The arrangement of the War Diary is as follows:-HOME COMMANDS - Policy - Defence of United Kingdom (Classification 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) <u>Dispositions and Movements</u> (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) <u>Daily Convoy Summary</u> (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) <u>Daily Operations Report for First Lord</u> (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (13 September 1939).
 - (h) List of abbreviations.
 - (i) List of Convoy letters.

1.8.1941. Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

All operations by Bomber Command last night were cancelled on account of bad weather.

Successful attacks were made today on ships off the coast of France and Belgium.

Enemy Air Operations.

Two trawlers were bombed at 1445B today off Nolso (Faeroes). One of them, LOCH LEE, was slightly damaged.

Three ships about to join F.S. 57 were bombed 2330 in the Tyne Examination Anchorage. S.S. TRIDENT was hit and sank later, and LIEUTENANT ROBERT MORY has a U.X.B. on board.

Longstone Lighthouse and Fog Signal were extensively damaged by air attack by F.W. Condor this afternoon.

Mining.

Operation P.W.16.

Three M.T.B.'s from Dover operated between Berck Buoy and Fecamp last night.

Navigation in the Thames is now normal.

North Atlantic.

Work on the defences of the Azores and Canary Is. is being pressed on.

1.8.1941. Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Operation Style:

Day 3, MAORI (detached 1630/31 from Force H) entered Port Conte at 0210 today and bombarded the seaplane slipway and buildings. COSSACK entered Alghero and found no shipping present. 9 Swordfish from Force H attacked the aerodrome

It is thought that Force H was sighted and reported by aircraft at 0940B, but low visibility and severe thunder storm afforded good cover for the remainder of the day. The weather was unsuitable for oiling and BROWN RANGER was ordered to proceed to a position south of the Balearic Is., where two destroyers oiled.

Malta.

6 aircraft were over Malta last night; little material damage was caused.

Libya & Western Desert.

5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night. There were two air raids on Tobruk today, but very little damage was caused.

Lampedusa.

In an attack by Blenheims on shipping at Lampedusa this afternoon, 2 M/Vs of 3,000 tons were hit by 4 bombs. 1 Blenheim was shot down.

Attacks on Convoys.

5 Swordfish last night attacked with torpedoes a convoy of 4 merchant vessels and 5 destroyers which had been sighted yesterday and unsuccessfully attacked by Swordfish south of Pantellaria, a possible hit was obtained on a 5,000 ton merchant vessel, though the convoy was later sighted intact. A force of Blenheims was despatched to make a further attack, but did not intercept the convoy.

UPHOLDER reports that at 1418/24/7 she sank an east bound 6,000 ton laden merchantman escorted by a destroyer in 38°8' N., 12°37' E. At 1951/28 she attacked in 38°4' N., ? 11°57' E., a formation consisting of 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers. No details are known.

Canal Area.

A few enemy planes raided the Canal area in the early hours of today. No material damage was caused. Mines are thought to have been dropped in one of the lakes. The Canal situation is normal and both terminal ports are open.

Capt. D.14 reported being bombed at 1816 today.

1.8.1941. Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

U-Boat Campaign.

Attack on 0.G.69.

From a fuller report by F.O.C.N.A., it appears that 7 ships from Convoy O.G.69 were sunk between 0030/27 and 2127/28 - KELLWYN, HAWKINGE, ERATO, INGA I, WROTHAM, LAPLAND and NORITA.

3 others, SHEAFCROWN, RUTH I, and PELAYO, were dispersed by Commodore's order. (SHEAFCROWN and PELAYO arrived at Gibraltar on 2/8). During this attack, 3 U-boats were sighted simultaneously on the surface, and all retired on the surface when chased, keeping just outside gun range.

1.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

PEGASUS. Your 0915B/31. Concur in PEGASUS being at three days notice for operations.

(A.C.N.S.(H.), 1958B/1).

Flag of R.A. (M) will be transferred from AGAMEMNON to SCUTHERN PRINCE at 0900/2. (Head of M., 2146B/1).

Co-operation with Russia.

Anti-Mining, Proposed exchange of information.

Devices. (Ad. Miles 1044/1) See Operations Volume.

Following for Admiral Miles. Request any available information of state of enemy shipping and patrol craft on the Northern Norwegian Coast between 21°, and 27° E., Soviet air R/C of this area today or tomorrow would be of considerable value. (D.N.I., 1211B/1 to N.A. Moscow). Following for Admiral Miles. My 1211B/1. Request continuous information of enemy sea and air patrols off North and North Western Norway and of shipping movements. This is essential for operations off this coast. (D.D.I.C. 2342B/1 to N.A. Moscow).

Military (No. 30 Military Mission, Moscow 1940/1) See Lion Copy.

Movements.

SUTLEJ Cancel my 1648B/31. Intend sailing SUTLEJ and JUMNA at 0500B/2 to comply with your 1827B/31. (F.O.I.C. Belfast, 1029B/1 to C. in C. W.A.)

VASACHOLM
SATURNUS
(N.A. Stockholm, 1139/1).

SVEADROTT
CANADIA
(Swedish Ships)

ESPERANCE BAY
Precautions.

May Island 0001/4, due B.8 Buoy 0900, Thames
Gate 1200/5. All practical arrangements are to
be made to safe guard ship from mines. Magnetic
mine sweeps should be carried out between centre
line channel and 2 cables west of centre line,
particularly where depth of water is less than
15 fathoms. (C. in C. Nore, 1220B/1).

IN

MOST SECRET

1940/lst August From No. 30 1.8.41. MOBCOM Recd. 2350.

CIPHER

Addressed The War Office.

MOST IMMEDIATE

Military 242 cipher 31/7. 31981.

First of two parts.

D.M.I. from Macfarlane. Continuation by Military 217 July 30th addressed Chiefs of Staff.

Have now established direct contact between Birse my order of battle expert and Colonel Gusev his Russian opposite number. With details provided in your 39 and 40/M.I.14 of July 28th, we are now in a position to exchange important information and I have great hopes that this contact will produce valuable results.

Following information received from General Panfilov July 30th.

(a) Murmansk 2 and 3 German Mountain Divisions have sustained heavy casualties and are being reformed. Some units contain a high proportion of young soldiers of 17 to 18 years.

(b) Russians consider Germans now have a number of 296 Divisions of which 208 have already been employed on Eastern front. Of latter number 170 divisions are now in action. (?Meanwhile) 38 have been withdrawn after suffering 30 to 40 per cent casualties. and are now in rear area. German general reserve estimated at 31 divisions includes formations in Germany and (?Protectorate). (c) Nebelworf regiments 51 full strength 53 and 54 identified on Eastern front. Russians have no identifications of Nebelwerf Rests. 1 and 2 already known to us. Is it possible that these have

been re-numbered 51 and 52.

Last part.

(d) German casualties to date estimated at 14 million.

(e) No evidence Germans using Diesel engined tanks. Captured administrative orders of German armoured division referred to petrol and lubricating oil with no mention of Diesel oil fuel.

(f) Japan. Russians consider whole Japanese Army is being brought on to a war footing and that 1½ million men have now been mobilized. 14 new divisions being formed in Japan and troops on Russian frontier reinforced by 3 divisions. Kwantung Army reported to be preparing to carry out maneouvres.

Turkey. German troops estimated at 3 divisions reported on (g) Turkish frontier in Thrace. Bulgarian troop movements towards Turkish frontier. German troops have been moved from Greece through Sofia and include some tank and (?light) Infantry units. (h) Copy captured German document asked for in your JIC/40 of

July 29th promised.

3. I have hopes of early visit to Moscow A.A. defences and Panfilov has promised more detailed account of military situation at next meeting.

Certain military manuals handed over by Russians are being

sent by next bag.

Reed. from W/O 1302/2/8.

Advance copy sent Duty Captain, D.O.D.(H) and D.D.I.C.

| 1st Lord | A.C.N.S. (F) A.C.N.S. (T) (2). | D.N.I.(4). | D.C. |
|----------|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Ist S.L. | A.C.N.S.(T) (2). | D.S.D. | Head of M. |
| 2nd S.L. | N.A. 1st S.L. | D. N. A. D. | D.T.S.D. |
| 3rd S.L. | D. of P. (2). | D. of L.D. | D.D.I.C. |
| 4th S.L. | D.O.D. (H). | D.A/S.W. | E.P.S. |
| 5th S.L. | D.D.O.D. (H). | D.M.S. | D.T.D.(2) N.I.D.10 (P.C.W). D.G.D. |
| V.C.N.S. | D.O.D. (F). | I.P. (2). | N.I.D.10 (P.C.W). |
| | | W.D. | D. G. D. |

1.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

SEALION.

Intend to sail SEALION on completion of exercises in Dartmouth Sanctuary 5/8 for patrol in Bay of Biscay. Route. (Capt. S.5. 1623B/1).

ERNA. (Icelandic Trawler).

Your 1201/27/7. Ship sailed 14.6 for Siglufjordur. Probably taken off fish carrying for herring fishery. (D.N.I., 1831B/1 to A.C.O.S.)

Operations.

Operation E.F.V.4.

Your 1925B/31. No fighters west of Kirkenes. 30 JU 88 at Banak, 30 more expected. No immediate R/C available. Shipping at Tromso and leads in vicinity appear preferable target. (C. in C. H.F., 0357B/1 to C.S.1.)
C.S.I.'s 1925B. Request Russians may be asked for continuous information of enemy shipping and of sea and air patrols off North and North Western Norwegian Coast. This is essential for effective operation off coast both for carriers and Force A. (C. in C. H.F., 1416B/1 to Admty).

The Assessment of the Assessme

Exercise Alterations and particulars. (D.O.O., 1057B/1 to H.Q.O.S.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

Trest Treet now in operation.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1135/1).

(1) A/S Patrol in area West of Orkneys being flown from 1300/1 to 0500/2.

(2) Yes A and B now in operation.

(2) Vos A and B now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1328/1).

Stal STAB in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1700/1).

(C. in C. Rosyth, 2132/1)

New Patrol saco Add to Standard patrols. Particulars. SKROO. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2308/1) See Summaries Folder.

Bombing operations.

Night 31/1. All operations cancelled owing to weather. (H.Q.B.C., 1410/1).

American fighter aircraft shortly arriving in Iceland (c) are probably unable to make any recognition signals.

2. All ships in the vicinity and shore defences who are likely to sight these aircraft should be warned accordingly. (D.O.D. H. 1950B /1).

1.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

ONWARD.

(Grimsby Trawler). Reports having been attacked by enemy aircraft 20 miles East of Nolso at 1315 B/31. Three bombs dropped and machine gun attacks made. No casualties and slight damage only. (A.C.I.C., 0100B/1).

Lighthouse.

and Fog
Signal
damaged.

District Officer C.K. Berwick reports, extensive damage Longstone Fog Signal and building by enemy bombing. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1645/1).

My 1645/1. Damage to Longstone Lighthouse also reported to be extensive. Light cannot be exhibited until further notice.

(C. in C. Rosyth, 1759/1).

Your 1645/1 and 1759/1. Coastguard Berwick reports all keepers from Longstone Light Landed Seahouses 1905. No casualties. Extensive damage to engine room. Light not available. Two direct hits, one bomb believed unexploded. Aircraft four engined Condor. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 2022/1 to C. in C. Rosyth).

LOCH LEE (Trawler) damaged.

Aberdeen trawlers LOCH LEE and ROSS KEEN report attacked by aircraft about 3 miles 5.E. Nolso at 1445B/1. 4 bombs dropped. LOCH LEE slightly damaged. Otherwise no damage or casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1920B/1).

ROBERT MORY (British 3176 tons).

A A A A Automatic A A A A Heard. (Cullercoats, 2130/1). S.O.S., Off H.l. buoy. Require immediate assistance (Cullercoats, 2136/1).

Mining.

Operation P.W.16.

Arrival M.T.B. 45.44.47. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 0636B/1).

Thames Estuary. One S.A. mine detonated at 2224/31. Details. (Capt. Sheerness 0925/1).

River Thames.

The navigational warnings given in wy 1345/8/4/41 0210/17/4, 0848/12/5, 1246/11/4, and 1835/25/4 are cancelled.

Navigation in the river is now normal, but all ships are warned to keep to the centre of the main channel. (F.O.I.C. London, 1520/1).

Enemy Intelligence.

M/V off Trondheim. 9,000 ton passenger ship escorted by one destroyer and two A/C ME 109 steering 045° at 9 knots in 63° 22' N., 7° 16' E at 1235/1 A/C report. (Pitreavie, 1535/1).

1.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

Use of word "delete"

When word "delete" is used in reference to Outward Vescas, Convoy sailing telegrams etc. it is an indication that the ships referred to have been sunk. In all other cases some other term is used to indicate cancellation of voyage or alternatively the actual reason for any delay is stated. (D.T.D., O817B/1 to C. in C. S.A., F.O.C.N.A.)

S.C.37.

Congratualtions on bringing safely to U.K. all the ships of S.C.37. (C. in C. W.A., 1430B/1 to R.A. Creighton).

H.X.138.

Congratualtions on bringing safely to U.K. your convoy H.X.138. (C. in C. W.A., 1431B/1 to Commodore MacRae, R.N.R.)

DAFFODIL.

Anticipate DAFFODIL (Valuable) ready to proceed to Oban at 1800/2 for inclusion in W.N. convoy to Aulthea. (F.O:I.C., Greenock, 1554B/1).

W/T messages from M.V.S Admiralty message GG. Except when making distress messages or in other cases of extreme urgency, merchant ships should not transmit any W/T messages in plain language. (D.T.D., 1636G.M.T./l and 1838B/l).

Sealing of W/T receivers.

Following signal has been received from C.O.A.C. Halifax. Radio Operator HARPERLEY was instructed by C.P.O. telegraphist at Goureck that any instructions issued at Halifax regarding sealing of W/T receivers were to be disregarded and seals were to be broken. This is the second instance of this occurrence and definite instructions are requested. 1821Z/31. Request your early remarks. (D.T.D., 1714B/1 to N.C.S.O. Gourock.)

CITY OF LANCASTER. Will complete loading important military stores at Birkenhead and will be ready to leave on 4/8.

2. C. in C. W.A., is requested to arrange for her to be sailed in the appropriate convoy to Scapa, providing extra A/A escort as requisite (A.C.N.S. H. 2031B/1).

Convoy W.S.10 X. Particulars. (V.C.N.S. 2336B/1) See Operations Volume.

1.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raiders.

Sinking of TOTTENHAM.

My 1911B/22nd July. Interrogation of survivors from TOTTENHAM shows that this ship was not sunk by 16 (Raider C) but by a smaller vessel, (Description). General impression similar to No. 10 (SANTA CRUZ) though No. 10 thought to be still in Germany.

German Prisoners of War suggest No. 16 will remain at sea till October and may be in North Atlantic at present. Graded B.2. (D.D.I.C., 1616B/1).

North Atlantic.

French convoys. Passing Gibraltar, 30/7, 31/7. Details in D.O.R. 1/8.

Cape Gata Patrol. Fleet Tug ST. DAY sailed 2230B/31 to patrol in area off Cape Gata. (F.O.C.N.A., 1026B/1).

Force H reported.

At 0940B/l Italian A/C made sighting report of force consisting of three type vessels. Probably force "H". (F.O.C.N.A., 1114B/l to 3.O. Force H).

Refits at Gibraltar.

Your 0301N/20/7/41. Owing to very large commitment and extremely small staff at Gibraltar impossible to undertake refits of destroyers and corvettes. No prospect of any six-monthly dockings being undertaken. (A.S. Gib., 1314B/1 to C. in C. S.A.)

Crews of ESPERANCE, ALBI. INDQ-CHINOIS. My 1955/26. History of crews of INDO-CHINOIS and ESPERANCE is as follows. We are awaiting definite news of ALBI crew which are understood to have been landed at Duala in October last. This information should be passed to French N.A. and immediate assurances requested about amazing suggestions in connection with PARRACOMBE and other British merchant-ship crews. (Head of M., 1351B/l to NA. Madrid).

BEVERLEY.

My 1322B/27. Am assuming that fuel for BEVERLEY at Ponta Delgada on A.M./3 has been arranged. (F.O.C.N.A., 1414B/l to Admty).

Canary Islands. Your 1915B/29. Beach defences, being pressed. Beach south of island wired and trenched defended by Pillbox. Fixed coast defence at various points of S.E. coast, and other strategic points including Isleta Port Laluz heavily defended.

1.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Canary Islands Contd.

Permanent seaplane base at Laluz and Gando. Emergency seaplane base at Arguineguin south of island. 2 emergency aircraft landing grounds being prepared south of island.
Fuel and other stocks are held and being maintained but abnormal accumulation. No mark of German or Italian infiltration and no evidence of future enemy intentions. (Consul, Las Palmas, 1730/1 to Admty).

HIGHLANDER.

Intend sailing HIGHLANDER with H.G. 70 on 8/8. HIGHLANDER to part company as requisite to fuel at Ponta Delgada subsequently rejoining H.G.70 and providing escort as far as endurance permits. (F.O.C.N.A., 1802B/1 to Admty).

AMERIKA. LEINSTER.

A.T., 1634B/26 paragraph (D) A/S escort from W.S.10 is expected to be in position 46° North 21° West at 0800B/6/8. 2. Can you sail AMERIKA and LEINSTER to R/V with this escort? (D.O.D. F., 1823B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.) Your 1823B/1. No local escort available. (F.O.C.N.A., 2042B/1 to Admty).

BEVERLEY.

Your 1414B/1. Yes. See my 1345B/28 July. (D.O.D.(F.), 1903B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Italian steamship DERNA left Barcelona 30th for JOSE TRUJILLO. Genoa. Spanish steamship JOSE TRUJILLO left Valencia 29th for Genoa. (F.O.C.N.A. 1936B/1 to S/M 0.24).

MANCHESTER.

Request you report date when MANCHESTER will be ready to sail for refitting port on completion of temporary repairs. (A.C.N.S. H., 1943B/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

BALTA.

After leaving Horta proceed through the following positions. Thence as ordered by C. in C. S.A. (F.O.C.N.A., 2019B/1 to BALTA).

O.G. 69.

Report of attacks by F.W. A/C and U/B 27/7 and 28/7. (F.O.C.N.A., 2040B/l to Admty) See Lion Copy.

Your 0313B/lst. Have intercepted RAMON ALONSO R. RAMON ALONSO R. intercepted Almeria to Gijon. Not been cleared. Request instructions. (LOCH OSKAIG, 2130A/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

2040B/lst August.

N.

From F.O.C.North Atlantic.

Date 2.8.41. Recd. 0458.

NAVAL CYPHER (X) BY W/T.

Addressed Admiralty, C. in C. Western Approaches.

114. O G 69 first sighted by F.W. aircraft at 0814/23 this aeroplane shot down. Aircraft subsequently shadowed for one hour at noon on 24th, 25th, 26th, ... 27th and 28th no aircraft attacked the convoy. South Atlantic ships dispersed 2000/26. First U.Boat attack developed at 0030/27.

- (2) Following vessels known sunk. KELLTYN at 0030/27 HAWKINGE at 0255/27 ERATO at 0001/28 INGA I (one) at 0005/28 PLAPLAND at 2127/28 NORITA at 2127/28
- (3) Following have arrived at destination ADJUTANT, RHINELAND (≠ COMON).
- (4) Following dispersed by Commodores order at 0007/28
 SHEAFCROWN RUTH 1 PELAYO present whereabouts of these with own for three U.Boats sighted simultaneously on surface 27th and all retired on surface when chased keeping just outside gun range.

 Visibility -22nd to 28th, patchy half mile to six miles. Attacks at 2127/28 was by submerged U.Boat. Corvettes made many attacks, their claims are being investigated.
 - (6) Detailed analysis follows by air.

lst Lord.
lst S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
L.C.N.S.(H)
A.C.N.S.(T)(2).
Parl. Soc.
Nav. Soc.
N.A.lst S.L.
Ops.(4).
M.(8)
D.N.I.(4).
O.D.(5).
D.T.D.(4).
D.T.D.(M)
D.T.D.(C)
Odr. Holbrook.
D.T.M.
D.of S.T.

2040B/1.

As received.

(Advance copy sent Ops. O.D. Trade

O.I.C.)

O.I.C.(3).

I.P.(3).

Press Division
C.C.R.T.
A.H.Q.H.F.
I.M.N.G.
D. of L.D.(2).
D. of P.(3).
D.N.A.D.
D.M.G.
D.M.G.Basement
D.D.T.M.
D.G.D.(2).
D.M.V.D.

1.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

CEDARDALE.

Ref. forthcoming docking CEDARDALE in U.S.A.
instruct Master that only repairs for seagoing
efficiency and items already approved should
be taken in hand. (Dir. of Stores OlolB/1 to
N.O.I.C. Freetown).

A/C for
Free French.

Consider aircraft for coastal R/C should be made available for Free French in (? West Africa) as soon as practicable. If no other aircraft available Walrus would be welcomed and Naval Air Arm crews. (C. in C. S.A., 0127N/1 to Admty).

VILLE DE Arrived. (Capetown, 0848/1 to M. of W.T.)
ROUEN.
French.

Admty 1954B/7. Para 4. Submit harbour limit for Para be established as Salinas Point Pilot Station 000° 27' S., 047° 25' W. (N.C.S.O., Para, 1551/1 to Admty).

My 1319/30. HIGHLANDER further delayed. Will not now arrive Gibraltar until 5/8. (C. in C. S.A. 1927N/1 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Your 1141B/31. Ministry of War Transport have instructed Campbell to dry dock ship. (D.T.D., 2032B/1 to N.C.S.O. Capetown).

W.S. 10
W.S. 11

W.S. 11

W.S. 11 will necessitate splitting in each case to enable some ships to replenish at Capetown.

(D.O.D. (F), 2048B/1 to C. in C. S.A.)

Your 1536Z/30, Master should be pressed to sell cargo locally and charter to U.S. Firm. Purchase of ship impracticable at present for political reasons. If vessel trades with approval Maritime Commission Navy will not interfere with her. (D. of S.T. 2255B/1 to N.A. Rio de Janeiro).

From C. in Middle East. SECRI

Date 1,8,41,

IN

CIPHER

Addressed The War Office.

IMMEDIATE

5101 1539 cipher 1/8,

SUSAN

The Chiefs of Staff from Commanders in Chief reference Troopers 79993 (Chief of Staff 149).

The repeat 7th August as earliest date for staff talks and agreed to meet in Cyprus. Middle East is making necessary preliminary arrangements for your approval. Inform General Auchinleck and Air Marshal Tedder and ask them to cable probable date their return to Cairo. If they return about 7th or 8th August propose postpone talks till after they arrive here.

2. Cable will follow shortly reporting progress in our preparations for staff talks,

0156/1.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.G.N.S. (F)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.C.D. (F)
D.H.I. (4)
D. of P. (2)
Duty Captain
E.P.S.
Head of M. (8)
I.P. (2)
V.D.
N.I.D., 10(Pay.CdR.Wilson)
Adm. Herman Hodge.

Received from W.O. PM/1/8.

1.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Enemy Units.

P.C. and S. of enemy, 5 destroyers, 4 merchant vessels, 34.30 N., 12.05 E. 155 10.

(A/C No. 1., E. Sqdn, 0610/1 to Hal Far).

Egypt Night 31 July/August 1. About 8 enemy aircraft operated over Delta and Suez. Canal Zone. Some bombs dropped between Kabrit and Suez. 2 Bombs dropped near Helmia near Heliopolis. One bomb dropped Alexandria. No damage reported. Fighters sent up from Ismailia but no interceptions Western Desert. Night 30/31st July. 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi starting explosions and fires on docks one being visible for 50 miles. 2 Wellingtons bombed Gazala and Bardia starting explosions at latter. Day 31/7. Hurricanes provided covering patrols over shipping off Egyptian Coast. Reconnaissances of Eastern Cyrenaica. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1013/1).

Canal Area. Air raid 0200 to 0330. 10 enemy (?group omitted) on passage to South eastwards. 1 presumed damaged which subsequently turned back and dropped mines in lake on way north.

(N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 1027C/1).

Cruiser and Tanker about 9 knots expected to pass Messina south-bound afternoon/2. Remain on patrol until 2100 unless sighted previously and arrive Malta a.m./4.

(S.O.S/Ms Malta, 1044B/1 to UNIQUE).

My 1044B/1. Convoy is proceeding Crete via West Coast Greece. (S.O.S/Ms Malta, 1136B/1 to UNIQUE.)

My 1044B/lst. If you have choice cruiser should be primary target.

(Comdr. (S) 1. 2050B/1 to UNIQUE).

Vichy convoy from Toulon.

My 1118C/30. Ships will now pass point shown as follows. (b) Early evening 1/8. (c) About 0001/2 (d) About 0800/3. (e) 30 miles south of Cape Gata Cyprus about 1730/4 August to arrive Beirut A.M./5 All times G.M.T. N.O.I.C. Palestine Ports pass to H.Q. Palestine and Trans Jordan. N.O.I.C. Syria pass to F.O.A.M. (C. in C. Med., 1147C/1 1149C/1 to Med. Fleet).

1.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

and fight

M/V sunk cruiser torpedoed.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

UPHOLDER reports at 1418/24 fired 3 torpedoes at eastbound 6,000 ton laden M/V escorted by one destroyer in 38.08, 12.37, ship sank 2 hours later. 1951/28 in position 038° 04'/57' attacked 2 cruisers and 2 destroyers. Formation consisted of one GARIBALDI class followed by one DUCA D'AOSTA in line ahead, steady course 28 knots, with destroyers zigzagging on either bow at very high speed. Four mark 4 (35 knot) torpedoes fired from 4,000 yards resulting in two hits on second ship. One destroyer counter attacked while other made smoke round damaged ship. At 2100 destroyer was still circling attack position making both funnel and chemical smoke. At 0352/29 in 038° 28' 012° 14' (?fired) last torpedo at northbound (?empty) convoy of 4 M/V's and three destroyers, torpedo missed ahead. At 0415/30 observed both (?heavy) and light A/A fire also searchlight (?from) Trapani. It is understood that Trapani was not attacked by R.A.F. that night. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1153B/l to Capt. S.l.)

URSULA. patrol.

URSULA reports that at 0410/29/7 whilst attacking escorted Southbound Convoy in 034° 52', 012° 10' URSULA forced to dive to avoid destroyers and attack abandoned. It appears during this Patrol Convoys passed about 20 miles to East of Kerkenah No.4 Buoy. (S.O.(S) Malta 1203B/1.)

Vichy Ships in Turkey.

Following from Adm Kelly. Your 1130/30. These ships will be moved about 15/8, date being communicated to all interested powers. They will either be manned by Turkish naval ratings or have strong guard on board and will be armed with machine guns. Turkish naval escort will be provided. No prospect of ships being seized at Erdok until Turkey collapses when Marshal informed me they would be sunk. (N.A.Angora, 1237C/l to C.in C. Med.)

Canal area.

Secret estimate 5 - 6 planes raided Canal area 0315C to 0430C/l. Flares dropped in Suez Bay. 2 U X M or bombs reported in Suez roads and 3 exploded on impact. No material damage. Canal situation normal and both terminal ports open. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1253C/l.)

Convoy.

Vichy Convoy from Toulon. 1.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Re gradual taking over by Free French. Syrian Coast defence. Requirements. (N.O.I.C. Syria Ports 1423/1) See Lion Copy.

- Convoy. Convoy of 6 merchant ships might arrive Rhodes from West about 0300/2. (Capt.(s) 1 1519C/1 to TRITON.)

Night 31/7 - 1/8. 6 aircraft over. Little Malta. material damage, no casualties. 31/7 - 1/8. Convoy 4 M/V's 5 Drs. located intact Convoy attacked by after Swordfish attack during 0610 hours 80

miles South of Lampion southbound.
Taranto two LITTORIO, one has steam up and inner nets removed raised Cavour B.S. from floating Swordfish. LITTORIOS at Taranto.

dock is now opposite Graving Dock. 31/7/6 Blenheims re located convoy M.V.S. 5 Drs. Swordfish attack on

south of Pantellaria unable to attack owing strong fighter escort which attacked Blenheims before reaching target later during night 5 Swordfish attacked same convoy two torpedoes realeased 1 possibly scoring hit on 5,000 ton M.V. causing explosion and short fire further results not seen, 6 Blenheims failed to locate

convoy in bad visibility a.m.1/8. (H.Q.R.A.F. Malta 1600/1, V.A. Malta 1615B/1)

At 1116/30/7. Ship submerged to bridge level. ? GEORGIC After deck and sides blown outward, probably total loss. Canal Company divers are making survey and will report on possibility of salvage. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1724C/1.)

DERNA. (Italian) Left 30/7 Genoa. (Barcelona T.H.I. 1739/31 to M. of W.T.)

> Convoy Z of 3 French 9000 ton merchant ships expected 180° Gavdo Island 10 at 1100C/3 thence to 30 miles southwards Cape Gata Cyprus S. of A. 13 knots. Do not molest. (Capt. S.I. 1745C/1 to RORQUAL, Greek S/M TRITON.)

> > /Mines

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1423/1st August

IN

From N.O.I.C. Syria Ports.

Dato 6.8.41.

Rocd. 1952.

NAVAL CYPHER (A.2) BY W/T

Addressed Admiralty Repeated C. in C. Mediterranean.

AIDAC.

Following for Admiral Muselier from Captain de

Freat Jaquet. Begins For Admiral Muselier Commanding Free

French Navy London from Captain De Jaquet at Beyrout. General

De Gaulle's orders are to take over by stages from R.N. the

function it is discharging in defence of the coast of Syria.

To do this the Free French Naval Force in Levant would need to

start with.

- Officer one Paymaster one Doctor about 150 Petty Officers and men mainly specialists in upper deck work engineering and wireless. Suggestion to dissolve the Fusilier Marine Unit is even refused in principle.
- magnetic and one accustic. Two patrol ships of large armed trawler type. Two examination at sea vessels of small armed trawler type. Two fast reconnaissance motor boats armed with depth charges and machine guns. Five motor boats for harbour patrol. One large harbour tug. Only motor boats for harbour patrol can be requisitioned locally. All other craft must be sent to Beirut with war time complement. (?Reserve) of munitions should also be sent.

Request telegraphed answer so that I can repeat to General De Gaulle and inform local Naval Authorities.

1423/1

Advance copy sent Head of M. Duty Captain, D.D. I. C.

lst Lord Ist S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(F). SECRETARY. N.A. lat S.L. P.A.S. (S).
D.N.I. (4).
D.O.D. (F).
D.D.O.D. (F).
D.D.I.C.
Duty Captain

Head of M (37).
D. of P.
E.P.S.
N.I.D.10 (Paymaster Cdr. Wilse:
W.D.
Admiral Chalmers.

1.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Mines at Tobruk.

C. in C. Med. 1850/25. Harbour area and channel swept with L.L. sweep during nights 30th to 31st and 31st to 1st. 1 magnetic mine detonated 2118/31 1 cable S.S.E SAN GIORGIO wreck. Sweep S.A. gear at present sufficient. (B.S.N.O. Tobruk 1758/1 to Adty.)

Capt.

3 Shad enemy aircraft bombing (or have dropped bombs) bearing of enemy from ship TPXD 4509 - 238 - 24. (Position indecipherable) (D.14 1816/1.) Owing to apparent danger of air attack am sending fighter to protect you if we can find you. (204 Group 1831/1 to D.14.)

Operation "Style".

Following for information and as W/T diversion.
MAORI entered Port Conte at O210/1 and bombarded
seaplane slipway and buildings. COSSACK entered
Alghero. No shipping present fired star shells one of which set alight building on outskirts of town. 9 Swordfish attacked aerodrome hits on building and eastern hangar, no aircraft seen. All aircraft returned. RENOWN, NELSON. (See Mediterranean Volume.) (S.O. Force H. 1856B/1)

M.T.B's

(C. in C. Med. 1901C/1) See Mediterranean Volume.

TRITON. (Owing to numerous defects, report having to leave patrol area a.m./l. Will arrive Alexandria Sanctuary at approx.0900/4. Confirm recognition signals series S.P.02291 K to S.P.02297 K. is not in force as from 1/8. (TRITON 2100C/1 to Capt.(S)1)

Information for UNIQUE.

A/C R/C Taranto 1/8 shows 1 LITTORIO with 1 set of nets removed and steam up. (Comdr.(S) 1. 2142B/1 to UNIQUE.)

Station Boundary. Your 1313/31. My 1022C/28 was corrected at 0938/30 to read S.B.N.O.C.A.(C. in C. Med. 2334/1 to Adty.)

Situation Report 104. Western Desert. Capt.(D) 14 with four destroyers carrying out A/S sweep of area off Bardia. Supply service to Tobruk recommenced.
2. Submarines. TETRARCH on patrol in Aegean bombarded enemy shipping in Karlouassi Harbour Samos p.m./22 and attacked with guns Caique flying Nazi flag and full of soldiers on 27th. Caique left burning fiercely. Request no mention. 3. Alexandria. Minelaying raid 2115 to 2230 tonight. 1/8. (C. in C. Med. 2355C/l to Admty.)

1.8.41. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Enemy S/M. at Djibouti.

My 1436/27/7. S.N.O.R.S. reports that a Somali deserter from Djibouti states S/M was bringing food and arrived there 6/7. Air R/C failed to locate today. If another R/C tomorrow draws blank it will be a reasonable assumption S/M has returned to Madagascar. (C. in C. E.I., 1040Z/l to Admty.)

W.S.9. A.X. Arrived 1300Z/1/8. (Troops for Singapore.) (N.C.S.O. Colombo, 1318Z/1, to Admty., etc.)

FOREST.

Have you any news of FOREST. Due Aden 22/7. (D.O.D. 1717B/1, to N.C.S.O. Aden.)
Reply 1505/3.

Shipping.

A.C.N.S.(T) 1847 B/l to C. in C. China, E.I., A.C.N.B., See Operations Volume.

Cruiser for Persian Gulf.

Your 1340Z/31. Request information as to why cruiser may be required. (V.C.N.S. 2359/1 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

GAUVERNEUR GENE RALE G-4. PASQUIER French.

Arrival 31/7. (Singapore, 0421Z/1, to M. of W.T.)

D'ARTAGNAN. (French.)

No.117/1/8. Arrived. (Manila, 0637Z/1, to M. of W.T.)

French Ships.

Departure 1/8 BERNARDIN de ST. PIERRE, Shanghai 1/8; COMPIEGNE, Madagascar. (Saigon, 0820Z/1, to M. of W.T.)

Pacific Shipping.

For N.C.S.O's. An increase in ? Eastbound British and Allied Merchant Shipping is to be expected principally from Singapore Area to Panama. This shipping is to be routed through Torres Strait and South of Gilberts, Oil Burners Bunker if necessary at Honolulu and Coal Burners at East Coast Australian Ports.

1.8.41. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Shipping Pacific. Contd.

(2) Other trans-Pacific Shipping is to be kept well clear of Japanese Controlled Waters, any doubtful route being referred for C. in C's approval. Ships from Philippine Islands Area may follow Clipper route to 170°E.

(3) Shipping on Ocean routes is to be well spread.

(C. in C. China, 0901Z/l, to S.O.I's Singapore etc.)

Indo-China. Minute to Ambassador, re military aspect of Japanese occupation. (M.A. Tokyo, 1130/31 to W.O.) See b. 596 a 31/7/41. See Lion Copy.

Shipping.

A.C.N.S.(T) 1847 B/l to C. in C. China, E.I., A.C.N.B. See Operations Volume.

America & West Indies.

Bunkers for Japanese Ships. S.O.I. Callao requests instructions as to supplying bunkers to Japanese Ships homeward bound via Magellan. (S.O.(I) Jamaica 0025R/l to Adty.)

Dispositions.

A. & W.I., State 1/8. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1242Q/1 to C. in C. S.A.) See Lion Copy.

ATLAS.

Italian, renamed LAS CHOAPAS, Mexican Flag, sailed Puerto Mexico 30/7 in tow tug MEXICO. Being used as barge until machinery repairs completed. (S.O.I. Jamaica 1257R/1. to Admty., etc.)

MANCHESTER. FIREDRAKE. Can be accepted for repairs in addition to ships expected for normal refit. No refitting ports can be given until approx., dates of arrival of ships are known.

(B.A.R.M., 1258R/1 to Admty.)

M/V's. breaking W/T silence. Your 03552/31. Do not agree unless they have other very strong reasons. (C.in C. A.W.I., 13120/1. to C. in C. China.)

ORION.

Following is programme (to Mare Island, California.)
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1322Q/1, to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, etc.)

/Capture

SECRET

MESSAGA 1242Q/1st August IN.

From C. in C. America and Wost Indies

Date 2.8.41.

Rocd. 0758.

NAVAL CYPHIR K BY W/T AND T/P.

Addressed C. in C. South Atlantic.

America and West Indies Fleet state 1st August Bermuda - DIOMEDE refitting. St. Johns N.F. - FORTH. Caribbean Patrol - PRINCE DAVID based at St. Lucia. Contral North Atlantic - DESPATCH and BISHOPDALE Operation OPPONENT Jamaica - CARADOC thonce to Grand Cayman to ombark Islanders for passage to Trinidad North Atlantic Escort Force based on Halifax and Bormuda - REVENOR CHITRAL, WOLFE, CALIFORNIA, ASCANIA, CIRCASSIA, MALOJA, MONTCLARI, RANPURA, AUSONIA, Icoland - RAMILLIES. Roficting - LACONIA LITTIA, ALAUNIA AURINIA, SURCOUF.

12420/1.

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

1st Lord. lst S.L. 5th S.L. Controllor. Vice Controller. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S. (F).
A.C.N.S. (T). (2).

N.A. to lst S.L.

Capt. Pim Admiralty House.

Ops. (4).

O.D. (5).

O.D. 8.

D.N.C.

D.M.S.

Dom.S.

Basemont.

Depty Controller (2).

D.N.C. (3).

Sub War Reg. O.I.C.(2). D.A.S.W. W.D. M (2). I.P.(3). Mails. Movts. D.N.A.D. D.G.D. (2)

D.P.S. D. of S. D.T.D. (4) D.T.D. (M) D.T.D. (C). D.57 O.B. Ba th D. of S.

1.8.41. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

Capture of German.
Trawler.

Your 1451Z/30. Except for the statement that trawler was flying Portuguese flag this story is true. Canadian N.A., can inform Navy Dept., accordingly, but should add that it is important to keep this information Secret. (D.N.I., 1742B/1, to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

FORT DE FRANCE. (French.)

San Juan arrival 31/7. (S.O.I. Jamaica 1837R/1 to Admty.)

Service Personnel. 1744B/16/7 not to N.S.H.Q. In view of your 1248B/26 stating wishes O.C.Canadian Govt., must be met, it is assumed following policy for service personnel in unescorted ships from Canada is still recognized.

(1) Service personnel may be embarked up to 50 per cent of total life-saving capacity, that is when service personnel are embarked the total number of personnel on board including crew and all passengers will be only 50 per cent of life-saving capacity.

(2) Numbers of respective services embarked is arranged by Canadian Movement Control without specific limitations.

(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa 1923Z/1 to Admty.)

Australia.

CAPITAINE ILLIQUER.

Arrival 31/7. Depart. 31/7., for Noumeau, 5/8. (Newcastle N.S.W., T.H.I., 0001Z/1 to M. of W.T.)

EIDSVOLD.

Left Aden 10/7 for Rottnest Is., Lt. due 28/7. Has not arrived. (A.C.N.B., 0317Z/1 to Admty., etc.)

PERTH.

A.C.N.B. thank Their Lordships for signal 0231B/30. Matter of great satisfaction to R.A.N. that H.M.A. ships and Australian personnel have been closely co-operating with R.N. in common cause. (A.C.N.B. 1103Z/1 to Admty.)

1.8.41. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia. Contd.

Shipping. A.C.N.S.(T) 1847 B /l to C. in C. China, E.I., A.C.N.B. See Operations Volume.

1.8.41. Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

IDA KNUDSEN. (torpedœd 21/7.) Your 1721B/29. (A) No. My 1750B/28 refers. (B) 8 times. (C) No escort detailed. Only two trawlers available at time were sent to NORVINN in the absence of any information of IDA KNUDSEN's whereabouts. Air search failed to locate latter. (D) CORINTHIAN reported boarding her on 17/7. She was then about 36 hours ahead of programme and was doing a ? wide zig-zag to adjust time of arrival at 15° W. (F.O.C.N.A., 1154B/1, to Admty.)

O.G.69. LAPLAND. (Sunk 28/7.) WROTHAM (Sunk 27/7.)

C.A.F.O. 770/40. (1) British LAPLAND torpedoed 2130B/28 approx., 40° 30' N., 15° 00' W. Ship sank in 10 minutes and no likelihood of compromise of books. Entire crew saved. Information from Master. (2) British WROTHAM torpedoed 0430B/27 approx., 43° 00' N., 17° 00' W. Ship sank in 15 minutes and no likelihood of compromise of books. Information from Master. Entire crew saved. (3) Both ships 0.G.69. (V.A.C.N.A. 1304B/1.)

O.G.69. SITOE BONDO SHAHRISTAN Unknown ship. Further attack made on this convoy night of 29-30/7. SITOE BONDO, Dutch, 7050 tons, torpedoed at 0048/30 about 750 miles W. of Gibraltar, Master and 57 rescued by Spanish CAMPECHE. Master reported that SHAHRISTAN, British, 6935 tons, was torpedoed and on fire in vicinity at 2335/29 and that an unknown ship was torpedoed about 0130/30. (D.O.R. 1/8.)

SITOE BONDO. (Sunk 30/7.)

My 1655/31/7. Master amends longitude to read 023° 53' W. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada 1551/1.)

CANADIAN STAR.

Sailing independently, attacked at 0432/20/7, by S/M about 630 miles W. of Ushant, Arrived at Curacoa 30/7 with some damage but no casualties. (D.S. 696.)

HOLMSIDE.

British, 3433 tons, reported to have been torpedoed on 19/7. 16 survivors have arrived Lisbon and 25 of crew are missing. Bound in ballast from Hull to Freetown, and had been in Convoy 0.6.67. (D.S.697.) (D.O.R.2/8.)

1.8.1941. Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

0340.

Catalina Flying Boat reports 3 U-Boats in position 71° - 27' N., 28° 20' E., at 0340/31, Course 130° 6 knots. (D.D.I.C. 0218B/1 to C.S.1., Force A., TIGRIS: 0225B/1 to N.A. Moscow; 0241B/1 to B.N.S.O., Polyarno).

Following approx., positions of U-Boats have been obtained by D/F.
(1) At 2022Z/31 46° 30' N., 5° 30' W., probably 2022Z/31. inward bound. (2) At 2111Z/31 46° 30' N., 48° N., 8° W - 9° 2111Z/31. W., probably homeward bound.
(3) At 2122Z/31 47° N., 10° 30' W., probably on 21222/31. a N.W. or W. course. (4) At 2143Z/31 48° N., 8° W., probably homeward 21432/31. bound. (D.D.I.C., 0327B/1 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. Plymouth, etc).

> Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1431B/1).

1305.

By A/C in 62° 18' N., 5° 33' E., on surface, escorted by vessel about 1500 tons. Appeared to be turning towards Rovde Fjord. (Pitreavie 1535/1).

Submarines Attacked.

By FLEUR DE LYS.

C.A.F.O., 834/41 (a) FLEUR DE LYS (b) (1) 1215/25/7. (2) 1053/28/7. (3) 2025/28/7. (c) (1) 041° N., 019° 57' W. (2) 041° 04' N., 017° 00' W. (3) 040° 36' N., 015° 18' W.

48.

(d) (e) Abandoned 1338.
 Abandoned 1120.
 Abandoned 2128.

(FLEUR DE LYS, 0930B/1).

2.8.1941. Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Enemy Intelligence.

A Russian naval R/C today of the North Norway Coast was prevented by fog from going further West than 26° East; but Moscow reports a force of 5 Destroyers, 6 Escort Vessels, 3 S/M's and some small craft based on Varanger Fiord, 12 S/M's at Trondheim, about 100 A/C at Kirkenes, and another 10 at both Tromso and Narvik.

Air R/C of Kiel today showed that TIRPITZ had left the floating dock since 25/7.

Denmark Strait patrol.

SHROPSHIRE arrived at Hvalfjord at 1630/2.

British Air Activity.

A regular weekly air service between Prestwick and Reykjavik is being instituted today, leaving Prestwick every Monday and Reykjavik every Wednesday weather permitting.

All bombing operations were cancelled last night owing to the weather. Coastal Command A/C report having sunk with torpedo a 2000 ton Tanker today about 8 miles off Ostend.

Fighter Command attacked an E.boat off Cherbourg and left it in a sinking condition. Bomber Command aircraft set on fire a patrol vessel 6 miles west of Den Helder and left it sinking.

2.8.1941. Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity.

A Trawler was unsuccessfully attacked off Fugloy this afternoon.

Convoy E.C.53 was unsuccessfully attacked off Montrose at 2330.

Since 29/4 there have been eleven attacks on shipping off Tyne ports waiting to join East Coast Convoys usually at evening twilight when there is insufficient light for any but night fighters to operate. The only gun defence for these ships is provided by MONA'S ISLE, and C. in C. Rosyth considers that one or more Flak ships should be provided to reinforce MONAS ISLE in patrolling the Tyne anchorages.

Convoy E.C.54 was heavily attacked several times off Orfordness and Yarmouth, the British KOOLGA, 1110 Tons, being damaged in the attack late at night near 54 D. Buoy.

South Atlantic.

Destroyers.

Owing to the heavy U-boat concentration near Gibraltar, 3 South Atlantic destroyers have been ordered to join the North Atlantic Command temporarily, and WIVERN, WILD SWAN and BOREAS will leave Freetown at 0600/3 for Gibraltar, fuelling at Bathurst.

Mediterranean.

Operation "Style".

Lammad.

Day 4, Force X arrived at Malta at 0900 and proceeded at 1640 with FARNDALE. At 1851B, Malta reported that FARNDALE had returned with defects. Early this morning HERMIONE, with Force X, rammed a submarine in 36° 21' N. 12° 40' E. and subsequently recovered a portion of the U-boat, wrapped round her sterm. HERMIONE sustained only slight damage and is seaworthy. She was missed by a torpedo from aircraft this evening.

2.8.1941. Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Libya and Western Desert. While running supplies to Tobruk VENDETTA and HAVOCK were attacked at 2000 today by 20 to 30 German aircraft. 12 Hurricanes on patrol shot down four enemy aircraft and possibly two more for the loss of 3 of their own aircraft. No damage was caused to the ships.

Tobruk has been reopened after mining.

Alexandria Raid.

9 enemy aircraft raided Alexandria from 2110 to 2230 last night, dropping 3 mines in harbour, 3 on shore, and others believed well outside the reef. No military damage or casualties were caused.

East Indies.

Crozet Island. Admiralty have reason to believe that a base for raiders has been established at Crozet Island, in the Southern Indian Ocean, 46.27 N. 52.14 E. A search is to be made as soon as possible.

Mine Watching.

C. in C.E.I. furnishes a list of ports on the station at which steps are being taken to establish mine watching organisations.

America and West Indies.

Belle Isle.

Commodore, Newfoundland, intends to re-establish the Belle Isle Strait patrol with BUCTOUCHE, arriving on patrol on 7/8.

New Zealand.

WARSPITE arrived at Honolulu today on her way to Bremerton Navy Yard, U.S.A.

2.8.1941. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

August commitments.

As far as can be seen at present the commitments for cruisers and destroyers for the present month are as follows. Details. (A.C.N.S.(H), 1129B/2).

Flag of V. A. H. F. The Flag of V.A. is to be transferred from PRINCE OF WALES to DUNLUCE CASTLE at 1200/3. (C. in C. H.F., 1612B/2).

Thames Estuary. War Channel. (D. of N., 2120b/2 to C. in C. Nore). See Operations Volume.

Co-operation with Russia.

Norwegian Coast R/C. X.1144. Naval R/C made this evening prevented from going further than 26° E., on account of weather. (Ad. Miles, Moscow, 2258/2 and 2321/2).

Movements.

ADVENTURE.

Request information whether ADVENTURE has arrived at Archangel. (A.C.N.S. 1H.), 1125B/2 to Naval Mission. Moscow.)

BERWICK.

BERWICK is to sail from Rosyth at 0900B/3 for Scapa to arrive 2130B/3. (C. in C. Rosyth. 1201/2).

WORCESTER.

ESPERANCE BAY. ESPERANCE BAY with WORCESTER as S.A. Escort are to sail from Rosyth at 2030/3 to Thames Gate for London, passing No. 22 Buoy 0015/4 where QUORN is to R/V as additional S.A. Escort. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1229/2).

A.F.D.IV

A.M. 1928B/22. As the depth of water is never more than 40 fathoms and there is no swot channel route it will be necessary to sweep ahead of the dock with L.L. sweepers. Five of these will be required for about five days, during which time the Plymouth and Falmouth Channels will be incompletely swept. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1310/2)..

SHROPSHIRE.

Arrived Hvalfjord at 1630. (A.C.I.C., 1717/2).

HARRIER.

Sailed HARRIER for Seydisfjord. E.T.A. 0100B /5. On arrival HARRIER will take over Senior Officer. (R.A.D., 2330/2).

2.8.41. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. Contd.

Patrols
WALRUS, FOX
SENTRY III
TRAP
LONGSTOP.

My 2330/11/6. Amend WALRUS to read FOX and add following particulars of Patrols SENTRY III TRAP, LONGSTOP. (C. in C. Rosyth 1208/2.) See Summaries Folder.

1500-Ton M/V.sunk. On 1/8 two A/C attacked a 1,500-ton ship and a 500-ton ship about 8 miles off Ostend and it was reported later that the larger vessel was on fire and sinking as a result of the attack. Night 1/2. All operations were cancelled owing to weather. (H.Q.B.C. 1215/2.)

S.B. Restrictions.

Institute S.B.R., in Area 55 and in Area 54 East of 06° 30' W., from 2200/3 to 1200/5. (H.Q.C.C. 1648/2.)

Operation E.F.V.2. C.S. Ones. 2121/30/7. Request names of the Officers who led the Squadrons in these gallant attacks may be signalled as soon as possible.

(5th S.L. 2121B/2 to FURIOUS.)

Enemy Air Activity.

TRIDENT (British, 4317 Tons.) sunk.

TRIDENT joining F.S.57 bombed off 20 C Buoy. Crew abandoned ship and rescued. Ship sank 0140. Position 208° 20C 4 miles. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0206/2, 0252/2.)

JUTA.
(British,
1559 Tons.)
LIEUTENANT
ROBERT MORY
(Bombed 1/8.)

JUTA and LIEUTENANT ROBERT MORY leaving Sunderland to join F.S.57 bombed about 2330/1 in examination anchorage. Both returned to harbour under own steam. No casualties, but one U.X.B., in latter. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 0310/2.)

Tyne.
Anchorages.
A/A Defence.

1. Enemy air attacks on shipping off Tyne Ports waiting to join East Coast Convoys have recently become increasingly popular and are generally delivered during or immediately after evening twilight. Since 29/4 the following attacks have been reported:-

(A) Off Tyne 8 attacks, 3 ships sunk, 5 damaged.
(B) Off Sunderland 2 attacks, 3 ships damaged.

2.8.41. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

Tyne Anchorages A/A Defence. (C) Tees Bay 1 attack, 1 ship damaged.
Of the above 2 ships (ADAMS BECK 2816 tons and TRIDENT 4317 tons) have been sunk off Tyne since 29/7. 2. The only gun defence afforded to these ships is provided by MONAS ISLE whose H.A. armament consists of 1 12 pdr., 2 single-barrelled pom-poms and 1 4-barrelled 0.5 inch. Arrangements are in force between F.O.I.C. Tyne and 13 Group whereby Fighter Protection is provided to ships awaiting Convoy but this is often ineffective due to (A) Insufficient warning received prior to the attack. (B) Weather unsuitable for fighters to operate.
(C) Insufficient light for any except night fighters.

3. I am therefore strongly of opinion that the best defence against this form of attack is some form of well armed Flak ship and request that very early consideration may be given to the provision of one or more such vessels to reinforce MONAS ISLE in patrolling the Tyne anchorages. It appears probable from past experience that as soon as these attacks are made costly to the enemy they will be discontinued. (C. in C. Rosyth 1249/2.)

Convoy E.C.54. KOOLGA (British 1110 Tons damaged.) Enemy aircraft bombing convoy MIGHT. My position 52° 3' N., 1° 49' E. (VERSATILE 1437/2.) My position 52° N., 1°45'E. A/C bombing convoy. (VORTIGERN 1509/2.) 12 bombs, no hits. (VERSATILE 1530/2.) A/C bombing Convoy. My posi 1° 49' E. (VERSATILE 1537/2.) My position 52° 3' N., Convoy still being bombed. (VORTIGERN 1556/2.) 2 bombs no hits. (VORTIGERN 1624/2.) Enemy bombing Convoy in 52° 38' N., 2° 10' E. (VERSATILE 2224/2.) Many bombs. No hits. My 2224. (VERSATILE 2302/2.) Steamship KOOLGA E C 54 damaged near miss and making water near 54D buoy. Request tug. Trawler GREENFLY standing by. (VORTIGERN 2320B/2.)

Convoy.

Help 00 EAN in 53° 8' N., 1° 11' E. (LIDDESDALE 2315/2.)

2. 8. 41. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

M/S Trawlers for Portland.

Admiralty 2005/29 and F.O.i/c Greenock 1745/30. Sailed CERESIO and THOMAS ALTOFT. E.T.A. 2300/2. (N.O.I.C. Ardrossan 1635B/2 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

Thames
Estuary
sweep.

Propose further sweep of 34 QZF on 6/8. Request 2 of your Motor Minesweepers as before may be sailed to arrive at Queenborough a.m./5. (C. in C. Nore 2156B/2, to F.O.I.C. London.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest.

At 1900/1, both battle cruisers and HIPPER cruiser in respective dry docks and all 3 docks dry. Further intelligence. (P.R.U. St. Eval 0001/2.)

North Norway. Enemy Forces at Varanger Fiord, Trondheim, Kirkenes, Tromso, and Narvik. (Moscow 2321/2.) See Operations.

Technical.

Oiling at Sea.

Your 2314B/23. Trials by stirrup method satisfactorily carried out with oiler MONTENOL vicinity Ailsa Craig. Average rate of fuelling with three inch pipe 40 tons per hour. (VA.C.T.C. 1552B/2.)

Casualties & Defects.

BLARLETO.

Harwich August 2 departure Tug STALWART to assist Tanker ELARLETO. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 0805/2.)

SOUTHSEA. (Mined 16/2.) Request reply to my 1230/23, suggest Hughes Bolckow, Blyth, be instructed to salve engines and hull. (F.O.I.C. Tyne 1022/2.)

HARRIER.

S.A. Gear is incomplete and untested and cannot be used in its present condition. (VERNON M/S 1500/2 to C. in C. H.F.)

/CORMARSH.....

2.8.41. Saturday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. Contd.

CORMARSH ALRESFORD (Collision.)

S.S.CORMARSH arrived here damaged in collision with M/V ALRESFORD in F.S.555 near Sunk Buoy. ALRESFORD with large timber deck cargo reported to have become unmanageable. (N.C.S.O. Harwich 1644/2, F.O.I.C. Harwich 2216B/2.)

Shipping & Convoys.

Military Convoys. Commitments for escort by cruisers and destroyers this month. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1129B/2 to C. in C.H.F., C. in C. W.A.)

F.S.Convoys.

Codes, 60 to 69. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1241/2) See Lion Copy.

0.N. and 0.S.

Orders for Escort Groups. (C. in C. W.A., 2238B/2.) See Lion Copy.

W.S.10.

Sailed 2116/2/8. (D.S.T.O. Greenock, 2125/2.)

H.X.139.

Had originally 60 ships, but 5 put into Iceland and are following in a later convoy. Remaining 55 arrived safely under Commodore D.S.Robinson R.N.R., 14 Allied ships. 23 tankers. Other cargoes. (D.S. 697, 2/8.)

MES AGE 1241/2nd August

FROM G. in C. Rosyth

DATE 2. 8. 41. RECD. 1446.

P/L BY T/P.

ADDRESSED R E F No. 250 Repeated Admiralty, C. in C. More, H.Q.F.C. N.C. O. Methil.

MOTWI.

195. Code words for F 3 Convoys allocated as follows:-

F 3560 ATTACIE F SS61 BREAST T \$\$62 KIRIT F S\$63 PARALIMA P 3564 BOOTY P 8565 P 8566 ARTENA OCHAN F 8567 F 8568 PLUMB EVI PARCE. F SS69 ATTACHE.

> 1241/2. Advance copy Ops. Trade.

War Reg. Note. Words for F.S. 60 and F.S. 69 are as received.

Ops.(4) 0.D.(5) D.M.D.(4) D.M.D.(M) D.M.D.(C)

D. OF S.T. I.P.(3) D. OF S.2A.W.D. From C. in C. Western Approaches.

Date 2.8.41. Time 2355

P/L BY T/P.

Addressed Capts. D. Londonderry, Greenock, Liverpool.
Repeated F.Os. i/c Belfast, Greenock, Liverpool.
N.Os. i/c Oban, Stornoway, A.G.I.C. H.S.1.
H.S.6. Admiralty.

196. Orders for Escort Groups.

| Group | Out | Seil | Meet | R/V. |
|--------------------------|--------|--|-------------|--------------|
| THE CHARLES AND ADDRESS. | | and the second s | | |
| 8 | 0 N 6 | 10 | H X 143 | 16 |
| 7 | 0 \$ 3 | 13 | H G 70 | 18 |
| Special H | 0 \$ 3 | 13 | To Bathurst | with convoy. |
| 3 | 0 N 7 | 15 | H X 144 | 55 |
| 2 | 0 N 3 | 16 | S C 40 | 22 |

(2) Composition of special group H will be signalled later.

2238E/2

Advance copies sent Ops. & Trade.

V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(H)
A.C.N.S.(F)
N.A. lst S.L.
Ops. (4)
O.D.S.
O.D. (5)
O.I.C. (3)
D.S.D.9.
T.P. (3) I.P. (3)
W.D.
D. A/S W.
D.T.D. (4)
B.T.D. (M)
D.T.D. (C) D.M.S. Basement. D.L.D.D. (2)

2.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

-> LORINDA.

Your 1955/1. Instruct LORINDA to pass through following positions on leaving Horta (a) 037° 30' N. 028° 30' W. (b) 033° 30' N. 023° 30' W. (c) 020° 00' N. 021° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 0800/2 to WESTON, R.O. Horta, 0805B/2 to LORINDA.)

LOBSTINE. (French)

Ref. My 1203/31 returned, arrived Oporto 29/7. (N.A. Lisbon, T.H.I. 1342/2 to Admty.)

VIMY.

Following from VIMY "addressed F.O.C.N.A. repeated C. in C.S.A. propose continuing escort with COPINSAY full speed 12.5 knots until relieved, returning to Gibraltar after fuelling at Bathurst or Freetown T.O.O. 0720A/2". (VIDETTE, 1451B/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Your 1451B/2. Not approved. (F.O.C.N.A.1858B/2 to VIMY.)

BALTA. LORINDA. Admty. 2019B/1 and F.O.C.N.A. 2022B/1 delivered BALTA which sailed 0830 G.M.T. LORINDA sailed 0900. Unable to deliver 0800/2 from N.O.I.C. Gibraltar received after vessel sailed. (R.O. Horta, 1510/2 to Admty.)

OLYMPUS report.

(1) Convoy route exists between Ischia and Cape Ferrato Sardinia. Escorted Convoy proceeding direct from 1 mile South of Ischia to Stromboli. Liner CONTI VERDE Class entered Naples 23, northbound to meet ship 1600 tons sunk in 40° 40' N. 09° 50' E. OLYMPUS bombed at periscope depth 5 miles West of Cavoli Island 29 by flying boat, about 70 containers cracked. (F.O.C.N.A. 1608B/2 to C. in C. Med.)

MANCHESTER.

Reply to Admty 1943B/1 re period required for temporary repairs. (Cdr. Supt. Gibraltar 1632B/2) See Operations Volume. (\$200)

French Ships. Arrival 1/8 3 French. COURDANNES, JEUNE DENISE, PRESIDENT DE LAVIT. (Bilbao, 1915/2 to D. of S.T.)

O.G. 69. A/C attack. My 2040B/1. SHEAF CROWN and PELAYO have arrived Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1942B/2 to Admty. C. in C.W.A.)

HIGHLANDER.

E.T.A. 0700A/6. S. of A. 21 knots. (HIGHLANDER, 2212Z/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)

2.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

R.D.F. and Raiders.

Admty. 1247B/6/7 suggested importance of being able to distinguish between one transmitter and another and so obtain more definite information regarding number of different enemy units operating. Of interest to know how many different ships' transmitters have been identified by R.F.P. in S. Atlantic this year on series B. and Norddeich frequencies and suggested that R.F.P. equipment would be of value at Freetown. (C. in C.S.A. 1135N/2 to Admty.)

NORDERNEY (German)

From Ambassador's Important to F.O. 357, 31/7, there is possibility of NORDENEY being permitted to sail. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 15342/2, 1816Z/2 to Admty.)

Destroyers.

In view of heavy U/B concentration in vicinity of Gibraltar, request you will sail three of your Destroyers as soon as practicable to join North Atlantic Command temporarily. F.O.C.N.A. pass to S.O. Force H. on arrival. (V.C.N.S. 1545B/2 to C. in C.S.A.) See 2159/2.

Japanese Ships.

Probable movements of Japanese ships in these waters. (N.A. Rio de Janeiro, 16472/2 to D.N.I.)

ANTONIO
LIMONCELLI.
(Italian)

R.O.
Maranham informs me ANTONIO LIMONCELLI has received orders to sail but that she is not provisioned for long voyage. (S.O.I Montevideo 1946Z/2 to R.A.S.A.D.) (C. in C.S.A., 2300N/2 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

WIPUNEN.

Rio de Janeiro reports Finnish WIPUNEN is expected to sail for Montevideo about 4/8. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2142Z/2 to Admty.)

WIVERN. WILD SWAN. BOREAS. Admty. 1545/2. WIVERN, WILD SWAN, BOREAS leave Freetown 0600/3, fuel Bathurst, thence to Gibraltar at best speed passing East of Canaries. (C. in C.S.A. 2159N/2 to F.O.C.N.A.)

2.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

W.S.9 B. Disposal instructions for vessels of W.S.9 B. (D. of S.T. 0341B/2.)

P.C. and S. of enemy (one destroyer 3 M.B's) are 39.14 N., 10.02 E., 010, 050. 9. (A/C duty B. 0925/2 to Med. via Malta.) Enemy Units.

Force X. arrived safely. (V.A. Malta, 1010B/2 Operation "Style". to Admty. etc.)

Night 31/7 - 1/8. 5 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour, bombs fell on Petrol Depot, coal store Benghazi bombed. etc., causing explosions and one fire and on or near Seaplane Base at Cathedral Mole. 1 Wellington missing. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1032/2.)

Air raid on Alexandria 2100 to 2230/1 9 planes, Alexandria 3 mines in harbour, 3 on shore, remainder believed well outside reef. No military damage, or casualties. (R.A. Alexandria, 11450/2 to Admty.)

> HERMIONE reports ramming U-boat in 036° 21' N. - 012° 40' E. early this morning, verified by dockyard removing parts of submarine from lower sterm. Damage to HERMIONE slight and she is seaworthy. (V.A. Malta, 1335B/2 to S.O. Force H.)

X.1135. I.10 2/8. C.S.R. Malta to 0600 hours Report.

M/V's attacked P.M.1/8 Blenheims attacked shipping Lampedusa.

Lampedusa.

2/8. No night activity.

M/V's attacked P.M.1/8 Blenheims attacked shipping Lampedusa.

2 M.V's 3000 tons hit by 4 bombs. Debris thrown high. (H.Q.R.A.F. Malta 1600/2.)

> "Style" para. 17, position Z at 0600B, D.5, 24 knots. V.A. Malta pass to S.O. Force H.
>
> (S.O. Force X. 1620B/2 to S.O. Force H. amended 1801B/2.) Force X. and FARNDALE sailed 1630. Expected to make good 24 knots via Tunisian route. (V.A. Malta 1706B/2 to S.O. Force H.) My 1706/2 not to Admiralty. FARNDALE has returned to Malta with defects. (V.A. Malta, 1851B/2 to S.O. Force H.)

Raid.

U/B rammed

by HERMIONE. JI: TEMBIEN. 1cm3:68431

Malta Air

Operation "Style".

2.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Air Appreciation, in reply to Chiefs of Staff 147. Strength. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1732/2) See Lion Copy.

Turkey. Re proposed staff talks. (C. in C.M.E. 1746/2 to W.O.)

Enemy Cancel S.O.(S) Malta 2050B/1. Tanker is primary target. (C. in C. Med. 1908C/2 to UNIQUE.)

ROMA. At Genoa 25/7. (D.S. 697). AUGUSTUS. VIRGILIO.

OCEANIA.

Believed to be at Genoa 25/7 repairing bomb damage. (D.S. 697.)

Alexandria. Minesweeping Summary for 3 months ending 31/7. (R.A. Alexandria, 2040C/2 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Western Desert. Supply by destroyers, A lighter and store ship to Tobruk continuing. Tobruk reopened after mining. No enemy encountered (corrupt group) sweeps. Slight bombing. S/M's. My 2151/29. UPHOLDER also sank 6000 ton laden merchant ship eastbound on 24/7.

Malta. 5 aircraft of 830 Squadron attacked southbound convoy on 31/7. 2 torpedoes dropped, one possible hit on 5000 ton M/V causing explosion and short fire. (C. in C. Med. 2330C/2 to Admty.)

From H. l iddle 3.8.41.

0430.

CYPHER.

Addressed Air Ministry, Whitehall, Repeated ARMINDIA, C. in C. Bast Indies.

IMMEDIATE.

Mille East air Strength.

X. 1106. A. 291 2/8.

Your 78599 (M.O. 12) of July 17.

From Commanders in Chief to Chiefs of Staff in reply their No. 147 which has been sent by air to C. in C. East Indies for his comments.

Our views general strategic situation in event German advance from Caucasus and/or through Anatolia given in our telegrams 0/79668 of 7/7 and 0/83284 of 19/7 and J P S paper No. 57. Following are our detailed comments.

2. Para. 3. German arrival Caucasus mid August now

appears most unlikely.

3. Para. 4. Agree that Germans could establish Air Forces suggested one (one) month after they reach Caucasus.

4. Para, 5. Land.

We think unknown factors such as extent Russian resistance by sea land air sabotage and guerilla action make impossible accurate estimate of time Germans would require after first arrival to gain control Caucasus,

Caspian areas and improve communications. Accepting estimate that no advance from Caucasus possible until mid October we consider forces could be concentrated for

operations against Iraq by mid January.

Air. Doubtful whether Germans could establish air forces simultaneously Caucasus and Iran i month after reaching Caucasus. (See your para. 4.) 5. para. 6. Land. If no advence from Caucasus possible until mid October (See your para. 5) cannot see how 2 divisions can be ready attacked from Hamadan October. Our appreciation of maximum forces which could be maintained and their distribution is (A) Tabriz-Rowanduz-Mosul striking force
1 Div. L. of C. 1 Div. (B) Pahlevi-Hamadan-Khanikin
striking force 2 Divs. L. of C. 1 Div. (C) Nau-Shahr-Ahwaz
striking force 1 Div. L. of C. 1 Div. impossible employ
4 Divisions via Hamadan except using route via Nau Shahr and sending no forces to Ahwaz. Air. Agree force stated could be concentrated 30 days after Germans reach Caucasus. 6. Para, 8. Air. Agree but in addition forces in Anatolia could be assisted by Fliegercorps 10 now operating Mediterranean at estimated strength 320 to 370 aircraft including 100 L.R. bombers. These aircraft could use Anatolian aerodromes as operational landing grounds thought based in Greece or Dodecanese. Strength of assistance from Fliegercorps 10 would however depend other commitments Mediterranean and Libya. Land.

Accepting your data for start of movement through Anatolia our figures are. 5 divisions on Turkish frontier by mid October 9 divisions by mid November or first December if rainfalls early November 11 divisions by first February, We consider 11 divisions maximum maintainable up to April owing limitation imposed by weather on use roads,

/Concentrations....

Concentrations additional divisions maintained by road could . begin April but need to import very large number M.T. would probably prevent reinforcement beyond 11 divisions before first June.

Paras. 9,10 and 11. Agree but effective air defence of Abadan and Basra area cannot be guaranteed once enemy air force established within easy bombing range. Imperative therefore make every effort to hold North Iraq and deny enemy use of aerodromes in Iran. See also telegrams and paper referred to in para, one above.

Para. 13. Our calculations indicate that we should be outnumbered especially if Italians taken into account agree mobility of air forces to meet risk of simultaneous attacks from Libya Antolia and Causasus is of great importance. This principal raises big administrative problems and emphasises need for centralised control all

available air resources.

Para. 14. Our experience is that it is a waste of effort particularly with heavy bombers to attempt to operate air forces without reasonable maintenance facilities. As we may have to meet attacks in more than one theatre and will not enjoy numerical superiority we cannot afford to adopt wasteful method of operating Sqdns. on restricted maintenance. Size of force operating in Iraq should be governed by facilities available which must be developed as a matter of urgency. Not clear whether M.B. Sqdns, mentioned are intended for attack on Caucasus or for support or land operations including attack of enemy communications. If for both consider minimum 4. Sqdns. required and that emergency refuelling facilities in Northern Iraq or these units will hardly be adequate.

10. Para. 15. Agree. Probable, however, that existing aerodromes will require improvement to take modern types. Essential that dispersal areas and modern types. Essential that dispersal areas and protection for aircraft and personnel be prepared on generous scale. Essential maximum possible A.A. equipment be provided defence aerodromes as cannot afford to lose aircraft. Para. 16. Agree.

12. Para. 17. Agree your estimate of force and facilities required but see remarks on your para. 14 regarding medium bombers also consider additional three transport Sqdns. desirable to ensure required mobility (see you para. 13).

13. Para. 18. (A) Heavy bombers. Assuming that position in Western Desert is static it will still be

position in Western Desert is static it will still be necessary to retain at least 3 heavy bomber Squns. for attacks on Tripoli and Benghasi. If this effort not maintained enemy will be able to put reinforcements into North Africa and will compel us to divert airforce to Western Desert which may be badly needed in Syria and Iraq. If enemy threatens Syria (see your para. 2C) our plan for attack of communication in Anatolia envisages operation of at least 2 and preferably 3 heavy bomber Sqdns, from Syria. The above 2 commitments more than absorb entire Middle

East Heavy Bomber Force of 5 Squadrons expected by first October. Special provision therefore necessary for 5 Wellington Squadrons. You allot for attack of Caucasus oil or communications in Caucasus and Iran. Middle East would

send 2.

MOST SECRET

But only if no threat to Syria. (B) Medium bombers. do not agree that 13 medium bomber squadrons will be left in Egypt Palestine and Syria. Our estimate is that excluding Malta Sudan and Aden there will be 11 medium bomber squadrons in Middle East on 1/10. Of these you allot bomber squadrons in Middle East on 1/10. Of these you allot 3 to Iraq leaving 8 for Western desert and Syria. If latter threatened we recommend basing 4 medium bomber squadrons in Syria for operations against Anatolia. (0) Fighters. Excluding Malta we shall have 17 fighter squadrons in Middle East 1/10, You allot 5 to 7 in Iraq leaving 10 to 12 not repeat not 14 in Middle East. If Syria threatened we recommend 5 to 6 fighter squadrons for that theatre including Cyprus which leaves a maximum of 7 and minimum of 4 for Eastern Desert and defence of Delta. Western Desert includes heavy and permanent commitment for protecting supply ships to Tobruk. (D) Conclusion total force you propose for Iraq 1/10 therefore leaves following for Egypt Palestine and Syria. Heavy bombers nil. Medium bombers 8 squadrons. Sheri Syria. Heavy bombers nil. Medium bombers 8 squadrons. Shert range fighters 10 to 12 squadrons. We consider these forces inadequate. We must have heavy bombers and more fighters to meet our standing commitments. Our recommendations

contained in our 0.83784 19/7.

14. Maintenance, Scale of development Trag more shadowed. Your para, 22 will clearly confinet with requirements for Egypt.

15. Following is preliminary outline R.A.F. maintenance project. Success of project depends upon making up existing maintainance requirements in Egypt to full scale of 60 Sqdns. as force sent to Traq will eventually be provided from Egypt. Achievement necessary degree flexibility entails also high degree of duplication in Egypt and Iraq of camp barrack ground and technical equipment. Administration of force once in Iraq would be responsibility of A.O.C. Iraq whose headquarters would also assume functions of maintenance group under our control. Substantial increase in staffs not available in Middle Bast will be necessary. Anticipated requirements are 5 air stores parks and 5 repair and salvage units which might be located Mosul/Qaiyara, Baghdad West, Habbaniya (to form Nucleus of aircraft repair depot), Yesra and one in Southern Iraq. If aerodrome in Ducksbill used one ASP and one RSU could be located in that area.

Communications would be (A) Egypt - Rayak - Aleppo - Mosul. (B) Egypt - Haifa - Baghdad. (C) Egypt - Basra - Baghdad. Major engine repairs would be done in Egypt. Whole administrative and maintainance problem under urgent 15. Following is preliminary outline R.A.F. maintenance

hole administrative and maintainance problem under urgent consideration and further report to Air Ministry will follow.

Air Ministry please pass to War Office and Admiralty,

1732/2

Received by hand from Air Ministry.

lat Lord. lst S.L. 5th S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.H.S. (F) N.A. to lst S.L. D.O.D. (F) D.D. (F)

D.D. I.C.

Hd. of M.

D. N. I. (4)

D. N. I. (4)

D. N. I. (4)

D. N. 1. D.

SECRET

MESSAGE

2040C/lst August IN

From R.A. Alexandria.

Date 3. 8. 41. Recd. C105.

Haval Cypher D by W/T

Addressed Admiralty. Repeated C. in C. Hediterranean, S.B.N.C. Suez, V.A. Malta.

Alexandria minesweeping summary for 5 months ending Clat July. Total number of minelaying raids 14.

Total mines accounted for 65. (A) In sea swept "LL" 16 Skid one accounted for 65. (A) In sea swept "LL" 16 Skid one accounted S AA one. Exploded spontaneously 14. Located 10 countermined 2. Ship casualty magnetic (?One). Of this number 9 were laid inside harbour and majority of remainder in Area between (?harbour) entrance and pass. (B) Ashore. Exploded on impact 19. Rendered safe 4. Countermine 2 Exploded in mid air 3. Majority type C M or D M. 3 type G exploded ashore identified by fragment. No definite evidence towed type G swept or in sea. Average sweepers available daily 3 "LL", 2 3 A (1 one) Skid. 3 T S M S.

20400/2.

Advance copies sent to Ops. O.D. & D.M.S.

lst Lord
lst S.L.
5th S.L.
V.CHM.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
H.A. lst S.L.
Ops. (4)
O.D. (5)
D.H.S.
D.H.S. Basement.
D.N.A.D.
Hydrog (2)
D. of N.
O.I.C. (2)
D. of L.D.(2)

M. (5)
D.T.M.
D.D.T.M.
D. of P. (3)
D.N.I. (4)
I.P. (3)
W.Q.

to 2 13 wh 63

2.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Iran.

Re German inspired rebellion. (30 M.M., Moscow, Oll6/2 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.
Request Commander Currey be sent to Colombo by air urgently to report to me (? on) developments in (? Iran). He should meet S.N.O. P.G., (? on the way) to (? receive) latest information. (C. in C. E.I. 0406Z/2 to Adty.)

B.P.11.

Departure KANIMBLA escorting B.P.11. (S.O.I), Bombay 0757Z/2 to Admty etc.)

Minewatching.

Admty. Letter M/M/S0222/41 of 16/4. Steps are being taken to establish minewatching organisation at following ports on E.I. Station:
Port Sudan, Massawa, Assab, Aden, Mombasa,
Zanzibar, Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanga, Mauritius,
Colombo, Trincomalee, Basra and Bahrein.
2. Request Air Ministry may be approached,
regarding prospect of providing RD/F sets.
3. Local Government authorities concerned are
being informed that I consider minewatching
organisations should be under naval control.
(C. in C.E.I., 1246Z/2 to Admty.)

SPRINGTIDE.

Reference A.L.M. 06908/41 dated 10/5/41 and A.M. 1245B/27/6/41. Request you will arrange for SPRINGTIDE to be used for deperming naval vessels at ports in India and Ceylon and Burma before proceeding to China Station. Owing to lack of L.L. Vessels at Singapore she may be required to sail for that port at short notice if the situation so demands. (D.M.S. 1752/2 to C. in C. E.I.)

Raiders. Crozet Island.

From interrogation of Prisoners of War who recently have been on board Raider 16 it is believed that a base has been established at Crozet Island. In view of recent D.F. bearings, search suggested in vicinity of Crozet Island as soon as possible.

(V.C.N.S. 1851B/2, to C. in C.E.I.)

MOST SECRET

0116/2nd August

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

From No. 30 Military Mission, Moscow.

Date 3.8.41.

Rocd. 1120.

CIPHER

Addressed The War Office.

IMMEDIATE

32386.

Military 263 Cipher 2/8

D.M.I. from Macfarlane

Russians have information German inspired rebellion in Iran. This is to take place within the next three weeks depending on course of operations in Russia.

The leaders are several, former minister Afsar, Chief of General Staff Zargami, Chief of Staff 7th Division Alavi, Sheikh Abdul Majid Sharazi.

Without confirmation from you I have not repeated (?to) anybody. Please confirm or otherwise. Message ends.

Received from War Office at 0159/4th August.

Advance copy sent Duty Captain, D.O.D.(H) and 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. (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.O.D. (H).
D.O.D. (F).
D.N.I. (4).
D.S.D.

D.N.A.D.
D. of L.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 (Paymaster
Cdr. Wilson).

823

2.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

DUPLEIX. French.

Believe is proceeding to (? France). Left Saigon 27/7 for Haiphong. (Capt. 0.S. Singapore, 0503Z/2, to Admty.)

Sarawak.

C. in C. China, 0537Z/2, to Admty. See Operations Volume.

Japan.

Proposed economic action as deterrent against intimidation of Thailand. (C. in C. Far East, 1857/2, to W.O. etc.) See Lion Copy.

America & West Indies.

American Submarines. F.O.S. 1937B/19/7. Menzies report as follows. S. Class other than Government or Bureau design satisfactory for (A) and (B). R. Class satisfactory for (A) only. 2. Subject to Navy Dept., concurrence, Propose to send spare crew now in FORTH to New London for training and to take over one S. Class when Propose also that others be taken available. over in groups as crews become available. 3. Navy Dept., have not yet decided how many of each Class will be included in the 18 they offer transfer. It would however help them if I could give some indication of dates on which crews could be available. (Washington, 0120/2, to Admty.)

Spanish Ship given secret route.

Spanish S.S. MARQUES DE COMILLAS which arrived Bermuda 28/7 had received route from C.S.A., New York, which included Swept Channel into Bermuda marked Secret not to be allowed to fall into hands of enemy. (C. in C. A.W.I., 0924Q/2, to N.S.H.Q., Ottawa.)

Military
Convoy
Commodores.

When Military Convoys are sailed it is requested the particulars of Commodore and his Staff may be communicated as in the case of Mercantile Convoys. (D.T.D. 1025B/2 to R.A.3.)

MOST SECRET

MCST SECRET

M E S S A G E 1857/2 Aug.

IN

From C. in C. Far East.

Date, 2. 8. 41.

Recd. 1740

Cipher

Addressed The War Office, British Ambassador Tokio, British Minister Bangkok, G.O.C. Hong Kong, G.O.C. Burma.

IHHEDTATE.

32160 183/4 cipher 2/8.

Your 81465 (M.O.10) 31/7.

Following for Chiefs of Staff from Commander in Chief Far Bast and C. in C. China begins,

- I. H.M.Government have approved in above cable following action in Hong Kong and in notified defence areas in Malaya as counter measures following Japanese occupation of south Indo China. While object was reprisal against Japan this action can well be treated as reasonable security measure.
- (a) Removal of Japanese from Kedah Perlis province Wellesley
 Paging northern part Perak and Kelantan.
- (%) Removal from area from which Johore Straits can be . observed this includes islands Tekong and Ubkao.
- (a) Removal from south eastern corner of Johore. Hong Kong. (d) Rafusal of entry and departure to and from the port of Hong Long and Japanese ships between sunset and sunrise.
 - (3) Japanese ships to berth alonguide Kowloon wharf.
- (f) Increased restrictions on transit and residential passport visas to Japanese wishing to enter Hong Kong.
- (i) Action against individual Japanese in Hong Kong suspected of anti-British activities.
- 2. If these only items (b) and (c) and Kelantan in (a) all of which will take some time to implement are important now from security. To enforce the rest merely as a reprisal might unday excite Japanese and once complete there is no further

action of a

MOST SECRET

-2-

action of a similar kind open to us here for subsequent use.

3. I therefore propose to enforce only items specified in para.

2 for present and am only awaiting British Ambassador Tokyo's

comments before doing so; please reply urgently. These removals entail about 100 Japanese from Kelantan and 50 from Johne.

4. British Ambassader Tokyo has reported the sigprise and concern of Japanese Govt. at drastic economic action which U.S.A. and ourselves took as a result of their entry into Indo China. My suggestion disclosed to Japanese in advance as a deterrent details measures designed as reprisal were possibly made too late over Indo-China. Similar action may not now be too late over Thailand against which campaign of intimidation seems to have begun.

That resistance but co-ordinated world wide action is necessary if Japan is to be deterred from dominating Thailand. Foreign Office will know far better than I the measures the threat (?of which) might act as a deterrent. I have in mind measures as drastic and far reaching as (a) stoppage of all trade including oil with Japan. (b) Refusal of entry Japanese shipping into ports controlled by U.S.A. ourselves and our allies. (c) Expulsion of all Japanese nationals except diplomatic personnel from all territories controlled by U.S.A. ourselves and our allies.

1857/2.

Recd. by hand in War Reg at 1440/3.

lst Lord,
lst S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
N.A. lst S.L.
D.O.D.(F)
D.D. L.(F)
D.

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

P.A.S.(S)

NI.

5/20

2.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies Contd.

U.S. Liaison. Your 1642B/18 and my 1213R/28. Reply Re Appointment of Cdr. Parry. (N.A. Washington, 1250R/2, to Admty.)

R.C.N. and Convoys.

In view of Press report that agreement has been reached whereby Canadian Navy will play more effective part in Atlantic Convoys, request information.
(C. in C. A.W.I., 1314Q/2, to Admty.)
Reply: 1051/4.

Sealing W/T.

My 1821Z/31. In absence of further analysis, practice of sealing ships W/T receivers and limitation of private W/T receivers seems amply proved by only three attacks on thirty-eight eastbound convoys. It is also observed that at Halifax N.C.S.O. personally holds conference with W/T operators. (C.O.A.C., Halifax, 1351Z/2, to Admty.)

FORT DE FRANCE (French)

U.S. Navy Dept., reports left Martinique evening of 29/7 for San Juan, Puerto Rico. Reported she is to take on a cargo of fertilizer for Guadeloupe.
(N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1429Z/2, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Belle Isle Patrol.

My 1207Z/28. Intend to re-establish Belle Isle Strait Patrol with BUCTOUCHE arriving on patrol a.m./7. (C.C.N.F., 1927Z/2, to Admty., etc.)

Australia & New Zealand.

WARSPITE.

Arrived Honolulu 1830Z/2. (WARSPITE, 1835Z/2, to Admty.)

2.8.1941. Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

NORITA.

CAF.0 770/40. (1) Swedish NORITA torpedoed 2140B/28 (?2140B/26) approx., 40° 10' N., 15° 30'W. Master's books went down with ship in locked safe. Ship sank in 5 minutes, no likelihood of compromise. Information from Master. 2 missing believed killed, remainder of crew safe.

KELLWYN.

(2) British KELLWYN torpedoed 0037B/27 approx., 43° 00' N., 17° 00' W. Master's books in weighted eyeletted canvas bag on bridge went down with ship. Wireless office books in wireless office under lock and key went down with ship. Ship sank in less than one minute and no likelihood of compromise. Information from Chief Officer. A. McLeag, Master, died of injuries and buried at sea. 13 Missing believed killed. Remainder of crew safe.

3. Both ships 0.G.69.
(F.O.C.N.A. 1302B/2 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1417B/2.)

2024Z/1.

Suggest D/F bearings at 2024Z/1, German message beginning E barred 980 indicates U-boat shadowing S.L.82. Reliability 80. (C. in C. S.A., 1149N/2, to Admty., F.O.C.N.A.)

1832Z.

At 1832Z German S/M made first sighting report bearing 315/3 from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1959B/2, to SOUTHERN GEM.)

2120.

By D/F at 2120/2 German U-Boat was bearing 305/2 from Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 2149B/2, to N.A. Stn., W.P.trawlers.)

Submarines Attackea.

By HERMIONE

V.A. Malta 1335B/2. See Mediterranean.

3.8.1941. Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commanas.

Russian Operations.

The Soviet Union claim the following successes:-(a) 4000 ton transport torpedoed by S/M whilst anchored at Hornigsvig 710 N. 260 E. 15/7. (b) Minesweeper sunk by S/M off Varaa (near Varanger Fiora.)

(c) S/M sunk by destroyer in 68° 20' N. 39° 40' E.

(a) Destroyer KARL GARLSTER sunk by air attack at Kirkenes 25/7.

Operation E.F.V.2.

FURIOUS, SUFFOLK, and 3 Destroyers returned to Seidis Fiord at 0530Z today from their operations in Varanger Fiora. They reported having sighted Force Q at 0400B yesteraay in 71° 50' N. 1° 40' E.

Losses in aircraft crews have been heavy, but the Russians asked for immediate assistance and the effect on the enemy is reported to be great.

ARGUS is to cease training auties forthwith in order to leave the Clyde for a ferrying trip with Hurricanes and Naval Fighter A/C.

British Air Operations.

Shipyards at Kiel were the main naval targets of Bomber Command last night. Cherbourg was also attacked.

Fighters today hit and set fire to a minesweeper off Calais and a E-boat off Ambleteuse.

A Hurricane catapulted from MAPLIN today destroyed a F.W. which was shadowing S.L. 81 about 175 miles west of Ireland.

Enemy Air Activity.

2 Trawlers were attacked at 1230 off Sando, Faroe Islands, sustaining slight casualties.

3.8.1941. Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands.

Enemy Air Activity - Conta.

Convoy F.N.1 was unsuccessfully attacked this afternoon off Orfordness. Fighters shot down the aircraft.

Mining.

A Mine was detonated off the Tyne at 0703 today; and 2 heavy explosions were reported near B.8 off Harwich at 2320 last night.

Shipping and Convoys.

Tankers.

A shuttle service of American tankers from Halifax to Icelana (C), whence cargoes will be transhipped to British tankers for U.K., will be begun shortly. Escort arrangements are outlined in Admty. 1743B/3.

Atlantic Convoys.

The number of ships in Atlantic convoys is no longer to be limited to 40.

Balloons.

From 6/8, balloons are to be provided for a proportion of British ocean going vessels proceeding in convoy to West Atlantic ports north of 8° N.

Japanese Shipping. Instructions have been sent to all Missions abroad that all applications by Japanese ships are to be referred to the Ministry of War Transport.

3.8.1941. Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

A/S Operations The escort group system for dealing with U/B attacks on convoys having proved successful in Western Approaches. Admty suggested today to C. in C. South Atlantic that it could now be adopted in his command.

Mediterranean.

Malta

No damage or casualties were caused in an air raid on Malta last night.

Operation "Style".

Day 5. Forces H and X R/V'd W.N.W. of Galita Island and proceeded westward. The Forces were shadowed by enemy aircraft but were not attacked.

S/M_ Operations. UTMOST reports having blown up a train on an embankment on the southern shore of Gulf Eupher 11a (16° 06' E.) at 0100/28.

At 2001/28 she destroyed a 4000 ton southbound merchantman escorted by an A.M.C. in 39.31 N., 15.50 E.

Libya & Western Desert.

13 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi last night. A further 5 Wellingtonslaid mines in the approaches to the harbour. Cyrene and Bardia were also bombed. An attack on Tripoli by 4 Blenheims is reported to have taken place p.m., presumably today; at least 2 merchant vessels are reported to have been hit and damaged.

Minesweeper SOTRA was damaged and her C.O. was killed by machine-gunning on passage to Tobruk at 2000 today.

Mersa Matruh was bombed last night, but little damage was caused.

3.8.1941. Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT

America and West Indies.

The U.S. authorities report that KUR 1080-MARU, recently at San Francisco has possibly refuelled a Pacific raider.

U-Boat Campaign.

now

It is/known that 9 ships were torpedoed in Convoy 0.G.69, as follows:
ERATO, 26/7.

HAWKINGE, NORITA, WROTHAM, KELLWYN, and INGA I, 27/7.

LAPLAND, 28/7.

SHAHRISTAN, 29/7 or 30/7.

SITOEBONDO, 30/7.

S.S. MACON

LONDONDERRY today picked up the master and 18 men of S.S. MACON, who report that the ship was torpedoed and sunk on 24/7 about 455 miles west of Madeira.

(U. 401 mark)

S.L.81.

3.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Trawler "X" My 1951B/26th July. Para 5 MARIA. (Head of M., 0002B/3 to F.O.I.C. Belfast.)

GARLAND.

I shall be grateful if you can inform me when you expect to release GARLAND.

(C. in C. W.A., 1609B/3 to C. in C. H.F.)

Thames
Estuary.
War Channel.

Your 2120B/2. Concur. (C. in C. Nore, 1714B/3 to Admty).

ARGUS.

ARGUS is to cease training duties forthwith and disembark training aircraft in preparation for a ferrying trip. Up to 24 unerected R.A.F. Hurricanes and 6 naval Fighters will be embarked by lighter from Abbotsinch. Loading will start on 8/8 and ARGUS is to be ready to sail (Date). (A.C.N.S. H., 1715B/3). My 1715B/3. Code name STRENGTH. Should (A.C.N.S. H., 1717B/3).

Co-operation with Russia.

Wishes of Russian C. in C.

(S.B.N.O. Polyarno, 2244C/3). See Operations Volume.

Movements.

ESPERANCE BAY. My 1229/2. E.T.A. Flamborough 1400/4, Sheringham Buoy 2100/4. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1432/3). Departure ESPERANCE BAY and WORCESTER. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2055/3).

R/V with PRESTON NORTH END in position 45" Fuglo Island 4 miles at 2300/4 and take her under your orders for escort to Dundee. E.T.A. 1700/6. Route. Do not pass longitude 003° 18' W., before 2330/5. (A.C.O.S., 1832B/2 to MINERVE).

ADVENTURE.

Request reply to my 1125B/2.

(A.C.N.S. H., 2359B/3 to Naval Mission, Moscow).

3.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation E.F. V. 2.

Force Q sighted in 071° 50' N., 001° 40' E. at 0400B/2. Took no oil from BLACK RANGER. Did not exchange escort. 2. (?) Hurricanes shot down shadowing Dornier at 1317B/31 whilst still in company with R.A.1 C.S. (FURIOUS, 0831B/3 to A.C.O.S.)
Arrived Seidis Fiord 0530Z/3 FURIOUS, SUFFOLK, INTREPID, ECHO, ECLIPSE. (A.C.I.C., 1016/3).

Exercise LBAPPROG. Your 1418B/2. Arrangements will be made. (A.C.O.S., 1246B/3 to Admty).

Operation.

Three M.T.B.'s and one M.G.B. leave Dover at 2300 to operate between Berck-sur-mer and Fecamp returning to Dover at about 0700. Route via "D" buoy each way. (V.A. Dover, 1540B/3-).

KARL GARLSTER. Soviet Union claim:(Destroyer) German Destroyer KARL GARLSTER sunk by A/C at
One MinesweeperKirkenes 25/7.
One 4.000 ton One Minesweeper sunk by S/M off Varda in 70° 23' N.
Transport. 31° 10' E.
sunk by One 4,000 ton Transport sunk at Hornigsvig by S/M
on 15/7. (S.B.N.O. Polyarno, 2244C/3)
See Operations Volume.

British Air Activity.

A/S Patrols.

18 Group 1520/2. While these Air Patrols have been in force, other evidence shows that very few U-boats have made the passage between Norway and the Atlantic. As our object is still to locate the route used and although no Submarine will be actually on Patrol in a suitable intercepting position, I suggest that we continue to search this Area bearing in mind that even Negative inforantion will prove of great value provided the patrols can be continued long enough to enable us to form definite conclusions. (F.O.S., 1006B/3 to H.Q.C.C.)

Patrols. TRO

TROUT, STAB, and BERT are being flown to reach Norwegian coast about noon.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1106/3).

/Voe A.....

3.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols Contd.

Voe A will in future be flown whenever weather permits, instead of Voe's A and B alternatively as herefore. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1744/3). STAND in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2250/3.)

Enemy Air Activity.

KOOLGA (Bombed 2/8).

Departure Tug DIVERSION to assist KOOLGA near 54 D Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0050B/3).

Trawler attacked on

Aberdeen trawler reports unsuccessful bombing attack at 1530B/2. 12 miles E.N.E. from Fugloy. No damage or casualties. (N.O.I.C., Faeroes. 0112B/3).

F. N.1.

GARTH's 1312. 4 bombs no hits. Dornier chased away to South East by fighters. (LEEDS, 1335/3).

3. L. 81.

F.W. destroyed by Hurricane. Pilot safe. (MAPLIN, 1550B/3).

Convoy 0.G.70

It is probable 0.G.70 has been reported by enemy aircraft. (D.D.I.C., 1709B/3).

Grimsby trawler LEO and Aberdeen trawler SCHIEHALLION SCHIEHALLION attacked by aircraft about four miles

STAR O'LEARNEY East of Sando at 1230/3. Four bombs dropped and machine gunned, LEO, one slight casualty.,

SCHIEHALLION three slight casualties. Aberdeen trawler STAR O'LEARNEY bombed and machine gunned by aircraft nine miles N.E. from Fugloy. No casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 1945B/3).

Mining.

Tyne.

Detonated one red ground magnetic mine 0703 in position 029° Roker Pier Light 3 point 3 miles. (P.M.S.O. North Shields 0950/3).

M.M.s 16 and 17.

Your 2156B/2. M.M.s 16 and 17 E.T.A. Queenborough 0930/5. (F.O.I.C. London, 1155B/3 to C. in C. Nore).

Harwich Area.

A/P vessel reports 2 heavy explosions near B8 at 2320/2. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1229B/3).

> NUBIA.

MINERVE.

-> CAPE MARIATO.

VERVAIN.

(Corvette.)

3.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

E-Boats.

Suspected E-Boat activity.
(N.O.I.C. Harwich 0001B/3).
E-boats off position N., are moving in general direction North. (Harwich 0018B/3 to Yarmouth).

Baltic Details from 22/7 to about 24/7. (N.A. Stockholm 1042/3). Shipping.

Casualties and Defects.

MARITIMA
(British portable pump on board. (ZWARTE ZEE, 0945B/3).
5804 tons).
Situation in hand. Expecting to finish 2200B/3rd.
(ZWARTE ZEE 2015B/3 to N.O.I.C. Londonderry).

(Grimsby F. Trawler). Arrived 0910/3, reports having been in collision with an escort vessel at 0230/3/8 in position 20 miles S.W.X.W. Girdleness. Stem twisted and leaking. Name of escort vessel unknown. No casualties. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 1230/3).

My 1832/2 and my 1837/2. MINERVE left patrol at 0945 today unescorted for Pentland Firth at slow speed with defects. E.T.A. 0400/5. (A.C.O.S., 1309B/3).

(A/S Trawler). At 0230 was in collision with unknown Southbound fishing trawler in 056° 46' 30" N.,002° 01' 12" W. Damage apparently only above water. (CAPE MARIATO, 1350B/3).

Steaming on one boiler only - other boiler developed defects which cannot be made good at sea. (CLOVER, 2050Z/3).

Shipping and Convoys.

My 0321/30/7. STRATHNAVER will not now be included in W.S.11. A. She will instead be used for W.S.10 X. (dates). (D.S.T., 0250B/3 to D.S.T.0. Liverpool).

Congratulations on bringing safely to U.K. your convoy H.X.139. The 5 ships which lost touch in fog arrived safely in Iceland. (C. in C. W.A., 1115B/3 to Cmdre. D.S. Robinson R.N.R.)

3.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

Congratualtions on bringing safely to U.K. all the ships of your convoy H.G. 68.

(C. in C. W.A., 1130B/3 to Adm, A.J. Davies.)

12 British, 1 Greek, 2 Swedish ships. Cargoes.

(D.S., 698, 3/8).

S.L.81. Report your P.C. and S. of A of convoy forthwith. (D.T.D., 1223B/3 to Escorts of S.L. 81)

W.S.10. Amending Admty. 1952B/29. (A.C.N.3. (H) 1308B/3 to C. in C. W.A., LONDON, WORCESTERSHIRE, JUPITER) See Lion Copy.

O.S. Convoys

Intend making sailing telegram of O.S. Convoy
in following form commencing with O.S.2. Name
of convoy (a) Time and position of last known
fix or where not available estimated 2000 position
on day of making signals (b) U.K. escort proceeding
to Bathurst (c) Care., Vice Care. and their ships
(d) Name and destination of ships which are to be
met by Freetown escort. (C. in C. W.A., 1604B/3
to Admty C. in C. S.A.)

W.N. Convoys. Amend my 1758B/30 as follows:- Zero Bloody Bay W.N. 63 (Medium) 0615/7 W.N. 65 (Fast). Sail Oban 0500/10. 0845/10. (N.C.S.O. Oban, 1732B/3 to Admty etc).

American
Tankers.

Shuttle service to Iceland. Arrangements.
(A.C.N.S. (T) 1743B/3 to C. in C. W.A.)
See Lion Copy.

N.Atlantic.
Convoys.

In view of urgent necessity for a quick turn round of shipping the number of ships included in North Atlantic convoys need no longer be limited to 40.

(A.C.N.S. (T) 1917B/3 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C. in C

Balloons. To be provided for certain ships from 6/8. (A.C.N.3. (T) 2209B/3 to A.I.G., 26) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET ON ES SOFT DON'T Lugust OUT

To C. in C.Western Approaches.836.Date 3/8/41 LONDON.
WORGESTERSHIRE.
JUPITER.

Repeated C. in C. Home Fleet. 128.

C. in C. South Atlantic. 53.

F.O.C.N.A. 991

F.O.C.N.P.

R.A. (3) 584.

C.S.18.

S.O. Force H. 407.

NAVAL CYPHER (C)

From Admiralty.

A.M. 1952B/29. (Not to WORCESTERSHIRE or JUPITER) amend as follows:-

1. From position B to new position BB 56° 30' N. 11° 00' W. to new position CC 58° 00' N. 22° 00' W. to new position DD 56° 00' N. 27° 30' W.

and thence to position E omitting old positions C and D.

- 2. Amend Standard route by deleting position N, O and P and substituting position W in 58° 00' N. 25° 00' W.
- 3. JUPITER is to part company in 44° 00' N. 29° 25' W. and rejoin at position G.
- 4. WORCESTERSHIRE is to part company in position 50° 00' N. 27° 30' W. and proceed through position Y and Z.
- 5. Speed of advance of convoy has been reduced to 111 knots.
- 6. JUPITER is to report expected time of arrival of Convoy at position G when well clear of convoy. Time of R/V for EDINBURGH in position G should be amended accordingly. F.O.C.N.A. pass to S.O: Force H on return.

1308B/3
for D.O.D.(H) Approved A.C.N.S.(H)

A.C.N.S.(H)
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(T)(2)
N.A. lst S.L.
D.O.D.(H)
D.D.O.D.(H)
D.O.D.(F)
D.T.D.(2)
D.T.D.(2)
D.T.D.(2)
D.T.D.(2)
D.T.D.(2)
D.T.D.(2)
D.T.D.(2)
D.T.D.(2)
D.T.D.(2)

Comon W.S. 10

OST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1743B/3 August. OUT

To: C. in C. Western Approaches, 846, Date: 3.8.41 repeated: A.C.I.C. 771.

Naval Cypher A1 one time.

From Admiralty.

A shuttle service of American tankers from Halifax to Iceland (C) for the purpose of transhipping cargoes to British tankers working between United Kingdom and Iceland (C) will be commenced in the near future. It is expected that this traffic will amount to about 6 cargoes per week.

- The following arrangements for escort between convoys and Iceland (C) are proposed, it being accepted that the American tankers will sail in H.X. and O.N. Convoys.
- U.S.A. Western Escort for O.N. convoys from Iceland (C) to escort Ballast American Tankers and full British tankers to join O.N. Convoys. United Kingdom escorts from O.A. Convoys to take over full British Tankers and to join them to H.X. Convoys together with Ballast British tankers.
- When H.X. Convoy is met U.S.A. Newfoundland Escorts to take over Ballast British Tankers and escort them together with full American tankers to Iceland (C).
- Request your remarks.

1743B/3

for D.T.D. (981)

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

D.D.O.D. (F)
D.O.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (H)
D.N.I. (4)
D.S.D. 1st Lord E.P.S. ist S.L. 2nd S.L. D.T.D. (2) N.I.D. 10 (Pay. Cdr. and S.L. Wilson) hth S.L. 5th S.L. D.G.D. D.N.A.D. Admiral Bailey. V.C.N.S. D.A/S.W. A. C. No J. A OGATAS,

uty of Sin LSC

D.T.S.D. D.D.I.C.

150

N.A. 1st S.I

2.0.D. (F)

OUT

Date. 3.8.41

A. I.G. 26 H To

P/L by T/P

From Admiralty.

Instructions have been given to balloon operating ports that as from 6th August balloons should be provided to a proportion of British ocean going vessels proceeding in convoy to West Atlantic ports north of 8 degs North.

It is intended that balloons should be flown, continuously while in the area where an attack may be expected according to the existing general instructions for flying kites and balloons except that when to the west of 7 degs 30' West in clear visibility balloons should be kept close hauled i.e. about 300 feet until air attack is known to be imminent to avoid increased danger of being sighted by U-Boats.

Instructions in the above sense should be given to Commodores of convoys and masters warned at convoy conferences to expect instructions from Commodores to this effect.

V. C. N. S. A.C.N.S.(H) A.C.N.S.(T)(2) N.A.lst S.L. Ops.(4) O.D.(5) D.T.D. (M) D.T.D. (C) D.T.D. (4) D. N. A. D. M. (2) D. G. D. D. of L.D. (2) D. M. W. D. I.M.N.G. D. of P.(3) I.P. (3)

W.D.

2209B/3

for D. D. T. D. (2) for D. T. D. (178) Approved A.C.N.S.(T)

c. in C. Portsmouth.
C. in C. Plymouth.
C. in C. Western Approaches,
C. in C. Nore.
C. in C. Rosyth. A. C. O. S. F. O. C. Dover.

3.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

LORINDA. R.O. Horta's 1510/2. Request you will take necessary action. (D.C. 0159B/3 to F.O.C.N.A.)

CAUDEBEC Left Setubal in ballast for Lisbon. (N.A. Lisbon, 1028/3 to Admty). French.

Horta departure 2nd, BALTA, LORINDA, routed in accordance with my 2019B/1 and 0805B/2. (F.O.C.N.A., 1120B/3 to C. in C. S.A.)
My 2019B/1 to BALTA and my 0805B/2 to LORINDA. (Route) Keep a good look out for life boat. (F.O.C.N.A., 1625B/3 to BALTA, LORINDA). LORINDA.

If A/S Escort from W.S. 10 fuel at Azores, AMERIKA and LEINSTER can be sailed to meet them with escort from 8th D.F. In addition, THERMOPYLAE and TALABOT could be sailed in company with ARETHUSA and MANXMAN as escorts. (F.O.C.N.A., 1310B/3 to Admty). Reply, 0036/4.

Passing Gibraltar. 1/8. (D.O.R. 3/8). French

> Route. on leaving Ponta Delgada. (F.O.C.N.A., 1344B/3 to N.C.S.O., Ponta Delgada.) My 1344B/3. Amendroute for KOS IX as follows. Pass through position 034° 30' N., 026° 20' W., 032° 50', 026° 12', 020° 00', 021° 00'. Keep good look out for life boats of MACON torpedoed in 032° 48' N., 026° 12' W. (F.O.I.C. Gibraltar, 2320B/3 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada).

> > My P.C. & S. at 2000/3, 037° 48' N., 003° 47' E., course 260° 17 knots. Force X in company. HERMIONE missed by one torpedo aircraft 2200/2. RENOWN's bulge torn away and folded back. E.T.A late p.m./4. No attack today 3rd. (S.O. Force H., 2025/3 to Admty).

no Renova format attack

W.S.10.

Convoys.

KOS IX

Force X. HERMIONE. RENOWN. (Spesation "Style")

3.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

DRESDEN.

Have you any information concerning German M.V. DRESDEN? Unconfirmed report that ship reached St. Jan de Luz some time ago but we cannot trace any report that ship had loaded cargo at Santos or elsewhere. (M.E.W., 0330/3 to Rio de Janeiro).

W.S.9 B.

Durban departures GALATEA escorting convoy W.S. 9 B. E.T.A., Aden 1200Z/14. (N.L.O. Durban, 0700Z/3 to N.O.I.C. Aden etc). Sailing telegram. (N.C.S.O., Durban, 0830Z/3).

Escort Group System.

Suggested adoption in dealing with U/B attack on convoys. (D.A/S.W., 1243B/3 to C. in C. S.A.) See Lion Copy.

Intercepted

Re policy. (C. in C. S.A., 1301N/3 to Admty). French Ships. See Lion Copy.

CILICIA.

Leave patrol and return to Freetown to arrive a.m./9. (C. in C. S.A., 1411N/3 to CILICIA.)

LANDGUARD.

Your 0928/3rd. (N.T. in W.R.) You will be required to sail from Bathurst with CULVER and WELLINGTON p.m./7. Gambia Marine may be able assist with labour for boiler cleaning if necessary. Your (IV) are these passengers crew or survivors? (C. in C. S.A., 1835N/3 to LANDGUARD).

ORION. Departed Simonstown and arrived D.G. range Capetown 3/8 and sailed 1555/3 for St. Helena. S. of A. 19 knots. E.T.A. 0830/7. General St. Helena informed. Times are G.M.T. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1957Z/3 to Admty etc).

French Ships.

Following Vichy ships southbound expected to be latitude of Freetown about date shown. ERIDAN 10/8, LIEUTENANT DE LA TOUR 11/8. (C. in C. S.A., 2107N/3 to S.A. Stn).

CARNARVON CASTLE. ERLANGEN prisoners.

Your 0123/2. In view of Admty 1854/31/7 I should prefer to keep CARNARVON CASTLE as long as possible. Unless you have any special job for her from Cape Agulhas, propose therefore to transfer ERLANGEN prisoners back to NEWCASTLE when latter passes Rio de Janeiro area about 15/8 after transfer of flag. They would be landed Trinidad or Freetown vide my 1727/19/7 (to C. in C. S.A. only). CARNARVON CASTLE then to fuel at Montevideo about 19/8 and leave patrol to arrive at Capetown 10/9 to exchange ammunition. (R.A.S.A.D., 2149Z/3 to C. in C. S.A.). Approved(C. in C. S.A.1654N/6).

OST SECRET

MESSAGE 1243B/3 August. OUT

To: C. in C. South Atlantic 52. Date: 3.8.41.

Naval Cypher One Time

From Admiralty.

Error Snup System S. Attentie.

ATDAC .

Experience in Western Approaches has shown the value of the Escort Group System in doaling with U boat attack on convoys. Escort vessels are organised in groups each working as a team under its own Senior Officer.

It is appreciated that in the past this has not been possible of achievement in your command owing to shortage of ships. -

With the institution of S.L. and O.S. convoys it appears that the group system could now be adopted. It is estimated that 3 or 4 groups would be required for Trade Convoys and each group should consist of at least 6 ships.

The Senior Officer's ship should have good communications and it appears that the two sloops and two of your destroyers would be required for this duty.

Much depends on the initiative and personality of the Sonior Officers of the group and your remarks on the desirability of effecting any exchanges in this connection would be appreciated.

It is suggested that convoy escort groups might consist of one sloop or destroyer, four or five corvettes and two trawlers.

Any forces remaining after satisfying special escort and other requirements would be available as WS Striking Forces. Experience in Western Approaches has shown that Striking Forces are best employed as reinforcements to the convoy escorts being free to break away and hunt any U boat shadowing or attacking the convoy.

In the absence of HF/DF the location of the shadowing U boat must normally be achieved by the Air Escart and the importance of designing the air patrol for this purpose has been clearly shown. U boats may shadow from any direction, making an all round patrol essential.

1243B/3

D.A/S.W. (Tel. No.W.)
Approved by 2nd S.L.

0110

2)(0

1st Lord
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.
(H)
A.C.N.S.
(T)(2)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D. of P. (2)
D.D.D.D.
D.D.O.D.
(H)
D.D.O.D.
(H)
D.J.O.D.
(H)
D.J.O.D.
D.A/S.V.
A/S.V.
A/S

87 2 350

/MC

MOST STOCK SMESS SEECR 2017/3rd Aug.

From C. in C. South Atlantic.

Date 3.8.41.

Recd 2050.

Naval Cypher (D) by W/T

Addressed Admiralty, repeated F.O.C. North Atlantic.
IMPORTANT
663
Vichy Suffring - Policy.

Can reply now be made to my 1945 July 26th and confirmation or otherwise given to A and B l of that signal. This involves an important alteration to a policy definitely laid down and issued with instructions to implement it in detail. Consider for guidance of C.O.'s a clear statement of prosent policy is required.

Important points are:-

- (i) Is policy still to avoid action if possible or to ignore this factor.
- (ii) If a captured Vichy merchant ship is being escorted and is intercepted by an equal or superior force is escort (a) to resist by force (b) sink merchant ship and avoid action. Former instructions state "Hand it over", present instructions state if intercepting force is decisively superior captured ship is to be sunk but nothing more. There is a gap to be filled in but presume in no case hand (?it) over. It would be quite easy deciding if policy were known. Instructions issued to S.A. Station are being repeated to Admiralty.

1301N/3.

Advance copy sent Ops, O.D., M. and O.I.C.

| 1st Lord | D.D.I.C. | D. T. D. (M) |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| lst S.L. | D.N.A.D. | D. T. D. (M) D. E. W. D. |
| 5th S.L. | D. S. D. 9. | Duty Captain |
| V. C. N. S. | D.O.D.(H) | Hd. of M. (30) for action. |
| 2., C, N, S, (H) | D.D.O.D. (H) | D. of P. (2) |
| 11. C. N. S. (F) | D.O.D. (F) | D. T. S. D. |
| A. C. N. S. (T)(2) | D.D.O.D.(F) | I.P.(2) |
| lst S.L. | W.D. | Admiral Chalmers, |
| D. N. 1. (4) | D. T. D. (2) | N. I. D. 10. Pays Cdr. Wilson |
| | | - |

4

this

3.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TIRPITZ.

Unconfirmed report that a German ship sunk by mines off San Remo. A previous report had been received that German TIRPITZ, 7970 tons, which left Marseilles about 21/7 for Genoa, was mined off San Remo. (D.S.698.)

Force X.

Your 1701/2, Force X, consider not sighted. (V.A. Malta, 0035B/3, to S.O. Force H.) See also North Atlantic.

Alexandria
Tobruk
M/S.

Mine Sweeping summary week ending 2/8.

(A) Alexandria 1 raid p.m./l. 1 Parachute and possibly 2 type G fell in harbour. 1 mine probably type C exploded ashore on landing. None swept. (B) Tobruk one mine swept by single L p.m./31.

(N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 1115C/3, to Admty.)

CLAUDIO TIBERIO (Cruiser.) Report of commissioning. Re Italian S/M's building. (S.O.(I) Med. 1215C/3.) See Lion Copy.

M.T.B's.

Your 1901c/1. Shipment of M.T.B.s from America should commence very shortly. Reply to last para. of Adty., 1639B/17 is requested in order that necessary equipment may be despatched. (Vice Controller 1517B/3 to C. in C. Med.)

Malta Raid.

Night 2 - 3/8. 5 aircraft over. 1 stick on land. No damage or casualties. (H.Q., R.A.F. Malta, 1700/3.)

UTMOST report.

UTMOST reported at 2323/20 in 038° 26' 012° 48' fired two torpedoes on westbound escorted 6,000 ton M/V torpedoes missed. From 2nd until 2100/26 during operation "SUBSTANCE", nothing noteworthy sighted in northern approach to Messina. At 0100/28 on southern shore of Gulf Euphemia in 016° 06', a train was blown up on an embankment.

1215C/3rd August.

The state of the s

From S.O. (I) Mediterranean.

to be a second or the second of the second of

Date 3.8.41.

Recd. 1928

NAVAL CYPHER (A. 2) by W/T.

Recirculation.

Addressed Admiralty (for D.N.I.), repeated S.O.(I) Malta, S.O.(I) Gibraltar.

Reference S.O.(I) Istanbul 1059 July 20th and letter 868/260 of July 22nd 1941 information received from Soviet N.A. Rome via Istanbul, which should be treated with reserve, states:- (A) Italian light cruiser CLAUDIO TIBERIO was commissioned beginning of 1941 (B) 20 S/M's are building. 1215C/3

Advance copy sent O.I.C.

Re information on various subjects from Soviet Naval Attache Rome.

M. I.D. Comment.

- (a) This is the first report of this Cruiser since she was laid down at the O.T.O. yard. Livorno. She is one of the CAPITANI RCMANI Class cruisers, 1938 Programme, laid down in 1939. A Foreign Office telegram from Mashington, dated 18/7/41 referred to a Cruiser undergoing trials in the Trieste-Pola area but, if content this was more likely to be one of the two Cruisers of the above-mentioned class building at Ancona,
- (b) It is believed that not more than twelve Italian submarines are building. Reports (whose reliability is doubtful) have been received of small submarines being "assembled" at Fola but it is not known how many, if any, of these craft are being built:.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(T)
A.

Admiral Bailey.
D.T.D.(4)
D.T.D.(M)
D.T.D.(C)
D.S.D.(2)
D.P.D.
I.P.(3).
W.B.

3.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Conta.

M/V sunk.

At 2001/28 in 039° 31' 015° 50' fired two torpedoes at 4000 ton southbound laden M/V escorted by A.M.C. one hit, ship observed to sink. Owing to orders to cover exit of Palermo during passage of HERMIONE, no further rail sabotage possible.
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1904B/3, to Capt. S.1.)

Turkey.

Re staff talks. (C. in C. M.E. 2035/3 to M.A. Ankara.) See Lion Copy.

Situation Report 106.

Western Desert. VENDETTA and HAVOCK attacked by 20 to 30 J.U.87 and M.E.109 at 2000/2, while running supplies to Mersa Tobruk. 12 Hurricanes on patrol intercepted and shot down three J.U.87, one M.E.109, and possibly two more M.E.109. Three Hurricanes missing. No damage to ships.

(C. in C. Med., 2231C/3, to Admty.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN 2035/3/August.

From C. in C. Middle East.

Date 3.8.41.

Recd. 2210.

CYPHER.

Addressed Military Attache, Ankara, (Pass to A.A.) Repeated C. in C. India, War Office, C. in C. Mediterranean

MOST IMMEDIATE.

32504. 0/88231 cipher 3/8.

From Deputy C. in C. and D.A.O.C. in C.

- 1. In view of Minister of State's telegram
 401 to Ambassador Ankara only giving assurance to Turks of substantial assistance enter fight presume Turks satisfied we intend play and therefore less urgent for staff talks tak place immediately.
- 2. As scale of assistance is now being discussed at War Office and Air Ministry and we do not expect to have full data by August 7th. consider it necessary to postpone staff talks to August 15th (repeat August 15th) Will this date suit Turks.

2035/3.

Recd. from War Office A.M. 4th August.

lst Lord.
lst S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
N.A. 1st S.L.
D.C.D. (F)
D.D.C.D. (F)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of P. (2)
Duty Capt.
E.P.S.
Hd. of M. (8)
I.P. (2)
V.D.

J.

N.I.D. 10 Paym. Cdr. Wilson Admiral Herman Hodge.

3.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

Persian Gulf.

Reply to Admty. 2359/1. Operation "Countenance". (C. in C.E.I. 0638Z/3 to Admty.) See Operations Volume.

Hospital Ship Markings. Your 1254/26. R/C of hospital ships TALAMBA, KARAPARA by day indicates that present enlarged deck markings are clearly visible at 10,000 feet and side markings recognisable at 10 miles by night, illuminated deck markings distinguishable at 5000 feet, side markings recognisable at three miles. All markings have been increased to maximum size in these two ships. (S.S.T.O. India, 0659Z/3 to D. of S.T.)

KIONGA.
(German)
(L.E. M/s)

Following from N.O.I.C. Kilindini (begins). S.T.O. Mogadishu reports that German Tug KIONGA scuttled there could be salved. Apparently only damage Sea Cocks broken off. If services of Diver and Diving Gear could be obtained estimated she could be salved in about six weeks. (Ends.) (C. in C.E.I. 0756Z/3 to Admty.)

FOREST.

Your 1717/1. FOREST did not call at Aden; E.T.A. Calcutta 11/8. (N.C.S.O. Aden 1505Z/3 to Admty.)

Force T.

Seychelles departure 1100Z/3/8 HERMES, ENTERPRISE. (S.O.I. Colombo, 2050Z/3 to Admty.)

America and West Indies.

Japanese Shipping. Your 0025/1. Instructions have been sent to all Missions abroad that all applications by Japanese ships are to be referred to Ministry of War Transport. (Hd. of M., 0013B/3 to S.O.I Jamaica).

ROZENBURG.

MURENA returned H.X.142 with full crew of ROZENBURG. There were no casualties. (C.O.A.C. Halifax, 1523Z/3 to Admty.)

/NYHOLM

3.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

Norwegian NYHOLM due Trinidad 27/7 from St. Helena not yet arrived. (S.O.I Jamaica, 1637R/3 to Admty. etc.) See S.O.I. Freetown 1150/4.)

KURIOSO MARU Colon reports information from U.S. Authorities and raider. KURIOSO MARU recently at San Francisco possibly refuelling Pacific Raider. Further details awaited safe hand. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1756R/3 to Admty. etc.) See also 1621/6.

Australia.

CAPETOWN

CASTLE.

Your 0907/19. No objection to Service
Personnel from Australia and New Zealand being embarked subject to limitations laid down in Admty. 1744/16/7. (D.S.T. 0208B/3 to A.C.N.B.)

CAP TARIFA. Arrived. (Port Kembla, 2355Z/3 to D. of S.T.)
(French)

3.8.1941. Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

MACON. (torpedoed 24/7.) LONDONDERRY picked up a.m./3 Master and 18 men from British MACON, 5135 tons, torpedoed and sunk on 24/7 about 455 miles W. of Madeira. MACON left Liverpool on 28/1 and had been at Sao Miguel, Azores, for boiler repairs until 22/7, when she sailed for Freetown. (D.S. 699, 4/8.) W.D. Note: No signal received in W.D., but see F.O.I.C. Gibraltar 2320B/3 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, under North Atlantic.

WELLWYN. (torpedoed 27/7.)

British, 1459 tons, in O.G.69, reported torpedoed and sunk on 27/7 in the attack on that convoy. Bound from Tyne to Lisbon with coke, and was attacked about 400 miles W.N.W. of Cape Finisterre. This is the 9th ship known to have been torpedoed in this convoy. (D.S. 698, 3/8, 699, 4/8.)

Submarines Reported.

2355/2.

At 2355/2 G.M.T. an enemy U-boat within 25 miles of 55° 45' N. 15° 26' W. (D.D.I.C. 0302B/3 to S. and A.W.A. H.Q.C.C. Deptford.)

0527 G.M.T.

German Submarine bearing 295/3. (F.O.C.N.A. 0651B/3 to N.A. Stn.)

0443 G.M.T.

At 0443/3 G.M.T. an enemy U-boat was in 51° to 52° N. 19° to 20° W. and has probably reported MORETON BAY. (D.D.I.C. 0753B/3 to MORETON BAY, DEPTFORD, etc.)

S.L.81.

Convoy S.L. 81 was shadowed throughout the night. U-boats were still in contact at 0912B/3. (D.D.I.C.1030B/3 to HELIOTROPE, WALLFLOWER etc.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. Considerable movement seems to be taking place and estimates are unreliable. (D.D.I.C. 1407B/3.)

1809 G.M.T.

By D/F at 1809/3 G.M.T. position of Italian U-boat estimated within 60 miles of 40° 30' N. 19° 30' W. Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C. 2113B/3 to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C.W.A., BIDEFORD.) (F.O.C.N.A. 2159/3 to N.A. Stn.)

3.8.1941. Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

1858Z. Italian U-boat 260/3. (F.O.C.N.A. 2121B/3 to N.A. Stn.)

D/F at 1825 G.M.T. indicates that Convoy O.G.70 has been sighted by U-boat. (D.D.I.C. 2157B/3 to DEPTFORD, MARIGOLD, CONVOLVULUS etc.)

Report from Blenheims en route from U.K. 3/8.
Observed at 1054 G.M.T. two submarines large ocean going type steering 300° speed 8 knots 047° 16' N. 008° 00' W. at 1054 one observed course 000° position 042° 40' 009° 30', approx. 1245 submarine took avoiding action firing three flares aircraft gave letters of day. (F.O.C.N.A. 2301B/3 to Admty.)

Submarines Attacked.

South Atlantic. Suggesting adoption of Escort Group System. (D. A/S W. 1243B/3) See South Atlantic.

Russia.

Soviet claim following among local successes.

U-boat sunk by destroyer 68.20 N., 39.40 E.

(S.B.N.O. Polyarno, 2244C/3 to Admty.)

W.D. Note:- No time or date given.

Ref. LEU/02/3/8. Navigator states that S/M was on surface: no crew visible on deck: state of C/T not observed. Up to time of release of bombs S/M made no apparent attempt to submerge. The impact of bombs on surface recorded by photograph was not observed by any of A/C crew. Airgumner reports that he observed violent convulsion of water enveloping S/M. A/C crew state that at a distance of approx. 300 yds. from target position, as they turned ahead of convoy out to sea, a large patch of white from indicated position of S/M, but that no trace of vessel could be detected. Evasive action on part of A/C prevented further observation. (Pitreavie 1000/3 to Admty.)

3.8.1941. Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked - Contd.

By CAPE PORTLAND. 1 S/M submerged my position 61.02 N., 12.30 W. (DELIUS 1230/3 to Scapa W/T.)
Proceed to 061° 02' N. 012° 30' W. and assist CAPE PORTLAND in hunting S/M. (S.O.N.T. 1326B/3 to NORTHERN SUN.)
One submerged S/M 061° 02' 012° 30' attacking no change. (CAPE PORTLAND 1350B/3 to S.O.N.T.)
Contact lost. Attack of one full pattern and 2 separate charges. Carrying out search (corrupt group) position 061° 06' 012° 15'. (CAPE PORTLAND 1455B/3 to S.O.N.P.T.)

By WANDERER and ST.ALBANS.

(U. 401 ounk)

One F.W. A/C shot down by Hurricane. S/M sighted on surface 3 miles. Am attacking. "Child" ordered to alter course to starboard. My position is 50° 33' N. 19° 40' W. (WANDERER, 1517B/3 to C. in C.W.A.) 6 attacks delivered by WANDERER and ST. ALBANS. Contact faded after last attack and bubbles seen. Consider S/M sunk. HYDRANGEA and CAMPANULA searching for 2 hours in vicinity. Second and possibility of third S/M shadowing convoy 10 to 20 miles ahead, also second A/C. Intend sweeping ahead with destroyers after disposing of corvettes. Hurricane pilot safe in WANDERER 50° 33' 19° 34' (Weather) (WANDERER, 1849B/3 to C. in C.W.A.)

By HYDRANGEA.
CAMPANULA.

(U.401 FL-k)

C. in C.W.A. 1646/19/6. While carrying out hunt with CAMPANULA as ordered by WANDERER in 050° 18' N. 020° 10' W. at 2004 observed S/M surfacing. Fired 2 rounds of ammunition, submarine then dived, obtained firm contact firing 2 patterns. Have evidence S/M was sunk, as follows:- 2 sheepskin coats, 1 German seaman's collar, leather coat marked Schmidt, 2 cushions and 3 pieces of human flesh. Considerable oil patches observed on surface. Am remaining in vicinity with CAMPANULA until dark and then rejoining S.L. 181. (HYDRANGEA 2219B/3 to C. in C.W.A.)
HYDRANGEA and CAMPANULA have re-sunk my submarine or more probably second one seen originally in vicinity. Wreckage including human entrails obtained. Am now searching for another S/M sighted by HELIOTROPE 7 miles to south of convoy. Convoy happily enveloped in fog. My 1849B/3 not to Admiralty. (WANDERER, 2345B/3 to C. in C.W.A.)

4.8.1941. Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

ADVENTURE sailed from Archangel at 1000C today, SHROPSHIRE is to cover her return passage.

TIGRIS arrived at Murmansk this afternoon.

The PRINCE OF WALES LOW Scape loday for harfoundland with the Prince minister for his meeting with President Roosewoll.

British Air Operations.

5 Whitleys attacked Calais dock and harbour installations last night.

Bomber Command operations were restricted today by bad weather. Shipping off the Dutch coast was attacked, but no special successes are claimed.

Enemy Air Operations.

TUNISIA in S.L. 81 was bombed and sunk this morning in 53° 53' N., 19° 2' W.

A.P. Trawler NORLAND reports being attacked at 2230 today in the Thames Estuary by an aircraft which crashed in flames. There is no report of damage to the trawler.

North Atlantic.

FRANKFURT scuttled.

CAVINA O.B.V., intercepted German FRANKFURT, which had left Rio de Janeiro on 27/6, at 0130Z/4 in 31.34 N., 37.42 W. She was scuttled and sunk. 26 prisoners were taken and there are 20 missing.

Operation Style:

Forces H. and X. returned to Gibraltar this evening.

4.8.1941. Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

South Atlantic.

A.M.C.'s are no longer to be sailed as ocean escort to S.L. convoys which are provided with through A/S escort.

Mediterranean.

Malta.

A few aircraft bombed Malta last night. No naval damage was caused.

CACHALOT sunk.

An Italian official statement today claims that an Italian T.B. has rammed and sunk CACHALOT; 91 of the crew are reported to have been rescued and taken prisoners.

2 Blenheims sank an 800 ton schooner off Misurata today whilst searching for an intended target.

Libya & Western Desert.

Tripoli convoys are now very heavily escorted in both directions, and the quick turn round of the last convoy suggests that troops are either arriving or leaving. There are reports of Panzer divisions being withdrawn far back.

8 Wellingtons bombed Derna port last night. 1 Wellington attacked shipping off the coast of Cyrenaica, 2 ships each of 3,000 tons are believed to have been hit 15 miles west of Apollonia.

Canal Area.

There was a heavy air raid on Port Said and Suz in the early hours of today by a few aircraft. in attitude Bay ESCAUT was sunk and DESMOULEA was damaged, both by aerial torpedos. A ragord air raid occurred shortly afterwards.
S.S. ALEXANDRE ANDRE is reported to have been torpedoed under way 8 miles off Zafarana Light.
One U.X.B. or mine is suspected in Suez Roads and possibly one in the Canal. The Canal and terminal ports are open subject to mine sweeping. No naval casualties were caused in either raid.

> CARLISLE has left Alexandria for Suez as A.A. Guard ship.

Cyprus.

Operation Guillotine is continuing.

4.8.1941. Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

China.

It is reported that the French S.S. DUPLETX from Saigon bound for France has been intercepted by the Dutch and taken to Tanjong Priok.

U-Boat Campaign.

There were indications today that S.L.81 was being shadowed by U-boats and enemy aircraft. (See Enemy Air Operations).

WANDERER, escorting, sighted 3 U-boats on the surface between 1410B and 1540B today.

It is reported that the fishing schooner ROBERT MAX was sunk at 1900 G.M.T. today by gunfire from a submarine in 36° 47' N., 21° 15' W.

4.8.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

GARLAND. I hope to be able

I hope to be able to release GARLAND on about 9/8. (C. in C.H.F.0947B/4 to C. in C.W.A.)

Swedish M/V's.

My 1116/2. Positions of Westbound ships at 0001/4 as follows. (N.A. Stockholm 1101/4.) Sighted large tanker Westabout off Myggenaes. Too far off to intercept. Visibility bad. (STOKE CITY 1135/4.)
Your 1135. Expect three more Swedish ships westbound sailed independently at intervals of about 4 hours. (N.O.I.C. Faroes, 1213B/4 to STOKE CITY.)

Loch Fyne. WOOLSTON.

Special A/A and A/S protection of Loch Fyne is no longer necessary. Suggest WOOLSTON be withdrawn. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 1838B/4.)

Co-operation with Russia.

Archangel.

Your 1940B/30/7 and M.E.W. Telegram No.243 of 2/8 and probability that Archangel will become increasingly important as a supply base, is it intended to institute a naval control service or similar organisation there? If so are any previous arrangements required here. (Admiral Miles, 1639C/4 to Adty.)

Movements.

PRINCE CHARLES.

Sailed PRINCE CHARLES to Greenock for Clyde to embark R. Boat Flotilla and personnel from PRINCE LEOPOLD and return to Tail of Bank. E.T.A. Tail of Bank 0700/4. (V.A.C.T.C.0301B/4.

MINERVE.

Proceed position 045° Sule Skerry 2 miles where Trawlers CELIA and HAMLET will meet you at about 2000/4 for onward escort to Scapa. Do not approach Orkneys until you have met escort. (A.C.O.S. 1317B/4 to MINERVE.)
My 1317/4. Remain near Sule Skerry with your escort until about 0100/5 and then return to Scapa so as to arrive at Switha Gate at about 0600/5. (A.C.O.S. 1901B/4 and 2123B/4 to MINERVE.)

/A.F.D.IV

4.8.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements. - Contd.

A.F.D.IV.

A.M.1928B/22 and My 1310/2. As the chance of encountering Magnetic Mines on passage is considered small propose to sweep with L.L. Trawlers in and out of Ports only. As the danger from T.Type Mine is greater propose to sweep ahead with Oropesa Trawlers. (C. in C. Plymouth 1320/4.)

TIGRIS. Arrival TIGRIS. Please inform Admiral, Submarines, S.O. Force A. (S.N.O. Murmansk 1543C/4.)

MAID HONOR. My 1533B/31. Expected date of sailing 8/8. Amend mean course 250° to read mean course 270°. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1653B/4.)

HARRIER. Arrived Seidis Fjord Iceland and taken over duty S.N.O. (HARRIER 2355B/4.)

Operations.

MINSTER. Departure MINSTER net laying off Minsmere. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0835B/4.)

Operation Para. 6 postponed. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1853B/4.)

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

Patrol of Orkneys Exercise area will be flown by 18 Group from 0800 till 1300/4. (C. in C. Rosyth 0814/4.)

**BERT in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1300/4.)

**Vec VOE A! discontinued owing to weather.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1634/4.)

Bombing
Restrictions.

(ii) T.B.R. are in force between 58° 40' to 62° N. and 3° to 5° 30' W. until further notice. (C. in C.H.F. 1056B/4 to FURIOUS, SUFFOLK.)

Ops. 837 4/8. Cancel T.S.B.R. in Area as instituted in my Ops 797 22/7. (H.Q.C.C.1610/4.)

4.8.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

Escort. W5.10.

Weather permitting expect one Whitley aircraft from 1600/4 and one Catalina from 1730/4. Latter will remain throughout the night and in order to maintain contact may have to approach within 6000 yards. (C. in C.W.A. 1350B/4 to LONDON, CAIRO, GURKHA, LEGION.)

Calais attacked. During day 3/8 no operations took place owing to weather. On night 3/4 five A/C attacked Docks and Harbour at Calais. (H.Q.B.C.1415/4.)

Convoy Escorts. (1) Experience has shown the desirability of obtaining more definite information of an aircraft being in company with a convoy or ship which it has been sent to escort. (2) - (4) Intended procedure. (C. in C.W.A. 1702B/4.)

Donibristle Decoy Site.

Site (R.O. 2) complete and ready for operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1701/4.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Yarmouth bombed.

Gt. Yarmouth attacked night 3/4. A to D nil. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0725B/4.)

Dingle Bay.

Irish Observer Corps have reported unidentified A/C near Dingle Bay a.m./3. One A/C appeared to be trying to make contact with a Yacht. (D.D.I.C. 0745B/4.)

TUNISIA.

(British. 4337 W/T 1047/4.) British, 4337 tons, ex convoy

Tons) sunk.

XAAA TUNISIA 53° 53' N. 19° 02' W. (Liverpool
W/T 1047/4.) British, 4337 tons, ex convoy
attacked by U/B. (See U-Boat Campaign.)
TUNISIA sinking. (Valentia Radio 1157/4.)
From Valentia Radio. TUNISA bombed and sinking.

Tont Boats over starboard lifeboats smashed Port Boats away, starboard lifeboats smashed, jolly boat now away. 1208/4 ends. (Liverpool W/T 1412/4.) Detach one corvette to proceed to assist TUNISIA. (C. in C.W.A. 1416B/4 to WANDERER.) Your 1416B/4. Am proceeding 16 knots. (MALLOW 1730/4.)

> Convoy "Hatch." /HOR HOLD CO - D INC.

4.8.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Convoy "Match."

MORCESTER,

QUORE.

Enemy Air Activity. - Contd.

Convoy HATCH being shadowed by one A/C in 53° 40' N., 0° 40' E. Course and speed of convoy 150° 9 knots. (WORCESTER 1700/4).

Mining.

ACHATES (Mined 25/7).

Ship will be ready for towing at 6 knots in mederate weather by P.M./7. Ship has no dagaussing. ASSURANCE available for towing. No A/S trawlers available to escort. (A.C.I.C., 1224Z/4 to R.A.D. H.F.)

Enemy Intelligence.

Report of Paratroops landed. Following received from Irish Secret Source, usually considered reliable.

Begins - Military on the alert about 50 parachute troops landed near Kenmare. Foreign planes reported today near Waterville at 0530 G.M.T Ends. (D.D.I.C., 0745B/4 to C's. in C. W.A. and Plymouth) My 0745B/4. For fifty Parachute troops read Twenty. (D.D.I.C., 1149B/4).

My 0745B/4. As a result of further information this report should be discounted unless a further signal is made. (D.D.I.C., 1719B/4).

TIRPITZ.

Partial R/C of Kiel on 2/8 showed TIRPITZ had left Floating Dock. Northern part of harbour not covered. (D.D.I.C., 1216B/4).

Reported
Enemy
Intentions,
Norway

(D.N.I., 2357B/4) See Operations Volume.

Technical.

Limitations on General considerations and principles for trial. the use of [V.C.N.S. 1338B/4].

R.D.F.

Transport of Reply to Admty 0023B/4. (F.O.S., 1833B/4 and bombs in S/Ms. 1834B/4).

Casualties & Defects.

Accidental fire in engine room yesterday caused damage to paintwork. Do not expect sailing delayed more than two days. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1013B/4).

4.8.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. - Contd.

VERVAIN
(Corvette).

My 2050Z/3. VERVAIN's second boiler developed defects. Have her in tow to enable defects to be made good. My position 1200/4. 023° 21' N., 022° W. (CLOVER, 1545Z/4).

PUCKERIDGE. Cancel my 1635B/4. PUCKERIDGE will be unable to sail owing to minor defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2255/4 to R.A.D.)

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S.10 X. Following Troopships will be included in convoy W.S.10 X. ORION, STRATHNAVER, STRATHMORE (dates) (D.S.T., 0313B/4 to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland etc).

F.N. F.S. Forecast of convoy sailings. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1100 /4 to Admty etc). See Lion Copy.

Route Signals. Amending Admty 1954/7/7. (D.T.D. 1409B/4 to Cs. in C.)

O.G.70
Ships for South Atlantic Ports are to disperse at dusk to-night 4/8. Instructions for proceeding after dispersal. (D.T.D., 1728B/4 to C. in C. W.A. DEPTFORD and escorts O.G.70).

W.S.10. Numbers of troops embarked. (D.S.T.O. Greenock 1845B/4).

O.G.71

Will sail two days late. Vessels for South Africa or Transatlantic ports are not to be included.

If desired these may be sailed in O.N. convoy.

-(D.T.D., 1848B/4 to C. in C. W.A. etc).

H.X.139.

5 hours late at R/V with 55 ships, 5 ships lost convoy and proceeded to Iceland(C)

Much fog first 7 days then fair weather.

(D.T.D., 1850B/4 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa). Details and Cargoes. (D.S. 697, 2/8).

Detach A/S escort as follows. BROADWAY to proceed with WORCESTERSHIRE parting company for St. Johns N.F. at prudent limit of endurance. CAIRO, WHITE-HALL, WINCHESTER, WITCH remain with convoy till dark 5/8 if fuel permits and return in company to North Channel, CAIRO proceeding Belfast and destroyers to Londonderry. GURKHA, LEGION, LANCE, PIORUN, ISAAC SWEERS remain with convoy till dark 6/8 and then return to Clyde carrying out an A/S sweep on route to be signalled. (C. in C. W.A., 1902B/4 to LONDON).

→ W.S.10 escorts.

MESSAGE

1100/4th August IN

From C. in C. Rosyth.

Date 4.8.41. Recd. 1349.

P/L BY T/P.

Addressed Admiralty, C. in C. Nore, S.E.E.C.C.D., H.Q.F.C., H.Q.Coastal Command, Nos. 11, 12, 13 Groups. F.O.i/c Aberdeen, N.O.i/c Leith, Captain M/S Granton.

NOTIM.

Convoy Message

231. Forecast of Convoy sailings.

| F.S.563 (S | | Friday | 8 | LEEDS WHADDON |
|-------------|--------|------------------|----|--|
| F.S.564 (F | 2300 | Saturday | 9 | LIDDESDALE VINCHESTER |
| F.S.565 (M | 1330 | Monday 1 | 11 | WESTMINSTER VORTIGERN |
| F.S.566 (S |) 0900 | Tuesday 1 | 12 | WOLSEY VIMIERA |
| F.S.567 (F | 2300 | Wodnesday | 13 | VERSATILE VALOROUS |
| F.S.568 (M | 1350 | | | SOUTHDOWN GARTH |
| 1 14 | | The state of the | | |
| E.C. 57 (F | | Friday | 8 | - LUDLOW QUANTOCK |
| F.N. 503 (S |) 060Q | Saturday | | VERSATILE GARTH |
| E.C. 58 (M | | Sunday | 10 | SCUTHDO: N OLFHOUND |
| F.N.504 (F | 0600 | Monday | 11 | LEEDS WHADDON |
| E.C. 59 (S | | Tuesday | 12 | LIDDESDALE INCHESTER |
| E.C. 60 (M | 0600 | Thursday | 14 | WESTLINSTER VORTIGERN |
| | | | | The state of the s |

Time table as in my 1130/26/5.

/5.
1100/4.
Advance Copy Ops. Trade.
Passed to F.O.(S)

V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(1)(2) N.A.let S.L. D. of S.T. I.P. (3)
D.A./S.W.
O.I.C. (2) Capt.Pim Admiralty House
Ops. (4)
O.D. (5) 0.D.8. 17.D. D.N.I.(4) D. of S. 2... D.T.D.(4) D.T.D.(N) I.M.N.G. Mails Movts. M.(2) D.T.D.(C)

4.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

W.S.10. RENOWN, ARETHUSA etc. Reply to F.O.C.N.A., 1310B/3, amending movements in Admty., 1634B/26. (V.C.N.S., 0036B/4 to F.O.C.N.A., C. in C. W.A.) See Lion Copy.

YMIV.

Your 1340B/3 received. (N.T. in W.D.) (?proceeding to) 027° 18' N., 015 30' W. (?approx., position.) (VIMY 0200B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)

FRANKFURT scuttled.

Have intercepted German FRANKFURT in 031° 34' N., 037° 42' W., at 0130Z/4. Scuttled and sank. Have 26 prisoners on board, remaining 20 crew missing. (CAVINA, 0400Z/4 to Admty.) W.D. Note:-FRANKFURT left Rio de Janeiro on 27/6.

ALOUETTE.

Departure for Y.3. (F.O.C.N.A. 1002B/4.)

0.21.

My 0506 B/22. Cancel time of passing through (c). Adjust speed to arrive during daylight/5 or A.M./6. (F.O.C.N.A., 1006B/4 to S/M O.21.)

MALVERNIAN survivors. All 56 survivors of MALVERIAN are en route to Gibraltar. Submit report already transmitted on conduct of men in No. 2 boat calls for enquiry. Captain's account of whole event indicates (a) further enquiry into why vessel was not located drifting for 19 days considering her position and (b) highest commendation of conduct of C.O., and ship's company generally with exception mentioned above.

(N.A. Madrid, 1155C/4, to Admty.)

Operation "Style".

Report amplifying his 1836/1 and 2025/3. (S.O. Force H., 1301B/4 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

JUPITER
KOS. 7 and
KOS. 9.
CUMBRAE.

May call on about dates given at Ponta Delgada and Fayal. Fuel required. (D.O.D. (F) 1321B/4 to N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada.)

MOST SECRET 0036B/4 August IN. MESSAGE To F.O.C. North Atlantic 999 Date 4.8.41. C. in C. Western Approaches 858 repeated C. in C. Mediterranean 290 C. in C. Home Fleet 143
C. in C. Rosyth 924
F.O.I.C. Greenock
C.S. 18, D. 8. F.O. Force (H) 408 C. in C. Plymouth 937, A.C.O.S. 325.

NAVAL CYPHER D.

From Admiralty.

IMPORTANT /

F.O.C. North Atlantic's 1310B/3 (not to all addressees).

A/S escort from W.S.10 cannot be spared to proceed as far as Azores.

Amend movements in A.T. 1634B/26 (not to all addressees) which have not already taken place and substitute the following.

(A) RENOWN and PASTEUR escorted by COSSACK, MAORI, SIKH, and LICHTHING as soon as practicable to Clyde.
(B) ARETHUSA and MANXMAN as a separate force to Scapa.
(C) Owing to S/m situation on North Atlantic Station NESTOR, ENCOUNTER, AVONVALE and ERIDGE are to be retained for escort duties until about 15th August.

(D) AMERIKA and LEINSTER escorted by FOXHOUND, HIGHLANDER and WISHART to U.K. as soon as convenient, WISHART breakfing off as necessary.

(E) As before.

3. F.O.C. North Atlantic pass to C.S.18, F.O. Force H and D.8 on arrival.

0036B/4. D.O.D.(F). Approved by V.C.N.S.

1st Lord. long S.L. and Solie Little SeLo V. C. H. S. A. C. N. S. (H). A.C.N.S.(H).
A.C.N.S.(F).
A.C.N.S.(F).
(2).
N.A. let S.L.
D. O.D.(P).
D.O.D.(F).
D.O.D.(H).
D.O.D.(H).
D.N.I.(4).
D.A/S.V.
I.R.(2).

E.P.S. D. T. D. (2). N. I. D. 10 (Payr. Cdr. Wilson).

I.P. (2) W.D. MOST SECRETARY Hd. of M. D.D. I.O.

MOST SECRET August.

MOST SECRET.

IN.

From S.O. Force "H".

Date. 4.8.41.

Recd. 1912.

Naval Cypher "D" by W/T.

Addressed Admiralty. Repeated F.O.C.N.A. V.A. Malta. C. in C., Mediterranean.

IMPORTANT.

46. Operation STYLE. Following amplifies my 1836 1st and 2025 3rd.

(11) D one July 30th. Thick fog delayed sailing H.M.S. NELSON, H.M.S. RENOWN until dawn. Masts and funnels of ships visible above fog may have disclosed direction of departure. By 1015 fog cleared sufficiently for force "H" to ?form up.

(iii) D.2. Force "X" sailed 0200 with 70 officers, 1676 other ranks and 130 tens of stores, baggage.

(iv) At 1630 H.M.S. MAORI was detached from Force "H" for bombardment.

- (v) D 3. Force H having passed west of Balearic Islands reached flying off position 040 degs 45 North 006 degs. 35 East at 0315, and then retired(?westward). Second SwordFish returning at 0624 made emergency landing with bombs on rack which had failed to release. Bombs exploded setting fire SwordFish and causing death 4 officers and 3 ratings. 2 feet hole flying deck repaired by 0715 and remainder of striking force flown on.
- (vi) Shadower reported force at 0940 but low visibility and severe thunder storm afforded good cover for remainder of day.

 Weather unsuitable for oiling Brown RANGER ordered proceed
 - position South of Balearie-Islands where 2 destroyers oiled.

 (vii) D.4. At 0510, when force "X" in position 036 degs.

 21' North 012 degs. 40' East, Navigation Officer H.M.S. HERMIONE

/sighted....

0

-2-

sighted U-boat on the surface broad on port bow - gave port wheel to ram. U-boat started dive but 2 feet of conningtower still visible when U-boat hit boar of the H.M.S. HERMIONE report
?sprayed Tampas platform" H.M.S. I Tampas and hed the found nothing - portion of U-boat wrapped round stem since recovered.

(viii) Force "X" arrived Malta 0900 and proceeded 1640. FARNDALE reported 1730 unable to make 18 knots, ordered return to Malta.

At 2215 R D F detected low flying aircraft which passed over at 1000 feet as if force "X" unobserved.

Returned at 2225 and dropped 1 torpedo ?225 yards distant H.M.S. HERMIONE abreast stern. Aircraft engaged - not hit.

- (ix) Force "H" patrolled South of Balearie Is, while ?destroyers oiled. Shaped cause to east at ?15 00.

 H.M.S. NELSON P. P. P. Column action.
- (x) D.5. At 0027 whilst approaching Kelibia Force
 "X" sighted (corrupt group) vessel cutside 3 mile limit, Proved
 to be small schooner pom poms opened fire without ?warning

 No hits, Forces "H" and "X" Rendezvoused in position ?75 miles

 West N.W. of Galita Island and then proceeded westward.

 Enemy shadower sighted orce at 1010. ?Planes unable to
 intercept owing to ?low cloud and poor visibility which
 persisted until 1100 when weather cleared to maximum
 visibility.
 - 11. Failure of enemy to deal with Forces engaged, attributed to offensive and wireless diversions, false report of eastbound convoy, previous rough handling of surface forces

/by

by Mediterranean Fleet, successful operations of our S/Ms. Enoug in fact appeared to have been completely botched, beggared and bewildered.

1301B/L

lst Lord.
lst S.L.
2nd S.L.
3rd S.L.
3rd S.L.
5th S.L.
V.G.N.S.
A.G.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (H)
N.A. to lst S.L.
D. of P. (2)
D.O.D. (F)
D.O.D. (F)
D.O.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (H)
D.D.I.C.
D.G.O.
D.N.A.D.
D.C.
Hd. of M.
Z.P.S.
N.I.D. 10. Paym. Cdr. Wilson.
I.P. (2)

Confrehelations (Many 1557 B/S)

4.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic Contd.

RENOWN
PASTEUR
ARETHUSA
MANXMAN
MANCHESTER.

Your 0036B/4 and reference 2025/3 from S.O. Force H., As repairs to RENOWN may take upward of 6 days propose to sail PASTEUR with ARETHUSA, MANXMAN and 2 destroyers. Intend to send 15 officers, 167 ratings of MANCHESTER in PASTEUR, retaining full crew for all effective armaments. (F.O.C.N.A., 1420B/4 to Admty.)

PASTEUR.

Your 1927B/4th. Anticipate sailing RENOWN, PASTEUR and four Destroyers on 8/8. (F.O.C.N.A. 1824B/4 to Adty.)

French Shipping. Gibraltar 1255/4 French armed trawler LA TOUONNAISE, AISNE laden full deck cargo lorries, BRESTOIS light, 1 motor boat on deck westbound. (S.O.(I) Gibraltar 1833A/4.)

FRANKFURT
intercepted
by CAVINA.

Your 1306B/3, para. 1, is being dealt with. In particular case of CAVINA it is undesirable in view of CAVINA's 0400Z/4 that ship should call at Ponta Delgada en route for Gibraltar. Request you arrange for CAVINA to call at Ponta Delgada before proceeding to her patrol. (D.O.D.(F) 1925B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.)

ARDEOLA, personnel.

Your 1247/29/7. Party left in vessel named p.m./4. (Consul, Teneriffe 2100/4.)

Operation "Style".

Arrival S.O. Force H. NELSON.
RENOWN, ARK ROYAL, HERMIONE, ARETHUSA,
MANXMAN, COSSACK, MAORI, NESTOR, FAULKNOR,
FURY, FORESIGHT, FORESTER, FOXHOUND, ENCOUNTER,
SIKH, LIGHTNING. 2230B/4.

4.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

WIPUNEN.

217/7

Following from C.C.S.O. Trinidad. Censorship reveals Finnish WIPUNEN cleared New York for Finland arrived Rio de Janeiro?17/6. (Cargo) Locally understood vessel and cargo for sale but owner ordered vessel to proceed to Montevideo by 27/7. T.O.O. 1130Q/3. (C. in C. S.A., 0935N/4, to S.A.D.)
C. in C. S.A. 0935/4. Endeavour to intercept Finnish WIPUNEN expected secretly leaving Rio de Janeiro 4/8 for Montevideo. (R.A.S.A.D., 1504Z/4 to S.A.D.)

W.S.9B. TAMAROA. Your 0338/31/5 part 2 (b) (Defects to troopships) Convoy W.S.9.B. TAMAROA requires drydocking, extensive examination, and repairs to main engines boilers auxiliary machinery and refrigerator. Remainder no defects. (P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1049B/4, to D. of S.T.)

NYHOLM.

S.O.I. Kingston's 1637/3. NYHOLM, Norwegian, is at St. Helena. (S.O.I.) Freetown 1150N/4, to Admty etc.)

BIRMINGHAM.

Sailed 1330 N/4 direct for L 31 or as ordered by you to arrive with not less than 40% fuel. BIRMINGHAM will come under your control on crossing Ol5° S., E.T.A., L.31 P.M./13. (C. in C. S.A. 1151N/4, to R.A.S.A.D.)

A.M.C.'s.

A.M.C.s are no longer to be sailed as Ocean Escort to S.L. Convoys which are provided with through A/S escort. Pending further decision as to their disposal, A.M.C.s so released may be employed as required by C. in C. S.A. (V.C.N.S., 1209B/4 to C. in C. S.A.)

VILLE DE ROUEN. (French.)

DUNEDIN'S 0932/23/7 not to Admiralty. Vichy Ship VILLE DE ROUEN arrived East London 3/8, under armed guard and has been requisitioned by Union Govt., without incident. Ship is being turned over to M. of W.T. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown 1316B/4 to Admty., C. in C. S.A.)

/0.S....

4.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

O.S. and S.L. Convoys, Freetown. Your 1931/26. In view of end-to-end escort now required for S.L. and O.S. Convoys, not proposed to route slower ships from Cape to Freetown except for 2 ships per month which M. of W.T. is considering to meet requirements for stores and provisions from South Africa. Intended, however, that ships from U.K. bound for Cape which require to bunker en route should sail in O.S. Convoys (approximately 5 per convoy) calling at Freetown. Requested you will sail these ships and any West Coast ships available in Convoy on completion of bunkering, dispersing them at your discretion in longitude of Takoradi. No increase in escort forces is possible at present. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1405B/4 to C. in C. S.A.)

WIVERN BOREAS WILD SWAN. Your 2109N/(?2). Intend sailing with BOREAS and WILD SWAN on completion of oiling 1630N. E.T.A. 1700B/9. (WIVERN 1530Z/4 to C. in C. S.A.)

R.D.F. and Raiders. Your 1135/2 last sentence. Two units have been identified in S. Atlantic this year. R.F.P. equipment and classification of results are still in development stage. A.L. M.015700 date 26/10/1940 and my 2029/21/1/41. refer. (D.N.I., 1631B/4 to C. in C. S.A.)

MOSCHA D. KYDONIEFS. Have you any news of Greek MOSCHA.D.KYDONIEFS from Lagos due 28/7? (D.T.D. 1733B/4. to N.C.S.O. Freetown.)

NORDERNEY (German.)

Chief of Naval Staff informs me M.F.A., has given permission NORDERNEY to sail, permission will be issued tomorrow. S.O.(I) Freetown, pass to C. in C. S.A.
(N.A. Rio de Janeira, 2050Z/4 to Admty etc.)

Your 1759/29 (N.T. in W.R.) N.A. Buenos Aires asks me to inform you permission is granted for 24 hours. Extension to 48 subject to commission being satisfied that repairs will require the additional time. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2316Z/4, to R.A.S.A.D.)

4.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

CACHALOT.

Italian official statement 4/8 claims CACHALOT rammed and cut in two by Italian torpedo boat. 91 men of crew rescued and taken prisoner. (The Times, 5/8).

PORPOISE.

Desired to transport a number of 4,000 lbs. bombs to Malta in PROTEUS and PORPOISE. Report number of bombs which can be taken. (V.C.N.S., 0023B/4 to F.O.S.)

Operation "Guillotine". Following is a repetition of my 1145C/3 (N.T. in W.R.). Serial 14 KIPLING, Serial 15 NEPTUNE, ABDIEL, JACKAL. All above leave Alexandria P.M./4 E.T.A. Port Said 0830C/5. F.O.C. 7th C.S. 0346C/4).

Benghazi bombed.

Gambut bombed.

Night 2/3. 13 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi starting fires on Cathedral Mole. Further 5 Wellingtons laid ten mines in Approaches to harbour Cyrene, Bardia 2 Wellingtons bombed Cyrene and Bardia. 4 F.A.A. Albacores bombed enemy aircraft on Gambut Aerodrome causing number of small explosions. (H.Q., R.A.F., ME. 1019/4).

Operation "Guillotine".

Following troops are to be embarked at Famagusta in ABDIEL and Destroyers. Serial 14, 400 for Alexandria, Serial 15,70 for Haifa. (C. in C. Med., 1042C/4 to S and A. in "Guillotine")

Port Said, Raid.

Ref. C.A.F.O. 587/40 Q (a) Port Said 0200C to 0410C/4. Clear, cloudless (b) high level two or three at a time. Number believed to be about 8 type not known. Parachute flares used. Moon in second quarter, moon set 0305C. (c) Apparently (i) only (d) 8 on Port Said town and Port Fouad, probably kilos 500 (e) (i) nil to Naval ships and establishments, nil to merchant ships (ii) nil to naval personnel civilians casualties. nil to naval personnel, civilians casualties believed nearly 50. (N.O.I.C. Port Said, 1221C/4 to Admty).

Syria.

Free French and control and defence of ports. (C. in C. Med., 1240C/4 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

Personnel in unescorted M.V.s.

Following is repetition of my 1910/31 begins. "Your 1744B/16/7. Para two (h). To limitation of service personnel to hundred to be disregarded in the case of ships of more than 18 knots speed in Indian ocean and Australian waters ends", this is unavoidable your 0308B/4. (P.S.T.O. Egypt, 1230/4 to Admty).

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1240C/4 August.

IN

From: C. in C. Mediterranean.

Date: 5,8,41

Recd: 0010

Naval Cypher 1 Time Table by W/T

Addressed Admiralty.

IMPORTANT!

707. Attention is (?invited) to N.O.I.C. Syria's 1423/1 sent on behalf of Free French Authorities. Free French policy is to obtain fullest possible control in all respects in Syria but question of running and defence of ports is naturally one of great importance to us.

(ii) I am already in touch with Minister of State on this subject and I have pointed out to him that it is absolutely necessary for military control of principal ports to remain in our hands. He is in agreement and proposes discussing question with Free French.

(iii) Signal under reference should be of some assistance as it will make clear to Free French that they cannot in fact supply men material or ships necessary to defend Syria ports and they may thus be more prepared to accept our control of military side of ports.

1240C/4

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

1st Lord 1st S.L. V.C.N.S. (F) Sec. N.A. 1st S.L. P.A.S. (S) D.N.I. (4) D.O.D. (F) D.D.O.D. (F) D.D.I.C. Duty Capt

Head of M. (2)
D. of P. (2)
E.P.S.
N.I.D. 10 Pay. Cdr. Wilson
I.P. (2)
W.D.
Admiral Chalmers

4.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Canal Raid.

8 to 9 A/C in 2 waves raided canal area between 2200 C and 0410 C 3-4/8. Many parachute flares and 6 to 8 bombs Port Said town and port of Fouad. Some civilian casualties only. Planes flew very low at Suez. About 12 bombs dropped. A.S.I.S. ESCAUT sunk and DESMOULEA hit both by aerial torpedoes, latter will probably be beached. ALEXANDRE ANDRE reported torpedoed under way 8 miles off Zafarana (**Lafrana) Light details not known. (**L)**ISNORE rendered assistance. One U.X. mine or bomb suspected in Suez Roads and possibly one at Km. 4.5 in canal. Canal and terminal ports open subject to minesweeping. No naval casualties or damage. Layer patrol at Suez for period of 50 minutes failed to contact enemy where 15 balloons were flying. (S.B.N.O. Suez, 1259C/4 to Admty etc).

Malta
Raid.
Tripoli
bombed.
2 M/V's hit.

Night 3/4. 6 raiders. Bombs mainly in sea. Few on land destroyed part of a church and few houses. 4 Blenheims attacked Tripoli harbour p.m. 1 M.V. 8,000 tons direct hit 1 500 lb. bomb, big explosion and much debris thrown high in the air. 1 hit M/V 5,000 tons against quay and left on fire. Near misses on 2 other M.V.s 2 direct hits on block of buildings believed air H.Q. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1600/4).

UNIQUE. UPRIGHT. UNIQUE reports enemy surface patrol of M.A.S. and destroyer(s.) very frequent off Del Armi during operation SUBSTANCE. On 24/7 UNIQUE heard UPRIGHT attack on floating dock 14 miles to eastward at 1237 and closed coast to attack also. At 1455 three destroyers passed westwards out of formation at moderate speed. UNIQUE remained within 5 miles of coast until 1800 but nothing seen of dock or of Eastbound assistance. Consider that the three destroyers were dock escort who finished counter attacking UPRIGHT at 1400 and that dock was sunk.

At 0325/29 a train was blown up on East Sicily Line in 038° 01'.

At 0115/30, 2 charges were placed on railway on South Calabrian Coast in 015° 55', no train passed before dawn and result was not observed.

During afternoon/30 a 4 masted schooner lying stopped 30 miles east of Catania was approached.

3 Breda guns were observed and what appeared to

missed. Second schooner appeared from disengaged side

and searching aircraft but hunt easily avoided. (S.O.S., Malta, 1747B/4 to Capt. S.l.)

be 2 collapsable deck houses. One mark 2 torpedd fired at 600 yards which inexplicably

/TORBAY....

SECRET

MESSAGE

1930/4 August

IN

From . Turkey

DATE: 5.8.41 RECD: 1315

Cypher

Addressed Foreign Office, Repeated Cairo, telegram No. 633, for Commander in Chief Mediterranean, and Commissioner British Red Cross.

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION

From Angora to Foreign Office.

Sir H. Knatchbull-Hugessen

No. 1881

Your telegram No. 1696.

Your telegram No. 1699

German Embassy have informed me, through Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs and Dr. Junod, that they agree to the despatch of Turkish boat with parcels for British prisoners in Greece on the following conditions:

Firstly, boat must go to Salonika. .

Secondly, It must be clearly marked with the Red Crescent on its sides and dack and be lit up at night;

Thirdly, representative of German Red Cross must attend to distribution of parcels, which should preferebly be sent to hospitals;

Fourthly, no guarantee can be given for security of passago either way.

Fifthly, German Embassy must be notified of exact time of departure well in advance, so that route can be fixed;

Sixthly, His Majesty's Government are to agree, in return, to allow German parcels to be sent from Turkey to German prisoners in Palestine, either by land or sea;

Seventhly, documents carried by boat must be vised by German Embawsy.

...../ 2

2. Following are my comments:

point 2. Although this protection should be unnecessary I hope that all concerned will be able to consent. As you are no doubt aware, neutral ships marked with International Red Cross sign travel regularly between Lisbon and Genoa; and United States ships sometimes bear the American Red Cross sign. Dr. Junod is willing to go on the Turkish ships if the Commander in Chief considers this absolutely necessary.

Point 3. Even if Dr. Junod does not go, parcels would be addressed to M.Gredinger, International Red Cross representative in Greece, and he would personally supervise distribution. (grp.undec.? I should (? I may) propose to send individual parcels to as many as possible of the 1700 odd wounded, and collective parcels for remaining 6000 or so.

Point 4. While this seems to be disclaimer of responsibility in case of accident, I take it also to mean that guarantees from British and Italian Naval Authorities are also required. I have asked Minister for Foreign Affairs to obtain Italian guarantee.

Point 6. I presume that we should have no objection to despatch of such parcels.

3. I am awaiting Italian reply, but I carnestly hope that proposal will meanwhile be given speedy and favourable consideration by all concerned. Not only would despatch of ship answer crying need in Greece, but Dr. Juned tells me that it would form most valuable precedent in general.

1930/4
Recd. from Forcign Office 1205/14.

1st Lord 1st S.L. 4th S.L. BM V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(H) A.C.N.S.(F) SEC. NAV.SEC.

N.A. 1st S.L. P.A.S.(S) D.N.I.(4) O.D.(5) Ops (4) M (2) D of P (3)

O.I.C.(2) I.P.(3) W.D.

4.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

TORBAY.

th

ht

Proceed to establish patrol close off Ras-el-Melh (031° 56' 025° 02') keep North of 031° 52'. Be in position by 0500C/6 but do not cross 033° N., until after dark/5th. Important to avoid being sighted. (Capt. S.l., 1918C/4 to TORBAY). My 1915C/4 and my 1918C/4. Fetrol tanker speed 10 knots expected from N.W. to pass through RORQUAL's position daylight/6 to arrive Bardia dusk/6. RORQUAL is to report as soon as possible if target has been sighted. (Capt. S.l. 1923C/4 to TORBAY, RORQUAL). My 1918. Information of own forces. (Capt. S.l. 2137C/4 to TORBAY).

Service Personnel. Your 1000/31/7. War Office decision is that entolled Indian followers are to be included in limit of 100 military personnel for unescorted vessels. (D.O.D. (F), 1935B/4 to P.S.T.O. Egypt).

Enemy Convoys Tripoli. Quick turn round in not more than 4 days of last Tripoli convoy consisting of 5 large M./Vs suggests either troops are arriving or leaving. Our experience of unloading convoys shows that it would be impossible to unload stores in this short time. Convoys are now very heavily escorted in both directions. Above appears significant in view of Cairo patrols report's of Panzer divisions being withdrawn far back.

(V.A. Malta, 2006B/4 to Aden.).

Situation Report No. (Recapitulation of information already dealt with in other signals.) (C. in C. Med., 2356C/4) See Lion Copy.

East Indies.

. MOEMA

Admty 1746/30. Request what policy is to be adopted regarding disguise and secrecy of ANSON whilst at Mombasa and whether any leave restrictins are to be imposed. May Officers and ratings not required for steaming party be utilized on station as required? (C. in C. E.I., 1120Z/4 to Admty).

Iran.

Re report of German inspired revolt. (W.O. 2055/4 to Brit. Mil. Mission No. 30) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET

MESSACE

IN 23560/4/August.

From C. in C. Mediterranean

Date 5.8.41.

Recd. 2059

NAVAL CYPHER :: BY WT. & Cablo.

Addressed Admiralty, Repeat d V.A.M. F.O.H. S.B.N.O. Canal Area.

IMPORTANT.

Suez. DESMOULEA and ESCAUT torpedoed in heavy air raid night 3/4. ESCAUT sank in Attika Bay. DESMOULEA was off West Beacon Suez and is still afloat. Alexandria ANDRE also reported torpedoed in position 25 deg. 8' from (?) Kalafrana Light not yet confirmed and no details available. Air Reid Port Said. See S.B.N.O. Cahal Area 1259/4. CARLISLE has left Alexandria for Suez as A.A. Guard ship.

- 2. Western Desert. Wellingtons attacked Benghazi
 harbour night 2/3 and laid 4 cucumbers. Minesweeper SOTRA
 damaged and C.O. Killed by machine gunning on passage to
 Tobruk 2000/3 now returned to Harbour.
- 3. Operation GUILLO' INE. NEPTUNE, ABDIEL and two destroyers have left Alexa dria for Port Said for further move of troops.

4. Submarine UTMOST sank 4000 ton southbound Merchant ship at ? 0001/28 in 3? 31 North 15 50 East and blew up train at 0100/28 on Southe in shore Gulf Euphemia longitude 16 06 East causing various fires for several hours.

23560/4.

Federico :

DO

MESSAGE

2055/4 August.

IN

Date: 4.8.41.

From: The War Office.

CIPHER

Addressed: British Military Mission No. 30 repeated C. in C. India and C. in C. Middle East.

IMMEDIATE

No. 82229. Personal D.M.I. for Mason Macfarlane.

Your 263 of 2/8

Consider reports of rebellion of coup d'etat in Iran probably Russian propaganda with object of stampeding us into entering Southern Iran so that Russians may realise ambition to enter Northern Iran.

Probable that German object in Iran is now to convince Shah that we and Russians aim at his overthrow. They hope thus to gain time to allow German aid to become available after their hoped for collapse of Russia.

The most Germans can do in the near future is sabotage, conditions for which would be favourable under cover tribal trouble or in disorganisation period which would probably follow Allied entry into Iran without Shah's consent.

To sum up a German sponsored rebellion or coup d'etat. is most unlikely without direct German military aid being possible.

Unlikely Germans would have stopped Hentig going to
Kabul had they planned early coup d'etat in Iran as Hentig would
be very man to make the most of repercussions in Afghanistan.

2055/4

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

Recd. by hand from War Office 0412/5

ist Lord ist S.L. V.C.N.S. (H) A.C.N.S. (F) N.A. ist S.L.

IC

D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of P. (2)
Duty Capt.
E.P.S.

Head of M. D.D.O.D. (H)
D.O.D. (H)
I.P. (2)
W.D.
N.I.D. 10 (Pay. Cdr. Wilson)

4.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

DUPLEIX (French).

From Saigon bound for France has been intercepted by Dutch and taken into Tanjong Priok. (C. in C. China, 0233Z/4 to Admty C.S. Singapore, 0724Z/4 to Admty., Batavia 0355Z/4 to D. of S.T.)

BURGENLAND.
HAVENSTEIN.
URSULA
RICKMERS.

Kobe 1/8 has entered Mitsubishi Dock.
Dairen departure 31/7 (URSULA RICKMERS returned to anchorage). Believed both ships will be on the Japan Dairen run. (Capt. 0.S. Singapore, 0727Z/4 to Admty etc).

SI KIANG. COMPIEGNE. (French) Departure 2/8. SI KIANG Haiphong; 4/8 COMPIEGNE, Madagascar. (Saigon 1006Z/4 to M. of W.T.)

America & West Indies.

Grand Banks.
Patrol.

My 1758Z/29. CHILLIWACK returned from Grand Banks Patrol with nothing to report. (C.C.N.F. 0259Z/4).

NORTHUMBERLAND.Y our 2142/28/7. Request reasons why accommodation was considered unsatisfactory. (D.S.T., 0311B/4 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

FIDRA (Finnish).

My 1246R/29/7. Ship sailed 31/7 for Philadelphia. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 0858R/4 to Admty etc).

R.C.N.

Your 1314/2. No change in the employment of the R.C.N. is contemplated. (A.C.N.S. (H) 1051B/4 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Escort Groups. My 1234/2/30. And Group 24 with O.N.5. Iceland. (C.C.N.F., 1226Z/4 to A.C.I.C.)

A/S Equipment RICHMOND.

Your 1415Z/23 and 1307Z/2 not to Admiralty. Arrangements for taking ship cannot be made unless Admiralty approves allocation to U.S.A. Ship can be accepted if approved by Admiralty. (B.A.R.M. Washington, 1240R/4 to C.C.N.F.)

S/Ms Repaired in U.S.A. TRUANT. To enable S/Ms to prepare themselves for active service and complete with special stores not available in U.S.A. on completion of refits, suggest they should be routed to FORTH for a short working up period. TRUANT is due to complete on 16/8. If TRUANT is not to proceed to St. Johns N.F. request instructions with regard to her destination. (B.A.R.M., 1242R/4 to Admty).

MOST SICRET

MESSAGE

2030/4th August.

Date 4.8.41

From: War Office.

. Cipher.

To:- C in C Middlo East
Ropeated C in C Far East, Flease inform
Governor Straits Sottlements and
C in C China.

82211 Cipher (M. 0.10) 4/8

Following from Petroleum Department for Dr. G. M. Lees.

It has been decided that your advice and help is required in connection with oil denial scheme in the Miri and Seria oilfields in Sarawak and Brunei. Masters should accompany you.

A scheme already exists which was intended to deny the use of oil from these fields for a limited period and full particulars of this are available on the spot. H.M.G. have now decided that scheme of a more thorough character is required which would not only destroy refining and export facilities but would so far as is practicable render difficult the use of oilfields for production of crude except by extensive new drilling. Unless plans which would preserve the possibilities of future development of the fields can be prepared and put into effect within period which is considered to be available decision recently reached requires the adoption of any practicable measures without regard to the future of the oilfields

In both fields production is obtained from oilsands at various depths, the shallower sands producing a heavy crude and the deeper zones a lighter crude.

Following is short description of position in the two fields. Miri, the older field, has about 400 producing wells in an area about 5 miles long and up to a mile wide. The wells are about 300 feet apart and produce from various levels, in general between 1000 and 2200 feet, There are

...../no flowing

100 0 14 -

no flowing wells and the oil is raised by pumping, the ward being grouped and operated from central pumping powers.

Present output is about 385 tons per day. Production has declined for many years and reserves are estimated to be about one million tons. Seria, a compartively young field, had in May about 72 wells producing and 56 potential producer closed-in to restrict production. There are 15 high pressure gas wells yielding about 13 million cubic feet per day. About 19 wells have been abandoned or otherwise suspended. The productive area is about 7 miles long by a mile wide and wells are about 600 feet apart. There are three main productive zones in vertical succession:—

800 - 1,700 ft, giving wells of 40 tons per day
1,800 - 2,200 ft, " " 100 " " "

5,200 - 5,500 foot, " " " 200 " " "

The potential production is about 2,500 tens per day of heavy crude and 3,400 tens per day of light, i.e. over 2 million tens per year, but production has been severely restricted in 1940, when about 900,000 tens was produced, and at the present time the rate has been further reduced to less than 600,000 tens per annum. The new underground reserves are estimated to be of the order of 20 million tens, so they constitute a valuable asset to the Empire.

If time does not admit of satisfactory plugging of wells these fields could probably be seriously damaged by cither firing or flooding or a combination of both. You are therefore requested to examine the position in relation to these methods and advise the local authorities on measures to be adopted.

If plugging of all or all important producing wells i feasible plans to give effect to this should be prepared and if C in C Far East. considers it desirable the commencement of the work should be undertaken. Admiralty are however desirous of being able to use supplies from Lutong as long as possible.

Holding of largest possible stocks of diesel and fuel oil may meet this point and these could be destroyed at appropriate stage.

It is understood that all wells have steel tubing (2 in. to 3 in. diameter) inside the casing and that it would be practicable to fill the casing with coment. It is suggested by the Companies' experts on this side that with proper organisation and some temporary holp by engineers from other fields, the whole job could be completed in a month. Additional coment would almost certainly be needed and could be obtained from Singapore. These estimates need checking locally. It appears desirable that most productive wells in Seria field should be plugged first.

Notherlands East Indies Government have plans for dealing with their oilfields, particulars of which are understood to be available to C in C Far East. Godber suggests however that as their Dutch associates have unequalled experience of technical aspects, it would be of great advantage if you could arrange with authorities in Singapore to fly you to Miri, pick up Miri Manager or his delegate and proceed by air to Balak Papan. After examining Dutch scheme in detail you could then return to Miri. We feel here that it would be very useful from our point of view also for our own experts to have examined Dutch scheme on the spot.

Denial scheme should of course include effective disposal or destruction of all surface equipment on same lines as in Traq so that even if enemy were able to drill now wells there would be no facilities for transport or export. An early step should be the removal of all drilling and production equipment not required in carrying out preparatory action necessary to make denial scheme effective.

2030/4.
Received from War Office.

lst Lord. lst S.L. 4th S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(T)(2) A.C.N.S.(F)

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N.A.1st S.L. D.O.D.(F) D.D.O.D.(F) Duty Captain D. of P.(2)

D. N. I. (4)
Head of M.
D. D. I. C.
E. P. S.
I. P. (2)
W. D.

MESSAGE

2130/4th August

From: The War Office

Date 4.8,41 Recd.

Cipher. Addressed: C, in C. Far East, repeated G.O.C. Malaya

82233 Cypher (M. O. 10) 1/8

Question of denial of phosphate supplies to enemy from Chritmas Island, Straits Settlements in event of war with Japan is under consideration. Oversea Defence Committee recently discussed plans for Ocean Island and Nauru drawn up by Commonwealth Naval Board in consultation with British Phosphate Commission comprising (a) progressive evacuation of population (b) progressive stages of immobilisation and demolition (c) finally destruction of plant in emergency. View of O.D.C. was that no repeat no risk should be accepted of allowing Japanese to derive from these sources phosphate supplies of which they are known to be short and complete dostruction of plant, loading facilities, etc. must be faced if necessary.

Please discuss with C in C China and Governor Straits Settlements and tolegraph your views as to necessity for similar plans in Christmas Island.

2130/4.
Received from War Office.

1st Lord 1st S. L. V. C. N. S. A.C.N.S.(F) A.C.N.S.(T)(2) SHC. N.A. 1st S.L. D.O.D.(F) D.D.O.D. (F) D.N.I.(4) D of P (2) Duty Capt. E.P.S. Hd of M (8) I.P.(2) W.D.

N.I.D. 10 Payr. Cdr. Wilson P. S. (S) Admiral Palliser

RESOLUTION.

4.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

MURENA.

My 1523Z/3. MURENA and ROZENBURG in collision,
ROZENBURG sunk, MURENA some damage, no
casualties. (C.O.A.C. Halifax 1617Z/4.)

T.C.12 B. Proposed ships and date. (D.S.T. 1717B/4 to C. in C.A.W.I.) See Lion Copy.

WARSPITE.

Honolulu departure 1900Z/4. Anticipate entering
A. and W.I. Station at 1200Z/6. E.T.A. Bremerton
2200Z/11 anchoring previous night off Esquimalt.
Local officials informed. (WARSPITE 1905Z/4.)

CIRCASSIA.

In view of Adty. 1209B/4 (being passed to R.A.3.B.S.) propose CIRCASSIA or another A.M.C. be allocated to A. and W.I. Station, which is short of cruisers, instead of proceeding to South Atlantic as at present arranged.

(C. in C.A.W.I. 1922B/4 to Adty.)

Your 2341/14 and 0908/30. Not intended to send ratings from U.K. RESOLUTION should be completed to war complement by using passengers in WARSPITE and by drawing on crews of LIVERPOOL and DIDO. Any deficiency will be supplied by WARSPITE. Your 0920R/30. Officers taking passage in WARSPITE should meet requirements of RESOLUTION. (D.P.S. 2030B/4 to B.A.R.M.)

Australia.

AORANGI.

Ref. N.Z.N.B's 1705/21/7, it is intended to use AORANGI on the U.K./Middle East Service.

Request your views. (D.S.T.0310B/4 to A.C.N.B.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET M E S S A G E OUT 1717B/4/August

To:- C. in C. America and West Indies. Date 4.8.41.

Repeated N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.

C. in C. South Atlantic.

N.O.I.C. Trinidad.

P.S.T.O. Simonstown.

NAVAL CYPHER C.

From Director of Sea Transport.

IMPORTANT.
Reference P.S.T.O. Simonstown's 424D/34/7 not to all addressees. It is proposed to use EMPRESS OF RUSSIA. ORBITA and also EMPRESS OF ASIA in T 0 12 B. ...

- 2. P.S.T.O. Simonstown should report anticipated date EMPRESS OF ASIA is due Trinidad and amount of accommodation available. She should then proceed Hampton Roads for bunkers and then to Halifax, Anticipated date due Halifax should also be reported.
- EMPRESS OF RUSSIA is proceeding St. Thomas before Hampton Roads. N.C.S.O. Capetown's 1151/31/7 not to all addressees refers. Request she be instructed to proceed Hallfax from Hampton Roads.
- EMPRESS OF RUSSIA and IMPRESS OF ASIA should lift only minimum quantity of bunkers necessary for run to Hampton Roads at St. Thomas and Trinidad respectively.
- 5. ORBITA should proceed direct to Halifax from Trinidad.
- 6. P.S.T.O. Simonstown should report whether any cargo space will be available in any of these ships for loading from Halifax for U.K.
- After allowing for 300 Forestry Unit embarking in ORBITA at Trinidad accommodation available in T C 12 B will be 5850 in ORBITA EMPRESS OF RUSSIA, DOMINION MONARCH and STRATHEDEN plus whatever accommodation is available in Gontd/....

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H-111 1 1111

EMPRESS OF ASIA. If N.S.H.Q. Ottawa confirm that the urgency for providing accommodation for as many personnel as possible in this convoy is great there is no objection to a total of 8000 being provided for by discharge of whatever quantity of cargo is necessary from the troopdecks of EMPRESS OF RUSSIA and EMPRESS OF ASIA.

P.S.T.O. Simonstown should give any guidance possible in advance to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa on this point.

- 8. Proposed sailing date of T C 12 B from Halifax now 25.8.
- 9° Speed of ORBITA is only 14 knots. To obviate slowing down convoy to this speed it may be decided that ORBITA be included in first possible HX convoy.

74-

1717B/4.

Director of Sea Transport.

0

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
2nd S.L.
2nd S.L.
4th S.L.
V.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.D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.N.I. (4)
D. VS.W.
I.P. (2)
W.D.
Duty Capt.
Hd. of M.
D.D. I. (H)
D.D. I. (H)
D.D. I. (H)
D.D. I. (H)
D. I. (

GJ.

E.P.S. D.T.D. (2) N.I.D. 10 Paym. Cdr. Wilson D. of S.T.

4.8.1941. Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

O.G.69. My 1428B/30. If you now have necessary information, grateful to know if you consider there are any survivors of O.G. 69 whom it might still be possible to rescue. (C. in C.W.A.1931B/4 to F.O.C.N.A.

BOTWEY. Entire crew has been landed at Greenock. (D.S.699, 4/8.)

HOLMSIDE. Time and position now given as 1040/19/7, (torpedoed 19° N., 21° 30' W., 245° Cape Blanco 270'. (D.S. 699, 4/8.)

Submarines Reported.

2315/3. D/F bearing at 2315/3 G.M.T. Italian U-boat may be within 037° N. 038° N. 014° W. 015° W. (F.O.C.N.A. 0415B/4 to N.A. Stn.)

Estimated U.B. dispositions. (D.D.I.C.1422B/4.)

S.L.81.

Indications that several U/B's and an enemy A/C have been near Convoy S.L.81 and are probably still shadowing. Last 3 enemy signals were at 1256Z, 1257Z and 1311Z. (D.D.I.C. 1542B/4 to CAPE SABLE. WANDERER, CAMPBELTOWN, ST. ALBANS, HYDRANGEA, MALLOW, WALLFLOWER.)
D/F bearings at 1747Z/4 indicate U-boats still in the vicinity of Convoy S.L.81. (D.D.I.C. 2359B/4.)

Following has been read. Am investigating possible conning tower in 59.44 N., 19.18 W. (A/C 15 Sqdn. 1555/4.)

One enemy submarine on the surface bearing 270° 8 miles course 280°. Position 31.21 N., 24.19 W. based on fix 1300, speed 13 knots. (N.G.C.S. Block 1, 2040Z/4, Halifax N.S. 2040/4.) My 2040, submarine dived. (Block Call, 2050Z/4 via. Gib. W/T.)

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

Owing to bad weather all operations last night by Bomber Command were cancelled.

It is reported that Blenheims to-day attacked and twice hit a merchant ship, apparently the ex-Danish VIBORG in convoy off Hook of Holland. Three reporting vessels are reported to have been hit by Blenheims 57 miles north of Borkum. Several other attacks were carried out on shipping between the Hook and Heligoland Bight.

Enemy Air Operations.

Fishing vessels in Transgisvaag Fiord (Faeroes) were unsuccessfully attacked this afternoon by a single A/C.

Mining.

An acoustic mine exploded, apparently harmlessly, under the stern of M.V. DOMINENCE in 51° 58' 45" N. 1° 50' 10" E.

Mediterranean.

Libya and Western Desert. C. in C. Med. to-day sent a message to the Admiralty with regard to the maintenance of supplies to Tobruk.

Benghazi, Bardia and Derna were bombed last night.

Canal Area. There was an air raid on the Suez Zone and Delta, chiefly directed against Ismailia in the early hours of this morning. No naval damage, but one casualty was caused and civilian casualties are believed to number 270. Port Said was closed early this morning but was reopened at 1024. Some delay was caused to Operation Guillotine. Later, two mines exploded near Khassab 99, damaging the small tug PHOENIX.

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Syria.

Convoy Z, French ships for repatriation of Vichy French has arrived at Beirut.

U-Boat Campaign.

Attack
on S.L.81.
6 ships
sunk
U-boat
sunk.

Convoy S.L. 81, which was shadowed yesterday was attacked last night and early this morning in approx. 55° N. 16° W. to 55½ N. 15° 40' W. 5 ships are reported to have been torpedoed, viz. CAPE RODNEY, HARLINGEN, SWIFTPOOL, BELGRAVIAN, KUMASIAN. In addition, TUNISIA was sunk by aircraft yesterday.

Special air cover was provided for the convoy to-day, and aircraft made two attacks on U-boats in the neighbourhood of the convoy. During the second of these attacks two direct hits with 500 lb. A/S bombs are claimed on the U-boat.

ZINNIA, one of the escort, attacked with depth charges a U-boat which was attacking the convoy, at 0200B today in 52° 54' N. 15° 53' W and reports that an unknown merchant ship (VOLTURNO) in the convoy also secured a hit on the conning tower. ZINNIA considers the U-boat to have been destroyed

Not Dente fred

SIDNEY was reported torpedoed in the early hours of this morning in 31° N. 26° W.

A U-boat was reported in approx. 70° N. 35° E. (90 miles north of Murmansk) today.

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Swedish My 1101/4. Positions of westbound vessels at 0001/5 as follows. (N.A. Stockholm 1159/5).

Western Your 1226B/11/7. As amended in your 1711B/25/7 approved. (Head of M. 2259B/5 to C. in C. W.A).

Co-operation with U.S.A.

United States Fighter Aircraft arriving shortly in Iceland will probably be unable to make any recognition signals. These aircraft are single engine Tomahawks similar in general appearance to Hurricanes. (C. in C. W.A. 0950B/5 to W.A)

Delayed at least 24 hours by Fog. (D.D.I.C. 0305B/5).

Co-operation with Russia.

British S.N.O. Murmansk 14360/5. See Operations Volume.

Your 2244C/3, para. 3. Request you will report present stocks of fuel and amount and date of arrival of further supplies. (A.C.N.S. H. 2256B/5 to S.B.N.O. Polyarno).

Movements.

Delayed at least twenty-four hours by fog. (D.D.I.C. 0505B/5 to A.C.I.C).

Arrived Scapa. (A.C.O.S. 0836B/5).

Part company at East Spile and proceed to Harwich. (C. in C. Nore 0927B/5 to QUORN).

rwich.(G. in C. Nore 0927B/5 t

HOME

Task Force 16.

Murmansk.

 $\xrightarrow{\text{Force}} 16.$

Task

FURIOUS.
SUFFOLK.
ECHO.
ECLIPSE.

QUORN . (essetting

/ADVENTURE....

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements-Contd.

ADVENTURE. SHROPSHIRE.

ADVENTURE sailed from Archangel at 1000C/4, speed of advance 14 knots.

(ii) ADVENTURE (? is), if practicable, to keep North of 75° N. until West of 015° E. and is then to pass through 072° N. 001° E., 069° N. 005° W. Thence to Scapa.

(iii) SHROPSHIRE is to proceed with all convenient despatch to meet and cover return passage of ADVENTURE.

(iv) There are five German destroyers in Northern Norway. (C. in C. H.F. 1032B/5).

Expected to pass through 069° N. 005° W. at 0001Z/7 at speed of advance of 20 knots. Thence through 072° N. 001° E., thence towards 075° N. 015° E.

(ii) My 1505Z/5 refers.

(SHROPSHIRE 1510Z/5 to ADVENTURE).

Larne and Stranraer Ferry. Your 1215/15/7. Military personnel ships will cross between Larne and Stranraer by day.

2. Ship will leave Stranraer at 0850 daily except Mondays and Larne at 1500 daily except Saturdays.

5. This new arrangement will start from Larne on 17/8 and from Stranraer of 19/8.

4. Request air protection be arranged accordingly. (D.O.D.H. 1756B/5).

PORPOISE.

Your 1855B/4 and 1854B/4.

Air Ministry require only 12 of these bombs.

Would you prefer all to go in PORPOISE.

2. It is not intended to ship mines in PORPOISE but to use available space for essential stores to Malta.

5. D.N.C. is taking action to manufacture special containers. (Controller 2150B/5 to F.O.S).

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation
F.B.
DAGNY I.
GARLAND.

Your 2232B/4. DAGNY I has 40 male volunteers. (S.O. Force A 1029B/5).
Return to Greenock after you have complied with C. in C. H.F. 2232B/4. (C. in C. W.A. 1237B/5 to GARLAND).

Exercise

D.C.O. C5/50 of 51/7. IRIS will not take part in exercise. PRINCE CHARLES will be the only Belgion taking part. (D.T.S.D. 1326B/5 to V.A. C.T.C).

Two of the three vessels of the 1st M.S. F. if available at Scapa should co-operate in Exercise from about 11 to 16/8. (A.C.N.S. H. 1923B/5).

S/M. 0.14. Patrol. (a) Request Netherlands S/M 0.14 may be sailed for Lerwick as convenient after relief by P.51. (b) Capt. (S) 9 is to arrange 0.14 to be sailed for a patrol in zone C.5 on 15/8 in accordance with F.S.B. Latest intelligence will reach Capt. (S) 9 on 6/8 and when circumstances permit patrol is to be carried out in vicinity of two positions mentioned therein. These positions are not to be taken to sea in Submarine in writing. C.O. of 0.14 is to have complete freedom to withdraw from these positions at his discretion. (F.O.S. 1656B/5 to A.C.O.S).

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

OTAB and BENT in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1134/5).
THOSE TROOF in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1454/5).
STAND in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2042/5).

One Trawler attacked. During day 4/8 A/C attacked a Trawler type vessel 40 miles north of Schiemonnikoog. One bomb was seen to graze the stern and burst, another was a near miss, and the vessel was machine gunned.

On night 4/5 all operations were cancelled owing to weather.

(H.Q.B.C. 1400/5).

Portsmouth
Area.
Fighter
A/C
arrangements.

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity-Contd.

Escorts
for
Force R.B.

Signal this H.Q. and above addressees details of present and intended escorts to force RB. (15 Group 1700 G.M.T./5 to R.A.F. Iceland, repeated H.Q.C.C., Adty., C. in C. H.F.)

Enemy Air Activity.

NORLAND.

(A.P. Trawler) Reports at 2250/4 bombing attack by an A/C which crashed in flames near 54B Buoy. No report of damage or casualties. (C. in C. Nore 0655B/5).

Convoy S.L. 81. 5 F.W. aircraft in vicinity of S.L. 81. (D.D.I.C. 1341B/5 to WANDERER, etc.)

TIGRIS sighted.

TIGRIS reports being sighted by Heinkel aircraft in 65° 45' N. 02° 02' W. at 0655 29/7. H.S. routine read submerged satisfactorily throughout passage. (B.S.N.O. Polyarno 1452C/5 to F.O.S.)

Fishing Vessels attacked.

Single enemy twin engine monoplane carrying bombs and machine guns attacked fishing vessels in Transgisvaag Fiord at 1410. No casualties or damage. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1616/5).

Enemy Patrols.

Dornier Patrols encountered in 075° N. 014° E. today. (S.O. Force A 1823B/5 to F.O.S).

CAROLINA
THORDEN.
(Bombed 51/5)

A.M. 2252B/2. Weather permitting tow should be ready to proceed on arrival of escort. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 2215B/5).

Mining.

ACHATES. (Mined 25/7)

Constructor Commander confirms N.O.I.C. Iceland's 1224Z/4. Favourable weather is essential for towing. (S.N.O. Seidis Fiord 1550A/5).

Off Harwich on 4/8.

Following received from F.O.I.C. Yarmouth.

Motor Vessel DOMINENCE reports acoustic mine exploded under her stern in 51° 58' 45" N. 1° 50' 10" E. Not making any water as far as can be ascertained. 1845B/4/8. (C. in C. Nore 2225B/5)

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

Brest.

At 1245/5 photographs show SCHARNHORST, GNEISENAU, and PRINZ EUGEN in dry dock. (D.D.I.C. 1537B/5).

oil fuel, destroyers, S/M's in northern waters.

Following from Soviet Authorities here.

1. At Tromso 2900 tons of oil fuel 2700 tons of petrol 3000 tons of Diesel fuel. Number of oil tanks situated in entrance to Ramfiord in approx.

69° N. 31° 8' E. Tanker ROGH. with 1200 tons of fuel also present.

2. At Kirkenesa 21/7 present KARL GALSTER, HANS LODY, RICHARD BEITZEN, HERMANN SCHOEMANN, FRIEDRICH ECKOLDT transport, HAMDOLTD. At Horten S/M's nos. 443 and 570. At Bergen S/M s nos. 125 and 137. (British S.N.O. Murmansk 2010C/5).

+ not identified

Miscellaneous.

Belfast.

As from 10/8 the Port of Belfast from the Pile Lt. will be closed between 2200 and 0500. (F.O.I.C. Belfast 1700/5).

Casualties and Defects.

Hulk adrift. Tug MARAUDER is standing by hulk adrift in 238° 8 miles from Mull of Kintyre at 2001B/5. (C. in C. W.A. 2240B/5).

Shipping and Convoys.

H.G. 69. O.G. 70. If JONQUIL COREOPSIS, SPIREA, STELLA CARINA are still with H.G. 69 suggest they be ordered transfer to O.G. 70 and return to Gibraltar with that convoy. (C. in C. W.A. 1122/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

W.S.11A cancelled.

Cancel my 0521/50. Convoy W.S.ll.A. has been cancelled. Alternative arrangements for C.2. C.5 and C.5. have already been notified. Further signal will follow regarding C.1 and C.4. (D. of S.T. 1200B/5 to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland).

0.G.71.

Owing to Corvettes being used to escort S.L. 81 and now being engaged in hunting and picking up survivors, there will be no through escort for 0.G. 71 until 15/8. Propose to sail 0.G. 71 on 15/8 and that H.G. 72 be cancelled. Ships sailing in H.G. 75 being escorted by the 2 U.K. escort Groups of 0.G. 71 and 0.G. 72. (C. in C. W.A. 1255B/5 to Admty.) Concur (D.T.D. 0121B/7).

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys-Contd.

W.N. 62. 12 hours late. (BLACKFLY 1420B/5).

Blue stern lights.

Commodores of Convoys are to be informed that on and after 15/8 ships sailing from U.K. ports will be equipped with the new electric blue stern lights. These are intended to facilitate station-keeping on dark nights without disclosing the position of the convoy. (D.T.D. 1949B/5 to A.I.G. 26).

Capture of
Merchant
Ships
through
failure to
adopt
sufficient
counter
measures.

Pass to N.C.S.O's. A.M. 1545B/20/6. Cancel Example (3). (A.C.N.S.(T) 2302B/5 to A.I.G. 26, 19)

W.S.8.C.

Following destroyers to be sailed as escort for W.S.8C. BULLDOG, INTREPID, ECHO, CHARLESTOWN and CASTLETON from Clyde; WHITEHALL, WINCHELSEA and WITCH join from Londonderry. On completion of escort duties BULLDOG, WHITEHALL, WINCHELSEA and WITCH are to return to their base. (C. in C. W.A. 2314B/5 to N.O.I.C.'s Greenock, Londonderry).

SECRET.

MESS.GE.

1580B/5th August

To. C. in C. Home Fleet. 182. Date. 5. 8. 41.

N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. 249.

New Zealand Naval Board. 407.

Naval Attache, Washington.

F.O.C. North Atlantic. 31.

C. in C. South Atlantic. 91.

N.O.I.C. Simonstown. 801.

R.A. South America Division. 283.

C. in C. America & West Indies. 594.

Australian Commonwealth Naval Board. 584.

C. in C. China. 527.

C. in C. East Indies. 455.

NAVAL CODE (J).

From. Admiralty.

IMPORTANT.

North Atlantic. My 1658B/29 July CANADIAN STAR has arrived.

CHAUCER reported SSS and being gunned on 29th July in 16 degrees 46! N. 38 degrees 01! W. Presence of a U-Boat in this position at the time considered unlikely and it is possible attack was carried out by surface raider, possibly by Raider C.

South Atlantic. My 1616B/lst August. Raider who attacked TOTTENHAM possibly still in South Atlantic.

Indian Ocean. D/F indications on 31st July and 1st August of a unit in Southern Indian Ocean probably Kerguelen - Crozet Island area.

1620B/5.

D.D.I.C. (Green Line 8.)

Approved A.C.N.S. (H).

Ist Lord.
lst S.L.
4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
Nav. Sec.
N.A. lst S.L.
Capt.Pim, Admiralty Hee.
Ops. (4)
O.D. (5)
D.N.I. (4)

D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (M)
D.T.D. (C)
O.I.C. (4)
D. of P. (3)
Cdr. Holbrook.
D.A/S.W.
I.P. (3)
W.D.
D.P.D.
D.S.D. (2)
M. (2)

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Raider Situation.

A.C.N.S.(H) 1620B/5 See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic.

O.21 French tanker. Position 0001A/5 038° 10' N. 001° 36' E. E.T.A. 0737A/6. Sighted French tanker LANGANGER (ex Norwegian) 1400A/4 038° 16' N. 004° 22' E. course 340° speed 7 knots empty. (0.21 0001A/5 to F.O.C.N.A).

French shipping.

Passed 4/8. Westbound AISNE full BRESTOIS in ballast. (F.O.C.N.A. 0915B/5).

BEVERLEY.

Left Ponta Delgada 2245/5 to rejoin H.G. 69. (F.O.C.N.A. 1016B/5 to C. in C. W.A. BIDEFORD).

Watering O.B.V's.

It is under consideration to send O.B.V's during the course of the next 3 months to Ponta Delgada, Madeira or the Canaries to complete with water.

2. Not more than 4 ships will be involved. Each ship would require 700 to 800 tons of water.

5. Request information whether sufficient supplies of water are likely to be available. (D.O.D. (F) 1209B/5 to N.C.S.O.'s Ponta Delgada, Madeira, Las Palmas).

PARTHIAN.

Instructions for proceeding to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1508B/5).

Operation Style:

Their Lordships congratulate you on the planning and execution of your diversion which has enabled your operations to be concluded in so dashing a style. (V.C.N.S. 1557B/5 to F.O. Force H).

Your 1159B/4th. Position given for 1200/10 does not correspond with that given in C. in C., W.A. 2145B/4. Request confirmation. (F.O.C.N.A. 1602B/5 to Adty.)

/A/C.....

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

A/C force landed in Morocco.

Spanish Ministry of Marine tell me unofficially British aircraft made forced landing near Laraiche yesterday. When native troops approached aircraft another aircraft machine gunned them landed and took off crew of first machine. No one hurt but there will be protest. (N.A. Madrid 1745/5).

Teneriffe.

My 1110/31 and your 1915B/29. Details of defences. (Teneriffe 2015/5 to Admty.)

ARDEOLA. VIMY. Your 1540, R.5 S.S. ARDEOLA not met. My position is 027° 18' N. 015° 30' W. since noon. Proceeding Gibraltar E.T.A. 1400A/8 unless ARDEOLA met en route. (VIMY 2200B/5 to F.O.C.N.A).

South Atlantic.

NORDERNEY. (German).

Quoting N.A. Rio de Janeiro's 2050Z/4 re permission to NORDERNEY to sail. (C. in C. S.A., 0221N/5 to S.A. Stn.)

WIPUNEN Finnish. Your 0955N/4. Rio de Janeiro reports unlikely to sail in near future as local authorities are intervening. Oil and petrol on deck were destined for Petsamo to refuel trucks employed there for transportation of cargo. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 0216Z/5 to C. in C. S.A).

CATHAY.

Admty 1209/4/8. CATHAY arranged to sail today 5/8 with S.L. 85, has 90 passengers on board, is due for boiler cleaning on arrival, opportunity for making good outstanding defects. Intend unless other instructions issued, she shall sail with S.L. 85 and have defects made good as arranged. Propose ship be taken up river and have any outstanding equipment fitted, then return to Freetown. (C. in C. S.A., 1155N/5 to Admty.)

MOSCHA D.

KYDONIEFS.

Your 1755B/4. Greek MOSCHA D. KYDONIEFS' arrived 29/7. (N.C.S.O. Freetown 1216N/5 to Adty.)

BROOMDALE.

Be at F. O by daylight/8. (R.A.S.A.D. 1434Z/5 to BROOMDALE).

/BIRMINGHAM.....

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic .- contd.

On crossing lat. 015° south proceed to arrive anchorage F.O. (C.S.A.I. 14) at daylight/14 where R.A.S.A.D. will transfer from NEWCASTLE to you. You will fuel from Oiler BROOMDALE on arrival. (R.A.S.A.D. 1437Z/5 to BIRMINGHAM).

VERVAIN. My 1545Z/4 not to C. in C. S.A. VERVAIN under her own power since 2100/4th. One boiler only. My position 2200/5 018° 50' N. 020° 55' W. course 171° speed 10½ knots. (CLOVER 2130Z/5 to C. in C. S.A).

| ADVANCE | Santos reports, requests to proceed to Buenos |
|----------|--|
| Finnish. | Ayres on 9/8 with cargo of Bananas. Also to |
| | take cargo of Cement from Buenos Ayres to Bahia. |
| | (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2151Z/5 to R.A.S.A.D). |

| TOKAI MARU. | | | | | Yokohama due |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|--|--------------|
| | 1/9. (S.O.) | I. Monter | video, 2231 | $\mathbb{Z}/5$ to \mathbb{S}_{\bullet} | .O.I. |
| | Kingston). | | | | |

Mediterranean.

| Port Said. | Port Said closed. (N.O.I.C. Alexandria, 0428C/5 to NEPTUNE, CARLISLE) |
|------------|---|
| | R.A. Alexandria 0509C/5 to HOBART) |
| | Cancelled (R.A. Alexandria, 10220/5, N.O.I.C. |
| | Alexandria, 1024/5). |

CACHALOT overdue.

Regret CACHALOT is now overdue 28 hours.

CACHALOT had not replied to my 1155C/4, Broadcast six times by Malta W/T Station between 2240C/4 and 0357C/5 and three times by Rugby W/T Station between 1407C/4 and 0232C/5. Italian broadcast at 0800/5 claimed that CACHALOT had been rammed and sunk by E-boat and that 91 prisoners were taken. It is believed there were 71 on board including passengers. (Capt. S.1, 0943C/5 to C. in C. Med.).

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Air Operations.

Night 4/5 Aug. about 20 enemy aircraft operated over Suez Canal Zone and Delta. Some bombs fell in Ismalia village. No serious damage reported. Night 3/4 Aug. 8 Wellingtons bombed Derna Port destroying 2 buildings near base of Mole and starting fires. 1 A.A. Battery silenced. 1 Wellington attacked shipping off coast of Cyrenaica. 2 ships each 5,000 tons believed hit 15 miles west of Apollonia. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1009/5).

TALISMAN.

Reports 4 NAVIGATORI class sighted steering 290° at 20 knots half mile south of (?Marittimo) at dawn/5. No defects but minor adjustments required Intend sailing TALISMAN p.m./8 direct for Alexandria as she has on board 17 tons of gear and 8 spare parts and is therefore not efficient for offensive action. (S.O. S/M's Malta 1151B/5, 1751B/5 to Capt. (S) 1).

Air raid on Port Said. Between 0230C and 0500C/5. No Naval damage. (N.O.I.C. Port Said 1230C/5).

Supplies for Tobruk.

C. in C. Med. 1245/5. See Mediterranean Volume.

Enemy report.

Enemy course 150° speed 8 knots. (Part 2 H/F Duty D. 1250/5 to 19 Group H.Q).

Air raid on Canal.

Estimate 5 to 6 Ju. 88 raided Ismailia town from 0255 C to 0450 C/5. No flares used minimum 50 high explosive bombs. One Naval rating killed. No naval or Military damage except minor blast effect to Navy Office. Believe about 270 civilian casualties some houses demolished. Some bombs also towards Menlayaleh district and 2 at Port Fouad without effect. Canal and terminal Port open. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1505C/5).

URGE.

Intended patrol. (S.O. (S/M's.) Malta 1313B/5).

UNBEATEN.

Leave patrol p.m./7th through 035° 40' 014° 06' to arrive Marsamxett 0700B/9. (S.O. S/M's Malta 1317B/5 to UNBEATEN).

Tobruk.

Re maintenance of supplies (C. in C. Med. 1551C/5) See Mediterranean Volume.

/Schooner.....

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Schooner sunk.

4/8. 2 Blenheims sank 800 ton W.T. Schooner off Misurata scoring 5 direct hits. Intended target 1 M/V off Misurata had left. 5/8. 4 Blenheims failed locate 2 M/Vs westbound off West Sicily attacked Italian coastal vessels and trawlers near Cape Ben claiming none sunk. All aircraft returned. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta 1650/5).

Suez Canal. 2 Mines probably laid in raid 5/8 exploded near Khassab 99. 1st damaged small tug PHOENIX which subsequently sank. 2 exploded spontaneously doing no damage. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area 1917C/5).

Operation Guillotine:

My 1002/26/7 (? 0902 intended) serial 15 postponed 24 hours. (C. in C. Med. 2037C/5).

CAPO ARMA. ALBA JULIA. BALCIC. Italian)
Roumanian)
Roumanian)

Sailed from Istanbul at 1800 G.M.T./2 for Aegean. (D.S. 700).

Situation report 108.

Canal Area. Air raid canal area night of 4/5th, little naval damage but Port Said closed a.m./5. Port now open and operation 'Guillotine' resumed with some delay. DESMOULEA reported seaworthy for towage to repair port.

2. UNIQUE blew up train on East Sicily line 038° Ol' N. at 0325/29 and placed charges on railway south Calabrian Coast 015° 55' E. at 0115/30 result not known. Request no mention.

3. Syria. Convoy Z French ships for repatriation has arrived Beirut. (C. in C. Med., 2351/5 to Admty.)

Landing Craft.

Numbers of landing craft lost in Mediterranean up to 1/8/41. (C. in C. Med., 1655C/5). See Lion Copy.

East Indies.

KANIMBLA.

C. in C. E.I. 0028Z/5. See Operations Volume. A.202.

French ships.

My 1250/51 (170c) Para. one. Intercepted French ships may now be sent into any South African Port but preferably not Simonstown. (C. in C. E.I. 0638Z/5 to E.I. Station).

SECRET

MESSAGE

1655C/5th August.

Date. 11. 8. 41.

IN

From C. in C.M diterranean.

Recd. 2150

Naval Cypher (A.2) By C & W.

Addressed. Admiralty Repeated S.B.N.O. Suez Ganal (95TAG) Division K. S.O. Force Z. R.N.G. H. Co

Lending Craft Lost.

795. The Following registered number of lending craft have been lost in Mediterranean up to 1st August:

ToLoC's numbers 1 5 6 8 10 12 15 16 19 20 total

10.
1A.17 A.L.C's numbers 31 32 38 39 45 48 49 51 60 63 64 69 75 79 80 31 87 105 111 113 Total 20.

S.L.C's nil.

M.L.C's numbers 31 32 55 67 95 96 103 107 108 total 9.

Eurekas numbers R. 63 total 1.

(Cinc Med, 16550/5, to Adult)

Advance Copy for ops., O.D., O.T.G.

V.C.N.S. A.G.N.S.(F) N.A.1st S.L. D of P (3) Ops (4) O.D. (5) D.A/S.W. O.I.C. (3) D.C.O. D.D.T.S.D.(CO)

D.N.E.(CO)
M. (2)
I.P. (3)
V.D.

2.6. 4

IN 1831/5 August

Pron J. in C. Mediterranean.

Date 6.8.41.
RecdO/LLL

MAVAL CODE (L2) NAMED DE 1/4

Addressed Mediterranean Fleet Repeated R.A.(D) Mediterraneans
H.M.S. MEDOU, M.O.Porce I M.O.i/c. Port Jaid, M.O.i/c. Haifa,
H.O.i/c. Famagusta Cyprus, N.O.i/c Malta. S.B.M.O. Suez Janal
Area, F.O.J.M.A. S.O. Force H. R.A. Alexandria, In shore Squadron,
201 Group 204 Group M.O.i/c. Syria, H.G.R.A.F.Middle East.

IMPORTANT.

Revenents Surmary Humber 213.

Part A. Greek Destroyer KONDOURIOTIS leaves

Alexandria 1730 5th due Fanagusta 1500 6th probably returning

7th to Alexandria. H.M.A.S. MORARS, H.M.S. KANDAMAR, H.M.S. KHASERIAN,

arrive Fanagusta and sail Alexandria night 5th/6th. Other forces

2. Part B. M.M.S. QUEEN ELEMANEM H.M.S. MAIAD and 4 Destroyers exercising night 5th/6th returning Alexandria 0800 6th. H.M.S. JERVIS, H.M.S. KENGETON, H.M.S. MIZAI, H.M.S. JAGUAR, operating lest of Alexandria Tednesday 6th. H.M.S. DECOY H.M.S. MAYOUK due Alexandria 1500 6th from Tobruk. H.M.S. APMID at Hersa Hatruh.

3. Part J and D Hil.

1831/5.

Advance Copy Ops. 0.D.

V.J.N.S.
A.J.N.S.(F)
N.A.Ist J.L.
Ops.(4).
O.D.(5).
O.D.S.
T.I.J.(3)
I.P.(3)
D.S.D.S.
D.A/S.W.
M.D.
Movts.
D.N.I.(4).
H.(2)
N.L.O. Australia Hse.
Hails.
E.P.S.

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

ANSON.

Departure. E.T.A. Mombasa 0700Z/11. Route same as S.W.8. Speed 13½ knots to position (c) thence 12½ knots. (N.O.I.C. Aden, 1522Z/5 to C. in C. E.I.).

C. in C. E.I. 1120Z/4. Re. Para. 1. Disguise is not now of first importance but should be retained as far as practicable. The name ANSON should be retained. There need be no leave restrictions. Re. para. 2. C. in C. Med. is requested to make appropriate arrangements consistent with ANSON being able to operate for the purpose for which she was sent out immediately she returns to Suez. Any surplus ratings of leading rate and above in all branches should return to U.K. Re. para. 5. This will be arranged (A.C.N.S. (F) 2129B/5 to C. in C. Med and E.I.)

China.

LE TRIOMPHANT. Left U.K. 2/8 for Tahiti. Orders in a certain contingency. (V.C.N.S. 0105B/5 to C. in C. China). See Operations Volume.

COMPIEGNE.

Saigon departure 4/8 for Madagascar.
(C.O.S. Singapore 0506Z/5).

My 1006/4 Sailing of COMPIEGNE again postponed owing holding up of DUPLEIX at Batavia Awash.
(Saigon 0847Z/5 to Min. of War. Transport).

Thailand. F.E.W. 42 (C.O.I.S. Far East 0911Z/5). Indo-China. See Lion Copy.

FROM: C.O.I.S Far East, Singapore. Date. 5.8.41
Recd. 1814

I.D.C. BY M/T.

Addressed:
Admiralty for D.N.I., D.N.I. Ottawa, C. in C. Rest Indies,
A.C.N.B., N.Z.N.B., Air.H.Q. New Delhi, pass to F.C.C.R.I.N.
C. in C. China, G.H.Q. Far last, G.C.C. Malaya, G.C.C.
Burma, G.O.C. Hong Kong, H. M. Linb. Tolyo 152, H. M. Ambassador
Burma, A.O.C. Far last Army H.Q. India, British Admty.
ChungKing, A.O.C. Far last Army H.Q. India, British Admty.
Delogate Washington.
Thailand Govt. Japanese agression, certain Thai

Ministers have asked British Minister FortPublic declaration of British and U.S. support. U.S. have not received reply to their suggestion to Japan that Thailand should neutralized by general consent.

Indo China approximately twelve thousand Japanese troops reported of good quality have arrived. Disembarkation continues. Camranh Bay occupied on July 30th. Air Forces uncertain but believed to include 3 Sqaudrons of fighters two Squadrons of heavy bombers at Saigon. Japanese warthings. & cruiners, & land, were chasors off Cap. St. Jacques and 6 large destroyers at Saigon.

Notherlands Hast Indies Dutch freezing regulations have caused stoppage of all trade with Japan.

Japans mobilisation continues. About 700,000 reservists called an of which majority sent to Korca or Manchuria. Proparations for possible attack on U S S R should be complete ? tais month.

09112/5

1st Lord 1st S.L. V. C. N. S. 1. C.N.S. (T) (2) Nav. Scc. N. 1. 1st S.L. P. 3 (S)
Ops. (4)
O.D. (5) D.N.I. (4)

0. I.C. (3) M(31)D. T.D. (2) D.T.D. (I.P. D. of L.D. (2)

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

DIDO. Departure 5/8 due Ne

Departure 5/8 due New York 9/8. S. of A. 17/2 knots. (N.C.S.O. Trinidad, 0858Q/5 to Admty.)

Neutrals, Bermuda. Portuguese westbound ships GUINE and NYASSA arrived Bermuda 2/8 and 5/8 respectively. Visits appear to have been made on conditions agreed to by British Authorities but no notification received by me except Admty. 1108B/51. As in the case of Spanish east bound ships it would appear that Admiralty is not being kept fully informed by authority concerned. Your 1916B/19/7 and my 1856Q/24/7 refer. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1032Q/5 to Admty.)

- CIRCASSIA.

Your 1922B/4 as there are about 60 Service personnel for passage and large quantity of procisions purchased for C. in C. S.A. awaiting transport to Freetown suggest CIRCASSIA should sail thither as arranged whatever her subsequent employment. (F.O.C. 3. B.S. 1201P/5 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

REVENGE.

If the situation remains unchanged intend sailing REVENGE for Bermuda on 12/8 and sail for Halifax on 21/8. (R.A.3 1446P/5).

Your 1201/Q/5. Concur. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1532Q/5 to F.O,C.3. B.S.)

- CIRCASSIA.

Your 1922B/4. Approved to retain CIRCASSIA on America and West Indies Station. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2131B/5 to C. in C. A.W.I).

Items for discussion.

With Minister for Naval Services. (Adty. 1406B/5) See Lion Copy.

Service personnel in unescorted ships.

Your 1925Z/1 is not understood. Instructions in my 1248B/26/6 are not contrary to those contained in my 1744B/16/7. (4th S.L. 1529B/5 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

FORT LAMY.

(Free French) Master requests new crew French crew insubordinate, ship cannot proceed. (R.O. St. Thomas 1554/5).

MESSAGE.

1406B/5th August.

To. C.N.S. Ottawa. 245.

Date. 5. 8. 41.

NAVAL CYPHER (D)

From. Admiralty.

Personal for CoN.S. Ottawa from First Lord.

Please pass following to Minister for Naval

Services. Begins. I am glad you are coming. You will
be welcome. Admiralty would like to discuss following

items:-

- A) Plan 4.
 - (i) Details of plan, with special reference to T.C. convoys.
 - (ii) Repercussion of plan on command in Newfoundland and relations between C. in C. America and West Indies., U.S. Authorities, H.Q.N.S. Ottawa, C.C.N.F. and C.O.A.C.
 - (111) Requirements of depot and store ships, with view to release of FORTH and CITY OF DIEPPE, when plan is in full operation.
- B) Methods adopted to secure co-operation between Canadian Air Force and Newfoundland Escort Force.
- U) Present position of naval base at Esquimault.
- D) Matson line ships and escort.
- E) Use and development of R.C.N. A/S Training Establishments and facilities by R.N. should training in United Kingdom shut down owing to enemy action. Ends.

1406B/5.

for Head of M.

| • | lst Lord. lst S.L. 2nd S.L. 3rd S.L. 4th S.L. 5th S.L. | Parl. Sec. Civil Lord. Secretary. N.A. lst S.L. P.A.S. (8). | D.N.I. (4) E.P.S. D.T.D. (4) D.N.A.D. I.P. (3) | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| • | V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S. (H) A.C.N.S. (F) A.C.N.S. (T) (2) Nav. Sec. | 0.D. (5) 0.I.C. (2) M. 36 (5) and for W.C.O. & D.O. D. of P. (3) | W.D. D. of S. D.A/S.W. D.P.S. (2) | |

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies .- Contd.

U.S. tugs for U.K.

Expect 12 tugs will be available at New York during August for despatch to U.K. essential they should be sailed by end of month. Possibly six will have to be towed. Suggest tugs be sailed in S.C. convoys for Iceland (C). Please report your recommendations. (D.T.D. 1556B/5 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa).

LE TRIOMPHANT. Request programme of Free French Destroyer LE TRIOMPHANT en route from U.K. to Tahiti may be signalled for information Navy Dept. (N.A. Washington 1650R/5 to C. in C. A.W.I). Jan 5-87

CHITRAL.

Leave Bermuda 1300Q/8 and proceed by direct route to St. John N.B. in accordance with R.A. 5 B.S. 1359P/31. (C. in C. A.W.I. 1813Q/5 to CHITRAL).

RICHMOND.

B.A.R.M. 1240R/4 equipment RICHMOND out of action requires complete rewiring. Request early approval allocation to U.S.A. Yard. Ship can be available at U.S.A. Port about 14/8. (C.C.N.F. 1848/5 to Adty.)

Troop Transport.

Your 1717B/4 Military state despatch of remaining units of 3rd Div. extremely urgent and therefore arranging to embark total of 8000 in 5 ships. Early advice requested from Simonstown for guidance in removing ?necessary cargo from EMPRESS OF RUSSIA and EMPRESS OF ASIA. Also cargo space in these ships and ORBITA from Halifax for U.K. (N.S. H.Q. Ottawa, 2207Z/5 to D. of S.T).

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

O.G.69. HAWKINGE (torpedoed 27/7). The only survivors whose fate is not known are from HAWKINGE sunk at 0255/27 position 45.00 N., 17.38 W. (F.O.C.N.A., 0140B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

CAPE RODNEY,
HARLINGEN,
SWIFTPOOL,
BELGRAVIAN,
KUMASIAN,
torpedoed.

S.L. 81 attacked by S/M in 053° 03' N., 016° 00' W. 2 ships not yet identified torpedoed. BLUEBELL standing by. S/M sighted on surface by ZINNIA who attacked and is continuing hunt with CAMPANULA. Who attacked and is continuing hunt with CAMPANULA. (WANDERER, 0155B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

My 0155. SWIFTPOOL sunk, BELGRAVIAN on fire, Salvage unlikely. BLUEBELL picking up survivors. (WANDERER, 0338B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)

Following received from Lands End Radio 0337 G.M.T. S S S S 52-1/2° N., 16° W. CAPE RODNEY torpedoed 0334/5. 0537/5 Lands End Radio. (C. in C. Plymouth, T.O.R., 0545/5).
S.L.81 again attacked. Three ships torpedoed. CAPE RODNEY and HARLINGEN still afloat, third ship, not yet identified, sinking. HYDRANGEA and LA MALOUINE standing by. Submarine not seen. Position 053° 26' N., 015° 40' W. (WANDERER, 0528B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
My 0528. HARLINGEN and KUMASIAN now sunk. CAPE RODNEY holed in No. 2 hold, engines serviceable HYDRANGEA standing by. Requires tugs. (weather.) (WANDERER, 0736B/5 to C. in C. W.A.) Following survivors have been picked up: 59 out of 60 including nine passengers from KUMASIAN in LA MALOUINE. Whole crew of HARLINGEN and 39 from CAPE RODNEY in HYDRANGEA. (corrupt group) from BELGRAVIAN and three from SWIFTPOOL in BLUEBELL. Am sending WALLFLOWER to stand by BELGRAVIAN in place of BLUEBELL whose W/T is out of action. My 0155B/5 ZINNIA sighted submarine 200 yards ahead and dropped depth charges on it as it dived. No contact obtained. Large area seen to be covered with light oil at daylight. ZINNIA rejoining. (WANDERER, 0800B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
Attempted to ram large U boat attacking S.L.81 at 0200B position 052° 54' N., 015° 53' W., U boat dived at 200 yards range. Six depth charges avaleded on and around him. Inknown merchant ship. exploded on and around him. Unknown merchant ship secured hit on conning tower. Daylight showed large area covered in oil. Consider U boat destroyed. Am rejoining convoy (Weather) (ZINNIA, 0830B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
Report names and position of any ships you consider salvable. (C. in C. W.A., 1005B/5 to WANDERER).
Total number survivors on board 82 including complete crews of CAPE RODNEY, HARLINGEN with exception of second engineer of latter ship. Captain of CAPE RODNEY and volunteer crew have tried to board ship, impossible owing to heavy swell. Ship still afloat in 053° 11' N., 015°

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CAPE RODNEY. HARLINGEN. SWIFTPOOL. BELGRAVIAN. torpedoed. Conta.

23' W., and am standing by. Have only 65 tons oil fuel remaining. Have several cases of Malaria from HARLINGEN on board. Request instructions. (HYDRANGEA, 1037B/5 to C. in C. W.A. Proceed with dispatch in Company with NORTHERN GEM to assist HARLINGEN and CAPE RODNEY torpedoed in 53° 26' N., 15° 40' W. BLUEBELL standing by. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1107B/5 to ZWARTE ZEE.) My 1107B/5. HARLINGEN now sunk. HYDRANGEA standing by CAPE RODNEY. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1153B/5 to ZWARTE ZEE, NORTHERN GEM.) ST. OLAVES and SUPERMAN are to R/V off Campbeltown at 1830 today and proceed in company with despatch to assist CAPE RODNEY torpeaced (position) HYDRANGEA standing by. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1215B/5 to SUPERMAN, ST. OLAVES.) Cancel my 1215B/5 ST. OLAVES is to return to Campbeltown on completion of coaling. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1237B/5 to SUPERMAN, ST. OLAVES.)
My 1059. CAPE RODNEY appears to have stopped Think salvage practicable. Request sinking. information regarding expected time of arrival of tugs. Fuel remaining 65 tons. (HYDRANGEA, 1434B/5 to C. in C. W.A.)
Your 1005B/5. Only ship now afloat CAPE RODNEY
in 053° 11' N., 015° 23' W. Ship is settling in
increasing sea. Salvage now appears very doubtful HYDRANGEA standing by has been told to keep
you informed. P.C. and S. of convoy at noon
053° 18' N. 014° 30' W., 045° 7 knots. Wind
N.W. force 7 sea 55. Making good course direct
for South Sand Bluff position. Escort generally short of fuel. (WANDERER, 1447B/5 to C. in C. W.A.) Expect air escort all night. Two aircraft have been instructed to drop flares intermittently round the convoy at a minimum distance of four miles between the hours of 0030 and 0530. (C. in C. W.A., 1530B/5 to WANDERER.) SUPERMAN and ST. OLAVES are to R/V off Campbeltown at 1830 today and proceed in company with despatch to assist BELGRAVIAN torpedoed in 53° 03' N., 16° 00' W., at 0155B/5. WALLFLOWER standing by. BELGRAVIAN has been on fire. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1553B/5 to SUPERMAN, ST. OLAVES.) Reference HYDRANGEA's 1037B/5. Most desirable HYDRANGEA should stand by CAPE RODNEY if condition of casualties permits but if necessary detail another corvette to relieve HYDRANGEA forthwith and to stand by CAPE RODNEY until tug arrives and escort into harbour. There is every evidence that weather will moderate. (C. in C. W.A., 1605B/5 to WANDERER.) ST. OLAVES sailed. (N.O.I.C. Ararossan 1650/5 to F.O.I.C. Greenock.

/Amenā....

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships attacked.

CAPE RODNEY,
HARLINGEN,
SWIFTPOOL,
BELGRAVIAN,
KUMASIAN,
torpedoed,
Contd.

Amend position of CAPE RODNEY to 53° 11' N., 15° 23' W., at 1037B/5. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1709B/5 to ZWARTE ZEE, NORTHERN GEM).

SUPERMAN sailed.
(N.O.I.C. Campbeltown, 1805B/5 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).

Your 1434B/5. E.T.A. Tug daylight /7.
(C. in C. W.A., 1858B/5 to HYDRANGEA).

Have succeeded in boarding CAPE RODNEY Capt. considers it is doubtful whether No. 1 bulkhead will hold. Observed position at 1800 052° 44' N., 015° 17' W. drifting S.E. ½ knot. Endurance will permit me to remain in vicinity 0800/7.

Following has been read: - S S S S 31° N., 26° W., *ACE SIDNEY torpedoed.

(Ascension Radio via Freetown, 0334/5) W.R. Note: -Message incompletely received.

* Motionapped.

Casualties not serious. (Weather).

My 1817/2/7. Spanish newspapers report ERNLACE was torpedoed and sunk by British submarine (?July 1st). Confirmed from Greek Legation.

(N.A. Madrid, 1757/5).

Submarines Reported.

(HYDRANGEA, 1945B/5).

BBB Am over enemy S/M in position 53.02N., 16.19 W. Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (A/C duty U, 0029/5 to 15 R Group H.Q.)

O441B.

S/M disguised as sailing ketch sighted dawn position 061° 58' N., 014° (52?) W., course 105°. (APOLLO, 0441B/5 to Admty).

Am over enemy submarine in 53.25N., 15.14 W. (A/C 102 Sq. Duty "L" 1420/5 to 15 Group H.Q.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1421B/5).

U boat reported in 70° (?30') N., 33° 10' E., course 25° at 1050C/5. Admiralty pass to TRIDENT. (B.S.N.O., Murmansk, 1540C/5 to TRIDENT).

1535 G.M.T. By D/F in 52° 45' N., 15° W. Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C., 1820B/5).

5.8.1941. Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

2011 G.M.T. Italian Submarine 96 West bearing 263/2. (F.O.C.N.A., 2302B/5).

2013 G.M.T. Bearings of Italian U/Boat 96W. (D.D.I.C., 2242B/5 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Submarines Attacked.

By ZINNIA.

Escorting S.L. 81 53.03 N., 16° W. after attack on that convoy. (WANDERER, 0800B /5, etc). See also Ships Attacked.
Full pattern on U-boat as it dived at 0201.
Probably killed, 0200/5 in 53° 2' N., 15° 58' W., U-boat crossed fromt convoy close ahead of DEIDO and under stern of VOLTURNO nearly rammed by DEIDO and hit by gunfire from VOLTURNO. (WANDERER, 1634B/5).

Am over enemy S/M in 53.24 N., 15.02 W. (A/C 35 Sq. duty P., 0950/5, to 15 Group H.Q.) Whitley A/C (D.S.700).

Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge, when first sighted was on course 045°. Have attacked with depth charges. (A/C 36 Sqn. duty, P. 1000/5 to 15 Group H.Q.)

By A/C

Am over enemy submarine in 47.05 N., 09.00 W. (Part 2 H/F Duty D. 1230/5 T.O.R., 1248. to 19 Group H.Q.)
Have attacked enemy with depth charges.
(Part 2 H.F. A/C Duty D. 1300/5 to 19 Group H.Q.)
Wellington A/C, D/221. (D.S. 701 6/8).

Enemy S/M previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (A/C Part 1 Duty D. 1315/5).

Circling large oil patch. (A/C duty D, 1320/5).

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Marine Casualties.

Minesweeper MARJORIE M. HASTIE grounded and capsized in the entrance to the Hartlepool Harbour today. The port is closed pending salvage operations.

A/S Trawler AGATE and six ships of convoy F.S559 grounded on the Haisboro Sand about 0230 today in heavy weather and it is reported they will all be total loss. A seventh ship was abandoned and is missing and is believed to have foundered.

Dover Shelled.

Gris Nez Battery fired 5 rounds between 1528 and 1725 today. Casualties and superficial damage were caused at Dover.

Task Force

Task Force 16 arrived at Iceland this morning.

Invasion notice.

It is considered that owing to the continued engagement of the enemy on the Russian front one month's notice of impending invasion can be given.

British Air Operations.

Two Fortress aircraft attempted unsuccessfully to bomb the enemy naval units in Brest today. Shipping was attacked by Blenheims off the Dutch coast, who claim to have hit a vessel in convoy off the Texel.

Fighter Command aircraft attacked two tankers today near Cherbourg and appear to have set one of them on fire.

A Beaufort of Coastal Command claims two hits on a merchant vessel (reported to be of over 10,000 tons) at Nantes last night.

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Operations.

An enemy aircraft crossed Scapa Flow this evening and would have seen into the Flow.

Convoy E.C. 56 was unsuccessfully bombed off Flamborough Head at 2311 and Convoy F.S. 60 at 2336 off Cromer.

South Atlantic.

An area at 6° 19' N., 3° 20' E. (off Lagos) is dangerous on account of mines.

Mediterranean.

Malta.

Slight damage was caused in the dockyard by air attack last night.

Swordfish attack on Augusta. 5 Swordfish attacked Augusta submarine base last night with success. Photographs taken today show that 4 S/Ms 1 small merchant vessel and 24 seaplanes were sunk.

CACHALOT lost.

CACHALOT is now 2 days overdue and must be considered lost (see 4/8).

Operations by 0.21. Netherlands 3/M 0.21 reports having sunk a 4,000 ton enemy merchant vessel in an escorted convoy on 29/7 in 39° 51' N., 13° 46' E., and having badly damaged by gunfire on 3/8 a suspected A/S schooner in 38° 46' N., 9° 24' E.

Constanza.

It is reported that although the town of Constanza has been badly damaged by Russian air attacks no hits have been obtained in the port area.

/Libya....

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Libya & Western Desert.

Wellingtons last night bombed Benghazi and Derna Port.

Our surface forces and S/Ms have been operating with air co-operation, to intercept supply ships to enemy forward bases in Cyrenaica. No movements were seen by air R/C however. Captain D.2 called for help against enemy aircraft at 0606 in 31° 43' N., 26° 15' E. REGENT bombarāeā Apollonia at āusk.

Tobruk town and harbour area were intermittently shelled and bombed last night. No damage is reported. Mersa Matruh was bombed last night, but no damage or casualties were caused.

America & West Indies.

Japanese shipping.

It is reported from San Francisco that all Japanese schedules for U.S.A. are cancelled, Japanese merchant ships are painting out their flag.

U-Boat Campaign.

A Soviet Union 500 ton auxiliary vessel was torpedoed by a U-Boat at 2000C today in 69° 15' N., 35° E.

6. 8. 41. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Swedish M/V's.

My 1159/5. Positions of westbound vessels at 0001/6 as follows. (N.A. Stockholm 1019/6.)

S/M's Working-up Period. B.A.R.M. 1242R/4. Experience shows such working up periods essential. Return of these submarines to their operational flotillas would be delayed if they proceed to St. John's N.F., for this and it is for consideration that working up practices should be carried out from an American Base.

(F.O.S. 1716B/6.)

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Task Force 16. Arrived 1100Z. (A.C.I.C. 1616/6.)

Co-operation with Russia.

White Sea and Murmansk.

Present anti-Mining organisation. (Ad. Miles 1006/6.) See Mining.

Archangel.
Proposed
British
Naval
Attache.

My 1639C/4. Request for the establishment of a Consul at Archangel was turned down. It would appear essential to have somebody there capable of dealing with cargoes awaiting shipment and other shipping agent business. It is for consideration whether a suitable R.N.R. or R.N.V.R., Officer with the requisite experience to perform all these duties might be sent there and given sufficient diplomatic status if he were appointed as an assistant Naval Attache. (Admiral Miles 1452C/6.)

Defence of U.K.

Notice of Invasion.

My 1135B/1/6. It is considered that the continued engagement of the enemy on the Russian front now renders impossible an attempted invasion of U.K. in early September. Anti-Invasion preparations should continue to be pressed forward but, in order to enable refitting programmes etc., to be continued and planned, it may be assumed that under present conditions one month's notice of impending invasion can be given.

(V.C.N.S. 1355B/6.)

6.8.41. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

TIGRIS.

S.N.O. Murmansk reports TIGRIS arrived 1543c/4.

(D.C. 0142B/6.)

CANTON.

Arrived with 110 German prisoners of War.

(N.O.I.C. Greenock 0906B/6.)

CANTON will be ready to sail from Clyde to Southampton at 0900B/7. Request you will provide escort from limit of your command as you consider necessary.

(C. in C. W.A. 1215B/6 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

Your 1215B/6. Regret no escort available.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1308/6.)

P.31.
CURACOA

F.O.C. D.F. H.F's 1716B/5. CURACOA is to escort S/M P 31 to Scapa.
(A.C.O.S. 1051B/6.)

A.F.D.IV.

A.M. 1928B/22. A.F.D. will be swept up
Q.Z.S. 259 into Clyde by S.A. and L.L. vessels.
No Oropesa Sweepers are available in Clyde.
(N.O.I.C. Greenock 1614B/6.)
Your 1320/4 and 1542/5. Proposed arrangements
for sweeping ahead of Dock should be co-ordinated
between Milford Haven, Liverpool, and Greenock
in the following manner.
(C. in C. W.A. 1920B/6 to C. in C. Plymouth.)

TASK Force Arrived 1100Z.

(A.C.I.C. 1616/6.)

PORPOISE. (Shipment of Bombs to Malta.) Your 2130B/5 para., two. Proposals. (F.O.S. 1639B/6.)
Your 2130B/5 para. one. Yes. (F.O.S. 1641B/6 to Adty.)

PENELOPE.

A.M. 1852/24/6 and your 1150/2/8.

WESTMINSTER will be available as S.A. escort leaving Tyne Pier Heads at 1330/9/8 for Rosyth.

Owing to shortage of escorts C. in C. Nore is requested to provide the second S.A. escort.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1757/6 to F.O.I.C. Tyne.)

6.8.41. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements Contd.

BIARRITZ.

BIARRITZ is required to Transport 180 U.S. technicians from Londonderry to the Gareloch to arrive by 8 or 9/8. 2. Request necessary escort arrangements. (D.O.D(H) 1958B/6 to C. in C. W.A.) (D. of S.T. 2109B/6.)

Operations.

operation.

GRAD.

Operation Paras. 3 and 7. For two read four. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0743B/6.)

"God" GRAB patrol out 1100/6.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 0837B/6.)

My 0837. Weather at present Weather at present unsuitable for

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1203B/6.) SHAB patrol withdraws 1600/6. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1527B/6.)

Exercise LIADEROG. Labtrag"

My 1923B/5. For lst. M.S.F. read 6th M.S.F. (D. of P. 1159Z/6 to C. in C. H.F. and A.C.O.S.) Admiralty's 1923B/5. No ships of lst M/S Flotilla are at Scapa or under my orders at present. HARRIER, HALCYON, and SALAMANDER are at present at Seidis Fiord. (C. in C. H.F. 1541B/6.)

SEALION.

· Hellaw On completion of operation POLLOW proceed submerged by day through 46° N., 5° W., to patrol in Biscay South zone. S.B.R. arranged as follows. (F.O.S. 1714B/6 to SEALION.)

Dover shelled.

Gris Nez battery fired five rounds between 1528 and 1725 today. One fell in S/M basin, two in Dockyard, one in the town, and one inland. Four Royal Marine engineers, one soldier, and two civilians wounded. Damage superficial only. (V.A. Dover 2014B/6.)

6.8.41. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Kirkenes and Petsamo losses. We are receiving increasing evidence of the great effect on the morale and dispositions of the enemy of the very gallant and dashing attacks carried out by the Fleet Air Arm in the Kirkenes and Petsamo area.

The heavy losses in aircraft crews are deeply regretted, but our Allies asked for immediate assistance, and Naval aircraft were the sole means of affording immediate help. Request you will promulgate as and when you consider necessary.

(1st. Lord 0108B/6 to C. in C. H.F.)

Reports from Finnish sources indicate that there are probably about 15 prisoners from

aircraft crews engaged in attacks in Northern

Area. Request you will promulgate as and when you think necessary. (1st. Lord 0109B/6 to C. S. 1.)

Patrols.

Patrol of Orkneys Exercise area now being flown and will continue till 0600. (C. in C. Rosyth Ollo/6.)
Patrols TROOF, STAB being flown to reach Norwegian Coast at 1000/6. (C. in C. Rosyth 0922/6.) BERT has now taken off. (C. in C. Rosyth 1128/6.)
P.R.U. of Bergen - Oslo - STAVANGER now being flown. (C. in C. Rosyth 1714/5.) Six Beauforts to carry out Rover Patrol during the hours of darkness 6/7. First three with bombs to attack and report any shipping seen. Second three with torpedoes to intercept enemy, report, and attack any suitable vessel of 2000 tons or over. Area of Patrol Norwegian Coast between Naze and Jaederens Point. (Pitreavie A.C.H.Q., 1815/6 to Leuchars.)

Bombing Restrictions. Request extension of bombing restrictions Clyde Sanctuary from 2000B/6 to 0800B/8 and from 2000B/10 to 0800B/11. (Capt. S.7. 1021B/5.)

Iceland /U.K.Service.

An air service between Iceland and U.K., has commenced, using a low winged 4 engined Albatross Monoplane, which closely resembles a Focke Wulf. Service leaves Iceland A.M. every Wednesday and U.K., p.m. every Monday, weather permitting. (C. in C. H.F. 1112B/6 to N.P. Trawlers, etc.)

6.8.41. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. Contd.

4 M/V's
sunk
Boulogne,
and
Calais
bombed.

On day 5/8 A/C attacked one M/V off the Hook. Two direct hits observed and ship claimed as destroyed. 3 aircraft attacked a convoy nine miles north of the Hook. Some near misses were noted. Eight Blenheims attacked 3 reporting vessels 57 miles north of Borkum, and all three are claimed as destroyed. On night 5/6 Boulogne and Calais were bombed. (H.Q.B.C. 1736/6.)

A/C for ARGUS.

It is necessary to decide which type of Naval fighters if any should be carried by ARGUS. Various considerations.

Request your very early remarks.

(A.C.N.S(H) 2005B/6 to C. in C. H.F.)

6.8.41. Wednesday.

Request

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity.

TUNISIA. (Bombed 4/8.)

TUNISIA bombed and abandoned. Keep good look out for survivors. (C. in C. W.A. 1125B/6 to Escort of O.S.2.)
On leaving convoy sweep along 53° N., to 13° W., thence to base. TUNISIA sunk at 1400B/4. Look for survivors particularly east of 19° W. (C. in C. W.A., 1709B/6 to GURKHA, LEGION, LANCE, PIORUN, ISAAC SWEERS.)

German Air R/C's of Iceland.

Your 1256B/30th July and 1153 B/5. precise details of these and future R/C's be communicated and particularly if Seidis Fiord was covered. (C. in C. H.F., 1219B/6 to Admty.)
Your 1219B/6. On 30/7 A/C engine heard North
and North East Iceland between 0255Z and 0345Z. Nothing seen and no report Reykjavik area nor Seidis Fiord. At 0415Z/5 one H E 111 circled Borganes, thence over Akranes Gardar returning to Kaldadarnes Eyrarbakki. Last heard over Vestmann Island 0511Z. All positions S.W. corner Iceland. No report from Seidis Fiord. (A.C.I.C. 2216/6 to C. in C. H.F.)
Your 1219B/6. R/C of Iceland on 30/7 known to have covered Reykjavik and Faxa Fiord area in particular but observations covered practically the whole country. On 5/8 details of flight obscure but activity appears to have been confined to South Coast. No definite indication that Seidis Fiord was covered on either day. Precise details of future R/C flights to Iceland will be sent when these are available. (D.D.I.C. 2145B/6 to C. in C. H.F.)

CAROLINA THORDEN. (Bombed 31/3.

CAROLINA THORDEN towed by THAMES and escorted by LORD AUSTIN and STOKE CITY should be sailed for Kirkwall as soon after arrival of LORD AUSTIN as weather permits. (A.C.O.S. 1645B/6 to N.O.I.C. Faroes.)

A/C over Scapa.

At 1825/6 Junkers 88 was seen to fly from South to North over Hoy at height of 15,000 feet and would have seen into Flow. Four fighters in the air were ordered to intercept but failed to make contact. No R.D.F. plots received until E/A was 60 miles East of Orkney course East at 10,000 feet. (A.C.O.S. 2033/6.)

6.8.41. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity Contd.

Convoy E.C.56. Enemy is bombing Convoy USAGE in 350° Flamborough
Head 4 miles.
(WESTMINSTER 2311/6.)
2 bombs no hits

(WESTMINSTER 2318/6.)

Convoy F S is being bombed in 53° 8' N., 1° 11' E. Convoy F.S\$60. (QUANTOCK 2336/6.) 4 bombs no hits.

> (QUANTOCK 2342/6.) Fighter protection is being sent. (Nore W/T 2353/6.)

Mining.

Your 1232B/29/7. White Sea

Details of anti-mining organisation in Archangel and and White Sea area at present. Understand Murmansk similar arrangements in Murmansk area. Areas.

(Admiral Miles 1006/6 to Adty.)

At 2340/5 hostile plane being chased by night Fighter dropped mine or bomb which exploded Thames Estuary.

approx., at East Barrow Beacon.

ANTELOPE is to escort ACHATES in tow of ASSURANCE ACHATES as ordered by F.O.C.D.F./H.F. (C. in C. H.F. 2017B/6.) (Mined 25/7.)

(S.O. T.L.D.F. 1708/6.)

Enemy Intelligence.

R/C At 0820/6. Brest. (P.R.U. St. Eval 1150/6.)

(D.D.I.C. 1440 B/6.)

At 1730/6. Photographic R/C shows TIRPITZ berthed at entrance to inner dockyard basin, Kiel.

and LUTZOW and HIPPER in dry dock.

(D.D.I.C. 2255B/6.)

6.8.41. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

MARJORIE M. HASTIE (M/S Trawler) grounded. Hartlepool closed.

Grounded this morning in entrance to Hartlepool Harbour, capsized, forming serious obstruction in Channel. Port closed to shipping. (Smith, W.Hartlepool 0643/6.) (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 0930/6 and 1722/6.)

WARWICK CASTLE. WINDSOR CASTLE.

In Convoy W.S.10, have been in collision. WARWICK CASTLE is proceeding to Halifax under escort at 10 knots. WINDSOR CASTLE is proceeding with Convoy at 13 knots. (D.O.R., 7/8.)

FRODE.

Arrival H.M. Tug MARAUDER towing S.S. FRODE. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 2005/6.)

BRECONSHIRE.

Admiralty's 1254/30. BRECONSHIRE has produced a defect list of 161 items, including docking. No dock is available on the Clyde nor is it feasible to undertake a refit on this magnitude at the present time. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1018B/6.)

FOXHOUND.

Your 2340/3/7. It will not be possible to take this ship in hand at Rosyth. (A.S. Rosyth 1748/6 to Adty.)

AGATE.
(A/S Trawler) DEERWOOD (British, 1914 Tons.) OXSHOTT. British, 1241 Tons.) GALLOIS (British. 2684 Tons.) ABERHILL (British, 1516 Tons.) 'AARA (British, 1402 Tons.) BETTY HINDLEY and AFON TOWY (British, 684 Tons

grounded.

Convoy F.S.559. Following ships of F.S.559 grounded on the Haisboro Sand between N. Middle and Middle Haisboro buoys at about 0230 today: AGATE, S.S. DEERWOOD, OXSHOTT, GALLOIS, ABERHILL, TAARA, BETTY HINDLEY. As far as can at present be ascertained all these ships are a total loss with the possible exception of BETTY HINDLEY. Attempt is being made to salve her tomorrow. AFON TOWY also unaccounted for at present and is believed to have foundered. Various survivors have been landed at Harwich and Yarmouth and possibly at Cromer or Gorleston by lifeboats. C. in C. Nore 2324B/6. See also. Humber Radio 0228B/6. Nore W/T 0307/6. C. in C. Nore 0228B/6. Nore W/T 0307/6. C. In C. Nore
0449B/6, 0553B/6, 0917B/6, 1415B/6,1810B/6,
2300B/6, F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0545B/6,0718B/6
0728B/6, VIMIERA 0603B/6, 0642-B/6, 0803B/6
0838B/6, 1036B/6, 1347B/6. F.O. Humber 0822B/6.
Request you convene Board of Inquiry into loss
of AGATE. (C. in C. Nore 2340B/6 to N.O.I.C. Harwich.)

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S.8.C. Intend sailing convoy for Scapa escorted by BULLDOG, INTREPID, ECHO, CHARLESTOW, CASTLETON, first ship passing Clyde boom at 0500B/8 to R/V with WHITEHALL, WINCHELSEA and WITCH in position 270° Oversay 6 miles at 1800B/8 thence in accordance with N.O.i/c Greenock 1440B/4. E.T.A., Hoxa boom 0130B/10 codeword EAGER. (N.O.I.C. Greenock, 1134B/6 to Admty.)

Convoys.

Situation at 2000/6. 0.N.l, 0.N.3, W.S.l0, H.X.142, S.C.39.
(C. in C. W.A., 1430B/6.) See Lion Copy.

W.S.10.X.

Personnel and stores for Near East. List, dates, escorts. (A.C.N.S.(H), 1816B/6 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. H.F., etc.) See Lion Copy.

CITY OF
LANCASTER.

Scapa. Ship is required at the Tail of the
Bank to embark about 50 tons military stores
and then to proceed to Inverary.
(D.O.D.(H) 1857B/6 to C. in C. W.A., etc.

A.M.1323B/5. Will not now proceed to Scapa.

C. in C. W.A., is requested to arrange for ship to be sailed for Inverary on 7/8.

(D.O.D.(H) 1858B/6 to C. in C. W.A., C. in C. H.F., etc.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

777

From C. in C. Western Approaches

Date 6.8.41.

Recd. 1859.

NAVAL CODE (I) SECRET BY W/T

Addressed Ships and Authorities in Western Approaches Command Area, Admiralty, C. in C. Plymouth, F.O.(S)., F.O.C. Northern Patrol, C.C.N.F., C.O.A.C. Halifax, F.O.I.C. Greenock, N.O.I.C. Belfast, N.O.I.C. Liverpool, Ships on America and West Indies Station in area 74 maintaining W/T Watch on Broadcast L.

IMPORTANT

West Situation 2000 6th.

O N 1 H. M. S. RICHMOND, H. M. S. POLYANTHUS. COBALT, 054 degrees 53' 045 degrees 43' 050 degrees 213 degrees 7.

O N 3 H. M.S. ASCANIA, H. M. C. N. COLUMBIA, H. M.S. GLADIOIUS, H. M.S. MIMOSA, H. M.S. NASTURTIUM, O61 degrees 12' 027 degrees 38' 260 degrees at 0500 7th altering to 221 degrees 8.

Fleet Unit. 3 Destroyers 057 degrees 30° 035 degrees 00° 21+2 degrees 20.Convoy 10 H. M.S. LONDON H.M.S. WORCESTERSHIRE H.M.S. BROADWAY H.M.S. JUPITER 052 degrees 10° 028 degrees 14° 185 degrees 11½.

H X 142 H.M.S. AUSONIA, H.M.S. COLLINGWOOD, H.M.S. CHESTERFIELD, WINDLFOWER, TRILLIUM, HEPATICA, 050 degrees 00' 043 degrees 55' 039 degrees 62.

S C 39 H.M.S. CHURCHILL H.M.S. CAMELLIA ARCHEAD EYEBRIGHT CEC degrees 00' 043 degrees 55 degrees 039 degrees 62.

1430B/6

Advance copy sent Duty Captain, D.O.D. (H) and D.T.D.

A.C.N.S. (T) (2).
A.C.N.S. (H).
A.C.N.S. (F).
N.A. lst S.L.
D.O.D. (H).
D.D.O.D. (H).
D.D.O.D. (E).
D.T.D. (2).
D.T.D. (M).
D.L./S.W.
D.D. (2).

D.D. I. C. (2). Duty Captain (2). I. P. (2). W.D. -887

abd

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1816B/6th August

OUT

TO:- C. in C. Western Approaches 963 C. in C. Home Fleet 215 F.O.I.C. Belfast repeated F.O.I.C. Cardiff

DAT: - 6.8.L1.

G.F.O.I.C. Cardiff
F.O.I.C. Liverpool
F.O.I.C. Greenock
N.C.S.O. Clyde
N.C.S.O. Liverpool
N.C.S.O. Newport
N.C.S.O. Avonmouth
R.A.(D) Home Fleet 773
F.O.C. North Atlantic 53
C. in C. South Atlantic 121
F.O.G. Northern Patro? T.O.G. Northern Patrol. C. in C. Mediterranean 348

. . . S.O. Force H 426 DORSETSHIRE DUNIVOTTAR CASTLE

NAVAL CYPHER (C)

PROM: - Admiralty

Admiralty Message 2336B/1 (not to all addressees) Convoy WS 10% carrying personnel and Military Stores for the near East will be ready to leave United Kingdom on 16th Au ust.

- Speed of slowest ship will be 15 kmots.
- Ships will load at the following ports and those from Bristol Channel Ports will be ready to sail on 15th Aurust.

From Avonmouth with personnel ORION

Newport with stores

PORT JACKSON

Mersey with personnel STRATHNAVER

with stores

P/LMA

with stores

BRISBAME STAR

with personnel

STRATHMORE

- Ocean Escort DORSETSHIRE and DUNOTMAR CASTLE to Frectown.
- 5. A/A Escort. One A/A cruiser to longitude 25 degs. W.
- 6. A/S Escort 6 destroyers to the limit of their endurance.
- C. in C. Western Approaches is requested to -

(a)/....

jG

- (a) Detail A/A escort
- (b) Provide destroyers for A/S escort.
- (c) Arrange sailing of ships to R/V off Oversay Light.
- 8. Route will be promulgated by Admiralty.
- 9. C. in C. Home Fleet and F.C.I.C. Belfast are requested to sail DORSETSHIRE and DUNOTTAR CASTLE respectively to attend Convoy Conference at Clyde.

1816B/6

for D.O.D.(H)

Approved by A.C.N.S.(H)

1

```
lst Lord
lst S.L.
2nd S.L.
3rd S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.(H)
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(T)(2)
N.A. lst S.L.
D. of P.(2)
D.O.D.(F)
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.L./S.W.

I. (2)
W.D.
Duty Captain
Head of M.
D.T.S.D.
D.D.I.C.
E.D.S.
D.T.D.(2)
N.I.D.10. (Payr. Cdr. Wilson)
D.G.D.
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6.8.1941. Wednesday.

General.

Enemy M/V's Prevention of Scuttling.

Request your observations on A message No.36 (1943/1/5) in light of experience on your station. (Head of M. 1007B/6 to C's in C.)

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

0.21 and enemy M/V's.

Netherlands Sub.O.21 reports sinking 4,000 ton enemy M/V on 29/7 in 039° 51' 013° 46'. Ship was one of 5 in convoy escorted by 2 destroyers apparently bound Naples. Suspect A/S schooner badly damaged by gunfire in 3/8 in 038° 46' 009° 24'. (F.O.C.N.A. 1040B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

French Ships, Gibraltar.

Passed 5/8 eastward ST.CYRILLE, ST.MONIQUE, both full. (F.O.C.N.A. 1127B/6 to Admty. for M.E.W.)
French convoys passing Gibraltar 2/8 and 4/8. (D.O.R. 6/8.)

A/C force - landed in Morocco.

My 1745/5. Ministry (?in doubt) as regards date of incident which took place some days ago, and protest has already been received. (N.A. Madrid, 1157/6 to Admty.)

Teneriffe defences.

My 2015/5. Reported no defence between Garachico and Buenavisto. 4 guns 15.5 cm. are at Medano. 2 large mobile guns at Cristianos. -(Teneriffe 1255/6 to Admty.)

Funchal.

Your 1209B/5, there are ample supplies of water Funchal. (N.C.S.O. Funchal, 1502/6 to Admty.)

Ponta Bel--gada. Your 1209B/5. Water facilities limited to supply by lighters from outside port and can be obtained only in fine weather. Provided ship can receive through four or five hoses 40 tons per hour can be pumped in. In order to guarantee supply 48 hours notice of arrival is necessary. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delogada, 1555/6 to Admty.)

CAVINA.

S.O. Western Patrol 0940B/1. After position X proceed through 030° 30' N. 015° 00' W. thence Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1632B/6 to CAVINA.)

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

St. Vincent defences.

Your 1915B/29. Further to my 1801/31. Details. (Consul, St. Vincent, 1711/6, to Admty.)

Bilbao Ore Traffic. Traffic of small vessels with iron ore of specially valuable quality from Bilbao to Bayonne is now formidable. 4 French, 8 Dutch (under German Flag) and 2 larger German Steamers engaged. Please see memo. to you by Consul Bilbao dated 1/8 and reports to Director of Foreign Ores, Ministry of Supply, by Loxley, Bilbao, dated 28/7 and 4/8. From these it should be possible to devise plan of interference with traffic. (N.A. Madrid, 1835/6 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

0.S. and S.L. Convoys.

Your 1405/4/4 is noted. West coast ships -arriving in O.B.346 that were available (6 ships) sailed in convoy for neighbourhood of Takoradi. Intention was to continue this when possible. Considered that position in which such convoys, including ships for the Cape, should be dispersed should be left to C. in C. S.A. to decide. Re penultimate sentence of signal, all escorting forces returning to Freetown are utilised to protect shipping proceeding there. (C. in C.S.A. Ol27N/6 to Admty. amended O247N/6, 1049N/6) Concur (D.T.D.1737B/8.)

W.S.10 X.

Your 2015/3. Regret all accommodation in W.S.10 X will be required for personnel from U.K. (D.S.T.0523B/6 to C. in C.S.A.)

ORION.

Sails from St. Helena p.m./7 average S. of A. 16 knots. E.T.A. at Trinidad 1400 G.M.T./17. (ORION, 0941Z/6 to Admty. C. in C.S.A.)

MAUD.

Overdue shipping (Nor) MAUD due Cape Town 2/8 from Calcutta not arrived. (S.O.I. Cape Town, 0947B/6 to Admty.)

NEWCASTLE.

Your 1727/19. Intend NEWCASTLE shall call Freetown and fuel there on passage to Boston as proposed to bring correspondence and enable C.S.O. to discuss S.A.D. Affairs. (C. in C.S.A. 1301N/6 to R.A.S.A.D.)
Wearing flag of R.A.S.A.D. arrived Buenos Aires 1800 G.M.T./5 and leaves on patrol 1800 G.M.T./7. (R.A.S.A.D. 1341Z/6 to Admty. C. in C.S.A.)

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

TOKAI MARU.

YAMAKAZE MARU. Japanese YAMAKAZE MARU in 38° 10' S. 56° 30' W. steering approx. 200° at 1200Z/4. TOKAI MARU left Rio de Janeiro 4/8 for Yokohama. Due 1/9. (S.O.I. Freetown 1644N/6 to Admty.)

CARNARVON CASTLE. Your 2149/3 approved. (C. in C.S.A. 1654N/6 to R.A.S.A.D.)

QUEEN OF BERMUDA. Your 0916/5. (N.T. in W.R.) Owing to escort arrangements required by Admiralty unlikely that QUEEN OF BERMUDA will now arrive Newport News until about 18/9. (C. in C.S.A. 1809N/6 to B.A.R.M.)

LUMINARY.

Boom Trawler, allocated to Ceylon, ready to sail shortly from Simonstown. Endurance 1,500 Please request Ambassador to approach miles. Portuguese Authorities requesting permission for LUMINARY to call Beira for fuel. (Head of M. 1824B/6 to N.A. Lisbon.)

Vichy Ships.

Policy if interception is interfered with. (C. in C.S.A. 1841N/6 to S.A. Stn.) See Lion Copy.

MATHILDA THORDEN. Rio de Janeiro reports MATHILDA THORDEN Panama ex Finnish sailed from there late last night 5/8 for Baltimore direct. (S.O.I. Montevideo 1928Z/6 to R.A.S.A.D.)

O.G.70.

Your 1728B/4/8 and 1946B/30/7, request present positions and route of ships from 0.G.70 entering S.A. Station. (C. in C.S.A. 2020N/6 to Admty.)

Japanese Shipping.

A.2 Representative of Japanese S.S. lines at Montevideo has asked Port Administration for tug to go out to meet Japanese ASUKA MARU when she arrives in Montevideo Roads. Tug is to take out Chilean pilot who will fly over from Buenos Aires and will presumably be pilot for Magellan Straits. Ship left Baltimore 12/7, believed to be for Colon but did not arrive there. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2143Z/6 to S.O.I. Freetown.)

HOLMSIDE. NIKOKUS. RIVER AFTON. Your 1236B/19. HOLMSIDE and NIKOKLIS overdue. RIVER AFTON received diversion signal but took no action as ship had passed position. (C. in C.S.A. 2145N/6 to Admty.)

IN.

From:-

Admiralty.

C. in C. South Atlantic. Date Recd

7.8.41. 0340.

Naval Code "J" Secret by W/T.

Addressed: - South Atlantic Station 262 G. Repeated Admiralty.

724. My 251G of July 25th paragraph (c) not to

- (1) If intervening French force is approximately equal or inferior in strength French force is to be informed that intervention cannot be allowed and force will be used if necessary to provent it.
- (2) If decisive superior French force intervene the merchant ship is to be sunk and action avoided if possible.
- (3) In any case captured ship should be sunk to avoid re-capture when this becomes necessary.
- (4) Admiralty and C. in C. South Atlantic are to be informed of situation and action being taken. If in any doubt or reinforcements are known or thought to be in near neighbourhood, measures to delay action may be taken, but if no further instructions are received in reasonable time, situation is to be dealt with in accordance with (1) (2) and (3) above.

My 1841 part 3. Final.

(2) All armed guards and prize crew on board Vichy French ships are to have scuttle charges and organisation for scuttling prepared whether ship is being escerted or not.

Paragraph 4 (A) (B) and (C) of S A O 23 dated June 25th are cancelled.

1841N/6. Advance copy sont Ops, O.D. O.I.C.

lst Lord.
lst S.L.
V.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
Nav. Soc.
N.A. lst S.L.
P.A.S. (S)
M (6)

Ops.(4) O.D.(5) O.I.C.(3) D.A/S.W. D.N.I.(4) D.T.D.(C) I.P.(3) W.D. D.E.V.D.(3) E.P.S. D.P.S. Ad. Chalmors. D. of P.(3) D.T.D.(4) D.T.D.(M)

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

ADVANCE. (Finnish.)

Spartivento reports following telegram received by Captain Finnish ship (?ADVANCE) from owners (begins). Following in accordance with "Brazil 495 S" instructions to proceed within territorial waters (ends). Captain reports speed 7 knots, bunkers on board for 30 days. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2257Z/6 to R.A.S.A.D.)

Mediterranean.

Air Attack D.2. Help - 31° 43' N. 26° 15' E. (Capt. D.2. 0606/6 to Alexandria W/T.)

Russia and Turkey.

30 M.M. Moscow to W.O. 0810/6. See Lion Copy.

Suez Canal Raid. Raid on Suez Canal Zone night 4/5 made by about 30 A/C. Some bombs dropped on Kantara, Port Said, in Delta, and near Cairo, but main effort directed against Ismailia which was attacked by between 15 and 20 A/C. About 100 civilians 4 Service personnel killed, 130 Civilians, 15 Service personnel wounded. No damage to Service -property. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1011/6 to Air Min.)

Benghazi,
Derna,
Bardia
bombed.

Night 4/5, 6 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi, 4
Wellingtons bombed Derna, 1 Wellington bombed
-Timimi, 4 Marylands bombed M.T. Depot at Derna,
3 Marylands bombed Gazala South landing ground,
6 Blenheims and 6 F.A.A. Albacores bombed M.T.
workshops and gun repair Depot at Bardia.
(H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. 1012/6.)

CACHALOT sunk.

Regret to report CACHALOT must be considered lost, being now 48 hours overdue and having been claimed as sunk by name in Italian broadcast a.m./5.

Broadcast also stated 91 prisoners taken. It is believed there were 71 on board including passengers. Italian report stated CACHALOT was rammed by E-boat which seems unlikely.

Likelihood of compromise of S.P.s cannot be assessed. (Capt. S.1 1047C/6, C. in C. Med. 1054C/6.)

MOST SECRET

889

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

0810/6th Aug.

IN

From No. 30 Military Mission Moscow. Date 6.8.41.

Recd 1150.

Cipher

Addressed War Office.

33181

MOST HAWEDLATE.

Mil 286 Cipher 5/8. D.M.I. from MacFarlane.

Continuation of my Mily 279 dated Ly/8 addressed to Chiefs of Staff.

Part One.

At conference last night Panfilov appeared to think Turks might still be intimidated into permitting passage of German troops. He said Bulgarian troops would not fight Russians but more than possible that they could be persuaded to fight Turks. He considered that following troops were available for attack on Turkey. 8 Bulgarian Divisions 3 to 4 German Divisions. 2 Italian Divisions, Also Vichy French troops reported in Salonika area. I pointed out that a force of this type was hardly likely to intimidate Turks. Am pressing for an early interview with Zhulov to deliver assurance agreed by C.I.G.S. in W.O. telegram 217 dated 2nd August. This should go far to relieve (group undec:) Russians for the future in this quarter.

Part Two.

- (b) Panfilov still very confident regarding outcome present operations. Tactics are to (? retain) Cohesion and inflict casualties. Within reason they are not worried by losses of ground as long as it enables them to kill more Germans.
- (c) Severity of Gorman casualties on all parts of front again stressed. As evidence it was said 7000 seriously wounded from Murmansk area had passed through Norway during the last 10 days.
- Part 2 (a) Russians will arrange to (? give) as much information as possible regarding internal situation in all German occupied countries. Their information indicates feeling against Germans is now particularly high in Belgium.
- (b) Recently captured German orders reveal that 12 men of unit had been shot for refusing to fight.

(c) Russtaus.....



MOST SECRET

- 2 -

- (c) Russians confirm German medical services are inadequate. Hospitals are so full that casualties are being sent direct to private houses in France and other occupied territory.
- (d) Russians very anxious for latest official details of air raid damage in Berlin. Consider such information will be useful as reports of these raids arouse great local enthusiasm. Message ends.

0810/6.

Advance copy sent Duty Captain, D.O.D. (H) and D.D.I.C. Received by hand from War Office at 2005/6.

lst Lord
lst 3.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
M.A. lst 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.
D.O.D.(H)
D.D.O.D.(H)

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Raids.

My 1259C/4. Ref. C.A.F.O. (Corrupt Group). First Raid on Suez. (a) 4/8 calm cloudless. (b) 4 to 6 bombers, parachute flares, bright moon. (c) H.E. bombs and torpedoes.

(d) 12 bombs, about 3 torpedoes and 1 suspected U.X.21. (e) No naval casualties. ESCAUT sunk. DESMOULEA damaged by torpedo*/50 miles South of Suez. Second raid on Port Said. (a) 4/8 calm clear. (b) High level 5 bombers, Z flares, bright moonlight. (c) H.E. bombs. (d) 8 500 kilo bombs and one suspected U.X.21 in canal at kilos 4.5. (e) No naval damage or casualties. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1131C/6 to Admty., C. in C. Med.) * ALEXANDRE ANDRE reported torpedoed

0.23 patrol. Consider you should spend 2 days in vicinity of 038° 16' 012° 10' Northbound convoys Approach from (?Marittimo) and steer from this point 075° and 032° to Messina and Naples respectively. This after spending one day off Cape St. Vito and off approaches to Palermo. Propose you then follow coastal route towards Messina. En air patrols North of Messina are constant. From close to northward of Straits of Messina proceed 331° to position 5 miles East of Stromboli then 000° to Cape Palinuro, thence operate in approaches to Naples. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1157B/6 to 0.23.)

MAYA. ALBARO.

Italian tankers imminently expected transit Bosphorus laden for Aegean. (N.A. Istanbul 1225C/6 to S.O.I. Med.)

Attack on Vichy ships off Turkey ISTIKBAL.

My 2352/25 (see Mediterranean Volume.) Ship attacked by R.A.F. A/C was Turkish S.S. ISTIKBAL, thought to be ADOUR. Attack started outside territorial waters, but understood that Turks are likely to make a protest. N.A. Angora states Ship sailed without giving us due warning though Turkish Authorities had been asked and agreed to report all movements to avoid just such incidents. (C. in C. Med. 1256/6 to Admty.)

Constanza Ploesti.

Following from Adm Kelly. A friend in daily telephone communication with Roumania states town of Constanza badly damaged by air attack but no hits on port area. In Ploesti one refinery and depot were destroyed by air raids but output is not materially affected. (N.A. Angora 1325C/6 to Admty.)

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Turkey and Vichy Ships.

-Your 1130/30 to N.A. Angora. In view of Turkish attitude reported in Ambassador's telegram No. 1875 repeated to Cairo No.631, it appears improbable that anything will be gained by pressing our objections to removal of all the ships.

H.M. Ambassador is however, being instructed to state our objections and to press for retention of the Tanker ADOUR and Sloop ELAN at Iskanderun. Remaining ships appear comparatively unimportant and such a compromise whilst partly meeting the Turkish point of view would give us little practical cause for complaint. Request you communicate your views on this suggestion to N.A. Angora. (1st Lord. 1350B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

Turkey.

Staff conversations. Chiefs of Staff No. 154. (1st S.L. 1420B/6 to C. in C. Med.) See Lion Copy.

Enemy Units.

Six Destroyers, six Merchant Ships in position 210° Pantellaria 17 miles course 170° 15 (knots?) at 1335B. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1436B/6 to UNBEATEN.)

Personnel for U.K.

My 2111C/19/6 and your 2254/21/6. Number of passages available since June has not kept pace with number of ratings available for draft to U.K. Available accommodation at Alexandria cannot compete with situation. Request arrangements be made for an escorted passage from Egypt, ?20/8 or alternatively if C. in C.E.I. concurs that draft awaiting passage be sent as far as Durban un-escorted. (C. in C. Med. 1456/6 to Admty. addresses amplified 1027/8.)

D.14.

No news yet. At 1600 steer eastwards about 15 knots. Return to be off? Mersa Matruh at 2000. (C. in C. Med. 1528C/6 to Capt. D.14.) If no further orders are received by 2000/6 carry out an A/S sweep to Westward along Western Desert route turning back to pass Mersa Matruh daylight/7 and return to Alexandria. TORBAY is operating (?8th) off Ras El Melh North of 031° 52' and will proceed to Westwards at 2100/6 if (?nothing) further (?occurs.) (C. in C. Med. 1818C/6 to Capt. D.14.)

/Malta

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

OUT

TO: C. in C. Mediterranean. 359.

Date: 6:8.41.

Naval Cyphor One T. T.

FROM: Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. 154. to Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East and C. in C. Mediterranean.

C. in C. Middle East's Telegram No. 0/87860 of 2/8 to Mar Office and 0/88231 of 3/8 to Military Attache, Ankara.

Paragraph 1

We are in general agreement with your proposed agonda for forthcoming Staff Conversations with Turks subject to the following amendment. We suggest Item (g) should be amended to read:-

"Area of operation and disposition of British forces in concerted plan of defence including sphores of activity of British and Turkish Air Forces."

Paragraph 2.

The character and extent of the assistance we will offer has been carefully examined by the Chiefs of Staff with the Prime Minister in the Chair. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Supply also attended the meeting. It was agreed that general line to be taken by our Delegation in talks with Turks should be as follows:-

- (a) If you are pressed by Germany and resist by of arms, we will make common cause with you and come to your help at once with substantial forces. You will become a partner in the immense rescurces of the British Empire and the United States of America.
- (b) Our essential object in the Middle East is the destruction of the German Africa Corps, and the reconcuest of Cyrenaica. Once we have accomplished this, we can shift nearly the whole of our weight to your front.
- (c) It seems to us extremely unlikely that Germany could stage a full-scale attack on you before the 1st November, and probably not till the Spring of 1942. To be on the safe side, let us take 1st November, 1941, as zero day.

- (d) By that date we should be able to send you if you are attacked four Divisions and at least one Armoured Brigade. All of these formations would be complete with all modern equipment, including A.T. Artillery.
- (e) The precise extent and character of our air support must depend on the general situation, particularly in the Western Desert, when the call comes. But you may rest assured that it will be considerable. We are building up very powerful air forces in the Middle Mast. Before the end of this year we should have 1000 first-line aircraft in regular action backed by considerable reserves; and maintained continuously from Britain and America; and this number will rise to 1250 first line in action during 1942.
- (f) Our air forces will however be totally unable to operate effectively in your support, unless you give us immediate facilities for preparing the necessary aerodremes, and establishing the necessary ground organisation. If you will let us take a leaf out of the German book in Bulgaria, and send in the necessary technical personnel in plain clothes to get to werk on the aerodremes at once, the considerable air forces which we will send to you will be able to operate with maximum effect from the outset. Without these facilities they will be relatively useless.
- (g) We will provide anti-aircraft artillery on a considerable scale for the defence of our own formations, and of the aerodromes which you allot to us.
- (h) We will increase and accelerate the despatch to you of equipment and other war material, and you shall have a share of the considerable supplies which are already being shipped direct to the Middle Hast from the U.S.A. As an immediate and special consignment, we are sending you 100 3.7 A.A. guns from England.

Paragraph 3.

Offer of A.A. guns referred to in paragraph 2 (h) above should not be volunteered in first place, but Delegation should keep it up their sleeves as bargaining counter.

Paragraph 4.

Conversations should not take place until General Auchinlock and Air Marshal Todder have returned to Cairo and have explained above instructions to our Delegation. Later date suggested in paragraph 2 of your Telegram No.

MOST SECRET

3.

0/88231 therefore appears suitable.

Paragraph 5.

Foreign Secretary suggests that one way of bringing about improvement in relations between the Sovier Union and Turkey would be for our representatives during Staff Conversations to take opportunity of preaching to their Turkish opposite numbers importance of political rapprochement with Soviet Union. They should assure the Turks that they have nothing to fear from importalistic claims by Russians in respect of Dardanelles of Caucasian Frontier. At same time they should do all they can te convince Turks that in recommending rapprochement between Turks and Soviet it is not our intention or wish to push Turks into war prematurely or against their better judgment. Our only object is to see Turkish political and military position strengthened as it will be by more fact that she is on intimate terms with her Northern neighbour.

Paragraph 6.

Please pass to Minister of State.

1420B/6.

for Secretary to 1st Sea Lord.

lst Lord.
lst S.L.
3rd. S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
N.A.lst S.L.
P.A.S.(S)
D.O.D.(F)
D.D.O.D.(F)
D.N.I.(4)
D. of P.(2)
Duty Captain.
F.P.S.
Head of M.(8)
I.P.(2)
N.I.D.lo.(Pay.Cdr. Wilson)
W.D.
D. of L.D.

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Malta Raid.

Night 5/6 10 raiders. Hurricane shot down 3 confirmed 2 in flames only 1 identified Fiat BE. 202. Bombs in fields and dockyard slight damage dockyard, no casualties.

R/C Augusta, 24 seaplanes, 4 Subs., 1 small M.V. sunk and quay (?)splintered as result of Swordfish attack (see below.) Considerable amount of oil

Swordfish attack on Augusta 5/8. around submarine base.
Part 111. 2 Blenheims despatched p.m.5/8 to attack shipping Benghazi-Tripoli, nothing seen, aircraft attacked barracks Misurata direct hits, much debris thrown high and considerable damage inflicted no opposition, both aircraft returned. Night 5/6, 5 Swordfish excellent attack Augusta submarine base from 2,000 feet, 10 direct hits 500 lb. bombs, several fires, 1 particularly big fire on submarine jetty with heavy black smoke still burning when seen Fulmars 1 hour later, photos taken today reported above, all aircraft returned safely. (H.Q. Malta, 1600/6.)

PORPOISE.

Anticipate will be ready to sail for Med. about 1/9. Ref. A L D O 9360/41 of 5/7/41 request information regarding date it is anticipated RORQUAL can arrive U.K. for refit. (F.O.S. 1754B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

Suez Canal Raid 5/8. My 1303/5 C.A.F.O. 587. (A) 5/8, calm, cloudless, (B) main objective Ismailia, dive bombed about 6 JU 88, no illumination, bright moon. (C) H/E bombs. (D) About 30 impact bombs. (E) Minor blast damage to Navy Office and 1 rating killed. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1831C/6 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

TAKU.

Your 1427/2 not to Capt. S.7. Approved. TAKU should be sailed for Rothesay. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1856B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

Turkey oil supplies.

From Admiral Kelly. Walker co-ordinator of all oil supplies to Turkey has contracted to supply complete with two cargoes monthly each 6,000 tons oil products from Abadan to Iskanderun. 1st ship left Abadan 18/7. Hoped Admiralty will facilitate application for tankers for this service. (N.A. Angora, 1857C/6 to Admty.)

Suez Canal.

My 1917/5. Mines laid 16/7 outside Channel at Kilo 99 exploded spontaneously today. Situation otherwise unchanged. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal area 1919C/6.)

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FCREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Supplies for Tobruk.

Your 1245/5. (a) and (c) see Admty.1859/6.
(b) PRINCE BADOUIN will carry approx. 150 tons cargo and this is being increased to approx.
300 tons by stowage between decks at expense of accommodation. Your 1114/6/7 A. as above.
B. and C. This is being arranged. Your requirements will be borne in mind in further ships converted. Can you accept ship flying Red Ensign? If so she could be sailed from U.K. approx. one month earlier than if White Ensign. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2137B/6 to C. in C. Med.)

Situation Report 109. Western Desert. Air and surface and submarine force operating to intercept supply ships to enemy forward bases in Cyrenaica but air R/C has revealed no movements.

(ii) "Guillotine". HOBART returned Alexandria.

NEPTUNE, ABDIEL and a destroyer left Port Said for Famagusta p.m./6 then to (?Haifa). (C. in C. Med. 2152C/6 to Admty.)

MAURO CROCE. (Italian)

Arrival 6/8. (Barcelona, 2200/6 to D. of S.T.)

East Indies.

ALEXANDRE ANDRE. (A/C attack)

Reported position off Daedalus a.m./6 (?severely) damaged by torpedo and probably unseaworthy in heavy weather. Proceeding Port Sudan 9 knots weather favourable. S.B.N.O. Suez's 1259/4 refers. (C. in C.E.I. 0940Z/6 to Admty.)

Indian Ocean anchorages.

Admty. 1157/15/7. Details. (F.O.C.R.I.N.1050Z/6 to Admty.) See Operations Volume.

S.W.8.

(2) 1130Z/6 DUCHESS OF BEDFORD troops 10 miles port, and ORDUNA troops 10 miles starboard, of convoy route Mombasa. (N.C.S.O. Aden 1415Z/6 to Admty. amended 0820Z/7.)

Indian Ocean anchorages.

Your 1442Z/24. Approved. (D. of L.D. 1610B/6 to C. in C.E.I.)

Diego Garcia defences.

(A.C.N.S.(F) 1748B/6) See Operations Volume.

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

RAMSES.

Yokohama arrival 30/7, painted grey over all. (Capt. 0.S. Singapore, 0401Z/6 to Admty. etc.)

DUPLEIX. COMPIEGNE. My 0506/5. Owing to holding up of DUPLEIX at Batavia, sailing of COMPIEGNE from Saigon is postponed. (Capt. O.S. Singapore 0919Z/6 to Admty.)

America and West Indies.

FORT LAMY, LUCIJANA, crew trouble. CARADOC to investigate. At. St. Thomas, report crew trouble. Leave Trinidad 8/8 and proceed to St. Thomas. Consult local authority and report (A) what action is recommended with view to getting ships to sea. (B) Whether any evidence of subversive activity ashore causing trouble among crew. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1001Q/6 to CARADOC.)

My 1001Q/6. Request you notify U.S.Authorities of CARADOC's visit to St. Thomas and reason. Also ask if any objection to visit being extended beyond 24 hours if necessary. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1002Q/6 to N.A. Washington) See also 2212/6.

MOOLTAN.

H.M. Transport MOOLTAN delayed 24 hours engine repairs, expected to sail 0600 local time 7/8. (S.B.N.O. Curacao, 1010QR/6 to Admty.)

Passages from Bermuda. My 1204/14/3 to Admty. only. Situation regarding passages to U.K. from Bermuda is again serious. Only homeward bound ships calling are independent ships, 12-15 knots and over, requiring to embark A.A. guns and military personnel. Very few have accommodation available. Propose all homeward bound ships from Panama Canal having suitable accommodation should call at Bermuda, whether they are for convoy or not. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1052Q/6 to Admty.) Concur until position has been rectified. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1823B/8.)

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - Contd.

S/M's.

B.A.R.M. 1242R/4. Suggest they should proceed to Halifax for working up and completing to full stowage of torpedoes which were disembarked by FORTH. This would ease congestion at St. Johns, N.F. (R.A. 3 B.S. 1225P/6 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

Use of W/T.

Following is a repetition of my 1312Q/1. Your 0355Z/31. Do not agree unless there are other very strong reasons. (C. in C.A.W.I. 1238Q/6 to C. in C. China.)

Visits of neutrals to Bermuda.

Following for C.C.S.O. Your 1032/5. Portuguese GUINE was diverted to Bermuda by HILARY vide F.O.C.N.P. 0946/29. My 1108/31 stated not clear whether passengers (refugees) had been approved by H.M. Consul, Lisbon, and enquiries were being made.

2. If arrival of GUINE at Bermuda had been reported to Admiralty you would have been informed immediately that no reply received from Lisbon and told what action required. Your 1032/5 was first intimation of arrival of GUINE 2/8. Presumably passenger list was found to have been approved as no contrary report received from you and Lloyds shows departure 3rd.

3. Reason for call of NYASSA at Bermuda not known here but it was known she would be carrying refugees.

Report whether passenger lists and also cargoes of both ships were in order.
 Arrivals of all neutral ships subjected to

5. Arrivals of all neutral ships subjected to Control should be reported to Admiralty vide C.B. 1993 Art. 168, also departures. (D.E.W.D. 1359/6 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

U.S. tugs for U.K. Admty.1556B/5. 2 large tugs each towing one small tug expecting to sail New York about 12/8 for Sydney (C.B). No other tug ready to sail to New York before end of August. MIDSHIPMAN requested to give assurance minimum speed of tug and towing 7½ knots and to forward full details to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1607Z/6 to N.C.S.O. Cape Breton, C.O.A.C.)

KURTOSO MARU.
possibly
fuelling
raider.

My 1756R/3. Investigation at San Francisco 8/6 disclosed. (a) Unusual lengths 6" by 8" hose line and fittings. (b) Pipe lines and hose supports both sides of vessel and after anchor showed evidence recent usage. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1621R/6 to Admty. etc.)

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies. - contd.

RICHMOND.

Your 1240R/4. Approved to allocate RICHMOND to U.S.A. (Controller 1706B/6 to B.A.R.M.)

Japanese
San Francisco reports all Japanese schedules
for U.S.A. cancelled. Japanese Merchant ships
are painting out Flag. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa,
1929Z/6 to Capt. O.S. Singapore.)

Your 1821Z/31 N.C.S.O. Clyde denies that his C.P.O. telegraphist has told any Radio Officer to disregard orders given by another Assembly port. Defence Orders are now being produced on subject of radiation from any receiver and also on the number of broadcast receivers permissible in a ship. These orders should clarify the situation. Definite orders re sealing and unsealing at sea are also being produced. (D.T.D.2017B/6 to C.O.A.C. Halifax.)

CARRAS.

Crew trouble.

CARADOC to

investigate.

St. Lucia reports CARRAS (Greek) bound Halifax
held up, Greek crew mutinous. Captain and
Officers refuse to sail unless 7 Ringleaders
removed. After leaving Trinidad for St. Thomas
to comply with my 1001Q/6 proceed St. Lucia and
investigate. If necessary ringleaders should
be arrested and kept on board until return to
-Trinidad unless it is possible to imprison
them at St. Lucia. Important ship proceeds on
voyage as early as possible. (C. in C.A.W.I.
2212Q/6 to CARADOC.)

Australia.

U.S.11 B. Arrival Fremantle 0141Z/6, CANBERRA, escorting U.S.11 B. 0635Z/6 PERTH. (A.C.N.B.1244Z/6 to Admty.)

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

S.L.81. (attacked 5/8.)

Return to Lough Foyle and await further orders. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0053B/6 to SUPERMAN ST. OLAVES.) Handed over hydrophonic A/S projector of GMWD (Signal letters indecypherable in W.R.) to ZINNIA in 052° 44' N., 015° 17' W., at 0359. Am rejoining convoy. CAPE RODNEY still afloat, no swell, drifting S.E. ½ knot. ZINNIA has 38 tons 0il fuel, unable to connect by W/T up to 0229B. Have transferred Chief Officer, Corporter and 1 Seaman of GMWD (?) to ZINNIA. (HYDRANGEA, O501B/6, to C. in C. W.A.)
Position of CAPE RODNEY at 1800B/5 52° 44' N.,
15° 17' W., drifting S.E. 1/2 knot.
(F.O.I.C. Greenock 0757B/6, to ZWARTE ZEE, NORTHERN GEM. Your 1945B/5 addressed C. in C. W.A., Rescue tug ZWARTE ZEE escorted by NORTHERN GEM should make contact with you at daylight/7. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 0803B/6, to HYDRANGEA.) Arrived Tugs ST. OLAVES and SUPERMAN. (N.O.I.C. Londonderry 1730B/6 to C. in C. W.A.) E.T.A. 0930B/7. Have 39 survivors from CAPE RODNEY and 43 survivors of HARLINGEN on board. Have transferred Chief Officer and one seaman of CAPE RODNEY to ZINNIA to assist in salvage. On completion of disembarkation of survivors and refuelling request permission to return to base. (HYDRANGEA, 1829B/6, to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

Submarines Reported.

? Time.

Am over enemy S/M in 53.15 N 14.54 W.

(A/C? No T.O.O./6 to 15 Group H.Q.)

V-enemy submarine previously reported was sighted on surface and observed to submerge F.G.R.(A/C 0045/6, to 15 Group H.Q.)

Have lost touch with enemy submarine last seen in 53.15 N., 14.54 W.

(A/C 0208/6, to 15 Group H.Q.)

2330/5.

By A/C, 53.15 N., 14.54 W. Details of hunt. (C. in C. W.A., 1045/6, to 15 Group.) See Lion Copy.

1010 G.M.T.

By D/F at 1010/6 G.M.T. position of U/boat was within 30 miles of 51° 00' N., 14° 00' W. (D.D.I.C. 1324B/6.)
Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1419B/6.)

114H-

3K4

C. C. L. S.

14.(2)

D.N.N.D.

D.T.D.(2)

SECRET.

MESSSAGE. 1045/6th Aug. Liver Liver

(H) vE . Wall . se

FROM: C. in C. Western Approaches. Date. 6.8.41

Recd. 1335.

(). . Ip/L BY 2/P.

Addressed of the formum, Repeated of Group, H. R. C. T. C.

Admirator NR 103 FORM ORANGE (Ship)
Reference LV/GI/5/8

E/210 reports.

A Oban OBA/01/6/8 -(53.15 N, 14. 54 W.)

B 2330/5 A/C in position ZKBB 1506 and observed U-boat on surface sighting was made in darkness, 50 yards on Port Beam of A/C Large Wake was observed first and then the submarine was sighted. Course of U-boat was due north, Uboat doing 6-8 knots, no convoy or surface was observed in vicinity. A/C was flying at 800 feet and too close to delivery immediate attack unless by dive-bombing which

Captain considered inadvisable with depth charges. U-boat submerged W T

A/C was losing altitude for attack and owing to very rough sea and darkness swirl could not be found. U-beat appeared to dive on its same course. A/C then commenced square search using the U-boat sighting report as Datum Point, up to 20 miles. The area was covered several times until 0630/6. No further sighting of U-bost owing to very rough sea, no discharge was seen from U-boat in case swirl could be found several runs over the vicinity were made but not depth charges were dropped. During the search around the position the U-boat submerged, many lights of a palish yellow colour were observed to flash in the sky at a low altitude and seemed to be acknowledged by some waterborne craft. Captain states U-boat of large ocean going type. No contact with U-boat was made with S.1.

2345/5 A/C sighted one twin-engined monoplane approaching from Dead Astern (see OBA/B1/6/8)

1150/5 sirborne Oban to hunt U-bost reported in position ZKRC 2458 / 1613.....

1613 at ZIRC 2458 A/C commenced hunt, as detailed in relative form green.

1045/8

1st Lord

1st Sea Lord

5th Sea Lord

V.C.N.S.

A.C.N.S.(H)

Naval Secretary

N.A. 1st S.L.

Ops. (4)

0.D.(5)

0.I.C.(3)

D.N.I.(4)

D. of P. (3)

D.A./S.W.

D.N.A.D.

C.C.L.S.

M.(2)

D.T.D.(2)

D.S.D.(2)

W.D.

I.P.(3)

E.P.S.

JR.

6.8.1941. Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported Contd.

B.1. S/M sighted, nationality unknown, in 033° 26' N., 015° 54' W., at 1345/5, periscope depth. S/M submerged when sighted by passing Portuguese steamship.

(R.O. Funchal, 1516B/6, to Admty.)

2233/5. Opnav advises that S/M reported sighted at 2233/5 by S.S. CLAN MACINDOE was without doubt the U.S.S. MACKEREL. (Spenavo, 1800/6, to Admty.)

U-Boat reported in 036° 32'w.012° 21'w.260° 10 knots at 1800A. Two Catalina Aircraft hunting. (F.O.C.N.A., 1936B/6 to SEVERN.)

2112 G.M.T. By D/F at 2112/6 G.M.T. position of U-boat was approx., 48° 30' N., 13° 00. W. This position is an indication of the area only. (D.D.I.C. 2345B/6.)

Submarines Attacked.

Am over enemy S/M in 36.31 N., 11.55 W.

(A/C duty H, 202 Sqdn., 1416/6 to Med. A/C.)

Enemy S/M previously reported was on surface and when first sighted was on course 300°.

Estimated speed 8 knots. Have attacked enemy with dive bombs and estimate no hits. Have also attacked enemy with depth charges passed over depth charge leaving oil.

(Med. A/C, 202 Sqdn., duty H., 1515/6.)

202 Squadron 1 Catalina reported sighted and attacked a U-Boat in 36° 31' N., 11° 55' W., at 1416, result thick oil coming to the surface. Further 2 Catalinas despatched to take up hunt for U Boat. Area covered 37° 30' N., 10° 00' W., to 37° 30' N., 13° 30' W., to 25° 00' N., 13° 30' W., to 25° 00' N., 13° 30' W., to 35° 00' N., 10° 00' W. (200 Group, 1722/6.)

7.8.1941. Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Two torpedoes are suspected of having been fired by an E-boat at Convoy C.E.44 off Dover early this morning. Two heavy explosions were heard and the remains of two torpedoes were subsequently found on the foreshore.

British Air Operations.

An attack was made last night on Calais dock and harbour installations by 22 aircraft of Bomber Command.

A Coastal Command aircraft at 0040 today torpedoed amidships a 3,000 ton merchantman 25 miles S.W. of Alsboen Light.

Enemy Air Operations.

Fishing Trawler RENCO was damaged by M.G. and cannon fire at 1300 today in 61° 40' N., 5° 30' W., by an aircraft which also dropped bombs without result. The enemy aircraft is reported to have been probably hit and damaged.

Convoy Casing was unsuccessfully bombed at 2335 in 52° 2' N., 1° 47' E.

Mining.

Thames Estuary.

Enemy aircraft were over Thames Estuary last night and it is suspected that mines were dropped. M.M.S, 39 was mined and sunk at 1730 in 51° 33° 26" N., 1° 15' 36" E. Several magnetic and accoustic mines were detonated during the day.

7.8.1941. Thursday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Convoy Attacked. Last night 7 Swordfish attacked with torpedoes an escorted convoy of 6 ships off Lampedusa and sank a 8,000 and a 6,000 ton ship. The remaining 4 ships of the convoy were later bombed by Blenheims who obtained 2 direct hits with 500 lb, bombs on an 8,000 ton merchantman which was probably sunk and one hit on a 6,000 ton ship which was badly danaged. One of the escorting destroyers did not open fire throughout, possibly on account of damage.

Libya & Western Desert.

Bardia and Derna were bombed last night. Tripoli was bombed today.

Cyprus.

About 3 enemy aircraft bombed Famagusta this evening, bombs being dropped in the harbour area. There were no naval casualties but a tug, AMIRAL LACAZE is reported sunk and some immaterial damage was caused to dock buildings.

Canal Area.

About 14 to 20 enemy aircraft bombed Suez last night, directing their main effort against shipping to which however no damage was caused. Slight damage was caused at the oil refinery. S.S. AMRA (Egyptian) reported that 2 torpedoes were unsuccessfully fired at her during the raid in 28° 21 'N. It is reported that mines were dropped.

Alexandria.

There was an air attack on Alexandria from 2230 to 2350 today by about 20 aircraft; S.S. MAHOUT was slightly damaged. There was no evidence of mines being laid. Bombs dropped were apparently of small calibre. (p. (52)

America & West Indies.

In view of the present distribution of U-boats H.X. and S.C. Convoys are now to be dailed as separate convoys.

U-Boat Campaign.

(C-) tans (1944)

SEVERN sank a U-boat at 0105A today in 34° 48' N.,

7.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Swedish.
M/V's.

My 1019/6. Positions of Westbound vessels at 0001/7 as follows. (N.A. Stockholm 1051/7.)

Co-operation with U.S.A.

U.S. Identification Signals.

Admiralty 1818B/22 June. U.S. signals continue as follows. (D.S.D. 1601B/7.)

Task Force

(D.O.D(H) 1136B/7.) See Movements.

Co-operation with Russia.

Fuel for Force A.

Your 2256B/5. 10,000 tons oil fuel now available for Force A in this district. Storage now maximum capacity. Supplies to replenish stock will be ordered should information be received of arrival of Force A.

2. 3,000 tons Diesel fuel also available. (B.S.N.O. Polyarno 1723C/7 to Adty.)

Movements.

SHROPSHIRE.

Your 2143 B/6th. Following is a repetition of my 1621/5 begins C. in C. H.F., 1032B/5. SHROPSHIRE sailed from Hvalfjord at 1500Z. Ends. (A.C.I.C. 1051/7 to Adty.)

Task Force

A.M. 1045B/28 July. WASP, VINCENNES, and two destroyers returning by same route left vicinity of Iceland 0600 G.M.T./6. Speed of advance 15 knots. (D.O.D.H. 1136B/7.) (Spenavo 1650/7.)

REPULSE.

Intend sailing REPULSE for Scapa at 0930/13. Passage to be completed in daylight. Request destroyer Escort may be sent accordingly. (C. in C. Rosyth 1141/7.)
My 1141/7. Ship will now sail at 1030/14. (C. in C. Rosyth 1459/7.)

SEAWOLF.

KINGSTON CEYLONITE and KINGSTON JACINTH will R/V you in 050° 31' N., 000° 41' W., at 0600 B/8. (Capt. S.5. 1403B/7 to SEAWOLF.)

7.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements Contd.

RENOWN.

A.M. 0036B/4. para. 2A. On arrival in U.K., RENOWN is proceeding to Rosyth for refit. 2. Destroyer escort from Gibraltar cannot proceed to Scapa direct. 3. C. in C. H.F., is requested to state whether destroyer escort can be made available to meet RENOWN at a R/V N.W. of Ireland and escort her direct to Rosyth. (A.C.N.S.H. 1955B/7.)

PENELOPE WESTMINSTER CATTISTOCK. Sail at 1200 to-morrow to Tyne and arrive Tyne Pier Heads by 2000/8. You are required to provide S.A. escort with CATTISTOCK for PENELOPE from Tyne to Rosyth leaving Tyne Pier Heads at 1330/9 as ordered by F.O.I.C. Tyne. On passage to Tyne 3.A. gear should be used when proceeding over 14 knots. (C. in C. Rosyth 2155/7 to WESTMINSTER.)

SHEFFIELD.

My 2203/5. Sailing postponed 24 hours. Ship will now sail 12/8. (C. in C. Rosyth 2227/7.)

Operations.

Operation "Grat". GRAB.

GRAB patrol out 1100/7. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0957B/7.)

COUNTY Patrol withdraw 1900/7.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 1913B/7.)

Intend to resume operation GRAB a.m./9.

(C. in C. Portsmouth 2327B/7.)

LEADEROG.

Exercise keeping. Adty., 1159B/6th and my 1541B/6. It is not intended to recall ships of 6th M/S Flot., from Seidis Fiord for this exercise. (C. in C.H.F. 1303/7.)

M.T.B. Operation.

3 M.T.B.'s sail from Dover at 2300 to operate of Berck-sur-Mer returning to Dover at about 0630. Route via D Buoy each way. (V.A. Dover 1853B/7.)

7.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

A/C for ARGUS.

My 1715/3. Loading will not now start before 17/8. ARGUS is to continue training until that date if this can be arranged. (A.C.N.S.H. 1050B/7 to ARGUS.)

My 1050/7. For 17/8 read 15/8. (A.C.N.S.H. 1831B/7.)

Your 2005B/6. Fulmars will not lead in Hurricanes but suitable fighters will be required for driving off shadowers on passage. (C. in C.H.F. 2226B/7 to Adty.)

Clyde S.B.R.

My 1021B/5. Extension of bombing restrictions for night 7th/8th August not now required.(Capt. S.7. 1102B/7 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.)

800 and 812 Squadrons. Your 1621/6. Request disposal and strength if known of 800 and 812 Squadrons. (D.N.A.D., 1106B/7 to C. in C. H.F.)

Bombing operations on 6/8 and Night 6/7. During day 6/8 two A/C bombed Brest. Bombs burst in Rade Abri and immediately West of Rade Abri. 3 A/C attacked 2 M/V's in convoy 5 miles off Texel. One M/V received a direct hit and when last seen was down by the stern. On Night 6/7 Calais, Ostend, Boulogne and Dunkirk were bombed. (H.Q.B.C. 1525/7.)

Clyde Air R/C.

Request reply to My 1654/26/7. R/C Flight urgently required. (F.O.I.C. Glasgow 1137B/7 to Air Ministry.)

Patrols.

STARP TROST and BART in operation. STARD will be flown later.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2232/7.)

Enemy Air Activity.

Ramsgate bombed on 6/8. Enemy aircraft dropped one H.E. bomb at 2315/6 on Foreshore about 50 yards from Petrol Store West Wall. Insignificant naval damage. No casualties. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 0900B/7, 1020B/7.)

7.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity. Contd.

TUNISIA. (Bombed 4/8.)

Keep a specially good look-out for 3 life-boats from TUNISIA. (C. in C. W.A. 1159B/7 to VICEROY, WOOLSTON.)

Convoy.

Enemy A/C bombing Convoy GASING position 52° 2' N., 1° 47' E. (WOLSEY 2235/7.)
My 2235. No hits. (WOLSEY 2314/7.)

Convoy.

Convoy BREAST being shadowed by one enemy aircraft. Position 53° 41' N., 0° 40' E. (VERSATILE 2244/7.)

Mining.

ACHATES (Mined 25/7.)

R.A.(D) H.F. 2317B/6. Request A/S air escort be arranged. 14 Group will be requested to provide fighter protection in due course. (A.C.O.S. 1145B/7 to Group 18.)
Your 2317B/6. Intend sailing ANTELOPE and ACHATES in tow ASSURANCE at 2200B/7. (HARRIER 1415A/7.)
Request long term weather forecast for area east coast Iceland west of Faroes to Pentland Firth with special reference to wind and sea may be passed to ANTELOPE. (R.A.D. H.F., 2304B/7 to Adty.)

The Downs.

Sweeping carried out to 0800/7. By S.A. trawler, between Dumpton and Dover. One Acoustic Mine detonated in position 147 N.W. Goodwin buoy 3 cables. By LL trawlers. Q.Z.S. 191 negative result. (V.A. Dover 1231B/7.)

Rosyth Command.

11/6 to 6/8 the following drifting mines and German Explosive Floats have been dealt with in this Command. Particulars. (C. in C. Rosyth 1603/7.)

White Sea and Murmansk Areas. Following information has been received from Moscow. Repeats Ad. Miles, Moscow 1006/6. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1610B/7. to C. in C. H.F.)

7.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining Contd.

Thames
Estuary on
Night 6/7.

Between 2310 and 2314 three Bombs or mines believed dropped in Barrow Deep between B.5 and B.6 Buoys, two may have exploded soon afterwards. At 2315 a mine suspected dropped near the Kennymore Wreck buoy. At 0230 an explosion occurred near North end of Middle Deep. Aircraft were overhead at the time. (S.O. T.L.D.F. Sheerness 1754/7.)

Spurn Point. Following two mines self detonated on 6/8. Details. (F.O. Humber 1815B/7.)

M.M.39. sunk.

M.M.S. 39 mined and sunk in 51° 33' 26" N., 1° 15' 36" E., at 1730/7/8. 15 survivors. 3 missing believed dead. (Capt. M/S. Sheerness 2125/7.)

Harwich.

Explosion in 51° 47.1' N., 1° 21.8' E., presume ground mine, at 1640/7. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2251B/7.)

Enemy Intelligence.

on 1/8.

Enemy cruiser bearing name LEIPZIG at Travemunde 1/8. Graded B.2. (N.A. Stockholm 1019/7.)

Casualties & Defects.

Convoy F.S.559. 8 ships. grounded 6/8. Chief Salvage Officer Yarmouth reports casualties on Haisborough Sands all more or less submerged with extensive hull damage and heavy seas breaking entirely over them with no hopes of salvage and they can be considered as total losses. Even recovery of any armament very doubtful owing to submerged condition of wrecks and exposed conditions.

(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0956B/7.) See also C. in C. Nore 0051B/7, 1126B/7, F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0457B/7, 0903B/7, North Foreland 0722B/7.

F.O.I/C Yarmouth reports H.M.T. BASSETT appears to have carried out outstandingly good work in the rescue of crews. Details. No casualties in BASSETT's crew. Also that Gorleston lifeboat and lifeboats from Cromer and one from Lowestoft did excellent work in rescue of crews.

(C. in C. Nore 1500B/7.)

7.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects. Contd.

WARWICK CASTLE. WINDSOR CASTLE collision. WARWICK CASTLE damaged in collision with WINDSOR CASTLE at 0025B/7 in 51° 9' N., 27° 49' W., and since steering 185 at slow speed. GURKHA and destroyers are in vicinity. Escort to Halifax with BROADWAY. Detach BROADWAY to fuel when necessary. Bow of WARWICK CASTLE, badly damaged, making water, but she reported she can make good 10 knots. (WINDSOR CASTLE is able to proceed with convoy at?23 knots with number two oil tank flooded. (LONDON 0216B/7 to WORCESTERSHIRE.)

MADELRINE (Escort Trawler.) grounded.

LADY MADEL LINE hard aground in River Foyle due to jambed helm. Hope to refloat at high water or tomorrow. Anticipate that Rocky bottom has caused damage which will necessitate docking. (Capt. D. Londonderry 1746B/7.)

Shipping & Convoys.

H.X. and S.C.Convoys. My 1243/18/7 and your 1307/22/7. In view of present distribution of U-boats, H.X. and S.C. Convoys should now be sailed as separate Convoys. (A.C.N.S.(T) 0004B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

0.G.71. H.G.72. Your 1253B/5. Concur. (D.T.D. 0121B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

WINDSOR CASTLE. WARWICK CASTLE. (ex W.S.10.) You may be required to escort WINDSOR CASTLE and WARWICK CASTLE to Halifax. Remain in vicinity. (LONDON 0213B/7 to WORCESTERSHIRE.) W.D. Note - Both LONDON and WORCESTERSHIRE at present escorting W.S.10.

W.S.10. GURKHA. Proceed in accordance with my 1234 B/6.(N.T. in W.R.) when no longer required by WORCESTERSHIRE. (LONDON, 0313B/7, to GURKHA.)
List of ships in W.S.10, numbers, destinations, and instructions after arrival. (D.O.D. (F) 1916B/7 Amended 0327B/9 to C. in C's S.A., and E.I.) See Lion Copy.
Your 0921 B/7 (N.T. in W.D.) Not in contact.
Am returning to harbour as I must refuel.
My P.C. and S., are 049° 40' N., 030° 30' W., 262° 13.
(BROADWAY, 0830Z/7 to WORCESTERSHIRE.)

7.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. Contd.

W.S.ll. Proposed arrangements. (D.S.T. 0446B/7, to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland.) See Lion Copy.

F.S.559. 7 ships and H.M.S. AGATE stranded on Haisboro Sand. (See Casualties.)

Balloons Proposed revised rules. (D.G.D., 1557B/7 to and Kites. Air Ministry.) See Lion Copy.

M/V's Proposed revised rules. (D.G.D., 1557B/7 to firing Air Ministry.) See Lion Copy.

ST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1916B/7 August

OUT

To C in C East Indies 503
C in C South Atlantic 149
Repeated C in C Mediterranean 378
F.O.C.N.A. 73
F.O.I.C. Simenstown 826
S.N.O. R.S.F.
C in C China 542
F.O.C. Malaya 500
F.O.C.R.I.N. 682
N.O.I.C. Durban.

Tami: 7.8.41

Naval Cypher C

From Admiralty. IMPORTANT

Following transports sailed United Kingdom 2/8.

in Convoy W S 10.

| Code No. | Ship | Speed | Numbers on -Board. | |
|----------|------------------|-------|------------------------------|---|
| D 1 | ANDES | 21 | 10 15 3051 | West Africa Hast Africa Middle Hast |
| D 2. | BRITANNIC | 17½ | 30 2 2062 653 | West Africa Middle Hast Iraq India |
| 10 3 | STIRLING CASTLE | 19 | 16 1 33 | South Africa Middle Hast Colombo |
| D li | WINDSOR CLEVIE | 19 | 1650 1 1 372 793 | Malaya South Africa Middle Hast Iraq India |
| 26 | VOLUNDAM | 142 | 24 1 2147 | West Africa Adon Middle Hast |
| 27 | HIGHLIND MON RCH | 15 | 1215 | Middle Bast |
| 3 G | RINGITIKI | 14 | 1 1771 1771 | Wost Africa South Africa Middle Hast |
| D 9. | INDRAPOERA. | 14 | 3 3 1344 | South Africa Middle Hast |
| ם 10 ' - | NEL HELLAS | 15 | 15 28 3 3118 | West Africa South Africa Mast Africa Middle Bast |

....../3 11

| Code No. | Ship | Speed | Numbers | Destination. |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| the party of the party and the party of the | - | dieg mile and and man half soft | on board | |
| D 11 | STRATHALLAN | 18 | 1 2 | West Africa Middle Hast |
| 12 40 | | | 2346 90 7 | Iraq India |
| .D 12 | ORCADES | 20 | 101 100 12 44, 2933 | Wost Africa South Africa Mast Africa Adon Middlo Hast |
| D 13 | RWINA DUL PACIFICO | 19 | | South Africa Middle Mast |
| D 14. | CAMERONIA | 15 | 1516 | Middle wast |

2. Following aeroplanes vehicles gums etc. and stores were shipped in the troop transports.

| | -005 | COTTO FOT. P.P. | | |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Ship. | Aeroplanes | Vehicles Guns etc. | Stores | Destination |
| STIRLING CASTIE | _ | - | 600 | Capotown |
| WARVICK CASTLE | 1 Oxford | 95 | 2145 to du. | Singapore Durban Sppt |
| * 1 | Oxford | 24 | = | Durban Ngypt |
| RJIMA DEL PACIFI | 100 - | 21 | - 1 | .agynt |
| ANDES 1 | Oxford Harvards | - | ~ | Durban Durban |
| R. MGITIKI | 4 | 91 | - | Lypt |
| WINDSOR CLSTLE 2 | Masters | 68 | 2000 to 1.w. | Constant |
| | Lysanders | 71 | 102 tons d | Totalliner |
| STR.TH.II.N 1 | Master | 62 | 64 tons d. | Canataum |

...../3 Tho

MOST SECRET

3. The following M.T. ships also sailed in Convoy

W.S. 10.

| Code No. | Ship | Spe | ed Contents Acro- Destination planes |
|-------------|-------------|-----|---|
| | MRSTROOM | 14½ | tanks, guns |
| R 196 MAINC | HISTAR PORT | 13 | M.T. ammunition - Hgypt tanks, guns stores - 3 Oxfords Durban |
| R 197 DIOM | ID | 13½ | M.T. ammunition, Basra and Guns India 3 Harvards Durban |
| R 198 PHEM | IIUS | | M.T. tanks guns - Mgypt ammunition & R.I.F.motor boats - 2 Fulmars Ilexandria |
| R 199 INDI | AN PRINCH | 13 | M.T ammunition - Eg.pt tanks, guns stores 3 Oxfords Durban |

4. P.S.T.O. Simonstown should arrange for onward conveyance to Mombasa of the personnel for East Africa.

- 5. After disembarkation at Singapore STIRLING CASTLE will proceed to Australasia to load meat for U.K. Precise loading port will be notified later.
- 6. After disembarkation at Durban HIGHLAND MONIACH and RANGITIKI will proceed to Plate to load meat for U.K.
- 7. P.S.T.O. India should arrange for the on-carriago from Bombay to Basra of the personnel for Iraq.
- 8. DIOMID should proceed from Durban to Basra and subsequently repetition subsequently to Bombay to complete discharge.
- 9. Further signal will be sent by D of S.T. regarding proposals for (a) transhipment at Durban of personnel and M/T for Middle East, and (b) on-carriage from Durban to

/India

India of personnel for India ox CLMLRONIA. BRITTANIC STRUTHLIN and WINDSOR CLSTLE will continue to India, STRUING CLSTLE to Singapore.

10. It is suggested that following ships sho ld replenish in South Africa at Capetown, STIRLING CAS LIBERTAINNIC WINDSOR CASTLE STRATHLELL N NIGERSTROOM and FH.MIUS. Remainder to replenish at Durban.

11. WIRVICK CASTLE has been detached to Halifax after collision.

12. Commodore of convoy is Commodore Austin in ORC.DIS.

13. Addressees pass to S.T.O.s concorned.

1916/D/7 for D.O.D.(F) 546

1st Lord
1st S.I.
2nd S.I.
2nd S.I.
3rd S.I.
4th S.I.
5th S.I.

C. N.S. (H)
1.C.N.S. (F)
2.C.N.S. (F) (2)
N.I. 1st S.I.
D of P (2)
D.O.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.N.I. (4)
D.S.D.
D.N.I. (4)
D.S.D.
D.N.I. (2)
I. (2)

Duty Captain
Head of M
D.T.S.D.
D.D.I.C.
U.P.S.
D.T.Z.(2)
N.I.D. 10 Payr Cdr. 7ilson
D.G.D.

MOST SECRET

ge.

MESSAGE

O446B/7 August OUT.

To P.S.T.O. West of Scotland D.S.T.O. Glasgow D.S.T.O. Groenock, D.S.T.O. Liverpool.

Dato 7.8.41.

890

NAVAL CYPHER A. 1.

From Director of Sea Transport.

Following are proposed arrangements for Convoy W.S.11.

| Code. | Ship | Estimated Capacity. | Present Position | Dischargo Port. | Embarkation Port |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|
| C.1. | PASTEUR ' | 3570 | Due Clyde possibly 15.8 | - | Clydo |
| C. 2 C. 3 C. 4 C. 5 | CHANTILLY KOSCIASKO KOSCIUS EMPIRE PRIDE MOOLTAN | 1800 1350 2034 3279 | Liverpool Liverpool Clyde Due U.K. by | | Liverpool Liverpool Clydo |
| c.6 | NORTHUMBURLAND | 1642 | about 17.8. Due U.K. mid-August | Clyde Liverpool | Clydo Liverpool |
| C.7 | BERGENSFJORD BANFORA | 2024 204 7 | Due U.K.about 23.8. Liverpool | Clyde | Clyde Liverpool |
| C. 9 C. 10 C. 11 | VICEROY OF IND DUCHESS OF YOR OTRANTO SCYTHIA | The state of the s | Liverpool Glasgow Duc U.K. now Liverpool Liverpool Clasgow Glasgow | Liverpool Glasgow Liverpool Liverpool Liverpool Liverpool Glasgow Glasgow | Liverpool Clyde Liverpool Liverpool Clyde Liverpool Clyde Clyde Clyde |

- 2. Proposed discharge and embarkation ports are provisional and further signal will be sent.
 - Probable ombarkation dates are 26th to 29th August.
- Request report in due course of sea speed which vessels will be able to maintain when ready for sea.

0446B/7. D. of S.T.

| | 2. 02 0.2. |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1st Lord. | |
| lst S.L. | D.S.D. |
| | D. of L.D. |
| 2nd S.L. | |
| 3md S.L. | D. N. A. D. |
| 4th S.L. | D. A./S.W. |
| 5th S.L. | D.M.S. |
| V.C.N.S. | I.P.(2). |
| | |
| 1. U. II. S. II. | W.D. |
| A.C.N.S. (H). A.C.N.S. (F). | Duty Captain |
| A.C.N.S.(T) (2). | Hoad of M. |
| N.A. to 1st S.L. | D. T. S. D. |
| | D. D. I. C. |
| D. of P. (2). D. O. D. (F) | E.P.S. |
| 0.D.O.D.(F). | D. T. D. (2). |
| | N.I.D.10 (Payr. Cdr. Wilson). |
| D.O.D. (H). | |
| D.D.O.D.(H). | D. G. D. |
| D. N. I. (4). | D. of S.T. |
| | |

Date 7.8.41.

P/L BY T/P SECRET

From Admiralty.

IMPORTANT

- The Admiralty has recently reviewed: -
 - The Instructions for flying Balloons and Kites from ships.
 - (2) The Instructions for opening fire by merchant ships on aircraft

in the light of recent sea experience.

- It has become apparent that revision of the present instructions is an urgent necessity and that the following measures are particularly desirable: -
 - Simplification and standardisation of rules for rlying Balloons and Kites. At present 4 different sets of instructions in 4 different areas are in force.
 - (2) Clarification of the present wording of instructions re opening fire by Merchant ships on aircraft. The present wording is too indefinite to enable ships to protect themselves with maximum efficiency.
- The following revised rules are therefore put forward as meeting all Admiralty requirements and to achieve the objects outlined above. Your very early concurrence is requested, or, if a meeting between Air and Naval Staffs on the subject is essential it is proposed that it be held in the Admiralty at a very early date.

Proposed rules are as follows: -

- Rules governing the operation of Kites and Balloons by ships.
 - There is no restriction as to the area in (1)which vessels sailing independently or in convoy may fly Kites or Balloons.
 - - Kites and Balloons are <u>NOT</u> to be flown

 (a) Above the cloud base, at any time.

 (b) Above 300 feet, in harbours, or when inside the 3 miles limit while entering and leaving harbour.
 - (c) Above 500 feet, by day when surface visibility is less than 1500 yards, or by night when sailing independently.
 - (d) Above 1000 feet, by night when in convoy.
 - (e) Above 4000 feet, at any time.

D.T.S.D. M(2) D.T.D. (C)

McC

DIC

7.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

ERNANI (Italian).

Loss published by Spanish Press, stating sunk by a British S/M. Loss has been confirmed from a trustworthy source. (D.S. 702).

MALVERNIAN.
(sunk 1/7).

57 survivors of MALVERNIAN arrived 6/8 are being sent in LEINSTER. Ref. N.A. Madrid's letters 270/41 of 25/7 and 276/41 of 30/7 to D.N.I., I entirely agree that an enquiry is necessary, but have not ordered one at Gibraltar. Firstly, not to miss this opportunity of passage, and secondly because if, as seems likely, several courts-martial follow, details are certain to reach the Spaniards who released the survivors under the impression that they were merchant seamen. Anti-typhus precautions have been taken. (F.O.C.N.A., 0654B/7 to Admty.)

LE TRAIT (French).

Portuguese Sloop AFONSO DE ALBUQUERQUE leaves Lisbon August 10th for Madeira. Training Ship SAGRES leaves Funchal August 9th for Horta. LE TRAIT has left Oporto for Lisbon. (N.A. Lisbon, 1102/7 to Admty.)

Force H destroyers.

Available destroyers in 8th D.F. now reduced to 5 which is inadequate to screen NELSON and ARK ROYAL. 15th D.F. can only furnish one fleet destroyer and this rarely available owing to intense S/M activity. Can ENCOUNTER join 8th D.F. to replace FEARLESS or at any rate be retained until return of another F? (S.O. Force 'H' 1107B/7, amended 1755B/7 to Admty.)

PARTHIAN.

My 1508B/5 amend route as follows through 36° 45' 00° 10' E. and 180°. Alboran Island 15. (F.O.C.N.A. 1138B/7 to PARTHIAN).

FAULKNOR defects.

Starboard L.P. turbine blade of FAULKNOR has been damaged. (details). No lifting gear nor spare blade available locally. Estimated time of lifting and replacing rotor 4 - 6 weeks apart from repairs found necessary. Propose ship he sailed for U.K. forthwith. (S.O. Force H., 1751B/7 to Admty.) Approved (V.C.N.S., 0018B/8).

Portuguese President. CARVALHO ARAUJO with Portuguese President aboard escorted by Portuguese destroyers LIMA, DAO expected to leave Santa Maria, Azores, 1530/8 due Lisbon P.M./11. (F.O.C.N.A. 2157A/7 to N.A. Stn.)

RENOWN.

N.A. Lisbon's 1204/7 (N.T. in W.D) RENOWN should if practicable be routed to meet convoy and salute President. (V.C.N.S. 2252B/7 to F.O.C.N.A)

7.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

French
Ships
Tamatave.

Passed to Admty. for information. Following received 6/8 and graded A.O. begins: Six merchant ships fully loaded now at Tamatave homeward bound waiting for escort which will be MONTCALM (ends). (S.O.I. Capetown, 1025/7 to C. in C.S.A.)

VERVAIN.

Signal T.O.O. 2130Z/5 purporting to be from HIBISCUS stating VERVAIN under own power since 2100/4 boiler only. Have you any other information? I have none. (C. in C. S.A., 1107N/7 to F.O.C.N.A.).

Your 1107N/7. Signal was from CLOVER, he should refer to 1545Z/4 which is being passed.

(C. in C. S.A. 1747B/7 to F.O.C.N.A). (W.R. Note:-2130Z/5 quoted in 1107N/7 not received in War Registry. Subject, H.M.S. VERVAIN).

DUNNOTTAR
CASTLE.
W.S.10X.

Admty. 1816/6. It is considered very doubtful if DUNNOTTAR CASTLE will be able to maintain a speed of 15 knots on passage and probable that if this is attempted defects will result. She should be capable of 14 knots with some certainty. (C. in C. S. A., 1135N/7 to Admty.)

Boom Vessels. Your 2101N/2. Boom vessels delayed by defects Expect sail about mid August in Company with BARMILL, PHYLLISIA and LORD GAINFORD. A second group of boom vessels BARRYMORE, TEAL, JAN DE WAELE, PRINCE DE LIEGE and GRAAF VAN VLANDEREN expected to follow about 20/8. (D.B.D., 1505B/7 to C. in C. S.A).

ADVANCE.

My 2257/6. Santos, reports Finnish ADVANCE expected to sail 11/8 or early morning 12/8. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 1507Z/7 to R.A.S.A.D).

NIEUW ZEELAND. Your 1845/1/8. Propose after disembarking Nigerian Brigade at Lagos, proceed Freetown to embark Government Officials, Service Personnel and Indian, Chinese Mercantile Marine survivors requiring passage to Cape, India and Far East. Resources at Freetown are strained with large number of survivors now in the port. My 0900/4/7 to Admty. refers. (C. in C. S.A. 1947N/7 to D. of S.T.)

Convoy Escorts. Reply to Admty. 1245/5 re group escort system. (C. in C. S.A., 2103N/7) See Lion Copy.

ASUKA MARU.
Japanese.

My 2145Z/6. Arrived Rio de Janeiro today 7/8. (S.O.I. Montevideo, 2255Z/7 to S.O.I. Freetown).

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET. M E S S A G E 2103N/7th August IN

From: C. in C. South Atlantic.

Date 8,8,41. Reed. 0948

Naval Cypher 1.T.T. by W/T

Addressed: Admiralty.

750. Your 1243 August 3rd. The value of the group system of escort is appreciated, but up to the present units have still been arriving and others leaving and it is not yet in full operation. The maximum force suggested will not be available unless other commitments are neglected.

It must be appreciated that all ships for S L convoys come into Freetown and those from O S convoys leave Freetown and these require some protection or escent.

Admiralty's 1405B 4th August refers.

In addition there are W S convoys, tankers from West Indies, occasional transports, important ships and local troop movements, all requiring escorts if possible. Also H.M.S. EAGLE and other warships on occasion. At the moment 4 destroyers have left,

Inner air patrol, this is fully appreciated and is what would be expected from submarine tactics successfully employed in peace time exercises.

Admiralty instructions have varied: on May 7th maximum escort for convoy was directed: on May 10th it was suggested that aircraft should only join convoys if U-boat was known to be present by E-barred signal or other reason, and when D. of T.D. came out it was stated that detailing of individual air escort for convoys had been abandoned in Western Approaches.

Principle followed in Freetown area is a combination of (1) evasion and patrol to prevent U-boat sighting convoys, and (ii) prevention of shadowing by escorts.

(1)....

(1) has been partly achieved. Up to present, 3 convoys have been attacked when under escort by Freetown force, nearest 550 miles away, farthest (12)00 miles. Variation of route has (? largely) contributed to this, but it is feared with both S L (? and) O S convoys normally routed east of Cape Verde Is., this will be more difficult, though air escorts will be possible for longer period.

Message ends.

2103N/7

Advance copy Duty Captain, D.O.D. (F) D.T.D.

notes with the transfer of

10

00

lst Lord.
lst S.L.
2nd S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
N.C.N.S.(H)
N.C.N.S.(F)
N.C.N.S.(T)(2)
N.A.lst S.L.
D. of P.(2)
D.O.D.(F)
D.O.D.(F)
D.O.D.(H)
D.N.I.(4)
D.N.I.(4)
D.S.D.
D.N.A.D.
D.N.A.D.
D.N.S.W. A/SW.1432/41(2)
I.P.(2)
W.D.
Duly Captain(2)
Head of M.
D.T.S.D.
D.D.I.C.
E-P.S.
N.I.D.(10) Payr.Cdr.Wilson
D.T.D.(2)
D.G.D.

JR

7.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

KANDAHAR. KIMBERLEY.

on

410

Take KIMBERLEY under your orders. Sail forthwith keeping close inshore to be close off Mersa Matruh at (?1600/7). Further orders will be given. (C. in C. Med., 0917C/7 to KANDAHAR). My 0917C/7. (a) If visibility is bad enough to give reasonable security against air attack you should continue westward keeping inshore but do not cross longitude of Sidi Barrani before 2000/7 unless otherwise ordered. (b) If weather clear, turn east 1600 and back again to be off Mersa Matruh at 2000 by which time further orders will be sent. Report if you adopt (a). (C. in C. Med., 1203C/7 to KANDAHAR).

2 "A" Lighters from Mersa Matruh to Tobruk expected to be 4 miles north of Sidi Barrani at 1300 to-day thence course 319° at 6 knots, but they may have turned back for Mersa Matruh.

MARIA GIOVANNA expected in 032° 00' 026° (?25') at 1730 to-day steering to off Mersa Matruh thence to Alexandria 7 knots. (R.A. Alexandria, 1241C/7 to KANDAHAR).

My 1205C/7 (? 1203C/7) If no further orders have been received by 2000 return to Alexandria. (C. in C. Med., 1747C/7 to KANDAHAR, KINGSTON, etc.)

Sunderland lost.

Broadcast from Berlin 5/8 claims Italian S/M shot down a Sunderland and captured crew. This probably refers to Sunderland missing night 1/2. Operation was in co-operation with naval search for enemy S/M.

Night 5/6, 7 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour bombs falling at bases of Central. Cathedral and

Benghazi.
Derna
bombed.

bombs falling at bases of Central, Cathedral and Italian Moles. Further bombs fell on railway workshops and W/T Station. 2 Marylands l Blenheim 5 Wellingtons bombed Derna port M.T. workshops and satellite landing ground. (H.Q. R.A.F.M.E., 1042/7).

ABDIEL.

You will be required for "Guillotine" Serial 20 P. Mining practices at Haifa maybe continued until then. (C. in C. Med., 1117C/7 to ABDIEL).

PHOENIX tug (mined 5/8).

My 1917C/5. Further evidence shows PHOENIX was not in Channel but well inside previously reported danger area, these two mines are in consequence considered as having been laid during previous raids 6th and 16/7. (S.B.N.O. Suez 1229C/7 to Admty. etc.)

/NEPTUNE....

7.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.-Contd.

MEPTUNE.

JACKAL.

ABDIEL.

(Ok: "Guillotine")

Serial 15, E.T.A. Point of arrival 2545C/7 NEPTUNE requests lights from 2545C. Ships will enter harbour at 0100C/8 in the order JACKAL, NEPTUNE, ABDIEL. (N.O.I.C. Port Said 1511C/7 to N.O.I.C. Famagusta).

Suez Raid. 2 attacks by enemy aircraft at Suez between 2140 and 0550/7. First of short duration by one or two enemy aircraft, no damage. Second attack commenced 0150 by about 15 enemy aircraft at irregular intervals. About 12 bombs among shipping, no damage. About 8 bombs on town and some in desert. D.A. Office demolished, no European or service casualties. Native casualties believed 51 killed 40 injured. 5 bombs on Shell Refinery caused fire, soon under control, expected work will be resumed today, production not affected. 5 U.X.M's or U.X. (?B)'s in approach channel, 2 Port Ibrahim, 1 km. 159. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 1545C/7).

German Warships. Salonika. Soviet Naval Authorities state that they had Intelligence that on August 5/6, German warships were in Gulf of Salonika and communicating by W/T with Salonika. (Adm. Miles (Moscow) 1530/7 to Admty.).

Malta Raid.

9

2 M/V's sunk 7/8. Night 6/7, 5 raiders. One destroyed in flames into sea. No bombs on land, as others turned back on seeing first aircraft on fire.

Night 6/7, 7 Swordfish torpedo attacked convoy off Lampedusa. 5 torpedoes released number of hits not known but M/V 8000 tons and second of 6000 tons sunk, confirmed by all aircraft only 4 M/V's and 6 DR's seen later by Blenheims A.M.7/8 when 8 Blenheims bombed same convoy now consisting 4 M/V's, 6 DR's at 0545 hours 80 miles E.S.E. Kerkeneh. Two direct hits with 500 lb. bombs on an 8000 ton M/V claimed very seriously damaged and probably sunk. Another M/V 6000 tons one direct hit claimed badly damaged, 2 500 lb. bombs dropped on Spanish Quay Tripoli at 1210 hours. (H.Q.R.A.F., Malta, 1700/7).

1 M/V sunk 8/8.

Tripoli bombed.

/Beirut....

7.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Beirut Cable.

Your 1911C/51. Part of Beirut Tunis cable should not be picked up as spare pending I.C.C. decision regarding diversion of this cable suggested in W.O. message 0522 of 27/7 to C. in C. Mid. East. (Head of M. 2018B/7 to C. in C. Med.)

Situation report 110.

9))

Western Desert. Air and surface operations continue but no ships sighted by air R/C. Wellingtons attacked Benghazi harbour night 5/6. Canal Area. Air raid night 6/7 Port Tewfik, some damage to Naval building. My 2356/4 ALEXANDRE ANDRE now reported proceeding Port Sudan, no assistance required. (C. in C. Med., 2359C/7 to Admty.)

1

7.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

A.C.N.B. state U.S. 12 A. will require 12,000 tons fuel oil Trincomalee 10/9. Can the bunkering be undertaken without the assistance of Commercial Tankers? If not please report urgently your Minimum requirements.

(D. of S.T., 0447B/7 to C. in C. E.I.)

DESMOULEA. Tanker, 8120 tons, damaged by enemy A/C night of 3-4/8, is seaworthy and has been towed to Aden. (D.S. 702).

MAREEBA.)
VELEBIT.)

Overdue, presumed lost, now believed sunk by a raider in Indian Ocean, probably on 26/6 in approx. 8° N., 88° E. (D.S. 702).

RANCHI. Following Patrol ordered. RANCHI leave Durban 8/8 arrive Durban A.M./16/8. (C. in C. E.I., 0746Z/7 to N.L.O. Durban).

SOBIESKI.
CARTHAGE.

Your 0820Z/27. Owing to delay in completion of SOBIESKI it will not now be possible to dock CARTHAGE till 12/8.

(N.L.O., Durban, 1652Z/7 to C. in C. E.I.)

China.

Japanese
Warships.

Off Gau Ta Island. Present second Japanese
submarine escorted by Japanese Trawler. Amoy
arrival 4th, 1 Japanese Seaplane Carrier and 1
Japanese Transport.
Hong Kong South Port Toltal 5th/6th Japanese
submarine Depot Ship TYOGEI, 1 Japanese submarine,
Japanese Mining Vessel YAYEYAMA.
(Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0824/7 to Admty).

GOUVERNEUR Arrived 7/8. (Saigon, 0829Z/7 to M. of W.T.)

GENERAL

MAURICE LONG

French.

Christmas
Island.

Proximity of air bases in Java and difficulty
which Japanese would encounter in transporting
phosphate through passage between Dutch islands
render it most improbable that they could obtain
supplies from Christmas Island, Consider therefore
that we are justified in retaining plant loading
facilities. Defence details. (C. in C. Far East,
1744/7 to W.O.)

7.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

BEARN.

Following received from OPNAV. On morning of 6/8 BEARN will depart for Basseterre according to a report from a Naval Observer. BEARN will remain at Basseterre during next day and from 7 /8 to 13/8 she will visit the Saintes, on 14/8 she will return to Fort de France. Purpose of trip is relaxation of personnel. 0040/7 (ends). (D.C., 0208B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

U.S. Patrols. Following correction to A.E. Admty 7/30/41 (T.H.I. 0600/30) received from OPNAV and ALUSNA, Ottawa has been directed to Pass to C.N.S. Ottawa for information. Task Group 2.6 has been temporarily broken up for special exercises and para 2 of reference dispatch is hereby cancelled. Para 2 should now read as follows. Only one destroyer and SAVANNAH are expected to resume Patrol to Eastward of Bermuda about 8/8. Original route will be shortened as necessary in order to pass in vicinity of Bermuda Westbound 15/8. On 17/8 the ships are expected to arrive at Hampton Roads. (Spenavo, T.H.I., 0338/7 to Admty, D.O.D. (F) 1222B/7 to C. in C. A.W.I., etc).

Passages from Bermuda.

1

C. in C. A.W.I., 10526/6 H.M. transport MOOLTAN sailed 1100 G. T./7 routed to Bermuda has accommodation for 120 1st or 2nd class male or female and 859 others ranks. Further 354 possible but without Hammocks. Due A.M./11. (3. N.O. Curacao, 0900 QR/7to Admty).

LANCASTER.

Master of LANCASTER American Ship Capetown to VILLE DE ROUEN, Trinidad passed VILLE DE ROUEN, French, on opposite
"Q" Report
22/7.

ship altered course. Whilst passing LANCASTER
picked up W/T 222 018° 10' S., 009° 23' W.,
HARMONIDES suspicious. This message was interfered
with by station close by, obviously VILLE DE ROUEN,
using false signal letters K I K B, American WEST CHESEWOLD, which ship was 3 days behind LANCASTER bound for Trinidad * (N.O.I.C., Trinidad, 11372/7 to S.O. (I) Kingston). * Description of VILLE DE ROUEN.

FORT LAMY, CARRAS. crew trouble.

My 22122/6 and my 10012/6. Significant that FORT LAMY and CARRAS have both recently arrived from Captown; possible that trouble may be due to subversive influences there. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1209Q/7 to Admty).

RODNEY.

Programme after refit. (B.A.R.M., 1542R/7 to Admty) See Operations Volume.

/RAKUYO.....

7.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

RAKUYO MARU
Oil supplies
for Japanese.

Admty 0013B/3 and my 1254R/5. Callao reports Chilean Authorities issuing permit 400 tons for RAKUYO MARU. Master endeavouring obtain permit for 300 tons at Talara. In addition Chilean Authorities will issue permit for 1400 tons to cover requirements 3 further ships expected. Oil Company reluctant supply. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1751R/7 to Admty).

Visit of CARADOC to St. Thomas.

OH

Tel. No. 3714 ? to N.O.I.C. Trinidad. Your tel. to N.A. 1002Q/6 last para.

In view of efforts which U.S. authorities are taking to bring present difficulties to an end, they might well resent despatch of one of H.M. Ships. I hope you will agree to postpone visit of CARADOC at all events until I am able to form proper estimate of situation.

(Brit. Ambassador, Washington, 1930/7 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

7.8.1941. Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

General.

Night Tactics. The fact that A/S escort vessels have recently located and attacked U boats closing our convoys at night may lead the enemy to vary his U-boat night tactics. No variation is likely in presence of a weak escort, but a probable development with a long-range browning attack from bow or even ahead of convoy. (D.A/S.W., Approved A.C.N.S. (T) 1402B/7 to C. in C. W.A., etc).

Ships Attacked.

SHAHRISTAN SITOEBONDO (torpedoed 29-30/7). CAMPSA informs me CAMPORE proceeding Punta
Delgada Azores with 29 survivors of British
SHAREKONIA (?SHAHRISTAN) also; MARNECHE landed
59 survivors from Dutch SITOEBONDO same place.
(N.A. Madrid, 1105/7 to Admty).?campeche
Capt. of Port Ponta Delgada informa he has received
by wireless message from Spanish Tanker CAMPERO
that she has picked up 38 survivors British
-SHAHRISTAN and is searching for third boat in the
neighbourhood 34.49 N., 25.06 W.
(N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1221/7).

Now clear that 3 U-boats were sighted by

S.L. 81
CAPE RODNEY.
HARLINGEN.
(torpedoed
5/8)

WANDERER on the surface between 1410B and 1540B/4
These U-boats were apparently shadowing S.L.81
from position 15 to 35 miles ahead and co-operating
with 2 F.W. aircraft. Sea calm, clear sky,
extreme visibility, yet peculiar that U-boats
surfaced within 6 miles of MAPLIN and 3 destroyers
without apparently sighting them till they were
on surface. Suggested that here are elements
upon which to base an offensive sweep.
(WANDERER, 1109B/7 to C. in C. W.A., Admty).
Arrived HYDRANGEA with survivors from CAPE RODNEY
and HARLINGEN.
CAPE RODNEY in tow 1530B at low speed from
position 052° 11' N., 014° 42' W., course 048°
towards Rothesay Bay. No. 2 hold water level and
some water in engine room. Crew not aboard but no
assistance needed at present.
(ZWARTEZEE, 1730B/7 to F.O.I.C. Greenock).
Your 1524B/7 CAPE RODNEY in tow. S. of A. 3 knots
due to inability to steer CAPE RODNEY. 2000B/7
approx. position 052° 18' N., 014° 28' W., course
048° (weather). Your 1613B/7 attempts to ram
developing into stern chase and visual attack.
0210 half conning tower submerged ahead at less
than 200 yards range with ZINNIA overhauling at
about 6 knots. Fired one at 50 feet. 0211 fired
one at 50. 0212 fired 3 and 150 and one heavy
at 225 feet. Surface speed of submarine was
16 knots. (ZINNIA, 1900B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)

7.8.1941. Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CAPE RODNEY,
HARLINGEN.
(torpedoed
5/8).
Contd.

Have placed 12 volunteers aboard CAPE RODNEY to endeavour to raise steam. Hope to be able to steer by P.M. tomorrow and with luck use main engine. Weather conditions same. No observation, present speed two knots. (ZINNIA, 2230B/7 to C. in C. W.A.)
Arrived BLUEBELL with 2 survivors from SWIFTPOOL

Arrived BLUEBELL with 2 survivors from SWIFTPOOL and 43 from BELGRAVIAN. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1938B/7 to C. in C. W.A. etc).

Soviet Aux. Vessell.

Soviet Union 500 tons auxiliary vessel torpedoed, by U-boat in 69° 15' N., 35° E. at 2000C/6. Fact. 2. U-Boat reported in vicinity of 69° 45' N., 33° 20' E., 1000C/7. Grade C.5.
3. Admiralty pass to F.O.(S) TRIDENT. (S.B.N.O. Polyarno, 1744C/7 to Admty).

Submarines Reported.

0324 G.M.T.

By D/F at 0324/7 G.M.T. U-boat probably inward bound, estimated to be anywhere within 60 miles of 46° 30' N., 08° W. (D.D.I.C., 0828B/7).

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1446B/7).

0001

S/M reported in Vidfiord 065° 05' N., 013° 35' W., at 0001/7. Graded A.2 by S.N.O. Seidis Fiord. (A.C.I.C., 1605/7 to C. in C. H.F. etc).

1345/5.

On 5/8 at 1345 G.M.T. Portuguese Merchant ship spoken by Submarine position 33.26 N., 15.54 W. (N.A. Lisbon, 1817/7 to Admty).

2140 G.M.T.

Following intercepted by Camperdown at 2109 G.M.T intercepted from Cape Race. Following begins. Saw conning towar with two numbers at 2040 G.M.T. in 43.40 N., 32.00W., 2100/7, no call sign or name given. (Ends). (? 2140Z/7 to Admty).

Submarines Attacked.

By ZINNIA.

ZINNIA, 1900B/7. (See Ships Attacked, S.L.81).

8.8.1941.138 Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.T.B. patrol.

3 M.T.B's from Dover operated last night off Berck Sur Mer.

British Air Operations.

2 Hampdens engaged in minelaying last night attacked shipping off the east coast of Denmark and claim to have obtained 2 hits on a medium sized merchant vessel.

Enemy Air Operations.

Trawler JOHN DONOVAN was slightly damaged by bombing this afternoon, east of Sydero.

One aircraft bombed Aberdeen harbour at 0053 today. No naval damage is reported. This is the third occasion during this week on which single aircraft have dropped bombs on Aberdeen harbour and adjacent areas; and C. in C. Rosyth asks for an increase in the defences.

Convoy "Funnel" was attacked off the Firth of Forth at 2355.

Tanker GOLD SHELL was bombed and damaged about midnight 7/8 August off Cromer.

Yarmouth was bombed last night. No naval damage was caused.

Convoy E.C.57 was unsuccessfully attacked at 1720B today near 55A buoy.

8.8.1941. Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mining.

Aircraft last night laid mines in various positions near the Frisian Is. and Denmark.

North Atlantic.

WIVERN in 32° 49' N. 10° 14' W. steering for Gib. reported at 2000Z that she had a developing defect which necessitated her being towed.

South Atlantic.

Troop Transport.

It is intended to turn round ships of W.S. convoys in South Africa to the maximum possible extent in future. MAURETANIA and other large liners will be kept on their present Durban/Suez service, supplemented by Dutch troopships and other vessels which can be used to better advantage in Indian Ocean than in Atlantic.

Mediterrane an.

Malta.

Three raiders bombed Malta last night. No damage or casualties were caused.

5 Blenheims attacked merchant ships at Catania harbour today, probably damaging a 2000 ton ship.

Libya and Western Desert.

6 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli dock area in the early hours of today. Later in the day two 500 lb. bombs were dropped on a corner of the harbour. Bardia, Benghazi and Capuzzo were also bombed.

8.8.1941. Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Tobruk harbour was shelled today, but no damage was caused to the harbour. Tobruk harbour and Mersa Matruh were bombed last night, but no damage is reported.

Alexandria.

About 25 aircraft attacked Alexandria last night; a quay was hit, but there was no other serious damage to the harbour and no Naval damage occurred. S.S. MAHOUT was slightly damaged by a near miss.

8.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Swedish M/V's.

My 1051/7. Positions of westbound vessels at 0001/8 as follows. (N.A. Stockholm 1109/8).

MALAYA.

C. in C. Rosyth's 1009/7. Request you will take MALAYA under your orders and that you will report when she is fully worked up. (A.C.N.S.(H.) 1324B/8 to C. in C. H.F).

Co-operation with U.S.A.

W/T Traffic of U.S.A. warships in Iceland. Your 1002B/12th July. Question of W/T security is being taken up with U.S. Authorities, and it is considered that in the meantime the clandestine watching of U.S. Naval frequencies is undesirable. (V.C.N.S. 2311B/8 to C. in C. H.E)

Defence of U.K.

Aberdeen
A/A
Defences.

Following received from F.O.I.C. Aberdeen begins:-"Suggest A/A Defence of Aberdeen now deserving immediate reinforcement. Bombs dropped on seven occasions during past three months and three occasions during past week. Considerable structural damage caused. Suggest approval be sought to fly available mark VI balloons at 1000 feet from suitable positions or ships in harbour area. T.O.O. 1032/8/8 ends". Importance of immediate reinforcement fully concurred in. Though provision of heavy guns is felt to be the best defence it is considered that mark VI balloons would give at least some protection against low-flying attacks until guns are emplaced. Suggest therefore that very early provision of guns envisaged in A.L. M.09584/41 of 21st July 1941 may be pressed for and that immediate approval may be obtained to fly mark VI balloons as proposed by the F.O.I.C. but that it should be permitted to fly these balloons up to their maximum operational height instead of 1000 feet. (C. in C. Rosyth 1255/8).

Tyne
Anchorages
A/A Defence.
CONQUEROR.

Your 1249/2. CONQUEROR is allocated temporarily to this duty and is to be sailed for the Tyne on completion of working up.

2. This ship is armed as follows.

5. D.M.W.D. Admiralty will maintain direct touch with the ship regarding her armament and experience—gained in action. The armament is not to be altered without Admiralty approval.

5. An EAGLE ship fitted with R.D.F. could be sent later from the Thames if desired.

(A.C.N.S.(H) 2009B/8 to C. in C. Rosyth).

8.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

MAID HONOUR. My 1655B/4 and my 1555B/51. Intend to sail MAID HONOUR p.m./9th. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1615B/8).

KATLA.

GODAFOSS.
(Icelandic ships).

My 13322/8. U.S. N.A. states C. in C. Atlantic reports Great Circle route to 46° N. 53° W. thence proceed towards destinations one destroyer with each ship to 55° W. where destroyers break off and proceed Casco Bay. (N.S.H.Q. 16352/8).

RENOWN.

00

Your 1955B/7 para. 3. Escort can be made available, sailing from Scapa P.M./11. (C. in C. H.F. 2221B/8 to Adty.).

SHROPSHIRE.

My 1032B/5. Return Hvalfjord when ADVENTURE has passed latitude 066° N. (C. in C. H.F. 2328B/8 to SHROPSHIRE).

Operations.

Operation "Dervish".

D.O.D. (H) 0019B/8 to C. in C. W.A. (See Shipping and Convoys).

W.S.8.C.

My 1134B/6. Sailed. Codeword Edit. (N.O.I.C. Greenock 0634/8).

Net-laying.

Departure TONBRIDGE and escort for net laying operations off Sheringham. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0650B/8).

Departure MINSTER on net laying duties off Dunwich. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft 0946B/8).

Convoy
C.E. 44.
Two
torpedoes
at Dover.

At 0454/7 when rear of convoy C.E. 44 was passing two heavy explosions were observed at foot of cliffs 600 yards east of eastern arm Dover. A coastal battery O.P. reported having seen two streaks on the water in a 150° direction and later investigation at low water found remains of two torpedoes on foreshore.

As torpedoes arrived simultaneously it is probable that they were fired from within 6 to 8 thousand yards of the shore. An "E" boat is suspected but there were no other indications of its activities. (V.A. Dover 1114B/8).

8.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

C.E. 44. Two torpedoes at Dover. -Contd.

My 1114B which is being passed to C.S.S. The possibility that these torpedoes were fired by -an enemy vessel from outside visual range and using R.D.F. cannot be overlooked. Therefore propose that an R.D.F. officer and receiving equipment be embarked in the next C.W. convoy leaving Sheerness at about 1600/10 to investigate the type and frequency of any R.D.F. transmissions from enemy vessels in the channel. (V.A. Dover 2012B/8).

Anti E-Boat Patrol. Weather permitting one unit of M.G.B's is to carry out the following anti E-boat patrol tonight. Unit is to proceed through gap E. to position R.N.X.U. 27270 thence to 52° 45' N. 5° 20' E. and patrol 10 miles either side of this position in direction 00° - 180° returning through gap E. at daylight. (C. in C. Nore 1426B/8 to BEEHIVE).
Departures M.G.B's 62, 60, 67. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2050B/8).

Anticipated that FIDELITY will leave on her (S.S. Vessel). next series of operations in company with Convoy O.G. 72 on 19/8. 2. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange working up practices, including tests of all camouflage equipment and boat trials, from some secluded anchorage. 4. An officer from Admiralty will shortly visit C. in C. W.A. and F.O.I.C. Liverpool as convenient to them in connection with the ship's operations. (D.O.D.(H) 1956B/8).

Operation Grab!.

My 2527B/7. 'Grab' postponed until 1100/10. (C. in C. Portsmouth 2257B/8).

British Air Activity.

Own A/C fired on.

Following received from F.O.I.C. Harwich. Begins. During night 5/6 a friendly bomber was fired upon by H.M.T. EDWARD WALMSLEY and on night 6/7 another by EMPEROR OF INDIA. These circumstances are regretted. But both Aircraft were flying low. Both escaped destruction by evasive action. 2315B/7 ends. (C. in C. Nore 0052B/8).

S.B. Restrictions.

My 1021B/5. Extension of bombing restrictions not now required for night 10/11. (Capt. S.7 0951B/8). Request T.B.R. (A) 20 miles either side of a line joining 49° N. 6° 30' W. and 050° N. 005° 50' W. between 2500B/8 and 1000B/9, and (B) in area 51 North of latitude 050° N. and east of 006° 50' W. between 0400B/9 and 1200B/9. (Capt. S.3 1427B/8 to H.Q.C.C).

8.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. - Contd.

Clyde R/C Flight. Your 1654/26/7 and 1137B/7/8. Flight authorised by our A740 9/7/41. West Freugh unable to assist. Request you arrange suitable A/C through 13 Group as authorised in Fighter Command's A239/7/7. (Air Ministry F06. 1148/8 to F.O.I.C. Glasgow).

Patrols.

MIN

PRU of Frederikshavn, Aalberg and of Bergen - Oslo-Kristiansand - Stavanger in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1206/8). 'Trost' in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1240/8). 'Stab' in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 2506/8).

Bombing Operations.

During day 7/8 A/C bombed Barges near Gravelines. On Night 7/8 one M/V claimed sunk by mine-laying Hampdens, and Boulogne and Rotterdam attacked. (H.Q.B.C. 1700/8).

A/C for ARGUS.

My 1715/3.

1. 24 unerected Hurricanes Mark two B and two Martlets III of 802 Squadron are to be loaded in ARGUS starting 15/8.

(D.N.A.D. 1941B/8 to ARGUS).

A/C for FURIOUS.

FURIOUS is to load 65 unerected tropicalised Mark two B Hurricanes by lighter from Abbotsinch commencing 17/8.

5. Naval aircraft for outward passage will be 9 Swordfish of 812 Squadron and 4 Sea Hurricanes of 880 Squadron which will be embarked prior to arrival in Clyde. (A.C.N.S. F. 1958B/8).

Russian A/C.

F.S.H. para. 18. Soviet aircraft may be sighted flying in close formation. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk 2141C/8 to TRIDENT).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy F.N.2.
GOLD SHELL
(British
Tanker
8208 Tons)
bombed.

GOLD SHELL damaged. Bombed in 55° 5' N. 1° 52' E. CATTISTOCK standing by. (WOLSEY 0019B/8). Taken in tow by CATTISTOCK and later joined by Tugs. (C. in C. Nore 1002B/8) Arrived Humber 1920/8 in tow of Tugs. (F.O. Humber 1921B/8 and N.C.S.O. Humber 1950B/8). See also CATTISTOCK 0026B/8, F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0150B/8, 0222B/8 C. in C. Nore 0159B/8, 0235B/8, 0806B/8.

/Convoy F.S...

8.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Activity-Contd.

Convoy
One aircraft shadowing convoy 'Merit'. My position 55° 22' N. 1° 10' W. (Rear Ship of Convoy 0048B/8).

Aberdeen
bombed.

Harbour attacked by one A/C 0053/8. Engaged by ships and A.A. Defences. Two bombs one north, one south of Dee started small fires, now out.

No casualties. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen 0456/8).

Yarmouth Great Yarmouth bombed night 7/8.

Some damage to land line communications which should be restored during course of day.

(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 09448/8).

At 1500/7 in 61° 40' N. 5° 50' W. RENCO unaccompanied from Faeroes to Scrabster was attacked 5
times from low height by HE 111 with 5 bombs
M/G and cannon fire. Approach of E/A was not
heard by RENCO who opened fire immediately
it was seen. No damage to Trawler except from
M/G and cannon. Mate slight wound from splinter.
E/A probably hit and damaged. (A.C.O.S. 1157/8).

Convoy. One enemy A/C in 54° 5' N. 0° 9' E. (VIMIERA 1253/8 and 1255B/8).

Convoy F.N. One aircraft shadowing convoy 'Casing' in 54° 10' N. 0° 6' W. (WOLSEY 1254/8).

Convoy Fighter protection is being sent. (Nore W/T 1739B/8).

Convoy E.C. Fighters have been sent to assist Convoy 'Usage', 'Sinclair'. (Lyness 2222B/8).

Convoy.

Am being attacked by enemy aircraft - Convoy 'Funnel' position 56° 15' N. 2° 25' W. (BROKE 2555/8).

8.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Thames Esturary. At about 0004 an aircraft dropped two objects at least one of which exploded in about 2 miles 180° from the Medway Gate. (S.O. T.L.D.F. 1257/8). 1 S.A. and 4 Magnetic mines detonated on 7/8 as follows. Details. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1351/8).

ACHATES (Mined 25/7)

ACHATES in tow ASSURANCE and ANTELOPE sailed Seidis Fiord at 2230Z/7. (A.C.I.C. 1509/8).

4 S.A. Mines and 3 magnetic mines detonated on 7/8 as follows. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1549/8).

Operation P.W.17.

Intend carrying out Operation P.W.17 tonight. (C. in C. Nore 1716B/8).

Departure M.T.B's 44 and 45. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 2137B/8).

Dover Area. Proposed postponement of laying.

A.L.T.O. 5870/41 of 27th July. In view of A.M. 1355/6/8 as well as the damage that is likely to follow enforced dropping of anchors by vessels to avoid accident during Autumn and Winter gales, it is proposed that mines and their tails should not at present be laid. If this is approved work on shore would be completed and the remainder of the operation could be carried out in less than a week, the material being held available at Dover. (V.A.Dover 2017B/8).

Enemy Intelligence.

Supplies Kirkenes.

There are B.2 indications that M/V's leave singly from Kattegat and South West Norwegian ports taking supplies to Kirkenes, and calling at Banak en route.

Details of times of sailing and routes are not known, but the traffic appears to average at least one ship per day. (D.D.I.C. 1236B/8 to S.B.N.O. Polyarno and 1237B/8 to C. in C. H.F).

German Naval Units.

- (A) ADMIRAL SCHEER sighted proceeding Northwards from Holtenau July 51st. B.2.
- (B) Pocket Battleship at anchorage off Friedrichsort well camouflaged surrounded by treble row of buoys on 4/8. B.2.
- (C) Large warship believed battleship reported Swedish vessel in Great Belt. off Langeland during
- night 5/6. Course unstated. C.5.
 (D) LEIPZIG at Travemunde 4/8. B.2.
 (E) Large aircraft carrier at Stettin end of July. B.2. (N.A.Stockholm 1859/8).

8.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Intelligence.

German Naval Units - Contd. D.D.I.C. Comment.
Para. (A) and (B) both probably refer to ADMIRAL SCHEER who may well have been in Kiel Bay as stated. Para. (C), if true, is thought to refer to one of the old Battleships, probably the SCHLESIEN.

Para. (D) is probably correct.

Para. (E) - the aircraft Carrier was reported at Stettin on 15th July.

A/C at Spitsbergen.

Soviet authorities questioned me whether we had any information of Spitsbergen. Negative reply. They stated reason to believe German A/C s based Spitzbergen and carrying R/C from there. No information of any troops based there. (S.B.N.O. Murmansk 2325C/8).

Casualties and Defects.

Submarine B.1.

At 0835/8 an explosion occurred in B one involving Battery and Ammunition. Fire is out. Anticipate considerable delay in completion. Casualties. (Capt. S.6 1055B/8).

Convoy F.S. 559. Grounded 6/8.

Request you convey my congratulations to VIMIERA, PUFFIN, BASSET' and the life boats from Cromer, Gorleston, Lowestoft, and Sheringham on their rescue work. (C. in C. Nore 1454B/8 to F.O.I.C. Yarmouth, Harwich and C. in C. Rosyth).

Shipping and Convoys.

H.X. 140.

Has arrived safely with 76 ships under Rear-Adm. F.B. Watson, including 26 Allied, 2 neutral, 25 tankers, Cargoes. (D.S. 703).

DERVIOH. Special Convoy.

Operation Servish Ships will complete loading as follows:-At Liverpool, 520 R.A.F. personnel LLANSTEPHEN

CASTLE on 11/8. At Workington, Stores, LANCASTRIAN

PRINCE on 12/8. At Ellesmere Port, Stores, NEW

WESTMINSTER CITY on 12/8. At Swansea, Stores,

ESNEH, ALCHIBA, and TREHATA on 11/8. C. in C. W.A. is requested to arrange for ships to be sailed as a special convoy to Scapa when loading is complete and provide escort as requisite. (D.O.D.(H) 0019B/8 to C. in C. W.A).

8.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys.

BERVION Special Convoy. Contd.

Operation Device Admty 0019B/8. F.O.I.C. Belfast to sail one A.A. ship to Swansea, One A.S. Trawler to
Liverpool, One A.S. Trawler to Workington as
necessary. F.O.I.C. Cardiff to arrange R/V
for (A) Liverpool portion (B) Workington portion.
All escorts to proceed to Scapa with convoy
thence return to base. (C. in C. W.A., 2210B/8
to F.O.I.C.'s Belfast etc). Your 0019B/8. Request convoy may be sailed direct to Hvalfjord. Home fleet escort will meet convoy in vicinity of Oversay Light and relieve Western Approaches Escort. (C. in C. H.F. 2223B/8 to Admty). Cancelled (C. in C. H.F., 0934B/9).

Ocean Convoys, Abbreviations. O.G.

Ref. A.M. 0019B/15/7. O.N. (S) - add "and South Atlantic Ports". - delete "including sections for South Atlantic Ports". (D.T.D., 1252B/8 to H.Q.F.C., H.Q.C.C.)

W.S. Convoys.

Ships for W.S. Convoys sailing from Bristol Channel ports should have their routes prepared by N.C.S.O. Milford Haven who will send such routes together with Shipcon Tables by hand of Officer to port at which conference is to be held, the N.C.S.O. at such port being responsible that routeing instructions are clearly understood by Masters. This arrangement is to be brought into force forthwith and ships of W.S.10 X are to be so routed. Admty 1816B/6 has been passed to F.O.I.C. and N.C.S.O. Milford Haven. (D.T.D., 1259/8 to F.O.I.C.'s Cardiff, etc).

Reports of Enemy Positions.

Ref. A.M.S.I. 347 and Mersigs Vol. I Art 33 (c) in course of distribution, Masters are to be informed that ship in convoy making an enemy report of a distress message is not to state her geographical position but should indicate whereabouts of the enemy for information of the escort by means of a bearing and distance from herself in the manner laid down in the International Code Vol. I Art 59 using her International Visual signal letters to denote herself. (D.T.D. 1338B/8 to A.I.G. 44 etc).

W.S.10 X.

Your 1816/6 and C. in C. S.A.'s 1135N/7. If DUNNOTTAR CASTLE is to be included in Convoy W.S.10 X suggest speed of convoy be not more than 14 knots. (N.O.I.C. Belfast, 1555/B/8 to Admty).

O.G. and Orders for Escort Groups (C. in C. W.A., 2215B/8)
O.S. Convoys. See Lion Copy. O.G. and

From C. in C. Western Approaches.

Date 9.8.41. Recd.6002.

P/L BY 1/2.

Addressed D. Londonderry, D. Greenock, D. Liverpool, Repeated M.O. s. i/c Bella t, Greenock, Liverpool, N.C. 1/c Oban, Sternoway, A.C.I.C., M.S. 1, M.S. 6, Admiralty.

365. Orders for Escort Groups

| 3-3- | | | | |
|---------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|---|
| Group | Out | Sail | Meet | R/V |
| 6 . 33 4 | O G 72 O G 72 O N 9 | 19 19 20 | S L 83 With Convoy H X 145 | to Gibraltar 26 |
| Special J 5 8 7 345 | 0 S 4 0 S 4 0 N 10 0 N 11 0 G 73 0 G 73 0 N 12 | 23 23 25 26 29 29 30 | H X 146 8 C 41 8 L 84 | to Bethurst 1/9 1/9 3/9 to Gibreltar 5/9 |

2. My 2126B/16 July. O G 71 will be escorted by LEITH and 30th Escort Group to Gibraltar and by BATH to limit of

3. My 2238B/2. Special Group H will be MGRET, BANFF, FISHGUARD.

4. Composition of Special Group J will be signalled later.

2215B/8. Advance Copy Ops. O.D.

* Re orders for Escort Groups.

V. C. N.S. A.C.N.S. (H) Ops. (4) O.D. (5) C.D. 00 Usico (J)
Talo (J)
Dale 14)
Dale 14)

W.D. D. T. D. (4) D. T. D. (E) D. T. D. (6) 101.000 e D. 11. S. Baschent

DIC

8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

FAULKNOR, defects.

Your 1731B/7. Approved.
(V.C.N.S., 0018B/8 to S.O. Force H).
Ref. 1731B/7 from S.O. Force H and your 0018/8.
Intend sailing FAULKNOR as escort for H.G.70 to prudent limit of endurance. Request destination in U.K. may be signalled. (F.O.C.N.A., 1352B/8 to Admty).

RENOWN destroyers.

Departure RENOWN, COSSACK, SIKH, LIGHTNING, MAORI, on passage for Clyde (route) (F.O.C.N.A., 0302B/8 to Admty).

S/Ms Escorting Convoys. A.L. M.O. 4446/40 of 29/3/40 does not allow submarines escorting convoys to take any action in the event of submarine attack. After experience of 0.G.69, I consider (A) escorting submarine could be used with advantage to carry out sweeps proposed in my 1006/12/6 and 1036/19/6, trails having proved satisfactory. (B) When scale of submarine attack is large escort-

ing submarines stationed on beam of Commodore; ship is in grave risk of being torpedoed.

Intend therefore to authorise S.O. Escort

(A) to utilise escorting submarine for sweeps when conditions justify this

conditions justify this,
(B) to detach escorting submarine from convoy if torpedo menace is serious.
(F.O.C.N.A., 1204B/8 to Admty).

Portuguese President. Your 2232B/7 President's ship should cross Lisbon Bar 1800/11 (N.A. Lisbon, 1608/8).

MANCHESTER. FIREDRAKE. Cdre. Supt. Gibraltar's 1632B/2. Important to send MANCHESTER and FIREDRAKE to America as soon as possible. One shaft only for MANCHESTER can be accepted for passage. Request earliest date these vessels can be made seaworthy to proceed by stages to America using fair weather route. (Controller 1806B/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)

810. 812 3qdn. Present intention is that 812 Sqdn. will relieve 810 Sqdn. at end of August. 812 Sqdn. will be brought up to I.E. of 12 by absorbing 3 aircraft and crews of 810 Sqdn., personnel being adjusted by ARK ROYAL in accordance with A.F.O. 1021/41 810 Sqdn. will return to U.K. for leave and probable re-equipping. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1957B/8 to S.O. Force H).

8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic. - Contd.

WIVERN defect.

Have a developing defect in condenser and auxiliary machinery producing high oil consumption necessitating being towed. My P.C. and S. are at 2100Z, 032° 49' N., 010° 14' W., 049° 11 knots. (WIVERN, 2000Z/8 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic.

LUMINARY.

My 0858/7. Admty have been asked to obtain permission of Govt. of Portugal for visit B.D.V. LUMINARY to Beira. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0853Z/8 to C. S.A. Beira).

PETER KERR.

Overdue Shipping. U.S. PETER KERR due Capetown 5/8 from Trinidad not arrived. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 1010B /8 to Admty etc).

5.5. D'ENTRECASTEAUXReport on French personnel in accordance with A.M. 2217/28/6., is being telegraphed to Dominions Office by High Commissioner, Pretoria. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1309B/8 to Admty).

NORDERNEY, (German).

In the event of other Axis shipping leaving S. American ports at the same time as NORDERNEY, NORDERNEY is to be regarded as the most important. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1437B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

Convoy .W.S. 10 X.

Your 2336/1/8 DUNEDIN and EAGLE will be made available but should fuel at St. Helena on the way. This will necessitate the convoy taking the route and DUNEDIN and EAGLE being away from convoy for about 12 to 16 hours. CILICIA will meet NICHAN BRIGADE about St. Helena. (C. in C. S.A., 1723N/8 to Admty).

Convoys.

O.S. and S.L. Your 0127N/6, concur. Amendment No. 30 to A.M. 0001/1/5 implements intentions. Ships for the Cape in O.S. 2 are being instructed to remain in convoy to Freetown. (D.T.D., 1737B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

ST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 1803B/8 August OUT.

To P.S.T.O. Simonstown

Date 8.8.41.

NAVAL CYPHER D.

From Director of Sea Transport.

IMMEDIATE.

Your 1656/5. Consider it most undesirable to allocate specific ships for sole use of Union Government. In order to achieve economy and flexibility in use of shipping would prefer to continue on present basis whereby shipping is treated as a common pool from which all requirements for conveyance of personnel M.T. and Stores from South Africa to Middle East must be met.

- 2. Necessity for permanent Ferry Service fully recognised. In addition to normal flow of reliefs, re-inforcements and stores mentioned by you there will be large numbers of troops to be on-carried ex W.S. Convoys as intention is to turn round W.S. Ships in South Africa to maximum possible extent in future. Provision will also be required for stores and vehicles ex W.S. Ships.
- 3. MAURETANIA ILE DE FRANCE and NIEUW AMSTERDAM will be kept on present Durban/Suez service until further notice. These will be supplemented by Dutch troopships and other vessels which for various reasons can be used to better advantage in Indian Ocean than in Atlantic.
- 4. Actual ships to be used will vary as necessitated by changing circumstances but would appreciate from you longest possible notice of numbers of troops and particulars of M.T. and Stores for which you will require shipping.
- 5. Your 1902/7. Request details of your immediate requirements. As at present understood 10,000 Union Troops will sail in C.M.15 about 11.8. and the balance of 3,000 completing the Second South African Division in C.M. 18. about 11.9. C.M.17 is being used for onward conveyance of W.S.10. but if you have any urgent requirements provision can probably be made in this Convoy. Further signal as to detailed composition of C.M.Convoys follows.

(Pay. Cdr. Wilson).

1803B/8.

D.T.D.(2). D. of S.T. N.I.D.10.

E.P.S.

Director of Sea Transport.

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

D. A. S. W. I.P. (2).

Duty Captain. Hd. of M. D.T.S.D.

W. D.

gc.

(2)

D. D. I. C.

8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

Durban to Suez. Reply to P.S.T.O. Simonstown 1656/5. (D.S.T., 1803B/8 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown) Troop Transport. See Lion Copy.

My 2143Z/6. Chilean pilot has arrived Montevideo. Chilean pilot (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 1903Z/8 to S.O.(I) ASAKA MARU. Freetown).

26th M.L. Flotilla has been allocated to S.A. Command. To make the passage in fair weather it M. L. 's is intended to make similar arrangements for sailing the Flotilla to Freetown as for 17th Flotilla, leaving Londonderry about 8/9. M.L. crews live on board and the only extra shore accommodation required for this Flotilla will be for 1 spare crew and Flotilla Maintenance Staff consisting of 2 Officers and 14 ratings. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2111B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

My 1507/7. Santos reports proposed voyage of ADVANCE. Finnish ship ADVANCE has been temporarily abandoned (S.O. (I) Montevideo, 2217Z/8 to R.A.S.A.D.)

ALBATROSS. When ready for service and fitted with catapult ALBATROSS is to be employed S.A.St. Suggested she should sail in company with convoys to destroy or keep down shadowing U-boats. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2347B/8 to C. in C. S.A.)

Mediterranean.

CAPO ARMA. Press reports state Italian CAPO ARMA and Roumanian BALCIC sank by a British S/M, and BALCIC. Roumanian ALBA JULIA torpedoed and badly damaged. These 3 ships left Istanbul on 2/8 for Trieste. No official confirmation of their having been attacked. (D.S., 703). ALBA JULIA.

Provision in Middle East and Iraq. For C.O.S. i reply to C.O.S. 1511. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 0728/8 to Air Ministry) See Lion Copy. For C.O.S. in R.D.F.

/Suez Raid.....

From H.Q. R.A.F. Middle Mast.

Dato 8. 8. 41.

Rocd. 1550

, Cyphor

Addressed Air Ministry, Whitehall, repeated ARMINDIA,
C. in C. Hast Indies, India pass to ARMINDIA.

IMMEDIATE
WX. 2333. A. 294 8/8.

41. 26/7. Following for C.O.S. from C. in C. in reply to C.O.S. 1511.

Following COL sets already operating. Malta 3

Aden 1 Haifa 2 Alexandria 1. 1 COL experimental mobile

set under test Aboukir. 3 COL's being assembled Aboukir.

- 2. Air Min signals indicate that further 7 COL's have been despatched including 1 to Malta and that a further 4 are about to be despatched including 1 each direct to Aden and Takoradi. In addition 7 CD/CHL's are being despatched.
- 3. This makes a total of 7 in operation 1 experimental and 21 expected.
- 4. Propose allocating those 21 sets as follows.

 (For?) Aden 1 Malta 1 Takoradi 1 Egypt and Wostern Desert

 10 Beirut 1 Cyprus 3 leaving 4 spares for allocation to Iraq
 and other commitments. Priority of allotment not considered
 in this signal and naturally varies with change in situation.
- 5. Re-consideration of Iraq problem (taking no account. of administrative inconvenience) indicates possibility of covering Shatt of Arab at far North as Dasra by one of two methods.
- (a) 3 COL's on the high ground to the west with small numbers of portable sets to fill gaps found by experience.
- (b) Large numbers of portable sets on bank of Shatt
- 6. Scientist has been despatched to survey area with these proposals in mind and no firm recommendation can be made pending his report he will contact S.N.O.P.G.

MOST SECRET

- 2 -

- 7. No portable sets wet available but adulpment to manufacture 10 locally expected to be despatched shortly from U.K. These might be flown out but considerable time will be required for manufacture unless complete units are despatched.
- 8. Above allocation leaves only 1 spare COL set in M.H. if method (A) in para 5 is adepted.
- 9. It is pointed out that the above proposals cater only for present requirements. It is considered important to make provision for reserve to meet future needs in Cyren aica possibly in Turkey and in parts of Persian Gulf for which we are responsible we must be in position to meet these without delay and that means having them here.
- 10. Ref. ARMINDIA's 10284/G of 1/8to Mideast Troopers
 Admiralty and India Office.
- (a) Ref. para 1 (A) see paras. 5 and 6 above UM KASR will be covered in our scheme. Not clear whether Mideast responsible for provision RDF cover—for A.I.O.C.(?oil)fields area as a whole or other area outside Iraq which may be occupied in future large number sets would be required to cover A.I.O.C. area alone. Accurate estimate impossible unless survey can be made. Request decision regarding responsibility for survey and provision.
- (b) Ref. para 1 (B) Topography makes RDF difficult if not impossible.
- (c) Ref. para 1 (C) Present allocation 1 M.R.U. Baghdad 1 M.R.U. Habbaniya. Use of COL possible Habbaniya but not Baghdad unless 80 foot towers provided.

/11

SECRET

11. We are not in a position to comment on paras, 2 and 3 except that it does not repeat not appear justifiable to install RDF Bahrein or elsowhere until fighter and/or A.A. defences are available.

12. Rof. para 4 operating and maintenance personnel accompany sets.

Air Ministry please pass to War Office and

Admiralty.

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0728/8.

Air Ministry at 1545/9.

1st Lord. 1st S.L. Received by hand from V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(F)
N.A. lst S.L.
D.O,D.(F)
D.D.O.D.(F)
D.N.I (4)
D. of P.(2)
Duty Capt. E.P.S. Hd. of M. I.P. (2) W.D. N. I. D. 10 Paym. Cdr. Wilson. D.S.D. D. G. D.

8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Raid 6-7/8.

1)

Raid on Suez night 6/7 made by about 14 enemy A/C which dropped bombs and mines. Egyptian casualties. Damage to oil refinery slight. No damage to shipping.

Night 6/7. 2 Marylands 1 Blenheim 5 F.A.A.

Albacores bombed Bardia, bombs falling among barracks buildings and officers quarters.

1 Wellington bombed Derna. (-H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1037/8).

Bardia.
Derna,
bombed.

AMRA.

Egyptian AMRA reports 2 torpedoes fired at her by plane in 028° 21' N., during raid of 6th/7th/8. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1119C/8 to Admty etc).

Alexandria Raid. Air raid 2230 to 2350/7. Weather clear, full moon. About 20 aircraft. Shallow diving and medium level bombing. 50 to 60 H.E. bombs over wide area including 30 in harbour and entrance area. Slight hull damage to S.S. MAHOUT* from near miss. Five of crew wounded by splinters. No other Naval or R.A.F. damage or casualties. Slight damage to 49 Quay. 2 soldiers wounded. Civil damage and casualties. One JU 88 crashed S.W. Lake Maryut 2 prisoners 2 killed. Defence was gunfire searchlight with dispersed beam and smoke. One illumination. No accurate bombing achieved but smoke hampered bomb spotting. No evidence of mines. (R.A. Alexandria, 1215/8 to Admty) *MAHOUT, British, 7921 tons, bound from Liverpool to Turkey and Calcutta with Government stores. (D.S. 704).

HERO.

If no further orders are recreved do not proceed beyond Mersa Matruh. Turn to (?eastwards) on arrival there, turning again to be off Mersa Matruh at 2000/8; then return to Alexandria. (C. in C. Med., 1220C/8 to HERO).

Famagusta Raid. About 3 machines passed over Famagusta at 2015/7 No flares. About 9 H.E.'s probably 100 Kg. and 3 large incendiaries dropped in harbour area. A Tug (Alternative "Neutral") AMIRAL LACAZE sunk. No naval casualties. One railway siding and some dock buildings damaged. War effort unaffected. (N.O.I.C. Famagusta, 1231C/8 to Admty etc).

/TRIUMPH.....

8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterrane an.

TRIUMPH. TORBAY.

Request you will sail TRIUMPH P.M./11 for patrol in Gulf of Sirte in Area C south of 32° 45° and east of 15° E., TORBAY has been ordered to leave that Area P.M./14 TRIUMPH is to keep west of 18° until 2359/14. (Capt. S.1., 13420/8 to S.O.(S) Malta).

SYDNEY STAR.

Recommending Capt. E.T. Horn for decoration for services after torpedoed by E/Boat. (Govr. Malta 1515B/8 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

French Ships in Turkey.

Admty 1350/6. (?Concur) with proposals. (C. in C. Med., 1436C/8 to N.A. Angora).

Vichy Convoys. My 1118C/30. Following Vichy convoy sails repatriation troops from Syria. Convoy A, speed 12 knots, CHAMPOLLION, MARIETTE PACHA, EXPLORATEUR GRANDIDIER, leaves Toulon 0600/9 (route), to arrive Beirut A.M./15. Convoy B, speed 11 knots, FLORIDA, PROVIDENCE,
MARECHAL LYAUTEY, leaves Toulon at dawn/13 (route).
to arrive Beirut 20/8. Both convoys instructed to pass Messina as near 1200B as possible . Convoys C and D are being ordered to arrive Beirut 27/8 and 30/8 respectively, 3 ships each. (C. in C. Med., 1600C/8 to Med., Fleet).

Turkey.

Re staff talks. (W.O., 2045/8) See Lion Copy.

Malta Raid.

Tripoli

bombed.

Night 7/8 3 raiders dropped bombs. No casualties or damage. 6 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli from 0155/7 to 0350/7. 2,880 lbs incendiaries and 15,000 lbs H.E. bombs were dropped. Incendiaries started two fires. All bombs fell on dock area. Day 8/8 2 500 lbs bombs dropped, on Tripoli, exploded

on corner of harbour. (H. Q. Malta, 2101/8).

Situation report 111.

Western Desert. Supply to Tobruk continuing. No report of enemy supply ships. (C. in C. Med., 2116C/8).

OTTO LEONHARDT. SULLBERG.

German OTTO ALONHARDT (?LEONHARDT) loading with 6,000 tons Iron ore in Sagunti. E. to A. Valencia 8/8 to take provisions. Thereafter to proceed to Savona. German SULLBERG E. to A. Valencia at any time proceeding to Sagunti to complete loading with Iron ore thereafter proceeding to probably Genoa. 0014. (Valencia, 2227/8 to Fairmiss).

OST SECRET

MOST SECRET M E S S A G E

1515B/8 August

IN

From Governor Malta.

DATE: RI:CD:

8.8.41 2310

Naval Cypher X by W/T

Addressed Admiralty.

AMS/550 In connection with the recent safe arrival of a convoy at Malta I desire to recommend most strongly the immediate award of a decoration - 0.3. .. -Captain H.T. Horn of s.s. SYDNEY STAR. 24 hours from the end of a 12 day voyage the last 3 of which had been a constant series of air attacks SYDNEY STAR was torpedoed by an enemy B boat. Nearly five hundred troops and a portion of the crewwere successfully evacuated from the ship as there was thirty feet of water in number 3 hold and numbers one and two holds were flooding. In spite of this Captain Horn and a volunteer party from his crew decided to try and get the ship to harbour although by this time she had drifted to within three miles of Pantellaria. A speed of fourteen knots was achieved to got the ship away from that fortress until speed had to be reduced to save strain on bulkheads. After dawn torpede bomber and dive bomber attacks were launched on tho ship during which her guns were manned partially by greasers from the Engine room. Captain Horn had no sleep or rest for three days and nights and it was undoubtedly due to his leadership, rescurce, courage and cheerfullness that his ship and its valuable cargo reached harbour after being seriously damaged by enemy action.

1515b/8

1st Lord 1st S.L. 2nd S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(F) A.C.N.S.(T)(2) NAV. SIG. None 1st S. L. Mr. Gleadowe for action BM D.P.D. D. N. I. (4)

I.P. (2) V. D. D. D. D. (F) D.D.O.D. (F) Duty Capt. D. T. D. (2)

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MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

2045/8 August I

From The War Office.

Date 9/8/41

CYPH R.

Addressed C. in C. India. Repeated C. in C. Middle East.

16 1

IRODIATE

82951 Cipher (M.O.5.) 8/8

From Chiefs of Staff for C. in C. India.

news of prospective staff talks with Turks has reached Germans. Turks are now unwilling to send representative out of Turkey. H.M.G. is accordingly suggesting that conversations be held in Ankara between our Military and Lir Attaches only on our side and Turkish Chief and Deputy Chief of General Staff and Chief of Air Staff on the other side. We hope Turks will agree. The idea is that Military Attache Ankara should come to Cairo to receive instructions.

2. In the diroumstances we think it would be advantageous if Bruce could remain in Cairo for the present He will then be able to represent your views and will also keep you in the picture. Grateful if you could spare him at any rate for a time. Loakage referred to above may have taken place through Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

2045/8

Recd. b hand from War Office at 1510/9.

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) D.C. E.P.S.

MILE

Hd. of M.
I.P.(2)
W.D.
N.I.D.10 Pay. Cdr. Wilson

8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Cyprus.

Report for period 27/7 to 7/8 Air Raids, etc.

(Govr. Cyprus, No. T.O.O./8 to S. of S. for Colonies).

East Indies.

Cargo carriers for Tobruk. Absence of small fast cargo carriers for Tobruk is causing great anxiety. Could any ships taken up for R.I.N. with speed not less than 15 knots and of displacement up to 3,000 tons be spared? need is urgent. Maintenance of blockade at Jibuti prevents release of CHAMDINA or CHANTALA. (C. in C. E.I., 0616Z/8 to F.O.C.R.I.N.)

CARTHAGE RANCHI. Durban arrivala CARTHAGE, departure RANCHI in accordance with C. in C. E.I. 0746Z/7. (N.L.O. Durban, 0713Z/8 to Admty etc).

Mine-watching. In Shatt-el-Arab. (C. in C. E. I., 0746Z/8 to Admty) See Lion Copy.

Shipping.

Your 1847/1 para. 2. Confirmed return convoys Singapore Colombo will be run. Para. 5 no (?standing) proposal. Para. 7, Commodore available Colombo Singapore run. (C. in C. EI. 0956Z/8 to Admty).

Personnel for U.K.

Your 1450/6. I anticipate that an escort could be made available about 20/8. I do not concur that passage should be made unescorted. (C. in C. E.I., 1036Z/8 to C. in C. Med).

Kilindini. Harbour Authorities contemplate construction of another deep water berth meet increased naval and civil needs. (C. in C. E.I., 1400Z/8).

S.S. LIMA.

Ashore on Shab Rumi Reef 019° 56' N., 037° 24' E.,

-hope to refloat.

(N.O.I.C. Port Sudan, 1905Z/8 to Admty etc).

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MUSICIONE

0746Z/8th August

IN

From C. in C. East Indies

Date 9.8.41. Rocd. 1028.

NAVAL CYPHER A. 2. BY W/T.

Addressed Admiralty Repeated S.N.C. Persian Gulf F.O.C. Royal Indian Navy.

957.

Your 0957 July 23 (to mo only).

- (1) India can provide neither searchlights nor trained crews for mine watch in Shatt-El-Arab but close range guns are being provided. I support my predecessor's views that both guns and searchlights are indispensable to efficient defence against mining by aircraft but value of guns will be greatly reduced by lack of searchlights since night is most likely time of attack. Request War Office be urged to provide 34 searchlights and crews from (corrupt groups). This number will be sufficient for Shatt-El-Arab only and will not cover probable requirement for Khor Abdulla Khor Musa and Kuweit (your 1700 27 paragraph 1 refors).
- (ii) Generator sets of the following description can be made available locally for searchlights. 16 sets of 16 kilowatt 100 volt differentially compound would petrol driven as used in Lincoln welding sets.
- (111) Roply to your 1700 27 paragraph 4 will be made later.

07462/8.

lst Lord
lst S.L.
2nd S.L.
3rd S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
N.A. lst S.L.
D. of P. (2)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.N.A.D.
D. of L.D. for action

D.A/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.G.D. (2)
N.I.D. 10 (Pay. Cdr. Wilson)

SECRET

situation for vara: Pos our As parioversive but ve

MOST'SECULT MASSAGE IN

our Sender as China and set and by William backders of salaria.

2308/8th August.

my star proposition contumb with its

FROM: C. in C. Far last. Date: 9.8.41.

Par act and Methya Command Without Recd: 0045

ADDRESSID: The War Office.

35861. 240/4. cipher 8/8. Your 82679 (M.O.10) 7/8.

1. Greatly appreciate your para: 3 your Para: 1 some misunderstanding. I have no intention of exorcising operational command in Malaya itself. my 111/4 of 26/7 I referred to my charter but not to any extension of it and in fact am constantly striving to decentralise though you will readily understand this is not easy as far as Malaya is concerned. In war can well imagine that it will be harder still but have made no requests for increase on this account.

- 2. Your para: 2. One is the operations room of C. in C. China and staffed by him ostablished close to me at the Naval Base and in same building as F. J. C. B. which is our joint source of present intelligence. The combined H.Q. mentioned by you is combined Air H.Q. Far Bast and Malaya Command situated near Bukit. Timah. This combined H. Q. provides staff for their joint operations room. Those two operations rooms are 16 miles apart by road but I shall require constant service from both
- 3. In war my staff proper will, continue with its section and general duties some being increased and some reduced. Inevitably heavy increase of volume of situation reports approciations reviews directives instructions and communiques as well as conference liaison interviews and missions.

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Duty Capt. D. D. I. C.

D. N. I. (4)

D. of P. (2)

Hd. of M. W.D. Total the way and a defining the state of the state The world of the fall of the second of the s

MLC.

8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Indo-China.

My 2344/2. If situation is sufficiently clear request your general views on future of Decoux agreement in light of Japanese occupation.

-(Head of M. 2159B/8 to C. in C. China.)

Far East.

Re Headquarters Staff in war. (C. in C. Far East, 2308/8 to W.O.) See Lion Copy.

America & West Indies.

FORT LAMY CARADOC.

Your 1930/7 repeated to FQK No. 3714. Following for Ambassador. Efforts of local Immigration Authorities appreciated but ships have now been held up for some considerable time and matter is urgent. (2) At request of Admiral Commanding F.N.F.L., M. Des Gautries, Free French Representative in Trinidad, has embarked in CARADOC and has instructions to endeavour to settle difficulty with crew of FORT LAMY. Propose therefore that CARADOC's programme should be adhered to but M. Des. Gautries visit should be given as reason for call at St. Thomas. CARADOC is visiting St. Lucia on the way? and should reach St. Thomas 11/8. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1201Q/8 to N.A. Washington).

Neutrals visiting Bermuda. Your 1359/6. Masters of both GUINE and NYASSA received instructions at Lisbon to call Bermuda. It was presumed that British Authorities there were aware of these instructions. (2) Passengers in both ships thoroughly examined and found harmless. Both ships had ships Navicerts and cargoes were in order. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1208B/8 to Admty).

Japanese shipping.

My 1751R/7. S.O.I. Callao reports the three ships expected are AMAGISAN MARU, KIYOSUMI MARU last reported sailed: 20th 21st July respectively. KIRISHIMA MARU sailed Rio de Janeiro 5/8. Report from B.N.A. Santiago de Chile now suggests little prospect obtaining bunkers Valparaiso. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 1226R/8 to Admty etc). My 1451R/7 (?1751R) YAMAZUKI MARU cleared for Kobe, no bunkers taken Santos. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 1231R/8 to Admty etc).

8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

RESOLUTION.

Proposed programme for working up at Bermuda extends over 17 days. In view of operational requirements is this concurred in?. (B.A.R.M., 1324R/8 to Admty).

S/Ms.

R.A. 3rd B.S. 1225P/6. Prefer submarines to go to FORTH to ensure their being brought up to date with S/M intelligence and F.O.(S) memoranda and for final adjustments. Understood that Halifax has not got 3/M repair personnel. One submarine only at a time is concerned.

(B.A.R.M., 1326R/8 to F.O.S.)

U.S. Ships, Iceland.

U.S.N.A. reports Iceland ships KATLA and GODAFOSS depart Iceland 8/8, KATLA to Halifax GODAFOSS to New York probably via Louisberg. Vessels are escorted by two U.S. destroyers tank unit 114. (N.S.H.Q., Ottawa, 1332Z/8 to C.O.A.C., C.C.N.F.)

Canadian corvettes.

Following is a repetition of my 1959Z/7 (Indecypherable). Re conversations between D.C.N.S., Canada and D.A/S.W. Admiralty. Intend keeping up to three Corvettes under training at WESTERN ISLES. Request information (1) How many R.C.N. Corvettes WESTERN ISLES can accommodate (2) Date on which first Corvettes should arrive. (3) Length of time required at WESTERN ISLES. 1959Z/7 (Ends). (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1344/Z/8 to Admty).

U.S.S.R.

Admty 1319B/26/7. DNEPROSTROI routed to Comox has not arrived. Vessel had 46 days bunkers on sailing San Pedro noon/26 and assume she has proceeded Vladivostok direct without routing instructions. Request you inform Singapore. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1603Z/8 to C. in C. China).

S/Ms Refits. No submarine will follow TRUANT in refitting programme until PARTHIAN, due 15/9. (D.O.D. (F) 1730B/8 to B.A.R.M.)

S/M working up period.

B.S.3's 1225P/6. Opposed to these submarines working up at St. Johns N.F., and even more opposed to Halifax. Absence of a depot ship and shore facilities and accommodation render Halifax most unsuitable for S/Ms. If arrangemmets can be made for these S/Ms to work up at an American Base, torpedoes to complete them to full stowage could be sent from Halifax. (F.O.S., 1751B/8 to Admty).

8.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies - Contd.

Bermuda.

Passages from Your 1052Q/6. Concur until position has been rectified. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1823B/8 to C. in C. A.W. I.)

TRIOMPHANT.

A.T. 2344B/23/7. Permission has been obtained from Mexican Govt. for F.S. LE TRIOMPHANT to call at Acapulco for oil fuel if necessary. C. in C. A.W.I., requested to a rrange for H.M. Consul in Mexico City to be informed whether or no ship will call and, if so, date of arrival.

2. State Dept. have been informed of the need to refuel at Colon and/or Balboa, San Diego and Honolulu. Arrangements have been made to supply from Commercial Stocks at Sen Diego and Honolulus. from Commerical Stocks at San Diego and Honolulu. 3. N.A. Washington is requested to confirm that supplies from U.S. Navy Stocks will be available in Panama Canal area. Failing this it will be necessary for the ship to bunker at Jamaica and in Mexico. (D.O.D. (F) 1851B/8 to C. in C. A.W.I., N.A. Washington).

LACONIA, MALOJA, CALIFORNIA. LACONIA has damaged starboard propeller through striking submerged object whilst at St. John N.B. necessitating redocking for approx. 24 hours. Dock will be available Thursday 14 /8. Intend sailing MALOJA as escort to H.X.144 and bringing CALIFORNIA back from Sydney to act as escort to H.X. 145. No ocean escort will now be available for S.C.40. (R.A. 3 2153P/8 to Admty).

CHITRAL.

My 1359/31 and C. in C. A.W.I., 1813Q/5. Proceed Halifax instead of to St. John N.B. (R.A. 3 B.S. 2155P/8 to CHITRAL).

RAKUYO MARU.

My 1751R/7 RAKUYO MARU sailed Valparaiso 8/8 for Los Vilos Chile. Callao reports will receive 500 tons fuel oil at Zorrites Peru. (S.O.I. Jamaica, 2308B/8 to Admty etc).

EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.

Ref. S.S.T.O. Capetown 1414Z/30/7 St. Thomas reports water required not available and impossible bunker fuel owing to ships draught. (S.O.(I) Jamaica, 2331R/8 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Troopships Bernuda.

In view of the constant necessity of avoiding all possible delay to troop transports these ships should not be diverted to Bernuda without Admty. sanction. (D.T.D. 2338B/8 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Australia.

Sailed 0200Z/8th.Route.Escort CANBERRA. U.S.11.B. (D.N.O. WAustralia 0302Z/8 to Admty etc).

8.8.1941. Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

CAPE RODNEY. (torpedoed 5/8.)

ZINNIA reports CAPE RODNEY in tow. 2000B/7 approx., 52° 18' N., 14° 28' W., course 048° speed 3 knots. (C. in C.W.A., 0040B/8 to NORTHERN GEM.) Return to Londonderry for boiler cleaning. (C. in C. W.A., 1032B/8, to ZINNIA.) Your 1032B. Am returning to Londonderry now. Steaming party taken off assemble as in my 1100B to Aircraft. NORTHERN GEM reports 50 tons coal remaining balance of fuel poor and will(?last) 3 days. ZWARTE ZEE has decided to make for Shannon. Consider salvage still hopeful. (ZINNIA, 1300B/8, to C. in C.W.A.) ZWARTE ZEE has informed me that he is/ships to River Shannon. I have only fuel enough aboard to reach Londonderry. Request instructions. (NORTHERN GEM 1330B/8 to C. in C.W.A.)
Noon position approx., 053° 02' N., 013° 14' W.
CAPE RODNEY making water rapidly in No.1 hold,
so at 1300 B altering to 105° speed 3 knots in attempt to reach Shannon to beach her. If successful will stand by until relieved or until further instructions are received. (ZWARTE ZEE, 1600B/8, to N.O.I.C. Greenock.) Detail one Destroyer to proceed forthwith to relieve NORTHERN GEM escorting ZWARTE ZEE who is towing CAPE RODNEY to Shannon. Position at 1500B/8, 53° 00' N., 13° 00' W. Speed about 3 knots. NORTHERN GEM to return to Base on N.O.i/c Londonderry is requested to relief. sail VIZALMA forthwith to relieve the Destroyer detailed who is to return to Base on relief. (C. in C.W.A., 1948B/8 to GURKHA, N.O.I.C. Londonderry.) Sailed VIZALMA in accordance with C. in C.W.A. 1948B/8. (Capt. D., Londonderry, 2205B/8, to C. in C.W.A.) My 1948B/8, destination Shannon, course 105° speed 3 knots. (C. in C.W.A., 2329B/8 to GURKHA.)

SHAHRISTAN (toroedoed 29/7.)

My 1221/7. 76 survivors SHAHRISTAN arrived at Ponta Delgada. 36 landed from CAMPERO and 40 reached land in ships' boats. Details. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1535/8, to Admty., etc.)

8.8.1941. Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked Contd.

ROBERT MAX. (sunk 4/8.)

Total crew numbering 6 of ROBERT MAX arrived Ponta Delgada. Ship sunk by gunfire of German submarine 1900 G.M.T./4 in 036° 47' N., 021° 15' W. (N.C.S.O., Ponta Delgada. 1822/8, to Admty.) Newfoundland fishing schooner, 172 tons, position about 200 miles E., of Santa Maria, Azores. (D.S.703.)

NIKOKLIS (torpedoed 14/7.)

220miles res SENSIN 13 Survivors of NIKOKLIS including Chief Engineer, Second Officer, and Third Engineer, brought here from Cape Juby by local Spanish Steamer yesterday. As far as can be ascertained ship was torpedoed 2115/14 about 105 miles S.W. of Azores. 2 torpedoes fired, lentering Engine room and the other No. 2 hold. 6 men placed in British Hospital. Wireless Operator and ship's Cook died before reaching land. (British Consul Las Palmas 1300/8.)

Submarines Reported.

Unknown ship has reported sighting a conning tower in 43° 40' N., 32° W., at 2040Z/7. (D.D.I.C. 0225B/8, to LONDON.)
W.D.Note. - LONDON escorting W.S.10.

0001/7.

A.C.I.C. 1605/7. Report details concerning U-Boat reported in Vidfiord, and action taken. (C. in C. H.F., 0943B/8, to HARRIER.) Your 0943 B/8 report classified C.5. Search without result. Reason for classification A.2 being investigated. (HARRIER; 2200A/8, to C. in C.H.F.)

1158.

Am over enemy S/M in 57.02 N., 13.38 W. (A/C duty Q (Training), 1158/8.)
Estimated U/B dispositions.
(D.D.I.C. 1441B/8.)

1824. 1839 G.M.T. German S/M bearing 278/2 at 1824 G.M.T. and German S/M bearing 280/2 at 1839 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A., 2005B/8 to N.A. Stn.)

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8.8.1941. Friday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C Enemy S/M periscope sighted 57.02 N., 13.38 W. 295°, 4 knots, 4 depth charges dropped. (A/C, 1210/8, to Aldergrove R.A.F.)

Am investigating suspicious oil patch in 56.54 N., 13.04 W. (A/C, duty B, 1635/8, to 15 Group H.Q.)
My 1635, oil moving one L knots, one Bomb dropped. (A/C duty B 1825/8, to 15 Group H.Q.)

By Preliminary report of attacks.

WANDERER (Capt. D., Liverpool 1930B/8 to Admty.)

etc. 3/8. See Lion Copy.

From Capt. D. Liverpool

Date 8.8.41. Recd. 2000.

P/L BY T/P.

Addressed Admiralty D.A.S.W. repeated C. in C. Western Approaches Captain D. Londonderry Captain D. Greenock.

IMPORTANT,

DERER

Preliminary Report of Attacks on U Boats compiled from WANDERER only. In calm clear weather WANDERER, CAMPBELTOWN, ST. ALBANS, escorting MAPLIN meeting S.L.81 on opposite course.
At 1410/3 WANDERER sighted U Boat on surface ahead and swept

towards with C/MPBELTOWN.U Boat A disappeared no contact. 2 F.W. sighted shadowing Convoy. WANDERER, CAMPBELTOWN, rejoined MAPLIN and WANDERER sighted another U Boat B on surface ahead at 1530 and swept towards

with ST. ALBANS.

WANDERER sighted U Boat C on surface at 1540 bearing red 40 distance about 5 miles. WANDERER turned towards C on sighting but decided to go for B. ST. ALBANS gained contact and attacked B while WANDERER recovered Hurricano Pilot from Sea M X both ships in firm contact carried out 6 attacks. Underwater explosion clearly heard in WANDERER. This explosion heard astern WANDERER when ship was in contact with B ahead after attack with charges set deep WANDERER regained contact which faded and subsequently disappeared.

WANDERER and ST. ALBANS saw Area resembling boiling sea for 4 minutes. During attack no temperature Gradient apparent but Echo faded on increasing speeds.

U Boat apparently deep rendeavoured remain stern on to

attacking ship using burst of speed and turning fast generally to Port when attacking ship within 800 Yards.

HYDRANGEA and CAMPANULA ordered remain vicinity while WANDERER, ST ALBANS, joined S.L 81 after 2 hours U Boat surfaced as in HYDRANGEAS 2119B/3.

1930B/8

Advance copy Ops. D. A. /S. W.

1st LORD 1st S.L. 4th S.L. V.C. N. 3. A.C. N.S. (H) A.C. N.S. (T) (2) Parl Sec. Nav. Sec N.A. 1st S.L. N. N. 18t S Ops. (4) M (8) D. N. I. (4) O. D. (5) D. T. D. (4) D. T. D. (6)

Cdr Holbrook D.T.M D of S.T. O. I.C. (3) D.A./S.W. I.P.(3) W. D. Press Division C. C. R. T. A. H. Q. H. F. I.M.N.G.

S.L. 81

9.8.1941. Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

M.G.B. patrol.

Three M.G.B. 's from Harwich patrolled last night to eastward of Gap E.

Suspected raider sighted.

A civil A/C on passage from Lisbon to U.K. reported a 5,000 ton M/V painted grey with 3 guns steaming West at 16 knots some 250 miles West of Brest at 1426 today; and WISHART has been ordered to try to intercept her. Air search was also arranged.

At 1705 three vessels like M class Minesweepers passed Gris Nez westward at 15 knots and were later reported to have entered Boulogne.

S/Ms escorting convoys.

F.O.S. considers that in view of the risks to S/Ms escorting Convoys their employment as Convoy Escorts should be discontinued.

Operation E.F.V.2. It is reported from Moscow that, after our recent air attack in the Petsamo area, Murmansk was not bombed for 48 hours and most of the German A/A artillery was brought from the Northern front into that area.

M.G.B.62 sunk. Whilst engaged on anti-E-boat patrol M.G.B.62 was sunk in collision with M.G.B.67 in the North Sea today. M.G.B.67 was damaged.

British Air Activity.

88 aircraft last night attacked targets at Kiel and 30 at Hamburg.

A Beaufort of Coastal Command last night attacked two small merchantmen 20 miles N.E. of Alsboen light and reports at least one hit.

9.8.1941. Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Enemy Air Activity.

S.S. DAGNY I sunk.

The Norwegian DAGNY I, 1392 tons which left Kirkwall at 1105 B today escorted by the A/S Trawler WASTWATER after being intercepted in Northern waters was bombed and set on fire at 1500B. when 25 miles 142° from Nolso and sank later.

S.S. ZOUAVE damaged.

Convoy E.C. 57 was attacked at 1744B off the Tyne; S.S. ZOUAVE, which was proceeding to join the convoy sustained minor damage from M.G. fire.

Convoy F. N. 3.

Convoy F.N.503 was bombed off Cromer from 2219 to 2327. S.S. CORDENE was sunk and GLENDALOUGH was badly damaged and was towed to Lowestoft.

WITHERNSEA.

0110

H.M.T. WITHERNSEA was attacked by a Heinkel III at 2300 today near H.3 Buoy and brought down the enemy aircraft.

Mining.

P.W.17

M.T.B.'s 44 and 45 carried out this operation last night.

A/C minelaying.

6 Hampdens last night laid mines off various parts of N.W. Germany and Denmark.

9.8.1941. Saturday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

Libya & Western Desert.

The question of supply is again dealt with today in a message by C. in C. Med.,

Tripoli, Benghazi and Derna ports were bombed last night.

Destroyers.

C. in C. Med., today sent a message to the Admiralty, dealing with the question of destroyers.

Suez Canal.

There were two air raids on the Canal area last night. No mines were laid and naval damage was very slight, though the dock at Port Tewfik will be out of action for 2 days, to clear debris.

Canal.

0)

Air attack 33 Wellingtons attacked the Corinth Canal last on Corinth night with bombs, and also laid mines.

9.8.1941. Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Staff at Hvalfiord.

Your 1912B/25 and my 1137Z/30. Will require 10 additional R.N.R. Officers to act as Admiralty pilots for Hvalfiord (? and for) handling oilers if 12 tankers are to arrive simultaneously. (N.O.I.C. Iceland, 0951/9)

Swedish M/V's.

Stop my 1109/8. Positions of Westbound vessels at 0001/9 as follows. (N.A. Stockholm, 1053/9)
Your 1807/31/7. Routeing is responsibility of Admiralty and steps have been taken to avoid confusion in the future. Swedish Authorities in London and M.E.W. are being informed that for future sailings Admiralty requirement of single westbound sailings still stands. (D.O.D.(H) 1113B/9 to N.A. Stockholm)

VIVIEN

Your 1647B/20/7. It is intended to sail VIVIEN to join command of C. in C. Rosyth on completion of her refit about 15/8.
-(C. in C. W.A. 1455B/9.)

Submarines
as Convoy
Escorts.
Proposed discontinuance.

F.O.C.N.A's 1204B/8. A. A friendly submarine in a convoy being attacked by a concentration of U-Boats is exposed to considerable risk from torpedo fire. If detached at the time when the attack is developing she is not only exposed to a grave risk of attack by the convoy escorts but in addition her presence can only serve to hamper the operations of the escorts. The experience of 0.14 in company with H.X. 79 provided ample confirmation of this and up till now every effort has been made to avoid having submarines in company with ocean convoys while the close escorts are present.

Now that concentrated U-Boat attack may be expected on H.G. and O.G. convoys and while the scale of A/S escort provided for these convoys is constantly increasing, it is for urgent consideration that the submarine escort be discontinued for the above reasons. If, however these duties are to be continued by submarines, in my opinion the submarine must either be completely detached from the convoy as soon as a concentrated attack is expected and before it develops or alternatively she must remain in close company with the convoy and accept the risk from enemy torpedoes.

9.8.1941. Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Policy

Submarines
as Convoy
Escorts.
Proposed discontinuance.
-Contd.

There are now ample opportunities for submarines in the Western Mediterranean where targets abound and opposition is slight. It is suggested therefore that the Netherlands submarines should be fully employed in this area, that the River Class should be employed on operational patrols in the Atlantic, and that OLYMPUS when repaired should continue on transport duties or operational duties where A/S activity is not expected to be strong. (F.O.S. 1457B/9)

Co-operation with U.S.A.

LE TRIOMPHANT

Your 1851B/8 and my 1650/5 to C. in C. A. & W.I. Dates at which LE TRIOMPHANT will (? touch) at United States ports are still required by Navy Dept. Fuel can be supplied in canal zone but U.S. Authorities would prefer that ship should bunker elsewhere. (N.A. Washington 0931R/9)

Movements

PENELOPE WESTMINSTER CATTISTOCK. Escorted by WESTMINSTER and CATTISTOCK sailed for Rosyth. E.T.A. 1345. (F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0900/9)
Part company at No. 1. reflector buoy, Forth, and proceed independently at 20 knots to overtake F.S.563 operating S.A. gear on passage On joining act as additional escort until ordered to part company by C. in C. Nore. (C. in C. Rosyth 1315/9 to CATTISTOCK)

ADVENTURE

Proceed to Port Z.A. (C. in C. H.F. 1046B/9 to ADVENTURE)

DAGNY I WASTWATER

Sailed Kirkwall SS DAGNY I escorted by WASTWATER. DAGNY I passengers and Crew not examined here. (N.O.I.C. Faroes 1105B/9)

KATLA GODAFOSS

Request information whether Icelandic ships KATLA and GADAFOSS with American escort sailed from Iceland on 8/8.
Request such movements may be signalled to Admiralty and all Authorities affected.
(A.C.N.S.(H) 1906B/9 to A.C.I.C.)

RENOWN

Your 2221B/8 and F.O.C.N.A. 0302B/8. Request you arrange R/V with C. in C. W.A. (D.O.D.(H) 1907B/9 to C. in C. H.F.)

9.8.1941. Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Movements

RENOWN -Contd.

F.O.C.N.A. 0302B/8. Onward route as follows. After escort from Scapa have met in position (H) at 1600Z/12 MAORI, COSSACK, (?SIKH) and LIGHTNING are to escort PASTEUR to Clyde fuelling Londonderry if necessary. RENOWN and escort to proceed to Scapa passing through following positions. (C. in C. W.A. 1949B/9 to RENOWN)

Operations

Attack on Petsamo.

From Admiral Miles. Rear Admiral Alafuzov D.C.N.S. told me today that after our air attack on Petsamo area Murmansk was not bombed for 48 hours also most of the German A.A. artillery had been withdrawn from the Northern front and installed round Petsamo and Kirkenes. He had no other intelligence of results. As the approaches to Petsamo are covered by Russian shore batteries on Ribachi it is unlikely that shipping will be found there. (Moscow 1738C/9)

Operation "Grab"

Intend resume operation "Grab a.m./10. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 2053B/9)

British Air Activity

Patrols

My 2306/8. Nothing sighted by STAB. (C. in C. Rosyth, 0218/9)
The STAB and BERT are being flown to reach
Norwegian coast about noon. (C. in C. Rosyth 1036/9)
P.R.U. Oslo, Kristiansand now flying. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1116/9)
Voe C. in operation until further notice.
(C. in C. Rosyth 1912/9)
Voe C discontinued until first light tomorrow.
(C. in C. Rosyth 2130/9)

A/C for FURIOUS

My 1958/8. Code name is "Scarlet" (D.N.A.D. 1052B/9)

Bombing Operations.

During day 8/8, 25 A/C bombed Hamburg and 74 A/C bombed Kiel causing very large fires. On night 8/9 there were no operations owing to the weather. (H.Q.B.C. 1625/9)

9.8.1941. Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Enemy Air Activity

Myggenaes
Lighthouse
and
JOHN DONOVAN
(Trawler)
attacked.

Enemy aircraft machine gunned Myggenaes light-house at 1510/8 causing no damage; and at 1445 bombed JOHN DONOVAN on passage South East of Sydero causing slight damage and slight casualties. Ship being repaired locally. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1016B/9)

DAGNY I
(Norwegian,
1392 tons)
bombed 44
Haros.

DAGNY I bombed. 25 miles 142° Nolso.
(WASTWATER 1500B/9)
Volunteer crew aboard DAGNY I. Attempting to put out fire and tow. (LEICESTER CITY 1739B/9)
LEICESTER CITY standing by DAGNY I. Am returning Thorshavn with passengers and crew.
Four crew and two passengers killed.
(WASTWATER 1740/9)
Have DAGNY I in tow. Proceeding to Thorshavn.
Have had to take off prize crew as she is blazing fore and aft. Tug not required.
(LEICESTER CITY 1920B/9)
Unable to take Trangisvaag owing to head swell.
1945B explosion amidships on DAGNY I. My speed 3 knots. (LEICESTER CITY 2025B/9)

Convoy F. N. 503. One A/C shadowing convoy "Attempt" position 52° 19' N., 1° 59" E. (VERSATILE 1631/9) Enemy aircraft bombing convoy F.N. my position 53° 1' N., 1° 50' E. VERSATILE 2219/9) A/C still bombing 2327. (VERSATILE 2328/9)

Convoy E.C. 57. Help "Paddle" position 55° 9' N., 1° 16' W. (QUANTOCK 1744B/9)
Fighters are being sent. (Rosyth W/T 1752/9)

Mining

Thames Estuary. My 1351/8. Amend item four to read 283° B.8. Buoy 1.5 cables. (Capt. M/S Sheerness 1007/9)

A.F.D. IV.

Your 1920B/6/8. Three Oropesa trawlers only will be available in Liverpool sub Command to undertake this sweeping. They will be fitted with S.A. gear. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1544/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

/ACHATES.....

9.8.1941. Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Mining-Contd.

ACHATES (Mined 25/7)

Cancel my 1609B/8. Intend sheltering in Faeroes. My P.C. and S 061° 42' N. 010° 42' W. 090° 6 knot. E.T.A. 1500/10. (ANTELOPE 2116B/9)

Enemy Intelligence

Enemy M/V.

Enemy warship (approx. 5000 tons) 46° 37' N., 9° 22' W., at 1255/9, CO 270° 16 kts. Civil A/C report. (19 Group 1426/9) (C. in C. Plymouth 1454/9 to WISHART)
My 1454/9. Ship reported is a merchant vessel painted battleship grey, 2 masts, squat funnel, 3 guns. Endeavour to intercept if fuel permits (C. in C. Plymouth 1646/9 to WISHART)

3 Enemy
Vessels.

Three vessels similar to M. Class minesweepers were observed to pass Gris Nez Westward at 1705, speed 15 knots. (V.A. Dover 1709B/9) My 1709B/9. These vessels are reported to have entered Boulogne. (V.A. Dover 1807B/9)

Casualties & Defects

M.G.B. 62 sunk. M.G.B. 67 damaged. Collision between M.G.B's 62 and 67 in 52° 28' N. 3° 37' E., M.G.B. 62 lost and M.G.B. 67 severely damaged, now being slipped. Two ratings and one officer slightly injured. (F.O.I.C. Harwich 1213B/9)

Hartlepool

My 1722/6. Port of Hartlepool is open to ships not more than 45 foot beam and 20 foot draft 2 hours each side of high water. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool, 1300/9)

A/C in
ARK ROYAL
Suspected
sabotage.

Following details of sabotage to Swordfish aircraft by sand in lubricating oil tank reported by ARK ROYAL.

My 1218B/9 refers. (S.O.Force H. 1409B/9 to Admty.)

9.8.1941. Saturday

HOME COMMANDS

Shipping and Convoys

- s.c. 38. Arrived complete, Cdre. A.S. Mackay R.N.R. 13 British, 9 Allied ships. Cargoes (D.S. 704)

8 British, 1 neutral, and 3 Allied ships of this convoy have arrived, Master of ABOSSO as Commodore. Cargoes. (D.S. 704) S.L. 81.

WINDSOR CASTLE Admty. 1916/7, Para 11. WINDSOR CASTLE was w.S. 10. also damaged in collision but is proceeding >W.S. 10. in convoy at 13 knots with No. 2. Oil Tank flooded. Not known whether she will be able to proceed beyond Freetown, but request report in due course. (D.S.T., 0329B/9 to C. in C.S.A.)

Cancel my 2223B/8. (Convoy to Hvalfjord)
(C. in C. H.F., 0934B/9 to Admty. etc.)
My 2210B/8. Convoy will proceed direct to
Hvalfiord. Home Fleet escort will relieve
W.A. Escort in position 270° Oversay Light
10 miles. F.O.I.C. Cardiff report time of R/V.
(C. in C. W.A. 0952B/9 to F.O.I.C's)

JUPITER arrived Ponta Delgada 1215/9. (N.C.S.O. Ponta Delgada, 1202/9)
Convoy W.S. 10 will R/V at position G at 1000Z/10, approach on course 187°.
(JUPITER, 1102B/9 to EDINBURGH)

My 1816B/6. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE cannot maintain 15 knots and will not sail with Convoy W.S. 10 X. Ship will carry valuable special stores and 182 personnel for Freetown and be ready to leave Belfast on 12/8. (b) proceed in Convoy O.S. 3. leaving U.K. on 13/8. (c) break off from Convoy in 43° N., and proceed independently to Freetown. (D.O.D. (H) 1348B/9 to C. in C. W.A.)

Combined convoys H.X. 140 and S.C. 38 represent largest number of ships brought to these shores as one unit. Congratulations on their safe and timely arrival. (C. in C. W.A., 1444B/9 to Adm. F.B. Watson)

(Total 100 ships, 78 in H.Y. 140, 22 in S.C. 38)

Operation "Dervish"

→ W.S. 10.

W.S. 10 X
DUNNOTTAR
CASTLE 0.S. 3.

H.X. 140 S.C.

9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

? FRANKFURT.

Lifeboat with Germans 300 miles 260° Fayal reported 8/8 by Panamanian ship. Refused assistance other than provisions. Portuguese destroyer sent to investigate.
(N.A. Lisbon, 1024/9, to Admty.)
Intercept Portuguese steamer LIMA. Addressed all ships. Lifeboat with crew seen by Portuguese plane today at 1320 G.M.T., 37.58
N., 20.32 W.
(Valentia Radio, Lands End Radio, 2350/9, to Admty.)

Las Palmas.

Your 1209/5 sufficient supplies of water available at Las Palmas. (Consul, Las Palmas, 1159/9, to Admty.)

Suspicious M/V.

At 1255/9 A/C reports an unidentified merchant ship in 46° 37' N., 09° 22' W. Course 270° speed 15-18 knots. About 5000 tons. Painted grey. 3 guns seen.

(D.D.I.C. 1648B/9 to N.A. Stn., etc.)

(F.O.C.N.A., 1722-B/9, and 1745B/9, to N.A. Stn.)(See also Home Commands, Enemy Intelligence.)

A.M. 1648B/9. Aircraft from U.K. will, if weather permits, carry out patrol to cover probable course of ship, intends to pass N., of Azores by a crossover patrol from 0700A/10/60 miles north and south of position 45° 30' N., 16° 40' W., until 1300A/10. Requested that, if available, aircraft from Gibraltar should cover probable line of advance should ship pass to southward of Azores.

(D.S.O. 2301/9 to F.O.C.N.A.)

French Convoy. Gibraltar 1840/8 French armed Trawler ASPIRANT BRUN, French Ships MEDJERDA, MAROC, BELLE ISLE, AZROU all laden passed Eastbound. (S.O.I., Gib., 1743B/9 to Admty., C. in C.Med.)

9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

MAUD.

Overdue shipping, cancel my 0947/6, MAUD arrived Cape Town. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0931B/9.)

NORDERNEY. German. Proceeded alongside for drinking water on 8/8. (S.O.I., Freetown, 1053N/9, to Admty.)

Para reports NORDERNEY left dock and steaming down river 1500 G.M.T./9.

(S.O.I., Montevideo 1609Z/9 to S.A.D.)

(C. in C.S.A.,1749 N/9 to PRETORIA CASTLE.)

(C. in C.S.A.,1947 N/9 to S.A. Stn.)

(S.O.I., Freetown, 2231 N/9 to F.O.C.N.A.)

My 1510Z/9 NORDERNEY has proceeded seawards.

Should clear river at 2200 G.M.T.

(R.O., Para, 1720Z/9 to S.O.I's Freetown etc.)

(S.O.I., Montevideo 1807Z/9 to S.A.D.)

P.L.M. 17

Aircraft report P.L.M. sinking in Ol8° 06' N., O21° 17' W., at time unknown. This was in same signal reporting LONDONDERRY's E.T.A., Bathurst. No report of attack on convoy or collision. Have you any information? (C. in C. S.A., 1427N/9, to LONDONDERRY.)

PRETORIA
CASTLE.
NORDERNEY.

Proceed to patrol in H.32 NORDERNEY reported alongside for drinking water at Para. 8/8. If other Axis shipping leaving South America Ports at the same time as NORDERNEY, NORDERNEY is to be regarded as most important.

(C. in C. S.A., 1447N/9 to PRETORIA CASTLE.)

LUMINARY Beira. Your 1824/B/6 no objection Portuguese Authorities to this visit which must not exceed 24 hours. (N.A. Lisbon, 1751/9 to Admty.)

Free French.

Staff talks 5/8 and 6/8. (G.O.C. in C. W. Africa to W.O., 1800/9) See Lion Copy.

NIEUW ZEELAND. My 2015/3/8 and my 1947/7. Intend two officers and sixty O/R.'s Free French reinforcements for Foreign Legion should also be embarked in NIEUW ZEELAND. (C. in C. S.A., 2015N/9 to D. of S.T.)

SECRET

word in the contract to many the transfer that the the MESSAGE

the transport of the state of the state of

1800/9 August

From G.O.C. in C. West Africa.

Date 9.8.41. Recd. 2355

CIPHER.

Addressed War Office.

IMPORTANT.

libra 12 will

341.33.

G/978 cipher 9/8.

Your 74295 (M.C.4) 25/6.

Staff talks took place on 5th and 6th August in most cordial atmosphere. Following visitors were present Congo Gen Ermens Free French Commandant Clabot Lt. Cl. Le Mesurier Dickson Mission Major Judd Navy Egerton R.A.F. Air Commodore Grigson Sudan Lt. Col White.

- 2. We discussed each others problems also those common to all and principle of mutual sistence was accepted. Possible operations in West Africa were considered and extent of assistance by Belgians in event of such operations made known.
- 3. Details examination of the requirements needed to implement the agreements in principle is now being undertaken.
- 4. Note was taken of various requirements of Belgians and undertaking that these would be communicated to H.NM.G.
- 5. General Ermens agreed that any Belgian troops sent out of Congo into the area under my command . would be placed under my orders.
- 6. Belgian Liaison Officer is now established at my H.G.

7-Report.

7. Report of conference follows by air mail.

1800/9

Received from War Office
1554/10.

* Re Staff talks between British, Free

French, & Belgian Congo now approved.

1st Lord.
1st S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(H).
A.C.N.S.(F).
Sec.
Nav.Sec.
N.A.1st S.L.
P.A.S.(S).
D.N.I.(4).
O.D.(5).
Ops (4).
M.(2).
D.of P.(3).
O.I.C.
D.S.D.(9).
I.P.(3).
W.D.
Admiral Chalmers.

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ST SECRET

MOST SECRET.

MESSAGE.

2127B/9th August. OUT.

Date: 9.8.41.

To. P.S.T.O. Simonstown.
Repeated. C. in C. East Indies.
C. in C. South Atlantic.

P.S.T.O.Egypt. P.S.T.O. India.

D. S. T. O. Mombasa.

S. N. O. R. S. F.

S.T.O. Durban (and for IMPCON Durban)

Naval Cypher (A.2)

From Parector of Sea Transport.

IMPORTANT.

My 2204/11/7 and A.M. 1916/7/8 neither to all addressees.

The number of personnel to be moved from Durban to Middle East appear to be (a) 2400 ex W.S.9B.

- (b) 13,500 Union troops to complete Second South African Division.
- (c) 15,800 ex W.S.10 see para 2 of this signal.
- It is desired to release ANDES, VOLENDAM, NEA HELLAS, ORCADES, REINA DEL PACIFICO and CAMERONIA ex W.S. 10 at Durban for return to U.K. Also RANGITIKI and HIGHLAND MONARCH to proceed to Plate.
- It is proposed that (a) 2400 ex W.S.9B and 10,000 of South African Division be carried in C.M. 15 comprising NIEUW AMSTERDAM, MAURETANIA, and ILE DE FRANCE sailing Durban about 11/8.
- (b) approximately 11,000 ex W.S.LO be carried in C.M.17 comprising probably NOVA SCOTIA, ELIZABETHVILLE, CITY OF CANTERBURY, DUNERA, LLANDAFF CASTLE, JOHAN DE WITT, THYSVILLE and EMPIRE TROOPER, sailing Durbeau carly September.

-2-.

- (c) Balance of 3,500 South African Division and Balance of 4800 ex W.S.10 be carried in C.M.18, composition as for C.M.15 sailing Durban about 11/9.
- Middle East with C.M. 17.
- 4. 4800 personnel ex W.S.10 would have to be held in Durban transit camp to await C.M.18. War Office are in touch separately with IMPCON Durban on this point.
- 5. In addition there are 1615 personnel for India ex CAMERONIA in W.S.10. It is proposed that these should be embarked in ARONDA who would accompany India section of W.S.10.
- 6. C. in C. South Atlantic is requested to inform Commodore and O.C.Troops of W.S. 10 of these proposals confidentially before departure of convoy from Freetown.
- 7. Request your views.

0

8. Agreed with War Office.

2127B/9. for D. of S.T. (986) 1st Lord. 1st S.L. D. of L.D. 2nd S.L. D.A/S.W. 3rd S.L. 4th S.L. I.P. (2) V. C.N.S. W. D. V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T)
N.A. lst S.L.
D. of P (2)
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.C.D. (F)
D.D.C.D. (H)
D.D.O.D. (H)
D.N.I. (4)
D.S.D. Duty Captain Hd. of M. (2) D. T. S. D. D. D. I. C. E.P.S. Wilson) D.G.D. D. of S.T. D.T.D. (M). D.S.D.

T SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

2223B/9 August
OUT

To C. in C. South Atlantic.
C. in C. East Indies.
Repeated N. O. i/c Freetown.
N. O. i/c Simonstown.
N. O. i/c Durban.
N. O. i/c Aden.

Date 9.8.41.

945

NAVAL CYPHER A. 2

From D. of S.T.

0

(18)

Convoy W. S. 10.

| ti | Daily Fuel onsump- on at onvoy Spee | Type of Fuel | Bunkers on leaving U.K. | Water Required at Freetown | Fuel Required at Freetown |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| ANDES BRITANNIC STIRLING | 70 41 | Furnace Diesel | 1916 1073 | 450 500 | 3500 1 1 00 |
| CASTLE WINDSOR | 36 | Diesel | 1044 | 100 | 1200 |
| CASTLE VOLENDAM HIGHLAND | 100 9 5 | Furnace Furnace | 2134 2130 | 600 13 00 | 2800 1400 |
| MONARCH RANGITIKI INDRAPOERA NEA HELLAS STRATHALLAN ORCADES REINA DEL | 31 38 23 125 80 81 | Diesel Diesel Diesel Furnace Furnace | 679 750 1000 2480 1840 1660 | Nil 450 400 1050 1400 Nil | 1500 2300 600 2300 2500 2200 |
| PACIFICO CAMERONIA INDIAN PRINC DIOMED MANCHESTER | 38 120 CE 20 | Diesel Furnace Diesel Coal | 1336 2460 545 3750 | 1400 1300 Nil Nil | Nil 2800 1000 1600 |
| PORT NIGERSTROOM PHEMIUS | 58 19 46 | Coal Diesel Furnace | 1650 361 1040 | Nil Nil Nil | 300 450 1200 |

MANCHESTER PORT has mechanical stokers and own crushers but cannot use coal of more than four inches in diameter. At Durban DIOMED and MANCHESTER PORT should be bunkered to capacity and will require about 1500 tons each and MANCHESTER PORT will require nut coal. Suppliers both vessels Wm. Cotts and Co.

10500 tons furnace and 4000 tons diesel oil have been reserved for supply in Cape Town and/or Durban but only sufficient oil should be supplied in South Africa to enable the vessels to reach their next bunkering port with a safe

margin...

MOST SECRET

(2)

margin except in the case of the HIGHLAND MONARCH and RANGITIKI which should be bunkered to capacity.

All vessels should be watered to capacity in South
Africa but any demands at Freetown in excess of the
quantities stated should be carefully scrutinised.

Addressees pass to S.T.Os. concerned.

2223B/9

Director of Sea Transport

lst Lord
lst S.L.
4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(T) (2)
N.A.lst S.L.
D. of P. (2)
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D.(F)
I.P. (2)
W.D.
Duty Captain
D.A/S.W.
D.N.I. (4)
Head of M.
D.D.I.C.
E.P.S.
D.T.D. (2)
D. of S.T.
N.I.D.10 (Paymaster Cdr. Wilson)

0

9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic Contd.

BALZAC. (missing) boat found. About 0900 G.M.T./9. Ship's life boat found ashore between Amarallina and Petuba 013° S.,038° 27' W. Name BALZAC painted out. Boat had been machine gunned apparently before launching. (Contents) Impossible to state how long boat was adrift but opinion of N.C.S.O., Bahia is not less than a week but might be much more.

(R.O. Bardia 2059Z/9 to Admty.)

W.S.9.B.) W.S.10.

Re transport of personnel from Durban to Middle East. Arrangements. (D.S.T., 2127B/9, to P.S.T.O.Simonstown.) See Lion Copy.

W.S.10.

Requirements at Freetown. (D.S.C. in C.S.A. etc.) See Lion Copy. (D.S.T., 2223B/9 to

D.S.T.O., Mombasa's 0915/8. Concur in proposed DURBAN CASTLE. arrangements for accommodation of Royal Party in DURBAN CASTLE but suggest passengers thereby displaced who will have to be disembarked at Durban to await onward conveyance to U.K. should be selected after paying regard to circumstances of the case. Undesirable that delay and inconvenience should fall wholly on R.A.F., personnel. (D.S.T., 2224B/9, to P.S.T.O., Simonstown.)

Mediterranean.

Enemy Fleet. P.C. and S., of enemy battle fleet 5 destroyers 4 merchant vessels 2 aeroplanes 188° Pantellaria 16, 347° 12. (A/C duty Z, 0830/9, 0844/9, to Hal Far.) (S.O.S., Malta, 1045B/9 to 0.23.)

Vichy convoy.

CHAMPOLLION, MARIETTE PACHA, EXPLORATEUR GRANDIDIER, all about 11,000 tons passing through 041° 35' 010° E., at 0700/10 for Straits of Messina. They are not to be attacked. (Capt. S.8, 1036B/9, to S/M's 0.24, 0.23.)

9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

Alexandria Raid.

U/B attacked.

Night 7/8. About 25 enemy aircraft attacked Alexandria. About 90 bombs dropped over wide area, direct hit on 1 quay but no other serious damage to harbour. 5 soldiers wounded, civilian casualties. Day 8/8. 2 Blenheims on sea R/C attacked enemy S/M 34° 08' N., 23° 04'E. 1 bomb falling near objective.(H.Q.,R.A.F.,M.E., 1108/9.)

Bardia, Capuzzo Benghazi bombed. Night 7/8, 2 Wellingtons 3 Marylands bombed Bardia obtaining hits on harbour buildings 1 medium ship believed hit, 1 Wellington bombed Capuzzo starting 2 fires. 1 Wellington bombed Benghazi bombs falling on bases of Central and and Cathedral moles.
(H.Q. R.A.F., M.E., 1111/9.)

OTTO LEONHARDT. German.

Arrived and sailed this afternoon 8/8. (Consul, Valencia, T.H.I., 1116/9.)

Suez Raid, 7/8.

My 1345 C/7. Kef. C.A.F.O. 587, (A) 7/8 calm clear. (B) 2 raids with interval of one hour 2 - 3 and 18 - 20 planes attacking singly. Possibly JU.88 and S.79, high level and dive bombing. No illuminants bright full moon. (C) H.E. bombs and mines. (D) About 12 bombs on shipping light craft about 13 on land one U.X.M., Kilos 153.9 one U.X.M. Kilos 158.8 3 U.X.M's Suez Bay. (E) D.A. Office demolished, no other naval damage, no casualties. (F) A/A by CARLISLE and shore batteries. (G) Balloons flying at 3200 feet. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1205C/9.)

NESTOR.
ENCOUNTER
JUPITER
HEYTHROP
ERIDGE
AVONVALE.

F.O. Force "H" 1107B/7. Regret that casualties to Force "H" destroyers and the subsequent defects in FAULKNOR make it necessary to retain NESTOR and ENCOUNTER temporarily at Gibraltar. Hope to arrange for replacement of Force "H" 's destroyers at a very early date when NESTOR and ENCOUNTER will continue to Mediterranean.

JUPITER sailed with W.S.10. Hope that HEYTHROP will sail with W.S.10X. ERIDGE and AVONNALE should be sailed from Gibraltar via the Cape as soon as practicable.

(A.C.N.S. (F) 1239B/9 to C. in C. Med.)

S.O. Force H., 1107B/7. Destroyer situation and need for more.

(C. in C. Med., 1249C/9 to Admty., etc.)

See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRETAGO /9th August

MOST SECRET

IN

From C. in C. Moditerranean.

Date 9,8,41,

Recd, 2215.

NAVAL CYPHER (D) BY CABLE

Addressed Admiralty, Force "H", F.O.C. North Atlantic.

IMPORTANT

794.

F.O.C.N.A's 1107B 7th. It is hoped there will be no further avoidable delay in sailing of H.M.S. ENCOUNTER to join Mediterranean Fleet.

It has been found that allowing for boiler cleaning and defects on passage, a good six weeks elapses before destroyer can join me from Gibraltar.

As already stated in my 1610C 20th July (not to Senior Officer Force "H"F.O.C.N.A.) destroyer situation here is acute particularly now the Australian "V" Class have fulfilled expectations and with exception H.M.A.S. VENDETTA have had to go away for long refit. H.M.A.S. VENDETTA is under constant and uneconomic repair to keep her capable of 22 knots. H.M.A.S STUART has just developed turbine defects beyond capacity of local resources and will have to go away.

It is hoped fleet may be able to resume active offensive operations before long and if reinforcing destroyers are delayed I may be hamstrung for lack of destroyers. Also it is essential I should have a margin to enable long deferred refits to be undertaken or serious deterioration of destroyers machinery will occur.

12490/9

/ Presumably Force "H"'s 1107B/7 intended.

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

9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. Contd.

PARRAMATTA.

My 1347/9. PARRAMATTA to remain at Famagusta till A.M./15 as A/S cover for Serial 20 P and 21P then to Port Said.

(C. in C. Med., 1253C/9 to N.O.I.C. Cyprus.)

Suez Raids.

Two air raids on Suez Canal area night 8/9, first by 2 or 3 aircraft, second by 11. At Port Tewfik about 20 bombs dropped round shipping and dry dock. No damage to shipping. Dock will be out of action for two days to clear debris. NUBIAN in dock undamaged and undocks P.M. today. Five near misses at Suez Refinery. At Port Said about four bombs on Salt Pan. At Ismailia slight damage to naval experimental canal nets. No mines laid. No naval casualties.

(S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1305C/9 to Admty.etc.)

French
Convoys.

2 French convoys which are not to be attacked are making passage through Mediterranean as follows. (i) from Syria via Messina to Bizerta passing Messina about 1000B/ll. (ii) from Toulon via Messina to Syria passing Messina about 1200/ll. (Details.)
(S.O.(S) Malta, 1440B/9, to URGE, 0.23.)

Attacks by aircraft on. Reply to Admty. 1827/4. (C. in C. Med., 1551/9 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Catania.

Tripoli
bombed.

8/8, 1 of 5 Blenheims attacked M/Vs Catania
harbour, 2 near misses probably damaged M/V
2,000 ton at quayside. Rest turned away owing
30 Cr. 42's patrolling vicinity. Night 8/9
excellent attack by 7 Wellingtons Tripoli from
0155 to 0317 hours. Many bombs dropped in dock
area from 7,000 ft. 3 large fires with explosions
and flying debris near Castello and power house
visible 40 miles.
(H.Q., R.A.F., Malta, 1600/9.)

Russia and lst. S.L., 1622B/9 to C. in C. Med., C. in C. Iran. E.I., S.N.O. P.G. (See Lion Copy.)

/UNBEATEN.....

From C. in C. Mediterranean

Date 9. Sulli.

144 A

IN

Recd. 1924.

NAVAL CYPHER (D) BY W/T

Addressed Admiralty.

IMPORTANT

798.

Your 1827 4th. Lighters A 11 and A 10 were attacked by about 20 J U 87 at 1930 on July 15. A 11 undamaged A 10 hit stopped and abandoned at 0100 after two attemps at towing had failed. A 10 was then still floating slightly down by the bow.

B. Reference C.A.F.O. 2972/39 paragraph three A.

Uncertain. Each aircraft dropped several bombs. Salvo released at 200 feet. Hit on centre line 25 feet from bow and two very near (1) (2) (3) misses aft.

Uncertain.

(5) (6)

Lighters appeared to be lifted bodily by near misses.
Both engines stopped both guns out of action.
Brow dropped about a quarter of its travel but inner watertight door intact. Damage to hold where bombs struck uncertain but bottom did not appear to be holed (7)badly. Bottom plating 30 feet from bow was distorted. Compass and other fittings aft unshipped.

(12) Lighter immobilised and guns out of action.

C. Though in this case it appears that a hit and near misses immobilised but did not sink A 10, the losses of A Lighters during evacuation of Greece indicate that they are likely to sink if hit by dive bombing attacks.

1551/9

Advance copy sent to Ops. O.D. O.I.C. and Press.

1st Lord Ist S.L. 5th S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(H). A.C.N.S.(F). N.A. 1st S.L. D.O.D. (H). D.D.O.D. (H) D.O.D. (F) D.D.O.D. (F) D.N.I. (4) D.D.I. C. D.D.T.S.D. (C.O.). D.C.O. D.N.E. (C.O.). E.P.S. Duty Captain N.I.D. 10 (Paymaster Cdr. Wilson). D, N, A, D. W.D. MOST SECRET I.P. (2).

ST SECRET

MOST SECRET.

MESSAGE. 1622B/9 August.

Date 9.8.41.

To: C. in C. Mediterranean. 418.
C. in C. East Indies. 532. S.N.O. Persian Gulf.

NAVAL CYPHER (D).

From Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE. AIDAC.

Following telegram from War Office to C. in C. India repeated C. in C. Middle East, C. in C. East Indies.

Begins. Your 10594/G of 6/8. Paragraphs 1 and 3 noted.

- 2. Paragraph 2. British and Russian Commanders could keep each other mutually informed of progress and intentions by means of exchange of liaison staffs W/T sets and ciphers carried by air. You should have a party ready and we will ask Russians to do likewise.
- For the moment it is considered impolitic to approach Russians to perfect arrangements. In these circumstances question of violation of Persian air referred to in Foreign Office telegram to Moscow repeated to Government of India as No. 9276 will probably not arise. Russians would however be approached immediately H.M. Government decided on military action in Persia. No information can be obtained as yet on location of Russian concentration or plan of action,
- For your own secret and personal information there may be some delay after the presentation of our note owing to Tirkish suspicions of Russia and to the obvious need for suaring them before making them unhappy. Ilth August looks like parliest date for presentation of our note.

1622B/9.

for Secretary to 1st Sea Lord.

1st Lord. lst L. L. V.C.N.S. A. C.N.S. (F) N.A. ist S.L. D.O.D. F) D.D.O.L (F) D.N.I. (1) D. of P 2) Duty Cappin. E.P.S. Head of M. (8) I.P. (2) W.D. N.I.D. 10. (Py. Cdr. Wilson.) P.A.S.(S).

9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean Contd.

UNBEATEN report.

UNBEATEN reports during Forenoon/30 in 36° 12' 11° 35', Northbound expected convoy passed out of sight, occasional single charge indicated that full speed was to Westward. At 1616/31 in 36° 32' 11° 49' sighted Southbound convoy. UNBEATEN closed at speed to attack and may have been sighted by Air escort, convoy altering 65° away for 20 mins., which appeared deliberate avoidance though escort detached to counter attack. At 2210/6 in 34° 56' 12° 00' sighted distant A/A fire to Northward, 3 separate explosions observed, attack appeared to last one hour. At 2300, A/A fire indicated convoy withdrawing to Northward, UNBEATEN closed at speed and 20 miles Northward found half mile area alight, some wreckage and barrels and strong smell of paraffin. Lampedusa Harbour reconnoitred twice, no favourable target. (S.O.S., Malta, 1755B/9, to Capt S.1.)

Operation
"Substance"
HOEGH HOOD.

My 2052/25/7 Para. 15. Information just received that HOEGH HOOD of Group 3 of Convoy M.G.l, was hit by A/C Torpedoes at 1800/24. Ship arrived Gibraltar 1045/27. (S.O. Force H., 1837/B/9 to Admty.)

Fast Cargo Ships. Importance of. (C. in C. Med., 2003C/9 to Admty., for lst. S.L.)
See Mediterranean Volume.

Enemy Ships. One large tanker E.T.A., 032° 07' 020° 04' A.M./10 and one Auxiliary Schooner may arrive same position 11th both laden with petroleum. (Capt. S.1,2340C/9 to TORBAY.) See also 1910/11.

9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

U.S.12A, fuel.

Your 0447/7. Intend easing situation by sending AQUITANIA to Colombo. Unless unforeseen circumstances arise Oilers APPLE-LEAF and PEARLEAF will then suffice for fuelling at Trincomalee.

Consider 10/9 an optimistic date if AQUITANIA is to go to New Zealand.

(C. in C. E.I., 1220Z/9 to Admty.)

S.S. LIMA (ashore)

2 tugs proceeding A.M./10 to assist. (N.O.I.C. Port Sudan, 1745Z/9, to Salvage Assocn., London.) (See his 1905Z/8.)

China.

Indo-China. Re Decoux agreement, Japan and French shipping. (C. in C. China, 0433Z/9, to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

FUSIJAMA (Italian) MOSEL (German) Kosichang. Departures night of 8/8. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0858Z/9 to Admty., etc.)

E-boat actions.

Understand from press engagements recently took place in Malta between fixed defences hostile "E" boats and miniature submarines. Grateful for details especially as regards employment of 6 pr. A.M.T.B. equipments. (G.O.C. Malaya, 2349/9, to Govr., Malta.)

oil Denial 5 cheme.

Agreed locally I shall runain responsible authority for scheme. I work in close cooperation with Cinc Far East and forement, Straits bettlements (Cin C China 6351 Z /9)

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 0433%/9th Aug.

IN

From C. in C. China.

Date 9.8.41.

Recd 1807.

Interdepartmental Cypher (13) by Cable.

Addressed Admiralty, repeated Consul General Saigon, Governor Straits Settlement.

IMPORTANT.

39

Foreign Office's telegrams 106 and 108 to Saigon.
Governor Straits Settlement and myself have received further messages from Decoux reiterating his desire to maintain agreement and asking for reciprocal assurance from H.M. Government. He says he is ready to release EGAL as evidence of good intentions but would attach importance to this being followed by action on our part to facilitate release of opium and imports of foodstuff as regards rubber he now states his own offer of contract to United States of America for ten thousand tons of rubber remains unanswered. In conclusion he stresses that maintenance agreement, in whatever form it can be made to survive, is only thing that can prevent Indo-China becoming even more completely dependent economically on Japan.

- Admiralty messages 2255 July 27th and 2344 August 2nd. There is no local evidence of any Japanese move to take French shipping and moves of latter are proceeding normally. Instructions are in force for Dutch ships to intercept Eastbound French shipping at Sunda Straits and for Westbound shipping to be brought into Tanjong Priok for search. This has resulted so far in one ship being detained and in consequence another ship of departure from Saigon has been delayed. Present position as regards local shipping between Indo China and British Possessions is that I have stopped co-ordinate voyages of British ships but French ships are runing normally.
- (3) In the light of the foregoing I should be grateful for earliest possible further instructions regarding shipping and Decoux agreement generally as unless we respond to his protestations soon with some concrete action he may well abandon attempt to maintain friendly relations with us.

04332/9.

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

| lst Lord | D.O.D.(F) | Duty Captain |
|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st S.L. | D.D.O.D. (F) | W.D. |
| V.C.N.S. | D. of P. (2) | Admiral Chalmers |
| A.C.W.S. (F) | D.N.I. (4) | Admiral Bellairs |
| A.C.N.S. (T) (2) | D.E.W.D. | M. (34) (30) (M. O11161/41) |
| NaT. Sec. | D.D.I.C.(2) | for action |
| N.A. lst S.L. | D.T.D. (2) | China Dist. (P.A. |
| P.A.S. (5) | T D (9) | Clutterbuck Esq. D. O. |
| | CICO | N.I.D. Pay. Cdr, Willson |
| | | |

TIONI TOOM

9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies.

BERGENSEJORD

Ref. N.C.S.O. Trinidad's 1036/4. BERGENSFJORD is urgently required in U.K. and should arrive not later than 20/8. To obviate necessity for including her in an H.X. Convoy on grounds of her speed of doubtful 15 knots, request very urgent report whether she can be drydocked immediately on arrival at Halifax and sailed so as to arrive Clyde by 20/8. (D.S.T. 0435B/9 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

CIRCASSIA. ANDAVARA collision, 9/7.

CIRCASSIA collided with and sank anchored Newfoundland fishing Schooner ANDAVAKA on 9/7 in thick fog. No loss of life or injury to crew and no damage to CIRCASSIA. Board of Inquiry finds no blame attributable. (R.A.3, 0914/9 to Admty.)

A/C from FORMIDABLE

FORMIDABLE's 1654/8. Request you inform ship direct, undesirable that planes land on U.S.A. territory. (B.A.R.M., 1114R/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

crew trouble

Your 2212Q/6. CARRAS sailed 8/8 7 Greek ring-leaders now under arrest at St. Lucia and have been replaced by 6 local British West Indian. Prosecution difficult here. Propose CARADOC takes them to Trinidad for internment of next occasion fuelling. (CARADOC, 1150Q/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

NORDERNEY (German)

Para reports steaming down river 1500 G.M.T./9 should clear river at 2200 G.M.T. (S.O.I. Kingston, 1224R/9, to C. in C. A.W.I.)

FORT LAMY (Free French)

Details of crew trouble. No suspicion of subversive activities. Reporting Officer advises diversion to nearer British Port. (S.O.I. Kingston, 1232R/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

U/B Attacks on Convoys.

For information, S.O's. of Escort Group.
U-boats have lately been detected close to
convoy at night and attacked there by escort.
In consequence browning attack at long range
may now be developed from bows or even ahead
if escort is strong. No change in method of
attack likely if escort weak.
(Capt.(D) St. John's, 1247Z/9 to HAVELOCK, etc.
etc.)

9.8.1941. Saturday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Conta.

Convoy Route. Your 1849Z/26/7. Recommend departure point in para. 4 Admty. routeing signal vide Admty. 1629B/11/7 should not be to eastward of 0540 W. except for ships for Belle Isle Strait and Newfoundland. (F.O., N.F., 1533Z/9, to C. in C. W.A.)

MOOLTAN

Ref. S.N.O. Curacao's 0900/7. MOOLTAN is urgently needed in U.K. and important that she should not be delayed en route. Request no personnel be embarked in Bermuda in excess of numbers permitted by Admty. 1744/16/7 on independent sailings, unless escort can be provided without delaying ship. Request anticipated date vessel is due U.K. (D.S.T., 1833B/9 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

NORDERNEY. DESPATCH. FORMIDABLE. German NORDERNEY left Para 2200Z/9. Keep Oiler BISHOP\$DALE in company and steer Para River to intercept. PRETORIA CASTLE is in square H.32. BISHOP\$DALE will be required to fuel FORMIDABLE in 007° N. 050° W. about 17/8.

(C. in C. A.W.I., 2212Q/9 to DESPATCH.)

Australia.

U.S. 11B.

CANBERRA escorting U.S.11B. left Fremantle 0300Z/8 for Singapore. (A.C.N.B., 0621Z/9 to Admty., etc.)

9.8.1941. Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

(torpedoed 5/8.)

My 1600 (begins): Noon position approx. 0530 02' N. 0130 14' W. CAPE RODNEY making water rapidly in No. 1 hold so at 1300B altered course to 105° speed 3 knots in attempt to reach Shannon to beach herself. If successful will stand by until relieved or until further airections received. (Ends.) Situation hopeful, ship only little deeper. Maintaining course and speed. Have you any information and guidance relative to beaching ship River Shannon. (ZWARTE ZEE, 0555B/9, to N.O.I.C. Greenock.) Visibility bad, searched for ZWARTE ZEE for 4 hours with LANCE and ISAAC SWEERS. Have left ISAAC SWEERS who has 45% fuel to continue search and to return Clyde if contact not made by dark tonight. (GURKHA, 0925B/9, to C. in C. W.A.) CAPE RODNEY foundered in 052° 44' N. 011° 41' W. at 1100B. ZWARTE ZEE and ISAAC SWEERS returning to Lough Foyle, S. of A. 14 knots. (ISAAC SWEERS, 1115B/9, to C. in C. W.A., ZWARTE ZEE 1446B/9 to N.O.I.C. Greenock.) Your 1446B/9, return to Campbeltown. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 1605B/9, to ZWARTE ZEE.)

HORN SHELL (torpedoed ? 26/7.)

Portuguese AFRICAN OCIDENTAL picked up 12 survivors of British HORN SHELL. Proceeding Cape Verde. (N.A. Lisbon, 1253/9, to Admiralty.) Brazilian tug COMMANDANTE DORAT reports having received on 8/8 a wireless message from Brazilian CUYABA, Lisbon for Pernambuco, that CUYABA on 8/8 in 025° 38' N. 017° 25' W. (about 100 miles from Las Palmas) picking up a boat with 15 survivors from HORNSHELL, torpedoed by a German S/M on 5/8.* CUYABA was searching for three other boats. Survivors will be landed at Pernambuco about 15/8. (Consul, Pernambuco, 1330Z/9 to Admty.) * Query date, see 1735/9. Ref. I.D. form S.A. para. 10. (1) M.V. HORN SHELL (2) Anglo Petroleum Co. (3) 2300 G.M.T./26/7/1941 (4) Not seen at time of attack (5) Northerly course on surface after attack (6) Not known (7) Ship capsized and remained floating bottom up (8) For survivors see my 1640/9 (9) Not seen clearly (10) 4 torpeaces (11) Not known. (N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, 1735/9, to Aamty., etc.) Sunk in 33.23 N. 22.18 W. (N.C.S.O. St. Vincent, 1745/9, to Aamty.)

9.8.1941. Saturday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported.

At 1824 G.M.T./8, German U-boat within 60 miles of 037° 00' N. 011° 30' W. made enemy sighting report. At 1839 G.M.T./8 different German U-boat on approx. the same bearing from Gibraltar made enemy sighting report. (F.O.C.N.A. 1105B/9 to N.A. Stn.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1354B/9.)

1257A.

My 1357B/9 (N.T. in W.D.) Italian U-boat CALVI or OTARIA class 035° 16' N. 010° 00' W. stopped at 1257A/9. He dived at about 1349. SEVERN remained diving until hope of regaining contact was lost. (SEVERN, 1801B/9, to Admty. etc.) (F.O.C.N.A. 1817B/9 to N.A. Stn.)

S.1 Periscope bearing 305 dist 4. 31.24 N., 10.25 E. (N.G. Call Sign "A C", 2030Z/9 to Whitehall W/T.)

Bubmarines Attackea.

By A/C.

In 34.08 N., 23.04 E., on 8/8. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1108/9.) See Mediterranean.

SEAWOLF reports at 0929B/30/7 in position 46° 41' N. 03° 32' W. unsuccessfully attacked homeward bound U-boat. SCHARNHORST was not sighted on the morning 25/7/7 when visibility was very low and variable. (F.O.S. 1142B/9, to Admty. etc.)

By SEVERN.

10.8.1941. Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

Summer Time.

At 0500 to-day the clock was moved back one hour from Double Summer Time (D.S.T) to Normal Summer Time (N.S.T).

Belfast.

Belfast is to be closed at night, commencing to-day.

Suspected raider.

WISHART was compelled about midnight 9/10 Aug. to abandon the search owing to shortage of fuel for the suspected merchant ship raider sighted yesterday. HERMIONE left Gibraltar shortly after midnight 9/10 Aug. to patrol 500 miles E. of the Azores, and LONDON is to patrol 100 miles N.W. of the Azores when relieved on convoy escort duty. Catalina patrols were carried out from Gibraltar and from Northern Ireland.

Soviet minesweeper sunk. 3 German destroyers from Varanger Fiord carried out a raid to the eastward a.m. today and sank a Soviet minesweeper N.W. of Kildin Island. Soviet aircraft attacked and claim to have hit one of the destroyers. It is reported that later only 2 enemy destroyers were sighted returning to Varanger.

Enemy Air Operations.

Peterhead, Gt. Yarmouth and Lowestoft were bombed last night. No naval damage was caused.

Mining.

Minelaying last night by enemy aircraft is suspected between the Thames Estuary and Cromer.

10.8.1941. Sunday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean.

S.N.A.9 hit. 5 Blenheims attacked and hit the French collier S.N.A.9 off Lampedusa at 1900 today and left it sinking.

Libya and Western Desert.

Tobruk was bombed p.m. today. No damage is reported, except to the enemy aircraft.

Italian
tankers
pass
through
Dardanelles.

It is reported that Italian tankers ALBARO and MAYA passed Chanak 1250/9, and that Italian Fleet Auxiliary Oiler TARVISIO arrived at Chanak from the Aegean today and has been detained by the Turkish authorities and may return to the Aegean. The latter vessel and another Italian Fleet Auxiliary Oiler, the URANO passed through the Straits illegally last June and returned to Italy with a cargo of oil from Constanza. The Turkish F.O., whilst admitting the illegality of the movements then permitted the ships to return to Italy.

10.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

TRIDENT.

Arrived. Nothing to report. (B.S.N.O. Murmansk, 0814/10).

RENOWN.

C. in C. W.A., 1949/9. R.A.D. H.F., is requested to sail 3 destroyers to R/V with RENCWN in position (h) and provide A/S screen to Rosyth. (ii) C. in C. W.A., 1949B/9 has been passed to C. in C. Rosyth, A.C.O.S. and R.A.D. H.F. (C. in C. H.F., 0942Z/10).

My 1949B/9. Destination should read Rosyth not Scapa. (C. in C. W.A., 1122A/10 to RENCWN). Your 1945B/9 expect to arrive position HARRY Hamber 2300Z/12 request R.V. be moved further W. Making good 17 knots. (RENCWN, 1306A/10 to C. in C. W.A.) INGLEFIELD with IMPULSIVE, ECLIPSE proceed passing Switha 2000A/11 to R/V with RENCWN in position H 056° 00' N., 011° 00' W., at 1700A/12.

2. RENCWN escorted by 4 destroyers is routed in accordance with C. in C. W.A. 1949B/9. When met provide escort to Rosyth. C. in C., H.F. 0942A/10 is passed to you for information. 3. On arrival INGLEFIELD enters harbour for boiler cleaning and repairs IMPULSIVE, ECLIPSE, ACTIVE will be required to escort REPUISE from Rosyth to Scapa as ordered by C. in C., Rosyth. (R.A.D. (H.F.) 1946A/10).

C. in C. W.A.'s 1949B/9. Amend position HARRY to 055° 45' N., 013° 00' W., at 1900Z/12. (C.in C. W.A., 2027A/10 to RENCWN).

FIDELITY.

A.T. 1956/8. Request you will sail FIDELITY when ready to Inverie Bay, Loch Nevis to carryout trials referred to as required by C.O. FIDELITY. Ship is to return to Liverpool in time to pick up O.G. 72. (C. in C. W.A., 1102A/10 to F.O.I.C. Liverpool).

-> REPULSE.

Will be ready to leave Rosyth at 0730/14. Request escort may be arranged. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2337/10 to C. in C. H.F., R.A.D. H.F., REPULSE.)

Operations.

Search for Enemy M.V.

Your 1454/9 and 1646/9. Not sighted. Have covered further on position of 15 to 18 knots course 270° and possible slightly southerly alteration. At dusk and for two hours after carried out patrol across line of advance. Lack of fuel prevented further search. My P.C. and S. are at 0001A/10 046° 56' N., 012° 55' W., 035° 15 knots altering 084° in (? 049°) 20' 010° 20' thence to Southampton. (WISHART, 0120A/10 to C. in C. Plymouth).

MOST SECRETION August

MOST SECRET

IN

From Admiral Miles.

Dato 10.8.41.

Recd. 2155.

CIPHER

Addressed Admiralty.

My 1006 6/8. When discussing this matter yesterday with D.C.N.S., I urged and he agreed in the necessity of a searching swcop through the shallow waters Cape Tersni Orloce and their minefield immediately before the passage of a convoy.

The Russians now have 13 Oropesa sweepers available in this area and will have a total of 9 large and 15 smaller sweepers by the end of the year. They are much concerned about their shortcomings in anti-magnotic and acoustic mine sweeping. They are experimenting with an anti-magnetic sweep at Archangel which might possibly develope into something as good as if not better than our L L. As the safety of our ships is at stake and our methods must sooner or later become known to them when their Liaison Officers join our Fleet I am suro we ought now to put all our minesweeping cards on the table. They are in the mood to reciprocate over this and there are many fine ocean going trawlers in the North which could be fitted as soon as the gear is made available we might also help them in keeping open the Stalin Canal. I think we have much to gain and little to lose. Since drafting the above I have your message No. 279 T.O.O. unknown dated 9/8 / and am convinced this does not go far enough.

10030/10

∠ War Registry cannot trace but 1842B/8 seems to refer.

(N.I.D.16's signal).

Received from Air Ministry at 0545/11th August.

972

| 1st Lord | D. D. T. M. | Duty Captain | D. A.S. W. |
|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| lst S.L. | D. D. O. D. (M). | D.D. I.C. | S.D.G. |
| 3rd SaL | D. T. D. (2). | W. D. | D. T. S. D. |
| V.C.N.S. | D. G. D. | Do of La De | I.P. (2). |
| A. C. N. S. (H). | D. of P. (2). | I.P.(2). | D. M. S. |
| A.C.N.S.(F) A.C.N.S.(T) (2). | D.O.D. (H). | E. P. S. | D. N. I. (4). |
| A.C.N.S.(T) (2). | D.D.O.D. (H). | Head of M. | |
| NaMa 1st Se La | D.O.D. (F). | N. I. D. 10 | |
| D. T. D. | D.D.O.D. (F). | (Pay-Cdr. Wils | ion) |

MOST SECRE

MOST SECRET.

MESSAGE

1004A/10th August.

Addressed: C. in C. Home Fleet. 305. C. in C. Western Approaches. 114.

Date: 9.8.41.

Naval Cypher (D).

From : Admiralty.

A. M. 1129B/2. Following are amendments and additions C's in C. are requested to inform Admiralty if unable to meet requirements.

Operation DERVISH.

August 12th. Convoy to Scapa 1/S oscort

1 Wair and Trawlers.

Operation FLAXMAN.

Date uncertain. One Troopship and one

Store ship. Inverary to Scapa A/S escort

2 Dostroyers.

Special Convoy Return.

August 14th approximately 3 destroyers to most at R/V after fuelling at Iceland

(C) from C. in C. Homo Floot.

IE.PFROG roturn.

FURIOUS. San h. 187

W. S. 10. X.

August 15th. Scapa to Clydo 8

Destroyers, four from Western Approaches

4 from C. in C. Home Floet.

August 16th Ocean Escort DORSUTSHIRE

1/S oscort 6 Destroyers from C. in C.

Western Approaches.

August 16th Scapa to Clyde A/S oscort

3 Dostroyers from C. in C. Homo Floet.

August 19th Clyde to Scapa A/S escort

3 Destroyers from C. in C. Homo Floot.

August 21st. A/S oscort 2 Dostroyers

from RelaMe

August 21st. Clyde to Gibraltar

Ocean escort one Cruisor from H.F.

A/S escort 3 destroyers of 4th D.F.

(roturn first week in September),

FURIOUS.

D. S. 10.

ARGUS.

T. C. 12. B.

W. S. 11

August 25th from Halifax. Ocean Escort one battleship to Iceland(C) A/S Bscort, 6 Destroyers to Ecoland(C), August 29th A/S Escort 6 Destroyers to moot at R/V after fuelling at at Iceland (C) from C. in C. Western Approaches. August 30th. Ocean Escort one Cruiser (SHEFFIELD) A/S escort 12 sup 57

1004/10.

Dostroyers.

For D.O.D. (H). Approved A.C.N.S. (H).

1st Lord. lst S.L.
V.C.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2).
D. Of P. (2).
D. O.D. (H).
D. O.D. (H).
D. D. O.D. (F).
D. N. I. (4).
D. N. I. (4).
U. D. YS. W
I. P. (2).
W. D.
Duty Capt. (2).
Hoad of M.
D. D. I. C. 1st S.L. D.D. I.C. D.T.D.(2). N.I.D.10. Pay Odr. Wilson.

N. P.

00

10.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Search for Enemy M.V. Contd. Request you issue to LONDON any instructions that you may consider necessary.
(C. in C. H.F., 1014A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Orders to proceed to Portsmouth to refit.
(C. in C. Plymouth to WISHART, 1138/10).

W.S. 8 C.

Convoy W.S. 8 (C) and H.F. Destroyers arrived Scapa. W.A. Destroyers returning to Base. (A.C.O.S., 0235A/10).

Operation Grab

My 2053B/9th. Weather unsuitable. Operation postponed. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 0733A/10). Operation 'Grab'. Amend heading 'Time' to read B.S.T. (Zone - 1) will be used. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1227/10 to Admty, V.A. Dover, BLENCATHRA, FERNIE, ATHERSTONE, N.O.I.C. Newhaven, H.Q.F.C., H.Q.C.C., 2,11,16 groups M.G.B. 52, 53, 55, 57.)

Re. operation 'Grab'. BLENCATHRA commences preparation for refit on 18/8 see A.M. 1744/31/7 FERNIE is overdue for boiler cleaning and I intend taking her in hand tomorrow Monday. Recently have had continual commitment for one Hunt class escorting Tankers both ways on Dartmouth - Needles run. Can continue GRAB if escort for Tankers is reduced to Trawlers and I will do this unless Admiralty view strong escort of Tankers as more important. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 1243A/10).

S/M Patrols. My 1457B/9 Para B., and A.L. M.Olo729/41 of 7th August Para 4, Bay of Biscay West Zone would be a most suitable Area of Operations for River Class Submarines. (F.O.S., 1116A/10 to Admty).

Notice for Steam.

Starting tomorrow Monday destroyers and corvettes in harbour are normally to be at the following notice for steam. 0700A to 2130A 2½ hours. 2130A to 0700A½ hour. Cancel my 1201B/4/5. (C. in C. Nore, 1429A/10 to F.O.I.C. Humber, Harwich, Yarmouth, Cdre Sheerness, D.16, D.21.)

Instructions for S/Ms on patrol in Denmark Str.

Cancel my 2315B of 28/5. (D.D.I.C., 1605A/10).

NYHOLT.

Detail escort to take NYHOLT (Nor) into Hvalfjord Iceland (C). (C. in C. W.A., 2135A/10 to AUSONIA).

10.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

Patrols.

My 2301/9 aircraft six hours late.
(D.C., 0734A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)
Voe C discontinued from 1300/10 weather A/S patrol of exercise area in operation 1400 to 1900/10. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1430/10).
Patrol Voe C now in operation.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1754/10).
My 1754/10. Patrol Voe C encountered low visibility and has returned.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1916/10).

Military
personnel
ships crossing from
Larne and
Stranraer.

A/148. Re Admty 1756B/5 propose too treat this as routine convoy categorys 5. Suitable fighter support to be laid on at routine times of sailing without further signal. If you agree please allocate code word.

(H. Q. F. C., 1315/10 to C. in C. W. A.).

Your A/148 1315A/10 which is being passed to addressees of this signal. Concur. Code word allocated GAMMA. (C. in C. W. A., 1905A/10 to H. Q. F. C.)

Enemy Air Operations.

S.S. DAGNY I.

Fire on DAGNY I under control. Proceeding Kalbak. -(Scapa W/T 0015/10).

In Vaago Fiord endeavouring make Midvaag request assistance. If I can make Midvaag intend beaching DAGNY in Sandevaag. (LEICESTER CITY, 0730/10 to Thorshavn W/T).

DAGNY I sunk off Midvaal All prize crew saved. (LEICESTER CITY 0900/10).

WITHERNSEA.

At 2300/9 H.M.T. WITHERNSEA (Skipper A. Garforth) was attacked by enemy Heinkel 111 near H.3. buoy. Guns brought it down in flames. Pilot picked up and brought into harbour. (F.O. Humber, 01018/10, 1703A/10).

Convoy F. N.3 S.S. GLENDALOUGH.

2 tugs left Yarmouth at Oll5 to assist GLENDALOUGH
56 B buoy. Fighter protection arranged.
Codeword ADATT. (C. in C. Nore, Oll5B/10).
Lowestoft loth August arrival at O310A/10 M.L.190
with Captain Mate and 4 other survivors of S.S.
GLENDALOUGH all uninjured. 12 missing. Ship hit
by bomb 3 miles 350° 56B buoy. Tugs sent from
Yarmouth. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, O354A/10).
Great Yarmouth 10th August departure tug NESSUS
to assist GLENDALOUGH. (F.O.I.C.GYarmouth, 1318A/10).

10.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations. - Contd.

Convoy F. N. 3 3.S. CORDENE.

My 2330B/9. CORDENE bombed and sunk in 053° 00' 32" N., 001° 48' 30" E., wreck dangerous to navigation not visible or buoyed. 25 survivors (group omitted) Yarmouth. Escorting GLENDALOUGH. (SHEARWATER 1230A/10).

Peterhead.

Peterhead bombed at 0031/10/8. Three bombs dropped on town. No naval damage. Casualties unknown. (F.O.I.C. Aberdeen, 0140/10).

Lowestoft.

Ref. C.A.F.O., 587/40. Lowestoft bombed by single enemy aircraft at 0112B/10. A to D nil. Some civilian casualties. (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 0217A/10)

S.S. CLANDURAN. Great Yarmouth 10/8 departure Rescue Tugs KROOMAN and DIVERSION at 0215 to assist S.S.CLANDURAN in distress in 052° 59' N., 001° 53' E. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 0225B/10).

B.C. 57 ZOUAVE damaged.

Convoy E.C. 57 attacked by M.G. fire by one Do. 215 near 55 A Buoy at 1720B/8. Enemy was immediately engaged by convoy escorts, ships in vicinity and by fighter escort. Enemy made off jettisoning bombs well clear of convoy, pursued by fighters. Hits on enemy with 3 inch and M/G were claimed by Masters of S.S. SHEAFDON and FULHAM IV Former ship suffered one casualty from enemy M.G. fire. Convoy was again attacked at 1745B/9 when near 20 D Buoy by an enemy aircraft of unidentified type with M/G fire on S.S. ZOUAVE which was proceeding to join convoy from Tyne. Enemy was engaged by S.S.ZOUAVE and QUANTOCK and made off. ZOUAVE sustained minor damage and two casualties from enemy's M/G fire and returned to Tyne. (LUDLOW, 0655/10).

Yarmouth.

C.A.F.O. 587/40 Great Yarmouth bombed night 9th 10th Aug. Para A to C nil. Para D. water supply to town cut off. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 0752A/10).

Mining.

Thames Estuary. l Magnetic mine detonated at 1212/9/8 by ARCTIC HUNTER and M.M.S.41 in position 317° N.E. Spit Buoy 1.5 miles. (Capt. M/S Sheerness, 1300/10.)

Gap B.

F.O.I.C. Tyne reports Domble Orepesa search of Gap B 17 miles out and back 50% of 14 miles either side of centre line completed. Negative result. 1555/10/8. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1657/10).

10.8.1941. Sunday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

ARETHUSA. SHROPSHIRE. A.C.N.S (H) 0020B/10 N.O.I.C. Tyne, 1630/10.See Operations Volume. p.203.

A/P Trawler FLANDRE. ADONIS.

Collision damage requires docking. Request allocation. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1008A/10 to Admty). Your 1631B/9ADONIS salvage operations completed. Ship now tight and proceeded to Ipswich 1645/9. Have suggested she be beached. (Salvage, Officer, Harwich, 1030/10 to F.O.I.C. Harwich). ADONIS and FLANDRE collided in thick fog whilst on patrol 0545/9. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1229A/10).

FURIOUS.

My 2027B/4. FURIOUS will not now be available till 23/8 owing to further defects. (C. in C. H.F., 1950A/10).

Shipping & Convoys.

W.S.10

JUPITER left Ponta Delgada 2200 G.M.T./9. (N.C.S.O., Ponta Delgada, 1001/10 to S.O.(I) Gib).

Diversion of Ships.

Admty Message "GT". In addition to established methods of directing ships to new positions at sea, following system will be used for diversion of ships leaving port on and after 14/8. A number between two letter position will indicate a distance (in multiples of ten miles) from the position represented by the first letter in the direction of the second letter. Example:

"H.20 Y". indicates a position 200 miles from "H" along the line "H.Y." These instructions have been embodied in C.A.M.S.I. 499.

(D.T.D., 1240Z/10 to G.B.M.S. all areas).

-183C

W.S.11.

Your 1004A/10 (Commitments for Cruisers and Destroyers). Anticipated that only six destroyers will be available for W.S.ll in view of requirements for T.C.12 A. (C. in C. W.A., 1859A/10 to Admty).

T.C. 12 A.

6 Destroyers required to escort T.C. 12A to Iceland on 25/8. Report names destroyers detailed and whether any HX or SC convoys would in consequence have to sail without destroyer escort. Assumed HAVELOCK and HARVESTER will be available. (C. in C. W.A., 1907A/10 to F.O.C.N.F.)

10.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Suspicious M/V.

Your 1648B/9. HERMIONE sailed westward passing (?entrance of) St. Vincent 20 miles thence course 540° speed 20 knots. (F.O.C.N.A., 0050B/10 to Admty.) W.D. Note: - See also under Operations for WISHART search.

Your 2501/9. A/C from Gibraltar will if weather permits carry out cross over patrols 60 miles (?520°) and 140° from 042° N. 016° W. from 1000A/10 till about 1800A/10. (F.O.C.N.A., 0154A/D-to Admty.)

F.O.C.N.A. 1722B/9. When relieved by EDINBURGH proceed to intercept. (C. in C. H.F., 0847A/10, to LONDON). W.D. Note: - LONDON escorting Convoy W.S.10.

Departure 2550/9 HERMIONE in connection with A.T. 1648B/9. (F.O.C.N.A. 0904A/10 to Admty. etc). Steer 290°. (F.O.C.N.A. 0952A/10 to HERMIONE). My 0154A/10. Air patrol established 1000 to 1800 to-day. Patrol in vicinity of 058° 00' N. 021° 00' W. Keep look-out for lifeboat with crew reported in 057° 58' N. 020° 52' W. at 1520/9 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A. 1504A/10 to HERMIONE). A.M. 0734A/10. Cross over patrols by aircraft from U.K. should now be in operation between 44° 10' N. 46° 20' N. on longitude 18° 50' W. until 2145A/10. (A.C.N.S. (F) 1522A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.

Lifeboat.

Portuguese plane reports sighting lifeboat with crew in 57° 58' N. 20° 52 W. at 1520 G.M.T/9. (D.S.O. 0507A/10 to S. and A., N.A).

H.G.70.

Departure 2550 FAULKNOR escorting H.G.70 until limit of prudence then to U.K. via North Channel fuelling at Londonderry if necessary. (F.O.C.N.A., 0702A/10 to Admty. etc.)

FORESIGHT.

(K) 042° 09' N. 020° 15' W. 130° 17 knots proceeding through 036° N. 011° W. (FORESIGHT 1601A/10 to F.O.C.N.A);
On parting company return to Gibraltar through 37° 00' N. 15° 00' W. (F.O.C.N.A. 1832A/10 to FORESIGHT).

CLYDE.

To leave convoy H.G. 70 and return to Gibraltar forthwith. (V.C.N.S. 1901A/10 to F.O.C.N.A).

Gibraltar 10/8 2005 French destroyer BRESTOIS, ALGERIE, ST. ETIENNE, ST. GISELLE, LOUIS L.D. Eastbound, all full. (S.O.I. Gib. 2215A/10 to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

10.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

FORMIDABLE.

My 0907/8. Capetown departure 0523/10 FORMIDABLE for R/V with Oiler. S. of A. 20 knots. (F.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0846Z/10 to Admty.)

Air H.Q.

Admty. 2208/26. After "Gold Coast" add "and Nigeria". (Admty., 1008A/10 to C. in C. S.A).

LECONTE
DE LISLE
MARECHAL
JOFFRE.
ERIDAN.

B.2. report of scuttling preparations. (C. in C.S.A. 1257/10 to S.A. Stn).

COMMANDANT DOMINE. Your 1152/9/8. Is it intended that COMMANDANT DOMINE shall return to U.K. with next convoy? Have no instructions about this ship. (C. in C. S.A. 1529N/10 to C. in C. W.A).

Force Z.

Cancel my 0551/5/7.* (C. in C. S.A. 1606N/10 to Admty. etc.) * Formation of Force Z.

O.S. Convoys.

Your 1135N/9, it is desired that all ships in O.S. convoys bound for Cape should call at Freetown and thus have advantage of convoy throughout their passage through U-Boat waters. (A.C.N.S.(T) 1822A/10 to C. in C. S.A).

NORDERNEY. (German).

Para reports NORDERNEY dropped pilot at 0700 G.M.T/10 in 00° 24' S. 47° 54' W. speed 10 knots. (S.O.I. Montevideo 1934Z/10 to R.A.S.A.D).

Falklands.

Provision for improving defences. (Head of M. 2040A/10 to R.A.S.A.D.) See Lion Copy.

VILLE DE ROUEN.
LANCASTER.

Your 1137Q/7th addressed S.O.(I) Kingston Jamaica VILLE DE ROUEN was intercepted at 0030Z/22 by DUNEDIN in 019° 50' S. 011° 20' W. on passage from Madagascar to Dakar. Guard was placed on board and ship proceeded unescorted towards Capetown. Repeat position in which LANCASTER mether in view of large difference in longitude. (C. in C. S.A., 2305N/10 to N.O.I.C. Trinidad).

0

20

MESSAGE 2040A/10th August

TO:- R.A.S.A.D. 300 repeated C. in C. South Atlantic 214 DATE:- 10.8.41.

WAVAL CYPHER (D)

FROM: - Admiralty

NITE

Your letter 0312A/12 to C. in C. South Atlantic,

Para 3: Ammunition now despatched will increase range of 6" guns to 15,000 yards and in addition, guns sites are in advance of probable targets in regard to possible areas from which bombardment could take place. Bombardment by direct fire is only possible between bearings 200 dogs. and 310 degs. Defences are therefore considered sufficient to deter an A.M.C. from attacking the port.

Para 4: In view of remote prospect of attack and more urgent demands elsewhere, A.A. defences cannot be increased.

Para 5: The installation of the 4" gun allocation of which is notified in Admiralty 12/18/20th July and 17058/21st July should reduce liability to attack. Considered however, that owing to nature of country, a raiding party would take some hours to reach naval W/T station or oil tanks and local defence force would be able to intercept.

Para 7d. Mining considered to have more disadvantages than advantages, observing that gun defences are considered adequate.

Paras. 8 and 13: One Sub-Lieutenant (E) R.N.V.R., one engine room artificer and one stoker will be a pointed.

Para 14: Number of skids will be increased when possible. In moantime the magnetic minesweeping force is sufficient to detect a minefield laid by submarine, if not to clear it.

Para 15: Switchboard panels have been despatched.

Final para: The excellent work being done to improve the defences and facilities in the Falkland Islands is fully appreciated/....

10.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

Situation report No. 112.

Syria. First Convoy for repatriation of Vichy French Troops. Now on passage Beirut to Bizerta due to pass Messina 1000/11. (C. in C. Med., 0008/10 to Admty.)

VENDETTA.

Leave Alexandria 1700/10 to arrive Haifa 1500/11 for repairs. Il artificers and 10 Stokers are to be embarked for passage and accommodation ashore on arrival Gaya. (R.A.D. Med., 0925/10 to VENDETTA).

Operation "Guillotine".

Following troops are to be embarked in ABDIEL and destroyers. Serial 20P, 1939 for Alexandria, 21P, 720 for Haifa. (C. in C. Med., 1000C/10 to All concerned in 'Guillotine'.)

Port Tewfik. C. in C. Med. 1850/25. Searched channel swept daily. Dangerous area and reported (?position) in Western channel swept twice daily. No result. Port Ibrahias Channel swept as requisite to fit sea transport movement. (N.O.I.C. Port Tewfik, 1010/10 to Admty.)

Russia.

To Chiefs of Staff from Macfarlane. Concludes: Odessa is seriously threatened. (Prodrome, Moscow, 1030/10 to W.O).

BOURGAS. (Bulgarian).

Expected to pass Spartevento Cape a.m./13 from Corinth. (Capt. S.1. 1030C/10 to URGE).

Corinth Canal.

Night 8/9, 55 Wellingtons attacked Corinth
Canal with bombs and mines, bombs burst on
Canal banks and others believed hit gun positions.
6 magnetic mines laid at eastern entrance Canal
and in Isthmia Harbour, I mine outside harbour.
1 Wellington unable to reach objective dropped
bombs on beach south of Pyrgos, Crete, to divert
night fighter opposition during attack. 2
Wellingtons bombed Eleusis aerodrome.
Night 8/9, 2 Wellingtons bombed Benghazi and
Derna causing violent explosion in railway
sidings, Benghazi, and small fires in Derna
port. 7 Blenheims 4 Albacores bombed M.T. and
gun repair shops Bardia and camp at Ras Azeis
causing explosion and fires at workshops.
(H.Q. R.A.F.M.E., 1051/10).

Benghazi, Derna, Bardia bombed.

/URGE....

10.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

URGE.

My 1515B/5. URGE is operating temporarily in area N. 036° 40' N. 015° 40' E. - 340° - 80 - 55 until relieved. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1109B/10 to Capt. S.1).

M/V attacked Augusta bombed. 9/8. 5 Swordfish attacked large M/V Syracuse. 1 torpedo released. No result observed. All aircraft returned safely. 2,500 M/V (corrupt groups) KTG Augusta at 1800. One direct hit on gasometers. (H.Q.R.A.F., Malta, 1125/10).

Libya, A/C and destroyer attack. My 1054C/10. (N.T. in W.D) Request you will arrange attack by 826 Sqn. to coincide with attack by Destroyers with object of continuously harassing defence guns and look outs during their approach attack and retirement. KANDAHAR inform 204 Group repeated to C. in C. Med. as soon as possible of direction and time of intended approach and period during which Air Attack is required. Request you will maintain Wireless Watch on 4205 K/cs throughout night and Broadcast Messages for KANDAHAR and KIMBERLEY on this wave. KANDAHAR and KIMBERLEY are to keep guard on this wave. (C. in C. Med., 1132C/10 to 204 Group). Cancel my 1034C/10 and my 1132C/10. Proceed to be close off Mersa Matruh at 2000/10. If no further orders are received return Alexandria. (C. in C. Med., 1250C/10 to KANDAHAR, 204 Group).

further orders are received return Alexandria.
(C. in C. Med., 1250C/10 to KANDAHAR, 204 Group).
C. in C's 1054/10. 2A Lighter leaves Mersa
Matruh for Tobruk at 1920/10 passing through H,
1250/11. DECOY and HAVOCK expected time of
departure Tobruk 0150/11 passing through R 0555/11,
-B 0555/11, thence to Alexandria. (N.O.I.C.
Alexandria, 1320C/10 to KANDAHAR).

Monster Liners. Considered that Monster Liner should not visit Gulf of Suez during moonlit periods, and preferable that no large (?ship should) do so if this can be avoided. (C. in C. Med., 1156C/10 to Admty.)

Mine weeping.

Summary for week ending 9/8. Part 1, Alexandria. One air raid p.m./7 no evidence of minelaying. Total of 5 mines probably type C. all swept by S.A. as follows. (a) one in harbour after four days (b) 2 in harbour entrance after 9 days, one of which exploded at 60 yards after 10th intermittent S.A. Pulse and slightly damaged sweeper. (c) one after 20 days (d) one date laid unknown. Part 2, Tobruk. No report. (R.A. Alexandria, 1211C/10 to Admty.).

10.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Suez Raid 9/8. My 1305C/9. Ref. C.A.F.O. 567.

(a) 9/8 Calm cloudless. (b) 2 attacks separated by 5 hours, first high level by 2 - 5 planesoon Ismailia aerodrome, second high level by about 11 planes on Port Said and Suez area. JU. 88 and S.79 identified. No flares, bright full moon.

(c) H/E bombs. (d) 8 bombs Port Said, 16 Ismailia, about 2021. (e) Slight damage round docks at Suez, no casualties. (f) Fighter aircraft patrolled area 1, fighter aircraft result unknown.

(g) Balloons flying 5200 feet. (S.B.N.O., Suez Canal, 1553C/10, to Admty. C. in C. Med.)

ALBARO.
MAYA.
TARVISIO.
(Italian)

My 1044/8. Tankers ALBARO (2104 tons) and MAYA (5585 tons) passed Chanak 1230/9. Fleet Oiler TARVISIO arrived Chanak from Aegean 10/8. Detained by Turkish Authorities and may return Pireaus. (S.O.I. Istanbul 1715/10 to S.O.I. Med.) Comment by N.I.D. 5.
TARVISIO (details) and another Italian Fleet Auxiliary Oiler, URANO, passed through Straits last June and returned to Italy with a cargo of oil from Constanza. Illegality of these movements were admitted by Turkish F.O. who, however, permitted the ships to return to Italy. As regards the future, Turkish Authorities stated that instructions had been given that should any further ships appear at the mouth of the Straits they would be notified that their passage was forbidden. Pilotage was now compulsory for all -vessels and no pilots would be allowed to go aboard. If, nevertheless, a vessel or vessels should proceed they would be detained at Istanbul.

PRINCE BAUDOUIN. Your 2157/6 ship can be accepted flying red ensign. White British crew desirable. (C. in C. Med. 1801/10 to Adty.)

Troop Convoys, Tripoli. Your 2006/4. Significance last paragraph not fully understood. Agreed that troops have been arriving but believed they are composed of drafts for depleted units and do not suggest reinforcements. Forward elements of Light Colonial and Armoured Divisions were taken out of line commencing on 15/7 but no evidence of these divisions having retired W. of Derna. Not considered that any Terman Troops are being withdrawn from Libya. (D.N.I. 1848A/10 to V.A. Malta).

RORQUAL.

Your 1203B/7, expect to arrive 24 hours late. (RORQUAL, 1935B/10 to S.O.(S) Malta.)

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRED.

MESSAGE

2335/10 August.

IN.

From: C. in C. Middle East.

Date: 11.8.41.

Recd: 0730

CIPHER

Addressed: The War Office.

34471. 90529 10/8.

Following Sig. addsd. Middle East for Troopers for Spears Mission received from Spears Mission, Syria no. Spears 27 T.O.O. 0915Z. 10/8. begins:.

- (1) I understand that Gen. de Gaulle has asked that at least one Free French ship which will bring to Syria some Free French naval offrs. of high rank may be on its way.
- (2) Things are running very smoothly from naval point of view here, and I trust it will be conveyed to Admiral Muselier that whoever Free French naval offrs, sent here are, their orders will not be of a nature to upset the present state of affairs.
- (3). It is obvious that having what amounts to sole responsibility for the defence of Syrian harbours, which may play an extremely important part in future operations nothing whatever should be done to hamper Capt. Morse, who has everything perfectly in hand and is getting on extremely well, from every point of view.

2335/10

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

Received by hand from the War Office at 1220/12 August.

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

D.N.I. (4)
D. of L.D.
I.P. (2)
W.D.
Duty Capt.
Head of M.
D.D.I.C.

E.P.S. N.I.D 10 Pay. Cdr. Wilson. Admiral Chalmers.

10.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

GEORGIOS G.

Delayed by crew trouble. Armed yacht in a very inefficient state. Consider ship totally unsuitable for her present work of carrying petrol and stores. (D.S.T.O. Mombasa 1715Z/10 to D. of S.T).

China.

Indo-China. Your 2159/8 and my 0433/9. Decoux agreement. Recommendation. (C. in C. China 0553Z/10 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

America and West Indies.

Suspicious Tanker.

Following received from OPNAV and A.L.U.S.N.A.
Ottawa has been directed to deliver to C.N.S.
Ottawa for action. American S.S. BARBARA at 1100
G.M.T/9 sighted a light loaded or ballasted canker in 27° 44' N. 76° 40' W. with a flag similar to the Spanish on side, white superstructure and masts, black hull, black funnel with white band apparently on aimless courses between S. and W.
(Spenavo, No T.O.O./10 to Admty.)

LEVIS.

Lost touch during night 8 - 9 in clear weather and has not yet rejoined. Search by air unsuccessful. Understand her compass defective. R/T signal gradually faded, have not heard her since noon/9 she will not have received C. in C. W.As' 0954/9. (BURNHAM 0809Z/10 to F.O.C. Newfoundland).

/NORDERNEY.....

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

0553Z/10 August.

IN.

From: C. in C. China.

Date: 10.8.41.

Recd: 1835

Interdepartmental Cypher (13) by W/T

Addressed: Admiralty repeated Consul General Saigon, Governor Straits Settlements.

47. Your 2159 August 8th not to Consul General Saigon and my 0433 August 9th.

In existing situation I recommend that agreement should be retained in force as far as practicable and that I should be empowered now to inform Decoux that this is our intention, I recommend that we should then release the detained cargo of opium in order to assist Decoux in keeping the Annamite population quiet and also allow him to receive cargo of foodstuff from Australia for white population. As soon as contract with U.S. America for 10,000 tons rubber has been concluded and rubber shipped, I recommend we make a small supply of oil. The object of foregoing policy is to give Decoux a chance even if a slender one of avoiding complete economic domination by Japan and to encourage French morale in Indo China, which is otherwise likely to Lapse into apathy and defeat troops and play into the hands of Japanese. believe Decoux considers retention of agreement is essential if he is to receive any freedom of action and I consider he will adhere to it as far as is possible for him.

05532/10

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

1st Lord
1st S.L.
V.C.M.S.
A.C.M.S. (F)
A.C.M.S. (T)(2)
Nav. Sec.
N.A. 1st S.L.
P.A.S. (S)
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D. of P. (2)
D.N.I. (4)
D.E.M.D.

D.D.I.C. (2)
D.T.D. (2)
Duty Captain.
I.P. (2)
W.D.
Admiral Chalmers.
Admiral Bellairs.
Head of M. (30) (M.011161/44) for action.
N.I.D. 10 (Fay. Cdr. Wilson)

10.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies-Contd.

NORDERNEY. German. Left Para P.M./9 request arrangements be made to warn U.S. Task Force 5. MILWAUKEE should be in vicinity. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1101Q/10 to N.A. Washington). U.S. Task Force 5 informed. (B.A.D. Washington, 1727B/10).

Chile.
rising
report.

B.J. report Nazi rising in (South) Chile a.m. today; Raids made by Police in Puerto Montt and Puerto Varas secured papers and arms outbreak said to have started Putsch. Position obscure. (A.N.A. Santiago de Chile, 1220/10 to S.O.I., Callao).

My 1220. No confirmation of rising available but several arrests made. Communications south interrupted as result of storm. Naval authorities

have no news and are unperturbed. (A.N.A. Santiago de Chile 1850/10 to S.O.I. Callao).

Leave Bermuda 11/8. Programme. Onward programme

LE TRIOMPHANT. Leave Bermuda 11/8. Programme. Onward programme from Honolulu to Tahiti will be arranged by N.Z.N.B (C. in C. A.W.I., 1222Q/10 to LE TRIOMPHANT).

U/S Submarines Ref. DOCON 60, 2/8. Report of Capt. Menzies shows R Class are unsuitable for normal patrol and S. Class of Government design are quite unacceptable. Reasons. Considered, however, that other S. Class would be suitable for our purpose, and requested that para. (5) of A.M. 1717/2 may be amended to request for two of these submarines instead of one "R" and one "C" class. (Controller 1229A/10 to B.A.D).

St. John's,

Re accommodation for destroyers and corvettes; (C.C.N.F., 1408Z/10 to Admty., 1412Z/10 to B.A.D).

Newfoundland Escort Force.

Consider it essential that number of ships of each group of N.E.F. should not fall below 4, including at least 1 Destroyer. Smallest really effective group is however not less than 2 Destroyers and 4 Corvettes. To maintain even former inadequate strength it has already been necessary to loan 5 Corvettes from N.F. Local Defence Force and another ship of this Force is also now indefinitely out of action. Request (1) outstanding Destroyers and Corvettes from U.K. in list originally promulgated may be sailed as soon as possible. (2) Further R.C.N. Corvettes may be sent as soon as possible for N.F.L.D.F. and also to augment N.F.E.F. (C.C.N.F., 1759Z/10 to Admty. etc.)

10.8.1941. Sunday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

Port Kembla. W.F.101 examination service Port Kembla will be brought into force noon/12. (A.C.N.B. 0231Z/10 to Admty. etc.)

10.8.1941. Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships attacked.

KALYPSO VERGOTTI. Greek, 5686 tons, overdue at Glasgow since 15/7, now presumed to have been torpedoed and sunk on about 29/6 in attack by S/Ms on convoy S.L.78. (D.S., 705).

IDA KNUDSEN.

2 seamen survivors IDA KNUDSEN arrived 9th Teneriffe in lifeboat. No further details amplifying report already transmitted by Consul Las Palmas 28/7. (Consul, Tenriffe, 0915/10 to Admty).

S/Ms Reported.

0236 G.M.T.

By D/F at 0236/10 G.M.T. position of U-boat was approx 59° 00' N., 19° 00' W - 20° 00' W. (D.D.I.C., 0615A/10).

0330/5.

First Officer S.S. SANTA ELENA informed U.S.A. Naval Attache yesterday that at 0330/5 he sighted large submarine on the surface without lights steaming south close to shore in shipping lane "South of" Languade Vaca (30° 13' S., 70° 38' W). Chilian Naval Authority states no Chilian Submarines at sea on that date but are investigating position etc., in case of mistaken identity. (B.N.A. Santiago de Chile, 1145/10 to A.W.I.)

1049 G.M.T.

By D/F at 1049 G.M.T. Enemy U-boat in 46° to 48° N., 21° to 24° W. Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C., 1246A/10).

A?

One enemy submarine on surface bearing 264 distance 6 miles course unknown position 36.25N., 8.30 W. (AVON VALE, 1418B/10 to Whitehall W/T).

1358 G.M.T.

Following from Sunderland W3980 (begins) 1 S/M 320 1 270 44.56N., 10° W. T.O.O. 1358 G.M.T. (OAMCU, Glos. 1452G.M.T./10 to D.O.N.C. Whitehall Admty, H.Q.C.C.)
Following from Sunderland W3980 (begins). My 1358 Submarine reported sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (OAMCU Glos. 1503/10 to D.O.N.C., Whitehall, Admty, H.Q.C.C.)

Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1454A/10).

90

10.8.1941. Sunday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported. - Contd.

U-boat on surface in 036° 24' N., 008° 36' W. at 1400B/10. (F.O.C.N.A., 1533A/10 to Escorts H.G.70, 0.G.70, etc).
Your 1533A/10 am patrolling 036° 30' N., between 008° - 009° W., unless otherwise ordered. (ALOUETTE, 1900A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Am over enemy submarine in 60.43N., 20.15 W., sighted on surface and observed to submerge. (Aircraft Y 6 D Duty T. 1935/10 to Kaldadarnes H/F D/F Stn.)

Enemy S/M previously reported was when first sighted on course 180° speed unknown. (A/C duty T, 1950/10 to Kaldadarnes H/F D/F Stn.)

A/C over U Boat on surface 060° 43' N., 020° 15' W., at 1935Z. U-boat submerged. (C. in C. W.A., 2114A/10 to KEPPEL, BEAGLE.)

1844 G.M.T. Bearings of Italian U/Boat at 14U at 1844 G.M.T. (D.D. I.C., 2044A/10 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Submarines Attacked.

Following received from CORNELIAN. Have attacked contact 217° Bolt Head 2 miles 3 cables.

Awaiting instructions T.O.O. 1035 (ends).
(C. in C. Plymouth, 1116/10 to BROCKLESBY).

11.8.1941. Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

C.W. 45 attacked by E-boats. Convoy C.W. 45 was attacked by E-boats between No.10 Buoy and D.Buoy and S.S. SIR RUSSELL was torpedoed and sunk at 0055 near No.10 Buoy (off Dungeness). Enemy forces had been plotted by R.D.F. at 2320/10 and 0040/11 and the convoy escorts and 4 M.L'S of 5th Flotilla which were on anti-E-boat patrol off the South Varne buoy were informed. E-boats were sighted and were engaged and driven off by HOLDERNESS at 0100 and BERKELEY at 0146.

Enemy Air Operations.

WAR
Trawler WALLIS GREY was slightly damaged at 0845 5 miles W.S.W. of Myggenaes (Faeroes).

Mining.

PORT QUEBEC and SCOTT carried out a minelaying operation last night to the north of the Butt of Lewis.

Foreign Stations - General.

Enemy ships transferred to Japanese flag, though not recognised by H.M.G. are not in present circumstances to be intercepted if escorted by Japanese warships nor in areas where interception might lead to an incident with a Japanese warship. Subject to these limitations, they are to be captured if met.

11.8.1941. Monday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

S.S. EMPIRE HURST which had fallen astern of Convoy H.G. 70 on account of engine trouble was bombed and sunk at 1140 today in approx. 36° 45' N. 9° 40' W. (20 miles W.S.W. of Cape St. Vincent) by F.W. aircraft.

Mediterranean.

Swordfish attack on Syracuse.

Four Swordfish last night attacked with torpedoes S.S. CALIFORNIA (13,060 tons) ship at Syracuse and believe that 2 hits were obtained. Photographs taken on 14/8 showed the ship to be sunk in harbour.

6 Blenheims attacked today the Chemical Works at Cotrone (Bay of Taranto). 3 Blenheims attacked Cariati, miles further up the Coast.

Libya and Western Desert.

Enemy aircraft dropped bombs and 4 mines in the western end of Tobruk harbour early this morning. No damage was caused.

9 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli last night and hit the Power Station causing an explosion visible at 100 miles distance. 36 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi with 1000 to 500 lb. bombs. Bardia was also bombed.

Canal Area.

About 15 to 20 enemy aircraft raided the canal area in the early hours of today. The attack on Suez was principally directed against American ships berthed near Attaka, 3 of which received 9 near misses amongst them, though only IBERVILLE suffered any damage. No naval damage occurred. The Canal is open to traffic.

PROTECTOR torpedoed.

Netlayer PROTECTOR was torpedoed and damaged by enemy aircraft this afternoon in 31° 42' N. 32° 4' E. (about 50 miles N.N.W. of Port Said) but reached Port Said safely.

China.

The defences of Thursday Island have been completed and manned.

11.8.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Soviet Authorities have drawn my attention to broadcasts by B.B.C. on subject of shipment of supplies to Russia. They consider that dissemination of such information is unwise. (Admiral Miles 0105/11).

Movements.

BRIGAND.

To leave U.K. for the Mediterranean early in September and to act as escort to a Motor Launch flotilla on passage. (D.O.D.(H) 1516A/11).

<u>DUKE OF</u>
<u>YORK.</u>
Movements. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1855A/11, 1857A/11). See

<u>YORK.</u>
Operations Volume. b. 203A

S/M_14. Re sailing for patrol. (A.C.O.S. 1945A/11).

Your 1716B/6. Ascertained that it would be necessary to refer your suggestion to Washington.

As it is unlikely that all the necessary arrangements could be made before TRUANT is ready for sea, the proposal in B.A.R.M's 1242R/4 that she should proceed to St. John's N.F. has been approved.

Your proposal is being given further consideration for future S/M programmes. (A.C.N.S. (H) 2205A/11 to F.O.(S)).

Operations.

Warships
reported.

Vessels type unknown, destroyers or larger
warships bearing 215° from S. Varne. (M.L. 144
0013/11 to Dover Port Wave).

Operation
'Grab'.

My 0735A/10. Weather unsuitable. Operation postponed. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0707A/11 to 2, 11, 16 groups, N.O.I.C. Newhaven).

/C.W. 45.....

11.8.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations-Contd.

C.W.45 attacked by E-boats. C.W. 45 was attacked by E-boats between No.10 Buoy and 'D' Buoy S.S. RUSSELL was torpedoed and sunk 549° No. 10 Buoy 6 Cables at 0055/11. Shore R.D.F. plotted two enemy forces (A) at 2520 in position 107 Dungeness 16 heading for No. 10 Buoy and (B) at 0040 in position 129 Dungeness 10 steering westwards. Plots were broadcast to convoy escort and to 4 M.L's of 5th Flotilla which were patrolling on a Southwesterly bearing from South Varne Buoy. At 0013 M.L. Patrol sighted one E-Boat and at 0022 reported it as retiring eastward contact being lost in vicinity of South Varne buoy. At 0100 HOLDERNESS in position 068 Dungeness 8 reported and engaged one E-Boat which retired to Eastward. This boat is probably one that torpedoed SIR RUSSELL. At Ol46 BERKELEY at 'D' Buoy reported, engaged and drove off one E-boat .
Night was not dark and visibility was 5 to 4 miles except in heavy rainstorms. Wind South-westerly force 4 to 5 with moderate sea. M.G.B's could not have operated. R.D.F. Set plotting E-boats was an adapted type 271 mounted on a van stationed at Lydden Spout. None of SIR RUSSELL's crew is missing.
(M.L. 144 0020/11, S.O. 5th M.L.F. 0022/11, HOLDERNESS 0100/11, 0106A/11, BERKELEY 0146/11, 0148/11, V.A. Dover 0959A/11).

Search for suspected raider.

LONDON is to remain on patrol to limit of endurance subject to returning to Scapa on completion. (C. in C. H.F. 1105A/11 to LONDON, F.O.C.N.A).

FURIOUS.

Loading date (D.N.A.D. 1500A/11) See Operations Volume. Lo3 A

Soviet minesweeper sunk. Three German destroyers from Varanger Fiord carried out raid to eastward a.m./10. Soviet minesweeper sunk N.W. Kildin Island. Soviet aircraft attacked and claim hit aft on one destroyer. Later two destroyers only sighted returning Varanger two GORDI class destroyers though in vicinity made no attempt chase or engage. (B.S.N.O. Murmansk 1953C/11).

11.8.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Operations.

Patrols.

'Nose' I in operation from 0600/11.
(C. in C. Rosyth 0644/11).
'Trost', 'Stab', 'Bert' now in operation,
(C. in C. Rosyth 1110/11).
'Stand' now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1850/11)

Enemy Air Operations.

CORDENE Positions of wreck. 2.15 miles 138 degs. from (Sunk 9/8) 57 Buoy. (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth 2226A/11).

Mining.

Diserved two parachute mines dropped in 052° 07'
N. 001° 56' E. and 052° 08' N. 001° 56'E.

(MALLARD 1520A/11)

Enemy Intelligence.

Unknown
ship.

There are indications of a ship at 0745 in position 095° Start 18' and at 0807 in position 125° Start 05'. Also at 0809 in position 082° Start 22'. (C. in C. Plymouth 0814/11 to WISHART).

Casualties and Defects.

ACHATES and tug ASSURANCE remain at Faroes until further orders. ANTELOPE returns to Scapa.

Report details of damage to enable an estimate of essential strengthening work to be made.

(R.A. (D) H.F. 0045A/11 to ANTELOPE, ACHATES).

ANDRE Sailed SCHELDE to assist H.M.T. ANDRE MONIQUE with engine defects drifting off St. Ann's Head. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 0053A/11).

S.O.S.

Addressed Admiral Lyness from Wick Radio.
Intercept at 0049 G.M.T. 500 Kcs. De O.F.A.Z.
begins S.O.S. ends. Ship sends no particulars
and repeatedly calls Boden Radio. (Scapa W/T
0155/11).

/GLEN.....

11.8.1941. Monday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

GLEN STRATHALLAN. YMUIDEN. In collision in Southern Irish Sea last night. The temporary repairs will take 5 days. GLEN STRATHALLAN seaworthiness and fighting efficiency unaffected. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven 1200A/11).

ARETHUSA.

Your 0020B. ARETHUSA can be docked Palmers about 25/8. Restricted refit only can be undertaken in addition to urgent alterations and additions. (N.O.I.C. Type 1844/11 to Adty., C. in C. H.F. etc.)

Shipping and Convoys

F.N. and F.S.

Forcast of Convoy sailings. (C. in C. Rosyth 1100/11 to Admty. etc.) See Lion Copy.

Channel Convoys.

A.M. 2545/10/4 and C. in C, Portsmouth's 1245A/10/8. As long as daylight sailing is in force between Dartmouth and Needles, consider escort for tankers can be reduced to trawlers only, on occasions when fighter escort can be provided, other wise it is essential to have an A/A destroyer. (C. in C. Plymouth, 1255/11 to Admty.)

BEN-MY-CHREE.

Will embark military personnel at Belfast p.m. /15 and proceed to Lerwick a.m./14. After disembarkation at Lerwick will embark military personnel and is to be sailed as soon as convenient to Clyde. (D.O.D. (H) 1609A/11 to C. in C. W.A., etc.)(D.S.T. 1625A/11 to D.S.T.O Liverpool).

S.C. 58.

Met as arranged with all ships. (D.T.D. 1919A/11 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) Numbers and cargoes. (D.S. 704, 9/8).

H.X. 140.

Met as arranged no stragglers. All ships arrived. Normal weather. (D.T.D. 1921A/11 to N.S.H.Q. Ottawa) Numbers and cargoes. (D.S. 705, 8/8).

From: C. in C. Rosyen

Date 11. & 41. Recd. 1536

P/L BY T/Pc Addressed; Admiralty, C in C. Nore, S.E.E.C.C.D., H.Q.F.C., H.Q.G.C. 11, 12, 13 Groups. 385, Convoy Message, Forecast of Convoy sailings . 0900 Friday Fifteenth WHADDON, QUANTOCK. 2300 Saturday Sixteenth LIDDESDALE, WOLFHOUND. 1330 Mondey Fighteenth SOUTHDOWN, VERDUN. 2300 Wednesday Twentieth WOLSET VIVIEN 1330 Thursday Twentyfirst WINCHESTER VALOROUS 0500 Friday Fifteenth WOLSEY Nore Destroyer Fifteenth WHADDON . QUANTOCK. F S569 FINS. F S570 F S571 F S572 F S573 (F) (M) (F) F S 574 F N 5 to be relieved by SOUTHDOWN E C. 61 (S) 0600 Saturday Sixteenth VAIOROUS VINTERA F N.6 (N) 0600 Sunday Seventeenth VERSATTIE GARTH E C. 62 (F) 0600 Monday Eighteenth WHADDON QUANTOCK F N.7 (S) 0600 Tuesday Ninetcenth LIDDESDALE WOLFHOUND E C 63 (N) 0600 Thursday Twentyfirst LEEDS VORTIGERN Timetable as in ry 1130/26/5 E C 63 will run as a slow convoy after passing May Island.

1100/11

Ldvance copy ips., Trade,.

A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
N.A. 1st S.L.
Ops. (4)
O.D. (5)
O.D. (5)
O.D. 8.
D.N.I. (4)
D. of S. 2A.
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (C)
D of S.T.
I.P. (3)
D A/S W.
O.I.C. (2)
W.D.
I.N.N.G.
Mails.
Movts.

11.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

O.G. 70 escorts.

Request you will direct movements of escorts detached from O.G.70 so as to arrive Gibraltar not later than p.m./l3. (D.T.D., 1037A/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Iron Ore Traffic. Your tel. No. 1747. Unable to obtain previous notice of movements of iron ore fleet. We could however telegraph approx. position of ships at noon on any given day and assume that telegram would reach you following morning. (Bilbao, 1150/11 to Admty).

A/C attacked.

My 1200 A. One F.W. engaged. Enemy disappeared Southward flying low. (LOCH OSKAIG, 1223A/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

A/S Sweep, H.G.70. Sailing FORESTER, FURY, DUNCAN, BOREAS and WILD SWAN at 1600A/11 for A/S sweep in western approaches to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A., 1540A/11 to Admty).

My 1540A/11. BOREAS and WILD SWAN have been ordered to join H.G.70 during daylight/12. (F.O.C.N.A., 1912A/11 to Admty).

Departure 1700 FORESTER, DUNCAN, BOREAS, WILD SWAN, 2045, FURY in accordance with my 1540. (F.O.C.N.A., 2050A/11).

PARTHIAN.

Departure PARTHIAN in accordance with my 1106/10 and F.O.(S) 1557/10 PARTHIAN supplied with all Q Messages for passage to Portsmouth. (F.O.C.N.A., 2100A/11 to Admty).

South Atlantic.

NORDERNEY.

Dropped pilot 0700 G.M.T./10 in 00° 24' S., 47° 34' W., speed 10 knots. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 0850N/11 to Admty) (C. in C. S.A. 0943N/11 to S.A.D.)

COMMANDANT DOMINE. Your 1529N/10. COMMANDANT DOMINE should return to U.K. with next convoy. (C. in C, W.A., 1215A/11 to C. in C. S.A.)

NIEUW ZEELAND. Your 1947/7. Agree. Proposed she should be included in W.S.ll for voyage from Freetown to India and Singapore.

/Request.......

11.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

NIEUW ZEELAND. Contd. Request how many personnel will be requiring passage. (D.S.T., 1308A/11 to C. in C. S.A.)

Convoy W.S.10. Local escort 3 destroyers 3 corvettes S.O. in VANSITTART leave Freetown 0600/12 to R/V you in 017° 00' N., 020° 05' W., at 0800N/14. (C. in C. S.A., 1325N/11 to EDINBURGH).

LUMINARY.

My 0853/8 B.D.V.LUMINARY is to remain at Durban pending permission of Govt. of Portugal for ship to call at Beira. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 1727Z/11 to N.O.I.C. Durban).

OUED GROU. French.

Colonial Office is instructing Governor to seize ship and cargo. (D.E.W.D., 1834A/11 to C. in C. SA).

DIDO.

Di

My 1257/20. Report by L/T from St. Helena your intentions proposed route and E.T.A. Trinidad. (C. in C. S.A., 2227N/11 to DIDO).

Mediterranean.

Admt*).

Situation Report 113. Corinth Canal.

Wellington A/C attacked Corinth Canal heavily night 8/9. Four cucumbers planted in Eastern Entrance Canal Mouth and two in harbour. 14 Aircraft bombed centre of Canal and report reasonable indications of success.

(11) As result of R/C Report of ship unloading Bardia, aircraft carried out heavy low flying attack a.m./10 but no shipping found and R/C report not confirmed. (C. in C. Med., OO21C/11 to

Bardia.

TARVISIO.

Italian Fleet oiler CISVISMO (?TARVISIO) arrived (?Chanak) 10/8 from Aegean, may be returning forthwith to Piraeus. (Capt. S.1. 1020C/11 to THRASHER).

Fast Supply Ships.

Your 2003C/9. Hans and proposals. (V.C.N.S., 1045A /11 to C. in C. Med.,) See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1045A/11 Aug.

To C. in C. Mediterranean 450.

Date 11.8.41.

NAVAL CYPHER & One Time Table.

From Admiralty.

Your 2003C/9. We fully understand your need of fast supply hips and every effort will be made to hasten arrival of ANTWERP, MALINES, PRINCE BADOUIN and SHUNTIEN.

- 2. The two PRINCESS ships of 5,800 tons speed 21knots are available on West Coast of Canada at the end of August. They are only fitted to carry passengers and baggage and in this condition might arrive in Mediterranean in November. Dead weight capacity is 700 tons. If fitted with derricks and hatches arrival will be delayed till end December. Request your remarks and whether one or both should be fitted as a cased petrol carrier.
- 3. No small ocean-going cargo ships have the speed you require. "Cross Channel" type have to be given extra bunkers, water tanks and seaworthiness for ocean passage. They have little cargo capacity.
- 4. As an alternative for carrying cargo we suggest large trawlers such as the Northern type, length 170 feet, speed 12-13 like knots, With restriction of fuel these would carry 250 tons. They will have to be withdrawn from other naval service and meanwhile if the urgency is great you might consider diverting some of 28th A/S Group to this duty.
- 5. Would you accept cargo carriers of 1500 tons and speed twelve knots. If so do you prefer accepting unarmed ships to delay of three weeks in fitting armament.
- 6. Request your remarks regarding relative merits of Cross Channel type, Slow Cargo Carriers and Trawlers.

1045A/11

Approved by A.C.N.S.(F) of VC NS

lst S.L.
4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(T) (2)
N.A.lst S.L.
D. of P. (2)
D.O.D.(F)
D.D.O.D.(F)
D.N.I. (4)
D.A/S.W.
I.P. (2)
W.D.
Duty Captain

960

0,000

Duty Captain E.P.S.

D. D. I. C. D. T. D. (2) D. of S. T.

D. of S.T. N. I. D. 10 (Paymaster Cdr. Wilson) Head of M. (P. D. 0321/41) (2)

11.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Raid.

Night of 10/11, about 20 aircraft in 2 waves attacked Suez and aerodromes south of Ismailia. 4 bombs dropped Shallufa destroying N.A.A.F.I. buildings, etc. 1 killed 9 wounded. (W.D. note-See also 1319/11). Day 10/8. 6 Marylands escorted by Hurricanes and Tomahawks attacked petrol tanker Bardia Harbour registering near misses. 4 Marylands bombed

Bardia, Gazala. bombed.

Tomahawks attacked petrol tanker Bardia Harbour registering near misses. 4 Marylands bombed targets ashore Bardia. Blenheims attacked Gazala landing grounds.

(H. Q. R. A. F. M. E. . 1102/11).

NOVA SCOTIA.

C. in C. E.T. 1036Z/8. Propose allocating NOVA SCOTIA expected ready to sail ex Suez 16/8 to embark about 620 R.N. personnel for Durban for onward passage to U.K. (D.S.T.O. Egypt, 1105/11 to C. in C. Med).

Tobruk mines.

C. in C. 1850/25 para (3). Mines swept week, ending 10/8, 1 L, 1 acoustic. (N.O. Tobruk, 1233/11 to Admty).
C. in C. 1850/25 and C.A.F.O. 587/40. Para (3) nil. 4 mines probably G type dropped in western end of harbour 0415/11. (B.S.N.O., Tobruk, 1236C/11 to Admty).

S/Ms

My 1313B/5 and 1109B/10. Intend following dispositions. P.32 leaves p.m./12 for area V South of 033° 10' between 013° 30' and 015° 00'. URSULA leaves p.m./14 for area N. URGE leaves area N a.m./15 for area M. UPHOLDER leaves p.m./15 for area K 038° 00' 011° 00' - 000° - 60 - 75. -(S.0.(S) Malta, 1241B/11 to Capt. S.1.)

Mine Explosion. Your 1211C/10. Near miss may well result from intermittent pulsing. Sea A.M. 1850B/15/7 and particularly A.M. 1629B/13/7 containing reference to A.L.T.O., 7052/41. (D.T.M., 1246A/11 to R.A. Alexandria).

MAYA ALBARO. Reports graded B.2. (a) Italian tankers MAYA ALBARO had difficulty in loading in Constantza due to damage to petroleum basin. Russian air raids 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7/8 caused much damage to port and town but grain Silos still intact.

(B) 4 M.T.B.s and one destroyer (?sunk) from air in Roumanian ports. (C) German staff in Roumania state no German resentment in Black Sea so far but important movements expected after fall of Odessa. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1315/11 to S.O.(I) Med).

11.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Raid.

Canal Area raided by about 15 enemy A/C 0240 to 0530/11 concentrating Kabretufa, Challoufa, and shipping at Suez. N.A.A.F.I. at Challoufa burned out, casualties. One U.X.M. 400 yards W. of Channel at L.130. Canal open to traffic. Port Said and (? Suez) open. No Naval damage or casualties, no damage to shipping, by R.A.F. plotting, 2 enemy A/C proceeded about 40 miles of Suez down Gulf. (S.B.N.O., Suez Canal, 1319C/11 to Admty). My 1319C/11. Later reports indicate that attack on shipping at Suez was principally directed against American ships berthed near Attaka. American ships received 9 near misses between them but no appreciable damage. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1905C/11).

attacked.

M.V. attacked.

Tripoli bombed.

French Collier Blenheims attacked French Collier S. N.A. 9 2700 tons off Lampedusa 1900 hours 10/8, 1 direct hit and 3 near misses 500 lb. bombs, ship left sinking by stern, large oil patches seen near position today. 4 Swordfish attack M.V. 13,000*on Syracuse night 10/11, 3 torpedoes released 2 believed to have hit, l caused explosion amidships. 8 Wellingtons attacked N.W. Area Tripoli night 10/11. Target well plastered by stick after stick for 1½ hours, 1 hit on Power Stations caused large orange explosion seen 100 miles away. 1 aircraft machine gunned searchlights along railway from 800 feet smoke screen not very successful. (H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, 1600/11) *CALIFORNIA, 13060 tons, sunk (See 1600/14).

PROTECTOR torpedoed.

Following has been read. Have been struck by a torpedo on Port Side 166° 32° N., 32° E. 17 miles. (PROTECTOR, 1700/11 to Alexandria W/T). Your 1300/11 (Reporting torpedoed) acknowledged. E.T.A. to be delayed till 0830. (R.A. Alexandria, 1546/11to PROTECTOR). Following has been read. Hit port side engine room, list increasing. (PROTECTOR, 1721/11).
Attack was pressed home by Torpedo A/C one hit.
(PROTECTOR, 1945/11 to C. in C. Med).
FLAMINGO, SALVIA are coming to assist you from Port Said and HERO from Alexandria. FLAMINGO report E.T.A. at PROTECTOR and when in touch. (C. in C. Med., 2015/11 to PROTECTOR).
Your 2016, E.T.A. 2345C. (FLAMINGO, 2050C/11 to C. in C. Med). PEONY or SALVIA should be ready to tow PROTECTOR in preference to larger ship. (C. in C. Med., 2140/11 to HERO, FLAMINGO, PEONY, BALVIA.) See also west page

11.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Vichy Convoy for Beirut.

My 1600C 8. Amend time table Convoy B as follows. -Leave Toulon 1200/13. (route). Arrive Beirut 0800/20. (C. in C. Med., 1721C/11 to Med Fleet).

Control of Ports. Your 1109/26. A new Defence Regulation replacing and considerably extending those quoted in A.F.O. 1136/41 is shortly being issued. Extension of these powers to ports abroad raises legal problems. In British Colonial Territories (Malta, Gibraltar) a Defence Order by local Governments seems the proper method. Colonial Office are being approached regarding this and also as regards position in Mandated Territories (e.g. Haifa). Position in Canal and other ports in foreign territory is matter for F.O. who are being approached. Position in occupied territories is indefinite. Further reply will be made. (D.T.D. 1908A/11).

Enemy Schooner. My 2340C/9. Auxiliary Schooner left 032° 52' 013° 10' A.M./10 for position given. (Capt. S.1. 1910C/11 to TORBAY).

SULLBERG German.

Nearly completed leading with Pyrites and /or iron ore, may leave at any time for Savona. (Valencia, 2055/11 to M. of W.T.)

HANS SCHMIDT, Arrived 11/8. (Barcelona, 2130/11 to M. of W.T.) German.

NUBIAN. ISIS. Following programme intended for NUBIAN and ISIS in Company (to Bombay). (C. in C. Med., 2205C/ll to Admty).

PROTECTOR hit by torpedo from aircraft 1700/11
in 31° 42' N., 32° 04' E., still afloat.

Assistance being sent from Port Said and
Alexandria. Dive bombing attack on Tobruk p.m./10
one shot down, one probable, 3 damaged.

REGENT sank by gunfire off Ghemines large schooner
laden petrol and stores 31/7. On 6/8 bombarded
Apollonia at dusk causing small fire.
(C. in C. Med., 2231C/11).

11.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

R.I.N. Proposed withdrawal of certain vessels. Reply to C. in C. E.I., 0616/8. (F.O.C.R.I.N., 0625Z/11 -to C. in C. E.I.) See Lion Copy.

B.P. 12. O830Z/11. KHEDIVE ISMAIL, LANCASHIRE, SANTHIA, RAJULA, VARELA, ROHNA, VARSOVA, all containing troops and stores and all for Basra. (N.C.S.O., Bombay, 0839Z/11 to Admty).

C.M.15.

CORNWALL escorting convoy C.M.15 sailed E.T.A.

position (H) C. in C. East Indies 0546Z/4 is
1400 G.M.T./18. (N.O.I.C. Durban, 1523/11 to
C. in C. E.I.) Cancelled see 0654Z/12

Convoy sailing telegram CM 15. ILE DE FRANCE,

NIEUW AMSTERDAM, MAURETANIA.

(N.C.S.O., Durban, 1804Z/11 to Admty etc amended
1728Z/12).

China.

MARECHAL JOFFRE. W.T.)

Arrival 11/8. (N.C.S.O., Manila 0638Z/11 to M. of W.T.)

BREMERHAVEN, Believed to be renamed TEIUN MARU and to be employed in Japanese coastal trade (D.S. 706).

Far East For Chiefs of Staff. A.D.B. progress report. (C. Convoy Escorts. in C. Far East, 1820/11) See Lion Copy.

Convoy

Numbers of A/S escorts required for convoys outlined in Admty, 1640/26/7. (V.C.N.S. 1934A/11 to C. in C. China etc). See Lion Copy.

Thailand. Proposed measures. (C. in C. Far East, 1926/11 to W.O.) See Operations Volume.

From F.O.C.R.I.N.

SECRET

Date 12.8.41 Recd 1014

Naval Cypher X by cable

Addressed C. in C. East Indies, repeated Admiralty, C. in C. Mediterranean, P.S.T.O. India.

523. Para. 1. Your 0616/8th. No suitable B.S.N. or other company ships available on coast of India.

Para 2. The withdrawal of any further units of India Local Defence presents certain definite difficulties (a) It is well known in India that India's local Naval Defence is totally inadequate. (b) Transfer of H.M.I. ships to the Mediterranean will at once raise political repercussions.

(c) The reversion of one of H.M.I. ships to commercial employment could not be justified in view of the outcry which would be raised by the many Indian commercial interests which have been and still are endeavouring to obtain the release of L.N.D. vessels for commercial purposes from the Government of India.

Para. 3. Suggest S.S.SOFALA or SIR HARVEY ADAMSON might be utilised.

Para. 4. Suggest C. in C. China be asked if he can assist.

Para. 5. As a last resort I might induce the Viceroy to agree to SONAVATI being made available if either NETRAVATI or RATNAGIRI were returned to India. It would be essential that SONAVATI proceeded as an H.M.I. ship.

D. of L.D.(2) I.P.(3)

W.D.

0625z/11

1st Lord 1st S.L. 4th S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(F) A.C.N.S.(T)(2) N.A. to 1st S.L. D. of P.(3) P.A.S.(S) M.(2) O.D.(5) Ops.(4) D.T.D.(4) D.T.D.(M) D.T.D.(C) D. of S.T. MOST SECRET.

MOSTS & SECRETUS.

IN

From. C. in C. Far East.

Date. 11/8/41 Recd 2350/11.

CYPIER.

Addressed. War Office. Repeated Air H.Q. Wellington (Pass copy Army and Navy). Airboard Melbourne (Pass copy Army and Navy) C. in C. East Indigs. C. in C. China.

IMPORTAT

34596. 253/4 ciphor 11/0.

For Chiofs of Staff.

A.D.B. progress report.

l. Governor General N.E.I. has approved periodical visits by British and Australian aircraft to Dutee aerodromes which they may occupy in war and similar visits by N.E.I. aircraft to our aerodromes. Publicity will be avoided.

- 2. Governor General has approved flights by British direcaft over Rhio to exercise linkage between Dutch and British observer systems. One exercise has been carried out.
- 3. Reconnaissances in operational areas laid-down in A.D.B. were carried out by American Dutch and British aircraft during 23-25
 July when object of Japanese southward move was uncertain. Easfar 76/4 23/7 to Troopers refers. British and Dutch striking forces also prepared move to operational aerodromes. These operations had been prepared during conferences in Java middle July. Combined reconnaissance was established rapidly and this operational experience is valuable for detailed planning new continuring.

 4. R.A.F. heads of modical and repair and maintenance departments
- 5. Fuel for British flying boats will be stored Sabang for omergency use.

visited Kendari 2 and Samarinda, 2.

- 6. Outline plans for the employment of naval forces in the various contingencies set out in A.D.B. para 11 has been circulated for comment and insertion of details.
 - 7. Commander J.M. Creightel relieved Captain A.M.R. Allen as U.S. Naval observer at Singapore.

8. Thursday Island. Two 6 inch one 4.7 inch guns mounted and defences manned. Building of war signal station in progress.

1820/11.

Rocd in War Rog at 1755/12.

10

60

lst Lord.
lst S.L.
2nd S.L.
3rd S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
N.A. lst S.L.
D.O.D. (P)
D.D.O.D. (F)
Duty Capt.
D.N.I. (4)
D.D.I.C.
D of P. (2)
D of L.D.
Hd of M.
D.N.L.D.
D.A/S.W.
D.M.S.
D.T.S.D.
D.G.D.
Adml. Palliser.
Adml. Bellairs. (2)
W.D.
I.F. (2)
N.I.D. 10 (Pay.Cdr. Wilson)

\$120 ...

JA

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

1934A/11 August

To C. in C. China 566.

Date 11, 8, 41,

C, in C. East Indies 555.
Australian Commonwealth Naval Board 615.
New Zealand Navy Board 425.

NAVAL CYPHER (D)

From Admiralty.

-10

0

- A. Investigation has been made into number of A/S escorts required for escort of convoys outlined in A.T.1640/26/7.
- B. Colombo Singapore. One group of 8 ships considered minimum. This allows five escorts per convoy for round trip of 17 days with 6 days in harbour each end and 40% spare for refits and repairs.
- C. Australia Singapore. Two groups of 7 ships each considered minimum, on basis similar to B above and assuming Freemantle is convoy assembly port.
- D. If separate personnel convoys are run additional escorts probably destroyers will be necessary.
- E. No account has been taken of any Australian convoys it may be intended to run in Tasman Area.
- F. It is not intended to divert A/S escorts from service elsewhere at present. Policy of collecting 21st and 22nd M/S Flotillas at Singapore will be proceeded with and pending arrival of reinforcements these will be only A/S escorts available.
- G. C. in C. East Indies, A.C.N.B. and N.Z.N.B. are requested to forward remarks to C. in C. China. Latter is requested to signal co-ordinated views and proposals to Admiralty.

1934A/11

for Head of M. (558) Approved by V.C.N.S.

1st Lord 1st S, I, 2nd S.L. 3rd S.L. 4th 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. (4) D. A/S. W. I.P.(2) W. D. Duty Captain Head of M. (P.D. 0126/41) D. D. I. C. E.P.S. D. T. D. (2) N. I. D. 10 (Paymaster Cdr. Wilson)

MOST SECRET OS TRESSAGS E C. R. E. T. gust

From C. in C. Far East.

Date 12.8.41. Recd. 0850.

CIPHER

Addressed The War Office.
34775. 261/4 cipher 11/8.

Most Secret. Following are extracts from Machin's report on third discussion with Chinese on which my comments follow shortly.

One. Chinese have agreed to stocking acrodromes in Burma for use of Chennault's fighters if Burma is attacked.

Two. Puerh Force will be a complete central government division from Kweichow and will begin to arrive mid-November Chinese hope we can deliver rations across border at Cheli on Mekong River.

Three. Generalissimo and Chennault strongly urgo that Chennault's fighters be allowed to practice Squadron formation flying in Burma. Dennys considers this most necessary since pilots have never worked together and Japanese are likely to attack squadrons strongly soon after they reach Chinese territory. Chinese are pinning highest hopes on these squadrons and if they meet with early reverses moral effect will be very bad. H.M. Ambassador strengly supports this request since changing political situation reduces necessity of considering Japanese susceptibilities.

Four. Chinese produced general staff plans sanctioned by Generalissimo for full scale offensive against Japanese forces if Hong Kong further besieged. Plans envisage holding attacks on Cantun area to pin Japanese garrison there and main attacks by three armies and on reserve army from direction of Uaishin south westwards across Canton-Kowleen Railway to join up with our garrison on Kowleen Penissan

Ono/swee

One more army in general reserve. Plan is based on assumption that Japanese in Canton-Kowloon area have not been strongly reinforced. British part expected to be blockade of mouths of Pearl, River and assistance by bomber Dennys gave his opinion that former would bo aircraft. boyond capacity of local naval forces in war and warned Chinese that Eritish air support depended firstly on acrodromes being stocked in time and secondly on situation elsowhere and that in any case it could not be heavy or sustained. Generalissimo asked Dennys to obtain information of what naval forces will be available at Hong Kong and what Generalissimo is invostigating they expect to achieve. possibility of employing part of international air force in the Hong Kong battle if situation elsewhere permits. Dennys considers the Chinese mean business and will attempt this offensive if conditions are at all favourable. Thoy aro vory weak in artillery but given air support and increased guerilla action it might be worth trying if Japanese have not been heavily reinforced. 010

2353/11.

Advance copy sent Duty Capt. D.O.D. (F) D.D.JC

Received War Registry from War Office 1030/14.

medican am alle at Mat

lst Lord
lst S.L.
4th S.L.
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (F)
N.A. lst S.L.
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of P. (2)
Duty Captain

-028

E.P.S.
Head of M. (8)
I.P. (2)
W.D.
N.I.D. 10 Pay. Cdr. Wilson
D.N.A.D.
Admiral Palliser
D.D.I.C.
Admiral Bellairs
Admiral Chalmers.

11.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies.

PRINCE DAVID, DOMINION MONARCH.

Your 09220/31 PRINCE DAVID, H.M. Transport DOMINION MONARCH sailed. Due Halifax 15/8. (S.N.O. Curacao, 0600QR/11 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

S/Ms

one

B

610

B.A.R.M., 1242R/4. In view of C.C.N.F. 1339Z/8 and B.A.R.M. 1326R/8, I now recommend that submarines should go to FORTH at St. Johns N.F. after completing refit in U.S.A. Calling at Halifax to complete to full outfit or torpedoes when necessary. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1011Q/11 to Admty).

FORMIDABLE.

Your 1157A/10. Following is repetition of 1654/8 Begins:- AIDAC addressed B.A.R.M. from FORMIDABLE, intend flying off 6 Swordfish Aircraft before arrival, 24/8. Request detailed instructions where to land. T.O.O. 1654/8 (ends) (B.A.R.M., 1026R/11 to Admty).

U.S. Forces.

My 2221 2/25/6 and your 1142A/11. Request further efforts may be made to speed up information about movements of U.S. Forces. (C. in C. A.W. I., 1233Q/ 11 to Admty).

TRIOMPHANT.

Bermuda departure French LE TRIOMPHANT in accordance with my 12220/10. (C. in C. A.W.I., 13030/11 to Admty).

Troop Transport. Proposals T.C. 12 B. etc. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1734Z/11 to D. of S.T.)

T.C. 12 B.

Your 1907A/10. HAVELOCK, HARVESTER, READING, SAQUENAY, ST. LAURENT and ASSINIBOINE will be detached for T.C. 12 B. Provided there are no further casualties or other extra commitments one destroyer can still be sailed with every convoy escort. (C.C.N.F., 1823Z/11 to C. in C. W.A.)

HESPERUS refit.

HECLA 1651Z/7. Assumed HESPERUS unfit for further escort duty until permanent repairs effected. Request I may be informed what arrangements are being made. (C.C.N.F., 1824Z/11 to C. in C. W.A.)

WORCESTERSHIRE E. T.A. 0500P/13. WARWICK CASTLE (?reports) both WARWICK her anchors out of action requiring tug at pilot castle. (WORCESTERSHIRE, 1853P/11 to C.O.A.C. Halifax).

11.8.1941. Monday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Cont.

Panama Canal. Your 1329/27/3/40. Port Christobal now closed from 1800 to 0600 daily. In appreciable number of ships are consequently held up over night after transit in Canal while Master proceeds to N.C.S.O. for route instructions. Port Captain Christobal states no objection to Master leaving ship in Gatun Lake and rejoining at Christobal or Balbao. Request this concession may be taken advantage of. (C. in C. A.W.I., 2156Q/11 to Admty).

TRUANT.

Your 1242R/4. Approved for TRUANT to proceed to St. John's N.F. for snort working up period. Proposed programme should be reported. (A.C.N.S. (H) 2205A/11 to B.A.R.M.).

A.M.C.'s Iceland Service. When relieved of need to provide A.M.C. escorts for convoys it is estimated that your requirements will be met by 7 A.M.C.s. This should enable you to maintain five ships running on Iceland Ferry Service. Please confirm.

(A.C.N.S. (H) 2234A/11 to R.A. 3 B.S.)

Australia.

Ex enemy ships with Japanese Flag.

10

Your 1318/22. Japanese Govt. have, in the past, been notified that transfer of enemy ships to Japanese Flag will not be recognised by H.M.G. Inexpedient however, in present circumstances, to attempt interception of ex enemy ships flying Japanese flag. (a) if escorted by Japanese warships, (b) if met within an area where such action might at the time of interception or before the ship had safely reached port, lead to an incident with a Japanese warship. Subject to above limitations, such ex-enemy vessels if met with should be captured. (Head of M.,*1956A/ll to A.C.N.B.) * Approved by lst Lord.

11.8.1941. Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

ST.ANSELM (torpedoed 30/6.)

Spanish ship TOM arrived Rosario 9/8 with Chief Officer and 15 crew SAINT ANSELM picked up 17/7 all well. Names in my immediately following telegram to Admiralty only.

SAINT ANSELM sunk by torpedo 30/6 at 0210 in 032° N., 026° W., enemy not seen. Capt. and 16 crew last seen in other lifeboat same day, remainder of crew all Lascars believed killed. (N.C.S.O., Buenos Aires, 2210Z/11 to Admty.)

Submarines Reported.

0250.

One submarine on surface bearing 310° distance 2 miles, course unknown, my position 37.24 N., 10.55 W. (NESTOR, 0250/11 to Gib., W/T.)

1116 G.M.T.

D/F at 1116 G.M.T. U boat in 49° 20' N., 19° W. Unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C. 1259A/11.) Estimated U/B dispositions. (D.D.I.C. 1413A/11.)

1225 G.M.T.

D/F at 1225 G.M.T., Italian U/boat in 46° N., 4° W., unreliable fix. (D.D.I.C. 1503A/11.)

1345 G.M.T.

German U-Boat has probably reported Convoy H.G.70 or O.G.70 at 1345 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 1550A/11 to FAULKNOR, AVON VALE, Escorts of O.G.70.

1656.

U-boat in 038° 02' N., 010° 25' W., at 1656. (F.O.C.N.A., 1745A/11, to N.A. Stn.)

1820.

Unidentified S/M 61.36 N., 16.20 W. heading 040° stopped on surface. (KY7V Squadron V 1820/11, to R.A.F. Iceland.) (0.A.M.C.U., 2115 G.M.T./11 to A.M. Whitehall.)

1819A.

My 1819A/11. (N.T. in W.D.)Further D/F bearings indicate U/B is still shadowing Convoy. (D.D.I.C. 2248A/11 to RAMSEY.)

11.8.1941. Monday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By DEPTFORD.

Attacking Submarine which dived when sighted on surface. My P.C. & S., (G or K) R.T. E 16 10 235° 12. (DEPTFORD, 0235Z/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)
W.D. Note.- If G.R.T.E. = 37.16 N., 9.50 W.
My 0235Z/11. 3 attacks carried out after which contact was lost. Am carrying out sweep in the vicinity, CONVOLVULUS in company. (DEPTFORD, 045Z/11 to F.O.C.N.A.)

By HERMIONE 2/8.

Congratulations on good look-out and prompt action which enabled you to ram and destroy an enemy U-Boat on 2/8/1941.
(V.C.N.S. 1615A/11 to HERMIONE.)

By A/C.

10

Have attacked enemy with bombs dive and estimate hits nil. (A/C, C.C., 1617/11 to 19 Gp. H.Q.)

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

- Technical - Navigational

Casualties and Defects - Shipping and Convoys

FOREIGN STATIONS (Classification by stations)

- North Atlantic - South Atlantic - Mediterranean

East IndiesAmerica 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.

- 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) <u>Dispositions and Movements</u> (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) <u>Daily Convoy Summary</u> (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) <u>Daily Operations Report for First Lord</u> (prepared by Operations Division, Naval Staff) (13 September 1939).
 - (h) List of abbreviations.
 - (i) List of Convoy letters.

12.8.1941. Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

The Soviet Naval Authorities have agreed to a British Naval Officer and Staff being established at Archangel for duties in connection with shipping.

British Air Operations

Aircraft of Bomber Command attacked Rotterdam Docks and other targets in the Dutch Ports and Rivers last night.

Four Blenheims with heavy fighter escort, today bombed the shipyard at Le Trait, direct hits being obtained on the slipways and also on a ship on the southern slipway.

A Hudson of Coastal Command today extinguished the Lindesnes Light.

Enemy Air Operations

Fishing Trawlers VOLESUS and EMPIRE FISHER were attacked at 1250 today in 63° 0' N., 5° 50' W The latter was slightly damaged.

SS EAGLESCLIFFE HALL was bombed and damaged today off Sunderland.

Mining

Fishing smack EXPRESS was mined and sunk today about 6 miles N.E. of Whitstable.

Mediterranean

Malta

About 9 aircraft attacked Malta last night. No Naval damage is reported.

Libya and

5 Wellingtons last night attacked the harbour Western Desert. at Tripoli. Derna and Bardia were also attacked.

/A sustained....

12.8.1941. Tuesday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean

Libya and Western Desert-Contd.

A sustained enemy air attack was made last night on Tobruk; electric power lines were brought down. During the day, four separate air raids were made on Tobruk, "A" Lighter No. 14 was mined and sunk in the harbour and an ammunition dump was destroyed. There were a few casualties. Mersa Matruh was also attacked.

Cyprus

Famagusta was raided by 3 enemy aircraft at 0940. One schooner laden with benzine was damaged. War effort is unaffected.

Canal Zone

About 9 enemy aircraft attacked the Canal zone last night, including Port Said, Ismailia and Alexandria. No Naval damage is reported.

U-Boat Campaign

H.G. 70.

It is estimated that 6 or more U-Boats are near H.G. 70, west of Cape St. Vincent.

A Catalina aircraft escorting H.G. 70 reported a U-Boat shadowing at 1400 and two Condors in sight at 1630. BOREAS and WILD SWAN joined the convoy at 1415 from Gibraltar and F.O.C.N.A. has asked C. in C. W.A., to send destroyers to meet the convoy on 15/8 when the four now escorting must leave for Gibraltar to fuel. Destroyers left Gibraltar at 1540A/11 for an A/S sweep in the western approaches to Gibraltar.

LONDON's A/C bombed a U-Boat on the surface at 1437A and probably damaged it.

12.8.41. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Finnish Ships.

Finnish Ships will be seized by Customs tomorrow. Request information regarding pay and conditions for members of crew willing to serve under British Flag to enable ships to proceed to discharging port. If these conditions available immediately, considerable delay and expense might be saved. (C.C.S.O. Kirkwall 1145/12.)
Your 1145/12. Conditions. (D.T.D. 1736A/12.)

Co-operation with Russia.

British
S.N.O.
Archangel.

WX 3217. My 1452C/6 and F.O. Tel. J 97 9/8 Soviet Naval Authorities have agreed to a British Naval officer and staff being established at Archangel for these duties. (Admiral Miles 2010/12.)

Movements.

ALCA.

Having embarked necessary mines and stores ALCA is to be sailed for the West Coast of Africa in the first suitable convoy. Destination Bathurst. (D.T.M. 1207A/12.)

ARGUS.

Request you will arrange for 3 destroyers to screen ARGUS sailing from Clyde to Scapa on 19/8.
(C. in C.H.F. 1602A/12 to R.A.(D) H.F.)

PARTHIAN

PARTHIAN painted blue route to Portsmouth. (F.O.S. 1641A/12 to S/M's on patrol in Area A.)

SOKOL.

Left Dartmouth to patrol in Bay of Biscay at 1702A/12.
Route. (Capt. (S)5 1815A/12 to S/M's on patrol in Area A.)

RAMILLIES.

Will return to U.K., to refit as soon as escort can be arranged.

2. C. in C. W.A. (a) arrange A/S escort from Reykjavik to Liverpool, using destroyers of escort of PRINCE OF WALES from St. Johns N.F. as required and (b) provide route.

(3) A.C.I.C. to sail ships as requisite.

(A.C.N.S.(H) 1927A/12.)

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

2 M.L's.

Two M.L's leave Dover 2230/12 proceeding on an easterly course returning about 0330/13. (V.A.Dover 1626A/12.)

British Air Operations.

Patrols.

Nose a being flown from 0830 during daylight hours today. (C. in C. Rosyth 0800/12.) In operation.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1134/12.)
P.R.U. to Stavanger and Kristiansand now in

operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1538/12.)

Cross over patrol 62° 26' N., 06° 00' W. 62° 26' N., 05° 37' W. 63° 42' N., 06° 00' W. 63° 42' N., 05° 37' W.

being flown by Whitley aircraft between 0500/13 and 1530/13.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1728/12.) (C. in C. Rosyth 1932/12.)

Bomber Command Operations. Night 11/12 Aug. 14 A/C's attacked Rotterdam Docks. Bursts were seen in the Dock area and incendiaries started a good fire. Alternative Targets. Scheveningen Docks, barges on the river Mass near Mijmegen, Rotterdam Docks, unidentified docks believed near Rotterdam, S/LS near Dordrecht, Calais Docks, each attacked by one A/C. (H.Q.B.C.1408/12.)

RENOWN.

Fighter protection has been asked for while within operational range. Code word Branch. Expect. (A.C.O.S. 1857/12.)

Enemy Air Operations.

Convoy P.W.

Help WHEEL - 60° 3' N., 4° 37' W. 040-7. (TYNEDALE 0157/12.) Fighters have been despatched to assist WHEEL. (Plymouth 0219/12.)

VOLESUS.

63.00 N., 05.50 W., attacked by aircraft. (VOLESUS 1250/12.)

WALLIS GREY.....

12.8.41. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Enemy Air Operations. Contd.

WAR WALLIS GREY (GY516.) (Trawler.)

Reports she was bombed and machine gunned by twin engined monoplane at 0845/11, 5 miles W.S.W., Myggenaes. Slight damage no casualties. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes 1457A/12.)

S.S. EAGLES-CLIFFE HALL.

Sunderland reports: - S.S. EAGLESCLIFFE HALL, (1900 tons) hit in engine room by bomb whilst on passage from Seaham harbour to examination anchorage Sunderland. Casualties on board, number unknown. Ship has caught fire aft, will not bring her into harbour if any danger of sinking 2250/12. (F.O.i/c Tyne 2312/12.)

Mining.

EXPRESS

C.A.F.O. 1968/40. C.A.F.O. 1968/40. R.N.O. Whitstable reports:(1) Exact time not noted. Rescued crew were landed at Whitstable at 1530 and appear to have gone straight home.

(2) Fishing smack EXPRESS C.K. 231 of Tollesbury Essex.

(3) Fishing smack.

(4) 1 mile S.W., of East Spaniard Buoy.

(5) Not known.

(6) Ship struck near propellor, the timbers

opened up and ship sank.
(7) Crew took to small boat and were picked up and brought ashore by fishing smack EMMA F.88 which was 4 miles away. Ends. Explosion reported as small. Black smoke observed. (C. in C. Nore 2141A/12.)

Technical.

Recognition Signals.

Alternative 2 has advantage of A.M. 1450/8. being simpler for minor war vessels and also enables recognition signals for major war vessels to be changed quickly without awaiting promulgation to minor war vessels. The security aspect is of vital importance and it is therefore considered alternative I should be given a trial in spite of the above points. (C. in C. Nore 1030A/12 to Adty.) A.M. 1450/8. Consider value of any extra security gained by a complication of existing recognition signals very small as encounter between our minor war vessels and enemy vessels seldom occurs in waters in which doubt as to identity may arise. In invasion any recognition signals used by minor war vessels will be quickly compromised. Alternative (ii) is therefore preferred. C. in C. Rosyth 1459/12 to Adty.)

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE. 1110A/12th August.

MOST SHCRET.

(1)

IN.

From C. in C., Noro.

Dato. 12,8,41.

Rocd. 1223.

Naval Cyphor "X" by T/P

Addressed Admiralty. Repeated C. in C., Rosyth. V.A. Dover. C. in C., Portsmouth.

372. MOST SECRET. A.M. 1338/4 August parae 6.

In view of the proximity to the enemy of the Bast Const and Mastern Channel convey routes and the frequency of night air attacks in all conditions of visibility, it is not considered that any restriction on the use of R.D.F. for detection of aircraft should be imposed in this area.

1110A/12

Advance copy sent D.C., D.O.D. (H) & D.D. I.C.

1st Lord. 1st S.L. 3rd S. I. 5th S.L. V.C.N.S. A, C.N. S. A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
N.A. to lst S.L. D.D.D. (H) D.D.O.D. (H)
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (S.D.02339/41) for action.
D.N.I. (4) DoNo A. D. D.A/S.W. D. C. N. I. D. 10. D. T. S. D. D.G.D. Hd. of M.(7) & for Air Ministry. I.P. (3) W. Do

OMB

12.8.41. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects.

ACHATES. My 1538/11. Further report shews ship cannot proceed without further repairs. (R.A.(D) 1012/12.)

ADVENTURE. Considered fit for duty with lst. M.L.S. at speeds not exceeding 15 knots without incurring further damage. (R.A.(M) 1021/12 to Adty.)

CHURCHILL.

E.T.A., 1830Z/12. Have serious salt water leakage into oil fuel tanks.

(CHURCHILL 1100Z/12 to A.C. Iceland (C)).

Departure tug DIVERSION at 1110A to assist A/T STRATHMAREE aground South Middle Haisboro Sands. (F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1115A/12.)

A/T STRATHMAREE refloated without assistance.

No damage sustained.

(F.O.I.C. Yarmouth 1212A/12.)

S.O.S. Automatic S.O.S. heard at 1500 G.M.T. strength 3 bearing 023 degrees. (Lands End Radio 1501/12, C. in C. Plymouth 1600/12.)

HESPERUS.

C.C.N.F. 1824Z/11. HESPERUS is fit for escort duty. In view of defects that have developed consider ship be refitted early date.

(HESPERUS 2056/12 to A.C.I.C.)

Shipping & Convoys.

H.X. 143. Sailing telegram as amended by Admty. (contains the names of 74 ships.)(D.T.D.1227/12 to C. in C. W.A.)

F.N., E.C., Harwich additional escorts. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 245A/12.) See Lion Copy.

H.X. 141. Has arrived safely, Vice-Adm. B. Curtis as Commodore.

IN. 1245A/12th August. Date. 12/8/41. Time. 1327/12.

From: - F.O.I.C. Hatwich.

P/L BY T/P.

Addressed: - C. in C. Nore 1st Division Corvettos, IA MEMPOMENE, Repeated C. in C. Rosyth, Admiralty N. C. S. O. Southend.

| F.N. | E.C. | F.9. | Harwich Additional Corvette |
|------------------------|------|---|---|
| 50 5. 50 6 \50 7 | 62 | 569 570 571) 571) 572 573 574 | PUFFIN. GUILLEMOT. SHEARWATER. MALLARD WIDGEON SHELDRAID. PUFFIN. |

SHEARTATER leaves F. 156 off outer Dowsing enters the Humber and sails so as to join F.S. \$71 off Flamborough at 1400/19/8. SHELDRAKE leaves F.N.507 off the outer Dowsing enters the Humber and sails so as to join F.S. \$73 between Flamborough and 620. buoy before dark. Names of A/S trawlers will be signalled at 1000 on the day before sailing.

V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(T)(2) N.A. lst S.L. Ops (4) O.D. (5) O.D. 6. O.I.C. (3)

WB

1245A/12/8
Advance Copy Ops. O.D.

I.P. (3)
D.S.D. 9.
D.A/S. V.
V.D.
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (C)
D.T.D. (M)

Concelled by - P. 267 A

2223 A/12

COMPTENTIAL.

MES AGE 0137/13 August.

IN.

From C. in C. Western Approaches.

Date. 13.8.41.

Recd. 0137

P/L BY T/B.

Addressed F.O.I.C. Belfast. Repeated. Admiralty F.O.I.C. Cardiff. F.O.I.C. Milford Haven. N.O.I.G. Barry N.O.I.G. Avonmouth N.C.S.O. Barry

MITE. 1.82

In order to provide a means of giving accurate information to Shipowners about Shipping arriving at Bristol Channel Ports in B.B Convoys it is intended that the following procedure should be brought into force forthwith:-

- 1. The "Intend to sail" signal of B.B. convoy, made by F.O.I.C. Belfast is to include an expected time of arrival of ships at Swansea and Barry Roads. In future the Addressees of this signal should include Admiralty and F.O.I.C. Cardiff. This will be known as the Long Range Forecas
- 2. S.O. of Escort is, in future, to repeat the signal giving expected time of arrival at Buoy 'K' to F.O.I.C. Cardiff. This will provide an intermediate check .
- 3. S.O. of Escort is to signal to F.O.I.C. Cardiff the expected time of arrival of convoy at Helwick and Scarweather Lightvessels at least 2 hours before arriving at these positions, repeating former expected time of arrival to N.O.I.C. Swansea. This will be known as the Short Range Forecast. All signals made are to commence with the number of the convoy Forecast. All signals made are to co. monce with the in order to make for easier reference by the receipients.

 It is requested that you will issue the necessary orders to ships of the

2223./12. Advance copy sent Ops and Trade.

V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S (T)(2) N.A. 1st S.L. Ops.(4) O.D.(5) D.S.D.(2) D.T.D. (4) D.T.D. (H) D.T.D. (C) D. of S.T. D.N.I.(4) O.I.G.(3) I...(3) W.D.

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys

H.X.141. 45 British, 1 neutral, 13 Allied ships. Cargoes. (D.S. 707, 12/8.)

As it has been found impracticable for
Bristol Channel ships of inward ocean convoys
to join up with B.B. convoys without first
proceeding to Belfast, it is intended in future
that all such ships shall proceed into Belfast
where arrangements will be made for their
inclusion in the B.B. convoys. W.A.C.I.,
part 133 Par. 45 will be amended.
(C. in C. W.A., 1502A/12 to F.O.I.C.'s etc.)
Details of procedure (C. in C. W.A., 2223A/12.)
See Lion Copy.

H.X.142 and SC.39 are to remain in company until further orders.

(C. in C. W.A., 1523A/12 to Escorts.)

EMPRESS OF
CANADA.
CITY OF
LANCASTER.
Force 3.

EMPRESS OF CANADA is to embark all Force lll
and proceed to Tail of Bank. Troops will
disembark on 14/8. Disposal of Naval Base
Staff. CITY OF LANCASTER is to be sailed for
Tail of Bank, will subsequently be completely
unloaded. (D.O.D.(H) 1813A/12 to V.A.C.T.C., etc.)

Balloons. Your 1557B/7/8. Air Staff regret unable to accept proposals without reference to operational commands. Subject referred to commands with request for immediate reply.

(Air Ministry, 1824/12 to Admty.)

S.L.82. Cancel my 1716A/12. (N.T. in W.D.) Alter course at dusk and steer direct for Old Split position 055° 40' 008° 30'. (C. in C.W.A., 1857A/12 to WALKER for Cmdre.)

1825A/12 August

To:- C. in C. Home Fleet 343 N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 347 New Zealand Naval Board 428 Date 12.8.41. Britman 293 F.O.C. North Atlantic 190 C. in C. South Atlantic 248 N.O. i/c Simonstown 837 R.A. South America Division 304 C. in C. America and West Indies 708 Australian Commonwealth Naval Board 624 C. in C. China 572
C. in C. East Indies 567;

NAVAL CODE (J)

From Admiralty.

NITE.

My 1620/B/5.

Na Atlantic.

Civil aircraft sighted 5000 ton vessel in 46° 37' N. 09° 22' W. Course W on 9th August. Possibly outward bound raider.

S. Atlantic.

U.S. PETER KERR is reported overdue at Capetown since 5th August but there is some doubt about her destination.

Lifeboat from BALZAC recently washed ashore near Pernambuco. This vessel possibly sunk about 22nd June same raider as TOTTENHAM.

Now known that SIR ERNEST CASSEL was captured on 16th April by Raider E (No. 10) which returned via English Channel to Cuxhaven 30th April.

Indian Ocean.

P.O.W. from Raider F (No.33) states that when intercepted by CORNWALL she was waiting for one or two other raiders to lay mines off Bombay, another Indian Port and Gulf of Aden. 33 had only 8 mines left, but No.41 which left Germany in January and may have been concerned had 200, both ordinary and magnetic mines. Graded B3.

33 had rendezvoused with ALSTERTOR at Kerguelen in March, which had been visited also by E (No.10) after ALCANTARA action and C (No.16). Orders then received not to use Kerguelen again. Base now believed to be Crozet or Possession Island. Graded B.2.

1825//12

D.D.I.C. (Green Line 8)

| 1st Lord. | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 1st S. L. | D.N. I. (4). D.T.D. (4). | ops.(4). |
| 4th S. L. | D. T. D. (4). | O.D.(5). |
| V.C.N.S. | D. T. D. (M). | W.D. |
| A.C. N. S. (H). | D. T. D. (C). | D. P.D. |
| A.C.N.S. (F). | 0. I.C. (4). | D.S.D.(2). |
| A. C. N. S. (T). (2). | D. of P. (3). | T. (0) |
| Nav. Sec. | Odr. Holbrook. | MI • (S) • |
| N. A. 1st S. L. | D. A/S. W. | |
| Capt. Pim Admty Hse. | I.P.(3). | |

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

General.

Raiders. Intelligence. (D.D.I.C.1825A/12) See Lion Copy.

North Atlantic.

MANCHESTER. FIREDRAKE. Your 1806B/8. Dates can be ready for sailing to U.S.A. for refit. (F.O.C.N.A. 1056A/12 to Admty.)

FORESTER, FURY, DUNCAN.

Leave Patrol after dark tonight to arrive Gibraltar 0800/13. (F.O.C.N.A.1138A/12 to FORESTER. FURY, DUNCAN.)

17th M.L.F.

Intend to sail 17th Motor Launch Flotilla SOUTHERN GEM, SOUTHERN PRIDE and ARRAN for Freetown via Bathurst p.m./13. (F.O.C.N.A. 1140A/12 to C. in C.S.A.)

LE TRAIT. CAUDEBEC. (French).

Departure 10/8. both for unknown destination. (Lisbon, 1152/12 to M. of W.T.)

French S/M's. French Admty. request me to inform you of following movements:(i) One French S/M escorted by sloop will pass Gibraltar Westbound 17/8 about 1000 G.M.T.
(ii) Similar Unit will pass Eastbound 26/8 about 1100 G.M.T. (N.A. Madrid 1339/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

bombed, sunk.

Arrival LADY HOGARTH with nine survivors from S.S. EMPIRE HURST. (F.O.C.N.A.1446A/12 to Admty.)
C.A.F.O.770/40. British EMPIRE HURST sunk by bombs from F.W. aircraft 1140/11 approx. 36.45
N. 09.40 W. Master and W/T Officer both went down with ship. Ship had fallen astern of convoy H.G.70 due to engine trouble was hit by one or more bombs and sank in one minute.
Compromise of books unlikely. Information from Bosn. Survivors landed Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1902A/12 to Admty.) British. 2852 tons, bound from Aguilas for Barrow with iron ore. (D.S.708)

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic - Contd.

H.G.70.

Vessels addressed are to remain with convoy H.G.70 until prudent limit of endurance subsequently returning to Gibraltar. (F.O.C.N.A. 1642A/12 to AVONVALE ERIDGE, BOREAS, WILDSWAN.) Following received from Catalina aircraft (begins). At 1400/12 U-boat shadowing H.G.70. Two Condors in sight at 1630. BOREAS, WILDSWAN joined convoy at 1415/12. (Ends). Can destroyers be sent to meet convoy on 15th when those now escorting must leave? (F.O.C.N.A. 2328B/12 to C. in C.W.A.)

French shipping.

1145/12 French destroyer two French ships P.C. and S. 261° Cape Spartel 128 miles, 149° 8 knots. Gibraltar 1405 French armed trawler L'AJACCIENNE, French ships OUED TIFLET, ILE ROUSSE both full, PENERF light with deck cargo passed Westbound. (S.O.I. Gibraltar, 1715A/12 to Admty. etc.)

FRANKFURT (scuttled 4/8.)

Spanish broadcast on 11/8 states missing members of crew have been landed in Lisbon by a Portuguese destroyer. (D.S.707, 12/8.)

O.G.70.

Arrival FORESIGHT, NESTOR, COREOPSIS and O.G.70. (F.O.C.N.A. 1928A/12 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

Japanese shipping.

Quantity of oil fuel aboard Japanese Ships as declared to Customs at Rio de Janeiro. (S.O.I. Montevideo 0201Z/12.)

NORDERNEY. (German)

Latest description. (S.O.I. Freetown, 0920N/12.)

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic. - Contd.

B.D.V's.

Your 1305B/7. Request information whether (1) allocation of boom defence vessels is still as in your 1?18/17/4, or (2) any vessels in addition to those mentioned in your 1351/?7/6, are allotted to B.D.O. (West?) Africa. (My 0223/27/7 refers). (3) RENNET, JENNET and PUNNET are still to be sailed for Turkey, in accordance with your 2122/1/6. (C. in C.S.A. 1311N/12 to Admty.)

NORDERNEY or ? RIO GRANDE.

Reported by local authorities off Brava,
Venezuela, at 0220Z/12. (C. in C.S.A. 1620N/12
to ships in Area P.) Note by War Reg:- This
message presumably refers to movements of German
ship NORDERNEY. W.D. Note. Daily Summary, however,
(No.708) states ship concerned is RIO GRANDE.

PETER KERR.

Overdue ships, cancel my 1010/8. PETER KERR arrived Capetown. (S.O.I. Capetown, 0941B/12.)

Bathurst.

To be defended with a controlled minefield. (D.T.M. 1208A/12 to C. in C.S.A.) See Lion Copy.

BIRMINGHAM NEWCASTLE. CARNARVON CASTLE. R.A.S.A.D. transfers to BIRMINGHAM at F.O.14/8. BIRMINGHAM and NEWCASTLE then pass through in company to K.32. CARNARVON CASTLE is to be at (corrupt group) at 1200 G.M.T./18 to transfer ERLANGEN prisoners to NEWCASTLE, who then proceeds to Freetown. CARNARVON CASTLE is then to proceed arriving at Montevideo 1200 G.M.T./22 to fuel (800 tons only) subsequently returning to K.33. BIRMINGHAM patrols K.32, K.33 until return of CARNARVON CASTLE. (R.A.S.A.D.1303Z/12 to S.A.D.)

BERGAMOT. CLOVER. VANSITTART. BERGAMOT and CLOVER each proceeding independently direct to R/V in accordance with your 1325N/11.

My position 009° 08' N. 014° 54' W. Weather report. (VANSITTART 1401Z/12 to C. in C.S.A.)

Oiling at Sea.

Your 2023 July 25th. Request full details including method of approach of, and securing oiler, hose used and weather experienced during previous trial. (R.A.S.A.D. 1743Z/12 to Admty.)

223A

OUT.

To. C. in C. South Atlantic. 237. Repeated H.M.S. ALCA.

Date. 12/8/41.

P/L BY T/P.

From Admiralty.

SHCRET.

Reference Admiralty Message 1207A/12 it has been decided to defend Bathurst with a controlled minefield across the entrance to Northward of Barra Point and later a type G A/B Boom may be laid when material and laying craft become available. The minefield will consist of 2 guard and 8 mine loops.

Details have been supplied to H.M.S. ALCA but may be modified to meet local requirements.

Instructions for survey have been sent by mail to H.M.S. CHALLENGER now at Bathurst.

The field is to be laid by H.M.S. SNAKEFLY with material and personnel provided by base ship ALCA.

Watchkeeping personnel are also in ALCA but Lieutenant Commander Passmore will be required to assist. H.M.S. SNIKEFLY is to be sailed from Freetown as convenient to rendezvous ALCA at Bathurst. Further instructions for ALCA and SNAKEFLY will be signalled later.

12084/12.

P.T.M. (692).

1st Lord. R Sailing order for H.M.S. ALCA. 1st S.L. 2nd S.L. 4th S.L. V.C.N.S. (F) NAV. SEC. N.A. 1st S.L. $M_{\bullet}(4)$ P.A.S.(S) Ops.(4) O.D.(5) O.D.8 D. B. D. D of S. D. T. M. D of L.D. (3) D of P (3) D.P.S.(2) D.S.D.(2) D. T. M. D of S.) Bath S.W.R. I.P.(3) Hydrog. D. D. O. D. (M) W. D. D.M.S. Basement. D.N.I.(4) O.I.C.(2)

Jin

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

PROTECTOR (torpedoed by A/C 11/8,)

Your 2016/11. PROTECTOR in tow of SALVIA, P.C. and S. 161, 32° N. 32° E. 16, 090° 5 knots. PEONY and RAGLAN CASTLE in company. Consider HERO unnecessary. E.T.A. Port Said 0600C. tugs required. (FLAMINGO, 0015C/12 to C. in C. Med.)
Return to Alexandria. (C. in C. Med. 0229C/12 to HERO.)
FLAMINGO'S 0015C/12. Am returning Alexandria E.T.A. 0945. (HERO 0230C/12 to C. in C. Med.)
Arrival Port Said 12 PROTECTOR. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal 2231C/12 to Admty. etc.)

NEPTUNE.

Enemy torpedo a/c were operating 40 miles from Port Said yesterday. (C. in C. Med. 0910C/12 to NEPTUNE.)

Alexandria Raid. Alexandria air raid at 0340. One enemy, three bombs, three persons and two houses injured. (R.A. Alexandria, 09280/12.)

Port Said Shipping.

Movement of Shipping North from Port Said is being held up pending description from PROTECTOR of nature of attack on her. (S.B.N.O. Suez 0930C/12 to C. in C. Med.)

Suez Raids.
PROTECTOR
torpedoed.

About 15 enemy a/c attacked Suez Zone night 10/11. I ship slightly damaged at Suez, where mines believed dropped.

Day 11/8. 2 enemy a/c attacked PROTECTOR with torpedoes 30 miles off Port Said. 2 Beaufighters despatched to escort vessel into Port Said returning owing to darkness. Night 11/12. About 9 enemy a/c attacked Suez Canal Zone. Telephonic communication cut but believed bombs dropped on Port Said and Ismailia, 4 aircraft damaged, several stores buildings destroyed at Abu Sueir. 1 Airman killed, 9 others wounded, further 1 aircraft dropped 3 bombs on Alexandria, damage believed slight. (H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. 1036/12.)

Benghazi bombed. Night 10/11. 36 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi starting explosions and many large fires in quays and in area behind central and Cathedral Moles. 5 Albacores bombed MT workshops at Bardia. (H.Q.R.A.F.M.E. 1047/12.)

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

P.32 operates on coast E. of 013° 30' S. of 033° 10' from a.m./14. (S.0.(S) Malta, 1121B/12 to P.33.)

Vichy
Convoy.

3 French Ships passing 041° 35' 010° 00' about 0001/14 and Messina about 1000/16. They are not to be attacked. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1131B/12 to 0.23, 0.24, URGE.) See also 1720/12.

SULLBERG. Left last night 0017. (Valencia 1200/12 to German) M. of W.T.)

Syria. Policy re Jebel Druse. (Spears Mission, Syria, to C.in C.M.E. 1230/12.) See Lion Copy.

Abu Sueir
Raid 12/8 on Abu Sueir aerodrome 0330-0506.

No service casualties. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1311C/12 to Admty. etc.)

ATLAS. Departure 11/8 Marseilles. (Cartagena, T.H.I. (German) 1345/12 to M. of W.T.)

S/M's. (? TETRARCH) will not operate in Aegean. (Capt. S.1. 1450C/12 to THRASHER.)

Malta Raid.

Night 11/12. 9/8 Raiders over, bombs damaged a Warehouse. No casualties.

11/8. 6 Blenheims Target Crotone (?Cotrone)
Chemical Works, 3 attacked target. Many direct bombed.

hits caused great damage to tanks and containers, target left in flames. 3 Blenheims lost way and attacked Cariati. Many buildings destroyed.

Night 11/12. 5 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli Harbour for 12 hours. Steady fire seen near Power Station where large building destroyed.

(H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1600/12.)

Ammunition.

Your 1302C/6. Concur in your intended arrangements. My 1117B/19/5 is not intended to convey a contrary sense. It was sent at a time when it was immediately necessary to consider consequences of successful enemy action. In view of changed conditions and your expressed intentions my 1117B/19/5 is cancelled. (D.G.D. 1605A/12 to C. in C. Med.)

T SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE IN 1230/12/August

From Spears Mission, Syria, Date 12.8.41.

civie or all particle who was west Recd. 2200.

CYPHER. OF THEORY WAS TO SEE THE SEE

Addressed C. in C. Mideast, Repeated G.O.C. Palestine and Transjordon, The War Office.

IMMEDIANE.

34882.

Spears 34 cipher 11/8 for Cairo.
Spears 35 cipher 11/8 for Milpal.
Spears 36 cipher 11/8 for Spears Mission.

14 Sounding to they the 1220 to

Mideast pass to Embassy Cairo for Minister of State, Milpal, for General Wilson, Troops for Spears Mission.

Personal from General Spears.

Subject; JEBEL DRUSE.

General Catroux and in conformity with General Wilson's views that:

(a) The Free French and British Garrisons should be simultaneously withdrawn within a week or a fortnight,
(b) That the Free French should leave a company

for a further fortnight Soueida to show the flag.

(c) That the British raised Druse Squadrons should be disbanded under conditions that would satisfy the Melamkhb. The withdrawal of the Free French Garrisen is dependent upon this being done.

2. Steps were completed the French would only be represented in the province by (a), a political officer, (b), the French Commander Jebel Druse Squadron.

3. The British would be represented by a liaison officer attached to the French political officer

4. General Catroux announced his intention of granting greater liberty to the Druses by: who had hitherto resided in the district.

Emir's decrees to be counter-signed by the French political officer whose role henceforth was to be purely advisory.

These measures some of which were only accepted after considerable discussion, were deemed to be satisfactory on the whole. General Wilson had previously stated he believed peace might be maintained if both French and British troops were withdrawn.

(b) That the lift contd/ 100. A single contdition that contdition the single contdition that contdition the contdition that contdition that contdition appears that heading contditions.

teps were employed the French would be a service to (a), a political or the province for (a), a political or the transfer domain that the distributions of the province domain that the distribution is the province domain that the distribution is the province domain that the distribution is the province domain that the province domain the province domain that the province domain the province domain that the province domain that the province domain that the province domain that the province domain the province domain that the province domain that the province domain t

- 6. General Catroux subsequently let it be known that he did not intend being bound by Clause 1 (b) above. He stated his intention of maintaining a French company in the district indefinitely.
 - 7. In the absence of both Generals de Gaulle and Catroux, I informed the latter's representative that if this breach in the agreement were persisted in I thought it highly improbable that we on our side would be justified in carrying out its remaining clauses.
 - A single French company in that dangerous country might well prove to be an irresistible temptation to the tribes to attack it.
 - Under these circumstances the British Military Command would probably feel it necessary to maintain a brigade in the district to insure that there was no disorder on what is, after all, a vital line of communication.
- 10. In my submission, it is also evident, though I did not dare to emphasise this, for the French are hardly interested in this aspect of the problem, that to allow a situation to arise whereby we might be compelled to shoot our good friends the Druses because of a question of Free French amour propre would be an act of folly. I am not in a position to judge what the repercussions of such an episode would be in the Arab world, but they would surely be considerable and very unfavourable.
- 11. It was somewhat naively told that as the Druses and especially the ruling Atrash family looked to the British for a lead so we should make it our business to keep them quiet. I pointed out that it was illogical to clamour for the withdrawal of our political officer, to protest against our keeping in touch with any native elements, and in the same breath to demand that we should hold in leash the restive and dangerous Druses.
- 12. I feel bound to reiterate the warning that there are those amongst the Free French from whom I cannot exclude de Gaulle who would not be averse to a breach with the Druses so as to re-assert French as against British authority. One factor mitigating against this tendency is the dispersion of their troops all over the country which the Free French deem necessary to assert their prestico. They may realise the lack of wisdom in running the risk of trouble in the area which must result in drawing to it forces which would then no longer be available to advertise the Tricolour in scattered districts.

1230/12.

Recd. from War Office P.M. 13th.

N.A. 1st S.L.

 1st Lord.
 D.N.I. (4)

 1st S.L.
 D.O.D. (F)

 V.C.N.S.
 D.D.O.D. (F)

 A.C.N.S. (F)
 Duty Capt.

 P.A.S. (S)
 Hd. of M.

 Hd. of M. D. of P. (2)

D.D.I.C. Admiral Chalmers. I.P. (2)

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Famagusta Raid. Famagusta raided 0940 by 3 Savoia 81 or Cant 1007B. Difficult visibility. Medium height. Shore Battery did not open. DELPHINIUM arrived here (?arrives) about 20th. Fighters up but did not intercept. War effort unaffected. One schooner laden benzine and ready to sail damaged. Cargo being disembarked. In my opinion operation of fighters of R.A.F. detachment covering Famagusta is bound to be prejudiced until direct operational line is established between R.A.F. H.Q. Nicosia and detachment. (N.O.I.C. Famagusta, 1613/12 to C. in C. Med.)

TAKU.

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for et.

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of

Intend TAKU to leave Alexandria 1930C/13 for Rothesay in accordance with Admty. 1856B/6. V.A. Malta and F.O.C.N.A. are requested to -provide onward routeing instructions. (Capt. S.1. 1630C/12 to C. in C. Med.)

Operation "Guillotine"

My 1147/9. On completion sloops 20 P and 21 P, JACKAL and KIPLING are to proceed to Port Said. N.O.I.C. Haifa pass to H.Q. P. and T.J.) (C. in C. Med. 1716C/12 to S. and A. Operation "Guillotine".)

Vichy Convoy.

Convoy of intermed Vichy occupied ships ex
Beirut will leave Iskanderun 15/8 for Dardanelles.
Convoy will be escorted throughout by Turkish
Naval Auxiliary SUS and will be joined off
Smyrna by Turkish gunboat NIZIR REIS. Both ships
will fly Turkish Flags which will also be displayed on deck in two places. Convoy will keep
to Turkish Territorial waters and should not be
molested. (C. in C. Med. 1720C/12 to Med.
Fleet amended 1730C/13.)

M.L.C. carrier.

The fast M.L.C. carrier is considered a most suitable craft for operations in Eastern Med. and it is requested that one may be sent in lieu of 11 knots M.L.C. carrier and oiler, or if latter has sailed, in addition thereto. (C. in C. Med. 1802C/12 to Adty.)

MAURO CROCE Olive Oil.

Spanish Intelligence Service informs me reliable source reports Barcelona Authorities ordered to ship Five Million Litres refined Olive Oil to Italians. Italian S.S. MAURO CROCE probable vessel. (N.A. Madrid, 1805/12 to D.N.I.)

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Syrian Ports.

Re control and use of. (C. in C. M.E.1820/12.) See Lion Copy.

Suez Raid

My 1319C/11 and 1905C/11, ref. C.A.F.O. 587.

(a) 11/8 calm clear. (b) three wave attack mainly on American shipping at Attaqa Suez with other attack on Kabret and Shauoufa carried out by about 15 a/c high level and dive bombers, no flares, bright moonlight. (c) H.E. bombs incendiaries and mines. (d) all H.E. explosive and incendiaries, unknown. One parachute mine at kilos 129.7 500 yards west of channel, one suspected mine Suez Bay. (e) No naval damage or casualties slight engine room damage (?to) IBERVILLE due to (?unknown) D/A bomb exploding (?at) OOll close proximity ship. (f) A/A guns in action. (g) balloons flying 3200 feet. (k) CARLISLE attendant. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1833C/12.)

Service Personnel, Convoy. Proposals in P.S.T.O. Egypt's 1105/11 do not appear to clear requirements in your 1450/6 and F.O.I.C. Simonstown's 1159/8. If an escorted convoy leaves Suez about 25/8 the majority of the ratings who will be relieved by arrivals from PULASKI could be included. Suggest NOVA SCOTIA should sail unescorted with maximum numbers allowed by A.M. 1744B/16/7 and that a convoy be formed consisting of ARUNDEL CASTLE ex W.S.9 (B), and if necessary MONARCH OF BERNUDA and ORONSAY. Request your proposals. (D.O.D.(F) 1921A/12 to C. in C. Med.)

TORBAY report.

For R.A.F. Two store ships, one damaged, arrived p.m. today. Last air raid produced large oil fuel fires. For TRIUMPH. Enemy use and sweep 311° channel. Intend watching this for returning ships until dusk/14. A/S measures increased. (TORBAY, 2059C/12 to Capt. S.1.)

COVENTRY.

Return forthwith to Alexandria. N.O.I.C. Palestine Ports pass to H.Q. P. and T.J. (C. in C. Med. 2138C/12 to COVENTRY.)

Soviet Forces.

Berthoud, British oil export, on recent visit to Sebastopol was impressed by discipline and efficiency of Soviet fleet and air arm. He was convinced claim to have sunk enemy submarine was well founded. (D.N.I. 2232A/12 to C. in C. Med.)

OST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN

1820/12th August.

FROM: C. in C. Middle East.

Date: 14.8.41. Recd: 1315.

CYPHER.

ADDRESSED: The War Office.

35356. 91077 Cipher 12/8.

(Following Signal addressed Mideast (pass to Embassy as Tel.No.32) Troopers repeated Spears Mission London as Tel.No.33 repeated Milpal from Spears Mission Syria unnumbered T.O.O. 1430 11/8.

Para. One. Rear Admiral Lewinlie Grohoit informed Minister of State that C. in C. (One Group) considered it necessary to retain complete control of Syrian Ports including Naval Wireless Stations. The Admiral state, and this is confirmed by Capt. Morse that present arrangements are satisfactory in these respects.

Para. Two. (Apparently?) Belcher discussed matter with General Catroux the latter agreed that Navy should continue to use Syrian Ports as a base for Naval operations against enemy, and continue to enjoy their present facilities there including the use of wireless. If the Free French Navy should at any time require any facilities additional to (One Group) they at present enjoy the necessary adjustments would be made between General Catroux and British Authorities. It was further agreed with General Catroux the question of our security in Syrian Ports was already largely covered by existing security agreements, but that a special commission should be set up consisting of representatives of Free French Authorities, and of British Naval and Military Authorities, to consider a Special (5 corrupt Groups) Naval Authorities.

Para Three. The ab approval by Gen. Catroux. The above Formula under final

Para Four. Copy of telegram has been given Capt. Morse for C. in C.

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

lst Lord. lst S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(F) N.A.1st S.L. P.A.S.(S) D.O.D.(F) D.D.O.D.(F) D.D.O.D.(F)

Recd by Hand from War Office at 1755/15.

D. of P.(2)
Duty Capt.
D.D.I.C.
Hd. of M.
D.S.D.
D.A/S.W.
Admiral Chalmers.
W.D.

MLC.

228A

MESSAGE

SECRET.

From C. in C. Middle East.

IN 1935/12 August.

Date 14.8.41.

Recd. 1720

CIPHER

Addressed War Office.

35526. 91062 cipher 12/8.

Your 75223 (Q(Ops)) 30/6.

For Q.M.G. from I.G.

1. Programme of transportation development now decide on and will be communicated in a later cable.

2. Akaba and Maan. Following developments will proceed as rapidly as possible. Lighter wharf at Akaba to incorporate basin for protection of lighters against Southerly wind. Improvement of road Akaba to NAQB Ashtar for ten ton lorrics. Rail connection 105 C.M. Naqb Ashtar Maan. Possible site exists at Akaba for deep water quay for two ships but do not propose to proceed with this for the present in view of other important coumitments. Colin white suggests ropeway up the steep rise to Naqb Ashtar to save road transport. Am enquiring into this but the proposal will involve extra handling and may not reduce the turn-round of lorries materially. Capacity of development proposed will depend on locos and rolling stock available. May be possible to work up to 300 tons a day without additional locos and wagons provided some reduction is accepted in clearance from Haifa. This would be probable as I visualise Akaba as an alternative to Haifa. By provision of additional locos and wagons total tonnage up to 600 tons a day might be cleared but this I consider a maximum.

The dot favour further railway development from Eritrea to the Sudan. Gap Biscia - Arimsn' though only 65 miles will require 3000 feet of bridging with spans from 30 to 200 feet plus large number of culverts curvature and grade will be severe and some heavy rock work will have to be done. Conversion of mountain sections of Britrean Railways from 95 C.M's to three feet six inches is impracticable. Apart from sharp curves every tunnel and cutting will have to be widened. Agat is probably furthest point to which three feet six inches gauge could be carried. Present rolling stock capacity is only 150 tons a day from Massawa to Agat. To increase to maximum line capacity of 720 tons require 153 locos and 700 wagons which would have to be specially built. Ultimate result of all this labour will be to pour more traffic on to the Nile Valley route which as suggested in my cipher 88795 5/8 should be primarily used to clear Port Suda

1935/12

* No trace in War Registry.

1st Lord. 1st S.L. 4th S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(F). Nav. Sec. N.A.1st S.L. Ops. (4) O.D. (5). C.C.L.S. C.I.C.(3). Received via Cdr. Griff

D. of P (3). (D. of P.) from War
Office at 1525/17/8

E.P.S.
D.N.I.(4).
I.P.(3).
W.D.
D.P.D.

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Situation Report.

"A" Lighter No.14 mined and sunk in Tobruk Harbour. 37 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi night 10/11. No further report of enemy supply ship. (C. in C. Med. 2344C/12 to Admty.)

East Indies.

LEANDER.

Following programme for LEANDER has been approved subject to your concurrence as regards visits to Australian Ports. (C. in C.E.I. 0646Z/12 to N.Z.N.B.)

C.M.15.

Cancel my 1523Z/11. Convoy has returned during the night owing to engine room defects to NIEUW AMSTERDAM. (N.O.I.C. Durban 0654Z/12 to C. in C.E.I.) See 1647/12, 2313/12.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Your 1105/11. Escort can be made available from Aden on 21/8. Relief escort will be provided from Mombasa to Durban. Request you will sail NOVA SCOTIA for Aden. Suggest ship calls at Mombasa opportunity being taken to convey personnel to East Africa and onwards to Durban. (C. in C.E.I. 0704Z/12 to D.S.T.O. Egypt.)

R.I.N.ships for Med. ADRIA. My 0625/11. Suggest S.S. ADRIA be considered, at present employed on Bombay Basra run now loading at Karachi. This also replies to D.S.T.2337/10 to P.S.T.O.I. (F.O.C. R.I.N. 1110Z/12 to C. in C.E.I.)

GIORGIOS AVEROFF.

My 1547B/26 Greek N.A. has informed Admty. that AVEROFF will be ready for sea and to carry out patrols in Indian Ocean by 20/8. (A.C.N.S.(F) 1524A/12 to C. in C.E.I.)

C.M.15.

CORNWALL escorting convoy C.M.15 sailed.
E.T.A. position (h) C. in C.E.I. 0546Z/4 is 1400Z/19. CORNWALL intends leaving convoy at Perim. (N.O.I.C. Durban 1647Z/12 to C. in C.E.I. etc.)
My 1804/11, amend para.(2) to read 1700Z/12 and para (12) Suez due 22/8. (N.C.S.O. Durban 1728Z/12 to Admty. etc.)

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies. - Contd.

Large Liners, Suez. For information of other addressees, C. in C. Med's 1156C/10 states inadvisable for giant liners to visit Gulf of Suez during moonlit periods. Suggest you consider informing N.O.I.C. Durban that convoy which his 0654Z/12 reports as delayed should sail by 15/8 in order that disembarkation may be completed by 31/8, even if this entails omitting NIEUW AMSTERDAM. (A.C.N.S.(F) 2313A/12 to C. in C.E.I.)

China.

MOSEL.
(German)
FUSIJAMA.
(Italian)

Press message from Saigon suggests these ships which left Bangkok will make for Saigon. Both believed to have had a Thai Customs official on board when they escaped. (D.S. 707, 12/8.)

Thailand. Japan.

F.E.W. 43. Thailand. No demands for military concessions believed yet made. British efforts being made to relieve acute oil shortage. Indo China. Possibly 8 air Squadrons (4 fighter 4 bomber) now in country.

Japan. Japanese shipping services still further reduced. (C.O.I.S. Singapore 08212/12.)

French Ships. Arrival 12/8 KHAI DINH, GOUVERNEUR GENERAL PASQUIER. (Saigon 0945Z/12.)

America and West Indies.

ASAMA MARU.

My 1924Z/11. ASAMA MARU reported 1500/9 041° N. 176° W. steaming West. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 0006Z/12 to Capt. O.S. Singapore.)
Sailed Honolulu 1/8 due San Francisco 6/8.
C.O.P.C. reports several successive bearings obtained indicate ship returning to Japan.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa 0515/12 to Capt. O.S. Singapore.)

/NEWCASTLE

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America and West Indies - Contd.

NEWCASTLE MANCHESTER FIREDRAKE.

Can I be given approx. dates of arrival? (B.A.R.M. 0912R/12 to Admty.)

DESPATCH FORMIDABLE. My 22120/9. Leave patrol at your discretion after passing NORDENEY's farthest back position and return to Bermuda. If necessary to fuel My 2212Q/9. and return to Bermuda. If necessary to fuel before parting company from Oiler BISHOPDALE, vicinity of 007° N. 050° W. appears suitable from weather chart. Instruct BISHOPDALE to R/V with FORMIDABLE in 007° N. 050° W. at 0900 G.M.T./19 to fuel her. 2500 tons required, FORMIDABLE's attention is being called to method of fuelling stern on. On completion fuelling Oiler BISHOPDALE proceed to Trinidad. (C. in C.A.W.I. 0952Q/12 to DESPATCH.)

St. John's N.F.

B.A.D. Washington's 1941R/10 to Admiralty only, and C.C.N.F's 1408Z/10, and related signals. Requirements outlined in my 0225B/5/7 still hold and scheme to provide them should proceed by stages in accordance with my 2208B/25/7. (Head of M. 1600A/12 to B.A.D. Washington etc.)

Mortier Bay.

Your 1429Z/2/7. Decided not to proceed with project of erecting a D.F. Beacon, shore D.F. Station and shore W.T. Station at entrance N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.)

T.C.12 B.

Composition, escort, route. (A.C.N.S.(H) to R.A.3, 1926A/12) See Lion Copy.

LE TRIOMPHANT. Following information provided this A.M. by Italian M/Vs. Master of U.S.A. ship ALCOR PILOT boarded at ALCOR 3 Italian M/V's were in Rio de Janeiro PILOT. 24/7, one of which was to sail shortly for Hamburg with large cargo. My position 024° 15' N. 069° 54' W. (LE TRIOMPHANT 1705Q/12 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

/A.M.C's

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 1926A/12th August. Our

MANTELLES REVENGE (mandes 1133/13) Date: 12.8,41. To: R.A.3.638.

C. in C. Western Approaches. 207. Repeated: C.C.N.F.

A.C.I.C. 873.

C.O.A.C.
N.S.H.Q. 348
F.O.i/c. Liverpool,
F.O.i/c. Greenock,
F.O.i/c. Belfast.

C. in C. America and West Indies. 710 R.A.(D) Home Fleet. 806. C. in C. Home Fleet. 346.

NAVAL CYPHER (A.1) ONE TIME.

From: Admiralty.

Convoy T.C. 12 B composed of:-

DOMINION MONARCH

STRATITEDIN

IMPRESS OF RUSSIA

ORDITA.

Carrying Military personnel will leave Halifax on August 25th.

- 2. Speed of slowest ship 14 knots.
- 3. Ocean Escort from Halifax to the United Kingdom will be provided by H.M.S. REVENGE.
- 1./1. Escort. one a/a cruiser from the vicinity of Iceland(C)
- 5. 1/S Escort will be provided by 6 destroyers throughout.
- 6. R.A.3. is requested to sail and route convoy to pass through pos. "A" in approximately 50 degs. N. 48 degs. W. stating estimated time of arrival at this position. Admiralty will adjust post "A" as necessary and issue onward route to Clyde.
- 7. C. in C. Western Approaches is requested to (a) arrange for destroyer escort throughout, Fuelling inward escort at Iceland as necessary to meet at R/V "X". (b) Provide A/A cruiser to escort from R/V"Y". (c) arrange R/Vs. "X" and "Y".

192611/12.

for D.O.D.(H)

Approved A.C.N.S.(H)

A.C.N.S.(T)(2) D.D.O.D.(F) D.C.(2) W.D.
N.A.1st S.L. D.T.D.(2) I.P.(2) D.M.S.
D.O.D.(H) D.T.D.(M) D. of P(3)Hd. of M
D.D.O.D.(H) D.A/S.W. D.S.D. E.P.S.
D.O.D.(F) D.D.I.C.(2) D. of L.D.N.I.D.36 1st Lord. lst S.L. V.C.N.S. D.O.D.(H) A.C.N.S.(H) D.D.O.D.(H) A.C.N.S.(F) D.O.D.(F)

12.8.1941. Tuesday

FOREIGN STATIONS

America & West Indies-Contd.

A.M.C's Iceland Service. Your 2234A/11. Number of personnel requiring passage will not decrease, therefore essential to maintain present sailing at 5 days' interval. Assumed A.M.C's will continue to sail in H.X. and O.N. convoys for A/S protection which will entail cycle of approx. 26 days. To meet these requirements minimum of nine A.M.C's will be necessary to allow for refit and seagoing repairs. If A.M.C's are sailed independently seven would be sufficient. (F.O. 3 B.S. 1709P/12 to Admty.)

MARISTON

Gases from cargo exploded hatches blown, some personnel injured, hospital. (C.O.A.C. 1801Z/12 to Admty. for Lloyds.)

Dutch Shipping. My 1002Q/7/6. Dutch PRINSES JULIANA continues to sail between Paramaribo and Cayenne, last two trips having been made 23/6 and 27/7. In view of your 1722B/20/5 request information whether these visits are concurred in by Dutch Govt. (C. in C. A. and W.I. 1812Q/12 to Admty.)

HESPERUS

C.C.N.F's 1824Z/11. HESPERUS capable of ordinary convoy duty but requires early attention. (A.C.I.C. 2013/12 to C. in C. A.W.I. C.C.N.F.)

Australia

Convoys

Routes and escorts, Australia to Singapore. (A.C.N.B.,0924Z/12 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

Minesweepers

Your 0121/15/12/1940. Four Australian M/S have now been turned over to U.K. viz. BATHURST, LISMORE, GOULBURN, and BURNIE. In view of present situation, proposed that following Australian M/S now in commission should remain in Australian waters, viz. BENDIGO LITHGOW, MARYBOROUGH, MILDURA. BENDIGO and MARYBOROUGH which are fitted for U.K. will be relieved in due course by 2 Australian ships WARRNAMBOOL and DELORAINE. (A.C.N.B., 1445Z/12 to Admty.)

OST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 0924Z/12 August

From Australian Commonwealth Naval Board DATE 12,8,41.

REC'D 3535

Naval Cypher D by Cable

Addressed Admiralty Repeated C. in C. China, C. in C. Bast Indies, New Zealand Naval Board, C. in C. Far Leev.

IMPORTANT

430 Your 1640 26 and your 1847 B.I.

- Proposal regarding Indian Ocean Convoy confirmed, (a)
- One 16 inch Cruiser available for escort in Indian Ocean, (b)
- (c) Monthly Convoy to Singapore includes supply ship, Fettering tanker and Dutch Vessels assembling Melbourne.
- (d) It is assumed C. in C. China will arrange inclusion of Dutch Ships and tanker joining Convoy from Netherlands East Indies to Australian Waters.
- Admiralty 1847 B/I Paragraph 4. All shipping will be (e) eventually routed South about Australia. Shipping bound Lustralia to continue voyage if East of 120 degs. Hast: If West of 120 degs. east to be diverted to Fremantle. Shipping bound Malayan port if last of 120 degs. dast to be diverted South of Timor and/or Java.

C. in C. China pass to C. in C. Far East.

09247/12

Advance copy sent to Duty Captain, D.O.D.(F) D.T.D.

1st Lord lst S L. 2nd S.L. uth S.L. V.G.N.S. V.G.N.S. (H)
A.C.N.S. (F)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
N.A lst S.L.
D. of P. (2)
D.O.D. (H)
L.D.O. (E)
L.C.D. (T)
D.D.O.L. (F)
LtN.L. (4)
L.S.D. I.S.D. D. N. A. D.

D. of L.D. D. 1/8. W. D.M.S. I.P. (2) W.D. Duty Captain Head of M. D.T.S.D. D.G.D. D. D. I.C. E.P.S. D.T D. (2) N. I.D. 10 (Paymaster Cdr. Wilson)

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

HORN SHELL (torpedoed 27/7.)

Nothing further heard. Presumed total loss. Torpedoed at 0100B/27 in 33.23 N., 22.18 W., 265' W., by N., of Madeira. (D.S. 707, 12/8.)

Submarines Reported.

1950Z/11. German U-Boat vicinity of 036° 40' N., 011° 00' W., at 1950Z/11 . (F.O.C.N.A. 0037A/12 to N.A. Stn.)

2308 G.M.T. By D/F at 2308 G.M.T. U.boat in 50° 30' N., 14° 30'W. (D.D.I.C. 0049A/12.)

2217Z/11. 2217Z/11 German U-Boats in vicinity 037° 30' N., 011°00' W. (F.O.C.N.A., 0107A/12, to N.A.Stn.)

OO12 G.M.T. At OO12 G.M.T., German S/M bearing 297/2. (F.O.C.N.A., O145A/12, to N.A.Stn.)

OOl3 G.M.T.

H.G.70.

German U Boat has reported Convoy H.G.70 at
OOl3 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. Ol53A/12 to FAULKNOR,
AVON VALE.)

My Ol53A/12, further D/F bearings at 1025
G.M.T. indicate convoy H.G.70 is still being
shadowed by U Boat.
(D.D.I.C. 1225A/12 to AVONVALE, FAULKNOR.)
Estimated U/B dispositions. Six or more near
H.G.70 west of Cape St. Vincent.
(D.D.I.C. 1426A/12.)

P.C. and S., of 1 enemy S/M N.G.T. 0515 120 6 submerged 1426.

(A/C duty N., 1445B/12 to Hal Far.)

1318Z.1408Z.

D/F bearing between 1318Z/12 and 1408Z/12
indicate up to 12 U-Boats operating between
50° N., to 56° N., and 15° W., to 25° W.
(D.D.I.C. 1731A/12.)

1857G.M.T....

12.8.1941. Tuesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported Contd.

1857 G.M.T.. Italian S/M made enemy sighting report bearing 285° class one at 1857 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A. 2029A/12 to N.A. Stn.)

My 0153A/12 and 1225A/12. Further D/F bearings obtained between 1857/12 G.M.T. and 1942/12 G.M.T. indicate that convoy H.G.70 is being shadowed by 2 or more U-Boats.

(D.D.I.C. 2143A/12 to FAULKNOR, AVONVALE.)

Two German U-boats made enemy sighting report at following times and bearings from Gibraltar (i) 1933 G.M.T., 300°/3 (ii) 1941 G.M.T. 280°/3.

(F.O.C.N.A., 2240B/12 to N.A. Stn., 2246B/12 to PARTHIAN.)

Submarines Attacked.

0750.

By Blenheim A/C C.1404 at 0750/12, 47.43 N.,
10.15 W., 250° Ushant 220', attacked with 2
A/S bombs. Co. 090° Stern still showing when
second bomb dropped. (D.S.708.)

Large U/Boat sighted on surface in 040° 24' N., 029° 51' W. Dived shortly afterwards. Am shifting patrol 100 miles north westward. (LONDON, 1410A/12 to F.O.C.N.A.)

My 1410A/12. U Boat bombed on surface by LONDON'S A/C and probably damaged at 1437A. (LONDON, 1601A/12 to FO.C.N.A.)

By SEVERN F.O.C.N.A. 2152B/12 amended 2346A/12. See Lion Copy.

MOST SECRET

From F.O.C. North Atlantic.

1

Date 13.8.41. Rocd. 0542.

NAVAL CYPHER 'X' BY W/T.

Addressed Admiralty Repeated F.O. (S). 328.

Following is amplification of my 2134 A ninth. At 0048A seventh SEVERN was on surface and sighted U Boat bearing 128 degs. range about 5,000 yards course of enemy fifteen degs. weather conditions were bright mean sea forty seven from North North West visibility good. SEVERN closed and fired four terpedoes at range of 4,000 yards on a 100 track, all terpedoes missed probably from ever-estimation of speed. SEVERN continued to close track and at Olol and 0102 fired one mark two terpedo on 115 deg. track parallel to swell. Three minutes and twenty six seconds after firing last terpedo there was a brilliant flash followed by a very heavy explosion. Being too rough to pick up survivors SEVERN dived to relead.

Para. two. Position of attack 34 48 North 13 4 West SQUALO of Identification uncertain but possibly CORRIDONI SANTAROSA class.

2152B/12. anented 2346A/12.

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

lst Lord lst S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S. (H) A.C.N.S. (F) Nav. Soc. N.A. lst S.L. D.O.D. (F) D.D.O.D. (F) D.D.O.D. (H) D.D.O.D. (H) D. of P. (2)
D.N.I. (4)
D.D.I.C.
Duty Capt.
D.A/S.W.
W.D.
I.P. (2)
F.O.(S) By Courior.

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

British Air Operations.

ll Wellingtons of Bomber Command attacked Le Havre last night with satisfactory results.

The weather severely curtailed operational flying today.

Enemy Air Operations.

S.S. NORBRITT was bombed and machine gunned today off Tod Head and had one casualty.

A.P. Trawler LIBERATOR is reported to have engaged an enemy aircraft off Aldeburgh about 2300 today, when last seen, the aircraft was heading east in flames, the trawler was not damaged

Lowestoft and Ramsgate were bombed last night. No Naval damage was caused.

Mining.

3 Aircraft laid mines off Hangesund last night.

Billothine

Faeroes schooner SJOBORG is reported to have been sunk at 1200 today in 61° 31' N., 5° 40' W, inside the prohibited area the existence of which was known to the skipper.

Enemy aircraft minelaying is suspected off Milford Haven.

Mines were detonated today off Liverpool and St. Ann's Head.

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Convoys.

It is intended to amend the cycle of North American convoys (O.N., O.N.(S), H.X., S.C.) The cycle of H.G. and O.G. convoys is also to be altered.

South Atlantic.

A Vichy convoy of 5 ships escorted by a Colonial class sloop was sighted at 0640Z today in 11° 21' N., 18° 9' W., steering 200°.

Mediterrane an.

0.24 operating in the western Mediterranean reports that she has sunk by torpedo a 5,000 ton fully laden supply ship (in 41° 47' N., 12° 5' E) and a sailing vessel believed 1,000 tons (in 41° 23' N., 12° 27' E).

Libya & Western Desert.

4 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli last night and reported the railway station destroyed.

H.M.S. KEPHALONIA (Schooner on Western Desert, service) foundered at 1300 today whilst carrying stores to Tobruk in 31° 7' N., 29° E., after springing a leak.

6 aircraft armed with bombs and torpedoes were despatched last night to attack a submarine reported in Bardia harbour and believed they damaged the enemy. Bardia town and Derna were also bombed.

Suez Canal

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Suez Canal Area. There was an air raid on the Canal area in the early hours of today. No damage to shipping or Naval damage occurred.

TARVISIO.

It is reported that Turkey has refused return passage through the Dardanelles for the Italian auxiliary TARVISIO which arrived at Chanak from the Aegean on 10/8. The vessel is reported by the Turks to be without arms.

HASTY reported being bombed at 0235 South of Crete. No details are known.

East Indies.

C. in C. E.I., reports that he has little doubt that French S/Ms are being used to run the blockade from Madagascar to Jibuti.

America & West Indies.

Investigation of the anchorage at Easter Island has failed to disclose the presence of a German raider which was reported on 26/7 to be lying up there awaiting spares carried by a Japanese ship.

Port Christobal, at the Atlantic end of the Panama Canal is now closed daily from 1800 to 0600.

U-Boat Campaign.

H.G. 70

Aircraft escort this morning attacked two shadowing U-boats, one large and one and 1, and considers he damaged both of them bady. The convoy is to be re-routed from 41° N., 15° 30' W.

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

MALAYA.

H.G.O.1. While MALAYA is attached to Home Fleet for working up she will form part of the 2nd B.S. and be administered by the V.A. 2nd in Cd. (C. in C. H.F. 1630A/13).

Convoy C.E.
45. AntiE-Boat
Measures.

A conference took place at Dover today to consider anti E Boat measures for C.E. 45.

2. Request following instructions may be given to escorts, minesweepers, and Commodore.

(a) Convoy not to be ahead of timetable until

Dumpton Buoy is passed.

(b) Balloons to be close hauled on passing Beachy Head unless air attack takes place.

(c) Stationing of escorts at dark is to be as follows.

3. If E-boats are detected or attack takes place destroyers are to concentrate forthwith and endeavour to chase. If M.L.'s part company to engage the enemy they are to keep clear of the convoy until daylight. (C. in C. Nore, 2124A/13 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Attempts by
Vichy Forces
to re-capture
British
Prizes.

My 1407/10/1 and my 0130/4/7. General Policy and clarification of details. (lst S.L. 2228A/13) See Lion Copy.

Co-operation with U.S.A.

Task Force 16. My 1045B/28/7. Remainder of Task Force sixteen comprising 1 Battleship, five destroyers, and four Fleet Auxiliaries left Iceland 1800 G.M.T./12 on reverse track for Point Cast. Speed of advance 14 knots. (D.O.D. H., 2347A/13).

Movements.

NT. L. W.D.

3/M 0.10.

Cancel my 1700A/12. (WESTERN ISLES, 0855A/13).

PROTEUS.

Have anchored undamaged 340° Baron Point 2 miles waiting for visibility to improve. (PROTEUS, 0930 A/13).

DUKE OF YORK.

A.M. 1857A/11 has been passed to C. in C. Rosyth. (D.O.D., H. 1200A/13).

THORN.

Intend sailing THORN 1200A/19. Request escort for passage to Clyde and during diving trials. Escort to R/V at Bar L.V. 1400A/19. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1203A/13).

THORN- EME

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE 2228A/13th August

OUT

TO:- C. in C. Western Ap roaches 250

C. in C. East Indies 581

C. in C. Mediterranean 535 Bl DATE: - 13.8.41.
C. in C. Home Fleet 374

NAVAL CYPHER (D)

FROM: - Admiralty

It is desired to clarify the following points in my 1407/10/1:-

- (a) Paragraph 3 (b) of my 1407/10/1 is superseded by my 0130/4/7. The general policy remains, to avoid hostilities with Vichy Forces so far as possible, but the risk of conflict arising from the execution of instructions in my 0130/4/7 is accepted.
- (b) Intervention of French Forces not decisively superior may now be contested by action when this is warranted by the nature of the Prize in dispute, and degree of risk to H.M. Ships. Consequently -
 - (i) If the caltured ship is unimportant, she should generally be sunk rather than attempt to drive off the French Forces:
 - (ii) The decision whether to dispute possession of a valuable Prize, or to sink, must depend on the circumstances, the risk of serious damage to H.M. Ships, the value of the particular Prize, and the chance of bringing the latter successfully into port being taken into account:
- (c) The instructions at (e) of my 0130/4/7 indicate that if the French Force is a decisively superior force, the action is to sink the merchant ship, presumably by gun fire or torpedo, having first ordered the merchant ship to abanda ship, and to wait until this has been done and the papers are safe. In view of the fact that this seems unlikely of achievement without action ensuing, action to sink should generally be by scuttling.

2228A/13

for Head of M. (808)

Approved by 1st S.L.

| lst Lord lst 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. lst S.L. | |
| P.A.S.(S) Naval Sec. | |
| D.N.I.(4) | |
| D.D.I.C. D.N.A.D. | |
| D.S.D.9. | |
| D.D.O.D.(H) | |
| 2,30,00,00.(11) | |

D.O.D.(F) D.D.O.D.(F) atty. 1245 A/14/8/41 W.D. D.T.D.(2) D.T.D.(M) D.H.W.D. Duty Captain Hd. of M.(30)(M/012072/41) D. of P.(2) D.T.S.D. I.P.(2) Admiral Chalmers N.I.D.10. Paym. Cdr. Wilson

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements.

THORN - Contd. Your 1203A/13. Escort will be provided and R/V at time stated. (S.3. 1642A/13 to R.O.I.C. Liverpool).

RENOWN. Speed is to be adjusted to anchor below bridge not before 0730A/14. (C. in C. H.F. 1208A/13 to RENOWN). Anchor in A.3 berth on arrival, proceeding B.6. berth when able to pass under Forth Bridge. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2242/13 to RENOWN).

Report whether HESPERUS is fit to escort RAMILLIES. (C. in C. W.A., 1436A/13 to A.C.I.C.) HESPERUS RAMILLIES. Reply. Yes. (N.O.I.C. Iceland(C) 1905/13).

Sailed from Lerwick at 1500 to 060° 5' N., 0° 40' W. thence routed through 060° 42' 30" N., 000° 18' W. S/M 0.14. (A.C.O.S., 1545A/13).

Steaming performances of VANQUISHER, WESTCOTT Steaming BIDEFORD, DEPTFORD, ANEMONE, AURICULA, BEGONIA, MARIGOLD and WALLFLOWER during past three months performances. reflect special credit on all concerned. (C. in C. W.A., 1631A/13).

REPULSE. ACTIVE may be delayed sailing until about two ACTIVE. INGLEFIELD. hours after REPULSE proceeds. INGLEFIELD is to remain with screen until relieved by ACTIVE. (R.A.D. H.F., 1755/13). Cancel my 2337/10. REPULSE P.V. chain carried away and ship will be delayed sailing until new one is rove when weather moderates. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2227/13). REPULSE delayed sailing. INGLEFIELD to commence boiler cleaning. (C. in C. Rosyth, 2242/13 to RENOWN).

Left Iceland 1800/12. (D.O.D. H., 2347A/13) See Co-operation with U.S.A. Task force 16.

Operations.

SOKOL SEALION.

POLICW).

(Operation Follow in force in Area 56 and in Area 54 and 55 both south of 46° 30' N.

(b) SEALION leave patrol through 46° N., 04° W. so as to carry out operation relies in Biscay north zone on 16/8. Note that all times quoted in the orders for operation to the proceed subsequently. prepared for one passenger. Proceed subsequently to Portsmouth as ordered by S.5 S.B.R. arranged in whole of area 54 and 55 east of 06° 30' W., from 0800/15 till 0200/18 (F.O.S., 1124A/13).

(a) SOKOL after passing 46° N., 06° W., proceed

to patrol in Bay of Biscay south zone. S.B.R.

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

ICE/W1 13/8. STANDARD covered from 0400 G.M.T. till 1600 G.M.T. BROOM and ROMAN covered. IMAGOG still not met. Datum GFYE 0000. (R.A.F., Iceland, 0120/13 to 15 Group)

Bombing operations over Germany.

On day 12/8. (H.Q.B.C., 0420/13) See Lion Copy. On night 12/13. (H.Q.B.C., 1429/13) See Lion Copy.

Halifax 11. A/C.

Halifax 11 Aircraft coming into service on 16/8/41. At first may be seen in North Western Areas. Description. Inform all Pilots and A.A. Defences. (V.A. N.A.S., 1216A/13).

Enemy Air Activity.

Lowestoft. bombed.

Lowestoft bombed by single A/C at Ol51A. A to D. nil, (N.O.I.C. Lowestoft, 0229A/13).

Ramsgate bombed.

At 2359A/12 and again at 0025A/13. A number of bombs were dropped at Ramsgate. No damage to Admiralty personnel or property. (N.O.I.C. Ramsgate 0315A/13).

EAGLESCLIFFE My 2312/2. Fire extinguished. Entered Sunderland 0600(F.O.I.C. Tyne, 0605/13).

VOLESUS (Trawler) (Trawler) damaged.

VOLESUS and EMPIRE FISHER attacked by Single aircraft, Heinkel 111, in 063° N., 005° 50' W., at 1350A/12. One serious casualty in EMPIRE attacked. at 1350A/12. One serious casualty in EMPIRE EMPIRE FISHER which was slightly damaged. No casualties or damage in VOLESUS. (N.O.I.C. Faeroes, 0955A/13).

Unknown Vessel.

AAAA Four Miles off Aberdeen. (Lyness, T.O.R. 1409/13).

NORBRITT (British 287 tons) attacked.

S.S. NORBRITT reports being attacked by one A/C in approx. 045°. Tod Head 5 miles. One casualty from Machine Gun. 5 bombs dropped. (F. O. I.C. Aberdeen, 1420/13).

A/C over Orkneys.

A/C was heard to cross Flow soon after 1421. Heavy low cloud. Not considered that A/C could have seen into Flow. (A.C.O.S., 1642/13).

LIBERATOR.

(M/S Trawler) Engaged an enemy A/C at about 2300/13 off Aldeburgh. No damage to Trawler, and A/C last seen heading East in Flames. (D.O.R., 13/8).

IN

From Headquarters Bomber Command.

Date. 13.8.41.

P/L BY T/P.

Recd. 0634.

Addressed Air Ministry War Room, Air Ministry War Room Z,
All Bomber Command Groups and Stations, R.A.F.
Headquarters Northern Ireland, Coastal Command
Repeated Admiralty.

Bomber Command Intelligence narrative of operations No. 171.

Covering period 1200 hrs. to 2359 hrs. 12 Aug.

Narrative of operations.

Day 12 Aug. With the object of hitting Germany at a vital point and forcing the withdrawal of short range fighters from the Eastern front in order to aid Russia a day bombing attack of good strength was carried out today on two of the main power stations in the Ruhr - The Goldenburgh at Cologne - Knapsack and the Quadrath Fortuna 1 and 11 at Cologne. In this major operation 72 bombers and 314 fighters were employed. The main trust comprised 54 Blenheims of 2 Group of which 36 aircraft were detailed for Knapsack and 18 on Quadrath Fortuna. The night before a good force of bombers of 1, 3, 4, and 5 Groups attacked targets in the Western Ruhr through the avenue of approach used by the day bombers in order to expand the enemy night fighter effort thus minimising the chance of their operating against our bombers today and these night operations were most successful.

At 1030 hrs. today a circus of 84 fighters escorting 6 Hampdens of 5 Group attacked deep into the Pas De Calais their objective being St. Omer Aerodrome to draw up the enemy force based in this area and it is estimated 150 ME. 109's were engaged in this combat whilst this attack was in progress the 54 Blenheims escorted by Whirlwinds of Fighter Command left the coast and flying low over the sea penetrated through the mouth of the Scheldt to Antwerp where the Whirlwinds having provided cover so far then returned to base A Fortress of 2 Group simultaneously attacked the Aerodrome at De Kooy with the object of employing enemy fighters whereabouts. The Blenheims meanwhile went in flying close to the ground and in favourable weather conditions located and attacked the two power stations previously mentioned.

From reports received both power stations were destroyed in most determined low level attacks both objectives being left a sheet of flame with dobris thrown high in the air after receiving the pleasing load of some 24 tons of bombs on the Turbine and Boiler houses. En route to and at the target some enemy fighter resistance was met. Three ME.109's were encountered. But these failed to press home their attack. Heavy flak was also encountered good photographs were taken. Simultaneously with this attack 2 Fortresses attacked Cologne and Emden the object of drawing off Fighters which might otherwise attack the returning Blenheims.

A wing of Spitfires navigated by a Blenheim of 2 Group met the bombers near Antwerp and escorted them down the Scholdt to the vicinity of Flushing. At Flushing the Blenheims were met by a further wing of Spitfires also navigated by a Blenheim and returned to Base.

.../During..

1 1 5 1

During this withdrawal another Circus Operation of 144
Fighters escorting 6 Hampdens of 5 Group carried out an
attack on the Gosnay Power Station. From the whole Operation
12 Blenheims are missing through flak and fighter action also
8 of our fighters. From preliminary reports 4 enemy aircraft
were destroyed 4 probables and 9 damaged.

Of the Diversionary Sorties 6 of the Hampdens on St. Omer attacked the Railway Line two and a half miles South results being unobserved and the other 6 Hampdens successfully bombed the Gosnay Power Station bursts being seen on and around the Target.

All 12 Aircraft returned safely.

Of the 3 Fortresses on Cologne, Emden and Dekocy bombs were dropped from 35,000 ft., 37,000 ft., and 32,000 ft., respectively but results unobserved owing to cloud.

Finally to wind up the Day's excellent proceeding 6 Blenheims of 2 Group with Fighter Escort set out to attack the Ship yard at Le Trait. Of these 2 Aircraft were forced to abandon but 4 bombed the Target direct hits being obtained on the Slipways and also on a Ship on the Southern Slipway. No flak or enemy Aircraft opposition was encountered.

For details see Summary of Operations No.171.

0420/13

Advance Copy Ops., O.D., O.I.C.

5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.G.N.S.(H).
N.A.1st S.L.
Ops.(4).
O.D.(5).
G.G.L.S.
O.I.C.(2).
D.N.I.(4).
D.P.D.
D.N.A.D.
D.M.S.
D.M.S.Basement.
D. of P.(2).
D.S.D.(2).
O.G.S.C.
W.D.

1st Lord.

N.P.

SECRET

M E S S A G E T.H.I. 1429/13 August

T.H.I. 1429/13

From Headquarters Bomber Command

DATE: 13.8.41 RECD: 1913

P/L BY T/P

Addressed Air Ministry War Room, Air Ministry War Room Z. All Bomber Command Groups and Stations, Headquarters R.A.F. Northern Ireland, Coastal Command, Repeated Admiralty.

NOTWT.

Bomber Command Intelligence Narrative of Operations No. 172

Covering period 0001 hrs to 1200 hrs 13th August. Narative of Operations.

Night. 12/13 Aug. A sudden deterioration in the weather reduced the strong force detailed by about 50 per cent, 223 aircraft of the Command finally set out on a wide selection of targets throughout industrial Germany, Berlin, Hanover, Essen and Magdeburg were the principal objectives and results so far received show that a good proportion reached and attacked their respective primaries in spite of adverse weather conditions.

Berlin. A force of 70 aircraft comprising 14 Wellingtons of 1 Group, 9 Stirlings, and 4 Wellingtons of 3 Group, 22 Wollingtons and 12 Halifax of 4 group and 9 Mancheste s of 5 group finally set out and 32 of them attacked their respective aiming points. Bursts were seen in the town and to the south and south west of aiming point and two large fires were still visible from a distance The only Wellington of 1 group which failed to return was able to signal that the mission had been completed and that the crew were O.K. and were baling out,

..... Hanover

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Handwer. 64 Wellingtons of 3 group and
10 Hampdens were originally detailed, 52 Wellingtons
and 14 Hampdens attacked the primary. As the attack
progressed so the weather rapidly worsened, but it did
not prevent the observation of many fires, some right
across the town and several to the west and north west
of aiming point, one particularly large fire was seen in
the centre of the town and was visible for over 50 miles.

Madgeburg. A number, so far unknown, of the 40 originally detailed were at the last minute transferred to Hanover, 19 eventually attacked the primary and many fires were seen as a result of the bombing.

Krupps work at Essen. 1 Wellington of i group.

22 Wellingtons and 3 Stirlings of 3 group and 2 Halifax

of 4 group set out but had great difficulty in locating the

aiming point owing to extremely bad weather conditions.

10/10 cloud and severe thunderstorms reduced visibility to

nil. Later aircraft were able to check their position by

the Rhine, and were also assisted by large fires already

started, but it was not possible, to pin point the bursts.

Le Havre. Weather was more favourable over this target and 1 Wellington of 1 group and 10 of 3 group attacked with satisfactory results. Bursts on and near docks, 4 10 and 7 caused good fires followed by a series of explosions.

Biclefeld. 1 Stirling of 3 group was detailed and attacked from 1000 ft, dropping 17 X 500 lb bembs on railway south of the town.

..../ Other

Other targets attacked. By aircraft mande to reach primaries included in some cases primaries allotted to other aircraft and they are summarised below.

1 Group. Hanover, Cologne, Duisburg,
Magdeburg by 5 Wellingtons, some results were unobserved
but good fires were started in the centre of Magdeburg.

3 Group. Aerodromes at Schipol, Sabzwedel, searchlight concentrations in the Emden area, and the centre of the town of Linden by 4 aircraft detailed for Hanover,

Krefeld, Hamm and Duisburg by 3 aircraft detailed for Essen, Boulogne Harbour by 1 aircraft detailed for Le Havre.

Brunswick, Stettin, Kiel and Gusten by 4 aircraft detailed for the Berlin Air Ministry. Soveral satisfactory results were observed.

4 Group. Kepenick, Bremon, Wittenburg.

Lumenburg and the aerodremes at Neuruppin and Den Helder

by 7 aircraft detailed for Berlin. Some reports are

still outstanding.

ted

ns.

5 Group. Osnabruck by 3 aircraft, Bremen by 2 aircraft and the following targets by 1 aircraft apiece:-

Wilhelmshaven, Emden, Lingen, a built up area between Brunswick and Magdeburg. A bridge 50 miles west

...../North

north west of Magdeburg, a factory in the Hanover area and an aerodrome south of Magdeburg.

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

1st Lord
5th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(H)
N.A. 1st S.L.
Cps (4)
C.C.L.S.
C.I.C.(2)
D.N.I.(4)
D.P.D.
D.N.A.D.
D.M.S.
D.M.S.
Basement
D of P (2)
D.S.D.(2)
O.C.S.C.
W.D.

IM

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Milford Haven.

Following from POZARICA passed to you for information begins. C. in C. W.A. repeated N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, SUTLEJ from POZARICA. Suspect possibility of enemy aircraft minelaying in vicinity of S.G. two buoy 0003A ends. (N.O.I.C. Milford Haven, 0143A/13 to STORK). Ground mine self-detonated in 101° St. Anns Head Light twelve cables. (F.O.I.C. Milford Haven. 1731A/13).

S.N. 70 A.

Propose sailing for operation S.N.70 A with SOUTHERN PRINCE, ADVENTURE, PORT QUEBEC, CASTLETON, CHARLESTOWN and NEWARK at 1630/18 and laying between following positions A.M.20th. Time of return to Port ZA 0530/22. Consider additional A/A support unnecessary but request operation may be covered against attack by surface vessel. (R.A.M., 1224/13).

Jettison of mines.

N.O. WELSHMAN's NO.03 of 25th July 1941 paragraph 6 (11) and A.L. M. 011702/41 of 5/8. Propose mines be jettisoned in Q Z S 243 itself in order to avoid ship leaving searched waters, and to avoid ship steaming against traffic. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1736/13).

Sweep of St. George's Channel.

All available ships of 9th and 13th. Minesweeping Flotillas are to be sailed under orders of S.O. so as to fix their position on old Head of Kinsale at Dawn 15/8.

Flotillas are then to carry out a 50% searching sweep on one side of a six mile wide channel, whose

centre line extends between.

(a) 51° 35' N., 08° 00' W.

(b) 51° 43' N., 07° 29' 30" W.

(c) 51° 58' N., 06° 15' W.

At dawn the following day, they are to sweep a second lap on the other side of the channel.

5. Even in the event of bad weather, every effort must be made to complete it by the night of 17/8.

7. C. in C. Plymouth is requested to arrange air protection during passage to and from and during protection during passage to and from and during this operation. (A.C.N.S. H., 1754A/13).

Liverpool.

1 magnetic mine detonated by L.L. in position 2½ miles 220° Bar Light Vessel at 1500A/13. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool, 1844A/13).

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Technical.

Recognition Signals.

Your 1450/8. Consider (1) impracticable owing to necessity for aircraft and minor war vessels to exchange recognition signals. (11) is therefore selected in order to safeguard private signals. (C. in C. H.F., 1232A/13 to Admty).

Casualties & Defects.

LOBELIA.

E.T.A. Greenock a.m./16. Both boilers salted up. Estimated time to make good and test 7 days. Dockyard assistance required. (WESTERN ISLES, 1815A/13).

Shipping & Convoys.

* EMPRESS OF CANADA.

Will return to Clyde 14/8 where she will have to disembark all personnel and most of her stores etc. Probable number to embark is 600. (D.S.T., 0216A/13 to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland.)

+W.S. 11.

My 0446/7. Due Clyde 14/8. with total of 1829 personnel. F.O.C.N.A.'s 1142/11 reports defects, and estimates three to four weeks required. If this confirmed vessel cannot be included in W.S.11. Request report whether this work is essential. (D.S.T., 0219A/13 to P.S.T.O., W. Scotland). Su 1328/13. P. 11.

-W.S. 11 EMPIRE PRIDE. BANFORA.

My 0446/7 and 0329/8 (Embarkation changes) EMPIRE PRIDE and BANFORA will not now be ready for inclusion in convoy W.S.ll. NORTHUMBERLAND (D.S.T., 0220A/13 to P.S.T.O. W. of Scotland).

My 0446/7. NORTHUMBERLAND due Liverpool about 17/8. with following personnel etc. on board. Request report as to sea speed which vessel will be able to maintain. Also confirmation that vessely will be ready for W.S.11. (D.S.T., 0221A/13 to D.S.T.O. Liverpool).

East Coast Convoys.

Code words allocated. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1121/13) See Lion Copy.

Force 111.

Movements intended for 13/8, EMPRESS OF CANADA, etc. (V.A.C.T.C., to EO.I.C. Greenock, 1018A/13). See Lion Copy.

H.X. 142. S.C. 39.

H.X. 142 and S.C. 39 are to split at 1600A/13. KEPPEL detail SABRE, SHIKARI, HEBE and HAZARD to transfer to H.X. 142. (C. in C. W.A., 1058A/13 to KEPPEL, BOADICEA).

SECRET

MESSAGE

1018/1/3th August

From V.A.C.T.C.

Date 13.8.41. Recd. 1200.

I/L BY T/T.

Addressed F.O.i/c Greenock. Repeated Admiralty, D.C.O., F.O.i/c Glasgow, S 7, C.in C. Western Approaches Commodore WESTERN ISLES, F.O.i/c Cardiff, D.S.T.O. Greenock, P.S.T.O. West of Scotland, Embarking Glasgow, N.O.i/c Ardrossan.

Intend that following movements shall take place

13th August.

1830 EMPRESS OF CANADA to Tail of Bank to disembark troops at Glasgow A.M/14.

Thurs. 14th August

0600

CITY OF LANCASTER to Tail of Bank IRIS to Loch Moydart Expected time of arrival 0900/15. T L C 28 to Tail of Bank and to Yorkhill Dock, Glasgow 0730 1200

to unload Military Stores and return Inverary on

completion Compass adjustment.
PRINSESS J. CHARLOTTE to anchorage off Troon Expected time of rrival 2100/14 1730 To sail for Cardiff 0700/16.

Fri. 15th August 0600 NIGERIAN to Tail of Bank

0700 ETTRICK to Tail of Bank 0800 FRINCESS BEATRIX to Tail of Bank Latter two ships to disembark troops at Gourock.

> 10181/13. Advance Copy Ops. Trade.

V.C.N.S. (H)

N.A.lst S.L.

Ops.(4) C.D.(5) O.I.G.(3) D. of P.(3) M.(3)

D.T.D. (C)

D. of S.T. D.T.D. (4) D.T.D. (M)

D. C. O.

D.T.S.D.(C 0) D.N.E.(C 0)

E.T.S. I.P.(3)

W.D.

DIC

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping & Convoys. - Contd.

AMSTERDAM. LADY OF MANN. Intend sailing with approx 1800 troops escorted by SOUTHDOWN at 0200/14. (route) E.T.A. Lerwick 1330/14. Request Air Protection. (N.O.I.C. Invergordon, 1159/13 to C. in C. Rosyth).

H.G. 70

Admiralty propose to re-route H.G.70 on course north from position 41.00 N., 16.30 W., provided air escort is available. Proposed that Home bases provide escort from position 43.50 N., 16.30 W. at 0200/15. Can you provide escort to latter position? (H.Q.C.C., 1245/13 to 200 Group) See also North Atlantic.

H.X.142.

Dispersal orders given in Admty 1443/29 para 4 are to be altered as follows. Departure position for South Atlantic Ships should read X and for Cabot Straits Y. (C. in C. W.A., 1246A/13 to RAMSEY for Commodore).

STRATHEDEN.

Sailed U.K./8/8 for Halifax with Service personnel on board, will be included in T.C. 12 B., for return voyage to U.K. (D.S.T., 1327A/13 to N.S.H.O. Ottawa).

W.S. 11.
PASTEUR,
ORONTES,
LEOPOLDVILLE.

My 6446/7. Most unlikely that PASTEUR can now be included in W.S. 11. Proposed that ORONTES be included. Her code number will be C.17. LEOPOLDVILLE will return to Clyde from D.S.10 about 28/8. and is being regarded as a reseved ship for W.S.11. (D.S.T., 1328A/13 to P.S.T.O., W Scotland).

Cycles.

For ON., O.N.(S), H.X., S.C., H.G. and O.G. Convoys. Alterations. (A.C.N.S. (T) 1400A/13 to C. in C. W.A., F.O.C.N.A., C.C.N.F.) See Lion Copy.

Convoy Routes. Amendment No. 31 to Admty 0001/1/5. (D. T. D., 1824A/13) See Summaries Folder.

Iceland, tankers.

Your 1743B/3. Intended to sail empty British tankers destined to load in Iceland in O.N. convoys, part of the escort being detached with tankers to proceed to Hvalfjord. This escort will then return with loaded British tankers joining the corresponding H.X. or S.C. convoy for passage to U.K. Reduction in the strength of the escort remaining with the O.N. convoys will be unavoidable but the situation will be kept constantly under review.

(C. in C. W.A., 1910A/13 to Admty).

1121/13th August.

SECRET

MESSAGE

Date: 13.8.41. Recd: 1226.

From: C. in C. Ros th.

P/I by Secret T/P.

Addressed R E F 2.8 Repeated Admiralty. C. in C. Nore. N.G.S.O. Methil. H.Q.C.C. H.Q.F.C. 11, 12, 13, Groups.

Not/Wt.

Convoy Mess re.

430. Code words for Fast Coast Convoys allocated as follows:

FS 70 BREAST F N 5 AGENT.
FS 71 MERIT E C 61 YIELD
FS 72 PARALLEL F N 6 IUNCH
FS 73 BOOT! E C 62 USACE
FG 74 ARENA F N 7 PILOT
FS 75 OCEAN E C 63 PADDLE
FS 76 PLUMB F N 8 RADIO
FS 77 EVIDENCE E C 64 MISSION
FS 78 ATTACHE F N 9 NUMERAL
FS 79 BREAST EC 65 PATTERN.

1121/13
Advance Copy Ops. Trade.

M.(2)
D.S.D.(2)
Ops.(4)
O.D.(5)
D.T.D.(4)
D.T.D.(C)
D.T.D.(M)
D.N.I.(4)
D.S.O.
H.W.R.(2)
D. of L.D.(2)
I.P.(3)
W.D.

H.F.L.

(hion copy

SECRET

MESSAGE 1400A/13th August OUT

Date 13.8.41.

To C.in C. Western Approaches. 227.

F.O.C. North atlantic. 202.

F.O.C. North C.C.N.F. 360. Repeated N.S.H.Q. Ottawa. 358. C.O.A.C. Halifax B.A.D. 301.

R.... 3.

NAVAL CYPTER (D)

From Admiralty.

It is intended to amend the cycle of North American convoys so that one O N, one O N (S), one H X and one S C convoy is sailed every six days. The O N and H X convoys will be for ships of a speed of not less than 10 kmots. The speeds of the S C and O N (S) convoys will remain unaltered.

C. in C. Western Approaches and C.C.N.F. are requested to report when the alteration in cycle can be commenced without serious inconvenience to escorts.

It is further intended to alter the H G and O G cycle from ten days to fifteen days and it is proposed, subject to the concurrence of C. in C. Western Approaches, and F.O.C. North Atlantic to commence the new cycle with 0 G 72 and H G 73.

> 1400.1/13. for D.T.D. (983) Approved by ... C.N.S. (T)

1st Lord 1st S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(T)(2) A.C.N.S.(H) A. C. N. S. (F) Nav. Sec. N.A.lst S.L. Ops. (4) O.D. (5) 0.D.8. D.N.I.(4) D. of S.2/.

DIC

D.T.D. (4) D.T.D. (M) D.T.D. (C) D. of S.T. I.P. (3) D. A/S. W. 0.I.C.(2) W.D. I.M.N.G. Duty Capt.

15.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

French Shipping. Passings 14/8. French westward OUET TIPPETZ, ILE ROUSSE, full, PENERF in ballast with covered deck cargo. (V.A.C.N.A., 0919A/13 to Admty.)

Your 2528B/12 and my 0221A/15. Regret no

H.G.70.

Destroyers available. (C. in C. W.A., 0930A/13 to F.O.C.N.A).

Your Ops. 878, 15/8. No. Can only escort until 1600/14. (200 Group, 1420/13 to H.Q.C.C).

My 2528B/12. As Convoy is still being shadowed by S/MS am sending DUNCAN to join first light 15/8 Should be able to remain with the Convoy until your local escorts are met and will then have to fuel at Londonderry. Request DUNCAN be sent back forthwith. (F.O.C.N.A. 1502A/13 to C. in C. W.A).

Following for LADY SHIRLEY from F.O.C.N.A.

Following for LADY SHIRLEY from F.O.C.N.A. at prudent limits of endurance part company from H.G. 70 and return to Gibraltar (route) Report P.C. and S. when within W/T Range Gibraltar -1525 (ends) (F.O.C.N.A. 1557A/13 to Escort H.G. 70).

Departure DUNCAN in accordance with my 1502A/13. (F.O.C.N.A. 1642A/13 to C. in C. W.A.
Your ops. 878, 13/8. Can now maintain escort only until 1100/14 owing to aircraft damaged in air combat today. (200 Group, 1805/13 to H.Q.C.C).
Most Important you give protection between 1600 and dusk 14/8 if any way possible. Impracticable from U.K. Can you adjust your patrol accordingly? (H. Q.C.C. 2003/13 to 200 Group)
Your 1502A/13. I am most grateful. DUNCAN will return as soon as possible after refuelling. (C. in C. W.A., 2255A/13 to F.O.C.N.A).

17th M.L. Flot.

My 1140A/12. Sailing delayed 24 hours. (F.O.C.N.A., 1148A/13 to C. in C. S.A).

RENOWN,
Portuguese
President.

Admty. 2252B/7. President of Portugal was intercepted in 057° 42' N. 018° 51' W. at 1855/9 and saluted with 21 guns. (RENOWN, 1158/13 to Admty., F.O.C.N.A).

/FRANKFURT.....

15.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic-Contd.

FRANKFURT boat's crew.

Reported that a Boat crew of Armed German survivors from FRANKFURT scuttled in 051° 54' N. 057° 42' W. on 4/8 refused to be picked up. British, Allied, or Neutral Ship who may rescue them will be liable to capture unless precautions are taken. (F.O.C.N.A. 1535A/13 to N.A. Stn).

HOGARTH.

Is on patrol vicinity 036° 42' N. 002° 43' W. Set normal watch on 46.9 k/cs 24 hours before arrival. (F.O.C.N.A. 1706A/13 to S/M 0.24).

Spain.

Intelligence. (H.Q. Gibraltar, to S. of S. for Colonies, 1840/13) See Lion Copy.

Force H.

Intend proceeding to sea in NELSON with ARK ROYAL, HERMIONE 6 Destroyers p.m./14 for 48 hours for practice and flying training. (F.O. Force H., 1847A/15 to Admty.)

South Atlantic.

Suspicious Ships. One ship burning searchlight and one other ship sighted in OOO° O2' N. O57° OO' W. at 2250Z. Proceeded to investigate no contact made. (ORION, O102Z/13 to C. in C. S.A., C. in C. S.A. O521N/15 to PRETORIA CASTLE and O401N/15 to R.A.S.A.D). ORION'S O102Z/15. Appears likely that this was portion of TASK Force III mentioned in A.T. 1142A/11 para. 2. (D.O.D. (F) 1550A/15 to C. in C. S.A).

COMMANDANT
DUBOC.
(Free French)

Sailed. E.T.A. Simonstown 0600 G.M.T/16. S. of A. 14 knots. Routed R2. (N.L.O. Durban 1115Z/15 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown) W.D. Note: - Proceeding U.K. via Pointe Noire and Lagos after repairs.

/PETER....

MESSAGE.

IN

1840/13th August.

From Headquarters Military Command

Gibraltar. Date 14.8.41..

Time 0900

CYPHER

Addressed Secretary of State for the Colonies.

13025/11/41. No 358.7

Addressed Colonial Office and War Office SAVINGRAM to Lisbon and Madrid

1. PRINCE DE BOURBON - Parme is reported to be endeavouring to obtain Navivert for the shipment of raw hide to Spain for re-shipment to Italy and Germany. 1.2

Germany. A.2

2. The 2nd, 12th and 28th, German civilians were reported to be stationed south of the Garonne. A.3

3. Civilians have been evacuated from the region of Orthez (Basses Pyrennees) but the billets have not yet been occupied by troops.

not yet been occupied by troops. 2
4. Gun emplacements are being erected near Hendaye
Plage and along the valley leading to St. Jean Pied de
Post (A. 2)

5. Please repeat to Foreign Office and Admiralty.

1340/13

/ distributed as Most Secret.

Rec'd from Colonial Office 1300/16.

V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(H) A.C.N.S.(F) N. 1st S.L. D.N.I.(4) O.I.C.(3) Ops (4) O.D (5) W.D. D.T.D.(2) D.T.D.(M) D.T.D.(C) D.E.W.D.(3) M (2)

G.M

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic-Contd.

PETER My 1825A/12. Arrived Capetown.

KERR. (D.D.I.C. 1116A/13 to C. in C. H.F., etc.)

Vichy Your 1945/26. Policy. (Head of M. approved 1st Ships. Lord, 1336A/13 to C. in C. S.A). See Lion Copy.

Free French
Forces.

Your 1715/9/8. LEOVILLE has been paid off.
2 colonial corvettes and 2 submarine chasers
will be allocated to French Equatorial Africa
in October. (Adm. Comdg. F.N.F.L. 1648A/13 to
F.N.F.L. Pointe Noire).

PULASKI
accommodation.

My 1534/29. On departure PULASKI from Capetown reported epidemic of influenza and ship subsequently proceeded to Durban at 2230/2 to land 14 undiagnosed cot cases of which four serious and one died. N.O.I.C. Durban decided to remove 300 Naval Ratings to improvise temporary expansion of sick quarters and ship proceeded 0800/3 with convoy. Cases subsequently diagnosed as malaria. No anti-malaria measures had been adopted. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1837B/13 to D. of S.T.)

W.S.10. Proposals for on-carriage of troops to Suez. (D.S.T., 2223A/13 to P.S.T.O. Simonstown). See Lion Copy.

Vichy
Convoy.

Sighted in 11° 21' N. 18° 09' W. course 200° speed 9 knots at 0640Z/15/8. (S.O.I. Freetown 2555N/15 to Admty.)

OST SECRET

MBSSAGE

MOST SECRUT

OUT 1336A/13 August

Addressed: Repeated

Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic 269, Date 13.8.41. Flag Dfficer Commanding, North

Atlantic, 201. Flag Officer Commanding, Force "H" 467

NAVAL CYPHER (D)

From Admiralty.

IMPORTANT 1945/26.

A. Confirmed that paragraph 3(b) of Admiralty telegram 1407/10/2 is cancelled. It remains our general policy to avoid hostilities with Viehy forces so far as possible; but the risk of a conflict resulting from the execution of the instructions in Admiralty telegram 0130/4/7, is accepted.

B (i)

Confirmed that intervention of a French force not desisively superior may be contested by action, when this is warranted by the nature of the Prize in dispute and the degree of risk to H.M. Ships. Consequently:

- (a) if the captured ship is unimportant, she should generally be sunk rather than an attempt be made to drive off the French force.
- the decision whether to dispute possession of a valuable Prize or whether to sink her must depend on the circumstances, the risk of serious damage to H.M. Ships, the value of the particular Prise and the chance of bringing the latter successfully into port being taken into account.

B (ii)

Concur that in sinking a Fronch ship under Admiralty tologram 0130/4/7 action should generally be by scuttling.

1336:/13

for Head of M (36) Approved 1st Lord

lst Lord lst 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. lst S.L.
D.N. I. (4) D.D. I.C. D. N. 11. D. D. S. D. 9. D. O. D. (H) D.D.O.D. (H) D.O.D. (F)

Mett

D. D. O. D. (F) W. D. D.T.D. (2) D.T.D. (M) D. E. W. D. Duty Capt. Hd. of M. (30 (M. 0120 72/41 D. of P.(2) D.T.S.D. I.P.(2) Admiral Chalmors N.I.D. 10 Pay Cdr. Wilson.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET.

MESSAGE 2223A/13 Aug.

CUT.

To. P.S.T.O. Simonstown.

Date. 13/8/41

Repeated C. in C. East Indies. C. in C. South Atlantic. P.S.T.O. Egypt. S.N.O. Red Sea. S.T.O. Durban and for IMPCON.

(IMPORTANT to P.S.T.O. Simonstown only).

NAVAL CYPHER A. 2.

From D of S.T.

Your 1040/11. Understood the following numbers require on-carriage to Suez after departure of CM 15.

(a) 3000 balance of 2nd South African Division.
(b) 15,800 ex W.S. 10.

2. To transport the above it is proposed that

> (a) CM17, for which only CITY OF CANTERBURY, NIEUW HOLLAND, LLANDAFF CASTLE, and JOHAN DE WITT appear to be available, should take approximately 4000.

> (b) CM18 consisting of MAURETANIA and NIEUW AMSTERDAM, on assumption that ILE DE FRANCE is not available, should take 8200.

(c) VOLENDAM capacity 2200 should continue with WS10.

To deal with most of remaining 4400 propose NEA HEILAS should continue to Suez with W.S.10 unless any other ships such as EMPIRE TROOPER will become available for inclusion in CM17.

War Office also understand that there are 9000 additional South African personnel to be moved to Middle East. It may therefore be necessary to transport a proportion of them by sending further ships from W. S. 10 on to Suez.

Request your early remarks.

6. Agreed with War Office.

2223A/13.

1st Lord. lst S.L. for D of S.T. Lth S. L.

V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(T)(2) A.C.N.S.(F) D. O. D. (F) D. D. O. D. (F)

N.A. 1st S.L. D of P.(2)

D. A/S. W. D.M.S. I.P. W.D.

Duty Capt. Hd of M. (6) E.P.S.

D. T. D. (2) D. T. D. (M)

N. I.D. (Payr. Cdr. Wilson.

D of S.T.

15.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

SULLBERG Arrival Sagunto 7/8. (Valencia 0018/13 to M. of W.T).

Service
Personnel.

List of ships which can be used for service
personnel returning to U.K. (D.S.T. 0055A/13 to
P.S.T.O. Egypt etc.) See Lion Copy.

BATHURST. To join East Indies. (V.C.N.S., OlOlA/13)
LISMORE. See East Indies.

Enemy aircraft bombing (or have dropped bombs) bombed. bearing 296° 52° N., 25° E. 35. (HASTY 0235/13 to Alexandria).

<u>KANDAHAR</u> Enemy bombing. Am 25 minutes ahead of time. (KANDAHAR 0455C/13 to 201 Group).

CEPHALONGA.

Two tugs are searching for CEPHALONGA locate and divert. (A/C call sight C8J 0825/15 to Sqdn. Med.). (KEPHALONIA ? see 2505/15).

German A/C
in Turkey
Turkish gun fire at Filta, Burnu, 11/8. Both
pilots saved. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 0915/13 to S.O.I.
Med.). N.I.D. Comment. "Filta Burnu" is
probably "Fil Burnu" on the north eastern
side of the Bosporus (41.12N - 29.07E).

Your 2138/12. COVENTRY sails Beyrout 1230/13.

E.T.A. Alexandria 1030/14 Boom 1115/14. (N.O.I.C. Syria 0925C/13 to C. in C. Med.)

Your No. 1881, 4/8 to F.O. (N.T. in W.D).

No objection to these proposals. I assume I shall be kept equally informed of dates and route to be followed. Question of whether Dr. Junod should go (? in) Turkish (? ship) or no I will leave to Ambassador to decide.

(C. in C. Med., 0951C/13 to Ambassador, Angora).

Operation Serial 21P. Local arrangements. (N.O.I.C. "Guillotine". Famagusta, 0955C/13 to HOBART).

/Prisoners.....

To: P.S.T.O. Egypt.
F.O.I.C. simons town
Repeated C in . Redi

Date

C in C. East Indies. O in C South Atlantic.

N.L.O. Durban G.H.Q. Middle East

N.O.I.C. Alexandria. S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area.

Interdepartmental Cypher 13.

From Director of Sea Transport.

IMMEDIATE TO P.S.T.O. Egypt & Simonstown

Reference C. in C. Mediterranean's 1450/6 and F.O. I.C. Simonstown's 1159/8 not to all addresses. Troopships which can be used for service personnel returning to U.K. from South Africa and Egypt during next few weeks are as follows:-

From Sagz: LLANGIBBY CASTLE, EASTERN PRINCE, ARUNDEL CASTLE, ORONSAY and MONARCH OF BERMUDA

From South Africa ALMANZORA SOBIESKI, ORDUNA, CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS, and probably ANDES, NEA HELLAS, ORCADES, REINA DEL PACIFICO and CAMERONIA

Opportunities from Suez oan be supplemented by using ferry ships as far as Durban and there transferring to ships available from South Africa.

- 2. Full use should be taken of all these ships within the limits laid down in $\Lambda_{\bullet}M_{\bullet}$ 1744B/16/7, the balance in excess being embarked in Convoy suggested in $\Lambda_{\bullet}M_{\bullet}$ 1921/12.
- 3. P.S.T.O. Egypt should report his proposals for transport from Suez to South Africa of personnel intended to tranship there to vessels returning from South Africa.

00551/13. for Director of Sea Transport, (164)

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

D.A/S.W. I.P.(2)

W.D. Duty Capt. Hd of M. D.D. C. E.P.S. D.T.D. (2) D of S.T. N.I.D. 10 (Pay Cdr Wilson)

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Prisoners of war HEREWARD etc.

Information has been received that the following officers ex HEREWARD are prisoners of war. Was this information already known. (C. in C. Med. 1046C/13 to Adty.

Abu Sueir.

Abu Sueir, Abu Sueir night 11/12. (damage).

Alexandria Night 12/13. 6 enemy A/C bombed Abu Sueir. 4

bombed. 12/13. our A/C destroyed, 4 damaged. (H.Q. R.A.F.M.E. 1046/13).

Bardia Derna bombed.

Following details cancel reported attack on Petrol Tanker Bardia 10/8. 11 Marylands detailed to attack Tanker reported to be in Bardia attacked other targets on being uhable locate tanker. Night 11/12. 2 Wellingtons bombed Derna and Bardia some bombs straddled Derna Mole. Hits on supply centre and barracks Bardia. 6 Blenheims bombed both Gazala landing grounds.

Enemy S/M.

Day 12/8. 2 Marylands located enemy S/M off Ras El Milh but were unable to attack owing to strong escort of enemy fighters. S/M was believed to be again located at Midnight in Bardia Harbour with Lighter alongside and a striking force was despatched. Results of attack awaited.

Nicosia bombed.

Cyprus, Day 12/8. 5 enemy A/C bombed Nicosia Aerodrome. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1048/15).

TORBAY. TAKU.

TAKU passes through 054° 06' 023° 44' on course 280° at about 2559/16. Keep well clear to northward. (Capt. S.1., 1120C/13 to TORBAY).

Iran.

Situation Report. (M.A. Teheran to W.O., 1136/13). See Lion Copy.

URGE

My 1352/6 Leave area N by 0001/15 and operate in area M until (? P.M.)/18 returning by reverse route to arrive Malta 0700/20. URSULA arrives area N (?P.M.)/15. (Cdr. S.1. 1150B/13 to URGE). Your 2130B/13 acknowledged. Keep to eastward of 015° 20' until 0001/15. URSULA passes 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2300/14. (S.O. (S) Malta 2311B/13 to URGE).

OST SECRET.

NESSACE CR 236/13 August.

Myom Military Attache, Teheran.

Date 13.8.41.

Recd. 1840.

CIPHER.

EDRESED: The War Office, repeated C. in C. Middle East, C. in C. India, Airgenarch Habbaniyah, General Iraq.

TEMEDIACE.

988 cipher 13/8.

Situation report.

- Early British occupation Khuzistan anticipated everywhere Iran Military Intelligence aplears well aware our movements in Iraq. 12 medium and 12 light tanks have been sent to Alwaz by train. 1 Infantry Regt. (Pahlevi) also reliably reperied gone South. Unconfirmed report states 7 classes reservists are being called up to colours. Morale troops lew.
- 2. Iranian Government are taking no serious steps yet to compel German Legation to get rid of (?accredited) agents now in Iran. In spite of rumours strong Anglo-Soviet pressure soupled with presentation of parallel notes to Iran certain circles foresee possible (?compromise) leaving Axis powers. still able to continue their dangerous work. Such a course is considered highly undesirable.
- Germans are carrying on normally. Only few families have 3. left Iran. They have dropped Sheik Abdul Medjid to (2 groups undecypherable) as he has little influence and was entirely mercenary.

1136/8/3

I.P. (2) N.I.D.10. (Pay.Cdr. Wilson).

Advance Copy Sent D.C., D.O.D.(F) & D.D.I.C.

Recieved by hand in War Registry at 0415/14. D. of P.(2) E.P.S. Head of M. W.D.

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
N.A.lst B.L.
P.A.S.(S)
D.O.D.(F)
D.D.O.D.(F)
Duty Captain. D.D.I.C. D.N.I.(4)

1st Lord.

ist S.L.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET MESSAGE

IN

FROM: N.A. Angora.

1217/13th August.

Date: 14.8.41. Recd: 2124.

Interdepartmental Cypher (V14) by Cable.

RECIRCULATION AT REQUEST OF N.I.D.

ADDRESSED: C. in C. Mediterranean, Repeated Admiralty, H.M. Ambassador Angora Saving.

AIDAC.

Following from Admiral Kelly.

Discussed situation (2 corrupt groups) Asim Gundaz 12th August General Staff consider Russians can hold out for another month thus entailing a winter of stalemate while each side prepares for spring offensive. Germans will be forced to keep at least half of their forces in the line they may select while remainder withdraw to recuperate. Until this coming month is passed on which whole future of the war depends he sees no use in any plans.

2. He considers that a Russian victory would be a disaster for whole world and points to the enormous amount of war material and efficient armed reserves accumulated by Russians which show their objective had been world domination if German attack had not taken place. He even asked me whether I preferred a German or a Russian victory. His view is we should hope both sides should fight themselves to a standstill after expenditure of bulk of their material, and accepts we have already gained a year by German attack and will gain another if Russians hold out till winter, he attaches no undue importance to success of thrust towards Odessa and Nicolaev. He states that Turkish population of Russian territories (?have been) thrust into front line.

3. He asked if we intend to take action in Iran to which I asked if he advised it. He says Russians will press it but that our interests will be served by keeping Iran and also Afghanistan neutral until last possible demarche and refuses to believe we run any risk by sabotage or otherwise by so doing as rival interests would be same as ours. If we took action and Persian forces resisted, a grave situation would arise immediately reactions in Turkey would be considerable.

4. Our policy should be to carry out an overwhelming attack in Libya pushing beyond Cyrenaica to Tripoli and then from these two bases to carry out intensive bombing of Italy, where they are already shaken by lack of German success, thus driving her out of war. He believes Germany would not be able to spare Sufficient forces to prevent success of such operations.

ST SECRET

- 5. France and all other countries are awaiting result of this next month's operations and are unlikely to commit themselves before situation is clearer.
- 6. Turkey has refused passage through Straits to Italian auxiliary TARVISIO. She has no guns or arms on board except revolvers, but, as he said, they might next send cruiser without any guns. This implies some form of inspection has taken place.
- 7. He promised to make better arrangements for lifting war material and other stores for Turkey now encumbering Egyptian ports and asked urgently for statement by telegraph of particulars (? of this).
- 8. Asked whether he was satisfied by Anglo Russian declaration about Turkish territory, he cynically replied at present time Russia would guarantee anything to safeguard her flank, implying guarantee was conditional.

1217/13.

Advance Copy D.D.I.C.

Advance Copy D.D.I

lst Lord.
lst S.L.

3rd S.L.

5th S.L.

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(H)
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.G.N.S.(T) (2)

Noval Sec.
N.A.lst S.L.
D.C.D.(F)
D.D.O.D.(H)
D.D.D.(H)
D.D.O.D.(H)
D.D.D.(H)
D.D.D.(H) Duty Captain.

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Your 1717C/11 RORQUAL arrived with several engine defects. Estimate date sailing 20/8. (S.O.(S) Malta, 1225B/13 to Capt. S.1).

KANDAHAR. Intend to proceed Tobruk in KANDAHAR (? Group omitted) 1530/14. (S.O. Force "I" at Mersa Matruh 1341C/13 to C. in C. Med.)

Safety route is established for OTUS leaving Alexandria P.M./13 to arrive Malta A.M./20 (route). No Submarine is to be attacked on this route. OTUS cannot burn identification flares. (Capt. S.l. 1350C/13 to Med Fleet).

My 1715/10 para. B. TARVISIO will not be allowed to proceed Chanak, Indications she will re-enter Aegean within 24 hours. (S.O.I. Istanbul, 1445C/15 to S.O.I. Med.)
My 1020C/11 TARVISIO expected to re-enter Aegean from Chanak within 24 hours. (Capt. S.1. 2145C/15 to THRASHER).

HANS SCHMIDT Departure 12/8 Genoa. (Barcelona 1500/13 to German.)

M. of W.T.)

Iron ove
Traffic.

My 1855/6. 27000 tons have been exported in four weeks. Negotiations in progress to contract for 50,000 tons per month and more ships to be added to present Fleet. (N.A. Madrid, 1707/13 to Admty.)

Suez Raid

12/8.

My 1511C/12. Ref. C.A.F.O. 587 (a) 12/8 calm clear (b) 8 enemy A/C medium level and shallow dive bombing on Abu Sueir aerodrome J.U. 88, 0511-0506. No flares, clear moonlight. (c) H.E. and incendiary; (d) about 50 bombs (e) No naval damage or casualties (f) One unsuccessful fighter interception (g) Balloon about 5200 feet. (S.B.N.O. Suez Canal, 1724C/13 to Admty. C. in C. Med.).

Tripoli 4 Wellingtons dropped 8000 BS G.P. bombs and 4800 incendiaries on Tripoli. Railway Station destroyed. (H.Q. R.A.F. Malta, 1750/15).

/Vichy....

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean-Contd.

Vichy Convoy.

Convoy of interned Vichy ships leaving Iskanderun 15/8 for Dardanelles escorted by Turkish Naval Auxiliary SUS and will be joined off Smyrna by Turkish Gunboat NIZIR REIS. Both escorts flying Turkish Flags and Convoy will keep to Turkish Territorial Waters. Do not molest. (Capt. S.1., 1730C/13 to Greek Sub. NEREUS, H.M.S. THRASHER).

Suez Raid. Port Said Raid.

Ref. C.A.F.O. 587 (A) Raid 13/8 calm clear. (B) medium level attack eight E/A on Abu Sueir aerodrome and El Firdan. High level attack on Port Said, 0315 - 0548, no illuminants, clear moon light. (C) H/E bombs (D) Port Said four El Firdan four, Abu Sueir 30 to 40 bombs. (E) Abu Sueir 4 machines destroyed. Damage to 5 machines 1 hanger etc. Armed Merchant Ships and El Firdan, no damage no casualties. (F) No interceptions. (G) Balloons up 5200 feet. (S.B.N.O. Suez 1852C/15 to Admty.)

British prisoners in MP CHAMPOLLION.

Foam in Alexandria reports 11/8. "Am informed by Admiral Gouton that 38 British Officers prisoners of war and 13 N.C.Os are being brought back in CHAMPOLLION arriving Beirut 15/8. 14 are still in Scarpanto and Italian Govt. have agreed to send them to France for eventual return here". (C. in C. M.E. 1920/12 to W.O.)

Enemy Ships. 6 small ships 055° 06' 012° 50' 187° 8 knots at 1748Z - 2. (S.O.S. Malta 2001B/13 to P.52).

Syrian Coats Defence. Your 1240C/41. Adm. Muselier is very anxious to commence action on N.O.I.C. Syrian Ports 1423/1. Request very early information as to result of Conference with Minister of State. (A.C.N.S. (F) 2010A/13 to C. in C. Med);

Situation report.

KEPHALLINIA KEPHALONIA (Schooner on Western Desert service) carrying stores to Tobruk foundered in 031° 07' N. 029° E. at 1500/15 after attempts to tow and (? contol) flooding during the night of 12/15 had (? failed). Investigation being held. (C. in C. Med., 2505/15 to Admty.)

BULGARIA.

Bulgarian steamer BULGARIA (details) sailing Istanbul 1600C/13. in ballast. German troops on board. (Capt. S.1, 2320C/13 to THRASHER).

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

CHANTALA
CHAKDINA.

To join Mediterranean. (V.C.N.S., OlOlA/13 to C. in C. E.I., C. in C. Med). See Lion Copy. See 1102/13.

ST. SAMPSON.

My 1218/29/7 and my 0604/6 not to Admiralty.

Onward programme of H.M.S. ST. SAMPSON leaves

Seychelles 14/8. Arrives Aden 21/8.

(C. in C. E.I., 0504Z/13 to S.N.O.R.S.)

S.W.8. Convoy S.W.8 arrived. (N.C.S.O., Kilindini, 0600Z/13 to Admty).

R.I.N. ships
for Med.,

SOFALA and SIR HARVEY ADAMSON too slow even if
they could be spared. Surrender of A/S Vessels
NETRAVATI or RATNAGIRI in order to release
SONAVATI cannot be accepted. Is ADRIA acceptable
to you?
(C. in C. E.I., 0620Z/13 to C. in C. Med.)

CHANTALA
CHAKDINA.

Your Olo1/13, concur Tobruk is more pressing meed. S.N.O. Red Sea Force is being directed to sail CHANTALA as soon as practicable.
CHAKDINA should be ready to leave Bombay 15/8.
(C. in C. E.I., 1102Z/13 to Admty).

LUMINARY.

Your 1340Z/5. Portuguese have no objection to call at Beira, but this must not exceed 24 hours.

(D.O.D. (F) 1123A/13 to C. in C. E.I.)

Djibouti.

Reports of Vichy S/Ms running blockade from Madagascar. (C. in C. E. I., 1332Z/13 to Admty). See Lion Copy.

IST SECRET

MOST SECRET. MESSAGE

OUT. OlOlA/13th August.

To:- C. in C. East Indies 571, C. in C. Mediterranean 504B 1.

Date 13.8.41.

Naval Cypher (F)

From Admiralty, IMPORTANT.

C. in C. East Indies' O616Z/8.

We realise that the blockade of Jibuti is of importance but feel sure that you will agree that the maintenance of supplies to Tobruk is a more immediate and pressing need.

- (2)C. in C. Mediterranean has no suitable cargo carrying vessels for Tobruk, whereas smaller vessels could blockade Jibuti.
- (3)In view of enemy mining methods it is possible that the retention of BATHURST and LISMORE with only Oropesa sweep and poor A/A Armament in the Mediterranean is not fully justified. They may in any case, have to proceed furthe: East should the situation there deteriorate.
- It is therefore suggested, subject to your joint concurrence that
- (A) C. in C. East Indies should sail CHANTALA as soon as is practicable and CHAKDINA as soon as ready for service to join Mediterranean Fleet. .
- (B) C. in C. Mediterranean should sail BATHURST and LISMORE to join C, in C. East Indies.

0101A/13. for D.O.D. (F) (986)

Approved A.C.N.S. (F) V.C.N.S.

1st Lord. lst S.L. 4th S.L. V. C. N. S. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(F) A.C.N.S.(T) (2) N.A. lst S.L. D.O.D.(F) D.D.O.D.(F) D.N.I.(4) D.A/S.W. D. M. S.

I.P. (2) W.D. Duty Capt. Hd. of M. D.D.I.C. E.P.S. D. T. D. (2) N. I. D. 10 (Pay Cdr. Wilson)

MOST SECRET SECRET

From. C. in C. East Indies.

Date. 13.8.41.

2110

Time. 2145.

INTERSERVICE SPECIAL X W/T.

Addressed.

Admiralty. Repeated. G.H.Q. Middle East., C. in C. Mediterranean.

IMPORTANT.

31. Most Secret.

My 1040/1 August.

l. Now reported from reliable sources that a

French submarine carrying quantity of tinned food arrived
Djibouti 27 July believed from Madagascar and according
to one report, sailed on 29 July. According to another
report from late harbour Master Djibouti the Governor
Djibouti stated two more submarines were expected (graded
E4 (R) B4). Reported they go to Marabout Jetty concealed
by large lighter and tarpaulin.

Daily air reconnaissances has revealed two lighters but submarine has not been sighted. Yet another report from Dhow Captain from Mokha states three submarines arrived Djibouti from Madagascar about 29 July also with food.

- 2. As far as I know only two submarines have been based in Madagascar for sometime but there seems little doubt that these craft are being used to run the blockade.
- 3. Dhow Patrols are being carried out by RATNARGERI and NETRAVATI. To meet S/M threat I have approved withdrawal of INDUS from Massawa and retention of HINDUSTAN at Adon both being effective A/S units. This will stop minesweeping at Massawa but consider this acceptable under present climatic conditions which are now so severe at Massawa as to cause a

/groat

great loss of efficiency of the crows.

4. If C. in C. Mediterranean concurs with the proposal made in Admiralty's OlOl/13 not to Mid. East for BATHURST and LISEMORE being exchanged for the CHAKDINA and CHANTALA we should then have sufficient A/S fitted vessels to counter any submarine threat and our gain in this direction would offset the loss of the bigger ships in blockade duties.

1332/13.

Advance copy Duty Capt., D.O.D. (F

lst Lord.
lst S.L.
lth S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(T)(2)
N.A. lst S.L.
D.O.D.(F)
D.D.O.D.(F)
D.N.I.(4)
D. of P.(3)
D.A./.S.W.
D.M.S.
I.P.(2)
W.D.
Duty Capt.
Hd. of M.
D.D.I.C.
II.P.S.
D.T.D.(2)
N.I.D. 10 Parm

D. T. D. (2) N. I. D. 10 Paym. Cdr. Wilson.

B.

osals

an.

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Thailand Re supply of oil. (C. in C. China, 0807Z/13 to B.M., Bangkok). See Lion Copy.

N.E.I. C. in C. Far East 1426/13 to W.O. for Chiefs of Staff. (See Lion Copy.)

Japanese
Warships.

15 miles S.E. Amoy 2350Z/9. 12 Japanese
destroyers with six transports course N.E.
Amoy arrivals 10th, one Japanese destroyer and
two transports, departures six Japanese Torpedo
Boats. Off Haiphong 12th, one Japanese
destroyer.
(Capt. O.S. Singapore 0819Z/13 to Admty.)

America & West Indies.

N.O.I.C. Simonstown 1156B/12. Water situation has improved and it is not now intended that you should call at Bermuda on passage to U.S.A. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1002Q/13 to QUEEN OF BERMUDA.

FORMIDABLE. Admty., 1915A/12. Break W/T silence when inside Caribbean sea and report intended programme. Your 1654/8, aircraft are not to be flown off to land on U.S. territory. (C. in C.A.W.I., 1102Q/13 to FORMIDABLE.)

Convoy T.C.12B. Pass Admty., 1926A/12 to REVENGE. (D.S.O. 1134A/13 to R.A.3.)

REVENGE.

My 1446P/5. Intend sailing REVENGE at 1330/14 routed through (A) 43° 00' N., 63°10' W. (B) 35° 00' N., 63° 30' W., E.T.A., Bermuda 1400Q.Narrows 1445Q/16. Request REVENGE may be sailed for Halifax on 23/8. (R.A.3, 1202B/13 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

IN

0807z/13th August

From C in . C China.

Date 15,8,41.

Time 1445

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CYPHER BY W/T.

Addressed B.M Bangkok repeated Admiralty IMPORTANT.

67. Your 549 to F.O. Asiatic Petroleum Co informa, me Netherlands East Indias Govt. have refused to export Kerosene cargo in tins already prepared to substitute. gasoline cargo in drums to be shipped by Nansuang Nawa from Balik Papan to Bangkok I have sent message to Admiral Helfrich Batavia explaining urgency of Kerosine supplies for Thailand and have asked his assistance in obtaining release of cargo. In view of urgency of future shipments of oil to Thailand and difficulties attending supply owing to shortage of tanker tonnage etc. Asiatic. Petroleum Co. considers urgently necessary for Thui Government to send negotiations as soon as possible to Singapore as (? are unable to) decide mothods of supply but if this is impracticable they will send representatives immediately to Bangkok which would be far less satisfactory in view of number of departments of Asiatic Petroloum Co. which will be concerned with supplios.

/ No trace in var Rogistry

lst LORD
lst S.L.
4th S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(T) (2)
Nav. Scc.
N.A.lst S.L.
Ops.(4)
O.D.(5)
D.C.P.(3)
D.M.I.(4)
H.(4)

D of S.T.
D.T.D.(4)
D.T.D.(1)
D.T.D (0)
D of S
I.P.(3)
W.D.

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET.

MESSAGE.

1426/13th Aug. IN.

From: C. in C. Far East.

Date : 13.8.41.

Recd: 1130.

CYPHER.

Addressed: The War Office. Repeated Britain Batavia.

IMMEDIATE.

285/4 Cipher 13/8 34952.

For Chiefs of Staff from C. in C. Far East and China. Ret. Tel. to Foreign Office from Consul General Batavia No. 158 12/8.

This is most disturbing. We have always had most cordial co-operation from Naval and Military Commanders in Netherlands East Indies. Preparations with Dutch to implement the ADB Agreement are well advanced and constantly under review and we are relying in no small degree upon Dutch Submarines and Aircraft in our defence plans. There is no reference to countering of occupation of Thailand and ADB expect para 26. Urge that every effort be exerted to counteract early as possible unfortunate impression that has been made. If we can help in any way e.g. by personal wist we shall only be too glad to know. C.4. (Telegrams).

1426/13

Advance Copy D.C. D.O.D. (F)., D.D.I.C.

lst Lord.
lst S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F).
N.A.lit S.L.
D.O.D.(F).
D.D.O.D.(F).
D.N.I.(4).
D. of P.(2).
Duty Capt.
E.P.S.
Head of M.(8).
I.P.(2)
N.I.D.(10. Pay Cdr. Wilson).
W.D.

N.P.

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. Contd.

MANCHESTER FIREDRAKE.

Your 0912R/12. Expected to be ready to leave Gibraltar on 9/9. If no further delays, could arrive at Eastern U.S.Ports at end of September. (D.O.D.(F) 1329A/13 to B.A.R.M.)

Easter Island N.S.H.Q.Ottawa's 0219 Z/26. Investigation of raider report. Anchorage Easter Island failed to disclose presence of German Raider. Information from inhabitants was no ship had arrived island since November, 1940. (PRINCE ROBERT, 1523Z/13 to C. in C.A.W.I.)

St. John's N.F.

Situation re base. (C.C.N.F., 1553Z/13 to C. in C.W.A., Canadian Minister for Naval Affairs.) See Lion Copy.

NORDERNEY. (German.)

Latest description. (R.A.3 B.S. 1851P/13 to N.A.E.F.)

PRINCE ROBERT. In the absence of other instructions proceed Auckland after completing with fuel. (C. in A.W.I., 2312Q/13 to PRINCE ROBERT.)

GLADIOLUS NASTUR'TT UM and MIMOSA. Proceeding independently to Halifax owing to thick weather and absence of other orders. (GLADIOLUS, 2325Z/13, to C.O.A.C., Halifax.)

Australia.

Far East Convoy Escorts.

Admty. 1934 A/11. Naval Board did not envisage A/S escort from Fremantle area to Singapore. (b) A/S vessel available in Garden Island allowing of escort in (i) Leeuwin Area (ii) between Melbourne and Brisbane and (iii) for portion of trans-Tasman passage. Para. of Admty. 1934 A/11. It is understood that separate personnel convoys, namely ?U.S., will be run. (A.C.N.B., 1555Z/13 to C. in C. China.)

SECRET

MESSAGE 1553Z/13th August

IN

From: C.C. Newfoundland

Date: 13.8.41 Recd: 2140

Naval Cypher X by Cable

C. in C. Western Approaches, Canadian Addressed: Minister for Naval Affairs. Repeated: N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, C. in C. America and West Indies, B.A.D. Washington, B.A.T.M. Ottawa.

IMPORTANT

ABM

Admiralty pass to Canadian Minister for Naval Affairs care of Canadian High Commissioner, London.

It is apparent from Admiralty's 1600A/12 that Admiralty is not in touch with situation now existing at St. John's. Newfoundland. Admiralty's 0225B of 5th July only visualized basing and maintenance of 34 destreyers with about 7 in harbour at one time. On Saturday 2nd August there were 28 naval ships in this harbour. This information should have been available from pink list. We have been able to meet all calls made upon us to date only through the luck of fine summer weather and the willing co-operation of the many owners of wharves on south side who cannot be expected to continue with this interference to their business unless compensated either by money or building of wharfage. Furthermore, existing wharves are insecure and cannot be used with safety after Autumn storms commence. Am not in possession of Admiralty's 2208B of 25th July and do not know priorities intended, but consider wharfage on south shore is of more immediate importance than dockyard or any other project, as without secure berthing facilities it is difficult to foresec how operations can be maintained on present scale throughout/

1 - 1-2 m

throughout the winter.

Request you use your influence to bring Admiralty's point of view into conformity with realities.

1.5532/13

lst Lord
lst 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. (T)
A.C.N.S. (T)
(2)
N.A. lst S.L.
D. of P. (2)
O.D. (5)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of L.D.(3)
D.N.A.D.
D.A./S.W.
D.M.S.
I.P. (2)
W.D.
M (M 012554/41) (5) and for Canadian Minister
D.T.S.D.
E.P.S.

AEM

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

New Zealand.

Programme for LEANDER.

oint

Your 0646Z/12. Concur. (N.Z.N.B. 0915M/13 to C. in C.E.I.)

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

General.

The fact that escorts have recently located and attacked U/Boats close to Convoys at night may lead enemy to vary U/Boat night attack tactics. Variations are unlikely in presence of weak escorts, but a probable development with well-escorted convoys might take form of long range Browning attacks from Bow or even ahead of Convoy. By night, therefore, when strong escort is present, van position on escort diagram should be reinforced and should ships be detached to search, etc., van of convoy should never be left unprotected.

(C. in C.W.A., 1701A/13 to W.A. Escort Groups.)

Ships Attacked.

SHAHRISTAN (torpedoed 29/7.)

Arrived DERBYSHIRE with 6 survivors from SHAHRISTAN. Code Word D I A G R A M. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 2058A/13).

Submarines Reported.

0443Z/13.

My 0153A/12, 1225A/12 and 2143A/12. Further D/F bearings at 0443Z/13 indicate that a U.Boat is still shadowing convoy H.G.70. (D.D.I.C. 0632A/13 to FAULKNOR, AVONVALE)

0403 G.M.T. 0440 G.M.T. Italian S/M made enemy sighting report at 0403 G.M.T. 13 bearing 286/3. German S/M made enemy sighting report at 0440 B.M.T. 13 bearing 291/2. (F.O.C.N.A., 0715A/13, to N.A.Stn.)

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Reported Contd.

0630.

B.1. S/M sighted 0630 position 8 miles from Pargo Point, proceeding submerged S. to W. (R.O., Funchal, 1145/13 to Admty.) (F.O.C.N.A. 1703A/13 to N.A. Stn.)

O841 G.M.T. Following bearings obtained at O841 G.M.T.

T.O.O. 1002/13. 29 Groups. Following bearings of Italian U-Boat, Call sign 14 F obtained at 1008/13 G.M.T.

(D.D.I.C. 1215A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Estimated U Boat dispositions.

(D.D.I.C. 1450A/13.)

Following has been read. 1 Submarine on surface bearing 238° distance 7 miles, course unknown, my position 40.23 N., 15.38 W. (Capt. D.8, 1621A/13, to Gibraltar W/T.)

D/F at 1443Z/13 indicated H.G.70 was being shadowed by U/Boat. Four F.W.aircraft are in the vicinity.

(D.D.I.C. 1625A/13 to FAULKNOR, AVONVALE.)

1705. U-boat reported in 040° 10' N., 013° 45' W., at 1705/13. U-boat in 040° 18' N., 015° (? 49')W., at 1621/13. (F.O.C.N.A., 1806A/13 to N.A.Stn.)

1837 G.M.T. Bearings of Italian U/Boat 14 F at 1837 G.M.T. (D.D.I.C. 2040A/13 to F.O.C.N.A.)

1836 G.M.T. At 1836 G.M.T. Italian S/M bearing 287/3 made a sighting report probably H.G.70. (F.O.C.N.A. 2253A/13 to Escort H.G.70.)

13.8.1941. Wednesday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Submarines Attacked.

By A/C 0715.

U Boat sighted by Catalina A/C in 039° 12' N., 013° 49° W., at 0715A/13. Attacked with depth charges.(F.O.C.N.A. 0803A/13 to N.A. Stn.)

By A/C 0755. At 0755 Catalina A/C (escorting H.G.70) sighted second U-Boat 039° 36' N., 013° 56' W., attacked with bombs, estimated 1 hit. (F.O.C.N.A., 0822A/13 to Capt. D.8.) (200 Group, 1655/13.)

By DUNCAN 12/8. C.A.F.O. 834/41. (a) DUNCAN (b) 0737/12/8 (c) 034° 16'N., 007° 38' W. (d) 10 (e) 0835/12. Unsuccessful. (DUNCAN 1000/13 to F.O.C.N.A.) Your Ops.882 13/8. This will be done. Aircraft patrol morning/13 considers he badly damaged one large and one small submarine. (200 Group, 2101/13, to H.Q.C.C.)

14.8.1941. Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Submarine escorts for H.G. and O.G. convoys are to be discontinued.

As many convoys as possible are to be accompanied by a Cam ship.

Home Commands

Two forces of either M.G.B's or M.L's depending on the weather, will be stationed during the dark hours at South Varne Buoy and No 8 Buoy (51° 2' N., 1° 35' E) to intercept and engage any enemy located by R.D.F. during passage of convoy. Aircraft will cooperate with flares.

British Air Operations.

The air patrols recently carried out have not yet been successful in locating the U-Boat routes between Norway and the North Atlantic and are to be continued.

11 Blenheims escorted by fighters set out today to attack E and R boats in Boulogne harbour. No details of damage to the boats are reported; the docks were also bombed.

10 Blenheims carried out a sweep off the East Frisian Is. and left a 2000 ton merchantman 13 miles S.W. of Heligoland on fire and sinking after two direct hits.

Enemy Air Operations

The few attacks recently carried out by K.G.40 (F.W's) probably indicate that this unit is concentrating mainly on R/C for U-Boats and other air force units, rather than a policy of attacking shipping.

An enemy aircraft passed over and probably saw into Scapa Flow today.

/Convoy W. N. 66....

14.8.1941 Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Enemy Air Operations-Contd.

Convoy W.N. 66 called for help at 2320 in 57° 33' N., 0° 34' W (east of Peterhead). No details are known.

Convoy E.C. 60 was bombed tonight 17 miles from Cromer, R.F.A. WAR NIZAM was damaged.

SS BRIARWOOD a straggler from convoy H.G. 70 was bombed at 1454 in 40° 54' N., 19° 16' W. The Attack was beaten off.

Mediterranean

Spanish SS BERGA engaged in carrying pyrites from Spain to Genoa was intercepted today by H.M.T. LADY HOGARTH near Capo de Gata with connivance of the ship's officers and was brought into Gibraltar.

Air Operations from Malta against Tripoli convoys.

5 Naval Swordfish attacked the submarine base at Augusta last night. Owing to poor visibility results were difficult to observe, but two hits were seen on a jetty and a fire was started which was visible 40 miles away. 9 Naval Swordfish today made a successful attack on a south bound convoy of 5 merchantmen escorted by 5 destroyers 30 miles south of Lampione at 2250. One merchant ship of 6000 tons, 2 of 3000 tons and a destroyer were each hit by one torpedo. The large merchant ship was last seen well down by the stern and covered by a thick black pall of smoke and one of the smaller merchant ships had a heavy list to port. The destroyer was seen transferring her crew to another destroyer. Later, only 3 merchant ships of the convoy were seen approaching Tripoli. Search of the area revealed no trace of stragglers, and it is considered almost certain that the 6000 ton and one 3000 ton ship and a destroyer were sunk.

14.8.1941. Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

Mediterranean-Contd.

See 1/290-

4 Wellingtons each made 2 attacks on shipping in Catalina early today; it is thought that merchant vessels alongside were damaged. Augusta harbour was also attacked. Blenheims this morning made a shipping sweep between Tripoli and Benghazi. Two tankers of 4000 tons were hit off Beurat el Hsun; one exploded and the other was left on fire; and it is thought both were such is thought both were sunk. Two schooners of 800 tons were also hit, one was set on fire the other had a bad list. Two Blenheims were lost.

Libya and Western Desert.

6 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli last night. This is the third night in succession that the port has been attacked, and there were indications that A.A. ammunition may be short.

Tobruk town and harbour and Mersa Matruh were bombed last night. Tobruk was bombed again today. No naval damage is reported.

Suez Canal Area.

About 15 to 20 enemy aircraft attacked the Canal zone last night. Bombs were dropped at Port Said. No naval damage or casualties were caused.

Air Attack on Corinth Canal.

28 Wellingtons attacked the Corinth Canal last It is reported that the Canal is night blocked by landslides.

Cyprus.

Limassol and Larnaca were bombed today and damage was caused ashore.

East Indies

A small naval base to be named H.M.S. EUPHRATES as from 1/9/41, has been formed at Basra.

China

Mining policy and diversion of shipping in the event of war in the Far East are dealt with today in messages from C. in C. China.

14.8.1941. Thursday

SITUATION REPORT

America & West Indies

CIRCASSIA today captured in 24° 55' N., 40° 23' W the Italian STELLA which left Pernambuco on 30/7, and is sending her in to Bermuda.

U-Boat Campaign

It is reported that SS SUD, which left Gibraltar on 9/8 for Halifax was sunk by two submarines cooperating with an aircraft at 1300 G.M.T. today in 41° N., 17° 41' W.

14.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

St. Bees Head Danger Area. R.N.O. Whitehaven reports that Army request that shipping be directed to avoid, a danger area $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from a point about one mile south of St.Bees Head and bounded by lines drawn 180° and 330°. No previous intimation has been received regarding this proposal and consider it undesirable to divert shipping as suggested. C. in C.W.A., No. 1648/640/23 of 4/8, regarding Eskmeals Range, refers. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 0936/14.)

Vichy Ships.

Cancel my 2228/13. Further signal will be issued. (Head of M. 1245A/14.)
Treatment of, policy to be adopted, clarifying points in Admty., 0130/4/7. (Hd. of M., 1526A/14). See America & West Indies and Lion Copy.

MODESTA WINHA. SOLBRITT ROLFSBORG seized. Your 1736A/12. Finnish Vessels MODESTA, WINHA, and SOLBRITT have agreed to work ships in harbour and to proceed to next port. ROLFSBORG has agreed to discharge deck cargo but refuses at present to work ship to next port. All ships were seized yesterday. Several of crews will doubtless, and are anxious to, accept service with Allies afloat or on shore. (C.C.S.O.Kirkwall 1405/14 to Adty.)

KYLECLARE.

S.S.KYLECLARE (Eirean) 700 tons 11 knots asks to be included in an O.G. convoy for Lisbon. She has bunker capacity for twenty days. Agents ask if she can rebunker at Gibraltar. Request instructions. (N.C.S.O.Cardiff 2045A/14.)

AUDACITY.

Understand AUDACITY will not be ready for another 6 weeks owing to alterations to galley, or 12 weeks if additional arrester wires are fitted. (2) Present intention is to operate ship initially with O.G./H.G convoys, working between U.K. and Gibraltar. After discussion with C.O. it is recommended that full complement of Fighter Aircraft only should be carried initially. Training which will have been carried out by time ship is ready will enable Swordfish Aircraft to be substituted for fighters without change of personnel, if experience indicates composite complement of aircraft to be desirable.

(3) It is considered that ship should commence operations as soon as galley is ready, without waiting for additional arrester wires.

(C. in C.W.A. 2157A/14.)

14.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Co-operation with Russia.

Technical information.

My 2046A/11. Information which may be communicated to Russians.
(D) Names of party are as follows.
(V.C.N.S. 1750A/14 to A.C.O.S.)

Air Service.

Proposed A/C service between Archangel and U.K. (Air Ministry 1925/14.) See British Air Activity.

Bear Island Station. Soviet C. in C. Northern Forces informed me he proposed to send submarine to destroy (German?) Meteorological station Bear Island subject to our concurrence. I informed him that Admiral Vian might have already completed operation. Request early reply.
(B.S.N.O. Murmansk 1959C/14 to Adty.)
Your 1959C/14. Meteorological Station at Bear Island has been destroyed by Force A and the operators removed. (D.O.D/H)2258A/14.)
See Operations.

Movements.

A.F.D. IV.

A.M. 1928B/22 July. Consider it desirable 4 destroyers preferably A/A should escort floating dock sailing on 20/8. Request information how many can be provided from your command.

(ii) S.O. should arrive Plymouth in time to attend conference a.m./19.

(C. in C. Plymouth 1314/14 to C. in C.W.A.)

REPULSE.

REPULSE is to take IMPULSIVE, ACTIVE, and ECLIPSE under his orders and sail from anchorage below Forth Bridge at 0730/15 and proceed Scapa, to arrive in daylight P.M. 15th.

BRADFORD report E.T.A., Scapa after sailing from Rosyth.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1602/14.)

My 1602/14. E.T.A. Scapa 1800/15.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1840/14.)

ORUC REIS.

Request escort for Turkish Submarine ORUC REIS from 21st to 30th August for passage to Clyde and to attend as requisite during trials. (F.O.I.C.Liverpool 1611A/14.) See also F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1129A/15.

14.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Movements Contd.

INDOMITABLE. Re sailing. (A.C.N.S.(H) 1652A/14.) See Operations Volume.

RAMILLIES.

Is required to return to U.K. as soon as possible to refit for other urgent service. (A.C.N.S.H.1746A/14.)

SEALION.

On completion FOLLOW proceed through following positions to R/V in 50° 31' N., 0° 41' W., at 0545A/20. Bombing restrictions as follows. (Capt. S.5 1748A/14 to SEALION.)

PARTHIAN.

From 049° N., 006° 30' W., proceed through 050° 21' N., 000° 41' W., to R/V in 050° 31' N., 000° 41' W., at 0545A/19. R/Vs must be made before 1830. (Capt. S.5.1801A/14 to PARTHIAN.)

RUBIS. Sailing. Pass Bell Rock, 2200A/14 routed as follows. (Capt. S.9. 1929A/14 to S/M's Area A.)

FIDELITY.

Cancel my 1102A/10. F.O.I.C. Liverpool is requested to arrange for trials of FIDELITY as required, and to sail FIDELITY with 0.S.4. (C. in C.W.A., 1934A/14.)

/Exercise....

14.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Net-laying. Departure TONBRIDGE and escorts at 0530 for net laying off Sheringham.

(F.O.I.C.Yarmouth 0731A/14.)

Two forces of either M.G.B.'s or M.L.'s depending on weather will be stationed during dark hours tonight (A) at South Varne Buoy (B) No.8 buoy 51° 2' N., 1° 35' E. Role to intercept and engage the enemy as located by R.D.F. only crossing to North West of line joining above positions if in contact. Aircraft will be ordered to drop flares in mid strait to silhouette attacking craft to convoy.

(V.A.Dover 1212A/14 to HOLDERNESS.)

My 1212. Force A. Call Sign S.4.U.,
M.G.B.'s 43, 89 and S.2. Force B. Call sign J.D.5., M.L's 142 138, 141.

(V.A.Dover 2206A/14.)

Exercise R.A.(D)'s 1146A/11.

Con return of Convoy W.S.8 C to Clyde Force 110

Will disembark at Tail of Bank. Military

C. and M. Parties will remain in all ships with

military stores and equipment.

2. F.O.i/c Greenock is requested to arrange for the disposal in the Clyde area of the convoy subsequent to disembarkation subject to the training requirements of Force 110 and the ships remaining at 7 days notice. 3. NIGERIAN, ETTRICK and PRINCESS BEATRIX are to be included in the above arrangements. M.T. MACHARDA will be discharged and reloaded under War Office arrangements.

(D.O.D(H) 1303A/14.)

Operation Intend resume CAB AM/15th.
"Grab". (C. in C. Portsmouth 1747A/14.)

Bear Island
Station.

Your 1959C/14. Meteorological Station at Bear Island has been destroyed by Force A and the Operators removed.

(D.O.D(H) 2258A/14 to B.S.N.O. Murmansk.)

14.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Patrols.

NOOE 2 now flying. (C. in C. Rosyth 0510/14.)

(a) Although crossover patrols to North Shetlands have not been successful in locating the U-boat routes between Norway and North Atlantic the negative information obtained is considered to be of value. It is suggested now that these patrols should be moved further to northward. (b) With lengthening nights it is possible U-boats may increase their use of Fair Island Channel. If Northern searches again prove unsuccessful after say three weeks of operation it is suggested we should then establish air patrol between the Fair Island Channel and Norway in approx. long. 002°E. Any contact in this area would prove of greatest value to Submarine Command in assisting to discover a safe route through North Sea minefields for use by our own Submarines.

(F.O.S. 1152A/14 to H.Q.C.C.)
Your 1152/14. Propose Ness patrols be continued for further three days, after which cross-over patrol will be instituted on meridians 4° W., 2° 40' W., 1° 20'W., and Greenwich Meridian extending from 62° 20'N., to 63° 40' N. Concur with para.B.

(H.Q.C.C.1815/14 to F.O.S.)

Your 1815/14. Concur.

(F.O.S.2356A/14 to H.Q.C.C.)

And STAB now in operation.

(C. in C. Rosyth 1502/14.)

Bombing operations.

On day 13/8 and night 13/14 all operations were cancelled owing to weather. (H.Q.B.C.1225/14.)

Own A/C fired on.

Aircraft T/209 reported being fired upon on joining H.X.142 at 0400/ll. Convoy had been warned and she made continuous recognition signals by lamp. C.O. AUSONIA informs me vessel firing on night of the ll was probably NORTHUMBERLAND.

Latter had been given permission by Commodore to practice? machine gun fire and had been firing dangerously and in all directions during day. (N.O.I.C.Iceland 1729/14 to C. in C.W.A.)

Archangel to U.K. Air Service. Soviet Authorities have requested permission to operate aircraft from Archangel to U.K. with object of increasing passenger and freight facilities. Consolidated P.B.Y (Catalina) with Russian markings with endurance of 30 hours to be used. Sullom Voe or Invergordon suggested as possible bases in U.K. Request you state which is most acceptable if neither suggest alternative.

/Considered...

14.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity. Contd.

Archangel
to U.K.
Air Service.
Contd.

Considered undesirable to pass full British recognition and identification system to Soviet at present time. Correct 2 star cartridges will be used.

(Air Ministry 1925/14 to H.Q.F.C.)

Enemy Air Activity.

BRIARWOOD
(British.
446 Tons)
attacked.

40°.54' N.19°.16'W. BRIARWOOD bombed 1454/14. First attack beaten off 1456/14. (Wick Radio 1459/14.)

A/C over

At 1746/14. an aircraft visually identified as JU 88 passed over the Flow at 20,000 ft. Probable aircraft saw into Flow. (A.C.O.S. 1929/14.)

Convoy E. 4.60.

Help. One enemy aircraft. Position 52°54' N.. 2°5'E.

(VORTIGERN 2106/14.) (WESTMINSTER 2108/14.)

Fighters despatched.

(? Origin 2121/14 to Whitehall W/T.)

My 2106. 3 Aircraft.

(VORTIGERN 2112A/14.)

Convoy being bombed in 068° from Cromer distance 17 miles.

(WESTMINSTER 2140A/14.)

My 2140. Many bombs apparently no hits.

(WESTMINSTER 2212/14.)

Convoy"ividence"

Fighters despatched to assist Convoy EVIDENCE. (Admiralty Spare No.8.) (Rosyth 2154/14.)

Convoy W.N.Even. Help METRIS 57° 33' N., 0° 34' W. (GAVOTTE 2320/14.)
Fighters are being sent. (Rosyth 2334/14.)

Mining

Operation S.N. 70A.

R.A.(M) 1224A/13. Concur.
(C.in C.H.F. 0957/14.)
My 1224/13. For CASTLETON and CHARLESTOWNread
WELLS and ST. MARYS.
(R.A.M. 0958A/14.)
Your 1224/13. Concur, provided escort is still
available.
(A.C.N.S.H. 1345A/14 to R.A.M.)
RAMILLIES is required to return to U.K.

14.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

Operation S.N.70A. Contd. Request you consider deferring Operation S.N.70A and use the destroyer escort at present detailed for R.A.M.L., to screen RAMILLIES to Liverpool. (A.C.N.S.H. 1746A/14 to C. in C.H.F.)

MANXMAN.

Is required to embark mines at Milford Haven and to be ready to leave Milford Haven loaded on the evening of 17/8. 2. Request MANXMAN be sailed for Milford Haven accordingly. (A.C.N.S.F. 1543A/14.)

Technical.

"Snowflake"
Rockets.

Description and use. (D.G.D. 1607A/14.)

Enemy Intelligence.

German Naval units.

KOLN not at Copenhagen 12/8. B.3. Cruiser and 12 Torpedo boats at Aarhus 12/8. D.3. (N.A. Stockholm 1531/14.)

Casualties & Defects.

M.G.B.86.

Arrived Dover, leaking badly and with engine defects. (V.A.Dover 1605A/14.)

Shipping and Convoys.

H.G.69.

13 ships, has arrived safely under Commodore Casey R.N.R. 2 ships Allied. Cargoes. (D.S.709, 14/8.)

East Coast. Escorts. Cancel my 1245A/12. Corvette duties revised as follows. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 1149A/14.) See Lion Copy.

Iceland, tankers.

Your 0951/9. Two additional R.N.R. Officers are being appointed. Not anticipated that anything approaching 12 tankers will arrive simultaneously. (4th S.L., 1220A/14 to A.C.I.C.)

SECRET

MESSAGE

1149A/14 August IN.

From: F.O.I.C. Harwich

Date: 14.8.41.

Recd: 1200

P/L BY T/P

Addressed: C. in C. Nore, 1st Division Corvettes repeated C. in C. Rosyth, Admiralty, F.O.I.C. Humber, N.G.S.O. Southend.

Cancel my 1245A/12/8 corvette duties revised as

| follows:0 | | | |
|-----------|------|-------------|------------|
| IF II | II C | W S | |
| 505 | - | 5 69 | GUILLEMOT |
| - | 61 | 57 0 | SHEARWATER |
| 506 | pain | 571) | MALLARD |
| _ | 62 | 571) | SHELDRAKE |
| (50(7 | - | 572 | WIDGEON |
| 5017 | _ | 573 | PUFFIN |
| 1 11 | 63 | 574 | GUILLEMOT. |

MATHARD leaves F N.6 off Outer Dowsing enters the Humber and sails so as to join F S571 off Flamborough at 1h00/19/8 PURMIN leaves F N.7 off Outer Dowsing enters the Humber and sails so as to join F S573 between Flamborough and 62D buoy before dark.

Names of A/S trawlers will be signalled at 1000 on the day before sailing.

Advance copy Ops. 0.D. Trade.

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S. (T) (2)
A.C.N.S. (H)
N.A. to lst S.L.
Ops. (4)
O.D. (5)
O.D. 8
O.I.C. (3)
D.S.D. 9
I.P. (3)
W.D.
D.A/S.W.
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (4)
D.T.D. (6)

14.8.41. Thursday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys Contd.

F.S570.

My 1100/11. (Forecast of convoy sailings.)
F.S\$70 will run as an 8 knot convoy sailing
from Methil at 2000/16. E.T.A. 20 C buoy
0845/17, 62D buoy 2100/17 and Southend 2000/18.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 1302/14 to Admty etc.)

S/M Escorts to H.E. and O.G. discontinued. Your 1204B/8. In view of concentrated attacks to which H.G. and O.G. convoys are liable and to avoid any possibility of doubt in escorts as to identity of a S/M with which they may be in contact, it has been decided to discontinue S/M escorts for these convoys. Netherlands S/M's should continue to be employed in Western Mediterranean, OLYMPUS for transport duties to Malta or for operational duties, where A/S activity is not expected to be strong, and "River" Class on operational patrols in Atlantic.

(V.C.N.S. 1333A/14 1311A/15 to F.O.C.N.A.)

0.S.2. S.L.84. Routes too close to Dakar. (C. in C.S.A., 1357N/14.) See South Atlantic.

Cam Ships.

It is desired to have a Cam ship with as many convoys as possible. When necessary a Cam ship may be delayed to achieve this.
(A.C.N.S.(T) 1344A/14 to C. in C.W.A.)

F. S 569.

My 1100/11. F.S\$69 will sail from Methil at 1200/15 and run as a fast convoy to 20C buoy, then as a slow convoy. E.T.A. 20C Buoy 0045/16 then according to programme. (C. in C. Rosyth, 1852/14 to Admty etc.)

14.8.1941. Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

0.24 2 M/V's sunk.

P.C. and S. 0001A/14 037° 50' N., 002° 46' 30" E 259° 13 knots. Have sunk by torpedo 5000-ton fully laden supply ship and sailing vessel believed 1000 tons. (0.24 0057A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.) Arrived off Europe Point at 0800A/15. Own surface force will be exercising S.E. of Gibraltar and tug and target will be in position 090° Europa Point 40 at 0600. T.B.R. arranged from 0400. (F.O.C.N.A. 1108A/14 to 0.24)

KOS KOS 9 My 1700A/11 not to Admty. Have KOS 7 and KOS 9 arrived? (F.O.C.N.A. 0816A/14 to Ponta Delgada) See 0720/16.

Escorts for Tankers.

Tanker CAPSA's signal reporting her arrival at 25°W was received at 2238/11. Her time of arriving at 15°W will be approx. 1230/14. Times for BENEDICK are 0659/12 and 0900/14. This does not allow sufficient time to organise escorts economically. Request Tankers be instructed to report on crossing 30° W. (F.O.C.N.A., 1318A/14 to Admty.)

Italian Ships.

Departure 13/8 MAURO GROCE Genoa Arrival 14/8 DERNA. (Barcelona 1500/14)

French Convoys. Passing Gibraltar 12/8, 13/8. (D.O.R. 14/8)

17th M.L.F.

My 1140A/12 and my 1148A/13. Intend sailing 17th M.L.F. SOUTHERN GEM, SOUTHERN PRIDE and ARRAN 0630A/16. Delay in starting due to defect in an M.L. (F.O.C.N.A. 1728A/14 to C. in C. S.A.)

French Ships.

Arrival Bilbao 13/8 LE VIOLENT. Departure 12/8 PRESIDENT LAVIT 13/8 JEUNE ? MAURICE (Bilbao, 1824/14)

Water Supplies. Your 1306B/3 para 1. Following is summary of replies to A.T. 1209B/5.

(a) Funchal ample supplies.
(b) Las Palmas sufficient supplies.
(c) Ponta Delgada supplies by lighter from outside port in fine weather only 40 tons per hour provided ship can received through four or five hoses.

14.8.1941. Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

North Atlantic

Water Supplies -Contd.

2. In view of information in (c) amend para 2 of A.T. 1925B/4 to read Funchal for Ponta Delgada.

3. Funchal should normally be used for lifting water, Las Palmas only being used in an emergency.
(A.C.N.S. (F) 2340A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

South Atlantic

ORION suspicious ships.

ORION's 0102/13. Is it known if (?these) ships are likely to have been U.S. Cruiser MEMPHIS U.S. Destroyers DAVIS and WARRINGTON? (C. in C. S.A. 0023N/14 to Admty.)

New in C.

Valuable if Vice-Adm. Willis could visit South and West Africa before he assumes command of South Atlantic Station. He will first visit you at Freetown subsequently proceeding by Commercial Airline to the Cape. (V.C.N.S. 0100A/14 to C. in C. S.A.)

A/A Guns in Transports.

Request report of A/A. Armament provided in MAURETANIA, NIEUW AMSTERDAM, ILE DE FRANCE. (a) permanently on board (b) provided additionally when in Red Sea. (D.T.D. 1233A/14 to N.O.I.C. Durban)

0.S. 2. S.L. 84.

Convoy Routes Consider route of convoy O.S. 2 undesirably close to Dakar and S.L. 84 could with advantage be further out unless special reason requires. Air R/C from Dakar known on occasion to extend to this distance and no reason seen why convoy should not be reported ultimately to enemy. (C. in C. S.A., 1357N/14 to Admty.)

Freetown

M. of W.T. and W.O. are concerned about future development and administration of Freetown in view of its increasing use as a port of transit for important military and commercial cargoes. Proposals are being cabled to Governor and repeated to you by Colonial Office.
(A.C.N.S. (T) 1548A/14 To C. in C. S.A.)

IN.

SECRET.

MESSAGE

No.T.O.O./Lith.August

From: Governor(Gen. Viscount Gort).

Date: 15.8.41. Recd: 0535.

Cipher.

Addressed Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 364.

Addressed to the S. of S. Repeated (by Savingram) to Madrid and Lisbon.

The following events this month may account for the feeling of uneasiness which is abroad.

- 1. The rounding up of De Gaullist Czechs and Poles in French North Africa.
- 2. The continuation of the Anti-British press campaign in Spain and Morocco.
- 3. Reports from two sources warning us of the intended occupation by Germans of Casablanca and Dakar in the near future.
- 4. The sailing of all British and neutral shipping from Casablanca.
 - 5. A census of all road transport in the Campo area.

It may be possible that these occurrences (except for the third), and others of a similar nature, may form part of a pre-arranged programme.

lst Lord.
lst S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.G.N.S.(T) (2)
A.G.N.S.(F)
Nav. Sec.
N.A. lst S.L.
P.A.S.(S)
Ops.(4)
O.D.(5)
O.I.C.(3)
D.N.I.(4)
D. of P.(3)
D.T.D.(4)
D.S.D.9.
D.E.W.D.(3)
M.(2)
D.C.O.
D.T.S.D.(C.O.)
E.P.S.
Admiral Chalmers.
Press Divn.
W.D.

I.P. (3)

MGB.

(Note: this telegram was held in Telegraph Section pending repetition of fourth paragraph onwards 16.8.41.)

Received by hand from Colonial Office at 1920/18.

14.8.1941. Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

South Atlantic-Contd.

MACGILLIVRAY
Q report.

Following has been read: - QQQQ 13 31 S. 40 56 E. CLAN MACGILLIVRAY followed by suspicious vessel. DE Jacobs Radio. T.O.R. Slangkop 1740. (Jenin Radio No T.O.O.) Following has been read: - from CLAN MACGILLIVRAY Cancel my QQQQ of 1814 DE Walvis Bay. (Slangkop T.O.R. 1815N, CLAN MACGILLIVRAY 2016/14) Jacobs W/T reports cancellation of QQQQ was on different setting different and weaker note. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 2109B/14 to C. in C. E.I., etc.)
Your 2109/14 Cancellation received in code at 2036 G.M.T. consider genuine. (C. in C. E.I. 2134Z/14 to F.O.I.C. Simonstown)

ADVANCE (Finnish)

My 2217/8. Santos reports expected to sail for Rio de Janeiro 15/8 to load ore for Orient. (S.O.I. Montevideo 2101Z/14 to R.A.S.A.D.)

ST. DOMINIQUE

French ship ST. DOMINIQUE is due to leave Martinique on 18/8 for Cayenne and Rio de Janeiro calling on return journey at Para and Cayenne. Voyage has been approved. (C. in C. S.A. 2101N/14 to S. & A. S.A. S.Q.D.)

KOS 7 and KOS 9

Have not arrived Freetown. No report of sailing from Ponta Delgada yet received. Admty. 1321/4 suggests ships were not due Ponta Delgada till 12/8. Your 0816/14 refers. (C. in C. S.A. 2121N/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

14.8.1941. Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean

Enemy A/C

3 enemy aircraft in sight in Section B at (2000 feet)? (JAGUAR 0237/14 to KIMBERLEY) Following has been read: Am being attacked by enemy aircraft 31.57 N., 25.46 E. (?? 0728/14 to Alexandria W/T)

Ehemy Convoy. Following has been read P.C. and S of enemy, 3 M/V 2 schooners 34.01 N., 11.57 E., 190° 5 knots. (Q.Squadron Med. Fleet. 0829B/14, S.O.S. Malta 0953B/14 to P.33.)

Western Desert.

Following destroyers detailed for Western Desert service: - KIPLING, JACKAL leave Alexandria a.m./18 NIZAM, HASTY leave Alexandria a.m./19.(R.A.D. Med. 0905/14)

URSULA URGE OSIRIS URSULA passes 035° 51' 015° 15' about 2359B/14 on course 70° to 015° 40'. 1st position to be approached as follows (begins) URGE on course 195° keeping west of 015° 35' OSIRIS on course 335° both to arrive a.m./15. Submarines are not to be attacked during night of 14/15. (S.O.(S) Malta 0940B/14 to URGE, OSIRIS)

Signals

Your 1450/8. No difficulty is foreseen in using different letters for aircraft and mimor war vessels, both being unconnected with private signals. (C. in C. Med. 1002C/14 to Admty.)

Situation Report No 115. Following is a repetition of my 2344C/12
PROTECTOR has arrived Port Said. Engine room
diesel room and barrel stowages flooded.
Torpedo hit after engine room bulkhead. "A"
Lighter No 14 mined and sunk in Tobruk Harbour.
37 Wellingtons attacked Benghazi night 10/11.
No further report of enemy supply ship.
(C. in C. Med. 1010/14)

end

BARHAM

You must arrive south of Suez searched channel 029° 50' by 0500C/15. Enter canal without delay on arrival. If mines are laid tonight N.O.I.C. Port Tewfik will order you to remain south of swept channel. (S.B.N.O. Suez, 1031C/14 to BARHAM)

/Port Said

14.8.1941. Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Port Said Raid.

Suez Raid

S/M attacked in Bardia Derna Bombed Port Said and El Firdan each bombed by single enemy aircraft on night 12/13, no damage reported, some service casualties El Firdan.
Night 13/14 about 15 enemy aircraft attacked Suez Canal, details not yet available as telephone communication cut.

Striking force 1 Blenheim 5 Albacores armed with bombs and torpedoes despatched to attack submarine reported in Bardia Harbour on night 12/13. Details damage unobserved but submarine believed damaged as large oil patches were seen on surface N.E. of Harbour on morning 13/8. Further 2 Blenheims 1 Wellington bombed Bardia town night 12/13 hitting Customs House and Southwest corner M.T. workshops. One Wellington bombed Derna day 13/8. (H.Q.,R.A.F., M.E.,1101/14)

BATHURST LISMORE Admty. 0101A/13. Your 1100Z/13 BATHURST will be quickly docked at Alexandria completing p.m./16. Intend to sail her for Aden on completion. LISMORE is at Suem and can be sailed at once. Would you prefer that she be quickly docked before sailing: This would entail delay in sailing until about 22/8. (C. in C. Med., 1102C/14 to C. in C. E.I.)

<u>Vichy</u> Convoy My 1600C (8th?) Return route of convoy A as follows. (C. in C. Med. 1121C/14 to Med. Fleet.)

Alexandria

Re installing a Flashing Cable. Consider degree of protection afforded does not justify the use of so much equipment and shipping. Provision of more "LL" and S.A. minesweepers appears to be a better policy giving greater flexibility in operation. (D.M.S. Approved A.C.N.S.(H) 1127A/14 to C. in C. Med.)

Submarines

Movements summary 41 (C.(S) I 1140C/14) See Lion Copy.

ABDIEL

Detach ABDIEL to arrive Port Said 0800/15. (C. in C. Med, 1328C/14 to NEPTUNE)

/Operation...

SECRUT MESSAGE 1140C/1/th August DATE 14.8.41.
FROM C.(S) 1. RECD. 2045.

moining a .c.u.

FROM C.(S) 1.

N.V.L CODE "L.2." (SECRET) BY V/T & T/P

ADDRESS D Mediterranean Fleet. Repeated H.M.S.PIORUN. N.O.1/c Alexandria, A.O.C.Mediterranean. S.O.Force "I".
N.O.1/c Port Said, N.O.1/c Cyprus, 201 Group.
N.O./CPalostine Port

IMPORTANT

Submarine Movements Summary Number 41 Movement "A"

| Submarine movements Summary Number 41 Movement "A" | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Submarine | Depart From | Routed Through | irrive | | |
| H.M.S.OSIRIS | 035 degs.35' (?015 degs.) 40' 0400/14th | 036 dogs.00'. 014 dogs. 53' | | | |
| H.M.S.OTUS | Aloxandria 1700/13th. | 035 dogs, 26' 027 dogs, 20' 034 dogs, 00' 021 dogs, 34' 034 dogs, 46' 017 dogs, 00' | Malta a. m. 20th. | | |
| H.M.S.TAKU | Alexandria 1930/13th. | 033 dogs.44. 027 dogs. (?40' or 28') 034 dogs.08'. 025 dogs.06'. 035 dogs. | Malta a.m. 21st. | | |
| H.M.S.TALISMAN | 033 dogs. 13'. 026 dogs. 40'. 0001/14th | | Alexandria 1100/15th. | | |
| H.M.S. THUNDERBOLT | | 033 dogs.47'. 022 dogs.12'. 032 dogs.55'. 022 dogs.30'. 033 dogs.13'. 026 dogs.40'. | Alexandria (?07 or 11)00 18th. | | |
| H.M.S.TETRARCH | 033 degs.00'. 024 degs.30'. 1200/15th. | 033 dogs.00'. 022 dogs.00'. | Arca C 15th. | | |
| H.M.S.TORBAY | Gulf of Sirto p.m. llith | 033 dogs.27'. 020 dogs.00'. 034 dogs.14'. 021 dogs.32'. 034 dogs.14'. 023 dogs.50'. | Alexandria 25rd. | | |
| H.M.S.URGE | 036 dogs.42'. 015 dogs.33'. 2230/13th. | - | Malta 0630/15th. | | |
| Groek S/M NEREUS | Area G 16th. | Scarpanto Channel | . Alexandria a.m 20th | | |

H.M.S. URSULA....

| Submarino | Depart From | Pout od Ilmough | Arrivo |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| H.M.S. URSULA | Malta p, m. 11th | 035° 47" 015° 15° | Area N 15th |
| H.M.S.UPHOGDER | Malte p.m. 15th | - | Arca F |

Safety routes are established for H.M.S. OSIRIS and H.M.S. OTUS between Alexandria and Malta. No repetition No S/M is to be attacked on these routes. H.M.S. OSIRIS and H.M.S. OTUS can not repetition not burn identification flares sanctuary (B)

P 32 E. Area V

Southwards 033° 10' between 013° 30' East 015° 00' East

| H.M.S. | URSULA | 15th Arca N | 036 degs 40° | -340°-80 |
|---------|----------|-------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| H.M.S. | UPHOLDER | 18th Area K | 038 degs 00' 011 degs 00' | - 000° -60 - 75 |
| .H.M.S. | TETRARCH | 15th Arca C | Southwards 032 degs 45 | |
| 200 | aring | water whom | Eastwards 015 degs 00' | |

Grock Submarine NEREUS. Until 16th Area G as in number 40. P 33 and H.M.S. THRASHER as in number 40. Time of origin 1140 c/14.

11400/14.

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

V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
N.A.lst S.L.
Ops.(4)
O,D.(5)
O.D.8
O.I.C,(3)
I.P.(3)
D.S.D.9
D.A./S.
W.D.
Movts
D of P (3)
E.P.S.
F.O.S. by Courier.

0.00 de ma 20° - 20° - 55 0 - 55 0 - 0.00 - 00° - 000 033 doga 00° - 75 1 - Southwards 0° - 20° -

ARW R.G.M Punios by a Lila Like of the Same of the S

Toy and body ora, C. u. C. L. C.

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-60

.M.S.

14.8.1941. Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Operation "Guillotine"

Serial 21 P postponed 24 hours. ABDIEL is to take the place of KIPLING, returning to Alexandria on completion. KIPLING as ordered by S.B.N.O. Suez Canal Area. (C. in C. Med., 1348C/14 to S. and A Operation "Guillotine")

NEPTUNE TALISMAN NEPTUNE E.T.A. Alexandria from eastward 0830C/15 Do not pass Shoulder Buoy until 1000C and proceed on main motor inside 20 fathom line. (Capt. S.1. 1545C/14 to TALISMAN)

Malta Raid

CALIFORNIA Sunk

Augusta
Syracuse
Tripoli
bombed.

Night 13/14, 1 raider dropped incendiaries. No damage. Hurricanes unable to engage. Part 2. Visual R/C Syracuse, CALIFORNIA 13,000 tons attacked by Swordfish (see 1600/11) now sunk in harbour.

5 Swordfish attacked S/M base Augusta night 13/14. 2 hits on Jetty. 2 A/C failed to locate target owing to bad visibility and attacked barrack blocks Syracuse. 6 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli from 2135 to 0210 G.M.T. Night 13/14. Government Offices buildings hit also Governors Palace and 1 heavy A.A. position. (H.Q.,R.A.F.,Malta 1600/14)

P. 32 P. 33 UNIQUE Cancel my 1058B/14 (N.T. in W.D.) Patrol as follows P.32 033° 10'£.013° 14'£.P.33 033° 20'm.
013° 00'£. UNIQUE leaves Malta p.m./16 for position 033° 20'm.013° 10'£.
12½ knots convoy 6 merchant ships and 5 destroyers due Tripoli 1300/15 and 8 knots convoy 4 merchant ships and 6 destroyers due Tripoli 1630/18. (S.O.(S) Malta 1601B/14 to P.32, P.33)

Turkey and Iran.

German schemes for road transport. (Beyoglu, 1646C/14 to Admty.) See Lion Copy.

PORPOISE

My 1043B/30. Amend date for PORPOISE to read 15/9. (F.O.S. 1724A/14 to C. in C. Med. etc.)

_UNIQUE

Leaves Malta p.m/16 for patrol off Tripoli during 18, then to relieve P. 33 in area T. (S.O.S. Malta 1845B/14 to Capt. S. 1.)

/Interned....

MOST SECRET

MOST SECRET

MESSAGE

IN 1646C/14th August

From Beyoglu.

Date 15.8.41. Recd. 1210.

INTERDEPAREMENTAL CYPHER V (14) BY CABLE. (Recirculation at request of N.I.D.)

Addressed Admiralty

IMPORTANT,

My telegram No.1223 August 11th. From N.S.O.(I)
Istanbul to N.S.O.(I) Mediterranean repeated Director Naval
Intelligence and Director Military Intelligence India. Same
source graded B two repeat B two.

- (a) Berkopp Boxafhausen and Majehszak, Directors of Schenkers German and Ernst Fasting their Iran representative are in Istanbul working out Road Transport Scheme from Trebizond to Iran. It will function under name of Pisani and Rickertsen.
 - immediate negotiations with the Turkish Government for duty free import of very large quantities of patrol and oil; organization of Offices at Istanbul Samsun Gireson.

 Trebizond Ordu Kars Diarbekir; establishment of fuelling stations, improvements to roads and bridges. Permission to besought from Turkish General Staff for passage of 10 ton lorries through Thrace. Specific reference to despatch of 120 snow ploughs to keep open in the winter roads in mountains of Turkish Iran frontier. All vehicles built and improvements to become the property of the Turkish Government repeat Turkish Government free of charge after the war

- (c) Ostensible reason for whole scheme is German need of alternative route for Iran goods now Russia closed but Turkish S.I.S. who supplied information are convinced that the elaborate scale of the undertaking proves it to be a military one. From study (?including) personalities involved here I fully endorse this view.
 - (d) No information yet in Istanbul whether Turkish Government have been approached; am repeating to Embassy at Angora.

1646C/14.

**Uncertain whether "Berkopp" or Boxafhausen intended

Advance Copy sent 0.I.C.

lst Lord.
lst S.L.
3rd S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F)
A.C.N.S.(T)(2)
N.A.lst S.L.
D.O.D.(F)
D.D.O.D.(F)
D.N.I.(4)
D.D.I.C.
D. of P.(3.)
Hd. of M.(8) (for F.O. W.O.,
A.M. & M.E.W.)
E.P.S.
D.S.D.9.
I.P.(3)
W.D.
D.E.W.D.

14.8.1941. Thursday

FOREIGN STATIONS

Mediterranean-Contd.

Interned Vichy Ships Your 1350B/6 and C. in C. Med. 1436C/8. General Staff state Turkish Govt. have decided to move all Vichy French Ships to Erdek where vessels under control of Turkish Navy. (N.A.Angora 1853C/14 to Admty.)

Greek S/M NEREUS

Leave patrol a.m/16 proceed through Scarpanto Channel to 34° 12' 29° 22' thence direct to arrive Alexandria 3/M Sanctuary 0500C/20. (Capt. S.1.1909C/14 to NEREUS)

German Ships. Arrival 13/8 HANS SCHMIDT LISBOA with cargo Ammonia Fertiliser. (Valencia 2020/14 to M. of W.T.)

Folbot Section. Proposals for, in submarines. (C. in C. M.E. 2030/14 to W.O.) See Mediterranean Volume.

H.M.S. TORBAY reports use and sweeping of swept channel 311° from Benghazi also increased AS measures. (Capt. (S) 12147C/14 to TETRARCH)

Situation Report No 117 1. Western Desert. Aircraft attacked U-Boat in Bardia harbour night of 12/13 and reported she may have been seriously damaged as large patches of oil were seen.

2. Syria. Movement of interned Vichy ships (?from) Iskanderun to Erdek postponed to 15/8.

3. Canal area. About 12 bombs dropped Port Said between 0300 and 0630 on August 14. No naval damage or casualties. (See also S.B.N.O. Suez Canal area 1805C/14) (C. in C. Med. 2314C/14)

- TORBAY

Request approval Patrol Kithera Channel from a.m./16 to p.m./17. My 2055/12 ship still in harbour. (TORBAY 2341C/14 to Capt. S. 1.)

14.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

East Indies.

VOYAGER. C. in C. Med., 1201/27. VOYAGER still awaiting instructions Aden. (S.N.O.R.S., 0728Z/14 to C. in C. E.I.)

Your 1543/26 and your 1016/7 GIOVE was formally seized as Prize at 0815Z/14 by me. There is no cargo on board. (N.O.I.C. Massawa, 0854Z/14 to Admty).

My 1102/14. On relief by MAURITIUS return to Bombay arriving 22nd.
(C. in C. E.I., 1104Z/14 to EXETER) Cancelled, see 0830/17.

Basea Naval
Basea (H.M.S.

EUPHRATES).

(1) A small naval base has been formed at (Basra?)
which it is recommended should be called H.M.S.
EUPHRATES (late Motor Dhow NAIF) as from 1/9/41,
(2) If approved list of officers requiring fresh appointments will be forwarded by letter and formal commissioning order issued by C. in C. E.I.
(3) Request decision by signal.
(C. in C. E.I., 1224Z/14 to Admty).

CHAKDINA.

Is to join Med. Fleet. Request you sail CHAKDINA for Suez at best speed calling at Aden for fuel. She should have full outfit of ammunition. CHAKDINA to report programme.

(C. in C. E.I., 1254Z/14 to Cdre. R.I.N.

TEESBANK.

Left Suez 8/8 for Calcutta. Ship now wanted Singapore, please divert.

(D.T.D. 1930A/14 to N.O.I.C. Aden).

14.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

China.

Shipping.

Diversion on outbreak of war. (C. in C. China, 0325Z/14) See Operations Volume.

LECCONTE DE LISLE, French.

Departure 13/8 for Haiphong. (Saigon, 0454Z/14 to M. of W.T.)

URSULA RICKMERS. BURGENLAND. SPREEWALD. "GLEN" ship.

Dairen departure 9/8.

Kobe 8/8 has returned to anchorage. Yokohama, SPREEWALD and new "Glen" search Type ship (my 0509/9/7 refers) have departed within last few days. (Capt. 0.S. Singapore, 0501Z/14).

Mining policy.

In event of war spreading to Far East. (C. in C. China, 0533Z/14) See Operations Volume.

DUPLEIX
French
COMPIEGNE
(French).

Detained by Dutch at Tanjong Priok, cargo is being unloaded and cargo will be placed in hands of Prize Court. Expected that Court will make Prize of both to compensate for two Dutch ships held in North African Ports. They will endeavour to seize COMPIEGNE should she leave Saigon as further compensation. (Capt. O.S. Singapore, 0636Z/14 to Admty).

SCOUT.

Hong Kong departure 12/8 SCOUT for operations. (S.O.(I) Singapore, 1007Z/14 to Admty).

America & West Indies.

NORDERNEY.

Left Para p.m./9. Description. (C. in C. A.W.I., 1133Q/14 to CIRCASSIA).

NASTURTIUM, PRIMROSE.

C. in C. W.A., 1703B/6/8. Request you will keep Admiralty and C. in C. W.A. informed of arrangements made between you and B.A.R.M. re arrival at Charleston and refitting periods for NASTURTIUM and PRIMROSE. (D.O.D. (H) 1136A/14 to C.C.N.F.)

/ORION....

14.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

ORION. My 0941/6/8 shall be 24 hours early. (ORION, 1224Z/14).

My 1202P/13 and Admty 1926A/12. Request REVENGE REVENGE. may be sailed so as to reach Halifax not later than a.m./24. (R.A. 3 1434P/14 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Treatment, policy, clarifying points in Admty 0130/4/7. (Head of M., 1526A/14 to C. in C. A.W.I., etc.etc). See Lion Copy. Vichy Ships.

Finnish Admty 1944B/5. H.M.C. Ships are to be instructed to seize all ships flying Finnish flag on the high seas. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 1604Z/14 to C.O.A.C. Halifax, C.C. Newfoundland, C.O. Pacific Coast.) Ships.

Navy Dept. confirms daily air R/C of Martinique. Plane from San Juan lands about 1200 at Martinique. Pilot meets naval observer; mail is exchanged.
Plane remains overnight in Trinidad and lands about 1000 at Martinique on return next day. Plots are made of shipping and given to Commander Caribbean Patrol. (D.N.I., 1621A/14 to C. in C. A.W.I.).

Your 1553Z/13. Difficulties fully appreciated by Admty and were discussed by Minister and C.N.S. St. John's N.F. at Admiralty Staff meeting. Anticipated that number of R.N. Ships will be greatly reduced in very near future consequent upon certain plans involving co-operation of U.S. Naval Forces. This does not alter wish of Admty that complete project of essential work should be proceeded with as quickly as possible. (C.N.S., Canada, 1631B/14 to C.C.N.F.)

> A. M. 1400A/13. Consider alteration in Cycle without inconvenience to N.E.F. could be made commencing with H.X. 146 & S.C. 41. Desirable that H.X. and S.C. Convoys sail on same day and O.N. fast and slow Convoys also sail approx. same day, this day being about two days previous to sailing of H.X. and S.C. (C.C.N.F., 1722Z/14 to C. in C. W.A.)

> > /EMBERLEY.....

Martinique.

Convoy Cycles.

MOST SECRET

1526A/14th August.

MOST SECRET.

MESSAGE.

To. C. in C. America & West Indies. 730. Date: 14.8.41.

C. in C. Home Fleet. 335.

S. O. W. P.

C. in C. Western Approaches. 272.C. in C. East Indies. 591.

C. in C. China. 588. C. in C. Mediterranean. 560B.1

R. A. S. A. D. 313.

Australian Commonwealth Naval Board. 634. New Zealand Naval Board. 432. .

Naval Cypher (D)

From Admiralty.

It is desired to clarify the following points in Admiralty telegram 0130/4/7:-

- (a) Paragraph 3 (b) of Admiralty telegram 1407/10/1 is superseded by Admiralty telegram 0130/4/7. The general policy remains, to avoid hostilities with Vichy Forces so far as possible, but the risk of conflict arising from the execution of instructions in Admiralty telegram 0130/4/7 is accepted;
- (b) intervention of French Forces not decisively superior may now be contested by action when this is warranted by the nature of the Prize in dispute, and degree of risk to H.M. Ships. Consequently:-
 - (1) if the captured ship is unimportant, she should generally be sunk rather than attempt to drive off the French Forces:
 - (2) the decision whether to dispute possession of a valuable Prize, or to sink, must depend on the circumstances, the risk of gerious damage to H.M. Ships, the value of the particular Prize and the chance of bringing the latter successfully into port being taken into account;

(c) in order/.....

MOST SECRET

-2-

(c) in order to minimise the risk of hostilities ensuing from execution of paragraphs 2 (c) and (e) and paragraph 3 of Admiralty telegram 0130/4/7, action to sink captured ships should generally be by scuttling. Armed guards and Prize crews on Vichy Ships should therefore, in all cases, work out a scuttling organisation.

1526A/14. for Hd. of M (86)

1st Lord. 1st S.L. 5th S. L. V. C. N. S. (H) (F) (T) A. C. N.S. A. C. N. S. A.C.N.S. N. A. lst S. L. D. N. I. (4) D. D. I. C. D. N. A. D. D.S.D. 9. D.O.D. (H) D.D.O.D. (H) D.O.D. (F) D.D.O.D. (F) W.D. D.T.D. (2) D.T.D. (M) D.E.W.D. Duty Captain
Hd. of M. (50) (M/012072/41)
D. of P (2)
D.T.S.D. I.P. (2) Admiral Chalmers N. I.D. 10 (Pay. Cdr. Wilson)

14.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

America & West Indies. - Contd.

EMBERLEY. ODERIN.

Following from Mission (begins). Your ADCAN 952. Newfoundland Govt. now report M.M.S. 119 and 120 named EMBERLEY and ODERIN should be ready to sail for U.K. 17/8. No date yet given for other 2 but anticipate very near future. (Highcoma Ottawa, 1845/14 to Admty).

ORION.

Admty 1918/24/7 and N.O.I.C. Simonstown 0903/30/7 following programme (Trinidad to Mare Island) for ORION is proposed. (ORION, 1853/14 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

Bermuda.

Refugee Ships D.E.W. has informed H.M. Ambassador Madrid that all refugee ships must in future call at Bermuda for thorough examination of passengers and their baggage instead of Gibraltar. (D.E.W.D., 1935A/14 to C. in C. A.W.I.)

S.S. STELLA Capturad.

Captured Italian S.S. STELLA in 024° 55' 040° 23' Prize Crew taking to Bermuda. (CIRCASSIA, 2000Z/14).

NORDERNEY sighted.

Oiler BISHOPDALE sighted .S.S similar to WAKAMA in Olo° 10' N., 043° 43' W. steering Olo° at 2200/14 This may be NORDERNEY. Take necessary action. (C. in C. A.W. I., 2103Q/14 to DESPATCH. CIRCASSIA).

St. Johns N.F.

Progress re dockyard site. etc. (N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 2110Z/14 to Admty). See Lion Copy.

TRIOMPHANT.

C. in C. A.W. I., 12222/10 to LE TRIOMPHANT. B.A.D. Washington is becoming increasingly involved with arrangements for passage of LE TRIOMPHANT. Request I may be informed how long she is likely to be operating in Pacific and what is the nature of such operations. (B.A.D., Washington, 2127R/14 to Admty). Lee also p 280

RESOLUTION.

Your 1324R/8. Is required to arrive in U.K. as soon as possible. 17 days' working up cannot be accepted, and it should be limited to one week. Should circumstances indicate that ship is likely to become involved in action on passage to U.K. this period will be extended by Admty (Anticipated dates). (A.C.N.S. (H) 2335A/14 to B.A.R.M.) From N.S.H.Q. Ottawa.

Date. 15.8.41. Recd. 1350.

2110Z/14/Aug.

Naval Cypher X by Cable.

Addressed. Admiralty. Repeated. C.C. N.F.

Foll wing from SEAL. Lyons reports Dockyard site now in our possession. Prices have been agreed for all properties except one small shop. In addition two large and several minor compensation claims are outstanding. So far we have spent 275,000 (275,000) dollars for freeholds and 25,000 (25,000) dollars for compensation on properties estimated to cost 509,000 (509,000) dollars plus 10,400 (10,400) dollars compensation.

(2) After local enquiries Lyons has convinced me that procedure before Board of Compensation set up by Newfoundland Government under emergency powers of March 6th can be accepted.

(3) Main issue before Board is likely to be how many years profits shall be allowed. Claimants ask ten years. We envisage maximum

of three and have grounds for hoping Board will accept this basis.

Any information you can give us about corresponding practice in United Kingdom would be useful.

(4) Lyons and Taylor who has investigated firms, accounts, will appear in person before Board and case will be conducted on your behalf by Local Solicitor of standing and experience.

Case is likely to come on early September.

(5) As regards Barrack site we have accepted offer of lease at 3,000 (3,000) dollars per annum for period not exceeding duration of war and 12 months thereafter. We hope also to obtain in lease option of extension and option of purchase at price to be agreed or determined by Board of Compensation. We shall ban right to remove buildings at end of our occupancy.

(6) Normal basis in St. Johns is 20 years purchase and if therefore you wish to secure freehold we might by using powers of ex propriation get it for 60,000 (60,000) dollars although we

might have to pay considerably more.

(7) Hospital site has been offered free by municipality for period up to 21 years suggest suitable Official letter of thanks addressed Mayor.

Oil tank site has been enquired for 9,500 (9,5000) dollars

and W/T station sites for 250 (250) dollars.

(9) Will report further as regards Officers' Quarters Administration building and Magazines.

21102/14.

lst. Lord. lst. S.L. 3rd. S.L. Vice Controller. 4th. S.L. Civil Lord. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S. (H) A.C.N.S. (F) Soc. Nav. Sec. N.A.lst S.L.

P.A.S. (8) D.N.I.(4) O.D.(5) O.D.(5)
Ops. (4)
N. (5) for action
D.of P. (3)
O.I.C. (2)
I.P. (3)
W.D. Deputy Controller. (3) > C.E.in C. S.W.R. Courier.

14.8.1941. Thursday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Australia.

U.S Cruisers.

NORTHAMPTON and SALT LAKE CITY left Port Moresby 0549Z/13 (?for) Rabaul. (A.C.N.B., 0253Z/14 to Admty etc).

Guns for M.V.s

Your 1952B/5. 16 Commonwealth registered ships trading Australian coast of over 3,000 tons for which no guns are at present available. Also approx. 70 coastal ships between 500 tons and 3,000 tons the arming of which has not yet been considered. As there are no high angle guns mounted on any Australian Merchant ships, request any available high angle or dual purpose guns may be allocated. About 6 allied ships all under 3,000 tons permanently on the station which are not armed. (A.C.N.B., 0425Z/14 to Admty Request report of A.A. Armamant provided in QUEEN ELIZABETH, QUEEN MARY, AQUITANIA. (D.T.D., 1236A/14 to A.C.N.B.)

TRIOMPHANT.

Your OlO5B/5. Is it intended that the ship remain at Tahiti? Fuel question. HAURAKI can take 450 tons arriving first week September but this entails depleting sugar cargoes. (N.Z.N.B., Wellington, 1018M/14).

14.8.1941. Thursday.

U-BOAT CAMPAIGN.

Ships Attacked.

IDA KNUDSEN (torpedoed 21/7)

Ref. N.C.S.I., 69 (A) Norwegian IDA KNUDSEN (B) 21/7 July 2100 G.M.T. 34.34N., 13.14 W., (C) and (D) Thrown overboard in locked iron box (E) 1200 fathoms (G) Master. Proceeding singly, sunk by four torpedoes. Two other torpedoes missed, One S/M sighted believed to be ENRICO TAZZOLI class. Another S/M stated remained by ship when submerged but this open to doubt though witnesses definite. Somewhat discounted by being dark night. Master and 13 of crew landed Freetown from Las Palmas. 24 unaccounted for. (C. in C. S.A., OO21N/14 to Admty).

Submarines Reported.

2330/13. Bearings of Italian U/Boat 67 G. at 2330/13 G.M.T. -(D.D.I.C., 0121A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Ol00.G.M.T. Italian S/M bearing 294/3 made a sighting report of H.G. 70 at 0100 G.M.T. (F.O.C.N.A., 0233A/14 to Escort H.G.70).

O245B. One U-boat in O35° 36'w.O15° 39'f.Course 270° speed unknown. (OSIRIS, O245B/14 to V.A. Malta).

Estimated U-boat dispositions. (D.D.I.C., 1517A/14).

2030B. Lost contact with U-boat in 032° 41' N., 027° 35' E., enemy C. and S. last 3 hours 310° 2.5 knots. Am remaining in vicinity. (TALISMAN, 2030 B/14 to C. in C. Med).

2017 G.M.T. Bearing at 2017 G.M.T. of Italian U-boat 14 F. (D.D.I.C., 2154A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

2153 G. M.T. Bearings at 2153 G.M.T. of Italian U-boat 14 U. (D.D.I.C., 2338A/14 to F.O.C.N.A.)

Extracts from log of PRINCE OF WALES. (Returning with Prime Minister after visit to U.S. President of Newfoundland) 15 August 1941.

Sighted large convoy ahead. (H.X.143) 1920

1937 Courses as req: for passing through convoy on same course.

1953 Speed 25 kts.

2010

Passed through convoy.
Turned 180°. Courses & speeds as req: for passing through convoy on opposite course. 2012

2040 Cleared convoy. Altered course to 0450. Speed 212 kts.

Position at 2000: 62° 13' N. (Star sights) 28 43 W.

16.8.41. At Hvalfiord from 0900 to 2004, during which time the P.M. and party were disembarked.

17.8.41. 0505 Sighted convoy (HX.143) bearing 1530, distance about 13 miles.

15.8.1941. Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

H.M.T. ADAM, whilst attempting with H.M.T. FYLDEA to recover an air sea rescue float on the Varne Bank was slightly damaged by fire from Gris Nez and Calais batteries which fired about 29 rounds between 1651 and 1720.

Four M.T.B's left Dover at 2200 to sweep near Berck Buoy.

C.E.45.

V.A. Dover in his 1006A/15 suggests reasons why C.E. 45 passed through the Straits without incident.

British Air Operations.

Minor attacks were made last night by Bomber Command aircraft on Boulogne and on Rotterdam docks.

Enemy Air Operations.

Two small attacks were made this afternoon on shipping off the East Coast. No damage is reported.

Mining.

5 Hampdens laid mines last night off the Frisian Islands.

15.8.1941. Friday.

SITUATION REPORT.

North Atlantic.

Instructions for the employment of the River class submarines at Gibraltar were issued by the Admiralty to-day.

Mediterranean.

Malta.

6 raiders were over Malta last night. No damage or casualties were caused.

URGE reports an encounter with two E-boats about 10 miles east of Augusta.

Libya and Western Desert.

Enemy aircraft last night made a sustained minelaying attack on Tobruk, but no mines fell in the harbour and no damage was caused. Meraa Matruh was also bombed; no naval damage is reported. There were 5 bombing attacks on Tobruk town and harbour to-day; no naval damage is reported.

KANDAHAR was bombed by enemy aircraft at 0619 to-day in 51.59 N., 26.35 E. and at 0645C in 51.44 N., 26.49 E.

Vichy ships in Turkey. A convoy of interned Vichy ships ex Beirut left Iskanderun today for the Dardanelles under escort of Turkish Naval units. They are to be interned at Erdek.

America and West Indies.

NORDERNEY scuttled.

DESPATCH reports having intercepted the German S.S. NORDERNEY in 12° 14' N. 43° 24' W. The ship scuttled herself and had to be sunk by gunfire by PRETORIA CASTLE. NORDERNEY was first sighted by oiler BISHOPDALE at 2200/14 in 10° 10' N. 43° 45' W.

15.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Policy.

Force H. Relief of 8th D.F.

It is intended to relieve the 8th D.F. in Force H with the 4th D.F. and destroyers of 9 Escort Group less PIORUN and GARLAND.

2. VIIIth D. F. will join Western Approaches Command.

5. 4th D.F. less SIKH and MAORI will be required to leave U.K. for Gibraltar about (date) with FURIOUS. SIKH and MAORI will join Force H on

-completion of refit.

4. NESTOR and ENCOUNTER are to be released on completion of Operation STATUS for onward passage to C. in C. Med. via Cape.

Such as are available of GURKHA, LEGION, 5. LANCE, LIVELY, and ISAAC SWEERS will probably leave U.K. with W.S.ll about (date) and may proceed to Gibraltar on completion of convoy duties. FURY, FORESTER, and FORESIGHT are then to be sailed for U.K.

6. On arrival at Gibraltar of 9th E.G. they will form part of 4th D.F. (V.C.N.S. 2258A/15).

Co-operation with Russia.

Air Service U.K. to Archangel.

See British Air Activity.

Movements.

PARTHIAN. SEALION.

PARTHIAN and SEALION, routed as follows, arrive end Q.Z.S. 169 at 0545A August 19 and 21 respectively. (Capt. S.5 1009A/15 and 0906A/16).

ORUC REIS.

Amend my 1611A/14 to read from 0900A/20 to 30/8 for passage to Clyde and to attend as requisite during trials and for the return passage to Barrow. (F.O.I.C. Liverpool 1129A/15).

P.34.

My 1043B/30 July. P. 34 is to be sailed on 21/8 for Malta. P.34 is to be ordered to dive by day until crossing parallel 047° N. and thence on surface at C.0's discretion. (F.O.S. 1224A/15).

0.14.

My 1929A/14. Unless in contact with enemy. Netherlands Sub. 0.14 is to remain North of 059° 47' N. from 2559A/18 to 1200A/21. (Capt. S.9. 1425A/15 to 0.14).

/S.M's....

15.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COLLANDS.

Movements-Contd.

S/M's H.31 and 0.10.

Escorted by Netherlands Torpedo Boat Z 5, sailing from Tobermory at 2100/15 Northbound through Minches, may be passed during early hours of morning 16th. (C. in C. W.A. 1959B/15 to POZARICA, etc.)

RAMILLIES.

A.M. 1838A/14 and 1927A/12 and 2235A/15. A.C.I.C. is requested to sail RAMILLIES as soon as destroyers are available. C. in C. W.A. is requested to provide route. (A.C.N.S. H. 2308A/15).

Operations.

Operation "Grab".

"Grab" patrol out 1100/15. (C. in C. Portsmouth 0747A/15). "Grab" patrol withdraws 1030/15. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1037A/15)

Operations E.G.

It is not intended operations E.G. should be carried out prior to "Dervish" and "Strength". (C. in C. H.F. 1432A/15 to C.S.1).

Sweep off Berck.

Four M.T.B's leave Dover 2200 to sweep in vicinity of Berck Buoy returning at about 0600/16. Route each way via D buoy. (V.A. Dover 1755A/15).

Operation "Follow".

(A) My 1124A/13. Para B. Leave Biscay South zone after dark to-night for Biscay North zone to carry out operation "Follow" on 17/8. S.B.R. in areas 54 and 55 extended for 24 hours. (B) Add 24 hours to all times in S.5's 1748A/14. (F.O.S. 1846A/15 to SEALION).

FYLDEA. ADAM

FYLDEA and ADAM whilst attempting to recover anair sea rescue float on the Varne Bank were (M/S. Trawlers) engaged by enemy coastal batteries when visibility shelled. Between 1631 and 1720 Gris suddenly improved. Between 1631 and 1720 Gris Nez battery fired about 27 rounds and Calais battery two rounds. Slight damage to ADAM and one serious casualty. (V.A. Dover 2149A/15);

15.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

British Air Activity.

Dombing
Operations.
One M/V
sunk.

During day 14/8 A/C attacked E and R Boats in Boulogne Harbour. Also near 54° 10' N. 7° 25' E. an M/V was attacked by 3 aircraft, received two direct hits, and was last seen on fire in a sinking condition. (H.Q.B.C. 0038/15).

Patrols.

'Stand' in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 0156/15 and 1017/15).

A/S Patrol of exercise Area West of Orkneys will be flown by 18 Group from 0430 to 0900 today. Also 'Nose' three during daylight hours. (C. in C. Rosyth 0214/15).

'Stab', 'Bert' and P.R.U. Stavanger now in operation. (C. in C. Rosyth 1132/15).

U.K. Archangel Air Service. Reference X.41 14/8. Facilities will be available at Sullom Voe and Invergordon. Sullom Voe will be used as a topping up station and Invergordon will be the terminal. (H.Q.C.C. 1435/15 to Air Ministry.) Your X.41 14/8 Suggest consolidated P.B.Y. (Catalina) lands at Invergordon and observes following conditions. (H.Q.C.C. to Air Ministry.)

Bombing operations.

On night 14/15 fires were started by A/C at Boulogne and Rotterdam, and Helder, Bremen, Bremerhaven, Cuxhaven, and Rotterdam Docks were bombed. (H.Q.B.C. Recd. 2111/15).

Firing of Recognition Cartridge.

X.112 15/8. Request any information available of any aircraft firing a recognition cartridge within five minutes of 2200 hours B.S.T. the night of 14/8 near Yarmouth Lowestoft. (Air Ministry 2105/15).

Enemy Air Activity.

Convoy E.C. 60. WAR NIZAM. (R.F.A) damaged. WAR NIZAM arrived Killingholme having sustained damage in air attack on E. C. 60 last night. (F.O. Humber 1345A/15-).

Gonvoy F.S.567. Enemy aircraft bombing convoy 'Plumb' in 51° 56' N. 1° 40' E. (VALOROUS 1502/15).

Convoy Might'.

l Aircraft bearing 130° height less than 100 feet. My position at 1530, 54° 30' N. 0° 30' W. (WESTMINSTER, Recd. 1539/15) (VORTIGERN 1532/15).

15.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Mining.

WELSHMAN.

Your 1756/15. Concur. (D. D.O.D. (M.) 1115A/15 to C. in C. Rosyth).

S.N. 70A.

Your 1746A/14. Concur that operation S.N. 70A can be deferred. (C. in C. H.F. 1157A/15). Operation S.N. 70A must be postponed for a few days as your destroyers are required to proceed to Iceland to screen RAMILLIES to Liverpool.

2. R.A. (M) is requested to sail destroyers for Iceland (C) as soon as practicable. (A.C.N.S. H. 2235A/15 to R.A.M.).

St. Georges
Channel
Sweep.

Your 1754A/13. Dan buoying of channel completed. 50% search of 3.25 miles on each side of a centre line joining following positions completed. Nothing found. One British mark XIX floating mine sunk in 051° 58' N. 006° 15' W. Anticipate completing channel p.m. tomorrow. (S.O. 9th M/S F. 2210/15).

Casualties and Defects.

MAORI.

MAORI did not sail owing to defects. (F.O.I.C. Greenock 0904A/15).

PASTEUR.

Your 0219A/15/8. It is possible that repairs to PASTEUR might be completed in 14 days but this cannot be guaranteed. Agents suggest 5 weeks to complete the work satisfactorily and it is most essential that the work be carried out. (D.S.T.O. Greenock 0955A/15 to D. of S.T.)

KIRIN MAINIE (Balloon Barrage Yachts) damaged on 12/8. KIRIN reports having caused damage to Dock property in Burnt Island at 1630/12, and KIRIN and MAIMIE were superficially damaged by coming into contact with each other about one hour before. Both vessels are seaworthy.

(N.O.I.C. Methil 1540/15).

S/M B.l. Explosion on 8/8. S.6's 1055B /8. Consider Board of Inquiry should be convened by C. in C. Rosyth.In view of agreement between Governments of U.K. and Norway regarding Norwegian Armed Forces in U.K. request concurrence of C. in C. Norwegian Navy be obtained and that he be requested to nominate a Norwegian Naval Officer to sit as member. (C. in C. Rosyth 1550/15).

15.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties and Defects-Contd.

My 1655B/9 and your 2556B/9. Further defects have developed in ROCKINGHAM. Expect to sail her 19/8 forLondonderry. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1947A/15).

Port of Hartlepool will be closed from 0645/16th August for salvage operations. (N.O.I.C. Hartlepool 1950/15).

FAULKNOR. Starboard shaft out of action. (FAULKNOR 2200A/15)

Shipping and Convoys.

C.E. 45 passed through Strait without incident.

It is considered that this may have been so owing to (A) Lack of warning of its approach due to absence of enemy air R/C and the closehauling of balloons at Beachy Head to limit range of enemy R.D.F.

(B) The enemy having analysed wireless traffic during passage of C.W. 45 and thereby appreciated the scope of our R.D.F. (Type N.T. 271) and the activities of our intercepting craft. Further experience is required to confirm these suppositions. (V.A. Dover 1006A/15).

North America Convoys. Your 1400A/15 and C. in C. W.A. 1255B/5. No objection to revised cycle. Request information as to proposed sailing dates of H.G. 75 and H.G. 74. (F.O.G.N.A. 1220A/15 to Admty.)
Ad. 1400A/15. Assuming time on passage between Liverpool and Gibraltar for O.G. and H.G. Convoys will not exceed 15 days, propose O. G. 72 sail on 28/8 and thereafter every 15 days, and that H.G. 71 be sailed so as to arrive at Liverpool on 2/9 and thereafter every 15 days. W.R. North routed convoys, propose H.X. 145 should arrive Eastern R/V on 26/8 and thereafter every 6 days - that S.C. 41 should arrive Eastern R/V on 4/9, and thereafter every 6 days. O.N. convoys being sailed accordingly. O.N. slow O.N. (10) sailing 26/8 thereafter every 6 days. O.N. fast O.N. (11) 29/8 thereafter every 6 days.
Note that pending return of escort from Newfoundland there will not normally he any U.K. local destroyer escorts on Gibraltar convoys ince these are required for additional convoys on Northern route. The normal all the way escort for Gibraltar convoy should be 2 Sloops and 7 Corvettes. (C. in C. W.A. 1544A/15 to Admty., C. C. N.F., F.O.C.N.A).

15.8.1941. Friday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Shipping and Convoys. - Contd.

W.P. 19.

Your 10μμ/14 and 1255/11. No destroyer is available for escort of W.P. 19. Intend to augment escort of one A/S Yacht and two chasseurs by two trawlers from Portland. (C. in C. Portsmouth 1457A/15 to C. in C. Plymouth).

O.S/S.L.
Convoys.

My 15μμA/15. The O.S/S.L. convoys will now comprise a separate circuit from the escort point of view. Observing that the O.S. and S.L. convoys are respectively 8 knots and 6½ knots, and since sailing of the S.L. convoys on a 10-day cycle must be arranged to suit Freetown and Bathurst escort requirements, arrival of the S.L. convoys at the W.A. R/V will result in the U.K. O.S. escorts not normally being able to meet the S.L. convoys at this R/V. Arrangements will, therefore, be necessary to sail the U.K. escorts empty-handed to meet the S.L. convoys, and similarly for the U.K. escorts on -O.S. convoys to return empty-handed. This is uneconomical, but can be accepted. (C. in G. W.A. 1545A/15 to Adty.)

C.W.46.

Stationing of escorts of C.W.46 between Downs and daylight the following morning is to be as follows.

5. Re balloons.
4. If E.boats are detected.
5. Re M.L's. (C. in C. Nore 1646A/15 amended 2242A/16).

H.X. 141 met as arranged. Fair weather. A good convoy with no stragglers. All ships arrived. (D.T.D. 1912A/15).

15.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

Iron Ore Trade.

Now known that Italian EUGENIO C., 4078 tons, at present in dock at Ferrol, and 3 other Italian steamers, about to be employed in Spanish ore trade from Bilbao to occupied France on behalf of Germans. Other 3 ships are probably DREPANUM 2736 tons, EDERA, 5254 tons, and FIDELITAS, 5740 tons, all at Ferrol. (D.S., 710, 15/8).

Cycles.

Your 1400A/13 and C. in C. W.A. 1253B/5 no objection to revised cycle. Request information as to proposed sailing dates of H.G. 73 and H.G. 74. (F.O.C.N.A., 1220A/15 to Admty).

ARK ROYAL.

Your 1057B/20. In view of difficulties in arranging future disposition and refits of Aircraft Carriers do you consider ARK ROYAL can be kept in Service until Mid November. F.O.C.N.A. pass to F.O. Force H on return. (A.C.N.S. (F), 1724A/15 to S.O. Force H).

French Ships.

Gibraltar 0950/15 Destroyer TEMPETE, S.S. MEDIE II 2. Light, passed westbound. 1525 Armed Trawler LA TOULONNAISE S.S. CHENONCEAUX, AUVERGNE, both laden. PORT DE BOUC, Light, eastbound. (S.O. (I) Gibraltar, 1727A/15).

S.S BERGA (Spanish).

Consul Malaga informed me that this vessel engaged in Pyrites trade with Genoa would be handed over to a British Patrol by Master and Chief Engineer both Basques. Vessel was accordingly intercepted by H.M.T. LADY HOGARTH outside territorial waters near Capo de Gata on 14/8 and has now arrived Gibraltar. Master and Engineer desirous to serve in British Merchant Navy. (F.O.C.N.A., 1728A/15 to Admty) See also Mediterranean.

MIRROR.

Departure HAARLEM escorting cable ship MIRROR to effect repair in 36.06 N., 07.46 W. (F.O.C.N.A., 1742A/15).

River Class S/Ms.

Employment of. (A.C.N.S. (F), 2249A/15) See Operations Volume.

15.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

South Atlantic.

BALZAC.

Reported from Bahia, Brazil, boat found with bullet holes. Ship sailed from Capetown 7/6 for Pernambuco, due 25/6. Now presumed sunk by enemy raider, as she was in same area as TOTTENHAM, shelled and sunk by raider on 17/6, about 320 miles W. of Ascension Island. (D.S. 710 15/8).

Flag of R.A.S.A.D.

(Corrupt group) flag R.A.S.A.D. transferred BIRMINGHAM 14/8. (R.A.S.A.D., 0045Z/15).

KING GRUFFYDD. Will pay off and revert Merchant ship status at Port Elizabeth. (N.O.I.C. Simonstown, 0748Z/15).

French convoy from Madagascar. My 1020/7 and my 1025/7 report Al that VILLE D'ORAN LINOIS, DALNY, LIPARI and SAGITTAIRE left Tamatave 1230Z/12 in home-ward voyage escorted by sloop and tanker LOT. Same report continues graded A2, that tanker will supply another escort which will be meeting convoy later. (S.O.(I) Capetown, 0943Z/15).

NORDERNEY.

Re. 2103/14 C. in C. A.W.I. take necessary action. (C. in C. S.A., 1200N/15 to PRETORIA CASTLE).

Convoy routes 0.S.2 S.L. 84. Your 1357N/14. Request you divert 0.S. 2 and S.L. 84 as you consider advisable. (D.T.D., 1441A/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

CHESHIRE,

Your 1131N/13. CHESHIRE has not given leave in U.K. since April 1940, request you will consider substituting CHESHIRE for CILICIA for the escort from Freetown to U.K.

2. If you concur it is then proposed that CHESHIRE should remain in U.K. long enough to give leave of 10 days to each watch.

(A.C.N.S. (F) 1826A/15 to C. in C. S.A.)

Concur (C. in C. S.A., 2300N/17).

New C. in C.

Your Ol00/14. Re visits to West and South Africa. (C. in C. S.A., 1951N/15 to Admty for 1st S.L.) See Lion Copy.

S.S. ADVANCE (Finnish.)

Reported to be leaving Santos p.m./15 for Rio De Janeiro. (S.O.(I) Montevideo, 2319Z/15).

MOST SECRET OST M ESECRE ESTIN/15th August

From C. in C. south Atlantic. Date 16.8.41.

NAVAL CYPHER ONE TIME TABLE BY W/T Recd. 0110.

Addressed Admiralty.

IMPORTANT

850... Following for First Sea Lord. Your 0100 August 14. Regarding West Africa consider much more value would be gained from visit after taking over when N.O's i/c appointed are established and when Vice Admiral Willis would be more in picture to discuss and would be able to give decision on outstanding problems. Increased air travel facilities and increased Staff should make such visits easier in future. The Chief of Staff has visited Lagos and Accra within last week. As regards South Africa visit(s) later would no doubt be more difficult. Owing to distance and importance of local knowledge and continuous touch with authorities in South Africa problems there have (?been) and should be largely dealt with by N.O.I.C. Simonstown with whom I have interfered as little as possible. He deals direct with Admiralty on many matters keeping me informed. C. in C. S.A. controls direct all operational movements of naval units in South African waters except those of local forces and local movements from port to port and convoy movements which latter are controlled by N.O.I.C. Simonstown subject to general direction as to policy. He refers all matters to C. in C. S.A. naturally that require further authority or support.

I do not think visit of Vice-Admiral Willis to South Africa essential in any way but would be of value especially if touch is desired with Prime Minister over any particular matters though necessity for this has not yet been felt.

If thought desirable will make arrangements with Union Authorities through N.O.I.C. Simonstown and report likehood of meetings with Prime Minister. Approximate date of visit will be required. Stay at Freetown or in West Africa not thought necessary beyond normal required on journey.

1951N/15

lst Lord
lst S.L.
2nd S.L.
V.C.N.S.
A.C.N.S.(F).
NAVAL SEC.
N.A. 1st S.L.
D. of P.(2).
D.O.D.(F).
D.D.C.D.(F).
D.D.C.D.(F).
U.D.C.D.(F).
Head of M.
E.P.S.
N.I.D.10 (Paymaster Cdr. Wilson).
Admiral Willis.

abd

rith

port

ate

15.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

TALISMAN.

Your 2030B. Proceed Alexandria forthwith, report ETA Sanctuary. (Capt. S.1., 0025C/15 to TALISMAN).

TORBAY.

Your 2341C/14 and my 1450C/11 proceed with despatch through position (a) thence direct to spend 16th off Cape Matapan, 17th Antikithera Channel. (Capt. S.1., 0105C/15 to TORBAY).

KANDAHAR bombed.

Following has been read. Help 31.39 N., 26.35 E. (KANDAHAR, via Nore W/T 0619/15 to Alexandria W/T). Following has been read. Addressed Alexandria W/T from KANDAHAR. Enemy Aircraft bombing 31.44 N., 26.49 E. (Nore W/T, 0645C/15).

M. Vs.

P.C. and S. of enemy three Merchant Vessels 1 (?Escort Vessel) 37° 53' N., 16° 3' E. 270° 6 knots. (A/C Z 1055/15).

My 1055 Enemy previously reported are 1 merchant vessel 3000 9 (?merchant vessels) 1000 enemy are in single line ahead. (A/C Z, 1100/15).

E-boats.

URGE reports encounter with two E-boats about 10 miles east of Augusta. (Comdr. (S) 1, 1016B/15 to URSULA).

Air attack on Corinth Canal. 2. Greece. Night 13/14, 32 Wellingtons attacked Corinth Canal bombs. Several crews confirm canal blocked. 4 of above Wellingtons with 1 which failed to reach canal dropped bombs on Heraklion Crete in transit and extinguished searchlights.
3. Cyprus 14/8 Limassol and Larnica bombed by total

Cyprus bombed.

8 enemy aircraft. 2 factories damaged near Limassol Civilian Casualties.
4. Western Desert 14/8. Fighter protection provided for shipping off Egyptian Coast. R/C of enemy Shipping off Cyrenaica. (H.Q. R.A.F. M.E., 1021/15).

Fast Supply Ships.

Your 1045/11 para 2. 2 Princess Ships gratefully accepted. If no further delay both should be fitted as petrol carriers with derricks. Para 3. A Cross channel steamer in addition to ANTWERP, MALINES and PRINCE BAUDOUIN not required in view of poor cargo capacity. Para. 4 Trawlers could be most usefully employed if their speed was confirmed 14 knots. In 28th A/S Group one Ship is 11½ knots remainder 10 knots. Para 5. Cargo carrier of 12 knots would be most useful. Request she be sailed as soon as A/A armament is fitted. (C. in C. Med., 1125C/15 to Admty).

/TALISMAN.....

Air

15.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

My 0740/14. TALISMAN is (?late in) arriving. TALISMAN. (?R.A. Alexandria, 1130C/15 to Plaindress D./Gs for KANDAHAR, KIMBERLEY.).

My 1601B/14. At 2100/18 unless second convoy is sighted before then P.32 resume patrol in area V, UNIQUE proceed to Area T, and P. 33 proceed direct to 035° 30' 014° 10'E to arrive Marsamxett before Orders for S/Ms. 2030B/19 or after 0630B/20. (Comdr. (S)1,1144B/15 to P. 32,*P. 33). * 5 - 1-14

Situation (from Admiral Kelly). Turkey has refused passage through Straits. Has no guns TARVISIO. or arms on board. Believed some form of inspection has taken place. (N.A. Angora 1217/13) See Lion Copy.

ANSON. As ANSON cannot make Mombasa in present Monsoon conditions owing to lack of fuel endurance C. in C. E.I. suggests ship should go to Bombay. I propose to concur if Admty see no objection. (C. in C. Med., 1305C/15).
Your 1305/15 no objection. (V.C.N.S., 1914A/15).

Chiefs of Staff No. 159. Situation and air strength. (lst S.L., 1446A/15 to C. in C. Med). (W.O., 1705/15 to C. in C. M.E.) See Lion Copy. See Tiger Copy. Middle East.

GUPERGA. red (Tanker) passed Istanbul for Bourgas 15/8 in ballast. (S.O.(I) Istanbul, 1538C/15).

Anatolia Chiefs of Staff no. 158. (W.O. 1600/15 to C. in C. M.E.) See Lion Copy. and Persia.

Day 14/8. 9 Swordfish made most successful attack southbound convoy of 5 M.V.s. 5 DR.s 30 miles South Lampion at 2250. 1 M/V 6000 tons, 2 M.V.s Operations. 3000 tons and 1 DR. Each hit by 1 Torpedo. Large explosion on M.V. 600 tons and when last seen was well down by the stern with thick black pall of smoke over her. I M/V 3000 tons also left issuing volumes of black smoke. Another M.V. 3000 tons had heavy list to port and DR. seen transferring crew to another DR. Only 3 M.V.s seen today approaching Tripoli. Escorts having gone ahead area thoroughly seembed for stranglers but no traces. thoroughly searched for stragglers but no trace therefore almost certain that 1 M.V. 6000 tons and 1 M.V. 3000 tons and DR. sunk.

SECRET

MESSAGE 1153C/15 August IN

From C. in C. Mediterranean.

Date 21.8.41. Recd. 0752.

Naval Cypher A 2 by W/T

Addressed Admiralty. Repeated N.O.I/C Syria.

?903. Your 2010/13. The position is as given in N.O.I/C Syrian Ports 1445/12 which is being passed to you. It will in due course be desirable to prepare a formal agreement between General Catroux and ourselves regarding the use of ports and one is in fact already in draft. Minister of State N.O.I/C Syria and General Spears agree that moment not propitious for pressing for a formal agreement as things are running smoothly and it is better to establish ourselves firmly and thus strengthen our position for subsequent negotiations. General Catroux appears likely to be quite reasonable as regards moeting our requirements while evidently it will be necessary to have a considerable element of Free French control at ports it will be an assistance if arrival of these Officials was not at too early a date and so far as this can be done without causing misunderstanding be grateful for any time that can be gained. Please see also Spears Mission Syria Number 27 for Spears Mission of 10th August,

1153/15.

Advance copies sent to Ops. O.D. & O.I.C.

1st Lord. lst S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S. (F) Secretary.
N.A. lst S.L.
N.A. (F) 2nd S.L.
P.A.S. (S) D.N.I. O.D. (5) Ops. (4)

O.I.C. (3) D. of P. (3) M. (3) E.P.S. D. of L.D. I.P. (3) W.D. Admiral Chalmers. Admiral Bellairs.

10ST SECENTE August. MCST SECRE

To: G. in C. Mediterranean 586 Bl. Date: 15.8.41.

NAVAL CYPHER (F)

From: Admiralty ... the ration.

IMMEDIATE AIDAC.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No.157 to C. in C. India repeated C. in C. Middle East, A.O.C. in C. Middle East, C. in C. Mediterranean, C. in C. East Indies, G.O.C. Iraq.

Begins: Your 9924/G of 26/7, not to C. in C. Mediterranean and A.O.C. in C., Middle East,

- 1. Object of appreciation summarised in our C.O.S. 147 17/7 was to form basis for planning development of maintenance facilities in Iraq. It was not (repeat not) primarily intended as a review of our strategy in this theatre. Certain changes in situation since preparation of appreciation do not materially alter main conclusions of our telegram, i.e., that present target for administrative planning should be accepted as 10 divisions and 30 squadrons. Throughout summary we assumed best possible conditions for enemy.
 - 2. Following paragraphs three to ten refer to your Part 1 first paragraph. Paragraph number quoted in this section refer to those of our telegram No. 147.
 - 3. Para. 2. Immediate danger to right flank has been diminished by continued resistance of Russia, but on a longer view we must be ready to meet this danger. Earliest possible date for arrival of Germans in Caucasus considered to be one month after Russian collapse. Chances of Turkish resistance not yet known. Collaboration with Russia and action in Persia under active consideration. Marina Mas of our foll
 - 4. Para.5. We still feel that although force of two divisions might be ready to attack from Hamadan before end of this year maintenance difficulties in winter months would make inle condita operations in strength in this area unlikely before April, 1942. Air striking force in paragraph 5 same as that in

Paragraph / ...

paragraph 4. If Germans secure Persian co-operation in prior preparation of aerodromes there will be no delay in moving air forces into Persia once Caucasus is secure.

Germans not likely to use more than total of 500 aircraft initially in whole area. Of these about 170 might be used for preliminary bombing. Subsequently, long-range bomber force might be reduced to make up air component to work with land fonces. Maximum air contingent not likely to be more than 370 either in Syria or on Caucasian front nor more than 500 altogether.

- 5. Para. 6. Paragraph 5 referred to advance in strength and net (repeat not) small forces.
- 6. Para. 7. Yes.
- 7. Para. 8. Our estimate based on complete German control and Turkish collaboration. Also provision of rolling stock from Europe and development of railways and roads to full capacity. But continue Russian resistance has important effect on rate at which Germans can move troops through Amatolia. Now estimated first five divisions cannot concentration Syrian frontier before 1st December after which weather limit increase to one division per month. Thus 9 divisions not reached until 1st April. May we have details of your estimate 8. Para. 10. Trouble is shortage of tankers. This makes Middle East dependent on both crude oil and refinery of Abadan. Expert opinion here does not consider supply of crude can be stopped by air bombing. Against air attack therefore defence of refinery is the more important consideration.
- 9. Para. 21. Agree that export of white oils would be stopped by closing of Shatt-el-Arab, but there is pipe-line from refineries to Bandar Shahpur (Mashur) which will satisfy our requirements for oil fuel. A second pipe-line for white oils is under urgent consideration here.

10 /

MOST SECRET

10. Fara.22. For "situation Egypt" in C.O.S. 147, para 22 read "general strategic situation in the Middle East".

11. Your Fart I, second paragraph. You will appreciate that the air forces we are able to make available in the .

Middle East depend upon the general strategic situation at the time. Subject to this overriding consideration we estimate that by the beginning of September we should have about 40 operational squadrons equipped with modern aircraft in the Middle East excluding Malta (including 5 heavy and 11 medium bomber, and 19 fighter squadrons in Egypt, Palestine and Syria). This force may be increased to 54 modern operational squadrons by next April.

12. Your Part II. : We agree most desirable in view of our lack of armoured formations to operate as strongly as possible in the hills of South-East Anatolia and Northern Iraq and so to hold enemy air forces at arms length. C. in C., Middle East, is already organising a system of strong points in Syria. If we could get Turkish consent we would, of course organise an advanced defensive system in Turkish territory. Failing Turkish agreement, paucity of forces and length and low capacity of L. of C. might however force adoption of plan outlined in our telegram. We do not think that enemy air forces would be serious menace to shipping and ports until established in Baghdad area or nearer. width of lower part of channel to Um Qasr makes it less vulnerable to mining than Shatt-el-Arab and that you have underestimated value of Bandar Shahpur. We agree with your remarks about Aleppo railway and conclude that main defence of Persian Gulf area must, if possible; be in Anatolia and Northern Inac.

13. Your Part III. Instructions have been sent to
Commander-in-Chief, East Indies, with regard minewatching and
minesweeping. Allotment of A.A. escorts, necessary shipping

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and air escorts for convoys will be dealt with from here. Request you will submit your requirements for defence. including balloon barrage, of Persian Gulf ports against minelaying, and for A.A. defence of Abadan if this is not already included in separate telegram to which you refer and which we await.

- 14. Your Part IV. We have assumed defence of Abadan and cilfields to be vital to maintenance of our position in the Middle East. Armoured forces available depend on result of operation, in Libya and prospect of invasion of United Kingdom. Their importance fully agreed. A.A. defences are essential.
- 15. Your Part V. 12. Agree that once enemy advance starts primary objective of our air ferce will be to delay advance. Scale on which air forces would be able to provide support for operations in any particular theatre in the Middle East is dependent on the general situation in whole Middle Eastern area.
- 16. Your 13, 14. We are communicating further with you on these points.
- 17. Your Fara. 15. We agree on vulnerability of projected aircraft assembly plant at Basra. Nevertheless, intend to go on with project because of its great administrative convenience and economy in ferry crews. It is intended to develop Karachi as an alternative.
- 18. Your part VI. We fully realise the difficulties and commitments involved in development of base facilities for 10 divisions and 30 squadrons. Nevertheless, planning on this basis should proceed forthwith. Please telegram detail of implications mentioned in your paragraph 19.

Asst. Sec. to lsf E.L.

P.A.S.(S)

Lst S.L.

D.O.D.(F)

Duty Captain, N.I.D.10 (Paym.

V.C.N.S.

D.D.O.D.(F)

E.P.S.

Cdr. Wilson).

N.A. lst S.L.

D. of P.(2)

L.P.(2)

PS.

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MOST SECRET MESSAGE 1446A/15 August OUT

To. C. in C. Mediterranean 587 C. in C. East Indies 611 DATE 15.8.41.

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Naval Cypher (F)

From Admiralty

IMMEDIATE AIDAC

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. 159 to C. in C. Middle East, repeated C. in C. India, C. in C. Mediterransen, C. in C. East Indies, G.O.C. Iraq.

Your A. 291 of 2/8, not to G.O.C. Iraq.

for time in Middle sait we want

- 1. Some of your points covered in C.O.S. No. 157 to C. in C. India, repeated to you'. Your views on general strategic situation in telegrams referred to in your paragraph 1 are noted. We are in general agreement with them and they have been largely covered in our discussions with General Auchinlock and Air Marshall Todder.
- 2. Your paragraph 4. Wo consider weather conditions severely limit ability to build up and maintain force before April.
- Your paragraph 5. Our ostimate of distribution of striking force in general agreement with yours. One division Tabriz. Two divisions Pahlovi-Hamadan -- Two divisions Nau Shahr-Qum. Total five.
- Your paragraph 7. We agree, but denial of aerodromes in Persia may be difficult and we may have to rely entirely on strong air defence in Persian Gulf area.
- Your paragraph 8. If Germans undertake large scale: operations in Middle East we agree they could outnumber us in air but we hope to have 1.000 operational aircraft in Middle CENTRAL East next Spring. This omphasises need for doveloping operational facilities to enable us to concentrate as situation 2. The remain to We consider works the passion of the second to the second of the seco

domands. Germans....

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demands. Germans unlikely to think Italian units worth maintaining except for transport and some fighters in back areas.

- Your paragraph 9. Our reference to restrict maintenance 6. intended to imply that in order to obtain required flexibility tegether with economy of recources it it necessary to cut normal establishments to minimum consistent with offective operation. Intended that facilities should be provided to enable 3 mediums to continue operating after arrival of heavies. Mediums than either for Raspberry or alternatively for support of land operations including attack of communications. Wo suggest appropriate facilities should if possible be provided in Northern Iraq for at least 3 mediums in addition to 5 heavies.
- Your paragraph 10. Wo agree. 7.

A THE REST OF THE PARTY.

eres by his man again

- 8. Your paragraph 12. Nocossity for transport aircraft realised and we are doing our best to provide.
- 9. Your paragraph 13 (a) It was fully roalised that situation might make temporary withdrawal of heavies from Egypt impracticable, but it is important to realise that C. O. B. Tologram 1/ primarily concerned provision of facilities and no intended to dictate dispositions which will dopond on ge ral situation at time.
 - (b) We estimate 16 Mediums in Middle East this nutumn but now agree with your figure of 11.
- (c) Wo ostimate possibly 19 fighter squadrone oxcluding Malta this Autumn, but now agree your figure of 17.
- (d) Wo fully approciate your need of additional air forces, and further expansion beyond 622 Squadu schomo is under examination.

10. Your paragraph 14. the second of th

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- Your paragraph 14. Scale of development Iraq must not 10. prejudice defence Egypt, but we must aim high when planning administrative facilities. We fully appreciate the need to supplement your resources, and are doing all we can.
- 170 Your paragraph 15. Docision will be given soon.

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ore collections and a second

Ends.

1446A/15

Assistant Secretary to 1st Sea Lord.

(repeated also in WO, 1705/15 & C. CME)

lst Lord lst 8.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S.(F) N.A. lst S.L.
P.A.S (S).
D.O.D.(F)
D.B.O.D.(F)
D.N.I.(L)
D. of P.(2)
Duty Captain
E.P.S. Hoad of M (8) I.P. (2)

N. I.D. 10 (Paymaster Cdr. Wilson) W.D.

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OST SECRE

MOST SECRET.

M E S S A G E 1600/15th August

IN

From: The War Office.

Date 15.8,41 Recd.

Cipher.

Addressed: C. in C. Middle East repeated C. in C. India. IMMEDIATE.

84243 cipher (M.O.5.) 15.8.41.

Following from Chiefs of Staff No. 158.

Presume you and Special Operations Executive are doing all you can in way of preparation for sabotage of communications in Anatolia (see War Office No. 83479 of 11th August) and Forsia in case it should be necessary to impedo a Gorman advance.

Please pass to A. O. C. -in-C as from Air Ministry.

1600/15.

Received from War office p. m. / 16.

lst Lord. lst S.L. V.C.N.S. A.C.N.S. (F)
N.A.lst S.L.
D.O.D. (F)
D.D.O.D. (F)
D.N.I. (4)
D. of F. (2)
D.C. E.P.S. Head of M. (8.)
I.P. (2) W. D. N. I.D. 10 Payr. Cdr. Wilson.

15.8.1941. Friday.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

Air Operations. Contd.

4 Wellingtons each made 2 attacks on shipping in Catania. 16 500 pounds H.E. and incendiaries on Catania. Bursts seen on Central Mole which photographs show covered with goods trucks stores and cases which cannot fail to have been damaged also railway and probably M/Vs alongside.

2 early sorties missed Catania bad visibility and attacked Augusta harbour with 4,500 pounds. H.E. and 1,440 pounds incendiaries fell railway sidings and citadel all aircraft returned safely. Day 14/8 Blenheims made shipping sweep between Tripoli and Benghazi attacked 2 tankers 4000 tons and 2 Schooners 800 tons off Buerft 0920 hours. All 4 ships hit 1 tanker exploded and another left on fire, with volumes of black smoke. Both probably sunk. 1 Schooner on fire, the other with bad list. 2 Blenheims lost. (Malta, 1716/15).

Some BERGA (Spanish).

From Malaga and cleared nominally to Castellon de la Plana intercepted off Almeria and brought in by armed guard. Cargo 1018 tons Pyrites destination Genoa for forwarding to Metallgesell Schaft A G Frankfurt A Maine vessel detained pending instructions. (C.C.S.O. Gibraltar, 1747/15 to Admty) See also North Atlantic.

Movements Summary No. 214.

C. in C. Med., 1818/15 1820C/15. See Lion Copy.

P. 33.

My 1144B/13. Amend date of arrival to 20th or 21st. (S.O.(S) Malta, 2005B/15 to S/M P.33).

Prisoners ex HEREWARD. Your 1046C/13. Naval officers already known to be prisoners but whereabouts unknown. (Admty, 2201A/15 to C. in C. Med).

Situation Report 118.

HOBART, and two Destroyers now operating from Haifa for operation 'Guillotine'. French Ships of Convoy A have arrived Beirut. (?Movements) of interned Vichy Ships further delayed. (C. in C. Med., 2301/15 to Admty).

Malta Raid.

Malta. Night 14/15. 6 Raiders over. No damage or casualties. (H.Q. R.A.F., Malta, No. T.O.O.)