having closed down.
(B) Possibility of convoy mistaking a U-Boat shadowing in daylight for the friendly submarine rejoining.
(C) A strip of T.B.R. astern of convoy would be necessary particularly if own aircraft are fitted with A.S.V.
Not considered these objections are serious during summer months, and if accepted that the area proposed is an unlikely one for surface raiders I suggest F.O.C.N.A.'s proposal be approved. (F.O.S., 1247B/13 to Admty).

/S.L. 75.....

MOST SECRET

409A S

MOST SECRET. MESSAGE 0135B/13th June OUE.

Date.13.6.41

To. P.S.T.O. West of Scotland
D.S.T.O. Glasgow.
D.S.T.O. Greenock.
D.S.T.O. Liverpool.
D.S.T.O. Avonmouth.
D.S.T.O. Newport.

Naval Cypher A. One.

From: Director of Sea Transport.

My 0340/20/5 not to last addressce. Following are revised arrangements for convey W.S.9.B.

<u>Code No.</u>	<u>Ship.</u>	<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Speed</u>	<u>Present Position</u>	<u>Discharge or fitting port.</u>	<u>Embarkation Port.</u>
E.11	ARUNDEL CASTLE	1150	19	Avonmouth	Avonmouth	Newport.
E.12	NEA HELLAS	2000	16	Due Glasgow 15.6.	Glasgow.	Glasgow.
E.13	TAMAROA	1450	14	Glasgow	Glasgow	Glasgow.
E.14	MONARCH OF BERMUDA	2169	18	Liverpool	Liverpool	Liverpool.
E.15	RANGITATA	1919	13½	Liverpool	Liverpool	Liverpool
E.16	MATAROA	1450	14	Avonmouth	Avonmouth	Avonmouth
E.17	ATHLONE CASTLE	1459	19	Liverpool	Liverpool	Liverpool
E.18	ORONSAY	3089	18	Liverpool	Liverpool	Gourock
E.20.	PULASKI	1150	13½	Due Clyde 13.6.	Clyde	Gourock,

2. It is intended that embarkation should be completed by 27.6. At Avonmouth and Newport embarkation should be completed by 25.6.

3. Request early report of dates when ships will be ready to embark troops and proposed berths for embarking troops and loading baggage.

4. Movements of E.11 from Avonmouth to Newport and of E.18. from Liverpool to Clyde should be arranged locally with naval authorities concerned.

5. Reference my 0340/20/5 paragraph 5 request report sea speeds of E.12 and E.13.

6. ANSELM is not now included in the convoy.

0135B/13

Director of Sea Transport.

1st Lord.	A.C.N.S. (F)	D.N.I. (4)	W.D.
1st S.L.	A.C.N.S. (T) (2)	D.S.D.	Duty Capt.
2nd S.L.	N.A. 1st S.L.	D.N.A.D.	Hd. of M.
3rd S.L.	D. of P. (2)	D. of L.D.	D.T.S.D.
4th S.L.	D.O.D. (H)	D.A/S.W.	D.D.I.C.
5th S.L.	D.D.O.D. (H)	D.M.S.	E.P.S.
V.C.N.S.	D.O.D. (F)	I.P. (2)	D.T.D. (2)
A.C.N.S. (H)	D.D.O.D. (F)	D. of S.T.	N.I.D. 10. Pay Cdr. Wilson.

War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.HOME COMMANDS.Shipping and Convoys. -(Contd).S.L. 75

Congratulations on bringing safely to U.K. all the ships of your Convoy S.L.75. (C. in C. W.A., 1510B/13 to Adm. Crooke).

Military
Personnel
maximum
numbers.

Admty 1958B/14/5 para 2.
Maximum number for Military personnel in unescorted merchant ships is to be limited to 100, and for R.A.F. 100 with the over-riding ruling that not more than 25 of this number are to comprise members (including Officers) of Air Crews.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2154B/13 to C. in C.s and S.T.Os)

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.Gibraltar
Air Raid.

Light air raid on Gibraltar. Some bombs fell outside Moles. No damage as far as can be ascertained at present.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0206A/13 to Admty).

WIVERN
VANSITTART
WILD SWAN.

Departures WIVERN, VANSITTART, WILD SWAN to Bathurst for fuel thence Freetown (route) E.T.A. Bathurst 0800Z + 1 18/6.
(F.O.C.N.A., 0732B/13 to C. in C. S.A.)

Operation
"Tracer".

My 1042/13. (N.T.) Intend landing 9 Fulmars at North front after "~~TRACER~~" *Tracer*.
(S.O. Force, H, 1111/13 to Admty).
Departure S.O. Force H. in RENOWN, ARK ROYAL, VICTORIOUS, FAULKNER, FEARLESS, FORESTER, FOXHOUND, FORESIGHT, WISHART, HESPERUS for operation "~~TRACER~~" *Tracer*.
(S.O.(I) Gib., 1130A/13 to Admty etc).
See also p. 415

North Front
Aerodrome.

In view of very extensive use now being made of North Front Aerodrome by R.A.F. for aircraft in transit and very limited requirements of F.A.A. propose Administration of this aerodrome be temporarily transferred to R.A.F. who will afford necessary facilities to F.A.A. as required. Governor S.O. Force H and 200 Group concur.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1244A/13 to Admty).

WRESTLER
FOLKESTONE.

WRESTLER sails at 1400B/13 to join you as extra escort. WRESTLER will endeavour to join before dark/14. If not she will join you in daylight/15.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1246B/13 to FOLKESTONE). Note:- FOLKESTONE escorting S.L.76 attacked by U/B See U/B Campaign.

SHEFFIELD.

Cancel my 1706B/12. Return to Gibraltar with moderate despatch. (D.O.D. (F) 1400B/13 to SHEFFIELD). *Cancelled - See next page*

/A.M. 1400B/13.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.SHEFFIELD.
Contd.

A.M. 1400B/13. Pass through following positions.

(a) 038° (930') N 017° 30' W.

(b) 036° 15' N 014° 00' W.

(F.O.C.N.A., 1948B/13 to SHEFFIELD).

My position 043° 05' N 018° 55' W, S. of A. 21 knots. In accordance with F.O.C.N.A.'s 1948B/13. 50% Fuel remaining. E.T.A. 1800A/15. Thick fog in vicinity 044° N 020° W 10 of 86 survivor prisoners are hospital cases. (SHEFFIELD 2200/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Cancel A.T. 1400B/13.

SHEFFIELD is to join S.L.76 whose position at 1200B/14 is estimated 41° 55' N, 22° 00' W, S. of A. 6½ knots course 000°.

Believed submarines are shadowing this convoy. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2357B/13 to SHEFFIELD, CUMBERLAND).

French
Convoy.

Gibraltar 2034/12 CAPITAINE ARMAND full, PONTET CANET laden, Tug TOURTERELLE passed Eastbound (S.O.(I) Gib., 1545A/13 to Admty C. in C. Med).

Italian
Cable.

Your 1046A/26/5. If this operation has not already been put in hand it is not desired to proceed with it for reasons of security and it should be deferred until further notice. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1605B/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

ERNA
OLDENDORFF
(German).Reported left Ferrol 13/6 early in morning. (Guyatt, Coruna, 2330/13 to Admty). ERNA OLDENDORFF now painted gray all over and has obliterated name. She is old "Three Island" ~~THREE ISLAND~~, British built vessel. Reported to intend sailing N.E. for French Atlantic port. 200 drums olive oil brought to Ferrol from Madrid five months ago have been loaded on board. Grading B.2. (D.I.C. No T.O.O./13).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic.Enemy Unit.

D/F Bearing 2114/12 indicates surface unit within 100 miles 010° N 021° W 65%. Pass through this area on passage.
 (C. in C. S.A., 1243N/13 to NORFOLK).
 My 1243N/13. Now consider this probable, U-Boat, avoid (?Bahamas).
 (C. in C. S.A., 1931N/13 to NORFOLK).
 D.F. Bearings at 0016Z/13 suggest an enemy surface unit within 100 miles of a line joining 005° N 017° W and 020° S 012° W.
 Reliability 50%. This unit may have been near 030° S 007° W on 28/5. SHROPSHIRE is to investigate the Northern part of this area as far as time and fuel permits arriving Freetown p.m./15. PRETORIA CASTLE proceed (?to) patrol J 35 D passing through K36A and B.
 (C. in C. S.A. 1311N/13, to SHROPSHIRE, PRETORIA CASTLE).

Vichy
Attack on
LISS.

LISS reports that she was shelled on 12/6 off Iles de Los by shore battery at approx. 15 miles. Battery was assisted by aircraft spotting and same aircraft machined gunned the vessel. LISS should not have been so close to French Coast though routed in shore to avoid submarines. Steps have been taken to prevent this in future.
 (C. in C. S.A., 1301N/13 to Admty).
 LISS Norwegian tanker under British Charter. (D.S., 649).

Vichy
Intelligence.

Morin Free French Officer arrived Loanda from Liberia told Consul General following.
 (1) At mouth of Sangwin River approx. 110 miles from Monrovia large stocks of oil fuel and aviation spirit. (2) Vichy French are active in Monrovia. (3) RICHELIEU at Dakar definitely aground in mud, can only be used as a Fort with B turret out of action as result of firing with overcharges. Graded C.O. by S.O.(I) Capetown.
 (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1500/13 to Admty).

/A/A Personnel.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.South Atlantic. - Contd.A/A
Personnel.

Admty 2002B/19/5 and your 1125B/16/5.
Military Light A/A personnel embarked in
Troop Transports. (employment).
(D.T.D., 1710B/13 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown).

AMARANTHUS.

Request report state of AMARANTHUS and if
will be available with CROCUS for escort
of ABOSSO. (C. in C. S.A., 1947N/13 to
DRAGON).

ERLANGEN.

Following is description of German ERLANGEN
at Mar Del Plata.
(S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2050Z/13 to S.A.D.)

DUNAV
Yugoslav.

Now due East London, crew report mutinous
and suggested they may endeavour to take
over ship. Master to Yugoslavia Minister
Washington requested ship be boarded and all
possible assistance given.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2123Z/13 to S.O.(I)
Capetown).

CAMERONIA.

Your 1418/27/5. Request decision as to
onward passage CAMERONIA. Ship arrived
Freetown 13/6. (C. in C. S.A., 2317N/13 to
Admty).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Malta Garrison.

Strength. (C. in C. M.E., No T.O.O./13 to W.O.) See Mediterranean, Volume.

Enemy W/T

From D/F bearing during last 24 hours there was an unusual amount of Italian W/T activity on warship frequency in sector N.E. and N.W. Malta. (Capt. O.S., Alexandria., 0802C/13 to N.O.I.C. Malta).

FIRUZ (French).

Your 2319 (?0329)/12 understood. Well done. After passing Kaso Strait adjust speed to arrive Alexandria Sanctuary 0500/16. Greek S/M TRITON arrived Sanctuary same time from 034° 00'N. 029° 20'E. (Capt. (S) S.I. 1015C/13 to TORBAY).

BURGONET.

Your 2244B/9 B.D.V. BURGONET cannot be spared from Eastern Mediterranean. (C. in C. Med., 1025C/13 to Admty).

Operation "Tracer".Your 0835/13. VICTORIOUS has replaced FURIOUS in "TRACER", "Tracer". (S.O. Force H., 1027/13 to N.O.I.C. Malta).
*See p. 411.*SALZBURG (torpedoed)
GIUSEPPINA
GHIRARDI
JIUL
(reported torpedoed).

Report from Chanak confirmation A.I. German steamer SALZBURG torpedoed and sank with all hands off Imbros 1155/10. Sinking of Italian GIUSEPPINA GHIRARDI and Rumanian JIUL also reported unconfirmed. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1031/13 to S.O.(I) Med).

Italian Ships.
*? URANOArrivals Istanbul 11/6 ~~ANNA REBETON~~ ~~ANNA REBETON~~
DORA C, *URANGANO. Departs - ~~ANNA REBETON~~
~~LA~~ DORA C, for Trieste 1700*URANGANO for Constantza 1100.
(S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1037C/13).
Turkish G.S. state Italian tanker GIUSEPPINA GHIRARDI torpedoed 1045/10 15 miles from Cape Helles and observed to sink. Please inform C. in C. Med., and Captain S.I. (N.A. Angora, 1752/13 to Admty).

/Rhodes bombed.....

War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.Rhodes bombed

Operational summary No. 368 up to 1200 hrs. 13/6 1941. Night 11 - 12/6. 5 Wellingtons bombed Calato aerodrome Rhodes. Wellingtons reported 1 ship 6,000 tons, 1 ship 1,000 tons, 1 Naval Vessel, 1500 tons stationary off Calato and Lindos. 3 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi setting fire to 2 ships in harbour and hitting a ship at end of central breakwater. Day 12/6. Maryland R/C Benghazi reported 1 ship 150 feet on fire second 150 feet sunk, probably those bombed by Wellingtons. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1057/13).

Benghazi
bombed 2 ships
hit.UPHOLDER

Leave patrol p.m./15 and proceed by reverse of ~~SW~~ward route to arrive off Marsamxett 0630B/17.
(Cdr. (S). 1131B/13 to UPHOLDER).

TAKU.

Patrol Northern Approach to Benghazi to intercept traffic reported in Commander 1st S.F. 1025C/(?12)
(Capt. S.l. 1553C/13 to TAKU).

JADE
E/B attack.

C.S.R. Malta up to 1600 hours. 13/6. 0220 hours. JADE attacked by 2 E boats 192° Cape Passaro Light 17 miles whilst searching for missing Hurricane pilot. 1 E boat believed badly damaged, the other was constantly raked by M.G. fire from JADE. JADE suffered no material damage but 1 killed. 6 Swordfish 830 Sqn. F.A.A. despatched attack Tripoli Harbour. 2 returned engine trouble 4 dropped 2,000 lbs G.P. bombs and 100 lbs incendiaries from 3,000 feet on or near Spanish quay and buildings west of town.
12/6 p.m.

Tripoli
bombed.U/B

Sunderland from M.E. sighted and machine gunned Italian submarine 240 miles E.S.E. Malta. Submarine crash dived, No further results seen.
(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta. 1730/13).

JADE
E/B
attack.

JADE was attacked last night by 2 E boats (~~17 or 22~~) miles south of Cape Passaro, torpedo fixed at close range from moonless direction finder. Retire at least 25 miles from enemy coast before charging battery.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1801B/13 to UNBEATEN, REGENT).

War Diary.

13.6.1941.
Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Syria.

Operation
"Pirate".

~~"Pirate"~~ completed.
(D.2. 0024C/13 to C.S. 15).

D.14.

Your 2003. E.T.A. off Saida 1130. My
P.C. and S. are 008° 32° N., 31° E., 16 -
070° - 20.
(Capt. D. 14 0031/13 to C.S. 15).

Air Protection.

Your 1940/12 2 Hurricanes will be over you
at 0445 or as soon as possible afterwards.
(N.O.I.C. Haifa, 0329/13 to C.S.15).

F.A.A. attack
on enemy
warship, Juneh.

Following is repetition of 0515/13 (begins)
H.Q. P. & T.J. C. in C. Med., C.S. 15 repeated
R.A. (A) Med., from Cyprus. One Swordfish
815 Squdn torpedoed the largest of 3 warships
at 0120 hours in Djounich (Juneh) Harbour
8 miles north of Beirut. No ships at
anchorage (3 corrupt groups) (Ends.)
(R.A. Alexandria. 0741C/13 to C.S.15).

Air Report
of Djounich
attack.

Intelligence Summary No. 29 up to 0800 L.S.T.
13/6.
Syria. A/C attacking 0129 hrs. L.S.T. 13/6
reports 2 destroyers 1 sloop in Djounich
Anchorage 8 M. North of Berout 0930 hrs.
1A/C F.A.A. attacked and damaged 1 destroyer
GUEPARD Class Djounich*0129/13/6. *(Juneh).
(H.Q. P & T.J., 1230/13).

ILEX
COVENTRY
HERO
JACKAL.

Sail ILEX, COVENTRY, HERO, and JACKAL, at 0700.
tomorrow Saturday and join me off Sidon.
(C.S. 15 1715/13 to Capt. D.2.)
ILEX, JACKAL, very short of ammunition which
should arrive here not earlier than 0800.
Shall I delay their sailing accordingly until
not later that noon, sailing COVENTRY, HERO,
only in accordance with your 1715?
(D.2. 2201C/13 to C.S.15).

Your 2201C/13.....

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Syria. - Contd.ILEX
COVENTRY
HERO
JACKAL -Contd.

Your 2201C/13 yes. Sail COVENTRY and HERO at time ordered. I will endeavour to send another destroyer to meet them. (C.S., 15 2347/13 to D.2.)

Enemy off
Beirut to
Be attacked.

If enemy forces are reported outside Beirut Harbour you should attack them with your Force. You should not get (?any ship) involved with fixed defences. N.O.I.C. Haifa pass to R.A.F. H.Q. P and T.J. (C. in C. Med., 1731C/13 to F.O. 15 C.S.)

Air Attack
on C.S. 15's
force.

Formation 8 JU 88 with Italian markings attacking Naval Forces 3 miles West of Saïda intercepted by 8 Tomahawks No. 3 R.A.A.F. Bombers caught diving to 3,000 feet to bomb and 3 destroyed confirmed 2 others well hit. (?R.A. Med., 1855/13, H.Q. P and T.J., 1950/13)

Air Report.

Ops summary up to 2000 hours 13/6. 5 sorties T.S.R. of F.A.A. from Lydda night 12/13, 1 attack on destroyer in Beirut Roads, 1 attack on warship 5 miles N of Beirut, both missed. 2 failed locate targets, 1 forced landed. Swordfish 815 sqdn. Cyprus torpedoed largest of 3 warships in Djounieh*Harbour 8 miles N of Beirut. (H.Q. R.A.F. P & T.J., 2002/13). *(Junch).

Beirut
Beirut.R/C over ^{Beirut} ~~Beirut~~ today confirms by photo that 2 destroyer leaders and 1 sloop are lying outside and 2 submarines inside harbour. A later R/C reports that ships outside harbour have been joined by 2 merchant ships and 1 submarine. This later R/C not confirmed by photo. (N.O.I.C. Haifa 2050/13 to C.S.15).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.Food for
Jibuti.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. 129 to C. in C. M.E. Reference Aden telegram 295 of 6/6. Policy of H.M.G. is to maintain strictest possible blockade of Jibuti. Nevertheless H.M.G. consider that a very limited amount of nourishment for benefit of young children and new-born babies might be allowed to pass into the town under strictest supervision. Governor of Jibuti should first be asked to furnish return of numbers involved.
(1st S.L., 0012B/13 to C. in C. E.I.)

CORNWALL
suspicious
ship.

Have passed suspicious vessel in 014° 54' S 042° 05' E steering ('to ? Northward' or possibly '019° 9 miles'). Gave name as ORNA. Did not understand challenge and is not on my shipping list. Ship is of raider type. Am proceeding with convoy.
(CORNWALL, 0151Z/13 to C. in C. E.I.)

KING EDWARD
(overdue).

S.O.(I) Capetown's 2000/25. Wreckage has been reported washed up on Kamaran and Yemen coasts. Not yet identified.
(C. in C. E.I., 0556Z/13 to Admty etc).

Towing of
GLENEARN.

Your 0708/11 will entail risk but considered practicable if Arabic Coast followed.
(Com. R.I.N., 1135Z/13 to C. in C. E.I.)

CANBERRA.

Is to leave Mombasa p.m./14 and proceed as follows (to Tanga and Zanzibar.)
(C. in C. E.I., 1222Z/13).

Convoy W.S.8

Following ships arrived 13/6. EMPRESS OF RUSSIA
ABBEKERK, ARONDA, SOBIESKI.
(N.C.S.O., Suez 1801C/13 to Admty).

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies.T.C.12.

Your 1901/10. Question is under urgent examination but it is unlikely that troop transports can be provided before early August. (D.S.T., 0136B/13 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

PANDORA.

A.M.1124/12 was made before receipt of your 1709/11. Request you will instruct PANDORA to act as you think fit.
(D.O.D. (H) 1220B/13 to R.A.3).

CUBA.

Admty 1542/30/3. (Re CUBA proceeding to U.S.A. for fitting out as troopship) CUBA arrived.
(N.O.I.C. Trinidad, 1304Q/13 to Admty).

MATHURA

Your 1908/17/5. Br. MATHURA has not arrived this side. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1533Z/13 to M. of W.T.)

Fuel and
Water Supplies.

Your 1935N/11/6. A minimum of coal and oil but no water is available at Bermuda. Ships requiring oil should bunker at Trinidad. Ships requiring coal should bunker at Trinidad St. Lucia or St. Thomas. No coal stocks at present at St. Lucia but 6,000 tons expected shortly. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1603Q/13 to C. in C. S.A.)

ACHILLE
(Italian).

Following from Navy Dept. From Tunis dated 11/6 (B.1) ACHILLE sank at Djerissa dock at La Goulitta 9/6 obstructing wharf and partly blocking canal to Tunis. Sinking believed due to a time bomb.
(N.A. Washington, 1725/13 to Admty).
N.I.D. Comment. ACHILLE is Italian vessel of 2415 G.T. No previous information concerning this ship.

Brazilian
Destroyers.

B.A.S.R. Washington 1945/13. See Operations Volume.

U/B Campaign.

Extension still further westward. (D.T.D. 2208/13 to C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa)
See U-Boat Campaign.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.TRESILLIAN

SSSS TRESILLIAN torpedoed 4440 N 45.30 W.
0215 G.M.T. 0347/13 (ends)
(Valentia Radio, 0254/13 0338/13 to W/T Admty)
Your 2339Q/12. RESTIGOUCHE and SAINT CLAIR
sailed 1035Z/13 for position 044° 40' N 045°
30' W to search for survivors of TRESILLIAN
RESTIGOUCHE will join other Newfoundland
force to escort H.X. 132. SAINT CLAIR will
return to join St. John's N.F.
(N.O.I.C. St. John's N.F. 1437Z/13 to C. inC.
A.W.I.)
2 Destroyers from Task Force Group 1 are
searching area in vicinity of position
where TRESSILIAN was torpedoed.
(ALUSNA, 1850/13 to Admty).

S.L. 76
2 ships.

S.L. 76 attacked by S/M in 038° 58' (?) N. 023°
11' W. 2 ships torpedoed.
(CUMBERLAND, 0339Z/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)
S.L. 76 attacked by Submarine. Request
you will instruct FOLKESTONE to detach the
two most suitable A/S Vessels to join S.L.
76 forthwith and remain until prudent limit
of endurance before continuing voyage to
Gibraltar. Estimated P.C. and S. of S.L. 76
at 0800Z/13 was 39° 20' N 23° 12' W 353° 7kts.
(D.D.D. (F) 1059B/13 to F.O.C.N.A.).
At 1340B/13. Bordeaux addressed a long signal
to 3 Italian U/Bs. Considered probable that
these U Boats are shadowing Convoy S.L. 76.
(D.D.I.C. 1554B/13 to CUMBERLAND)

S/Ms Reported.

Following received from St. John's N.F.
(begins) U.S. destroyer BAINBRIDGE reports
submarine 49.12 N 51.24 W sighted periscope
twice and maintained contact for 50 minutes
approx. (Corrupt Group) (Ends),
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0345Z/13 to Admty).

/1605 - 1650/12.....

War Diary.

13.6.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

- 1605 - 1650/12. Following received from OPNAV. In 49 06 N 51 24 W U.S.S. BAINBRIDGE made sound contact on S/M followed by intermittent sound contacts from 1605 to 1650 G.C.T. on 12/6. Ship reports periscope was sighted by two lookouts, course N identity undetermined. Is this likely to be request No. 122? (ALUSNA 0410/13 to Admty).
- 0359 At 0359 G.M.T. Italian submarine bearing 270° 3rd class from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 0520A/13).
- 0330 U-Boat in 038° 53' N 023° (711') W at 0330Z/13. (F.O.C.N.A., 0715/13)
0630. U-Boats reported 50 miles S.E. Fair Isle at 0630/13 and may pass S. Fair Isle Channel. 2 motor launches are to proceed with despatch to patrol South Fair Isle channel on a line between Fair Isle and North Ronaldshay. If weather conditions are unsuitable M.L.s should shelter under lee of North Ronaldshay or return to Scapa reporting their movements. When investigating contact depth charges are not to be dropped to Eastward 001° W. BLACK SWAN is S.O. Aircraft will be co-operating. (A.C.O.S., 1026B/13 to C.O. Coastal Force.)
0830. U-Boat sighted in vicinity of 061° 10' N 001° 40' E at 0830 B. Carry out anti U-Boat patrol in this vicinity. (F.O.S., 1146B/13 to P.31 amended 1421B/13).
- 1232 Am over enemy submarine in 48° N., 7° W 217 4RID3 Enemy submarine previously reported was when first sighted on course 340°. (A/C Q.1. 1232/13 to 19 Group H.Q.)

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C., 1556B/13).

War Diary.

13.6.1941.
Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

1547/2.

Master of Yugoslav S.S. ANTE MATKOVIC reports having sighted a submarine on the surface at 1547/2 in 34.27 N 07.50 W nationality unknown but coming from direction of Casablanca. Submarine painted grey and one gun forward and one aft. A loaded tanker flying Spanish colours was sighted about six miles from the submarine at the same time and steering in a N.E. direction. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 1600N/13

1737.

By D/F at 1737/13 G.M.T. position of German U/Boat was 43° 00' N 28° 00' W. This position is an indication of the area only. (D.D.I.C., 2150B/13). Admty 2150B/13. CAVINA to take area A.1. forthwith. (F.O.C.N.P., 2340B/13 to Western Patrol.)

Indications that U/Bs likely to extend their operations still further westward. Suggestions, (D.T.D., 2208B/13 to C. in C. A.W.I., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa). See Lion Copy.

Submarines Attacked.

By WELLS.
12/6.

My 2200B/12. Have lost contact am carrying out search. (WELLS, 0135B/13 to Admty). Proceed to join WELLS to assist hunt U Boat reported in 055° 54' 30" N, 007° 03' W. (C. in C. W.A., 0401/13 to PIMPERNEL, ARBUTUS, DIANELLA). Ref. 1025B 13 C. in C. W.A. Search abandoned (?am) returning to base. (WELLS, 1230/13 to Admty).

By A/C 0605.

Following recd. from Rosyth W/T Addressed 18 (R) H.Q., Am over enemy S/M have attacked enemy with torpedo. Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. P.C. and S. of enemy was 59.05N., 00.01 W. 315° 3 knots. (? 0605/13).

/ A/C's 0605.....

To: C. in C. America & West Indies 650 Date: 13.6.41.

N.S.H. O. Ottawa 4/1
repeated C.O.C. Halifax
P.A. 3rd B.S. 283**MOST SECRET**

423A

N.O.I.C. St. Johns N.F.

Commodore C.N.F.

C. in C. Western Approaches 853

A.O.C. in C. Coastal Command.

Naval Cypher Al.

From: Admiralty.

There are indications that U boats are likely to extend their operations still further westward. The new end to end routing policy by which O.B. convoys will disperse off the Newfoundland bank, the necessity for maintaining a lane for H.K. and S.C. convoys and the increased amount of shipping proceeding up to St. Lawrence, all tend to create a vulnerable focal area within a radius of about 500 miles from Cape Race in which U boats might inflict heavy casualties. If U boats appear in this area it is most desirable that they should be constantly harried particularly by attacks from the air. Experience in other areas has shown that U boats frequently break W/T silence either to report a Convoy or to announce a kill and all possible use should be made of D/F stations to fix their positions which should be immediately reported to the Admiralty. Details of U boat W/T procedure are given in C.B.4002 and C.B.4002 N(1) copies of the latter are not yet distributed to all Authorities. The Admiralty will re-route ships and convoys as necessary to avoid known dangers and will keep N.S.H. Ottawa informed of the positions and routes of all outward bound merchant ships and convoys which enter a circle drawn 700 miles from Cape Race. It is requested that the following details of aircraft available for trade protection may be signalled.

(A) Allocation (B) Numbers (C) Types (D) Radius of action with bomb load and/or depth charges. (E) Number of depth charges available.

2208B/13

D.T.D. (172)

1st Lord
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
3rd S.L.
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) (2)
N.A. to 1st S.L.
D. of P (2)
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.O.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (H)
D.N.I. (4)

D. S.D.
D. of L.D.
D.N.A.D.
D.A/S.W.
D.M.S.
I.P. (2)
W.D.
Duty Captain
Hd. of E.
D.T.S.D.
D.D.L.C.
E.P.S.
D.C.D. (2)
N.I.D. 10 (Payr. Cdr. Wilson)
D.T.D. (M)

766

MOST SECRET.War Diary.13.6.1941.
Friday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Attacked.By A/C
0605.
Contd.

A/C's 0605. Pilot reports definitely 2 S/Ms on surface in company course 3/6 when first sighted at close range.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1024/13 to C. in C. H.F. etc)

By A/C 0830.

Am over enemy submarine in position OVRU 0430 (W.D. Note. Latitude indecypherable) Have attacked Enemy with bombs level and estimate no hits.
(A/C., duty Z, 0830/13 to ? Wick).

By SEALION
30/5.

SEALION reports at 1714B/30/5 in 46° 58' N 04° 12' W. fired 6 torpedoes at U-Boat probably 750 tons. No hits. Enemy's course 030° speed 12 knots, range 1500 yards. Five torpedoes detonated at end of run.
(F.O.S., 1313B/13 to Admtty).

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.

War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Principal Events.

A.M.C. patrol in Denmark Straits is to be discontinued.

Further heavy air attack on naval units at Brest.

Thames Estuary mined.

Message from Chiefs of Staff to C. in C's Med. and M.E. regarding despatch of aircraft to M.E. and their employment.

U-Boat in the Denmark Straits.

Further report of U-Boat off Newfoundland.

Home Commands.

The A.M.C. patrol in Denmark Straits is to be discontinued.

F.O.2nd I/c H.F. transferred his flag to ARETHUSA today.

War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

58 Aircraft of Bomber Command last night attacked the identified positions of the two battle cruisers at Brest. No direct hits were seen.

39 aircraft attacked the PRINZ EUGEN at Brest and claim that 25% of bombs straddled the dock in which she lay.

A minor attack was made on Boulogne last night.

Enemy Air Activity.

Dutch S.S. GAASTERKERK reported being bombed at 0438 in 58° 4' N. 10° 52' W.

~~French N.F.M.~~

H.M.D. MUTIN had one casualty when machine gunned at 1800 off the Lizard.

Belgian trawler CHARLOTTE was slightly damaged off Berry Head.

Damage was caused last night at Upnor Armament Depot and to Naval Establishments at Chatham.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.Mining.Thames
Estuary.

There were considerable aircraft activity and explosions last night in the Thames Estuary. Minelaying is suspected, and acoustic and magnetic mines were detonated today. One or two enemy aircraft were brought down. Some aircraft flew low in the Outer Estuary and were heavily engaged by Ships. An area off Erith has been closed to navigation.

Yarmouth.

Several magnetic mines have been detonated off Yarmouth and F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth has asked that a danger area may be declared.

Mines were detonated off Liverpool, Milford Haven and the Humber, and 6 S.A. mines off the Tyne.

Hartlepool was opened this morning. The Tees was opened this afternoon and will be closed daily from 0500 to 1200 approx.

South Atlantic.

BOREAS and VELOX in the early hours of this morning sighted a French convoy of 3 merchant ships escorted by a sloop, steering 220°, not far from Dakar.

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.

The Chiefs of Staff sent a message today to C's in C. Med and M.E. regarding the despatch of aircraft to M.E. and their employment.

CLYDE today sank by gunfire a 500 ton auxiliary sailing vessel 20 miles south of Sardinia, strongly suspected to be an A/S vessel, and took 7 prisoners.

X 909412LMO

Palestine
and Syria.

There was an air raid on Haifa from 0150 to 0530 today. No damage was caused and there is indication of mines being dropped in the water near the port area; sweeping operations are being carried out though the port is not closed.

Four F.A.A. Swordfish from Cyprus attacked Beirut at 0400 today and torpedoed one unidentified ship, believed to be a merchantman, which was lying where destroyers had previously been located.

LEANDER's force (supporting the army off the coast) whilst chasing two French destroyers of GUEPARD class reported by GRIFFIN off Beirut, was unsuccessfully attacked this evening by 4 or 5 French aircraft. The French destroyers took refuge in harbour.

Swordfish A/C intercepted French S.S. ST. DIDIER and CHATEAU YQUEM steering west in approx. 36° 30' N. 31° 50' E. The ships took refuge in Turkish territorial waters and were last reported at anchor in Alanya at 1540.

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.SITUATION REPORT.East Indies.Assab.

C. in C.E.I. reports that at Assab all utility services, including light, power, water and refrigerators are working. A small armed tug in running order was captured. Lighters are available.

America and West Indies.

It is reported that the U.S. destroyer and air patrol off Fort de France has been discontinued.

U-Boat Campaign.Denmark
Strait.

A U-boat was sighted and bombed by aircraft this afternoon in 66° 50' N. 23° 10' W.

North
Sea.

U-boats are being searched for near Fair Island following up aircraft sightings yesterday.

Western
Approaches.

Several Italian S/M's are thought to be shadowing Convoy S.L. 76 north of the Azores.

South
Atlantic.

It is reported that S.S. SACRAMENTO VALLEY was torpedoed at 0500/6 in 17° 10' N. 30° 10' W.

America and
West Indies.

A U-boat has been reliably reported about 200 miles E. of St. Johns N.F.

War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

ROYAL ULSTERMAN

Is to be commissioned as H.M.Ship and will be taken in hand for certain fitting work. (D. of S.T. 0459B/14)

4th D.F.

Your 2201/28/5. It is considered that with important German units in Brest there is still a requirement in your Command for some good fighting destroyers and so the 4th D.F. must continue to be administered from Plymouth.

Owing to the exceptionally heavy commitments for destroyers, anticipate it will be necessary to ask for the assistance of the 4th D.F. for special Atlantic convoys at frequent intervals.

(1st S.L. 1005B/14 to C. in C. Plymouth)

Meeting of P.M.
with C's in C.

Your 2115B/11. I would like to raise 2 points.

- (a) Watch on Northern Straits.
- (b) Offensive raids on enemy coast. (C. in C. H.F. 2015B/14 to Adty.)

Your 1710B/12. As the P.M. desires items limited to major items of policy affecting more than one Service, intend to omit your item 3 which it is suggested you should discuss with A.C.N.S.(T), who is on a Cabinet Committee which enquires into such matters.

Items 4, 5, and 6, please see my 2342B/14 para. 2.

(1st S.L. 2357B/14 to C. in C. Nore)

15th M.L.F.

Adty. 2022/5/5. It is now considered undesirable to operate 15th M.L.F. in 2 divisions. In view of importance of operating M.Ls. from Iceland at least during Summer months it is proposed to transfer all boats of 15th M.L.F. to Iceland. Request your remarks. (A.C.N.S.(H) 2043B/14 to C. in C. H.F., A.C.O.S.)

/A.M.C's.....

War Diary

14.6.1941.
Saturday

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy Contd.

A.M.C's.

F.O.C.N.P. 1500B/13. A.M.C. patrol in Denmark Strait is to be discontinued but for the present all A.M.Cs. escorting H X convoys will call at Reykjavik with personnel and embark their full complement of personnel for passage to Halifax.
2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to route A.M.Cs. from the convoy to Reykjavik and to detail A/S escort.
3. F.O.I/C. Iceland should sail A.M.Cs. from Reykjavik to Halifax, after embarking personnel, when A/S escort is available.
4. After arrival of convoy D.S.6, DERBYSHIRE should be sailed for Halifax as soon as A/S escort is available.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 2141B/14).

Defence of U.K.

Aberdeen and
Peterhead
Torpedo
Defences.

Proposing that they be abolished in view of completion of observation minefields.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1235/14).

Iceland (C)
W/T.

Your 25/114/41 of the 24/4. In view of your 1627/17/5 do you still need the new set applied for.
(Hd. of M. 2150B/14 to F.O.I.C. Iceland (C)).

War Diary14.6.1941
SaturdayHOME COMMANDS.MovementsA/S escort
for A.M.C's.

Your 1510/13 position in regard to A/S escort for A.M.C's arriving and leaving Iceland (C) is as follows. Armed Merchant cruisers usually leave H.X. Convoy with portion of escort who require to refuel in Iceland. No suitable A/S escort is available for A.M.C. sailing for Halifax independently, and O.B. convoys seldom coincide with their dates and much delay their arrival. Aircraft are not generally available for A/S protection of A.M.C's. In these circumstances they have been routed independently far to westward and unescorted.
(N.O.I/C Iceland (C) 1015/14 to F.O.C.N.P.)

HERMIONE

C.S.18's 1415/12 . On relief by EDINBURGH on 16/6 HERMIONE is to refuel at Hvalfiord and return to Scapa for stores. She will then be transferred to Western Approaches Command. (C. in C. H.F. 1147B/14 to C.S.18, HERMIONE)

M.L's for
Gibraltar.

A.M. 1724B/8 and 1310B/11. Delete all reference to WINDSOR who will now complete working up at Scapa. (D.O.D.(H) 1321B/14)

P 31.

Leave patrol routed through 060° 58' N 000° 54' W so as to R/V STOKE CITY at 0400B/16 in 060° 43' N 001° 22' W for onward escort to Scapa. T.B.R. arranged till 1600. (Capt. (S) 9 1459B/14 to P.31).

Orders for STOKE CITY to R/V (A.C.O.S. 1542/14 to N.O.I.C. Lerwick 2256B/14 to P.31). *See also next page*

HEYTHROP

Your No.419/6 of 11/6. Request programme may be amended to allow HEYTHROP to carry out passage Tyne to Methil and Methil to Scapa in daylight. Due to vulnerability of new ships, with untrained crews, to air attack it is further requested that this may be allowed for in all future programmes of new ships. (C. in C. Rosyth 1500/14 to .A.S.C.B.S)

/M.L's & A/S.....

War Diary.14.6.1941
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements Contd.M.L's & A/S
Tr's for
Freetown.

Request you will arrange for M.Ls 242, 261, 265, 266 and 272 of 17th M.L. Flotilla and A/S Trawlers SOUTHERN PRIDE and SOUTHERN GEM to assemble at Londonderry.

2. When ready for sea, the M.Ls are to be sailed under their own power for Freetown with the two A/S Trawlers as escort. Flotilla should be routed via Gibraltar and Bathurst.

4. Request you will arrange and report route selected, together with any special orders considered necessary for the operation.

5. Your 1215B/11 SOUTHERN PRIDE and SOUTHERN GEM should not sail with O.G.65. (D.A/S.W.1922B/14 to C. in C. W.A.)

Operations.P.31.

P.31 is to be withdrawn from patrol to-morrow. (F.O.S. 1211B/14)

*See previous page.*Northern
Patrol

3 New Areas are to be instituted. Areas are bounded by eastern extremity by meridian 035° W on western extremity by meridian 038° W and parallel 040° in north, 039° N 038° N and 037° N at southern extremity. Areas to be known as A.Z., B.Z., C.Z. reading from north to south. (F.O.C.N.P. 1830B/14 to Western Patrol).

Western
Patrol
Areas

Adty. 1622B/13.

(i) Areas AZ, BZ, CZ, are to be transferred 50 miles Westwards.

(ii) In para. 3 for Area A1, reach (? read) Area C1. (D.O.D.(F) 2355B/14 to F.O.C. N.P.)

War Diary.

14.6.1941
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

R/C's

All P.R.U's of Brest, 14/6 failed owing to adverse weather conditions. (H.Q.C.C. no T.O.O.)
P.R.U. R/C of Christiansand Harbour and coast Christiansund to Egersund being carried out shortly. (C. in C. Rosyth 1028/14 to C. in C. H.F.)

Escort.

My 2116/13. Aircraft delayed indefinitely owing to weather. (C. in C. Rosyth 0158/14 to C. in C. H.F.)

Operation "Nordic."
NORDIC.

6 aircraft, 9 officers, 8 ratings of 816 Squadron arriving P.M./15. (Eastleigh 1034/14 to Abbotsinch).

A/C distribution

Ops.646 14/6. Our Ops.633 11/6. All A/C of 15, 16, 19 Groups are to be returned to their respective stations as soon as weather permits. (H.Q.C.C. 1040/14)

Attacks on
pocket battleship
and on Brest

Day 13/6. Four Stirlings of 3 group set out to attack the pocket battleship LÜTZOW which had been reported off the South of Norway. But all four aircraft were recalled shortly after leaving.

Night 13/14th June

Brest:

22 Wellington and 36 Hampdens attacked the unidentified positions of the SCHARNHORST and GNEISNAU.

No direct hits were observed but the majority of bursts were seen in the target area, fires were started East and West of the GNEISNAU position and on the quay South West of the SCHARNHORST.

37 Wellingtons and two Stirlings attacked the PRINZ EUGEN or the immediate vicinity. All crews report impossibility of accurate observation owing to haze and smoke screen, but 25 per cent claim to have straddled the dock in which the cruiser is berthed.

Boulogne.

Dock and harbour installations were attacked by two Wellington of 3 Group. (H.Q.B.C. T.H.I.1720/14)

War Diary

14.6.1941
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Automatic A A A A Signal heard at 0331 G.M.T. Strength 2 bearing 181° approx. From Port Patrick. (Port Patrick Radio 0331/14) (Lands End 0337/14).

GAASTERKERK
(Dutch, 8679 tons) bombed

Intercepted at 0438 G.M.T. DE GAASTERKERK A A A A 58° 08' N 12° W. GAASTERKERK bombed bearing from G.P.K. 312°. (Port Patrick Radio 0438/14) Intercepted 0504 G.M.T. DE GAASTERKERK corrected position 58.04 N 10.52 W. (Port Patrick Radio 0504/14)

DALEMOOR
(Bombed 13/6)

DALEMOOR in tow of ABELLE IV escorted by ROBERT STROUD and CRAFTSMAN sailed in accordance with your 1757/13. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0452/14 to C. in C. Rosyth) Fire under control. Propose anchor east of Inchkeith until morning. Wind W. by S. strong. No steam for windlass. (Salvage Officer Tug CHAMPION 2335/14)

Upnor.

At 0130/14 one bomb was dropped on R.H.A. Depot Upnor causing extensive damage. (S.C.E. Chatham 1225/14 C. in C. Nore 1529B/14).

Chatham.

During air raid at Chatham at about 0130/14 damage was caused by blast from high explosive bombs at R.N. Barracks, Admiralty House, R.M. Barracks, R.N. Hospital etc. (Suptg. C.E. Chatham 1345/14).

REGISTAN
(bombed 27/5)

REGISTAN was bombed off Cape Cornwall at 2240/27 and set on fire. Ship was eventually brought into Falmouth and beached. Twenty six survivors landed at Milford Haven. Twenty eight including Captain at Falmouth. Twelve buried at sea. Thirteen unidentified being buried at Falmouth 3/6. More bodies in engine room not yet recovered. (F.O.C.N.P. 1442/13 to Adty.)

/Unknown ship.....

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Enemy Air Activity Contd.Unknown ship.

A A A A intercepted by Humber Radio at 1317 G.M.T. From unknown station bearing 183° approx. begins. (F.O. Humber 1537B/14)

Mining.B S.64.

B S 64 postponed 24 hours owing to air escort not being available tomorrow. (C. in C. Nore 0940B/14 to TEVIOT BANK)

B S.58.

Your 1742B/13. Intend to sail 2000/16. (PLOVER 1015B/14 to C. in C. Nore).

Hartlepool
Tees.Port of Hartlepool open. Port of Tees remains closed. Expect to open Tees 1400 today. Tees will be closed daily until further orders from 0500 until 1200 approx. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1103/14)
My 1103/14. Port of Tees open. (N.O.I/C. Hartlepool 1544/14).Operation
S N.66R.A. M.L 1148/12 AURORA is to provide A.A. escort. During lay NIGERIA and KENYA are to provide cover from east of minefield, KENYA refuelling at Skaalefiord if necessary. (2) After lay KENYA provide A/A escort for R.A. M. and return to Scapa, AURORA proceed on Iceland - Faroes patrol and NIGERIA refuel at Skaal Fjord and return to patrol. (3) F.O. 2nd I/C H.F. will transfer his flag to ARETHUSA today. (C. in C.H.F. 1135B/14).
My 1148B 12th item D 1(one). Add WELLS. (R.A.(M) 1212B/14).
Expect A/S air escort by A/C of 18 Group as follows from 1200/15 to 0100/17. (C. in C. Rosyth 2346/14 to R.A.M.)

/Thames Estuary.....

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining Contd.Thames
Estuary,

One S.A. Mine detonated at 0540/14 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1235/14). One magnetic mine detonated by L.L. Trawlers STAUNCH and SUNLIGHT at 1001/14 as follows. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1237/14). Area between Dartford Creek to Upstream of Littlebrook Power Station on South Side of Channel is closed to navigation until further notice. (F.O.I.C. London 1543/14) There was a considerable aircraft activity from about 0100 to 0415 in Thames Estuary. At 0121 a plane was brought down by night fighters over North Knob Sand. 0151 Four objects, two of which exploded were heard to drop approximately between Knob and East Knob Buoys. 0205 A plane is thought to have been brought down over the Isle of Grain. 0245 and 0252 explosions possibly mines towards North End of Barrow Deep. 0318 Explosions possibly mine 040° considerable distance from Edinburgh Channels. 0405 Parachute mine seen to fall 3½ cables 130° from South Oaze Buoy. At 0216 and 0530 R.D.F. Plots suggested minelaying in area of East Shingles Buoy and B.1 Buoy respectively. Several planes in Outer Estuary were low and were heavily engaged by ships. (S.O.T.L.D.F. Sheerness 1709/14)

Liverpool.

At 0950/14 one S.A. Mine detonated as follows. Details. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1319/14).

Yarmouth.

In view of the fact that six magnetic ground mines have been detonated in 52° 33' 50" N 001° 51' E request that dangerous area may be declared within radius of ½ mile from South East Scroby Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1407B/14, 1718B/14). L.L. Trawlers detonated 8 red magnetic mines today between positions 52° 33' 45" N 01° 51' 10" E and 52° 36' 35" N 01° 50' 30" E. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 2150B/14).

/ CUMBERLAND.....

War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining Contd.

CUMBERLAND.

C. In C. Nore's 0336/12. Owing to the length of time S.A. gear will have to operate it is considered that two sweepers should accompany CUMBERLAND from May Island to Sheerness probably about 26/6.
2. WINDSOR has been made available and HAMBLEDON should complete working up by about 20/6.
3. R.A.D. H.F. is requested to sail HAMBLEDON to Chatham as soon as she is worked up in order to fit S.A. gear. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1609B/14 to C. in C. Nore, Rosyth, R.A(D) H.F., N.O.I.C. Dundee).

Humber.

L.L. Trawlers exploded the following 2 mines today. (F.O. Humber 1730B/14)

Tyne.

S.A. Report Results. Position of 6 S.A. mines detonated 14/6. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1743/14).

S.S. ALA.

S.S. ALA was sunk by mine in 50° 41' 57" N 0° 52' 00 W 2038/13 while being towed from Shoreham to Southampton by ~~rescue~~ tug SECURITY in accordance with A.M. 1704B/10. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1818B/14)

Milford Haven.

Two mines detonated off St. Annes Head. Details. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1845B/14)

Casualties & Defects.

BLUEBIRD.

Motor boat BLUEBIRD (11) was rammed and sunk in Edinburgh Dock Leith on 13/6. Coxswain died of injuries. (N.O.I.C. Leith & Granton 1158/14).

/ INTREPID.....

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.HOME COMMANDS.Casualties & Defects Contd.INTREPID.

Cancel my 2130B/13, 2135/13 and 1034/14, INTREPID delayed with Boiler defect. Further signal will be made. (F.O.Humber 1220/14).

Shipping & Convoys.H.X. 129

Arrived complete under Cdre. R.P. Galer, R.N.R. 37 British, 18 Allied, 2 neutral ships. Cargoes. (D.S. 648, 14/6)

W S 9B.

Proposed embarkation programme. (D.S.T. 0500B/14 to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland amended 2354B/15).

Ships for St. Lawrence.

O.B.336 Adty.1618B/11/6. Submit that all ships bound Gulf of St. Lawrence should disperse at position (e) and be independently routed via Belle Isle Strait. (N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe 1200B/14 to Admt.) Reply: 1644/15.

SC.32.

Route lengthened. Two stragglers, All ships now arrived. Weather foggy. (D.T.D. 1232B/14 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa)

W.N. and Ocean Convoys

14 ships in HX 130 are destined for East Coast ports. If sailing of Loch Ewe portion of W.N.42 is postponed 24 hours, these ships will arrive at destination 3 days earlier. Request you will consider this and possibility of sailing W.N. convoys in conjunction with arrival of ocean convoys. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1909B/14 to C. In C. W.A.) Reply 1830/16.

O.G. and O.B.(S) Convoys

N.C.S.Os at Convoy Assembly Ports in U.K. are not to sail ships of 9 knots and over bound for North American ports north of and including Jacksonville in O B (S) or O G convoys; nor are ships for South Atlantic

/ports.....

War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys Contd.

O.G. and O.B.S.
Convoys Contd.

ports normally to be sailed in northbound O B convoys, unless it is not practicable for them to steam at the slow speed of the O G and O B (S) convoys. Ships for ~~West~~ West Indian ports or the Gulf of Mexico may be sailed in any outward bound convoy. (A.C.N.S.(T) 2253B/14 to N.C.S.O's.)

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.H.G.65.
O.G.65.

Departures WELLINGTON, OLYMPUS with H.G.65. Local escort LADY HOGARTH until 2200/20. GERANIUM, JONQUIL, SPIREA transferring to O.G.65 as directed by C. in C. W.A. (S.O.I. Gib., 0600A/14 to Admty. etc.)

Genoa.

Intelligence. S/M reported off Genoa 2/6 (B.2) Eastbound traffic to Genoa leaves coast in vicinity of Cape Martin and makes for point 12 miles S. of Port Ellen. Southbound traffic hugging coast within 1 mile. (F.O.C.N.A. 1510A/14 to S/M O.24)

BERGAMOT.

May call Ponta Delgada for fuel about 18/6. (D.O.D.(F) 1709B/14 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)

AZALEA.

Departure AZALEA escorting Greek MOUNT LYCABETTUS parting company as requisite to pass through 034° 53' N. 011° 20' W. at 0600/17 to R/V with Panamanian NORVINN thence to Gibraltar. (S.O.I. Gib., 2000A/14 to Admty.)

SEVERN.

Departure SEVERN in accordance with my 1810/12. (F.O.C.N.A. 2136A/14 to Admty.etc.)

French Convoy.

Gibraltar 14/6 1200 French Light Cruiser MILAN, PORTHOS believed full of cotton, FRIMAIRE in ballast, PIERRE L.D. laden, passing Eastbound. 1410, French M/S ENGAGEANTE, KAKOULIMA full, ALICE, both laden latter with deck cargo, eastbound. (S.O.I. Gib., 2231A/14 to Admty. etc.)

/VICTORIOUS

War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

VICTORIOUS.
RENOWN.
ARK ROYAL.

S.O. Force "H"s 1042/13. RENOWN and ARK ROYAL are to escort VICTORIOUS so as to arrive in position "X" 48° N. 25° W. at 1200 Z + 2 on 19/6. C. in C.W.A. is requested to arrange for inward A/S escort to meet VICTORIOUS in position "X" and route her to Clyde. In absence of further instructions RENOWN and ARK ROYAL are to return to -Gibraltar from position "X".
(A.C.N.S.(F) 2250B/14 to S.O. Force H. etc.)
Position X amended, see 1601/16.

South Atlantic.

Bathurst precautions.

My 1530B/7 and your 1335/N/10. Present situation does not now require drastic action as regards shipping at Bathurst, but essential to keep numbers in that port low. Intention is to continue S.L. convoys but to keep them as small as possible. In view of its value as a fuelling base it is considered that retention of an oiler in Bathurst is justified. (A.C.N.S.(T) 0038B/14 to C. in C.S.A.)

French Convoy Dakar.

Sighted French convoy of 3 merchant ships escorted by a sloop in 14° N., 18° W. 11 x 19 approx. C. and S. 220° 8 knots. Am shadowing with VELOX and shall deal with them at daylight if their destination is a free French port. Am rather close to Dakar at the moment. (BOREAS 0300Z/14 to C. in C.S.A.)

Aircraft for Bathurst.

Further to my 1810/2. Air party of 200 Sqn. left here on 11/6 for Gibraltar. 7 Hudsons were sent of which one will return here. Aircraft being employed on operations in vicinity of Gibraltar and will then leave for you. Possible they will arrive Bathurst R.A.F. Station on 16/6 or 17/6. (Air Min., 1130/14 to Bathurst R.A.F.)

/French

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War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

French Convoy,
Lome.

Reported French Minesweeper LA SURPRISE arrived and sailed Lome 11/6 escorting 3 merchant vessels. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1146B/14 to Admty.)

LONDON.
HIGHLANDER.

Departure 2330N/13. LONDON in accordance with your 1631B/13 to C. in C. S.A. HIGHLANDER to R.V. noon/15. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1203N/14 to Admty.)

ATALAIA.
S.O.S.

Your 2118/9 F.O. I.C. Simonstown reported on 25/5 that distress message had been received from Brazilian ATALAIA that day stating she was badly damaged by sea in 039° 07' S. 002° 10' W. At 1534/15/5 she sent out a final S.O.S. Presume she foundered. (S.O.I. Freetown, 1320N/14 to S.O.I. Montevideo.)

W.S.9.A.

Departure 0700/14. BRILLIANT to R/V with convoy W.S.9.A. (S.O.I. Freetown 1507N/14 to Admty.)

Shipping
Facilities,
Takoradi,
Lagos etc.

Your 1530/7 0038B/14 and My 1823/7. Request if ships for convoy from West Coast are still to be sailed for Bermuda or Sydney. C.B. If so, they may have to fuel Takoradi or Lagos unless special facilities are provided at Libreville. No coal available at Takoradi and little oil and water and collier tanker and water boat would have to be sent at once. Facilities at Lagos to coal one ship a day but no oil. Difficulty in situation not arisen yet as ports have been closed but Takoradi should be open tomorrow 15/6 and Lagos about 19/6. (C. in C.S.A. 1755N/14 to Admty.)

Dispositions.

Weekly state 14/6. (C. in C.S.A. 1811N/14)
See Lion Copy.

/Corvettes

443A

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E 1811N/14th June.

MOST SECRET

IN

From C. in C. South Atlantic.

Date 15.6.41.
Recd. 2114.

N.A.L. CYPHER (D) BY W/T

Addressed R.A. S...D., N.O.I.C. Simonstown.

Weekly state 14th June.

Freetown. H.M.S. VINDICTIVE H.M.S. NEPTUNE H.M.S. QUEEN OF
BERNARD. H.M.S. ESPERANCE BAY H.M.S. CILICIA H.M.S. DUNCAN
H.M.S. CLEMATIS H.M.S. ASPHODEL H.M.S. CALENDULA H.M.S. BRIDGEWATER
COLUMBINE MASTER.

Freetown area. H.M.S. LONDON H.M.S. SHROPSHIRE H.M.S. NORFOLK
H.M.S. EAGLE H.M.S. DUNEDIN H.M.S. HIGHLANDER H.M.S. BOREAS
H.M.S. BRILLIANT H.M.S. VELOX SURPRISE ARRIERLA BURDOCK.

U.K. Freetown. H.M.S. BIRMINGHAM H.M.S. DUNNOTAR CASTLE
escorting W S 9. MIGNONETTE BERGMOT.

Freetown U.K. H.M.S. CUMBERLAND H.M.S. MORETON BAY
escorting S L 76 H.M.S. ARMA escorting S L 77 with H.M.S. CYCLAMEN
H.M.S. GARDENIA MARGUERITE as local escort.

Gibraltar. H.M.S. WILD SWAN H.M.S. WIVERN H.M.S. VANSITTART
H.M.S. WRESTLER.

Gulf of Guinea. H.M.S. DRAGON ANTHRAXUS CROCUS ANCHUSA.

Sailed from Cape H.M.S. ANSON H.M.S. ALBATROSS

St. Helena area H.M.S. CARRIVON CASTLE proceeding towards
Plate H.M.S. PRETORIA CASTLE on patrol.

Freetown Durban. H.M.S. EXETER escorting W S 8 B.

Simonstown. H.M.S. MILFORD.

Durban. H.M.S. COLOMBO French Sloop M/S COMMANDEUR DUBOC.

Plate area. H.M.S. NEWCASTLE H.M.S. ASTURUS.

Rio de Janeiro area. H.M.S. ALCENTARA.

U.S.A. H.M.S. DELHI H.M.S. CLINTON.

U.K. Ports H.M.S. BULOLO H.M.S. CATHLY H.M.S. VIMY.

Calcutta. H.M.S. CORFU.

1811N/14.

Advance copy Ops. O.D., O.I.C.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1st Lord. | I.P.(2) |
| 1st S.L. | W.D. |
| 4th S.L. | Duty Captain |
| 5th S.L. | Head of M. |
| V.C.N.S. | D.T.S.D. |
| A.C.N.S.(H) | D.D.I.C. |
| A.C.N.S.(F) | E.P.S. |
| A.C.N.S.(T)(2) | D.T.D.(2) |
| N... 1st S.L. | N.I.D. 10(Pay.Cdr. Wilson) |
| D.O.D.(H) | D. of P.(2) |
| D.D.O.D.(H) | |
| D.O.D.(F) | |
| D.D.O.D.(F) | |
| D.N.I.(4) | |
| D.S.D. | |
| D.N.I.D. | |
| D.A/S.W. | |

MG

War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Corvettes.
Takoradi.

Your 0735/14. Corvettes can be employed on A/S patrol for present. Port Takoradi may be opened (?when). Channel has been swept for contact mines by mine sweepers which Takoradi reported would be ready for Service 14/6. Important this should be done as soon as possible. (C. in C.S.A. 2045N/14 to DRAGON)

SCYTHIA.
(Gibraltar
refugees)

My 2027/10. SCYTHIA delayed. Will now arrive 22/6. (C. in C.S.A. 2121N/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)
My 2027/10. Intend to sail SCYTHIA 1700/15 for Gibraltar (route) Escort DUNCAN in vicinity of Freetown then unescorted. E.T.A. Gibraltar 1600N/22. (C. in C.S.A. 2127N/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Mediterranean.

Situation
Report No.55.

Syria. Army continue to progress slowly and unconfirmed report Saida has been captured. Destroyers bombarded large battery of French 75's and other French positions in vicinity of Saida. (One?) Swordfish of 815 Sqn. torpedoed French warship not yet identified at 0129/13 in Djounieh Harbour. Ships at sea have had some fighter protection but this may now have to be withdrawn. Force with C.S.15 attacked by nine JU.88 at 0530, no damage to ships. Three JU.88 shot down and two damaged by fighters. 3. Submarines. My 2214C/12, para. 4 tanker torpedoed by PARTHIAN was probably STROMBO which reached Istanbul. (C. in C. Med. 0014C/14 to Admty.)

JADE.

Will be on patrol in position 220 Cape San Demetri 100 from 1500 to 1800/14.
(V.A. Malta, 0853B/14 to S.O. Force H.)

/SULLBERG

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.SULLBERG.
(German)

Left 12/6 for Marseilles. (Valencia 0902/14 to M. of W.T.)

Operation "Thark."
~~THARK.~~
CACHALOT.*(later cancelled.)*
see p. 622.

Para. 4. Ref. grided map of Derna point selected UEL CHALIG 622 452, 032° 40' 18" N. 022° 56'. Paras 4 and 5. Light will be shown as follows. letter F flashing at 5 second intervals for half minute periods every 10 minutes from 0130 C until 0330C. Acknowledge on arrival Malta and repeat back point selected. (Capt. S.I. 0907C/14 to CACHALOT)

Operational Summary

No.867 up to 1200 hours 14/6/1941. Night 12/13.

Rhodes bombed.

Two Wellingtons bombed Calato aerodrome, Rhodes, starting one fire.

Benghazi
bombed.

Western Desert. Night 12/13.

Six Wellingtons attacked Benghazi harbour. F.A.A. aircraft bombed enemy observation post at Ras El Milh north of Bardia. (H.Q., R.A.F. M.E., 1036/14)

Haifa A/A.

H.M. Ships berthing at Haifa must be dispersed so as to provide the best A.A. defence for harbour. (C. in C. Med. 1138C/14 to N.O.I.C. Palestine Ports.)

H.M. Ships berthing at Haifa must be dispersed as much as possible with object of avoiding more than one vessel being damaged by the same bomb. This should also enable them to use their A.A. armament to best advantage. Cancel my 1138C/14. (C. in C. Med. 1848C/14 to N.O.I.C. Palestine Ports.) Your 1138/14. This is being done. During recent three raids on Haifa A.A. fire from ships in harbour has been of utmost value. (N.O.I.C. Haifa 1910/14 to C. in C. Med.)

RORQUAL.
UPHOLDER.

S/M's Movements Summary 25. (Capt. S.I. 1157C/14 to Med. Fleet.)

/Haifa Air Raid

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.Haifa Air Raid.

Ref. C.A.F.O. 587/40. Air Raid on Haifa from 0150 to 0330/14. One bomb or possibly G mine exploded, two or three unexploded on the lee breakwater, no indication of mines dropped in the water in the vicinity of the port area. Sweeping operations being carried out, not considered necessary to close the port. No damage to fuel oil. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1210C/14 to C. in C. Med.)

Danube
JIUL.
CARMEN SYLVA.

(1) Danube navigation now reported clear of obstructions. Hungarian steamer BUDAPEST arrived 9/6 crew state bridges and channels cleared, she came through in normal time. (2) Sinking of Roumanian steamers JIUL and CARMEN SYLVA confirmed, source rated A. Off Crete. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1229/14 to S.O.I. Med.)

N.I.D. Comment: That a channel has now been cleared through obstructions on the river is probable. BUDAPEST is a river passenger vessel. Still considered doubtful whether tugs towing barges are able to make normal time through the cleared channels.

Haifa Air
Raid.

Ref. C.A.F.O. 587/40 para. 4 and my 1309/12 and 1725/12. Air raid on Haifa. (a) 12/6 weather very bad (b) High and low level bombing. Number of aircraft possibly 15 to 20, probably German. Duration of attack from 0208 to 0507. Aircraft (?used) no illumants, moon full. (c) H.E. bombs and most probably "G" mines (d) about 20/25 bombs and some mines directed mainly against port area (e) (i) damage of importance nil (ii) nil (f) No shore Naval A.A. battery (g) No remarks (h) No action (k) Units of the fleet in harbour in action throughout raid. 2 U.X.B. or mines fell in 032° 49' 24" N. 035° 00' 30" E. and 032° 49' 27" N. 035° 00' 40" E. Fragments of Ferrous non-magnetic welded (?case) painted Eggshell blue recovered from very large saucershaped crater on shore indicates this may have been type "G" mines. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1231/14 to C. in C. Med., Admty.)

/RORQUAL

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.RORQUAL.

Leaves Malta 2000^B/14 through 035° 30' 014° 14' and 034° 30' 020° 00' thence to Eastward. (Cdr. S.1. 1306B/14 to REGENT.)

Enemy M.V's

Following received (begins) Navy Alexandria from Ankara. 2 ships 10,000 and 3,000 tons passed Mersin in (?) west direction (?) morning proceeding within territorial waters T.O.O. 0944/14 (ends) (R.A. Alexandria, 1326C/14 to N.O.I.C. Cyprus.)
Following received H.Q. P. and T.J. Begins 2 (one corrupt group) Cargo ships 3,000 and 1,000 tons proceeding W. position 320° Kormakitix 80 miles at 0920. Am despatching striking force to order them to Haifa or to attack. T.O.O. 1125/14 (ends) (C. in C. Med. 1400C/14 to C.S. 15.)

Alexandria bombing.

Your 1225/12. Unable to trace map quoted. Following list of positions of mines and bombs dropped on night 7/8. Mines. Total 18 (6 ashore 2 in lake Maryut 6 in harbour 4 outside. H.E. bombs (Total 41) Indendiaries (three batches) (C. in C. Med. 1412/14 to Admty.)

Air Report.

Night 13/14 - 3 Swordfish 830 Sqn. F.A.A. attacked one M/v 9000 tons sighted by Maryland 125 miles S.E. Malta. One aircraft released flares. Other 2 aircraft released one torpedo each but missed. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1600/14)

E/B attack on JADE.

A.O.C. Med. 1.96 of 13/6. JADE heard hydrophonic effort on asdic and closed. At 0420, 2 E.boats were sighted and JADE opened fire as they challenged. At 0430 the large E.boat received direct hit 4 inch gun and returned. At 0445 the smaller E.boat broke off the action. Action was fought at very close range, the E.boats firing 4 torpedoes which all missed. JADE used machine guns with good effect. Only superficial damage from bullets sustained by JADE but midn. d. of wounds. (N.O.I.C. Malta 1916B/14 to C. in C. Med.)

/Minesweepers

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean. - Contd.Minesweepers.

Have formed 401st LL. M/S Group from Wooden Schooners SEVASTI, CHRISTOS, AGIOS GEORGIOS, THALIA. SEVASTI and CHRISTOS are about to commission with crews from the R. Hellenic Navy with R.N. Group Officer. AGIOS GEORGIOS and THALIA will commission in approx. 3 weeks time possibly with R. Hellenic Navy crews. (C. in C. Med., 2042/14 to Admty.)

Greek Fleet.

My 1255/7. Written proposals from Adm. Sackellariou are substantially same as those outlined in my signal. I see no good reason why ships should go to India rather than Africa to refit but there is some force in Admiral's contention that ships should be employed subsequently in Mediterranean under his control even though this has inconvenience from our point of view. I should be glad of T.L.'s view on the proposal. (C. in C. Med. 2044C/14 to Admty.)

830 Sqdn.

Unlikely that requirements of 830 Sqn. can be met from Eastern Med. in future and they must therefore be supplied direct from U.K. (2) V.A. Malta requested to inform Admty. of detailed requirements. General requirements appear to be as follows. (C. in C. Med. 2048/14 to Admty.)

Situation Report 56.

Syria. Swordfish aircraft intercepted French Merchantmen ST. DIDIER and CHATEAU YQUEM steering W. in approx. 36.30 N. 31.50 E. Ships took refuge in Turkish territorial waters and last reported at anchor in Alanya at 1540. (2) At 1620 GRIFFIN reported two French Destroyers off Beirut. LEANDER closed to engage them at 1705 whereupon they returned to harbour. (3) Destroyers have continued to give Army support along coast. (4) Submarines. Italian Tanker GIUSEPPINA GHIRARDI reported torpedoed and sunk 1045/10 15 miles off Cape Hellas. Submarine probably TORBAY. (C. in C. Med., 2346C/14 to Admty.)

/Employment

War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Employment of Wellingtons.

1st S.L. 2353B/14 see Mediterranean Volume.

Syria.

C.S.15.

Following received (?from C.S.15) Help CAPSTAN. (Nore W/T. 0635/14)
-O - A- Help CAPSTAN. 0717/14. (C.S.15 to Haifa W/T, T.O.R. 1155/14)

Enemy Units.

Are you taking all steps to harass the French submarines and destroyers when they are outside the Harbour? (C. in C. Med. 0814/14 to F.O. 15 C.S.)

D.2.

Your 0944. Cordite only on dockside, shells arriving p.m./14. Am sailing with JACKAL at noon. (Capt. D.2. 1109/14 to C.S. 15.)

French Destroyer Ionian Sea.

French destroyer CASSARD class reported proceeding eastwards in Ionian Sea. Considered to be probably heading for Beirut and likely to proceed north of Crete to pass Kaso Straits about 0400/15 to arrive Beirut early a.m./16. Object (?is to) locate and sink her. 201 Group is requested to provide maximum available R/C area north of 34° 00' N. between 30° and 32° E. until darkness/15. A.O.C. P and T.J. is requested to order 815 Sqn. to search for and attack this ship. R.A.A. Med. is requested to reinforce 815 Sqn. as much as possible. C.S.15 is requested to make dispositions to intercept her on Syrian Coast should air R/C or attack fail. (C. in C. Med. 1118C/14 to C.S. 15 etc.)

/NAIAD

MOST SECRET.War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Syria. - Contd.NAIAD to
relieve
PHOEBE.

Intend to sail NAIAD, KINGSTON, NIZAM, HAVOCK from Alexandria p.m./16 to arrive Haifa a.m./17. Request you transfer your flag to NAIAD and send PHOEBE and three destroyers to Alexandria. (C. in C. Med. 1234C/14 to C.S. 15.)

Attacks on
Beirut.

T.S.R. report on attack on Beirut last night. No destroyers at anchor. One unidentified ship now believed to be merchant ship attacked where destroyers had been and apparently hit with one torpedo. Destroyers may possibly be moving up coast after dark. One S/M in anchorage 10 miles N.E. of Beirut not attacked. In view of probable destroyer movements after dark, there will always be risk of sinking merchant ship instead. Should this be accepted? (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1253/14 to C. in C. Med.)
Your 1253/14. Ships are not to be attacked in Beirut Harbour. (C. in C. Med. 1753C/14 to N.O.I.C. Haifa.)

Enemy
Destroyers.

2 Destroyers bearing 010° distance 15 miles course 210° my position 33.38 N. 35.19 E. (GRIFFIN 1620/14 to Haifa W/T. T.O.R.1601) GRIFFIN 1620, am closing to engage. (LEANDER, 1642/14 to C.S. 15.)
2 Destroyers bearing 047° distance 11 miles, course 080°. My position 132 34 N. 35 E. (LEANDER 1705/14 to Haifa W/T.)
My 1705 French Destroyers returning to -harbour. (LEANDER, 1710/14 to Haifa W/T.)
My 1710. Have resumed previous operations. (LEANDER, 1948/14 to C.S. 15.)

? French
M.V.'s.

*CHATEAU D'YQUEM

Following received (begins) N.A. Istanbul's 0330/14. Ships sighted 1000C/13 off Karadash Burnu (page 134 Volume 5 Mediterranean pilotage) flying French colours and painted on side. One ship named SAINTE DIDIER, second name ended in *YQUEEM. Both ships steering West at full speed. Time of origin 1325/14. Ends. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 1641/14 to N.O.I.C. Cyprus C.S. 15.)

See also p 448

/Bombardment

War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Syria. - Contd.

Bombardment
required.

Heavy bombardment by destroyers and cruisers will shortly be required on Ouimye 118 4 17 90 and road leading up to it. Code word "Shoot" SHOOT will be signalled in plain language when fire is required. (N.L.O. Palestine, 1716C/14 to Capt. D.2. LEANDER.) Your 1716/14. Capt.(D) 2 informs me British troops within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of target. Bombardment by night therefore involves serious risks. (LEANDER, 2031C/14 to N.L.O. Palestine.)

D.14.

Return to Harbour. (C.S.15 1727/14 to D.14.)

Swordfish
and M.V.

Corrupt message from Officer I.C. Sqn. 351 1450/14 indicates ship in position (corrupt grp.) Cape Kormakiti 82 miles at (?1346) apparently proceeding S.E. under orders of Swordfish but broadcast fact that she (? is being) molested. (V.A. Alexandria, 1814C/14 to C.S. 15.) Note: Message received very corrupt.

Watch on
Beirut.

At least a part of your force should be dispersed to North of Beirut nightly to prevent French Warships or Merchant Ships sneaking out. (C. in C. Med. 1846C/14 to C.S. 15.)

→ LEANDER.

You should run paravanes. (F.O. 15 C.S. 1905C/14 to LEANDER.)

Night
Disposition.

As far as practicable disposition tonight should be designed to guard against enemy minelaying in area from Sidon up to 10 miles northwards. (F.O.15 C.S. 1942/14 to LEANDER.)

Enemy Air
Attack,
→ LEANDER.

At 1823 Force was attacked by 4 or 5 French Booch bombers from high level. No damage. (LEANDER 2015C/14 to R.A. 15 C.S.)

/F.A.A.

War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Syria. - Contd.

F.A.A. attack
on M.V.

Operational summary up to 2000 hours 14/6.
F.A.A. 4 Swordfish (Cyprus) torpedoed
Merchant Ship in Beirut Harbour 0400 hours.
Striking force despatched from Cyprus to
intercept French cargo vessels off Turkey.
Vessels last reported proceeding S.E. under
orders of Swordfish. (H.Q. R.A.F. P. and T.J.
2050/14)

Saida.

In anticipation of Military requirements
request you will arrange for (group omitted)
and destroyers to be in close vicinity of
Saida at daylight tomorrow, requirements
follow. (N.L.O. Palestine, 2215/14 to C.S.15)

Enemy
M.V.'s.

Following received addressed C. in C. Med.
F.O.C. 15th. C.S. from 815 Sqn. My 1115 and
1400/14 (2 Cargo ships to be ordered to
Haifa) both ships now anchored Alanya and
refuse to move. Swordfish shadowing, request
instructions. T.O.O. 1540/14. ?Ends)
(N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 2256C/14 to C.O. 15 C.S)

East Indies.

CORNWALL.
suspicious
ship.

CORNWALL's 01512/13. Request you will
report whether you are satisfied that action
taken was correct in these circumstances.
From information at Admty. it appears B.I.
S.S. ORNA was in the vicinity. (V.C.N.S.
0110B/14 to C. in C.E.I.)

S.W.7A.

Durban arrival CERES escorting convoy
S.W.7A. (N.L.O. Durban, 0920Z/14 to Admty.
etc.)

/Assab

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War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. Contd.

Assab.

S.N.O.R.S. reports as follows (1) All utility services including light power (?water) and refrigerators working. (2) Small Armed Tug in running order captured. (3) One Lighter in use and more available. (4) Considerable quantity of good timber available. (5) W/T is long distance from Naval Office. All transmitters considerably damaged. Receivers generators and battery charging instruments intact. (6) Repair facilities negligible. (C. in C.E.I. 1028Z/14 to Admty. etc.)

DIDO.

Your 1058Z/11 and F.O.I.C. Simonstown's 1033Z/13. Approved that DIDO to taken in hand at Durban as proposed. (D.O.D.(F) 1638B/14 to C. in C.E.I.)

U.S.11A.

Your 1426/4 and P.S.T.O. India's 0123/6 and P.S.T.O. Egypt's 1651/31/5. In view of shipping and administrative difficulties involved in turning U.S. 11 A round in Ceylon, and necessity of making fullest possible use of these giant liners. Request remarks as to possibility of transshipment at any port nearer to Suez should the latter become impracticable. For information of S.N.O. Red Sea, ships concerned are QUEEN MARY, QUEEN ELIZABETH and AQUITANIA with 16,000 troops due to pass Aden (date). (D.O.D.(F) 1707B/14 to C. in C.E.I.)

America and West Indies.

British Mission.

Nucleus British Mission established in Washington and nucleus U.S. Mission in London. Composition and functions. (Head of M. 0010B/14 to C. in C.A.W.I. etc.) See Lion Copy.

/WINNIPEG

MOST SECRET

453A-

MOST SECRET.

MESSAGE.

00102/14th June.
OUT.

To. C. in C. America & West Indies. 651. Date: 14.6.41.
F.O.C.North Atlantic. 935.
F.O.Force H. 122.
C. in C. South Atlantic. 820.
R.A.S.A.Division. 138.
Commander in Chief, Home Fleet. 204.
Commander in Chief, The More. 539.
Commander in Chief, Western Approaches. 855.
The Commander in Chief Plymouth 493.
Commander in Chief, Rosyth, 369.
Commander in Chief, Portsmouth. 823.
The Flag Officer Commanding Dover 573.
The Flag Officer Commanding, Orkneys and Shetlands. 828.
C. in C. Mediterranean. 879.
C. in C. East Indies. 645.
C. in C. China. 140.

British Mission, Washington.

Naval Cypher (D)

From Admiralty.

BASEGRAM. AIDAC.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Washington Staff Conference, a nucleus British Mission has now been established in Washington and a nucleus United States Mission has been established in London.

2. The object of establishing these missions now is to ensure that the machinery of collaboration is ready should the United States come into the war, and to ensure that all details are completed in respect of broad plans already agreed in Washington.

3. Admiral Sir Charles Little, Lt.General H.C.B. Weryss and Air Marshal A.T.Harris will take up their appointments as Heads of the Mission representing the Chiefs of Staff of the United Kingdom about the middle of June. Meanwhile, other officers are representing them and the Mission is functioning. The Chiefs of Staff of Canada and Australia are represented on the Mission by their Service Attaches in Washington.

The New Zealand Government are being asked what arrangements they propose with regard to their representation.

4. Neither the British Mission in Washington nor the United States Mission in London can openly be recognised as Staff Missions until the United States come into the war. They are therefore both operating under cover. The British Mission in Washington operates as "Military Advisers to the British Supply Council in America" and the United States Mission in London is known as the "United States Special Observer Group".

5. Except by C. in C. America & West Indies in connection with questions arising from the lease of bases in his Command to the U.S., or in questions of local liaison between British and U.S.

forces/.....

forces, all communications intended for the British Mission in Washington should normally be made through the Admiralty.

0010B/14.
for Hd. of M. (558)
Approved by V.C.N.S.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
Controller.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
Secretary.
N.A. 1st S.L.
D. of P (2)
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.O.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (H)
D.N.I. (4)
Duty Captain.
I.P. (2)
Hd. of M (2) (P.D.074/41)
W.D.
D.D.I.C.
N.I.D.10 (Pay Cdr. Wilson)

769

Separate titles of British Admiralty Delegation and of other Service Missions in Washington abolished on 12.1.1948, and incorporated in British Joint Services Mission. (Office Memo. 13/48, 10.1.1948)

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. - Contd.WINNIPEG.
ARICA.

Pending issue of consultations with Netherlands Gov. on question of bringing WINNIPEG and ARICA into Allied employment arrangements may be made now to make ships ready for service. (D.S.T. 0043B/14 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad.)

Fuelling
Bermuda.

Progress of new tank. Owing to congestion of berths in Dockyard frequent movements of U.S. Tankers will seriously impede refits of H.M. Ships and M.V.'s. American request consider this requirement should not take precedence over our needs. (C. in C.A.W.I. 0357Z/14 to Admty.) Reply: 1252/15.)

C.I.P.
(French)

Left 2400/13 for Bay Town Texas due 22/6 in hope of getting required fuel oil cargo. (St. Thomas 0709/14 to D.N.I., 2222/14 to M. of W.T.)
My 2012 R/11. Ship sailed midnight 13/6. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1121R/14 to Admty.)

CANTON.

Propose to sail CANTON for Freetown on completion of working up practice on 17/6. Request route East of E. 040° W. (C. in C.A.W.I. 0932Q/14 to C. in C.S.A.)

CARADOC.
DUC D'AUMALE.

Have returned to Castries with one Walrus. My 1051Q/14, intend proceeding on patrol during the absence of VAN KINSBERGEN, with a view to intercepting DUC D'AUMALE and also search as far as Dominica Channel. Local American information states that U.S. destroyer and air patrol off Fort de France has now been discontinued. (CARADOC, 1059Q/14 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

PANDORA.

Admty. 1220B/13. Disregard Admty. 1124B/12 and comply with my 1709P/11 breaking W/T silence to acknowledge when West of 25° W. (F.O.C. 3 B.S. 1139B/14 to PANDORA.)

/Shipping

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.FOREIGN STATIONS.America and West Indies. - Contd.Shipping
Curacao.

S.N.O. Curacao 1305/30/1. Information -regarding Merchant Ship movements except U.S. and British Ships is to be supplied to U.S. Consul Curacao. Need for maintaining absolute secrecy with regard to any information imparted is to be emphasized. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1154Q/14 to S.B.N.O. Curacao)

SHEHERAZADE.
(French)

My 2112/7 and related signals. U.S. have not finally abandoned policy of supplies for N. Africa and it is possible that in the near future a decision to release SHEHERAZADE may again be taken. (Hd. of M. 1944B/14 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

Independent
Shipping,
Routes.

As submarine menace on western seaboard of North Atlantic increases the routing and diversion of independently sailed ships and ships dispersed from convoy presents increasing difficulty. It would be of assistance if the special area reserved for east bound shipping could be reduced to a minimum or abolished for the present. (A.C.N.S.(T) 2252B/14 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

RANPURA.
D/C's dropped.

Admty. 2212/24/4. A series of letter V's heard at 2120 G.M.T. bearing 340°. Have dropped depth charges and altering course to 038°. My position 046° 20' N. 049° 10' W. (RANPURA, 2302Z/14 to Admty.)

REVENGE,
suspicious
schooners.

2 Four masted and 3 Three masted fishing schooners, 1 flying Portugese colours, resembling description given in your 1433P/31 approx, 045° 08' N. 051° 02' W. at 1840Z, in case light craft are available to investigate. Expect to be 10 hours late at R/V. tomorrow/15, course 000°. Inform Admty. H.X.132 arriving position E. at 0200Z/17. (REVENGE, 2348Z/14 to F.O.3 B.S.)

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.TRESILLIAN
survivors.

Return to St. Johns, N.F. on completion of search. You are required at St. Johns, N.F. a.m./16. (C.C.N.F. 0231Z/14 to RESTIGOUCHE) C.G. Cutter DUANE proceeding St. Johns with crew of TRESILLIAN picked up 44.34 N., 44.25 W., 46 Officers and men, all well, none lost. (O.P.N.A.V. 1806/14 to Admty.) Following passed to Admty. At 1820Z passed U.S. Destroyers MOFFETT and SIMS who report TRESILLIAN survivors rescued by C.G. Cutter DUANE. My P. C. and S. 044° 18' 046° 08' 015° 13. Intend altering to 330° at 2030Z ST. CLAIR in company. (RESTIGOUCHE 1840Z/14 to N.O.I.C. Newfoundland.) DUANE reports she will arrive St. Johns, N.F. at 0600/15 with crew of TRESILLIAN all safe and well. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1945Z/14 to Admty.)

ROBIN MOOR.
(sunk 21/5)

Mr. Eccles, British survivor of ROBIN MOOR, is of opinion submarine which sank ship was of class U.27 to U.36. Her engines were very noisy. Name LORRICKE and head of ~~cow~~ cow in red were painted on conning tower. Time was 8.30 G.M.T. 21/5 and position 6° 10' N. and 25° 40' W. (Consul, Pernambuco, T.H.I. 1059/14 to S.O.I's Freetown, Montevideo.)

SACRAMENTO
VALLEY.
(torpedoed
6/6)

M.V. CAITHNESS has picked up 39 survivors from S.S. SACRAMENTO VALLEY torpedoed in 17° 10' N. 30° 10' W. at 0500/6, one boat with 7 men missing. (S.O.I Freetown, 1705N/14 to Admty.) British, 4573 tons, Cardiff to Pernambuco with coal. Position about 300 miles W. of St. Antonio, Cape Verda Islands. (D.S. 649, 15/6.)

PENDRECHT.
(torpedoed
8/6)

Following from Cape Race from G.Q.Q.R. Capt. and 11 of crew of M.V. PENDRECHT which was torpedoed 8/6 rescued 45.18 N. 35.53 W. at 1320 G.M.T./10, 2 lifeboats still adrift. Arriving 15/6 (ends) Signal letters G.Q.Q.R. unknown. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1925Z/14 to Adty.) Dutch tanker, 10,746 tons, from Swansea to New York in Convoy O.B.329. Position about 400 miles N.N.W. of Flores Island, Azores. PENDRECHT had been torpedoed previously on 18/12/1940, but was able to reach Greenock under her own steam. (D.S. 649, 15/6.)

War Diary.

14.6.1941.
Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

1800/13.

Submarine on surface reported by Fishermen in approx. 065° 40' N. 024° 00' W. at 1800Z/13 reported grade C.2. Hudson taking off at 1400. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 1315/14 to Admty. etc.)

1053.

Convoy S.L.76 was probably reported by an Italian U.Boat at 1053Z/14. (D.D.I.C. 1326B/14 to CUMBERLAND.)

Estimated U.B. dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1359B/14.)

1749.

Following received from U.S. ship ALBERMARLE begins. A/C report S/M 45.55 N. 49.35 W. course 100° at 1749 G.M.T. 1820 (ends) (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1930Z/14 to Admty.)

1541.

By D/F at 1541Z/14 position of enemy U.Boat 66° 40' N. 23° 00' W. reliable fix probably homeward bound. (D.D.I.C. 1951B/14 to MANCHESTER, HERMIONE etc.)

Searches.

U.Boats are being searched for in vicinity of Fair Island following up aircraft sightings of yesterday. BLACK SWAN is S.O. with STORK, CELIA, OPHELIA, and two M.L.'s. STELLA, PEGASI is to proceed forthwith by Hoy Gate to position 270° Fair Isle Southernlight 10 miles and act under the orders of BLACK SWAN and CELIA who will be S.O. Trawlers. Keep A.C.O.S., R.A.D., BLACK SWAN informed of your movements. Aircraft are co-operating. When investigating contacts depth charges are not to be dropped to eastward of Meridian of 1° W. (A.C.O.S. 1211/14 to STELLA PEGASI.)

War Diary.14.6.1941.
Saturday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Submarines Attacked.By A/C.

U.Boat sighted in 066° 50' N. 023° 10' W. being attacked by aircraft 1620. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1753Z/14.)

Aircraft arrive at position of submarine at 2030 remaining until 0030/15 call sign B.8.D. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 1924Z/14 to Admty. etc.)

Following received. Addressed Reykjavik from C/269 AAAA. Have dropped bombs on position H ? ? Boats ? as sighted Nil has appeared. 1725?/14 (Ends) (C. in C.W.A. 1950/14 to Admty.)

N.O.I.C. Iceland 1753Z/14. Detach destroyer to hunt (?U.Boat) keeping clear of mine field. Second aircraft (?may be) expected at 2030Z. (F.O.18 C.S. 1955Z/14 to HERMIONE, MANCHESTER.)

Following received Addressed Reykjavik from C/269. Enemy's position is 66.50 N., 23.10 W. 1643/14. (C. in C.W.A. 2013B/14 to Admty.)

Following received addressed C/269 from Wick. Continue cover him, relief coming. 1748/14. (C. in C.W.A. 2016/14 to Admty.)

Aircraft has sighted and attacked U.Boat in 66.50 N. 23.10 W. (D.O.D.(H) 2054B/14 to MANCHESTER, HERMIONE.)

N.O.I.C. Iceland's 1753Z/14 and Admty's 1951B/14, have detached ICARUS from 066° 30' N. 022° 02' W. to hunt until 0100B/15. (HERMIONE, 2100B/14 to F.O. 18 C.S.)

My 1924/14. Hudsons B 8 D B then 8 G K L will be searching till 0630Z then (corrupt group) Y 6 D till 1000Z. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 2256Z/14 to Admty. etc.)

War Diary.

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Principal Events.

Successes in aircraft operations against shipping off Dutch coast and Frisian Is.

Aircraft reinforcements leave Malta for M.E.

Operation "Battleaxe" (military advance in Western Desert) has begun.

Two British destroyers seriously damaged by air attack off coast of Syria. Lack of fighter protection for our ships.

DAUNTLESS and EMERALD damaged in collision in Malacca Straits.

British Air Operations.

Blenheims of Bomber Command operated today off the coast of Holland and the Frisian Islands. An E-boat off Hook of Holland, a 4,000 ton ship off the Hague, and a small merchantman off Borkum are claimed as total losses. A 5,000 to 6,000 ton ship off the Helder received a glancing hit.

Beauforts of Coastal Command operated today against shipping off the Dutch coast and report a hit on a 5,000 ton ship which was last seen listing.

War Diary.15.6.1941.
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.Mining.Operation
S.N.66.

R.A.(M) in AGAMEMNON left Port ZA at 0502B with MENESTHEUS and 4 destroyers to lay mines near the Faroes tomorrow. AURORA left Scapa at 0727 to provide A.A. escort. NIGERIA and KENYA are to provide cover to the eastward. After laying is completed KENYA is to return to Scapa and NIGERIA return to patrol S.E. of Iceland after refuelling at Skaale Fiord.

The ports of Tees and Hartlepool were closed early this morning until 1640. Both ports will be closed daily from 0500 to 1200 approximately.

Motor fishing vessel AUDACIOUS No. L.O.54 was mined and sunk this morning in the Thames Estuary.

13 Mines, including 3 new French mines, were cut off Dartmouth today.

INTREPID reports 4 explosions today near the ship in the East Coast War Channel between 53° 33' 24" N., and 55° 1' 0" N.

North Atlantic.

Convoy H.G. 65 was unsuccessfully attacked early this morning by 2 to 4 aircraft in 34° 50' N. 8° 43' W. A Catalina flying boat escorting the convoy engaged the enemy and sustained slight damage. It was later reported that 3 German and 1 Italian aircraft came down about 100 miles N.E. of Lisbon; possibly they were casualties from this engagement.

War Diary.15.6.1941.
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.South Atlantic.

The port of Takoradi was reopened at 1806Z.

Mediterranean.Operation
"Tracer".

45 Hurricane aircraft from ARK ROYAL and VICTORIOUS, escorted by 4 Hudsons arrived safely at Malta. 5 Hurricanes either failed to leave the carrier or came to grief. The operation was completed without incident so far as the ships were concerned. VICTORIOUS left Gibraltar this evening for the U.K., escorted to the westward by Force H.

29 Hurricanes left for the Middle East this morning, but 8 returned on account of weather.

Western
Desert.

Operation "Battleaxe" (a military advance) has commenced. Capuzzo has been captured. The 19th Divn. destroyers are continuing to run supplies to Tobruk.

5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi harbour last night.

War Diary.15.6.1941.
Sunday.SITUATION REPORT.Mediterranean.Palestine and Syria.

ILEE operating off the coast of Syria was seriously damaged about 1300 today by French bombers off Saida. No fighter protection was available. The ship reached Haifa.

ISIS was hit in the boiler room in attack by German aircraft this afternoon and reached Haifa under her own power, escorted by COVENTRY and fighters.

The French destroyer ^{LE}CHEVALIER PAUL (reported on 14/6 proceeding eastward in the Ionian Sea) was sighted by 2 Sunderlands at 1840 today in 35° 52' N. 31° 33' E, steering 84° and was shadowed. 815 Squadron left to make a dusk attack.

China.

DAUNTLESS and EMERALD were in collision in Malacca Straits tonight and are proceeding to Singapore under their own steam. EMERALD had several casualties.

M.V. NINGPO was damaged by a ^{floating} mine this morning while at anchor in the examination anchorage at Singapore.

U-Boat Campaign.

There are D/F indications that Convoy S.L. 76 is being shadowed by Italian U-Boat.

War Diary.

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Defence of U.K.

Scapa.

Your 2045/14/6 and my 1154/31/5. The Division of M.Ls. at present based on Scapa form an integral part of the defences and are the only patrol craft available that can possibly hope to deal with small enemy fast craft either inside or outside the flow or when operating in conjunction with the A.E. Stations. They have been operating as a seaward patrol for the past week. It is understood that the 107th Flotilla have only a speed of 12 knots. It is considered essential to retain at Scapa this Division of the 15th M.L. Flotilla or craft of a similar type. (A.C.O.S. 1130/15 to Adty.)

Movements.

Blyth.

My 1205B/12 and my 1056B/14. Sailing delayed. (N.O.I.C. Blyth 0257B/15). Sailing again delayed. (N.O.I.C. Blyth 1845B/15)

New Patrol Areas.

My 1830 and my 1840/14 amend as follows. Area A Z, B Z, C Z to be transferred 50 miles westward. CORINTHIAN take C one. (F.O.C.N.P. 0904/15). *See also next page.*

AURANIA.

Cancel my 1510/13. N.O.I.C. Iceland (C) is requested to sail AURANIA for Halifax in accordance with Adty. 2141B/14 para. 3. (F.O.C.N.P. 0930B/15 to N.O.I.C. Iceland (C)). *See also next page.*

TRIDENT
TUNA

Orders for leaving patrol after dark 17/6, Information re other S/M's. (Capt. (S) 3 1029B/15 to TRIDENT, TUNA).

War Diary.15.6.1941.Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Movements contd.P.33.

Arrangements for sailing to Gibraltar 17/6.
(Capt. (S) 3 1141B/15)

CORINTHIAN

My 1040B/14 my 1840B/14 and my 0904/15. On leaving patrol to join S.L. 76 CORINTHIAN is to pass through (d) $047^{\circ} 00' N 021^{\circ} 30' W$. (F.O.C.N.P. 1650B/15 to W.P.12).

*See previous page.*VICTORIOUS.

Re employment on arrival at the Clyde about 22/6. (D.O.D.(H) 1657B/15).
If fuel does not permit HESPERUS remaining with you she should be detached to proceed to Liverpool via North Channel fuelling at Londonderry. HESPERUS should pass through $054^{\circ} 00' N. 015^{\circ} 00' W$. (C. in C. W.A. 2350B/15 to VICTORIOUS).

PANDORA
(for U.S.A.)

Adjust route to pass through $046^{\circ} N 016^{\circ} W$ and thence as previously ordered. Imperative that you keep to the Eastward of $016^{\circ} W$ until South of $046^{\circ} N$. Bombing restrictions are being arranged. (F.O.(S) 2124B/15 to PANDORA).
Informing Adty. of alteration to his 1719B/15. (F.O.(S) 2204B/15)

AURANIA.

Adty. 2141B/14. AURANIA escorted by CHURCHILL and BURNHAM is being sailed to join O B.334. No other A/S escort available in Iceland. Request C. in C. W.A. orders AURANIA onward route. (F.O.I/C Iceland 2215Z/15). *See previous page.*

FURIOUS.

HERMIONE is required to escort FURIOUS to Gibraltar. It is anticipated FURIOUS will be ready to leave the Clyde p.m./19. (A.C.N.S.(H) 2344B/15 to C. in C.H.F.)

Operations.Northern
Patrol

If 2 cruisers are required on patrol MAN-CHESTER is to relieve EDINBURGH at 1200Z/21 and EDINBURGH is to relieve SUFFOLK at 1200Z/24. (F.O.C.S. 18 0948Z/15).

Patrols....

War Diary.

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations Contd.

Patrols.

Patrol ^{"Stand"} ~~STAND~~ now in operation, also a flight dropping nickel on Denmark. Patrol SLEEVE will be flown p.m. today. (C. in C. Rosyth 1130/15). ^{"Sert"} ~~STAB~~ ^{"Sleeve"} ~~SLEEVE~~ Patrols ~~STAB~~, ~~BERT~~, ~~SLEEVE~~ now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1804/15).
Covering period 1200/14 to 1200/15.
14/6. Six Blenheims to attack shipping between Texel and Ijmuiden, 6 between Katwijk and Walcheren and 3 shipping off Calais completed their task, but found no shipping to attack. The last three Blenheims were escorted by fighters and carried out a thorough search of the area. (H.Q.B.C. 1455/15).

Search for BISMARCK.

Your 2219/13. Behaviour of aircraft torpedoes. (ARK ROYAL 1620/15 to Adty.)

Enemy Air Operations.

MUTIN.

^{French M.F. v.} ~~H.M.S.~~ MUTIN machine gunned by enemy aircraft at 1800/14 S.E. Lizard 3 miles. One Casualty. (F.O.I.C. Falmouth 0037/15).

DALEMOOR
(Bombed 13/6)

Your 2335 proceed to examination anchorage or Leith Roads. (N.O.I.C. Leith 0115/15). Arrived Leith Roads unable to dock owing to draught. (N.O.I.C. Leith 0930/15).

Ramsgate.

At 0329/14 enemy aircraft dropped 3 H.E. bombs. No casualties nor damage to Naval personnel or property. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 1027B/15)

War Diary.15.6.1941.
Sunday.HOME COMMANDS.Mining.Operation
S.N.66.

Amend my 2346/14 to read:- Hudsons from 1200/15 to 2300/15 Whitleys from 2300/15 to 0120/17. (C. in C. Rosyth 0106/15 to R.A.M.)
My 0106/15. A/c delayed owing to weather. Further signal will be made. (C. in C. Rosyth 1036/15 to R.A.M.)
My 1036/15. Expect Hudson aircraft at about 1345 today. (C. in C. Rosyth 1202/15 to R.A.M.)

Tees &
Hartlepool

Ref. My 1103/14. Port of Tees closed. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0459/15)
Ref. my 0459/15. Port of Hartlepool closed. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0555/15)
My 1103/14 Port of Hartlepool will also be closed daily from 0500 to 1200 approx. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1018/15)
Port of Tees and Hartlepool now open. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1640/15).

Search of
Q.Z.X.228.

Ref. My 1023/12 and C. in C. Rosyth 1700/12 Oropesa search of Q Z X.228 completed with negative result. Area bounded by following positions. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1131/15)

AUDACIOUS
Sunk.

Com. Sheerness reports Bawley Motor Fishing Vessel AUDACIOUS No. L O 54 mined and sunk approx. 8½ cables S E from B V 10 at 0832/15. One injured survivor landed at Sheerness. 4 believed missing. (C. in C. Nore 1629B/15)

Casualties & Defects.ECLIPSE

Arrived with condenser defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1701B/15)

/SS. GALLOISE.....

War Diary.

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects Contd.

S.S. GALLOISE.

Resulting from collision with S.S. NORTH DEVON off entrance of Tyne, S.S. GALLOISE was damaged and safely beached on Herd Sand. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1820/15).

MARGARET
SUTTON

Tug ATHLETE arrived Hartlepool 2145 with fishing vessel MARGARET SUTTON in tow. MARGARET SUTTON in sinking condition subsequently sank in N.W. Corner Old Harbour Hartlepool. Not blocking Channel, no casualties. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 2330/15)

Shipping & Convoys.

End-to-End
Escorts.

Policy with regard to end to end escort is not being fully implemented. In last six O.B. (S) and O.G. convoys an average of 16 and 12 ships respectively were bound for N. American ports. Request consideration to O.B. (S) convoy being routed northbound and escorted end to end from the earliest possible date. In this event no ships for N. American ports (N. of and including Jacksonville) would be sailed in the southbound O.B. and O.G. convoys. (A.C.N.S.(T) 0002B/15 to C. in C. W.A.) Your 0002B/15. This has always been my wish and we are ready to implement it now. Request appropriate steps be taken at once with shipping authorities and N.C.S.O's informed. (C. in C. W.A. 1302B/15 to Admty.) See also 121^B/17. 1213^B/15 + 1218^B/17
(1213)

Catapult
M.V's.

Re working up of catapult aircraft Merchant Ships at Belfast. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1135B/15 to V.A.N.A.S)

/Escort to Halifax....

War Diary.

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys Contd.

Escort to
Halifax.

Extension of U/Boat attacks still further to westward may soon compel us to adopt continuous escorts as far as Halifax. Proposals. (C. in C. W.A. 1213B/15 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Ships for
St. Lawrence.

Your 1200B/14 cannot be approved owing to probability of the Convoy being drastically rerouted before arrival off West Atlantic Coast. (D.T.D. 1644B/15 to N.C.S.O. Loch Ewe).

Catapult
Merchant
Ships.

Agreed between Admiralty and Air Ministry that until further experience has been gained the following operational restrictions are to be observed by Catapult Aircraft Merchant Ships not fitted with R.D.F. and those fitted with 286 P type R.D.F. (D.T.D. 1951B/15 to C. in C. W.A. etc.)

468 A.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

1213B/15 June

IN

From. C. in C. Western Approaches.

Date. 15.6.41.

Time. 1800.

NAVIL CYPTER (A) BY T/P

Addressed. Admiralty. Repeated. C.C.N.F., N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.,
C.O.A.C. Halifax., N.O.I.C. St. Johns, N.F.,
K.O.I.C. Iceland (C)., F.O.C. 3rd B.S.

196.

An extension of U-Boat attacks still further to Westward may soon compel us to adopt continuous escorts as far as Halifax.

B. Endurance of sloops corvettes and cutters is sufficient, at any rate in summer conditions, to provide continuous escorts between Eastern rendezvous and Halifax.

C. Destroyers can only provide continuous escorts between Eastern rendezvous and Western dispersal point.

D. It is considered that arrangement for continuous escort for between Eastern rendezvous and Halifax should therefore be based on (i) all destroyers in Newfoundland escort force working from St. Johns (N.F.) as at present and escorting between Eastern rendezvous and Western Dispersal Point, (ii) all sloops corvettes and cutters working from Halifax and escorting right through to Eastern rendezvous. On assumption figures given in N.S.H.Q. Ottawa's 2108Z-21 May not to all addressees are available, this should provide about 4 escorts per convoy between Halifax and Western Dispersal Point, and thereafter an addition of about two destroyers as far as Eastern rendezvous and vice versa.

E. Should U-Boat threat between Halifax and Western Dispersal Point be considered greater than that between Western Dispersal Point and Eastern rendezvous, a proportion of the Halifax force could be used for local escort between Halifax and Western Dispersal Point, at expense of escort further east.

F. C.C.N.F. is requested to prepare an organization to implement (d) above should these arrangements be adopted.

G. These arrangements would go some way towards solving the problem of maintenance and berth at St. John's N.F.

1213B/15

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.
- 3rd S.L.
- 4th S.L.
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S. (H)
- A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
- A.C.H.S. (F)
- N.A. 1st S.L.
- D.O.D. (H) for action
- D.O.D. (F)
- D.D.O.D. (H)
- D.D.O.D. (F)

- Duty Capt.
- D. A/S W.
- D.T.D. (2)
- D. of P. (2)
- Head of M.
- D.N.I. (4)
- C.C.C.S.
- D.D.I.C.
- I.P. (2)
- W.D.
- E.P.S.

War Diary.15.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic.CLYDE
SEVERN

My 1910A/12. Omit position S proceed through $036^{\circ} 25' N$ $002^{\circ} 05' W$. Own surface force E.T.A. given a.m./15. SEVERN P.C. & S.1200A, $036^{\circ} 10' N$ $001^{\circ} 45' W$ $065^{\circ} 13'$. (F.O.C.N.A. 0610A/15 to CLYDE).

Air Attack
on H.G.65.

H G 65 attacked by 2 F W. No hit my position $034^{\circ} 50' N$ $008^{\circ} 43' W$. (WELLINGTON 0650A/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)
H G 65 attacked by three F W aircraft in $034^{\circ} 50' N$ $008^{\circ} 43' W$ at 0650A/15. No hits. (F.O.C.N.A. 0846/15 to Admty amended 1236A/15)
My 0846/15. Catalina flying boat escorting H G 65 engaged F W aircraft attacking convoy and sustained slight damage. (F.O.C.N.A. 1826A/15 to Admty).

Air Report
of H.G. ~~65~~ 65
attack.

Daily Summary Ops. ⁶⁵
1 escort to convoy H.G.56 in $34^{\circ} 55' N$. $08^{\circ} 45' W$. Catalina escorting above saw bomb splash, circled convoy, sighted Focke Wulf Kurier approaching convoy from astern out of sun. Catalina attacked. Later saw total 4 E/A who attacked convoy single dropping bombs 200 - 300 ft., only once did E/A attack in line astern formation. Catalina remained on quarter of convoy and attacked each E/A as before, contact only short one (owing?) enemies superior speed. Enemy replied with machine gun and cannon fire causing (hits?) to own aircraft with no vital damage or casualties. Own tracer appeared to go home with no apparent results. Enemy failed to score any hits on convoy, only near misses. Later signal received from A.A. Lisbon states 3 German 1 Italian A/R reported down N.E. of Mourquin. As no other E/A reported Area North Atlantic Station today from Y sources consider it highly probable these aircraft those which attacked H.G.56. (200 Group, 2312/15).

/2 Enemy.....

War Diary15.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic Contd.Air Report
of H.G. 65
attack
contd.

2 Enemy A/C bearing course and distance unknown, position 286 PCL 14. (A.B.V. SCOTTISH 0920A/15)
My 0920A/15 Aircraft three in number are large four engine machines northbound. German markings. (SCOTTISH 0930A/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Operation
"Tracer"

(?Request following) information of operation "Tracer". (a) Time of arrival each lettered formation. (b) Cause of delay arrival last formation and at what time W/T communication established. (c) Were aircraft sighted by enemy and if so at what stage? Your 0853B/14 marked 'Important' received too late for aircraft to be informed. Local safety arrangements should be notified before escort leaves Gibraltar. (S.O. Force H 0921Z/15 to V.A. Malta). [Reply: V.A. Malta 1035B/16]
Operation "Tracer" carried out according to plan and without incident. Mean position of flying off 038° 56' N 003° 00' E. Visibility poor to moderate. Believed Force H not sighted but R.D/F in VICTORIOUS unsatisfactory and lacks experience. Intend landing Hurricane erecting party on arrival at Gibraltar. (V.A. Force H. 0922Z/15 to Admty.) Arrival S.O. Force "H" in RENOWN, ARK ROYAL, VICTORIOUS, FAULKNER, FEARLESS, FORESTER, FOXHOUND, FORESIGHT, WISHART, HESPERUS. (S.O.(I) Gib, 1030A/15 to Admty etc.)

VICTORIOUS
Force H,
HESPERUS.

Your 0109B/6 and 2250B/14. Intend to sail HESPERUS with S.O. Force H p.m./15 and to continue with VICTORIOUS to U.K. (F.O.C.N.A. 1208A/15 to Admty.)

My 1208A/15. Request you will detach HESPERUS if fuel necessitates to proceed to U.K. C. in C. W.A. is requested to signal route and destination for HESPERUS. (F.O.C.N.A. 1702A/15 to S.O. Force H, VICTORIOUS).

Departure S.O. Force 'H' in RENOWN, ARK ROYAL, VICTORIOUS, FAULKNER, FEARLESS, FORESTER, FOXHOUND, FORESIGHT, HESPERUS. (S.O.(I) Gib, 1800A/15 to Admty. etc.)

/DUNCAN.....

War Diary.15.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.North Atlantic Contd.DUNCAN

Can you release DUNCAN on arrival for WIVERN division. WRESTLER would then be sailed for Freetown on arrival of DUNCAN at Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1456A/15 to C. in C. South Atlantic.) *See also p. 473*

Enemy Unit

At. 1414 G.M.T. German surface ship bearing 250° 3rd class from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1540A/15 to N.A. Stn.)

German
ERNA OLDENDORF

Arrival 14/6. Loading iron ore. (Consul Bilbao, 1641/15 to D.N.I, N.A. Madrid 1731/15 to Admty.)

SHEFFIELD

Request may be available for future Hurricane operations as her long co-operation with ARK ROYAL enables effective fighter control to be exercised and her experienced personnel provides a reasonable reliable degree of warning. (S.O. Force H, 1806/15 to Admty.) SHEFFIELD is to return to U.K. to make good action damage. Further orders for leaving Convoy and refitting port will be signalled later. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2346B/15 to SHEFFIELD).

South Atlantic.BRIDGEWATER

Request Portuguese Govt. be informed proposed BRIDGEWATER shall visit St. Vincent Cape Verde arriving 23/6(?) and that I may be informed if any objection to this visit. (C. in C. S.A. 0115N/15 to Ambassador, Lisbon)

Takoradi
open.

My 2045/14. Send immediate signal when port is opened and report if any delay in operation of Oropesa minesweeper. I will send minesweeping trawler from Freetown if necessary. (C. in C. S.A. 1111N/15 to DRAGON)

/Takoradi....

War Diary

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

→ Takoradi
open contd.

Takoradi harbour open. Oropesa in operation but consider M/S trawler should be sent to relieve tug and personnel if use of harbour is being extended. (DRAGON, 1806Z/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

W.S.8X
NEPTUNE

Departure 0800/15 NEPTUNE as ocean escort to Convoy W.S.8X. Local escort CLEMATIS and WOODRUFF until 0600/17. (S.O.I. Freetown 1301N/15, to Admty.)

French A/C
attack on
LISS.

Norwegian S.S. ROLF JARL picked up two Vichy French officers 16 miles due West of Tamara Islands on 13/6. Their aircraft appears to have caught fire in flight and alighted near ship. The aircraft had flown over Freetown earlier in the day and possible that it might have been hit by M.G. fire from ships. Officers, now detained at Freetown state they were in aircraft referred to in my 1301/13 but deny firing at LISS. They also state battery's action in firing at LISS was contrary to instructions and that on identifying LISS they signalled battery to cease immediately and to a sloop coming out that it was not required. I think they are to be believed and certainly as regards firing on LISS. (C. in C. S.A. 1355N/15, to Admty.)

Shipping
Freetown
Resumed.

Your 1755/14. Last sentence of A.M. 1530/7 is cancelled. Ships for convoy from West Coast should now be sailed from Freetown. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1639B/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

→ DRAGON.

Under consideration that DRAGON should proceed to Simonstown to refit via Lagos and Pointe Noire Bay. Request report

South Atlantic
On June 15 in 19°49'N 38°30'W aircraft
11ms. EAGLE 1506Z intercepted German supply ship LOTHRINGEN
(Dutch ss APENBRECK) which surrendered
M 011062/41

/whether....

War Diary

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

DRAGON
Contd.

whether you consider it important that you should report results of your arrangements for Minesweeping personally or can do this by signal and Air Mail. In latter case DRAGON would proceed as above without returning to Freetown. (C. in C. S.A. 1923N/15 to DRAGON).

ASTURIAS

Your 1511Z/9, fuelling successful.
(ASTURIAS, 2215Z/15 to R.A.S.A.D.).

SCYTHIA,
Gibraltar
refugees.

Your 2015A/15 N.T. in W.R. My 2127N/14
Position (c) is 18° 12' N 17° 42' W.
(C. in C. S.A. 2233N/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

BERGAMOT

C. in C. W.As. 1236/10 request you will sail
BERGAMOT through positions (A) 20° N 20°
30' W. (B) 8° 30' N 16° 30' W.
(C. in C. S.A. 2305N/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

DUNCAN
defects.

Admty. 1835/3/4.
DUNCAN is now twelve months out of dock,
has defects, urgently requires docking.
Request WRESTLER may be sailed to relieve
DUNCAN as soon as possible. (C. in C. S.A.
2307N/15 to F.O.C.N.A.) *See p. 471.*

Mediterranean.

Haifa
Air
Raid.

Ref. C.A.F.O. 587/40, Para. 4, and my 1210/
14 Air Raid on Haifa (a) 14/6/41 - Haze over
sea and cloud after 0300 hours. (b) High
level and shallow dive bombing. Probably
5 aircraft not identified. Duration of
attack about 1½ hours. Aircraft used no
illumants moon on wane. (c) H.E. bombs
and probably "G" mine. (d) About (?8)
bombs and one mine, principal target port
area. (e) (i) No damage of importance.

War Diary

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Haifa Air
Raid Contd.

(ii) Nil. (f) No shore naval A.A. battery. (g) No remarks. (h) No action. Unit of the fleet in action during attack. (?Probably) mine dropped in shallow water close to lee breakwater exploded. (N.O.I.C. Haifa 0945/15 to C. in C. Med. Admty.)

REGENT
Attack on
Convoy.

Reports at 2230/12 unsuccessfully attacked Northbound convoy S.W. of Pantellaria. 0500/13 sighted escorted Northbound convoy in position 035° 57' 011° 54' ships too small to attack. No difficulties experienced on passage through Narrows. (Major defects). Expected delay 4 days. (S.O.(S) Malta, 0955B/15, to Capt. S.1.)

Suez
Canal.

Your 2141B/8. Report on minesweeping progress. (C. in C. Med. 1547C/15 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Operation
"Tracer".

C.S.R. Malta. Up to 1600 hours 15/6. Operation "Tracer". 4 Hudsons and 43 Hurricanes arrived safely. Of remaining 5 Hurricanes 1 did not leave carrier, 1 left formation in direction North Africa, 1 alighted in sea, pilot rescued uninjured. 1 overrun on landing Luqa slight damage to aircraft, pilot uninjured. 1 stalled when turning to land, pilot killed. All accidents Malta directly attributable to stupidity Hudson Captain, all 9 Hurricanes accompanying landing with less than 10 gallons. Matter under investigation. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1600/15).

RAMB IV.

Your 1535/12. Ref. (2) see para 5 of Admty. 2016/15 to C. in C. Med. regarding flag. RAMB IV should be temporarily registered by local British Consul as British ship. (D. of S.T. 1636B/15 to P.S.T.O. Egypt.)

/Enemy.....

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

1547C/15th June

FROM:- C. in C. Mediterranean

DATE:- 17.6.41.

RECD:- 1855

NAVAL CYPHER D BY CABLE

ADDRESSED:- Admiralty

910 Your 2141B/8, Paragraph 2. Every effort is being made to reduce searching period below 48 hours and arrival of more LL sweepers will assist this.

2. The 3 LL Hoppers are now working in canal, the 152nd minesweeping group are en route from Durban and 400th minesweeping group are fitting out on the station the first sweeper completing on 28 June. 5 S A sweepers are available and 2 sweepers are being fitted with S A as opportunity offers.

3. Your paragraph 3. The canal is divided into 6 sections for minesweeping each under a section officer. This has been sufficient to deal with attacks on canal experienced up to date. Request 3 young and active section officers with experience in minesweeping and good organizers be flown out as soon as possible to improve present organization.

4. If very heavy attack develops it will be necessary to increase the number of sections to 10 and it is requested that consideration be given to sending out 4 additional section officers when available as they can usefully be employed on present sections and trained.

5. Your paragraph 4. I consider that S.O.'s at present employed on minesweeping duties on the canal are capable of dealing efficiently with any situation which may arise and the replacement of Commander Irvine, who now has considerable experience of minesweeping in the Canal, by Captain Dardwell is not recommended.

1547C/15

1st Lord
 1st S.L.
 2nd S.L.
 3rd S.L.
 5th S.L.
 V.C.N.S.
 A.C.N.S.(T)(2)
 A.C.N.S.(F)
 N.A. 1st S.L.
 D. of P.(2)
 D.O.D.(F)
 D.D.O.D.(F)
 D.N.I.(4)
 D. of L.D.
 D.N.A.D.
 D.A/S.W.
 D.M.S. for action
 I.P.
 W.D.
 Duty Captain
 Hd. of M.(2)

D.T.S.L.
 D.D.I.C.
 E.P.S.
 D.T.D.(2)
 N.I.D.10-Pay Cdr. Wilson

MOST SECRET

War Diary.15.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean Contd.Enemy
Battleship?

One detached Battleship bearing 270° distant 15 miles approx. course 090°. My position 35°N 31°E 50 K8. (A/C 635 Sqd. 1810/15 via Malta W/T).

LYDIARD

C. in C. Med., 1110/14 , my 0045/15.
LYDIARD sailed in place of KINGSTON CRYSTAL, E.T.A. Haifa 0500/17. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria 1843C/15 to N.O.I.C. Haifa.)

Vichy
Intelligence

A report dated 11/6 Graded C.3 states that COLBERT and FOCH were taking in fuel at Toulon and that GALISSONNIERE and DUPLEIX were ready for sea. Also reported that a regiment of Chasseurs d'Alpin was to leave Hyeres for Syria on 15/6. (D.D.I.C. 1948B/15 to C. in C. Med. etc.)

Air
Units.

Necessary to determine the air requirements to enable Fleet to operate in Central Mediterranean. Proposals. (1st S.L. to C. in C. Med., 2205B/15). See Lion Copy.

Operation
"Battleaxe"

C. in C. Med. 2359/15. See Syria Section, following.

475A

MOST SECRET

M E S S A G E

2205B/15th June.

MOST SECRET

OUI.

To: C. in C. Mediterranean 931.

Date 15.6.41.

N.V.L CYPHER ONE TIME

From Admiralty.

IMPORTANT.

(A) It is necessary to determine the Air requirements to enable the Fleet to operate in the Central Mediterranean under the following conditions :-

- (a) No carrier attached to the Med. Fleet.
- (b) Aerodromes to the eastward of Benghazi available.

(B) Request your views as to whether the following would just meet requirements if the Fleet at all times had first call on them except as stated below.

(C) Reconnaissance and A/S Patrols

<u>Malta</u>	Half Maryland Sqn.
<u>Alexandria</u>	1 Naval Sqn. of Albacores or Swordfish No. 826 Sqn. ex FORMIDABLE. 1 P.R.U. Flight Spitfires
<u>Mersa Matruh Area</u>	1 R.A.F. Sqn. of G.R. Marylands 1 R.A.F. Sqn. of G.R. Blenheims
<u>Benghazi</u>	1 R.A.F. Sqn. of G.R. Marylands. 1 R.A.F. Sqn. of G.R. Blenheims
<u>Syrian Area</u>	1 R.A.F. Sqn. of G.R. Blenheims. 1 Naval Sqn. No. 815 Swordfish ex ILLUSTRIOUS

(D) Short range fighters.

<u>Malta.</u>	2 Squadrons of R.A.F. of which the fleet would have first call when Fleet was operating in that area, and which are already there.
<u>Alexandria.</u>	1 Naval Martlett Sqn. No. 805 at present spare. 1 Naval Fulmar Sqn. No. 806 to be rearmed with Hurricanes or Tomahawks. 1 Naval Fulmar Sqn. No. 803 to be re-equipped with Hurricanes or Tomahawks 1 R.A.F. Sqn. of Hurricanes or Tomahawks

These Squadrons to move along either the Cyrenaican or Syrian coast as necessary for protecting the Fleet.

(E) Long Range Fighters

<u>Malta.</u>	1 R.A.F. Sqn. of Beaufighters
<u>Alexandria</u>	for either Cyrenaican or Syrian coasts 2 R.A.F. Sqn of Beaufighters.

/(F)

(F) Air Striking Force

Malta. 1 R.A.F. Sqn. of Blenheim Bombers already there
1 Naval Sqn. of Swordfish No. 830 Sqn. already there,

Benghazi. 1 R.A.F. Sqn. of Beauforts.
Derna 1 Naval Sqn. of Albacores or Swordfish No.
829 Sqn. ex FORMIDABLE.

(G) Are there any Naval Squadrons in Eastern Mediterranean which have not been mentioned above and which could take the place of R.A.F. Sqns. mentioned.
We naturally wish to meet your requirements as far as possible from Naval resources.

(H) If FORMIDABLE is capable of operating a/c on passage to her refitting port in U.S.A. it is desirable that she should have one T.S.R. Sqn. on board.

2205D/15.

Assistant Secretary to 1st S.L.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
3rd S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
...C.N.S. (H)
...C.N.S. (F)
...C.N.S. (T) (2)
N..1st S.L.
D. of P. (2).
D.D.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.O.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (H)
D.N.I. (4)
D.S.D.
D. of L.D.
D.N...D.
D.../S.W.
D.I.S.
I.P. (2).
W.D.
Duty Captain.
Head of M.
D.T.S.D.
D.D.I.C.
E.P.S.
D.T.D. (2).
N.I.D. 10 Pay Cdr. Wilson.

War Diary.15.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Syria.HERO
KIMBERLEY
GRIFFIN

HERO and KIMBERLEY about to engage Cruiser target, GRIFFIN on road target. (HERO 0512/15 to LEANDER).

Rhodes
bombed.
Benghazi
bombed.

Operational Summary No.370 up to 1200/15. Night 15/14. 2 Wellingtons bombed Calato Aerodrome Rhodes. 9 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi Harbour. 1 Wellington also bombed and machine gunned Benina Aerodrome. 3 Wellingtons bombed Gazala north and south landing grounds. 2 Wellingtons bombed Derna town and satellite landing ground. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1102/15).

French
M.V.'s
Turkey.

Operational Summary to 1800 hours 14/6. F.A.A. 4 Swordfish (Cyprus) Harbour 0400 hours Striking Force dispatched from Cyprus to intercept French cargo vessels off Turkey. Vessels last reported proceeding S.E. under orders of Swordfish. (H.Q., P. & T.J. 1227/15).

French
Destroyers.

In view of importance of liquidating French destroyers provided their position can be determined by a late reconnaissance (? vessels should be) attacked whether (? in harbour) or not. (C. in C. Med., 1527C/15 to A.O.C. P. and T.J.)

French
Propaganda

H.Q. P. and T.J. reports:- Following from statement issued to Arab leaders Damascus by French S.S.O. French fleet on way to Syria and already accomplished most dangerous part of journey. Weygand sent 40,000 men from North Africa to land in Syria in a few days. (N.O.I.C. Haifa 1554C/15 to C. in C. Med.)

/Ammunition.....

War Diary.15.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Syria Contd.Ammunition

Essential to restrain expenditure of destroyer's 4.7" ammunition in bombarding operations as there are only 7,000 cartridges with No.14 primers at present in E. Med. Except against important targets S.A.P. should be used in preference to H.E. which is also required for A.A. I consider 5.25" cruisers should not bombard except in serious emergency. (C. in C. Med., 1645/15 to C.S.15) Your 2143/14. Ammunition being despatched as follows (in NAIAD etc.). Request you will arrange with N.O.i/c Haifa for ammunition not required (? for) ready use Harbour to be stored on shore. Not desired to have an ammunition ship in Haifa Harbour. (C. in C. Med., 1833C/15 to C.S.15).

Liaison

Re branch of Spears Mission to be attached to Gen. Catroux. Chief of Staff No. 132 (1st S.L., 1744B/15 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

ISIS

Your 1740/15 (N.T. in W.R.). Fighter escort is to escort ISIS Southward and Westward no more aircraft available. If you (? wish) to divert escorts in emergency they will take your orders by R/T. (N.O.I.C. Haifa, 1838/15 to C.S.15, COVENTRY).

? CASSARD

(?CASSARD) KATSARD "K" Class course 084° speed 25 knots. My position 35.52 N., 37.33 E. (Via Malta W/T., 1840/15 to Whitehall W/T.). Following has been read. QQQQ B-MQ 2. Am carrying out duty of shadowing CASSARD (? KATSARD). (Malta W/T., 1850/15). Following has been read. (L 08 AA-) (? Make) Landfall then shadow one enemy destroyer estimated to be in 35.52 N., 37.33 E. at 1810, course 085° speed 24 knots. (Malta W/T., 1905/15.).

/Take.....

MOST SECRET

477A.

~~MOST SECRET~~

OUT

To C in C Mediterranean 925

Date 15.6.41.

NAVAL CYPHER (One time table) BY W/T

From Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE

Following from C.O.S. No 132 to C in C Mediterranean and C.s in C Middle East.

1. We assume that C in C. Middle East's O/72250 of 11.6 is not intended to modify instructions issued by you to Forces taking part in Syrian operations as reported in Middle East's I/69425 of 1/6 with which we agree.
2. We concur in Proposal to attach branch of Spears Mission to General Catroux for liaison duties only between Catroux on the one hand and G.O.C. Syria and his staff and Spears Mission elsewhere on the other. Consider it important that the functions of this branch mission should remain quasi diplomatic and should not become executive. It should communicate with you, with London and with Spears Mission elsewhere only through G.O.C. Syria unless latter gives permission for certain subjects to be dealt with through other channels.
3. Since during period of military occupation administrative authority is centred in G.O.C. any technical experts exercising authority over feeding civilian population, finance, commerce and shipping must be on his staff and must communicate with H.M.C. through him. We understand that Mr. Havard has already been appointed to G.O.C.'s staff as assistant political adviser. Colonial Office is requesting High Commissioner Palestine to do his utmost to release any extra staff that may be required. If he is unable to assist sufficiently from limited staff at his disposal Colonial Office would be prepared to approach other Colonial Governments. Suggest possibility of obtaining staff from India might also be considered if necessary
4. Nevertheless no objection to appointing to branch Spears Mission Officers from all three Services or to strengthening it by attachment of persons with special knowledge economic matters so long as purpose is only to interpret General Catroux's view on these subjects to General Wilson, and vice versa.
5. Presume word "contracts" in paragraph 4 of Middle East C/72250 should read "contacts". If so, point seems to be covered by Middle East I/69425 of 1/6, from which we also presume that there can be no delegation of executive authority to Catroux without your consent.

/In this connection

MOST SECRET

477B

- 2 -

6. In this connection you will doubtless bear in mind importance of not prejudicing our relations with Arab world as a whole or with the various Syrian nationalities by any failure to ensure that our guarantee of Syrian independence is respected. Subject to this and to requirements of military situation in Middle East, we must give full support to Free French Movement.

1744B/15.

Secretary to First Sea Lord

1st Lord
1st S.L. (6)
V.C.N.S.
V.C.N.S.(F)
N...1st S.L.
D.O.D.(F)
D.D.O.D.(F)
D.N.I.(4)
D. of P.(2)
Duty Captain
E.P.S.
Head of M.(8)
I.P.
N.I.D.10 (Payr.Cdr.Wilson)
W.D.

797

War Diary15.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Syria Contd.? CASSARD
Contd.

Take over shadowing from Sunderland at 2030 and continue to shadow and (? strike). (N.O.I.C. Alexandria 1926/15 to R.N.A.S. Foord.).

AAA will do dusk (? attack). (? R.N.A.S. Foord via Malta W/T 1930/15 to C.S.15).

Following has been read Addressed 8TLI (undecypherable in War Reg.) 207A 571 shadowing enemy as long as possible. Swordfish may also shadow. (Group H.Q. M.E. 2005/15).

Following has been read. Addressed 8T4 (undecypherable in War Reg.) LO8AA report destroyer's p.c. and s. (Group H.Q. M.E. 2030/15).

C.S.15

You should keep 815 Sqn. informed of movements of your force during night of 15/16 to avoid confusion. (C. in C. Med., 2013C/15 to C.S.15, 931 Sqn., 815 Sqn. etc.).

Your 1810/15. Send COVENTRY to Port Said to make good defects. (C. in C. Med., 2039C/15, to 15 C.S.)

C. in C. Med.'s 2039C/15. ISIS entering Haifa. Am sailing for Port Said. (COVENTRY, 2231/15, to C.S.15).

JANUS
damage.

Principal damage to JANUS as result of five hits as follows. Damage beyond capacity of Eastern Mediterranean in existing circumstances, Ship can be ready on one boiler for Ocean Voyage in about four days' time. (C. in C. Med., 2021C/15 to Admt.)

/ D.2.....

War Diary15.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.Syria Contd.→ D.2.

E.T.A. off breakwater 0530/16 ILEX in tow of HASTY, HERO in company. Central route outside gate. No casualties (? on board) Capt. D.2, 2301/15 to N.O.I.C. Haifa)

Enemy
Destroyer.

A A B Striking Force failed to intercept an despatching moonlight search east of Cyprus. (R.N.A.S. Ford, 2315/15 to Group H.Q. Middle East NR 3.) A214 Y1033 regret shadowing completed Destroyer position 325 Cape Kormakiti 32 at 2055, course Northerly, speed reduced. (3 Group H.Q., M.E., 2335/15 to C.S.15).

Situation
Report
No.57.

Syria. French Destroyer¹⁵ CHEVALIER PAUL sighted by Sunderland in position 35° 52' N. 31° 33' E. at 1840/15 steering 084° 24 knots. Aircraft shadowing. 815 Squadron left for dusk attack.

ISIS

ISIS hit in boiler room in attack by German aircraft about 1700/15. Proceeding to Haifa under own power escorted by COVENTRY and fighters. Force 'B' was attacked about 1 p.m. by French bombers off Saida.

→ ILEX.

ILEX seriously damaged No.2 boiler room flooded. No fighter protection available. (3) Saida which was proving an obstacle to Army now reported on our hands. Destroyers have continued to operate actively in support of Army. Bombardments confined to military targets. (4) Results of Swordfish attacks on ships outside Beirut uncertain. Probable that ship sighted at 0129/15 was THEOPHILE GAUTIER. LEANDER reports both Destroyers sighted p.m./14 were GUEPARD Class. ~~British~~ (5) Western Desert. Operation "BATTLEAXE" has commenced. Army advanced apparently satisfactory on the left and Capuzzo and Bir Wir captured but coastal column held up 2 miles East of Halfaya. Some

/casualties.....

War Diary15.6.1941.
Sunday.FOREIGN STATIONS.Mediterranean.SyriaSituation
Report
No. 57 Contd.

casualties to 'I' tanks. 19th Division continuing to run supplies to Tobruk. (6) Malta. JADE's satisfactory E boat action reported in V.A. Malta 1916B/14. (C. in C. Med., 2359/15 to Admty.)

East Indies.CERES

Is to leave Durban 17/6 and proceed Port Victoria, Seychelles arrive 23rd. Present intention is for CERES to refit at Colombo about 1/7. (C. in C. E.I., 0820Z/15 to CERES).

SONTAY

Your 0742/14. Is it intended to undertake repair SONTAY at Massowa?. (C. in C. E.I., 0830/15 to N.O.I.C. Massowa).

GLASGOW

My 0824/22/5 not to Admiralty. Intend GLASGOW to arrive Singapore 26/6 for repairs. (C. in C. E.I., 0836Z/15 to C. in C. China).

Transports
at Massowa.

P.S.T.O. Egypt Port Said 1715/14 is the first intimation I have had of such large and valuable ships as EMPRESS OF RUSSIA and STRA/THAIRD calling at Massowa. Am not yet satisfied as to desirability of their doing so. Embarkation and berthing facilities are as yet primitive. Ships would have to anchor outside harbour. A risk from mines still exists. Request ships not sailed beyond Port Sudan until arrangements to receive them at Massowa have been settled. (C. in C. E.I., 1242Z/15 to S.B.N.O. Suez Canal)

... See also his 1314Z/18, page 567.

/DIDO.....

War Diary

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

DIDO

Admty. 2011/10. Following is intended programme for DIDO. (C. in C. E.I. 1248Z/15 to Admty). See Operations Volume. ^{15/6/41}
P. 176

Catalinas
R/C.

My 0314/3. Present disposition of Catalinas is F V U at Ceylon, F V W at Seychelle. Following searches recently carried out, on 12/6, Western and Southern edge of Saya de Malha Bank; on 14/6 Southern Maldives and area bounded by 9° 40' S. 62° 10' E. 9° 40' S. 60° 20' 8° 20' S. 62° 10' E. 8° 20' S. 60° 20'. Diego Garcia was also visited by two Catalinas on passage. (C. in C. E.I., 1428Z/15, to Admty. etc.).

China.

ANNELESSE
ESSBERGER

Left Kobe 12/6.
(Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0359Z/15 to Admty.)

America & West Indies.

RESTIGOUCHE

Join H X.152 forthwith.
(C. in C. W.A. 0040B/15, to RESTIGOUCHE)
Your 1228B/14. H X.152 expects to reach position E at 0200Z/17. (R.A. 3 B.S. 0111P/15 to Admty.)

ST. CLAIR

Proceed to St. John's N.F. forthwith.
(C. in C. W.A. 0344B/15 to ST. CLAIR).

CANTON

My 0932Q/14. If CANTON is not urgently required intend she should remain at Bermuda until 19/6 to make good defects to S/L Gearing. (C. in C. A.W.I. 0925Q/15 to C. in C.S.A.).

/St. John's N.F.....

War Diary.

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies Contd.

St. John's
N.F. Base.

Discussion with C.N.S. Canada, and Minister of Navy. Shore works and staff. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1041P/15 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

→ WOLFE
H.X.133

Intended to sail WOLFE as ocean escort to HX.133 subsequent proceeding Iceland. ASSINIBOINE and ST. CROIX are proceeding Western R/V as local escort subsequent to returning to Halifax and Sydney C.B. respectively. (R.A. 3 B.S, 1114/15 to Admty.)

DIOMEDE

Has developed defect in main steam joint. Expect to complete repairs 18/6. (C. in C. A.W.I, 1132Q/15 to Admty.)

St. John's
N.F. Escorts.

Please keep me informed regarding escort programmes and situation at St. Johns N.F. and especially if you consider number of escorts in at any one time given in Admty. 1401B/3 is likely to be exceeded, together with your proposals for disposal of overflow. (C. in C. W.A, 1214B/15, to Cdre. Cdg. Newfoundland).

Your 1214/15 Following expected to be available for H.X.133, OTTAWA, ST. CLAIR, ORILLIA, COLLINGWOOD, CHAMBLY in harbour 2 months overdue for boiler cleaning and minor engine defects. Request E.T.A. further forces may be signalled. Trots for destroyers and corvettes supplied from Halifax and are now equipped. (C.O. Newfoundland Force, 1738Z/15 to C. in C. W.A.).

Fuelling
Bermuda.

Your 0357/14. Regret disadvantages mentioned must be accepted. Turn-over date should be arranged locally. (4th S.L. 1251B/15 to C. In C. A.W.I.)

/Independent.....

482A

MOST SECRET M E S S A G E 1041P/15 June. IN

Date. 15. 6. 41.
From C. in C. America
and West Indies. Recd. 2258

NAVAL CYPIER 'F' BY C.&W.

Addressed Admiralty (For First Sea Lord) Unnumbered.

From C. in C. in H.M.C.S. PRINCE DAVID.

I have discussed St. Johns N.F. base with R.A. Nelles and Mr. McDonald Minister of Navy.

Shore works will take some months but will be well done and as expeditiously as possible. In view of unexpectedly high estimated cost, I understand Canadian Government are now asking for Admiralty to bear half the cost.

They fully realize the necessity for utmost speed in getting temporary arrangements going, especially the requisition and preparation of wharves and laying of mooring.

The one thing I am not so happy about is that of staff including administrative staff. Past experience shows that Canadians will always jump at taking on anything, regardless of whether they have necessary experience or not. I consider that number of R.N. Officers they have asked for is insufficient to ensure efficient operation, maintenance, and administration of this large mixed force.

I begged the Navy Minister and Nelles not to stint their demands on Admiralty for R.N. help and told them I would ask Admiralty to meet these. The stiffening of Canadian staff by R.N. Officers, temporarily at least, is so very important that I hope you will be able to meet extra demands should they make it. We are lucky in having Commander Schwerdt at St. Johns N.F. to act as maintenance captain. He has done fine work there hitherto.

1041P/15.

Note: Message circulated at request of Sec. to 1st S.L.

Advance copy sent 1st S.L.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| 1st Lord | D.O.D. (H) |
| 1st S.L. | D.D.O.D. (H) |
| 2nd S.L. | Duty Capt. |
| Contr. | D.D.I.C. |
| 4th S.L. | D.N.I. (4) |
| V.C.N.S. | D. of P. (2) |
| A.C.N.S. (F) | D.A./S.W. |
| A.C.N.S. (H) | D.T.D. (2) |
| A.C.N.S. (T) (2) | Hd. of M. (6) |
| Sec. | Hd. of C.W. |
| N.A. 1st S.L. | W.D. |
| D.O.D. (F) | I.P. (2) |
| D.D.O.D. (F) | N.I.D. 10 Paymr. Cdr. Wilson |
| | D. of L.D |

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War Diary.

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

Independent
Shipping
Routes.

Your 2252/14. Agree to abolish special reserved area and accept risk to convoy sections making junction. Such risk would be minimized if details of routes of ships in this area could be given direct to C.O.A.C. as well as N.S.H.Q. vide your 2208/13. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1502Z/15 to Admty.)

WARSPITE

Approx. date of arrival of WARSPITE at Bremerton. (D.O.D.(F) 1651B/15 to B.A.R.M.)

ESMERALDA
OMEGA
TROPICUS

My 1856/3/4/41. OLTUL, SIRETUL, and PRAHOVA, are now on Panamanian Registry and have been renamed ESMERALDA, OMEGA, and TROPICUS respectively. Owner has been placed on Statutory List. Vessels are suspected of possessing enemy character and if encountered should be sent in to nearest British port. (Admty, 1738B/15 to C. in C. A.W.I., etc.)

War Diary.15.6.1941.
Sunday.U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.Ships Attacked.TRESILLIAN
(torpedoed
13/6)

U.S. Coastguard Cutter DUANE proceeding St. Johns with crew of TRESILLIAN 46 officers and men all well none lost. (D.C. 0028B/15 to C. in C. A.W.I., etc.)

BARON NAIRN
(torpedoed
7/6)

British, 3164 tons. 18 survivors BARON NAIRN torpedoed 2225Z/7th in 047° 36' N. (? 059° could be 32° 02' W. picked up by CHAMBLEY 1845Z/11 in 047° 55' N. (? 059° could be 37°) 49' W. and brought to St. John's N.F. 1 boat not found reported to have been north-east of boat picked up and to be making for Clydebank. (C.C.N.F, 1234Z/15 to Admty. etc.)

Submarines Reported.

1620/14.

My 1924/14. Further aircraft operations suspended owing to unfavourable weather conditions. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 0120/15 to Admty. etc.)

1541/14.

My 0456B (N.T. in W.R.) Disregard time limit, continue to hunt. (HERMIONE, 0509B/15, to ICARUS.)
My 1955/14. Abandon hunt and rejoin Cruiser on Patrol. (F.O. 18 C.S., 1937Z/15 to ICARUS, ACTIVE, ACHATES).

1900/14.

Submarine reported on surface by fisherman approx. 066° 40' N. 025° 10' W. at 1900Z 14th. Heading North graded B 1. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 0520/15 to C. in C. W.A., etc.)

/HEINA.....

War Diary.

15.6.1941.
Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

S/M's Reported. Contd.

HEINA
report.

Ref. 1220Z/11 CHESHIRE. On arrival at Halifax Master of Norwegian ship HEINA reported S/M sighted 4 miles distance proceeding at high speed on surface steering E. In sight for six minutes visibility about six miles no marking distinguishable. Master regrets did not break W/T silence but did pass the position of S/M two days later to Corvette No.146. Position passed was in error. Should read 048° 30' N. 031° 40' W. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 1015Z/15 to Admty.)

Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1435B/15).

1725.

Following has been read:- Am over Enemy S/M in 62°02' N., 19°24' W. (Lyness W/T, 1725/15).
Following has been read. Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and seen to submerge. (Lyness W/T, 1730/15).
A/C reported over S/M position 062° 02' N. 019° 24' W. at 1725Z/15. (N.O.I.C. Iceland 1749/15 to A.I.G.46, C.S.18 etc.)

2055.

D/F bearings at 2055 G.M.T. indicate convoy S.L.76 is being shadowed by Italian U Boat. (D.D.I.C. 2349B/15).